

The Bunny Council

I'm late, I'm late for a very important date. Does that sound familiar? Of course it's the white rabbit running down the hole after talking to Alice in Wonderland. Last week I was at many meetings and I felt that way throughout the whole week. The Butte County Board of Supervisors meeting, special workshop meetings with the City of Oroville and FRRPD, District Board meeting, and numerous district meetings throughout. So it goes. It's the public life that I lead. But one of my favorite meetings this time of year is the Bunny Council meeting, held this week. This is of course prior to Easter, the day of promise for all bunny-dom. It was very early on in the morning, so as not to be seen by most human bunnies. I usually go with Harvey, but on this particular morning he was going to see Elwood P. Dowd, so I went alone. When I arrived, I was almost ready to start and I saw the Easter Bunny and Peter Cottontail hopping down the bunny trail.

"E-Bunny!" I shouted, and Peter Cottontail turned and nudged his friend. His ears went up as he hopped over to me by the big willow tree in the meadow.

"Hey, E-Bunny," I said. "How's it going?"

"Very busy," he said. "How are you, little Bobby?"

"Great! And I'm very excited about the Easter egg hunts this weekend," I replied.

"First, little Bobby, how is Deanna Simmons' little bunny, Cottonball?"

"Oh, he's fine. And so are her other little bunnies, Ashley, Shiana and Angela."

"Great," said E-Bunny.

"Well, E-Bunny, I hear you've talked to Amanda Louderback about the big Easter egg hunt at Riverbend Park this Saturday."

"Yes, we've talked. I've also talked to Gary Soudan and the Eagles, as well as all the churches. We're ready to hide the eggs for all the bunnies that are going to the hunts this weekend. I want to say that Gary and his staff bunnies have been doing this for a long time, and they're great to work with. Things should be hoppin' this weekend, little Bobby. Oh, little Bobby, I wanted to tell you that I talked to Santa at the Holidays Convention in January. He was with a leprechaun and they were talking about St.

Patrick's Day. He told me to tell you he's still working on those impact fees for the District, but it's not easy."

"No problem, E-Bunny and Peter. Don't get your cotton ball in a bunch about it. We have faith in Santa. He's always come through for us in the past. I saw on your agenda for the Bunny Council today that Fiver from Watership Down Council is going to speak again of how Hrududus are contributing to global warming. And then you have the Riverbend Park Rabbit Advisory Committee expressing their concerns about growth of the disc golf course beyond the Highway 162 bridge, but that will remain a rabbitat (rabbit habitat). A lot of them feel like it's Little Bunny Foo Foo bonking them on the heads. I'm going to talk to Chip Frink about it – there shouldn't be a problem. There won't be any disc golf late at night when the bunnies are running around. I talked to the advisory committee the other day, and they're really excited about 24 acres of open turf on the north end of the park for the 600 little bunnies that play soccer each year. And the District is requesting money from the SBF (Soccer Bunny Fund) as well as using that area for an even bigger Easter egg hunt next year. This will all be addressed in the bunny element of the Riverbend Park Master Plan. I have to say," I continued, "that one of the best things about your Bunny Council Meetings is your salad bar. You have a great salad bar. I've heard that Mr. McGregor and Peter Rabbit have joined together in a cooperative community garden."

"Yes, little Bobby. It's been great," said E-Bunny. "They get along really well now. It's amazing how humans and bunnies can get along if they really try and share their carrots."

"Gosh, E-Bunny, each time I come to the Bunny Council it seems there are more and more bunnies.

"It's a bunny thing, Bob," said E-Bunny.

"Well, E-Bunny, I just want to say it's wonderful that you gather and hide all of those eggs, and have done it for so many years."

"I feel that it's important, that it's all about the egg and what it means, little Bobby. It means new life, and a new beginning and we can start anew, not just on Easter but on every day of our life"

"I'll see you later today, E-Bunny and Peter, but most importantly I'll see you at noon this Saturday at Riverbend Park for the Easter egg hunt, and so will all the little bunnies that hop to the hunt."

Quote

"Every bunny needs some bunny." (the Easter Bunny)

Fun Facts

16 billion jelly beans are made for Easter (that's enough to completely fill an 89 feet high and 60 feet wide plastic Easter egg - about the height of a nine-story office building!)

90 million chocolate Easter bunnies are made for Easter each year.

While some famous bunnies that may come to mind probably include the White Rabbit from Alice in Wonderland, Bugs Bunny and Peter Rabbit, don't forget about: the Cadbury bunny, Roger Rabbit, the Velveteen Rabbit, the Energizer Bunny, the Duracell Bunny, Br'er Rabbit, Rabbit (from Winnie the Pooh), the Nestle Quick rabbit, Thumper (from Bambi), the March Hare (from Alice in Wonderland), the Trix rabbit, the rabbit from the movie Donnie Darko, the rabbit that chased U.S. President Jimmy Carter back in 1979, and of course, the killer rabbit from Monty Python. Can you think of any famous bunnies we've missed? If so, e-mail us at bob@frrpd.com.

FRRPD Upcoming Events

March 22 – Easter at Riverbend Park. Come see the Easter Bunny and hunt for more than 12,000 eggs! There will also be face painting, egg dying, egg tosses, a bounce house, snacks, and pictures with the Easter Bunny. The fun starts at noon.

March 29 – Hunter's Safety, 8-5 at the Municipal Auditorium.

April 5-6 – Wildflower & Nature Festival, Riverbend Park.

April 3-6 – Carnival at Riverbend Park. Call the YMCA for more info. At 533-9622.

See you in the parks!