

CITY MANAGER REPORT

TO: Mayor Pat Humphrey & Clare City Commission
FROM: Jeremy Howard, City Manager
DATE: February 29, 2024
RE: City Manager's Report

For the Agenda of March 4, 2024

Lake Shamrock Dredging and Dam Project. Mechanical dredging by the City is still paused as well as hydraulic dredging by Savin. As I mentioned previously, we received notice from EGLE that they are requiring us to pause all dredging (mechanical and hydraulic) because the original permit that was applied for and approved 5 years ago expired at the beginning of February. After Luke and I and Savin Lake Services met with EGLE staff on February 14th we did submit a new permit within the next week including a request for approval of an expedited time frame for review and the requisite public comment period. EGLE has received the permit applicant and at the meeting they stated that they hoped they would be able to issue a new permit by the early part of March so that we can begin dredging as soon as the weather allows. We are also working with DNR Fisheries to see if we can boundary some specific areas of the lake that we could work in even during the normal pause for fish spawning of 2-4 months. Those conversations are still ongoing, but we are hopeful we can come to an agreement that satisfies fisheries spawning requirements and may still allow us to do some limited dredging during that time. I am still thankful the timing seems to be working out so that we will not lose much dredging time if everything goes smoothly. The Dam feasibility study work is essentially complete now and we are currently waiting to hear back about additional grant funding possibilities to help with the next phases of the project. We have not heard any more information on our grant submissions at this time.

Aviation Professional of the Year Award. The Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC) and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) recently announced award winners for outstanding achievements in improving Michigan aviation at their 2024 Michigan Airport Conference held in East Lansing on Feb. 22. The awards are presented to airports, professionals, consultants, and others. This year the Aviation Professional of the Year Award went to recently retired Airport Manager Gary Todd for Clare Municipal Airport. He was recognized for his outstanding contributions and sustained excellence serving as the airport's manager for the past decade and his exemplary leadership in maintaining the airport in top condition. Gary also was recognized for collaborating with others in the aviation community to share his knowledge and provide flight training. His dedication and hard work contributed to aspirational standards for many aviation professionals. Congratulations to a well-deserved award and honor to Gary for all of the work he did in his career as the Clare Airport Manager.

"Clarence" the Leprechaun. In case you missed it, Clarence the Leprechaun and the Clare Blarney Stone have arrived at City Hall at the corner of 5th and Beech Streets (*see attached photos*). Clarence was commissioned by the Clare County Arts Council and created by local artist, Jeff Best of Devil's Rope Studio. The sculpture and the Blarney Stone will have their permanent residence here at City Hall, but will make an appearance each year downtown in the street for the Irish Festival. Thank you to all of those involved in making this project come to fruition.

Irish Festival. Speaking of Leprechauns and Irish Festivals, Clare's 49th annual Irish Festival is coming up soon. It takes place from March 13-17 and will have lots of great activities during the week and weekend. I have included the flyers (*attached*) with this report and they have the list of events, specials, and entertainment going on all through the festival. Hopefully everyone can attend the events and I encourage everyone to join in with Irish Spirit Week (see below for details on the days) as well.

Monday – Funky Socks – Pull out some Irish socks to kick off the week!
Tuesday – Shamrockin' – Add Shamrocks to your outfit!
Wednesday – Pot of Gold – Dress as a pot of gold – Black & Gold!
Thursday – Rainbow – Add some rainbow colors to your outfit!
Friday – Top of the Morning to Ya – Wear your best Irish-Styled hat!
Saturday – Luck of the Irish – Wear any green you have in your closet!
Sunday – Irish Goodbye – Represent your favorite small town by wearing a Clare shirt!

March Board of Review. The March Board of Review will meet at Clare City Hall, 202 W. Fifth Street, Clare MI 48617, at the following times:

March 5, 2024 (2:00 pm) – Organizational Meeting – No Appeals
March 11, 2024 (9:00 am – 3:00 pm) – Appeal Hearing
March 12, 2024 (2:00 pm – 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm) – Appeal Hearing

If you have questions about your Tax Assessment Change Notice or wish to schedule an appointment, contact the City Assessor's Office at 989-424-4066 or 517-940-2823, or email Assessor@cityofclare.gov.

Attachments:

1. Clarence the Leprechaun and Blarney Stone Pictures.
2. Irish Festival Flyers.



49TH ANNUAL

CLARE IRISH FESTIVAL



EVENT SCHEDULE

Spirit Week

Monday - Funky Socks - Pull out some Irish socks to kick off the week!

Tuesday - Shamrockin' - Add Shamrocks to your outfit!

Wednesday - Pot of Gold - Dress as a pot of gold -- Black & Gold!

Thursday - Rainbow - Add some rainbow colors to your outfit!

Friday - Top of the Morning to Ya - Wear your best Irish-Styled hat!

Saturday - Luck of the Irish - Wear any green you have in your closet!

Sunday - Irish Goodbye - Represent your favorite small town by wearing a Clare shirt

Monday, March 11th

Kids Poster Contest - Local Business Windows

Tuesday, March 12th

Window/Business Decorating Contest - Winners Announced

Wednesday, March 13th

7:30am-8:45am Irish Morning Meet Up - At Ponderosa. Special speakers

5pm-7pm Business After Hours - At the Doherty Hotel, sponsored by Mercantile Bank. Door Prizes, 50/50 Drawing, and more

6:30pm Big Brothers Big Sisters Silent Auction - At the Doherty Hotel

Thursday, March 14th

5pm Jazz Band - At the Clare High School Cafeteria

5:30pm Irish Recipe Contest - At the Clare High School Cafeteria: Prizes for the Kids, Adults, & Business Categories

7:30pm Gateway Community Band - At the Clare High School Gym

Friday, March 15th

5:30pm Irish Blessing at the Blarney Stone - Join us for the 1st Annual Blessing of our Community & Festival

6pm Barrel Racing Competition - At Four Leaf Brewing

4pm-Midnight - Fire Pits on McEwan Street

Saturday, March 16th

8am-Midnight - Fire Pits on McEwan Street

8:45am Leprechaun Contest - At Witbeck's Family Foods. Judging starts at 9am

5K/10K/2 Mile Walk Road Race - 10K starts at 9am, 5K starts at 9:05am, and 2 mile walk starts at 9:15am

10:45am Kids' Fun Run - Free run. Register from 7:15am-10:15am

10am-4pm Craft & Vendor Market - At the Clare Primary School

10:30am-3:30pm Joel Tacey's Fire Juggling - Strolling Downtown

11am-3pm White Pine Pipes & Drums - Strolling Downtown

12pm PARADE BEGINS WILCOX TO 3RD - Parade will be on the East Side of the Road until State Street where it will shift to the West

2pm Bed Race - Starting at Ruckle's Pier

3pm-4pm Red Hat Strutters - Irish Line Dancing Downtown

4pm Are You Irish? Contest - At Cops & Doughnuts. Show us your Irish! - Prizes for the person - Wearing the Most Green, Best Kilt, Greenest Eyes, Most Freckles, and Reddest Natural Hair

SCAN FOR
EVENT INFORMATION

(989)386-2442

www.claremichigan.com



Daily Irish Specials in the Area

49TH ANNUAL

CLARE IRISH FESTIVAL

SHOPPING SPECIALS & ENTERTAINMENT



Monday, March 11th

Spirit Week - Funky Socks - Pull out some Irish socks to kick off the week!

10am-5pm Red Door Thrift Store - 99¢ Clothing Sale

1pm Clare County Arts Council - Paint Irish Gnome. \$20 nonrefundable deposit, \$15 day of. 989.698.6539 to register

Tuesday, March 12th

Spirit Week - Shamrockin' - Add Shamrocks to your outfit!

9am-6pm Elaine's Hair & Nails - \$5 Hair Tinsel

10am-5pm Red Door Thrift Store - 99¢ Clothing Sale

2pm Clare County Arts Council - Irish Flower Pressing. \$20 nonrefundable deposit. \$10 day of. 989.698.6539 to register

Wednesday, March 13th

Spirit Week - Pot of Gold - Dress as a pot of gold -- Black or Gold!

9am-6pm Elaine's Hair & Nails - \$5 Hair Tinsel

10am-5pm Red Door Thrift Store - 99¢ Clothing Sale

11am-5pm Serendipite Organiques - 17% off Products w/ the Color "Green" in the Label

6pm Four Leaf Brewing - Irish Pub Trivia w/ *Northern MI Twist*

Thursday, March 14th

Spirit Week - Rainbow - Add some rainbow colors to your outfit!

9am-5:30pm Almost Up North - 50% off Select Sale Items

9am-5:30pm Stitches for Britches - 25% off Select St. Paddy's Apparel

9am-6pm Elaine's Hair & Nails - \$5 Hair Tinsel

10am-5pm Red Door Thrift Store - 99¢ Clothing Sale

11am-5pm Serendipite Organiques - 17% off Products w/ the Color "Green" in the Label

5pm-10pm The Trap Door - Clare's Celtic Return. Live Music

6pm Clare Moose Lodge - Trivia w/ Stacia, Live Music, 50/50s, & Raffle

7pm-Close Four Leaf Brewing - Live Music

Friday, March 15th

Spirit Week - Top of the Morning to Ya - Wear your best Irish-Styled Hat!

9am-5:30pm Almost Up North - 50% off Select Sale Items

9am-5:30pm Stitches for Britches - 25% off Select St. Paddy's Apparel

9am-6pm Elaine's Hair & Nails - \$5 Hair Tinsel

Friday, March 15th Continued

9pm-Close Ruckle's Pier - DJ

10am-5pm Red Door Thrift Store - 99¢ Clothing Sale

11am-5pm Serendipite Organiques - 17% off Products w/ the Color "Green" in the Label

4pm-11pm Clare Moose Lodge - *Lonesome Strangers* at 4pm-7pm. *Detour* at 7pm-11pm. 50/50s & Raffle

Doherty Hotel - Leprechaun Lounge - *Two - U Duo* at 4pm and *Kevin Chamberlain* at 8pm

Ballroom - *Barstool Breakdown* at 8pm

5pm-8pm Clare Farwell American Legion - Live Music by *Bridge Band*

5pm The Evening Post - DJ

6pm-2am The Venue - Live Music by *Jedi Mind Trip* 7pm-11pm. DJ & Dancing 11pm-2am

7pm-10pm Four Leaf Brewing - Paddy's Pub Karaoke

Saturday, March 16th

Spirit Week - Luck of the Irish - Wear any green you have in your closet!

9am-6pm Elaine's Hair & Nails - \$5 Hair Tinsel

9am-12pm Calla Lily Mercantile - 17% Clothing & Live Music. Irish Coffees (21+)

10am-2:30pm Almost Up North - 50% off Select Sale Items

10am-2:30pm Stitches for Britches - 25% off Select St. Paddy's Apparel

11am-3pm 505 Cafe - Face Painting

11am-2pm Serendipite Organiques - 17% off Products w/ the Color "Green" in the Label

11am-11pm The Evening Post - DJ

12pm-Close Ruckle's Pier - DJ

12pm-8pm Clare Moose Lodge - *Clown Band* plays after the parade. Live Music by *The REAL DEAL* at 4pm-7pm & *Detour* at 7pm-11pm. 50/50s & Raffle

12pm-9pm Clare Farwell American Legion - Live Music by *Doc & Rod* at 3pm-7pm & *Woodman Unplugged* at 6pm-9pm

Doherty Hotel - Leprechaun Lounge - *Kevin Chamberlain* at 12pm, *Two - U Duo* at 3pm, and *Kevin Chamberlain* at 8pm

Ballroom - *Mama's Hot Sauce* at 2:30pm and *Barstool Breakdown* at 8pm

12:30pm-2am The Venue - Irish Hoedown, Mechanical Bull, Cornhole from 12:30pm-4pm, followed by St. Paddy's Black Out Party Hosted by Epic Beats, Dancing from 5pm-2am.

2pm-4pm Arby's - Photo Op with a Leprechaun

3pm & 7pm Ideal Theater - Free kids popcorn w/ admission to Kung Fu Panda 4. (11 & under)

12pm-10pm Four Leaf Brewing - Live Music

Sunday, March 17th

Spirit Week - Irish Goodbye - Represent your favorite small town by wearing a Clare shirt!

Doherty Hotel - Leprechaun Lounge - *Kevin Chamberlain* at 3pm



SCAN FOR
EVENT INFORMATION

(989)386-2442
www.claremichigan.com

49TH ANNUAL

CLARE IRISH FESTIVAL

DINING SPECIALS



Monday, March 11th

7am-3pm 505 Cafe - Irish Food & Drink Specials. Discount if participating in Spirit Week

6pm-Close Four Leaf Brewing - Irish Fest Beer Release 'Paddy's Luck'

Tuesday, March 12th

7am-3pm 505 Cafe - Irish Food & Drink Specials. Discount if participating in Spirit Week

4pm-Close Four Leaf Brewing - Taco Irish Style

Wednesday, March 13th

7am-3pm 505 Cafe - Irish Food & Drink Specials. Discount if participating in Spirit Week

7am-4pm Fuel Up Nutrition - Shamrock & Oreo Shamrock Shake, Energy Tea 'Shamrock-a-Rita', & \$1 off Combos

11am-9pm Buccilli's Pizza of Clare - Reuben Subs

11am-11pm The Evening Post - Green Beer, \$1 Wings, & Drink Specials

3pm-9pm McEwan Street Fudge & Ice Cream Shop - Irish Mint Fudge & Shamrock Chip Ice Cream Specials

Thursday, March 14th

7am-3pm 505 Cafe - Irish Food & Drink Specials. Discount if participating in Spirit Week

7am-4pm Fuel Up Nutrition - Shamrock & Oreo Shamrock Shake, Energy Tea 'Shamrock-a-Rita', & \$1 off Combos

10am-Close Ruckle's Pier - Irish Nachos, Reuben Soup, Reuben Egg Rolls, & Grasshoppers

11am-9pm Buccilli's Pizza of Clare - Reuben Subs

12pm-11pm Clare Moose Lodge - Reubens & Drink Specials

5pm-10pm The Trap Door - Drink Specials

12pm-9pm Four Leaf Brewing - Irish Brew Pub Food Specials

11am-11pm The Evening Post - Green Beer, Reuben Soup, Corned Beef & Cabbage, Irish Burger, & Drink Specials

3pm-9pm McEwan Street Fudge & Ice Cream Shop - Irish Mint Fudge & Shamrock Chip Ice Cream Specials

Friday, March 15th

7am-3pm 505 Cafe - Irish Food & Drink Specials. Discount if participating in Spirit Week

7am-4pm Fuel Up Nutrition - Shamrock & Oreo Shamrock Shake, Energy Tea 'Shamrock-a-Rita', & \$1 off Combos

8am-3pm Herrick House & The Mulberry Cafe -

Breakfast - Dublin Omelet & Corned Beef Hash

Lunch - Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner with Potatoes & Carrots and Reuben Sandwich

10am-Close Ruckle's Pier - Perch Dinner, Broiled Cabbage, Reuben Egg Rolls, & Grasshoppers

11am-10pm McEwan Street Fudge & Ice Cream Shop - Irish Mint Fudge, Shamrock Chip Ice Cream Specials, Food Specials, & FREE Kid Gifts

11am-10pm Buccilli's Pizza of Clare - Reuben Subs

11am-11pm Timeout Tavern - Reubens, Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, & Drink Specials

11am-2am The Evening Post - Green Beer, Reuben Soup, Corned Beef & Cabbage, Irish Burger, Drink Specials

Friday, March 15th - Continued

12pm-9pm Clare Farwell American Legion - Reuben & Drink Specials

12pm-11pm Clare Moose Lodge - Reubens & Drink Specials

12pm-8pm Doherty Hotel - Irish Sharables, Buffet, Food & Drink Specials

3:30pm-6pm Clare VFW - Burgers, Brats, & Hot Dogs w/ Chips for \$5 & Drink Specials

5pm-Midnight - Food Trucks on McEwan St from 4th to 5th St.

5pm-12am The Trap Door - Drink Specials

6pm-12am The Venue - Drink Specials

The Whitehouse Restaurant - Open 24 hours. Irish Specials

Cops & Doughnuts - Open 24 hours - Irish Pastries & Cookies

Saturday, March 16th

7am-11am Green Pancake Breakfast - At United Methodist Church (105 E. 7th Street). All You Can Eat Pancakes (w/ 2 sausages & your choice of coffee, milk, or orange juice.) Sponsored by the Boy Scouts of Pack 3620 & Troop 620 - \$5/person, \$20/family, 4 & under Free

8am-3pm Herrick House & The Mulberry Cafe -

Breakfast - Dublin Omelet & Corned Beef Hash

Lunch - Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner with Potatoes & Carrots and Reuben Sandwich

8am-3pm 505 Cafe - Irish Food & Drink Specials. Discount if participating in Spirit Week

8am-3pm Fuel Up Nutrition - Buy a 32oz Energy Tea get a 24oz Energy Tea Free, Shamrock & Oreo Shamrock Shakes, Energy Tea 'Shamrock-a-Rita', Free Samples, & \$1 off Combos

10am-2pm St. John Evangelical Lutheran - Corned Beef & Cabbage Soup, Ham & Potato Soup, & Hot Dogs

11am-9pm Ponderosa - Special Irish Buffet

11am-10pm McEwan Street Fudge & Ice Cream Shop - Irish Mint Fudge, Shamrock Chip Ice Cream Specials, Food Specials, & FREE Kids Gift

11am-2am The Evening Post - Breakfast & Bloody Mary Bar 7am-11am, Green Beer, limited Irish Menu 11am-11pm, St. Paddy's Swag giveaways

11am-11pm Timeout Tavern - Reubens, Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, & Drink Specials

10am-Close Ruckle's Pier - Grasshoppers

11am-8pm Doherty Hotel - Irish Sharables, Buffet, Food & Drink Specials

11am-10pm Buccilli's Pizza of Clare - Green Pizza Buffet. Irish Stew & Reuben Subs

11:30am-Midnight - Food Trucks on McEwan Street from 4th to 5th St.

12pm-8pm Clare Moose Lodge - Reubens & Drink Specials

12pm-9pm Clare Farwell American Legion - Reuben & Drink Specials

12pm-10pm Four Leaf Brewing - Irish Brew Pub Food Specials

12pm-12am The Trap Door - Drink Specials

12:30pm-2am The Venue - Drink Specials

The Whitehouse Restaurant - Open 24 hours. Irish Specials

Cops & Doughnuts - Open 24 hours - Irish Pastries & Cookies

Sunday, March 17th

8am-3pm 505 Cafe - Irish Food & Drink Specials. Bloody Mary & Mimosa bar from 9am-1pm. Discount if participating in Spirit Week

11am-11pm The Evening Post - Breakfast and Bloody Mary Bar 7am-11pm, Irish Specials, & Green Beer

1pm-5pm McEwan Street Fudge & Ice Cream Shop - Irish Mint Fudge & Shamrock Chip Ice Cream Specials



SCAN FOR
EVENT INFORMATION

(989)386-2442

www.claremichigan.com