

## GREENFIELD



STAFF FILE PHOTO/DAN LITTLE

From left, Rachel Cronen-Townsend, Julia Ellingboe, Meg Baker and Steve Cronen-Townsend dressed as the four seasons during the 2018 Rag Shag Parade in Greenfield. The parade is back Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

## Rag Shag Parade returns Saturday

However,  
rain may cancel

By **MARY BYRNE**  
Staff Writer

**GREENFIELD** — After putting its traditional festivities on hold in 2020, the Recreation Department is planning a return on Saturday of its Downtown Trick-or-Treat and Rag Shag Parade.

Last year, as a health safety precaution amid the COVID-19 pandemic, a drive-thru Halloween event was held at Highland Park in place of the Rag Shag Parade and Halloween costume contest.

“It was an incredible experience, but it was a lot to coordinate,” said Recreation Director Christy Moore. “I’m really happy to bring all the families, the little ghosts and goblins, back downtown.”

Trick-or-treating at downtown businesses is scheduled to take place from 4 to 5:30 p.m., during which time the Recreation Department will be handing out free reflective bags on the Greenfield Common. The Greenfield Kiwanis Club and Rotary Club will also be there, Moore said.

Set to begin at 5:30 p.m., the Rag Shag Parade will kick off at the Mohawk Mall on Main Street and end at Energy Park for the costume contest.

The Rag Shag Parade, which started two decades ago, was initially a march from the Mohawk Mall to the Greenfield Common, culminating with a costume contest.

“When I first took over this

position (in 2012), we did everything on the common ... but the event grew and grew, which was great for the community,” Moore said. “It was

SEE **RAG SHAG** A6

# Rag Shag

FROM A3

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starting to be very popular and crowded at the (Greenfield) Common area.”

Now, the parade finishes at Energy Park, where there is more room to gather and for judges to view all of the costumes, she said. Categories include Best Homemade, Most Original, Best Cartoon Character, Scariest, Cutest, Adult Open Category and Group/Family Category.

“I’m hopeful this is all still going to be able to take place on Saturday,” Moore said, ac-

knowledging that the weather forecast predicts rain. “I know it’s an event the community and the families really look forward to. It’s so much fun to see the creativity.”

Moore noted that neighborhood trick-or-treating will happen as normal on Sunday, Halloween itself.

Families should stay tuned to the Recreation Department’s website, [greenfield-recreation.com](http://greenfield-recreation.com), and its Facebook page for weather-related announcements.

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