



Waggiest tail: Toto, a poodle mix, owned by Matt Lucas of Farmington Hills was once a stray. At the Pet Show Tuesday she impressed judges with her waggiest tail which took first place.

Pawful performance

Pets please owners at show

By STEVE BECK
STAFF WRITER

The animals barked, meowed, rolled over and spoke on command all for the love of the pet owners who entered the 25th Annual Pet Show at Kids' Day Tuesday.

A favorite Farmington Festival event, the pet show, held at Farm-

ington City Park, Shawwassee brought out doting parents and kids — and many tolerant animals.

Veterinarian John Richardson, who owns Pets 'N' Particulars and the Plaza Veterinary Hospital in Farmington, hosted the event which he founded 25 years ago.

"The first was held at the Farmington Plaza that hot summer day," Richardson said. "A guinea pig died from heat exhaustion."

Richardson kept the show rolling with humorous comments while waiting for the three judges to make their selections. Judging were Farmington Mayor William Hartsock, Farmington Hills Mayor Jonathan Grant and Cathy Webb, secretary of the Farmington Community School Board.

Trophies were awarded to the first, second- and third-place winners. Each participant received a certificate.

The winners for eight categories are as follows:

• **Oldest Pet** — "Ausie" — a mix breed dog owned by Brynn Juraneck, Redford (First Place).

• **Most Articulate Pet (Speaks Best)** — "Dixie" — a collie owned by Anlen Panistowski, Farmington (First Place). There were no second- or third-place winners.

• **Fattest Pet** — "Orange Kitty" — a cat owned by Tiffany Nelson, Farmington Hills (First Place); "Fritz", a Flemish giant rabbit,

owned by Robin Baessler, Farmington (Second Place) and "Scruffy", a guinea pig, owned by Michael Fife, Farmington Hills (Third Place).

• **Best Presentation of a Caged Pet** — "Cookie", an angora hamster owned by Daniel Robinson, Farmington Hills (First Place); "Barney", a fish owned by Nicholas Bress, Farmington Hills (Second Place); "Silly", a chinchilla owned by Carrie Nelson, Farmington (Third Place).

• **Best Dressed Pet and Owner** — "Snickers", a dog owned by Kelly Hornfeld, Farmington Hills (First Place); "Miles", an Oriental shorthair, owned by Inge Baessler, Farmington; "Donatello", a turtle owned by Michael Bell, Farmington and "Holly", a Maltese owned by Eric Zanotti, (no city) (All Second Place); "Taffy", a golden retriever, owned by Nicole Briggs, (no city); "Angel", an American Eskimo and Cocker-poodle mix owned by Cressencia Prieskorn, (no city); and "Sassy", a collie owned by Katherine Fife, Farmington Hills (All Third Place).

• **Best Trained Pet (30 Seconds to Perform)** — "Tuffy", a golden retriever owned by Kristy Briggs, (no city) (First Place); "Ginger", a German shorthair, owned by Lauren Monterey, Farmington Hills (Second Place); "Runway", a golden retriever owned by Derek Hodgins, Farmington Hills (Third Place).



Matched set: Kelly Hornfeld of Farmington Hills and her dog Snickers were a matched set with their fire department apparel. She wore the fire hydrant; Snickers wore the fire helmet. They both took first place in the best dressed pet and owner division.

Best trained: Taffy, a Golden Retriever, spoke on command, rolled over and caught treats with her mouth. The "easy to train" dog, netted Kristy Briggs, first place in the best trained pet division.

Farmington Hills man arraigned on assault and battery charges

By STEVE BECK
STAFF WRITER

A Farmington Hills man was arraigned in 47th District Court Monday on a charge of assault and battery in an incident in which a Hills businessman was struck in the face the night of June 20.

Kenneth Duncan McLaurin, 18, stood mute and a not-guilty plea was entered by mail by his Southfield attorney, David B. Rosenberg. No bond was set and McLaurin remains free pending further court action, a court spokesman said.

Frank Blair, co-owner of "Gourmet To Go" in the Muirwood Square shopping center, alleged that McLaurin struck him in the face, even though he (Blair) refused to fight.

Farmington police are investigating the incident for any connection to a sexual assault case that occurred last year. Blair was found guilty in the second-degree sexual assault of a 15-year-old female employee and was sentenced to five years' probation and assessed court costs of \$1,200, according to court information.

Rosenberg identified McLaurin as a friend of that

employee, who is now 16.

According to information from the Farmington Department of Public Safety, Blair and a friend allege that McLaurin confronted them, then "chased them down." Blair and his friend got into a car and headed for the nearest pay phone in a gas station on Grand River in Farmington, where Blair's friend called for police assistance.

McLaurin made verbal threats and "enticed him to throw a punch," Blair said in the police report. Blair alleges that McLaurin threatened to kill him.

McLaurin told police that, while he was at Blair, he did not make contact. A witness told police that he saw McLaurin throwing punches at Blair.

"If the assault was not a complete fabrication on the part of the victim, there appears there was provocation for it," Rosenberg said Tuesday.

Blair had no visible signs of injuries, according to the police report.

If convicted, McLaurin faces up to 90 days in jail and a fine of \$500 for the misdemeanor charge. A pre-trial conference date will be set.

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week.

■ FIREWORKS COMPLAINTS

Complaints about use of illegal fireworks kept law enforcement people busy over the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

In Farmington Hills, tickets were issued in several cases, as complaints were logged from across the city, including those at St. Alexander Church on Shawwassee, the Botsford Terrace Apartments on Independence, Windermere Apartments, Diamond Forest Apartments, Newport Creek Apartments, and the Inventory Condominiums. Incidents included one on Colwell Street, where 60 bottle necks were confiscated and a ticket issued. Over on Newberry Court three mailboxes, including a custom box valued at \$350, were blown up with firecrackers and a patio table was stolen.

Other complaints came from the Radisson Hotel and Putt 'N' Games both on Grand River, the Little Valley Trailer Park, and the follow-

ing streets: Quakerway, Lytle, Shawwassee, Kingsway, Essex Lane, Purdue, Leavitt, Woodstream, Osamus, Arden Park, Heritage Hills, Country Ridge, Kenloch Court Colgate and East King William.

In Farmington, public safety officials took reports from State Street, Lamar, Grand River and St. Gerald Church on Farmington Road.

■ KITCHEN FIRE

Damage was estimated at \$60,000 after a fire in the microwave gutted a kitchen in a unit of the Gateway Apartments on 12 Mile Friday.

When firefighters arrived, they put out the fire, which also caused smoke damage throughout the apartment.

■ CARS DAMAGED

At least seven incidents of auto break-ins at the Village Green Apartments off Haggerty south of 14 Mile were reported over the weekend, netting thieves \$8,520 in stolen items and causing a total of \$1,700 in damage.

On July 1-2, a briefcase, calculator and planner valued at \$1,000

were taken from a pick-up truck; a radar detector, cellular telephone, compact disc player and 30 compact discs valued at \$1,000 taken from a Jeep; and in three separate incidents on July 4, two radar detectors valued at \$330 and a portable car alarm valued at \$165 were stolen from three cars.

Sometime July 4-5, a stereo system, cellular phone, pager and golf clubs valued at \$6,025 were taken from one car; and a compact disc players and compact disks valued at \$800 were taken from another car.

■ HOUSE FIRE

A car fire apparently spread to a house on 13 Mile Friday, causing an undetermined amount of damage.

When firefighters arrived, they found a station wagon burning heavily next to a farm house on the south side of 13 Mile. Damage to the car was estimated at \$150. The cause of the car fire was undetermined.

See POLICE, 4A

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