

# Happy Easter

FROM THE BULLETIN FAMILY



## Where to egg hunt this year

By Sharon Toth

*The Bulletin*

There usually are so many Easter egg hunts in our area that it's difficult for parents to choose where to take their children, but this is 2021, and the coronavirus is still circulating among us, so some cities have canceled their egg hunts, including

Angleton and Lake Jackson.

In some cases, it was a matter of not knowing what to expect as far as the status of the virus and what would be allowed, one city parks and recreation official told *The Bulletin*.

"We didn't know what to plan," she said, adding that it takes a lot

of time to prepare for egg hunts for 1,200 participants.

Many families will opt to host egg hunts at their or a relative's home, perhaps combining backyard barbecues or turkey or ham dinners with a search for the colorful plastic containers of candy, or the hand-dyed real thing. Dying eggs as a

family can be a treat a day or two before Easter (and refrigerating them before the hunt) that can provide lasting memories, some cute pictures and giggles.

For those children who still want to go to a big public egg hunt, there are a couple of options.

Clute Parks & Recreation Department has organized an Easter egg hunt for Thursday, April 1, at 6:45 p.m. in Clute Municipal Park. It is free and open to the public and is for children 12 and under, and age groups will be divided.

The Easter Bunny will come to the event, so families are encouraged to bring baskets for collecting eggs and cameras for taking pictures. At 8 p.m., the movie, "Dora & the Lost City of Gold," will be shown to end the evening. For information, call (979) 265-8392.

Also on April 1, the Alvin Parks & Recreation Department will hold its egg hunt, but registration is required for it. It also is for ages 12 and under. It will be a "Lights Out" after-dark hunt at 8 p.m. at Bob Briscoe Park.

The Easter Bunny will also make an appearance at this evening event. Registration must be done online, and parents will need to create an account to register children. For information, call (281) 388-4299 or see [www.alvin-tx.gov](http://www.alvin-tx.gov).

After the children's hunt, there will be an adult egg hunt 9 to 10 p.m. at the same park. Tickets for \$15 and

pre-registration for the adult hunt in Alvin is required.

On Friday, April 2, the Varner-Hogg State Historical Site in West Columbia will host Governor Hogg's Easter Egg Hunt starting at 10 a.m. with thousands of plastic eggs filled with candy or a small toy for children 12 and under to find. There will be age divisions, and parents can assist children age 2 and under.

Children will be admitted free, but a donation is requested from adults to the historical site, which usually charges an admittance fee.

"Gov. Hogg" will be attending, reading *The Adventures of Peter Rabbit* to the children, and there will be games and activities in The Corral at the park. The Easter Bunny will be attending this hunt also, so parents should bring baskets and cameras. For more information, call (979)345-4656, ext. 24.

Some churches will be hosting egg hunts or special activities in addition to holding Easter services celebrating the resurrection of Christ, so check with your or other churches for information.



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## 66th San Jacinto Festival in West Columbia

This year's San Jacinto Festival will be held April 16-17 and is coming back bigger and better than ever!

Headliner and Nashville musician Cole Degges will rock the house on Friday night, April 17, to launch us into the weekend festivities. Saturday night will highlight Sound Castle, and both concerts are FREE. This family friendly weekend will feature a 5K run for adults and a 1K for children.

More highlights include the San Jacinto Parade, Trade Days in the First Capitol Park, Antique Car Show and KidZone.

The Belle Beauty Pageants, including the coronation of the Belle of the Brazos, Little Belle and Beau, and Little Mister and Belle, will take place during the festival weekend.

The BBQ Cook-Off is more competitive than ever, since Brisket has

a \$1,000 cash prize.

Children particularly will enjoy the KidZone, which includes two days of bouncy houses, face painting, petting zoo and other activities for one low price of \$5.

Be sure to attend special activities at the historical Varner Hogg Plantation, the jewel of West Columbia! More details are coming.

West Columbia, the first capitol of an independent Texas, has celebrated its history annually, except for 2020. Columbia was chosen as the capitol in 1836 because it had the most permanent buildings and the largest newspaper in the republic. The distinction lasted three months before the government decamped to the new town of Houston, 55 miles north.

While visiting West Columbia, make sure you check out the First Capitol replica near City Hall.

## Easter dirt cake fun to make, eat

By Stephanie Johnson

The Bulletin

Dirt cake is one of my favorite things to make for Easter, and it is so fun to make with kids! Listed below is exactly what you need for the dessert.

### Ingredients:

- 1 (5.1 to 5.9-ounce) large box of instant chocolate pudding
- 3 cups milk
- 1 package spring Oreos
- 2 cups sweetened shredded coconut
- green food coloring
- 1 package Peeps bunnies or more to decorate
- M&Ms candy eggs-Easter Candy

### Instructions:

You'll need a 9x13 pan to get started.

Get the Oreos and crush them in a ziplock bag. You can have fun with this one by letting the kids crush them! Set this crushed mixture aside - it will become your dirt layer later on.

Then, using an electric mixer, whisk the pudding mix and milk for 5 minutes, until the pudding is thick and smooth.

Pour the pudding in the 9x13 dish in an even layer. This is your mud layer.

Pour the crushed Oreo mixture over the pudding layer in the pan. This is your dirt layer.

In a large Ziploc bag, mix the coconut and a little green food coloring. Shake the bag well until the food coloring is evenly distributed, and the coconut turns green as grass.

Spread the coconut over the Oreo dirt layer. There's now grass on top of your dirt layers!

Lastly, it is time to decorate with the Easter candy. Place bunny or chick peeps and eggs as you wish.

It's as easy as that! This is a great recipe because it's so simple and fun to make, and the ingredients are inexpensive.

I hope you enjoy this recipe for this colorful Easter cake and create family memories with it.

Who knows, maybe it will become your family's new Easter tradition! I know it has become one in our house, and we can't wait to make it this year!

HAPPY EASTER FROM THE BULLETIN



Whitfield, left, and his uncle, David, enjoyed making Easter dirt cake.

**EASTER EGG HUNT & MOVIE**

Bring your camera for pictures with the Easter Bunny!

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**CLUTE MUNICIPAL PARK**  
**APRIL 1, 2021 - EGG HUNT 6:45PM**  
**MOVIE STARTS AT 8PM**

Age Groups: 0-3 yrs, 4-6 yrs,  
 7-9 yrs & 10-12 yrs

"Dora & the Lost City of Gold"

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## Fill Easter baskets with inexpensive 'retro' gifts

Easter is filled with fun activities, and the Spring weather makes it the perfect time to get outside and have fun with the kids.

Don't know what to put in the kids Easter baskets this year? It doesn't have to be hard or expensive. Kids enjoy the small things.

Here are some fun items to get your kids outside that they will enjoy.

- Bubbles. Most kids love playing with bubbles. You can get the small bubbles, or the huge bubble wands. There's even an electric bubble machine that will continue to make bubbles that the kids can run through. You can't go wrong with bubbles.

- Sidewalk Chalk. What's better than cute kid drawings over your entire walk path or driveway? Sidewalk chalk is inexpensive, and kids

can have fun for hours with it. They can even draw hopscotch or play more games with the chalk. They make all kinds of chalk now, even chalk in the shape of Easter eggs.

- Jump ropes/Hula hoops. This is a fun one; the kids can count how many times they can jump on the jump rope without stopping or how many circles they can hula hoop. You can turn it into a fun game and make it an obstacle course.

- Water fun. This can be anything from a water gun to a kiddie pool. It gets hot in Brazoria County, so this is a great gift to last throughout the summer. It will also keep your little one cool during those hot days!

- Books. Keep them busy by having them read a book, or you read to them. Books are great for kids because they are entertaining,

and they also help with their development.

- Balls. Any type of ball that they can throw or kick or have fun with outside or inside.

- Candy. You can't go wrong with candy for Easter! Sure, they are getting candy in eggs, but get some of their favorites, such as the large chocolate bunnies.



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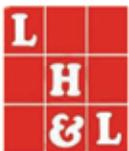


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**66th ANNUAL**

# SAN JACINTO FESTIVAL

**APRIL 16-17, 2021**

**First Capitol Park, 1300 N. 13th Street, West Columbia TX 77486**

**APRIL**

**FRI.**

**16**

4 PM - 7 PM KidFest

4 PM - 7:30 PM Trade Days

6 PM BBQ Cook-Off Begins

7 PM Mr. Xtreme - Daredevil Stuntman

7:30 PM Opening Ceremonies

4 PM - 7:30 PM Live Music - Adam York

8 PM - 11:30 PM Live Music - Cole Deggs

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6:30AM 5k and Kids 1k Run

10 AM Parade

11 AM - 6 PM Trade Days & KidFest

11:30 AM - 3 PM Live Music - All in Good Time

11:30 AM - 4 PM Car Show

11:30 AM Coronation

4 PM Awards

4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Live Music - Adam York

7:30 PM Mr. Xtreme - Daredevil Stuntman

8 PM - 11 PM Live Music - SoundCastle

**APRIL**

**SAT.**

**17**

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**Live Music ★ BBQ Cook-off ★ Parade**

**Pageant ★ KidZone ★ Entertainment**

**Car Show ★ Trade Days ★ Run**

 For more information please visit West Columbia Chamber of Commerce



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