April 15, 2010

Hon. Byron Brown, Mayor
City of Buffalo
City Hall
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Mayor Brown:

I am enclosing a copy of an article from a magazine called "Ireland of the Welcomes". The magazine is published in Dublin, Ireland.

If you will look at the second page of the article, you will see that Buffalo has been listed as one of the cities having a St. Patrick’s Day parade worth mentioning. We may not be the biggest, but, obviously, the magazine thought we were worth mentioning.

I thought your PR people might be able to use this to further tourism to Buffalo.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Margaret Hudson
509 Norwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14222
Marching with Patrick

Once again, pride of place on St. Patrick's Day must go to the Big Apple. For anyone who's ever stood on Fifth Avenue on 17th March, the sensory experiences are overwhelming—the vivid colors, the massed bodies of marching uniforms, the flags and banners; the waves of sounds as the air vibrates with rolling drums, wailing bagpipes, saxophones, trumpets, and clashing cymbals; the aromas of hot chestnuts and pretzels; the raucous cries of street vendors selling every imaginable St. Patrick decoration and gee-gaw; and the wonderful alchemy of the day that makes everyone Irish, if only for the day.

Following the format of installation of New York Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly as Grand Marshal in January, Parade Chairman John Durelley announced that the 249th St. Patrick's Day Parade is dedicated to the Boy Scouts of America, who celebrate their 100th anniversary this year. Dignitaries who attended the installation included last year's Grand Marshal, Mike Gubitos, Ogdal Edward Ryan, and Irish Consul General Niall Burgess. At 11 am on Wednesday, 17th March, the first of 250,000 marchers will step out in front of an estimated two million spectators lining the great boulevard, and will be watched by millions on television and the internet around the world.
The common theme remains honoring St. Patrick's work. The thousands of marchers and spectators in their green bedazzled attire, the bands and floats, the flags and music highlight one of the greatest parades in a city that loves parades.

Morristown, New Jersey
Parade day begins with Mass at 10 a.m. at the Church of the Assumption, off Maple Avenue in Morristown. The parade starts at 12 noon at the corner of South Street and James Street, with 20 bands and 30,000 people in attendance, either in the parade or as spectators. Held since 1979, this parade honoring Ireland's patron saint is presented by the Irish American Association of Northwest New Jersey, the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, and the Mayor of the City of Morristown.

New Orleans
In the Big Easy, they love to march, and the annual St. Patrick's Day Parades are considered another opportunity for family and friends to get together and enjoy a day outdoors. It seems as if the entire city is on the street with picnics, barbecues, and their recreational vehicles, enjoying one of the biggest street parties of the year. Men and women in walking groups from various clubs in the city dress in costumes of green, and give out flowers, beads, and kisses to lucky parade-goers.

Savannah
This year's Parade, the 161st edition, takes place on March 17th. The day starts with the celebration of Mass at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, and the Parade will step off at 10:15 a.m. It is expected that over 600,000 people will visit Savannah to help celebrate the second largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the United States. Georgians still recall with pride the time when Savannah was the largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the world.

Chicago
A modern day miracle occurs each year as part of the St. Patrick's Day Parade celebration, when the Chicago River turns an incredible shade of Irish green. This spectacular transformation takes place just after the parade, and the color will last for months. The river will sparkle and shine, reflecting the lights and colors of the city's skyline.

Buffalo, New York
According to the Guinness Book of World Records, Buffalo was the Paradise Capital of the World. The city's economy is driven by the food industry, particularly in the area of meat production. The city is home to many ethnic groups, including Irish and Polish Americans. The annual St. Patrick's Day Parade is one of the largest in the United States, attracting thousands of spectators and participants.

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