Special Olympics Illinois chosen as Irish Parade Grand Marshal

Special Olympics Illinois has been chosen to act as Grand Marshal during the 16th annual Downtown Tinley Irish Parade at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 8 along Oak Park Avenue.

“The Village is honored to have such a notable and active organization like Special Olympics Illinois as this year’s Grand Marshal,” Tinley Park Mayor Edward J. Zabrocki said. “Come on out and join us on March 8 for a great time!”

Throughout the years, Special Olympics Illinois has partnered with Tinley Park residents and leaders in providing programming in sports, health, education and community-building. Special Olympics changes the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by helping to solve the global injustice, isolation, intolerance and inactivity they face.

“Special Olympics Illinois shares its honor as Grand Marshal with the many Tinley Park athletes, volunteers, supporters and community leaders who have served and brought awareness to the organization’s mission,” a Special Olympics Illinois spokesperson said. “The Tinley Park community has always been among the strongest in a network that supports Illinois’ athletes and 40,000 volunteers and coaches.”

Special Olympics was founded by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and her peers, and the first games were held at Soldier Field in July 1968. Beginning with 1,000 athletes, there are now more than 4 million athletes in 170 countries.

For more information on Special Olympics Illinois, visit www.soill.org.

For more information on the 16th annual Downtown Tinley Irish Parade, please visit www.downtowntinley.com/events.

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