MARCH NEWSLETTER

 

Every month, there are hundreds of national and international celebrations dedicated to raising awareness and support for meaningful causes.

**The main days and months you should know about for March are:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Women’s History Month | March 1 |
| National Reading Month | March 1 |
| Disability Awareness Month | March 1 |
| World Wildlife Day | March 3 |
| Global Recycling Day | March 18 |
| International Day of Forests | March 21 |
| World Water Day | March 22 |

March is the [third month of the year](https://www.goodgoodgood.co/articles/months-in-order) in the Julian and Gregorian calendars. It has 31 days and marks the transition from winter to spring in the Northern Hemisphere and summer to autumn in the Southern Hemisphere. It is named after Mars, the Roman god of war. However, we think of it as the beginning of spring, as March brings the vernal equinox, the Full Worm Moon and the return of Daylight-Saving Time!



Daylight Saving Time begins in early March. At this time, we “spring forward” one hour! See details about when the time changes, why we observe DST, and the short history of this practice.

### What Is Daylight Saving Time?

**Daylight Saving Time** (“DST”) is the practice of moving the clocks forward one hour from Standard Time during the summer months and changing them back again in the fall. The general idea is that this allows us all to use natural daylight better: moving the clocks forward one hour in the [spring](https://www.almanac.com/content/first-day-seasons) grants us more daylight during summer evenings, while moving clocks back one hour in the fall grants us more daylight during winter mornings. However, DST has many detractors—and rightfully so!

* **Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 2:00 A.M.** On Saturday night, clocks *are set forward 1 hour*(i.e., losing one hour) to “spring forward.” Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour later on March 10, 2024, than the day before. There will be more light in the evening.
* **Daylight Saving Time ends** on **Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 2:00 A.M.** On Saturday night, clocks *are set back 1 hour* (i.e., gaining one hour) to “fall back.” Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour earlier on November 3, 2024, than the day before. There will be more light in the morning.



## St. Patrick's Day 2024: When Is St. Patrick's Day? Who Was St. Patrick? | The Old Farmer's Almanac

## Why do people celebrate St. Patrick's Day?

It began as—and remains—a religious day to recognize the death of St. Patrick, Ireland's patron saint who brought Christianity to the country (although he was born a wealthy Englishman!). For Irish folks on the Emerald Isle, it remained a relatively low-key religious feast day through much of the 20th century.

However, if you look closer at the [history of St. Patrick's Day](https://www.thepioneerwoman.com/holidays-celebrations/a35228560/st-patricks-day-history/), you'll find that the reasons to celebrate really evolved in America. The holiday as we know it today—with [parades](https://www.thepioneerwoman.com/holidays-celebrations/g42747305/st-patricks-day-parades/), parties, and more—emerged in the 1800s from Irish-Americans who wanted to celebrate their culture as well as civic pride, [according to Time](https://time.com/3744055/america-invented-st-patricks-day/). By the end of the century, big cities like Boston, New York, and Chicago were hosting major celebrations for everyone to take part in over the course of days leading up to March 17. So, funnily enough, the St. Patrick's Day festivities we know today are more American than Irish!

## Is St. Patrick's Day always on March 17?

Good question. The answer is yes! The earliest observance of St. Patrick's Day dates back to Ireland in the 1600s. March 17 is significant because it's believed to be the date the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick, died in the late 5th century.





### When Is the First Day of Spring 2024?

In 2024, the March equinox happens on March 19 at 11:06 P.M. EDT. This falls on a Tuesday and is the astronomical beginning of the spring season in the Northern Hemisphere and the autumn season in the Southern Hemisphere.

Spring is in the air! Here is a small list of some fun ideas to start planning for spring:

1. Start that home spring cleaning! Okay, maybe it doesn’t sound fun but the reward is worth it when you are all done 😊
2. Purchase baseball tickets and plan a day with the family soaking up the sun while eating hotdogs and popcorn!
3. Play a sport
4. Volunteer, maybe your neighbor or a family friend could use some help. Don’t forget to ask your local organizations!
5. Clean off your patio furniture or replace it. Get that patio ready for some fun gatherings!
6. Buy a new book!
7. Plan a trip! Family spring break trip away from school & work! How relaxing!
8. Put out your bird feeders
9. Get outdoors and start walking.
10. Build a kite and take it flying
11. Plant a garden filled with all of your favorites.





## When is Palm Sunday in 2024?

This year, **Palm Sunday falls on March 24, 2024.** Easter Sunday always changes every year due to it being based on the Lunar calendar, and Palm Sunday follows the same pattern since it's always the Sunday before Easter.

## Why and how is Palm Sunday celebrated?

Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week, a seven-day span that culminates the day before Easter Sunday. The feast commemorates Jesus’ triumphant arrival in the city of Jerusalem for Passover, where he was greeted by a crowd of people laying palm branches at his feet. According to [Christianity.com](https://www.christianity.com/wiki/holidays/what-is-palm-sunday-and-why-do-christians-celebrate-it.html), his welcomers hoped that Jesus would overthrow the Roman government in Jerusalem.

Nowadays, there are still palms involved in the Palm Sunday mass. Each year, palms are blessed and distributed, and many believers tie them into the shape of a cross. According to the [World Catholic Library](https://www.catholic.org/lent/palmsunday.php), "Because the palms are blessed, they may not be discarded as trash. Instead, they are appropriately gathered at the church and incinerated to create the ashes that will be used in the follow year's Ash Wednesday observance."





## ****When is Good Friday 2024?****

Good Friday is always the Friday before Easter Sunday. In 2024, Good Friday falls on Friday, March 29.

## ****What is Good Friday?****

Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ. It is a day of solemn reflection for followers of many Christian denominations, including Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans and Methodists. Good Friday takes place on the Friday before Easter, so its date changes from year to year. Many Christians observe the day with prayer, and some with fasting. In the Roman Catholic tradition, believers mark Good Friday by praying the Stations of the Cross and reciting other devotional [prayers](https://parade.com/1240707/kelseypelzer/good-night-prayers/).

On this austere day of commemoration, “church bells are silent. Altars are left bare,” explains [Catholic Online](https://www.catholic.org/lent/friday.php). “The solemn, muted atmosphere is preserved until the Easter Vigil.”

Similarly, in the Anglican tradition, “the church remains stripped of all decoration,” according to The Church of England’s [official website](https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/churchs-year/times-and-seasons/passiontide-and-holy-week). “It continues bare and empty through the following day, which is a day without a liturgy [an official religious rite].”





## Why does Easter change every year?

Easter Sunday always occurs on the first Sunday after the [**Paschal Full Moon**](https://www.almanac.com/easter-paschal-full-moon). What is the Paschal Full Moon? This is specifically the first Sunday following the full Moon that occurs on or after the [**March or spring equinox**](https://www.almanac.com/content/first-day-spring-vernal-equinox). While Christmas is fixed to a solar calendar (and near the winter solstice), Easter is based on the lunar cycles of the Jewish calendar. In the Christian religion, the Last Supper (the final meal Jesus shared with his apostles before his crucifixion) was a Passover feast. It’s because Easter is based on a lunar month (which is 29.5 days) that the date of Easter can vary.

Note that the spring equinox date used by the Christian Church is always March 21 to simplify matters. In fact, the astronomical date of the equinox can shift by a day or so. In 2024, the astronomical date of the equinox is Tuesday, March 19. So, you’ll often see this called the “ecclesiastical” equinox (i.e., the date used by the Church).

### When Is Easter 2024?

This year, Easter Sunday will be observed on **Sunday, March 31.** This is based on the Gregorian calendar. However, many Eastern Orthodox churches follow the Julian calendar rather than the Gregorian. In 2024, Eastern Orthodox Easter will occur on Sunday, May 5 (the Julian calendar date converted to the Gregorian calendar).



## LOCAL NEWS

* Are you in need of grocery delivery service? Call 620-228-5570 for more information on this new service.
* La Harpe Days T-Shirts available at City Hall.
* Health & Wellness activities are free to all!
* Don’t forget, we have a community food box in front of City Hall…. Take what you need, leave what you can.

**If you need assistance after-hours please call the Iola Dispatch Center at (620) 365-1437, they will notify the proper personnel.**

 *HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL LAHARPE CITIZENS CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH!!!! MAY YOUR DAY BE AS SPECIAL AS YOU ARE TO US!*



*Note from the animal control officer:*

To whom it may concern

It’s a new year and time to get your dog(s) tagged with the city. There is an ordinance that tells you what you need to register your dog(s) and the ordinance that clearly states that you can’t have more than (3) three dogs per household.

If your dog(s) are not tagged and registered by May 1, 2024 you will be given a NTA (Notice to Appear in court)

If you have any questions, please contact us by phone (620) 496-2241 here at city hall.

Respectfully,

City of La Harpe

City dog tag fees:

Neutered/Spayed = $5.00 a dog

Unneutered/Unspayed = $7.50 a dog

Must have proof of current rabies vaccination to purchase city dog tags.

***A copy of the ordinance, in its entirety, can be viewed at*** [***www.cityoflaharpe.org***](http://www.cityoflaharpe.org)

*The city will host a dog clinic at city hall on April 13, 2024, from 1:30pm to 3:00pm*

*Bronson Vet, Lora Holman, will be on site to administer. This will be by appointment only. Contact city hall for more information (620) 496-2241.*



Upcoming Fundraisers:

March 23rd: Annual Craft Fair! At city hall from 10:00am – 4:00pm. Expecting 20+ vendors from all over. Concessions will be available.



**ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH:**

March 3rd

Crockpot one dish class 5:30pm

March 5th

Yoga class 5:30pm

March 7th

Paint Class 6:00pm

March 11th

Blanket Tying Class 2:00pm

March 12th

Rock Decorating Class 2:00pm

March 14th

Bread making class 5:00pm

March 19th

Yoga class 5:30pm

March 25th

Crafts Class 5:30pm

March 29th

Cupcake decorating 2:00pm

*You can follow our health & wellness director on Facebook: La Harpe Health & Wellness. Kathy will share weekly brain teasers, hygiene facts and healthy quick meals. Don’t have access to Facebook, please let us know and we will find a way to get you the information.*

**Dates to remember:**

A group of people sitting around a table

Description automatically generated with low confidence March 13th: Council Meeting at City Hall at 7:00 pm

A picture containing text, lined

Description automatically generated March 18th: PRIDE Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiI3_mmgoLLAhVW9mMKHe22Ar8QjRwIBw&url=http://www.paymentus.com/industry-utilities.html&psig=AFQjCNF-5ANx5SktbJug46KiWwMehsjzzw&ust=1455908868261283) March 26th: **Past due Utility shut off date.**

*If you can’t pay your account in* ***full*** *at this time then you must submit your reasoning to the City Clerk* ***BEFORE*** *March 26th.*

**CITY COUNCIL NEWS**

**CITIZENS CALL FOR BUSINESS**

1. Marcia Davis, with Thrive, shared with the council there was a grant possibility to help replace or build new sidewalks. This grant would be county wide and each community could get up to $30,000.00, it is an 80/20 match. Marcia encouraged the council to contact La Harpe’s county commissioner and explain how this opportunity could benefit La Harpe. You can call your county commissioner or attend a meeting next Tuesday.
2. Ciara Dobson owns property at 406 McKinley and she told the council she is tearing down the trailer and would like to replace it with a 1982 double wide. She shared pictures and stated she was aware of La Harpe’s building codes. Austin Lee made the motion to grant her a variance on the home. Cynthia Carr seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No business discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. KRWA Voting Delegates – Michelle stated last years delegates were Sharlyn Thompson and Austin Lee. Cynthia Carr made the motion for Sharlyn and Austin to be the delegates. Austin Lee seconded. Motion carried 3-0.
2. Lead & Copper – Michelle shared what the city staff has been working on and the loop holes we are running into, one of those being the “unknowns” on the surveys. The city needs to know what is on the customers side by either going to those homes and offering to go in and look or have the company that KDHE hired, JEO Consulting Group, go door to door but they would like a city employee with them so that our citizens are nervous about letting a stranger in their home. The council agreed to doing it that way. Michelle stated another issue, the city is needing to know what is going into the customers meter and the size of it and to do so the crew would need to dig up each water meter. Dereck stated that KRWA has a small pot holing machine and would come help the city, their machine is not big enough to do the whole town but they could do a few and the fee for the machine would be $25.00 an hour. Dereck shared 3 quotes to rent the machine and the council decided we can’t afford to go that route with the driving time. It was suggested we reach out to Humboldt, Iola and Moran to see if they would rent their machine to us. Mayor Crowell suggested we contact the insurance company first to make sure we have coverage.
3. Trees – Austin Lee stated it’s been 2 years since we last did any tree trimming, we need to get going on this and suggested we get some bids.
4. Ditches & Roads – Austin Lee asked about the roads and ditches getting done and wondering where we were with this. Michelle stated she talked to Mark and it will be later this fall and he intends to help the city cut the ditches. Dereck stated we did some ditch work and replaced 2 whistles which we now need to order. Pricing through Cleavers for a 12”X30’ is $616.20 or order 10 for $5,047.00. Sharlyn Thompson made the motion to buy 10 whistles and take the money from special highway. Austin Lee seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

**REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS**

1. Fred Works, City Attorney – Nothing to report
2. Roy Caler, Water Representative – Nothing to report.
3. Joe Stotler, Police Chief – Shared his monthly time cards. Cynthia Carr asked about FEMA on Joe’s timecard. The mayor stated he is working with them trying to get money for the city from that last storm.
4. Penny Miller, Code/Animal Control –Shared her monthly reports. Had nothing else to report. Mayor Crowell asked if she had started condemning 2 properties. Penny said yes; Ronnie Head’s place and Betty Hutton’s.
5. Marc Waggoner, Fire Chief- Absent from meeting but share minutes. The La Harpe Volunteer Fire Department met for the monthly meeting. Present: Josh Sparks, Marc Waggoner Sr., Dennis Sidebottom, Ronald Splector, Kiefer Endicott and Meghan Sparks. Absent were, Pamela Waggoner, Bill Gay, Matthew Waggoner. La Harpe firefighters started meeting, took out fire trucks did cross training on city fire truck and the rural arial, then talked about this year’s upcoming fire season and being prepared then ended the meeting. Gentry Dougherty is no longer with the fire department because he has moved to Parsons.
6. Maintenance Department –The workorders and Dereck’s progress report were shared. Dereck stated they have been working on the fire hydrants on the west side of town. All have been fixed other than 2 hydrants which are 1983 models, it takes a different kit to fix those. He stated a guy is coming to help us tear apart. On the East side of town, the hydrant at 10th & Jefferson needs a whole kit, not sure on pricing, but if used it will bust our main. Mayor Crowell suggested he get pricing to get those fixed. Dereck shared 3 prices on a smaller chainsaw. Cynthia Carr recommended a battery powered chainsaw. Sharlyn Thompson commented that we already have one. No action was taken. Dereck mentioned the small bucket truck should be fixed Friday or Monday.
7. Michelle Altis, City Clerk – Michelle shared the interest in city lots at 1012 & 1102 S Washington. The council agreed they want to know what the interested parties are wanting to do and the time frame before council prices them. Michelle informed the council she will be leaving February 28th at 3:00pm to go to court clerk training in Wichita on February 29th and March 1st.



***Mayor****: Ella Mae Crowell (620) 496-6219*

***City Attorney****: Fred Works*

***City Municipal Judge****: Patty Miklos*

***Police Chief****: Joseph Stotler*

***Fire Chief****: Marc Waggoner*

***Assistant Fire Chief****: Dennis Sidebottom*

***City Clerk****: Michelle Altis*

***Assistant Clerk****: Teresa Driskel*

***City Treasurer****: Audra Riggins*

***Maintenance Staff****: Dereck Ranes, Larry Laird & Keanen Badders*

***Code & Animal Control****: Penny Miller*

***City Council Members:***

***Austin Lee (496-2323) Danny Ware Jr. (496-2156)***

***Cynthia Carr (496-7500) Sharlyn Thompson (496-3348)***

***Ron Knavel (496-2508)***

***Laharpe City Hall Hours: Monday-Friday***

902 S. Washington 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-5:00

P.O. Box 10 Ph. (620) 496-2241

Laharpe, KS. 66751 Fax (620) 496-2240  *CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE; CITYOFLAHARPE.ORG* ** *Follow us on Facebook*



# Baked Ham with Honey-Chipotle Glaze

## Ingredients

* 1 fully cooked bone-in ham (8 to 10 pounds)
* 1 cup packed brown sugar
* 3 tablespoons honey
* 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
* 2-1/4 cups ginger ale
* 4 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, minced
* 3 garlic cloves, minced
* 1-1/2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
* 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
* 3/4 teaspoon ground cumin

## Directions

* **1.** Preheat oven to 325°. Place ham on a rack in a roasting pan. Using a sharp knife, score surface of ham with 1/2-in.-deep cuts in a diamond pattern. Bake, uncovered, 1-1/2 hours.
* **2.** Meanwhile, for glaze, in a small saucepan, mix brown sugar, honey, vinegar and ginger ale. Bring to a boil; cook until mixture is reduced by half, about 15 minutes. Stir in remaining ingredients. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, 5 minutes. Remove from heat. Reserve 1 cup mixture for sauce; keep warm.
* **3.** Brush ham with some of the remaining glaze. Bake, uncovered, until a thermometer reads 140°, about 30 minutes, brushing twice with additional glaze. Serve with reserved sauce.

# Chipotle Sweet Potato Salad Exps Sdjj19 234922 B02 06 6b Rms 3

# Chipotle Sweet Potato Salad

# Ingredients

## 3 pounds sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 3/4-inch pieces (about 7 cups)

## 1/4 cup finely chopped sweet onion

## 1/4 cup finely chopped celery

## 1/4 cup finely chopped seeded fresh poblano pepper

## 1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely chopped

## 1 cup mayonnaise

## 2 tablespoons lime juice

## 1/2 to 1 teaspoon ground chipotle pepper

## 1/2 teaspoon salt

## 1/4 teaspoon pepper

## Minced fresh cilantro

## Directions

## 1. Preheat oven to 425°. Place sweet potatoes in a parchment-lined 15x10x1-in. baking pan; cover tightly with foil. Roast until tender, 25-30 minutes. Cool. Transfer to a large bowl.

## 2. Add onion, celery, poblano and jalapeno. In a small bowl, combine mayonnaise, lime juice, chipotle pepper, salt and pepper; pour over potato mixture and toss gently to coat. Refrigerate, covered, until serving. Sprinkle with cilantro.

## Cinnamon Coffee Cake

## Coffee Cake Recipe

## Ingredients

* 1 cup butter, softened
* 2-3/4 cups sugar, divided
* 4 large eggs, room temperature
* 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
* 3 cups all-purpose flour
* 1 teaspoon baking soda
* 1 teaspoon salt
* 2 cups sour cream
* 2 tablespoons ground cinnamon
* 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

## Directions

1. In a large bowl, cream butter and 2 cups sugar until light and fluffy, 5-7 minutes. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla. Combine flour, baking soda and salt; add alternately with sour cream, beating just enough after each addition to keep batter smooth.
2. Spoon a third of batter into a greased 10-in. tube pan. Combine cinnamon, nuts and remaining 3/4 cup sugar; sprinkle one-third of mixture over batter in pan. Repeat layers 2 more times. Bake at 350° until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 60-65 minutes. Cool for 15 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack to cool completely.



# Easter Bunny Treats

## Ingredients

* 1/3 cup vanilla frosting
* 36 miniature marshmallows
* 36 large marshmallows
* Red and pink heart-shaped decorating sprinkles
* Small black nonpareils
* White jimmies
* Pink colored sugar

## Directions

1. Place frosting in piping bag. For each bunny, cut 2 miniature marshmallows in half and use frosting to attach them to 1 large marshmallow to form arms and legs.
2. For the face, attach 2 miniature marshmallow halves for cheeks. Use the heart-shaped sprinkles, black nonpareils and white jimmies to form nose, whiskers and eyes.
3. For the ears, cut 1 large marshmallow in half diagonally. Dip each sticky side in colored sugar and use frosting to attach the ears to the top of the large marshmallow. Use frosting to connect the 2 large marshmallows; let stand until dry.