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Los Fresnos CISD Campus Teachers of the Year Celebrated

By Mike Villarreal

The Los Fresnos CISD recently held a luncheon to celebrate their outstanding educators who have been awarded the prestigious title of "2024-2025 Campus Teacher of the Year". The event was held on Thursday, February 29th, at the Los Fresnos United Band Hall, and was full of joy, laughter, and appreciation for these incredible teachers.

During the luncheon, the principals introduced their campus representatives and shared inspiring stories of how these teachers have made a positive impact on the lives of their students and peers. They were praised for embodying the Four Pillars of the District Profile of a

Leader: fostering growth, promoting innovation, leaving a legacy, and serving others.

It's worth noting that the teachers of the year were nominated and voted on by their peers, making this award even more special and meaningful. Los Fresnos is a proud district with a United Community that believes "What We Do Here Shapes the World", and these educators are a shining example of that.

As the district selects one elementary and one secondary representative to represent the district at Region One in May, we extend our

heartfelt congratulations to all the Teachers of the Year 2024-2025 for their well-deserved recognition. We are grateful for their dedication and commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of their students, and we look forward to seeing their continued success in the future.

The 2024-2025 Teacher of the Year Recipients are:

Secondary Schools:
Erika Martinez, Los Fresnos High School
Julie Kupkowski, Los Fresnos United
Veronica Guerra, Alternative Education Center
Shelby Crouch, Los Cuates Middle School
Jesse Paredes, Liberty Memorial Middle School
Jaime Longoria, Resaca Middle School
Teacher of the Year Recipients for Elementary Schools:
Olivia Gunnoe, Dora Romero Elementary

Marta Ortiz, Laureles Elementary
Rolando Donez, Los Fresnos Elementary
Alicia Torres, Lopez-Riggins Elementary
Claudia Rojas, Las Yescas Elementary
Aleyda Santoyo, Palmer-Laakso Elementary
Mayra Melendez, Olmito Elementary (no photo)
Tania Gilbert, Rancho Verde Elementary
Rosita Banda, Villareal Elementary
Photos from the Los Fresnos CISD Facebook page



Claudia Rojas



Erika Martinez



Jaime Longoria



Jesse Paredes



Julie Kupowski



Marta Ortiz



Olivia Gunnoe



Rolando Donez



Rosita Banda



Shelby Crouch



Tania Gilbert



Veronica Guerra

Pizza Express by Gabriella's Opens its Doors



Photo by Pizzeria Express by Gabriella's 2 Facebook page

By Mike Villarreal

Hey there! I wanted to share some exciting news with you. Pizzeria Express by Gabriella's 2 has opened up in Los Fresnos! Owner Rick Masso has always had a passion for expanding the business, and this was the perfect opportunity for him to bring another Pizzeria Express to the City of Los Fresnos, where he has close community ties and has always wanted to give back to the city.

The restaurant offers some mouth-watering wood-burning brick oven style pizzas, a great selection of appetizers, and even some desserts available from Stephanie's Cheesecake for those who still have some room left

for dessert. This is the second Pizzeria Express by Gabriella's, with the first one located on South Padre Island.

The Italian restaurant was originally created by Mrs. Vicky, who named it Gabriella's after her daughter Gabriella who eventually went to culinary school and became a chef. Mrs. Vicky sold Gabriella's to new owner Rick Masso, with the only request that all the recipes remain the same. And guess what? The new owner has stayed true to those tasty recipes!

Rick Masso, who took over the business back in 2012, said, "There was always a plan to expand, and we finally decided to set down roots in Los Fresnos after opening



Photo by Mike Villarreal

the first Pizzeria Express in South Padre Island last summer." Pizzeria Express by Gabriella's is an extension of the Italian restaurant.

Rick stated, "Since all my kids graduated from Los Fresnos, I saw this as

a great opportunity to give back to the community of Los Fresnos by bringing a Pizza Express to the city." As of now, Pizzeria Express by Gabriella's will primarily offer pick-up and delivery services. And mind you, deliveries will

be available in Los Fresnos, Rancho Viejo, and certain areas of Olmito.

There are plans for a dine-in section with an emphasis on delivery. There will be plenty of delivery jobs for any high school student looking

for some extra income. They are located at 315 N. Arroyo Blvd. Suite 2. So, what are you waiting for? Grab your phone and give them a ring at (956) 410-1040 to place your order today!

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PUBLISHERS
Landon Jennings
Sharice Jennings

MAILING ADDRESS
705 W. Highway 100
Suite B-2
Los Fresnos, TX 7856
(956)233-9928

ADVERTISING
Victor Moreno
956-264-7720

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HOW TO SUBSCRIBE: 1 year subscription delivered by U.S. Postal service...\$27.95 or can be purchased at several convenient locations through out the cities of Los Fresnos and Brownsville for 50¢. The Los Fresnos News is mailed and delivered **Tuesday, March 12, 2024**, and published weekly by Los Fresnos Publishing, LLC. Periodical Postage Rates paid at Los Fresnos, TX. Post Office. Advertising deadline is noon Thursday at the office at 203 N. Arroyo, Los Fresnos, TX 78566. (POSTMASTER send address changes to Los Fresnos, P.O. Box 990, Los Fresnos, TX 78566.)



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Contribuido por: Alvino Villarreal

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Lady Falcons competing in district

By Ruben Rodriguez
Los Fresnos News

The Los Fresnos Lady Falcons Soccer Team continues to roll throughout District 32-6A, here is what we have seen so far.

32-6A has always been one of the most competitive districts for girls soccer in the RGV, and the Lady Falcons have been met with a lot of challenges and have

faced them all.

The Lady Falcons began 32-6A play on a strong note, with a 4-0 run. Los Fresnos knocked off Brownsville Rivera 1-0, Weslaco 2-1, Brownsville Hanna 2-0 and San Benito 8-1. The Lady Falcons lost their first district game to Harlingen to wrap up the first half of District play.

To begin the second half of District play, the Lady Falcons knocked

off Rivera 1-0 before losing to Weslaco 1-0 for their second district loss. Since then, the Lady Falcons defeated Hanna 4-0. Lastly, San Benito and Harlingen are the two remaining games in district play.

The Lady Falcons currently sit as the second team in district play, with a 2-0 District record, as well as an overall record of 11-7



Photo from LFHS Girls Soccer Twitter



LOS FRESNOS SPORTS

Los Fresnos Baseball competes at CCCA Tournament

By Ruben Rodriguez
Los Fresnos News

The Los Fresnos Falcons baseball team took part in their second tournament of the season. This time, the Los Fresnos Falcons took part in the annual Corpus Christi Coaches Association Baseball Tournament. One of the biggest tournaments of the season and in South Texas, the Falcons got to see a plethora of Talent from across Texas.

In the opening game, the Falcons took on the Laredo

United South Panthers. In a low scoring affair, Los Fresnos failed to get runs up despite playing good defense. The Falcons would lose to the Panthers 2-0. Up next for Los Fresnos Were the San Antonio Stevens Falcons. Los Fresnos opened up tournament play with a bang, knocking off Stevens with a big 9-1 win.

The wins continued throughout Day two Tournament play as Los Fresnos defeated Falfurrias 5-2, and picked up their biggest win of the

Tournament over Corpus Christi Carroll 12-0.

Onto semifinal Saturday, Los Fresnos took on the San Marcos Rattlers. In a close matchup, the Falcons battled until the final inning as the Rattlers would slip away with a 6-5 win.

The Falcons would finish tournament play with a 3-2 record in Tournament play. The Falcons will continue Non-District and tournament play as they continue to prepare for District Play.

2024 LOS FRESNOS FALCONS Varsity Baseball Schedule

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
FEBRUARY				
3	Sat	PSJA#	Away	11:00
5	Mon	Palmview #	Home	6:00
9	Fri	Port Isabel #	Away	5:00
12	Mon	Pioneer #	Away	6:00
16	Fri	Weslaco East #	Home	5:30
19	Mon	Palmview	Home	6:00
22-24	Thu-Sat	LF/PI Tournament		TBA
26	Mon	Edinburg North	Home	6:00
MARCH				
29-2	Thu-Sat	Mira's Tournament	Away	TBA
5	Tue	Edinburg Economedes	Away	5:30
7-9	Thu-Sat	El Campo Tournament	Away	TBA
11	Mon	Edinburg	Home	11:00
13	Wed	La Joya	Away	11:00
19	Tue	PSJA	Home	6:30
22	Fri	Mission	Away	6:30
26	Tue	Rivera*	Home	6:30
28	Thu	Rivera*	Away	6:30
APRIL				
2	Tue	Weslaco*	Home	6:30
5	Fri	Weslaco*	Away	6:30
9	Tue	Hanna*	Away	6:30
12	Fri	Hanna*	Home	6:30
16	Tue	San Benito*	Home	6:30
19	Fri	San Benito*	Away	6:30
23	Tue	Harlingen*	Away	6:30
26	Fri	Harlingen*	Home	6:30

notes District Games #Scrimmages

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TPW Commission Authorizes Land Exchange for New State Park

AUSTIN— Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission today authorized Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to pursue acquisition of approximately 477 acres for a new state park in exchange for approximately 43 noncontiguous acres from Boca Chica State Park.

“This is an exciting opportunity to acquire land that has been of interest to us and the conservation community for many years,” said TPWD Executive Director David Yoskowitz, Ph.D. “We look forward to working with Cameron County, city and state officials as well as the public to develop a shared vision for Bahia Grande that enhances conservation and expands recreational opportunities for all Texans, both now and in the future.”

The 477 acres offered to TPWD near Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge encompass one of the most biologically diverse regions in North America, sheltering endangered species, winter fowl and other migratory birds. The land exchange would create a tenfold return and allow TPWD to acquire land and initiate planning for a new state park for public enjoyment with access for fishing, kayaking, wildlife viewing, hiking, biking and family gatherings in a rapidly developing region of Texas.

In return, most of the 43 acres proposed for trade do not connect to each other or to areas offering public access at Boca Chica State Park. These smaller, noncontiguous tracts do not provide beach access and are dotted among private properties or immediately

adjacent to SpaceX’s facilities, meaning they aren’t readily available for public use and provide less cohesive wildlife habitat than offered by a connected and consistently managed tract of conservation land.

Texans have resoundingly signaled their support of more public recreational opportunities, as evidenced by their overwhelming support for the constitutional amendment passed in November to develop and acquire more state parks with the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund in the Lone Star State.

The current negotiation extends from more than a decade of cooperative work allowing TPWD and SpaceX to carry out their respective missions as neighbors.

For more information, visit tpwd.texas.gov.



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P	L	Y							A	N	T			E	S	P	Y



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THEME: MARCH MADNESS

ACROSS

1. Window addition?
6. Huge software company
9. Spill the beans
13. Watcher
14. Acronym, abbr.
15. Words to live by
16. Ocean-dwelling

_____ ray
17. Polynesian necklace
18. "Once upon a midnight dreary" bird
19. *Fill-in-the-blanks, March Madness style
21. *"One _____ Moment"
23. Like jalapeño
24. Give off
25. Bean counter?
28. *Dominate

opponent, slangily
30. *____-elimination tournament
35. Bricklayers' carrier
37. Wood sorrels
39. Jeweler's unit
40. Alight, past tense
41. Swings around
43. Spice Girl
44. Bubonic plague carriers
46. Away from wind
47. D'Artagnan's sword

48. *Elite Eight, or the ____ round of tournament
50. Bono's bandmate, with The
52. Make a mistake
53. Landlord's due
55. Small lump
57. *State Farm Stadium state
61. *Not pro
65. Chocolate substitute
66. Hot temper
68. Derived from oats
69. Cuckoo
70. Sir George Ivan Morrison's stage name
71. Baby at a recital
72. Have supper
73. Young newt
74. Many affirmatives

DOWN

1. Brush alternative
2. Culture-growing turf
3. Long forearm bone
4. Satyr
5. City in Poland
6. *Delta Center location: ____ Lake City
7. Hole-in-one
8. Type of polyhedron
9. Raisin's breakfast companion
10. Denim innovator
11. Port in Yemen
12. Toker's pipe
15. Professional reviewer
20. Not pathos
22. Not hers
24. Shoulder rank display
25. Winnowing leftovers
26. Chicken in Mexico
27. Farewell in Paris
29. *School with most NCAA basketball titles
31. Back of the neck
32. Search blindly
33. Lightsaber beam
34. Olden days

anesthetic
36. *____ player
38. Garden starter
42. D.S., in sheet music
45. Dance club light
49. Female chicken
51. Speech at a funeral
54. Lacking guile
56. What speakers do
57. LSD, e.g.
58. Indian princess
59. Turkmenistan's neighbor
60. *Type of defense
61. One tenth of a dime
62. Airline postings, acr.
63. Type of pool
64. What means justify
67. Churchill's "so few"

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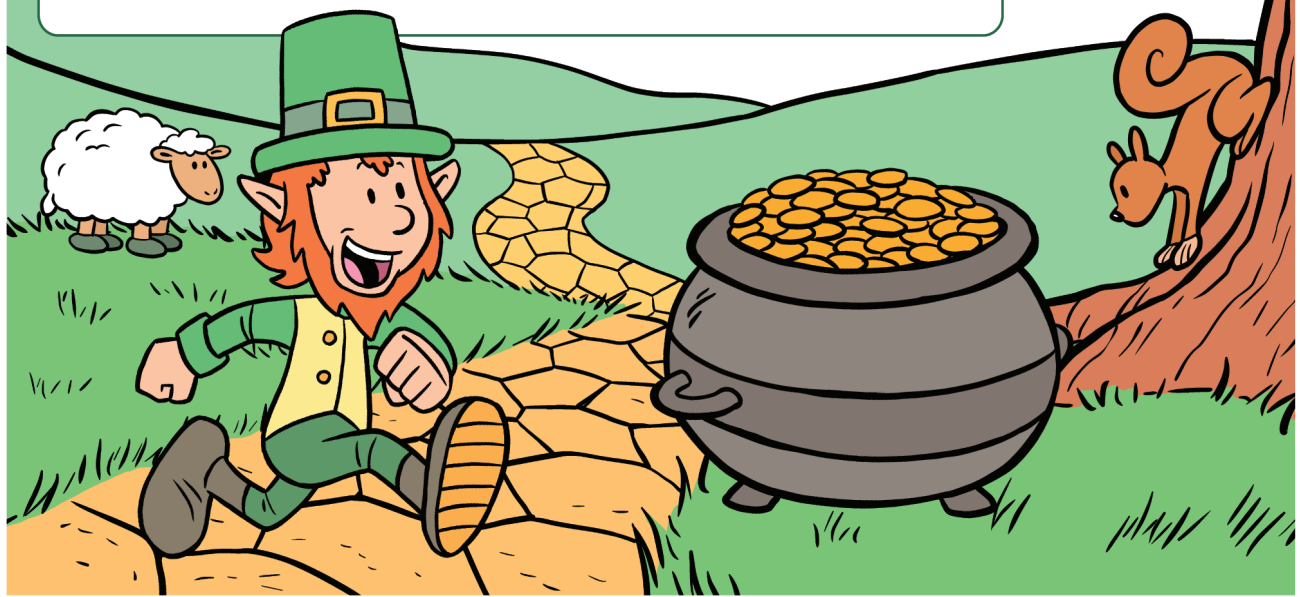
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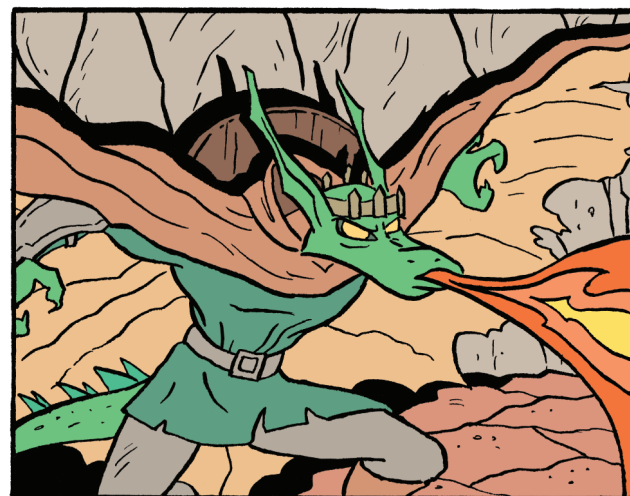
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Ain't No Rain on this Parade

Emilio Flores
LFN

For the School, Chamber, and City a little rain wasn't gonna stop 2024's parade. The parade was initially scheduled for Saturday, February 17th, but due to weather conditions, on Friday, February 16th Los Fresnos CISD released the news that they would be rescheduling due to the, "safety and well-being of our participants."

The Rodeo Parade was rescheduled and took place on Thursday, February 29. Many people were very pleased with the decision as so many kids and families and sponsors put alot of time, effort and resources into this event.

Terry Sandate, the Secretary for the Los Fresnos Chamber of

Commerce shares that many families wanted to see their children and grandchildren in the parade. Sandate adds that overall it was, "pretty well attended," adding that they had about 52 entries and 30 horses in the parade.

Victoria Cisnero, the Communications Coordinator shares the following:

"The Los Fresnos CISD is pleased to collaborate with our community partners on the Rodeo Parade. Each year, staff and student organizations assist with the general coordination of the parade route and lineup, as well as participant traffic flow during the parade. This year, we also incorporated two students into the announcing portion," She adds, "We are so proud

of our amazing students, their sponsors, and parents who dedicate a lot of time and effort to making these festive performances come to life. They truly capture the spirit of the school community,"

All 14 of LFCISD's Campuses participated in this year's Rodeo Parade.

Mrs. Cisneros acknowledged several students. Students Aisbeth Juarez and Oziel Ian Garza from Los Fresnos High School acted as this years announcers; doing a wonderful job. Aswell she mentioned the Los Fresnos Interact group. The Interact group is a branch of Rotary for students in High School. Cisneros says regarding the students, "They are amazing students" adding, "I just wanna give them a lot of credit."

Fresnos Council Member
Albert Escobedo
Band:
1st #42 — Los Cuates
Middle School Band
2nd #48 — Los Fresnos
High School Band
3rd #30 — Resaca
Middle School Band
Drill Team/Dance/
Walking:
1st #13 — Los Fresnos
Junior Falcons Youth

Football
2nd #26 — Olmito
Elementary School
Cheerleaders
3rd #19 — City of Los
Fresnos- Your Health
Matters
Equestrian:
1st #52 — Vaqueros
Y Charros Unidos De
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1st place Drill, Dance, Walking Los Fresnos Junior Falcons Youth Football



Announcers, Aisbeth Juarez and Oziel Ian Garza



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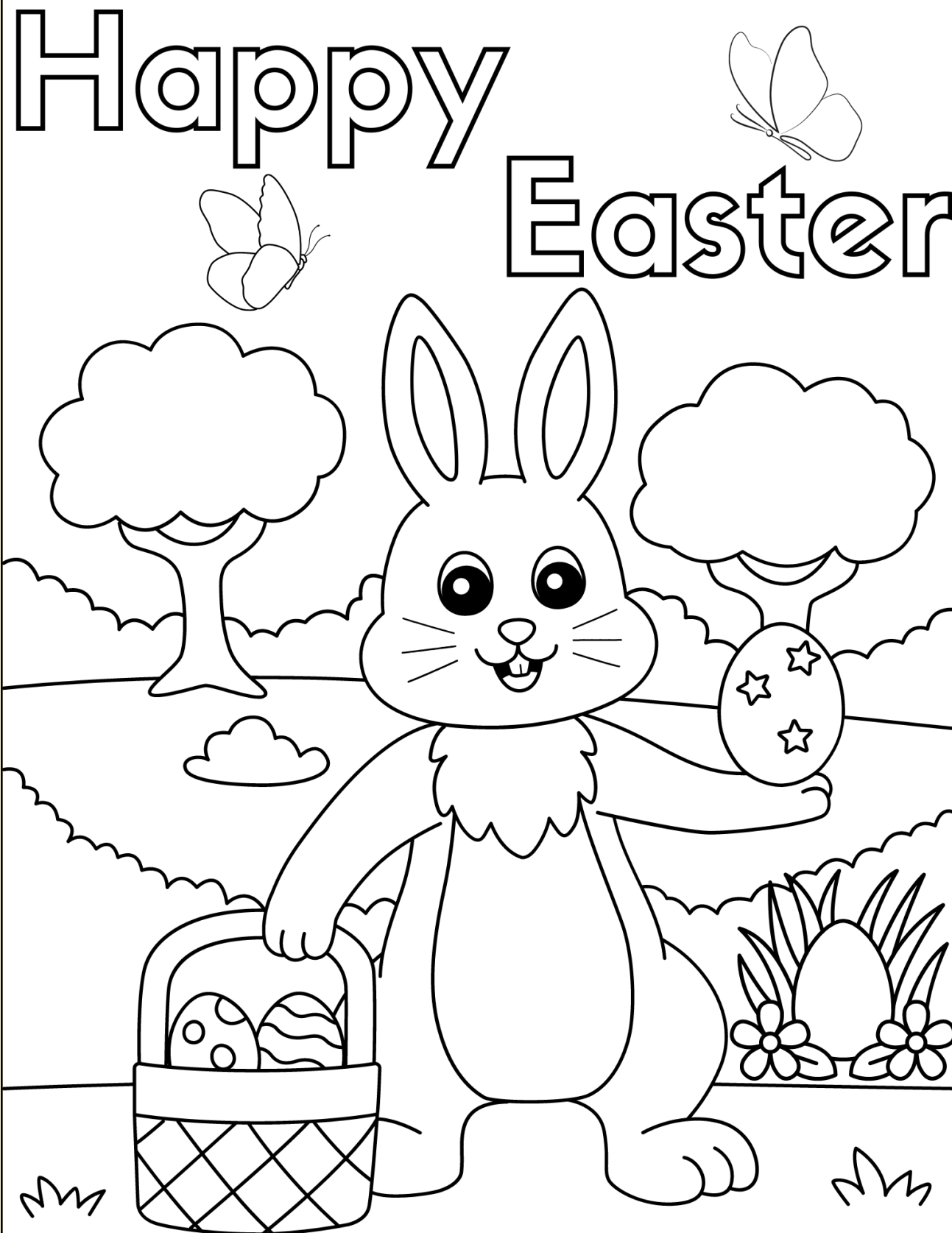
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