

Kids Day

Sun shines on fun in the park

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Dance Studio, and Ming Louie the Magician, who not only entertained with magic tricks, but revealed secrets behind them.

The pet show marked the 19th year that the event has been held by Pets 'N' Particulars and the Plaza Veterinary Hospital. There were 61 entries in the eight different categories.

Shannon Hadley of Farmington had two dogs at the show — Bones and Brigitte. Her neighbor, Lucy Cole, helped Bones, a beagle mix, walk away with both first and second place in the "Most Articulate Pet" category, as the only dog who "spoke."

"He'll speak anytime," said Shannon of the dog that Dr. John Richardson, master of ceremonies, called "Big Mouth." She acknowledged that sometimes, "It drives me crazy." She did not know the age of Bones, as he was found as a stray last year.

HER OTHER dog, Brigitte, 14, failed to place in the Oldest Pet category — but she said she will try again next year.

Other first place winners were:

- Twin Class (two most evenly matched pets) — Melissa Dutton, for ducks, King and Kong.
- Best Trained — Sally Minehart, for collie, Candy.
- Shaggiest Pet — Colleen Haggerty, for Shih Tzu, TyTu.
- Pet with Waggiest Tail — Marisa Kolzara, for cockapoo, Ralsin.
- Oldest Pet — Brad Heuwegan, for mix, Tubby.

- Best Presentation of a Caged Pet — Kathy Crisp, for silver martin rabbit, Scamper alias Peter Rabbit.
- Best Dressed Pet and Owner — Miranda Liebowitz, for dachshund, Heidi.

Other attractions included the Farmington Community Library tent, where volunteers made free "thumb-print" pictures, and provided face painting, courtesy of the library, Farmington Area Community Women, and Elizabeth Davey of Discovery Toys.

THOSE ATTENDING and participating had only good things to say about Kids Day — except for, perhaps, the heat.

"I think it's great," said Leslie Warrow of Wilcox, who journeyed to Farmington with her kids, Megan, 7, and Caitlin, 4, and two children who she was baby-sitting for, Michael Aschinger, 3, and his sister, Kathleen, 1.

"The rides have been really nice because I've got these two that are little-little, and they've been able to go on rides without me going with them. Everybody's been really helpful. I asked the fireman and he gave

us a drink of water."

"But the heat is kind of a problem. We're just going now because of the heat, and it's nap time."

Megan said she liked the Moonwalk best — "cause you jump."

"It's great for the kids," said Nami Lee of Farmington Hills. Her daughter, Myung, eagerly waiting to get her face painted at the library tent, said her favorite was, "the face painting."

Said Abshire, "I think this is a nice event. It's just a very well-run, enjoyable, day. I don't know of any other community that has just specialized in Kids Day in the park. The rest of the week, really, is for the adults. The kids don't care about going to the flea markets, and bingo — they've no interest in that."

Little Megan Warrow might agree. Mom was ready to call it quits, but, said Megan, "I want to stay."



Sparky the Fire Dog shows local children some items of interest at Tuesday's Kids Day in Farmington.

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