Ep. 8: St Patrick's Parade & Faire w/ Ciara Archer

[Lisa] This is a special episode of Podcrawl Podchroal, the podcast from the McClelland Irish Library. I'm your host, Lisa, the Assistant Librarian, with Ciara Archer, the Irish Cultural Center's Operations Manager and board member of the St. Patrick's Parade and Faire. Today we'll talk all about this year's Parade and Faire.

[Lisa] What is Parade and Faire, Ciara?

[Ciara] So, this is the 40th anniversary of Phoenix's St. Patrick's Parade and Faire happening on March 11 [2023]. It's a big celebration of all things Irish and the greenest day in the desert. It's a great time with authentic Irish music, food, and fun taking place in Hance Park in downtown Phoenix at the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library.

[Lisa] What time is it on the 11th?

[Ciara] It'll start at 10:00 AM the parade goes down 3rd Street and ends at Hance Park and then the Faire also starts at 10, but kicks off around noon full-time, and ends at 5:00 PM.

[Lisa] Okay. What is the path of the parade?

[Ciara] It starts on 3rd Street and Oak and heads on down towards Hance Park in a nice little parade route with a good few parade floats and cars. Yeah, it's a good time.

[Lisa] Nice. Will there be anything special to commemorate the 40th year?

[Ciara] We'll have lots of entertainment-there'll be three stages across the Faire including at the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library, and so you can see local acts from all across Arizona. We'll have, of course, our Arizona Colleen at the Parade and Faire who will be doing her grand duties as well as our Grand Marshal Lyndsey Fry and Irish Person of the Year, Mike Hogan. They'll be at the parade and you can meet them at the Faire and we'll be celebrating 40 years of Arizona Irish awesomeness.

[Lisa] Very cool. Um, is there a way for people to find out more information?

[Ciara] There is. You can go to stpatricksdayphoenix.org it has all of the information including the parade route, tickets if you want to get the early-bird special to get tickets

at a discounted rate for the Faire as well as information about the Colleen and Grand Marshal and all of the acts performing.

[Lisa] Was there anything else you'd like to add?

[Ciara] We'll be selling memberships to the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library that day, so you can come and visit us as well as tour the beautiful McClelland Library as well, of course. We'll have our Emigrant Support Committee on site on the day of the parade, so if you're a new Arizona Irish emigrant or an existing one and have questions about the ever-changing immigrant landscape, come talk to our ESP [Emigrant Support Program] committee. And we'll have live music here as well as a bar, of course and some cool swag for that day.

[Lisa] Very cool. Alright, well thank you so much for listening! We hope to see you soon at McClelland Library! Slan! (Bye!)