

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE ALIX PUBLIC LIBRARY



# ALIX TELEGRAPH

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3      MARCH 2016

## LÀ FHÉILE PÀDRAIG - THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL OF PATRICK

Saint Patrick's Day, or The Feast Of Saint Patrick, is a cultural and religious celebration honouring the patron saint of Ireland.

What started as a day of religious feast has turned into an international celebration of Irish culture and history with parades, dancing, drinking, feasting and a whole lot of green.

In Canada, many large cities hold massive parades. The parade in Montreal has been held every single year since 1824! However, only Newfoundland and Labrador consider it a public holiday.

If you have an Irish background or simply want to immerse yourself in the culture, visit Winnipeg for

their three day festival of Irish culture. Take in the traditional dancing, known as set dancing or *ceili* and experience traditional dishes such as colcannon: a dish of mashed potatoes mixed with kale or cabbage. Don't forget to dress for the occasion. Green is often mandatory.

All of this adulation for one man. So, who was Saint Patrick and why is he so beloved by so many people?

Patrick was born around 387 AD, somewhere near the border of Scotland and England. At the young age of just 16, he was taken prisoner in Ireland and forced to work as a slave, during which he became very religious, as an requi-

em from his daily torment. Six years passed before he was able to escape and flee Ireland.

In his later life, he returned to Ireland as a missionary and converted many to Christianity. Though, the popular story about him ridding the island of snakes has been proven a myth. There have been no snakes in Ireland for over 10, 000 years. The "snakes" he drove out were most likely groups of pagans and druids. Patrick died March 17th in either 461 or 493, sources differ.

Did you know? The shamrock is the National Flower of Ireland because St. Patrick used it as a visual reference to explain the Holy Trinity to the pagans.

## HAPPY EASTER — DID YOU KNOW?

### History

The name 'Easter' comes from the Anglo-Saxon goddess Eastre. Her symbols, which have become very commercialized and internationally identifiable as Eater tradition, are the egg and the hare.

The exchange of eggs for Easter dates back well before the holiday itself when many cultures would give out eggs as a symbol of rebirth.

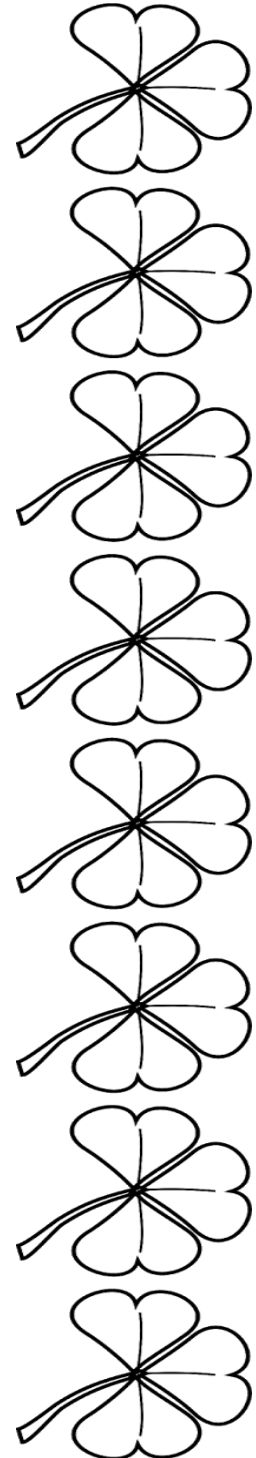
In ancient times, pretzels were associated with Easter because they were thought to resemble arms crossing in prayer.

### Candy

The tallest chocolate Easter egg was made in Italy in 2011. It stood 10.39 metres and weighed 7200 kg.

76% of people eat the ears off their chocolate bunnies first.

Happy Easter Alix!



## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



- Mar. 2 - Margaret Reynolds
- Mar. 6 - Kay Peterson
- Mar. 7 - Gillian Gramlich
- Mar. 14 - Jean McDermand, Jack Cumberland, Mitchell Clermont
- Mar. 16 - Anita Sutley
- Mar. 17 - Ramona Gartner, Jen Brown
- Mar. 18 - Michelle Guevremont
- Mar. 21 - Leigh Peirens
- Mar. 23 - Murray Menage
- Mar. 24 - Travis Peirens
- Mar. 26 - Tony Wilson
- Mar. 29 - Deanna & Lyle Patko

If you have a birthday or anniversary and would like to see it here, drop in or call the library.

*“DO NOT REGRET GETTING OLDER,*

*IT’S A PRIVILEGE DENIED TO MANY.”*

### INDIGENOUS PUZZLE BAG/BEADING WORKSHOP

Learn basic techniques while creating a small, traditional puzzle bag!

This event is free but feel free to bring a food bank donation!

Saturday’s @ 10:30 am @ Alix Drop In Center

For more info, call Samantha @ 403-307-2789.

### ARENA NEWS

Congratulations to the Alix Peewee Avalanche for winning Hockey Alberta Zone 4! They have won themselves a spot @ the 2016 Provincial Tournament in March.

We would like to thank the Alix Village Shoppe for sponsoring Februarys Community Skate, we also want to thank this months sponsor for it’s generous donation!

### FCSS NEWS

It’s still cold out there and your gently used coat donations are greatly appreciated. Drop them off at the FCSS office, behind Potluck Café.

Always having food to eat is something most of us take for granted. We forget, as we scrape our leftovers into the garbage, that some people will go hungry tonight. FCSS is accepting your non-perishable food items.

### LION’S NEWS

Lion’s Club International will be celebrating 100 years of Service in 2017. The Alix Lions Club is planning to recognize this achievement with its own Centennial Legacy Project with a visible, lasting project to enjoyed for years to come. Please, we need your ideas/suggestions. Contact: Curt (357-9933, cpete@platinum.ca), June ( 747-2455, majoru2@gmail.com), Mark ( 784-3055 mckenney.ab@gmail.com), Mary (747-3167 maryflex@platinum.ca) or Joyce (747-2418)

### SCHOOL NEWS

The Hot Lunch Program needs volunteers! To help with Hot Lunch Thursdays contact Darlene Tucker @ 403-747-3129.

- Mar 8 - Grad Photo Day
- Mar. 10 - Farm Safety Program (K-6)
- Mar. 11 - Elementary Report Cards
- Mar. 15 - Spring Photos
- Mar. 16 Parent Teacher



Interviews (K-12) 4-7 p.m.

No School: Mar 4, 18, 25-April 3 (Spring Break)

Kindergarten Registrations now being accepted.

### CRAFT DAY

March 17th 3:30—6 pm

Join us at the Youth Centre for St. Patrick’s Day crafts! There will be a variety of crafts. Everyone is welcome. This event is free.

### THE ALIX VILLAGE SHOPPE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

The commitment would be a three hour shift either 10 - 1 or 1 - 4, Tuesday - Saturday. If you can even cover just one shift a month, they would be very grateful and happy to have the help! Please, if you have the time, there is no better local cause you can give it to. Proceeds from the Shoppe go to help out dozens of local programs

## LIBRARY NEWS

March 3: Book Club @ 8pm, the library.

March 15 & 17: Free Drop-in St. Patrick's Day Crafts - all day.

March 16 : Alix Public Library Board Meeting 6:30 @ the library.

March 22 & 24: Free Drop-in Easter Crafts - all day.

Congratulations to our Reading Bingo winner: Tye-Marcus Baggett! We hope you like your prizes. Thank you for participating!

The Lion's Foundation Of Canada has placed a drop box at the Library to collect your used eye glasses for charity. Please donate, no cases. Thank you.

## NEW & NOTABLE

Chance - Karen Kingsbury  
 Cross Justice - James Patterson  
 Dark Hearts - Sharon Sala  
 Fire Touched - Patricia Briggs  
 Gangster - Clive Cussler  
 Guilty - David Baldacci  
 Predator - Wilbur Smith  
 Treasure Concealed - Tracie Peterson  
 Undoing - Shelly Laurenston

If you have suggestions for items the library should consider purchasing, please let us know.

*"THE PERSON WHO READS LIVES A THOUSAND LIVES BEFORE THEY DIE. THE PERSON WHO DOESN'T READ LIVES ONLY ONE."*

## NAME THE PUPPIES CONTEST - ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

The Police Dog Training Service Centre in Innisfail are having a contest to pick the names of their newest batch of recruits: 13 German Shepherd puppies.

The contest is open to children aged 14 and younger who are allowed one entry each.

The name may be for a female or a male puppy, must begin

with the letter 'J' and must be no more than nine letters and two syllables long.

Children are encouraged to come up with original and imaginative names but to remember that these are police dogs, not pets and names must be appropriate.

Winners will be chosen by the staff at the centre and will be announced on April 26th.

The 13 winners will receive a laminated 8x10 inch photo of the puppy they named, a plushie name Justice and an RCMP cap!

Entries may be submitted online through the RCMP website or mailed to:

Police Dog Training Service Centre Box 6120 Innisfail, AB T4G 1S8

Please include the child's name, age, address, telephone number and the suggested name for a puppy.

Paintings and drawings of puppies would also be appreciated with submissions!

Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity! Deadline for entries is March 22nd!

## EARTH HOUR CHALLENGE—IT'S YOUR PLANET, PROTECT IT!

Saturday March 19th  
 8:30-9:30PM

@ Lake St & Main St Corner

Join us for hot cocoa, delicious s'more cones and a roaring fire.

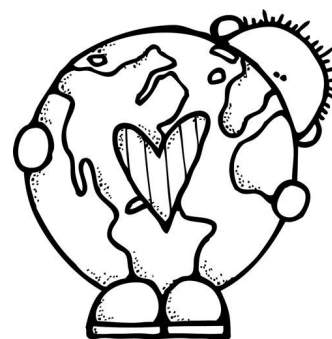
Developed in 2004 by the World Wildlife Fund, Earth Hour has become an international environmental move-

ment.

We encourage the community to come out and help us win this years Fortis Alberta's Grant by competing to save the most electricity in Fortis Alberta's service territory by asking people and businesses to turn off lights, unplug unnecessary appliances and electronic devices to help con-

serve power and protect the planet.

Last year, Alix won first place in the competition for most buildings having turned their lights off during Earth Hour (per capita)! You can see the beautiful glass trophy at the Village Office.





**Alix Public Library**

## ALIX PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Website: [alixpublic.prl.ab.ca](http://alixpublic.prl.ab.ca)

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**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**

[alixpublic.prl.ab.ca](http://alixpublic.prl.ab.ca)

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LEARNING,  
ENTERTAINING,  
CREATING,  
DO IT ALL AT THE LIBRARY.

The Alix Library continues to thank the Village Office for graciously printing the Alix Telegraph.

The Alix Public Library has served the community for 100+ years. We are constantly looking for ways to improve our ability to help our patrons. If you have any ideas, programs or courses you would like to see here at the library please let us know.

You can follow us on Facebook as well at [www.facebook.com/alixlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/alixlibrary).

Hours: Tuesday 10:00 - 4:00

Thursday 2:00 - 8:00

Saturday 10:00 - 4:00

The Telegraph is available at the Alix Public Library, the Alix Village Office, Post Office, The Pantry, Home Hardware, Alix Foods, the Village Shoppe, Lori's Little Luxuries, Potluck Café, Alix Hotel Restaurant and Moonwalkers.

### WHY SHOULD YOU PUT EGGSHELLS IN YOUR GARDEN?

1. Fertilizer. Eggshells are about 96% calcium carbonate and they biodegrade very quickly which makes them a perfect fertilizer.
2. Pest Deterrent. Having trouble with snails or slugs or other creepy crawlers? Crush eggshells into your garden beds. The sharp edges deter these sort of insects from crawling across.
3. Bird Food. Mama birds need extra calcium before and after laying eggs. Sterilize the shells by baking at 250 F for 10 minutes, until dry but not brown inside. Then crush them and add them to your bird seed. This will help ensure healthy chicks and healthy mothers.

For more ideas, come into the Library!

### WE WANT YOUR EGGSHELLS!

In a joint venture between the Alix Youth Centre, The Drop In Center and the Community Hall, eggshells are being collected from the pancake breakfasts (first and third Sundays, 9-Noon).

These eggshells are being dried and crushed to use as an added fertilizer the Youth Centre/Community gardens in the summer.

If you have any eggshells you would like to donate, please contact Amie @ 403-505-8771 or drop them off at any pancake breakfast. Any donations, even small ones, are greatly appreciated.

### EASTER EGG HUNT

Join the Village of Alix in and Easter Egg Hunt! Including Easter crafts and Egg Decorating!

Sunday March 27th 1-3 PM

@ Alix Youth Centre

All Ages Welcome

The Event Is Free

Remember how much fun you had decorating eggs and hunting for yummy goodies when you were a kid? Now is your chance to re-live it! Even if you don't participate, come on out and see the kid's creations!

### THANK YOU ALIX

Thank you to the sponsors of Family Day in Alix: Village Of Alix, Alix Chamber Of Commerce, Servus credit Union, Western Financial Group & Alix Home Hardware. It was a fantastic day. Thanks to everyone who came out to make it a success!

### DROP IN CENTRE

The Alix Drop In Center is always welcoming new members. Come on down for fun and games or just some good conversation. Get to know your community members. Open Monday-Saturday @ 1 PM.