

45th Adirondack Balloon Festival!

By Cathy DeDe
Chronicle Managing Editor

More than 90 hot air balloons and a crowd that organizers say numbers 150,000 are expected at the 45th annual Adirondack Hot Air Balloon Festival that runs Thursday to Sunday, Sept. 21-24.

Events begin Thursday afternoon with a launch at Crandall Park in Glens Falls, then an evening street party downtown.

The festival shifts for the weekend to Warren County Airport.

Festival director Mark Donahue is a lifelong balloon enthusiast who became a pilot himself. He knows first-hand how the event captures the imagination.

"It's when people plan the family reunion, the first college visit home. It's the heart of this community. There's so much business and hype and groups coming together and helping each other, so many not-for-profits — the amount of money that flows to them from this event, it's huge."

Festival schedule, page 17.
Coverage throughout and **full page coverage on 22 & 24.**

Film Festival plans a free Miracle
plus Princess Bride with star
▶ 11



Scene at Warren County Airport at a Balloon Fest launch in 2015.
Chronicle photo/Mark Frost

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