



EASTER EGG HUNT



SHALOM BAER GEE PHOTOS, JOURNAL STAFF

The Easter Bunny greets a youngster during an egg hunt at Sioux Park hosted by Rapid City and the local Optimist Club on Saturday.

Snow doesn't stop children from enjoying hunt at Sioux Park

SHALOM BAER GEE
Journal staff

Hordes of children trudged through the snow at Sioux Park on Saturday, April 4, in search of the Easter Bunny's hidden treasures.

The mad dash for the bounty the soccer fields held was over in a matter of minutes. The snowy field went from dotted with 6,000 colorful Easter eggs to covered in footprints, and the children filed away with their loot in baskets, buckets and bags. The Easter Bunny was also present so

families could take photos.

The Rapid City Parks and Recreation Department and the Rapid City Optimist Club teamed up to host the 62nd annual easter egg hunt. It's the first year the two groups have joined forces. In previous years, both entities hosted separate events on different days and at different locations.

Mark Kline, vice president of the Optimist Club, said Sioux Park is one of the only places in town with enough space for everyone. Kline said sponsors, such as Scheels and Target,

helped pay for the event, and the city bought the eggs. The total cost was between \$1,500 and \$2,000, Kline estimated.

He said the snow is a bit of hindrance. The club usually puts out candy on the grass in addition to the eggs, but the snow prevented that. It didn't prevent the hundreds of people who came out for the event.

"It's an awesome turnout today," Kline said.

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Snow on the ground didn't deter youngsters at the egg hunt.

Rapid City Council releases agenda

Topics include chickens, county TIF, sports complex

FRANK ESPINOZA
Journal staff

A look at some items of interest on the agenda for the 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 6, Rapid City Council meeting.

Chickens

The council will consider a backyard chickens ordinance.

The ordinance would legalize up to six hens on residential property, excluding any roosters.

The item has been proposed to the council many times over the last decade, but with additional regulations and stronger enforcement, the pro-hen community and Councilman Stephen Tamang (Ward 1) hope to get the ordinance approved.

Currently, the Rapid City Municipal Code prohibits the keeping of backyard hens except on land that is zoned for agricultural uses.

The proposed ordinance requires containment for chickens through an enclosed coop and chicken run, an enclosed outdoor space, to keep predators out. The coops must be ventilated and provide a minimum area of at least 2 square feet per chicken. Runs must be attached to the coop and have a minimum area of at least 10 square feet per chicken.

The ordinance also defines violations and lays out enforcement guidelines.

"It is unlawful to keep hens where the provisions of § 6.08.021 are not met. Each day a violation occurs is a separate offense. In addition to any other remedies or causes of action the city may possess, the keeping or maintaining of a hen in a manner inconsistent with § 6.08.021 is declared to be a public nuisance and may be abated by the city

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US, Iran race to find downed pilot

SAM MEDNICK, SAMY MAGDY, JON GAMBRELL
AND MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — The American military searched for a second day for a pilot shot down over a remote area in Iran, while U.S. President Donald Trump on Saturday again threatened Tehran over his Monday deadline to open the Strait of Hormuz: "Time is running out."

The U.S. warplane, identified by Iran as a F-15E Strike Eagle, was one of two attacked Friday. Iran promised a reward for whoever turns in the "enemy pilot." Iran's joint military command said Saturday it also struck two U.S. Black Hawk helicopters the prior day, but the Associated Press couldn't independently verify that. Iran previously made false claims about shooting down piloted aircraft.

The war — which began with joint U.S.-Israeli strikes Feb. 28, killed more than 3,300 people, shook global markets, cut off key shipping routes and spiked fuel prices — shows no signs of slowing.

"We will continue to crush them," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Saturday. Israel's military confirmed it struck a petrochemical complex in Mahshahr that Netanyahu said helps to fund the war. Five people were killed, Iranian state media reported, citing a provincial security official.

Earlier, the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran said an airstrike hit near its Bushehr nuclear facility, killing a security guard and damaging a support building. It's the fourth time the facility

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