

# An egg roll, White House style



Children roll plastic Easter eggs with spoons to the finish line guarded by the Easter Bunny.

Photos by **EMILY WEAVER**

GROVER - At the 11th hour on Monday, April 9, on the south lawn of the White House in Washington, D.C., thousands gathered to relive a tradition 134 years in the making. At the same time on the front lawn of a white house in Grover, a crowd of nearly 100 gathered for the same tradition - to roll Easter eggs and to find Easter eggs, a couple loaded with a crisp hundred dollar bill.

The Annual Easter Egg Roll at the Presidential Culinary Museum and Inn of the Patriots at 301 Cleveland Ave. continues to grow. Monday's excited crowd far outnumbered the museum's first, three years ago. The young event, which is synchronized annually with the White House Roll, has drawn visitors from several states. On Monday, a family had traveled from Concord to attend.

The crowd gathered around the house's front steps as Innkeeper Marti Mongiello snapped out two crisp one hundred dollar

ills, gifts from First National Bank. He tucked one inside a green egg and one inside a purple egg, before adding them to a basket of other colored plastic eggs.

The company raced to the backyard gate, waiting and watching as Mongiello hid several eggs around the yard. A purple one here. A green one there. A few more in a Revolutionary War era tent.

The Easter Bunny opened the gate and the hunters were off, snatching up eggs along the way.

In addition to the \$100 eggs, Mongiello said that they also had special themed eggs for racing, Jesus and the Bible, filled with quotes from the Bible and small crosses. Commemorative White House wooden eggs were also hidden throughout the yard.

Prizes were also given in a sidewalk chalk art contest and in contests of the Easter Egg Roll. Coinciding with the First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" initiative, kids were invited to run and play.



Rodney Unnach, right, was the grand champion winner of the Easter Egg Roll. He stands with his prizes and his sister, Renee Unnach, who lucked out in finding a \$100 egg, below.



Left to right, Carson Weaver, 4, Alli Dyer, 5, and Marcus Zirbel play with the bubbles, while Glenda Dyer and Rania Mongiello, center, look on.



Five-year-old Alex Hale attacks invading bubbles.



Floey Sharpe, 8, races out for eggs.



Paul Nealy, 7, chases Annie Byers, 4, who snagged a football.



Renee Unnach opens a \$100 egg.



Mackenzie Ross with a Presidential egg.



Halie Towery and egg.



Floey Sharpe, 8, with her special signed egg.



Grayson Myers, 9, with his lucky find.