The Billet
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Photos, from left: Students participate in Region II History Day, organized by the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums, on Saturday, March 7, at Terra State Community College. Although the annual Hayes Easter Egg Roll is canceled, kids can participate in a virtual egg roll this year. #LilHayes is keeping busy while physical distancing. Here, he harvests eggs from chickens.

HPLM, grounds closed, online programs offered

For health of visitors, volunteers, staff and community at large, the Hayes Presidential Library & Museums closed on Saturday, March 14. Due to further concern about a surge in COVID-19 cases, the grounds of Spiegel Grove were closed on Saturday, March 28, on the advice of the City of Fremont and Sandusky County Health Department.

Events that have been canceled could be rescheduled. Anyone who purchased tickets for March events will either receive a refund or transfer their ticket to a rescheduled program date. They will hear from a Hayes Presidential staff member soon.

Staff and the squirrels of Spiegel Grove miss everyone and are looking forward to reopening when it is safe to do so. Updates will be posted at rbhayes.org and on Hayes Presidential’s social media accounts.

In the meantime, staff have created and posted numerous activities that can be done from home. They can be found at https://www.rbhayes.org/news/2020/03/25/general/hayes-presidential-to-be-closed-indefinitely-virtual-activities-you-can-do-from-home-offered/. Activities include a virtual scavenger hunt and 3-D tour of the museum, video tour of the first floor of the home, gallery talks in the home, permanent exhibits and special exhibits “Ohio: An Unnatural History” and “Women of Spiegel Grove,” activities for kids and book recommendations. These activities also are posted on Hayes Presidential’s social media.

Participate in virtual Hayes Easter Egg Roll

Although the annual Hayes Easter Egg roll that was scheduled to take place Saturday, April 11, on the Hayes Home lawn is canceled, Hayes Presidential is asking kids to participate in a virtual egg roll. Parents can video their kids playing the egg games at home and share the video on social media with the hashtag #VirtualHayesEggRoll and tag Hayes Presidential on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at @rbhayespres.

There are two egg games commonly played. Kids carry a hard-boiled egg on a spoon while running across the lawn. Whoever gets there first with the egg still on the spoon wins. In the other, kids use a wooden spoon to push their eggs across the lawn. Again, whoever finishes first wins.

Kids can also decorate hard-boiled eggs and share their pictures. Free, egg-roll related activity sheets also can be downloaded at rbhayes.org.

Post picture of #LilHayes, find him in local windows

The Chamber of Commerce of Sandusky County and Hayes Presidential are encouraging businesses and residents to print and hang this picture of #LilHayes, Hayes Presidential’s mascot. When out for a walk at a safe physical distance, participants can snap pictures of the #LilHayes photos spotted and post them to the chamber and Hayes Presidential Facebook pages. Tag @sanduskycountychamber and @rbhayespres, and use the hashtags #LilHayes and #rbhayespres.

Download a high-resolution, printable picture of #LilHayes at rbhayes.org.

Want to help Hayes Presidential?

Hayes Presidential relies on revenue from visitors to maintain and run the library and museums, to fund exhibits and other programs. We are an independent presidential site and not part of the federal system of presidential library system, so we do not receive federal funding. With the doors closed indefinitely, we are projecting a loss of $25,000 through April. With each week we remain closed during what has traditionally been peak visitation season, loss of admission, store sales and library obituary research sales will grow. We are exercising extreme financial caution. Anyone able to help who wishes to make a gift can do so online at https://www.rbhayes.org/forms/make-a-gift/. We are very grateful for the support!
Tell Hayes Presidential how you’re doing

How are you spending your physical distancing time? Are you using any of our activities online, such as drawing your own mythical creature or participating in the virtual Hayes Easter Egg Roll? Teachers, are you using any of our activities for your students while they are distance learning? Share with us! You can take a photo, video or just post some information and tag us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at @rbhayespres. We hope you are staying safe and healthy during this time.

Volunteer Notes

Volunteer Hours

Please remember to record your volunteer hours for January, February and March. You can email them to Joan at jeckermann@rbhayes.org. Thank you!

Volunteer Birthdays

Our best wishes for a happy birthday go to Ron Claypool, Laurie Foos, Tom Hoffert, Susan Hoffman, Janice Johnston, Patti Metcalf and Sharon Zilles.

Photos, from left: Daffodils are blooming at Boffin’s Bower at the back of the Hayes Home. Wildflowers have peeked out on the Grove. Winter aconite were the first wildflowers to show up this year and are nearly done blooming.