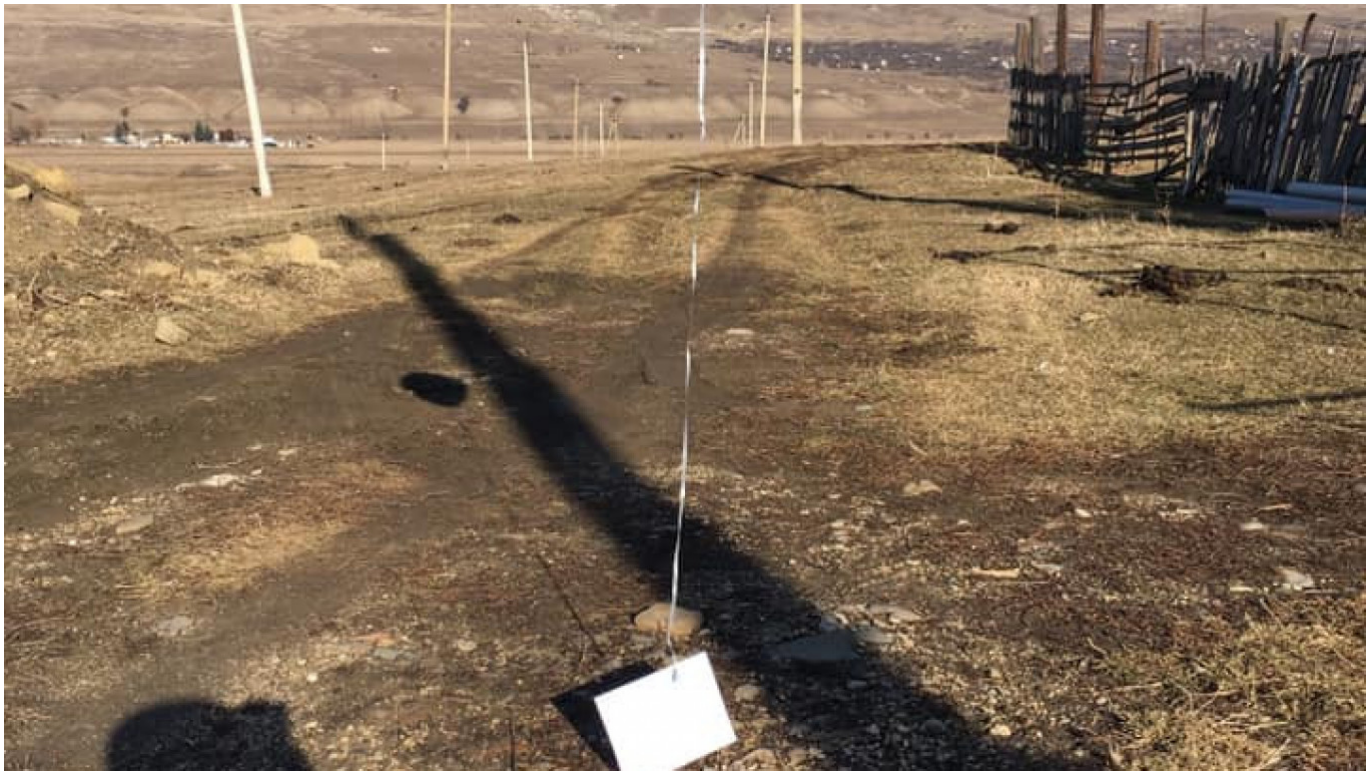
The Moscow Times
30 YEARS
INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Austrian Girl Gets Unexpected Gift After Christmas Balloon Lands in Russian Village

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Facebook

A nine-year-old Austrian girl called Sophia received an unexpected Christmas present after a helium balloon she sent to Santa Claus ended up in a remote mountain village in Russia's North Caucasus.

Amin Adzhiev, a farmer in Russia's republic of Karachay-Cherkess found the balloon with a letter attached to it on his land in mid-December.

Sophia, from Oberndorf bei Salzburg on the outskirts of Salzburg, told Santa that she was hoping to receive a princess dress, a scarf and a scooter for Christmas, along with "lots of love for the whole world" so people "don't argue" as much anymore.

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Adzhiev told the Mash Telegram channel that after translating the letter, he decided to take on the role of Santa and started a fundraiser to buy Sophia a gift in time for Christmas.

“All my friends – from everywhere, including Moscow – quickly collected the money,” he said.

According to the Ren Tv television channel, Adzhiev managed to contact Sophia’s parents through social media and found a Santa in Austria to give her a hoverboard just in time for Christmas.

Christmas really is the most wonderful time of the year.

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