

# FUN AND SUN FOR EASTER ACTIVITIES

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Austin Montgomery/Beloit Daily News Over a hundred families came out to let kids forage for Easter candy at the South Beloit Lions Club egg hunt at South Beloit High School. The kids, ages 1-8 years-old made quick work of the thousands of eggs and candy strewn across the school's football field, finishing the hunt only seven minutes after kicking off at noon on Saturday.

{ BELOIT - Easter events around the Stateline Area drew families and children out to enjoy all the weekend's festivities and wonderful spring weather. }

In South Beloit the Lions Club, in partnership with the South Beloit High School's Leo Club, hosted its annual egg hunt, an event that was canceled last year due to poor weather.

But on Saturday the thousands of Easter eggs and pieces of candy that were strewn across the high school's football field were scavenged in under 10 minutes.

Beloit resident Torri Blakley and her son Grayson said they've made the South Beloit event a staple in their family's Easter celebrations.

When asked what his favorite candy was, Grayson, who was staring out at the field of candy and Easter eggs, said simply, "Chocolate."

"We've been coming to this for the last few years," Blakley said. "This weekend there's a lot of events around the city and in the area. We always come here. We're enjoying the nice weather and see what the Easter Bunny brings tomorrow."

This year's event marks the fourth year at South Beloit High School, according to South Beloit Leo Club advisor Ted Zierath.

"The kids get a chance to get some candy and have some fun," Zierath said. "That's what it's all about. It's a great thing to do. We enjoy watching all the kids have fun and seeing the expressions on their faces as they pick up all the candy."

In Beloit, the Downtown Business Association's Eggstravaganza event drew around 500 residents, visitors and families to the free fest, with games, live music, candy, face painting and pictures with everyone's favorite bunny.

For the Enochs family of Beloit and South Beloit, Saturday's event was a great way to enjoy each other's company while letting the kids have some fun.

"We're very family-oriented and we want to be able to do stuff like this, it's great," Kimberly Enochs said. "It's really about family and being together."

DBA Board Chair Stephanie Knueppel said Saturday's event was slowly becoming one of the most popular for the association's busy events calendar.

"We're focused on bringing the community together, and really focusing on the children," Knueppel said. "It's really fun to see people come out and it's great exposure for us and the downtown businesses. It's a fun time for everyone."