

Zonked: Thirty-three pound Branden Singleton, 3 1/2, is carried away from Family Day festivities by his mother, Sharon. They spent the afternoon with grandmother, Pat Singleton, right, of Farmington Hills; grandfather, Lon; sisters Ashley, 9; and Amy, 8.



Family frolic

Event gives adults, kids a day of parking it together

Family Day in the Park continues to get bigger, better and, for squirts who overextend themselves with the numerous activities offered, quite tiring.

More than 500 turned out for this year's event in Heritage Park Aug. 4. Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation Department and conjunction with the Commission on Children, Youth and Families sponsors Family Day, which is in its fourth year.

The purpose of the Family Day is to bring kids and adults together for some fun in the sun. "I think every year it's getting a little bit better as the tradition grows and people get accustomed

to seeing it every year," said Herman Smith, who is program coordinator.

Adults and children could make necklaces in the craft area, have faces painted and take part in a moonwalk. Stage acts included a magician, juggler, ventriloquist, and a storyteller.

There were also hay rides and pony rides, which are always popular for kids — many of whom are between ages 6-10. That and a petting zoo featuring chickens, rabbits and piglets were the most popular with kids, Smith said.

"Kids always like to see that because it's not something they can see everyday," Smith said.



Barnyard babes: Atena Khaibari, 8, of Farmington Hills holds a chicken from the pen at Family Day at Heritage Park.



Abacadabra: Zeemo The Magnificent dazzles a small crowd by assembling little animals out of balloons.

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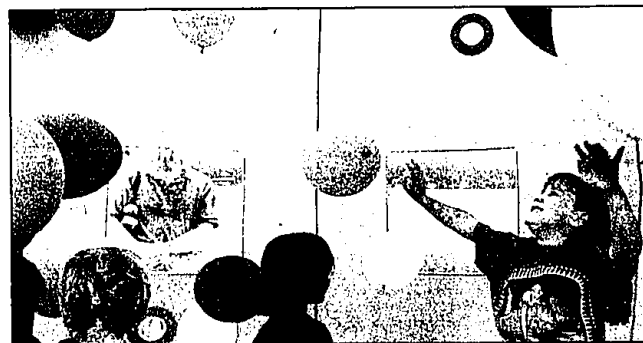
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Alt in there: Angelica Arenzana, 6, of Farmington Hills, right, reaches for balloons being lifted by cool forced air inside of a large inflated Teddy Bear while her sister Lucia, 4, watches.

In awe: Lauren Ransley, 6, and her sister Kelly, 8, of Farmington Hills ask Miss Farmington, Annette Hohl why she has a crown.

STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIRE

