



CITY OF NEW LONDON BECOMES NEW DUBLIN



Weeklong festival celebrates Ireland

BY ROBERT CLOUD
SENIOR EDITOR

NEW LONDON – The New London Common Council voted to change the city's name to New Dublin during the week of March 14-20.

Melissa Mulroy made the annual request for the name change on behalf of the Shamrock Club at the Feb. 8 council meeting.

She noted that the theme for this year's weeklong celebration of Irish culture is "We are all better together."

Regarding the schedule events and festivities, Mulroy said, "They're all family oriented and free."

New Dublin schedule

- Monday, March 14 – Leprechauns will change the city's welcome sign from New London to New Dublin, as well as visit schools, nursing homes and area businesses.
- Tuesday, March 15 – Hooligan Day features corned beef and cabbage served at numerous restaurants and pubs in the area.

• Wednesday, March 16 – Irish caroling is tentatively scheduled at local nursing homes pending visitation approval. Those interested in participating will meet at 5 p.m. at St. Joseph's Residence, 107 E. Beckett Road. Song sheets will be provided.

• Thursday, March 17 – For St. Patrick's Day, Irish entertainment and the recognition of dignitaries will be held at New London High School. This year's Irish Rose and Irish Man, Jane and Lamar Wilson, and Grand Marshal Dick Johnson will be introduced. Entertainment features songs, dances and the humor of Ireland. Free admission but donations are appreciated.

• Friday, March 18 – The Ceili will be held at 7 p.m. at Crystal Falls banquet facility, 1500 Handschke Drive. A traditional gathering of friends and families, a Ceili is a good opportunity to learn the steps to Irish dances. Free admission but

donations are appreciated. Beverages will be sold.

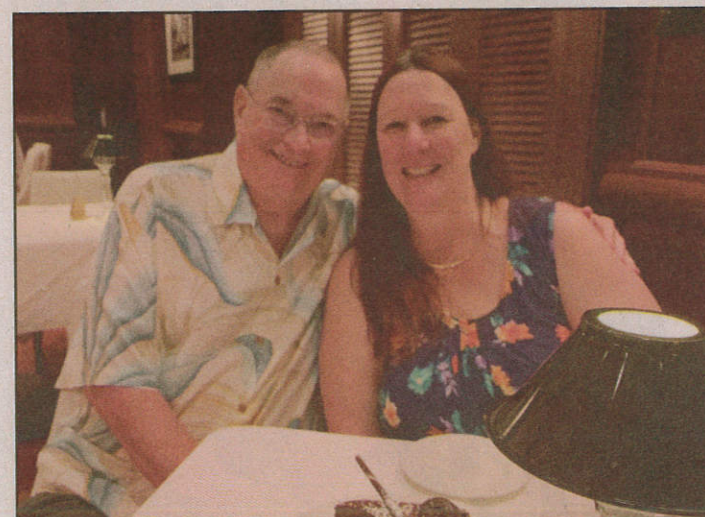
• Saturday, March 19 – The St. Patrick's Day Grand Parade begins at 1 p.m. in downtown New Dublin. The parade features more than 100 units, including marching and bagpipe bands, clown and specialty performers, clan and business floats.

Also on Saturday, the New Dublin Irish Fest will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. under a heated big top tent near Festival Foods in downtown. Entertainment will be Sheamus Fitzpatrick and the McNally Boys from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tallymoore from 1-2:30 p.m. and The Scrubbers from 3-6 p.m. Admission to Irish Fest is \$5 for the entire day.

The Shamrock Club of New Dublin has organized the week of activities to celebrate Ireland for more than four decades.



Grand Marshal Dick Johnson



Dick and Cheri Johnson



2022 Irish Man and Irish Rose Lamar and Jane Wilson