

CLARIFICATION

In the editorial page photograph published in Thursday's Farmington Observer, the name of St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center's Chairman of the Board, Sister Xavier Balance was misspelled. She also chairs the board of Providence Hospital.

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KIDS DAY

FROM PAGE A1

fect, we had a nice breeze on stage."

Indeed, a light breeze helped make hot and muggy temperatures manageable for the hundreds of area residents who turned out to participate in Kid's Day over the years, the animals and the pony rides remain annual favorites.

And after eight years of coordinating the event, Smith couldn't have been more correct. Lines for the pony rides were among the day's longest. Next to the picnic shelter where Farmington Community Library members were helping kids make huge bubbles from troughs of soapy water, a small

"We expect a huge crowd," Recreation Supervisor Herman Smith said as MB2 took up another N'Sync song. "My friend" - to cheers from the crowd.

PERENNIAL FAVORITES

Smith said with all the changes that have taken place to Kid's Day over the years, the animals and the pony rides remain annual favorites.

And after eight years of coordinating the event, Smith couldn't have been more correct. Lines for the pony rides were among the day's longest. Next to the picnic shelter where Farmington Community Library members were helping kids make huge bubbles from troughs of soapy water, a small

boy with tousled brown hair grabbed his mother's hand and tried desperately to lead her in the direction of the pony rides. "Mom, I wanna go on the horses," he shouted excitedly. "Ponies! Ponies!"

Sucking on a green lollipop, his face painted like a tiger, 5-year-old Farmington Hills resident Benjamin Drews looked to be thoroughly enjoying himself as he sat perched upon the back of a small tan pony.

"I liked it. It was fun," Benjamin explained after the ride, right before he demonstrated his most fierce tiger roar.

When his mom asked him to describe what he liked most about Kid's Day, Benjamin answered matter-of-factly, "Of course, the snakes."

A 2-foot-long Royal Ball Python was one of many creatures from the Carousel Acres Mobile Petting Farm that children could handle.

Seven-year-old Kaja Drews from Norway - who is visiting her cousin Benjamin and his family for the summer - had the opportunity to hold the black and beige reptile while a family member snapped a picture. "It was sorta weird," she said of her snake-handling experience. "It felt like slippery and fat."

But snakes and ponies weren't the only source of entertainment at Kid's Day.

Under a tree where Professor Bloome the clown was seated making ladybugs and poodles out of brightly-colored balloons, members of the Greenhill subdivision playgroup were enjoying a picnic lunch of pasta and juice

boxes. "I was gonna get a balloon for my brother, but he's just two," Samuel Garfinkle, 5, said before returning to his playgroup's blanket to finish his lunch.

When asked how she was keeping Samuel and his brother, Adam, cool, mom, Kim, held up a water bottle with a fan attached to it.

"Sprinter fans," she explained. But the heat didn't seem to be having too much of an effect on Samuel, who was in a hurry to finish his meal.

"After we eat we're going to go somewhere fun," he said. And with so much to do at Kid's Day, he wouldn't have to travel far.

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RESTRICTIONS

FROM PAGE A1

ngo, some sprinkler-wielding car-washing scallaws were given tickets after being reported by neighbors.

"We did issue violations to people who refused, for whatever reason, to comply with the watering restriction," Lauffhoff said.

Though water comes from Detroit, each community is responsible for pumping it to customers through its water mains. In older communities,

water mains may not have the same capacity as in newer communities, which could cause water pressure problems.

Geography also is a factor. Communities further away from Detroit may have water pressure problems if too much of a strain on the system. Clinton Township, in Macomb County, has issued a total ban on all outside watering, Lauffhoff said.

"This is an issue that's important to everyone," he said. In Farmington Hills, the city is abiding by the odd/even watering schedule on city prop-

erty and on San Marino, the only city-owned golf course, said Tom Bissell, director of public services.

"We have been able to supply our residents with sufficient water," Bissell said. So far, there have been no complaints about reduced water pressure.

The odd/even watering restriction for business and home owners remains voluntary in Farmington Hills. "We're asking our residents to honor (the restriction) as well," he said.

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Tips for efficient watering

Here are some tips for efficient outdoor watering from the Michigan State University Extension's home maintenance and repair division: One deep watering per day is better than several light soakings. Saturating soil up to 4 to 6 inches deep encourages healthier root development and allows for longer periods between watering. Use an empty tuna or cat food can on the lawn while watering and stop watering when the can is full.

Early morning or night is the best time for watering to reduce evaporation. For better water control, avoid watering

when it is windy.

Use a pistol-type sprayer at the end of the garden hose. The device helps adjust water flow and keeps water from continuing to run when the hose is not being used.

It takes 660 gallons of water to supply 1,000 square feet of lawn with one inch of water - equivalent to the amount typically used during a week inside the house. Water the lawn when necessary - when the grass does not spring back after being stepped upon and is showing signs of wilting.

Use mulch around trees and shrubs to reduce the amount of water lost through

evaporation.

Consider using a drip irrigation system in gardens, which supply water only to the root zones of plants. These systems save water and reduce weeding because areas in between rows are not watered. Choose plants that are well adapted to the locality and soil conditions.

Avoid watering the lawn. Brown grass is not necessarily dead, but is merely in a dormant state and will re-grow when rain and cooler weather returns.

Use water from the downspouts for watering the garden and flower beds.

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