

LOCAL

# PETS ON PARADE

Youngsters, animals march from library to history museum for contest

EMILY WEAVER

eweaver@kingsmountainherald.com

Over 30 pets and 100 people paraded down Piedmont Avenue Wednesday morning for Mauney Memorial Library's "Pets on Parade." They marched, in no certain order, from the library to the back of the Kings Mountain Historical Museum, where a contest was held to award some of the crowd's most unique characteristics.

A "Most Unusual" ribbon was given to a ferret. Bandit the cat fittingly received a ribbon for being the one with the "Most Hair." The pets with the "Most Spots," the "Best Tricks," the "Best Dressed," the "Longest," the "Largest" and many others were awarded that day just for being themselves.

KMPD Officer. Todd McDougal talked to the crowd of kids and parents about German Shepherds and the importance of police dogs.



Cheryl Vagnozzi holds feline friend, Bandit, who was finally awarded for his beautiful hair. He received a ribbon for the Most Hair.

Allie Stumbo fed her baby horse, Moonstrike, during the presentation. At about two weeks old, he stands about three feet tall. Moonstrike's mother died when he was a newborn and his previous owners thought he would not make it, so Stumbo rescued him. She continues to feed him bottled milk every day and every night at three hour intervals. She said that he used to fall down a lot but he is gradually getting better on his feet. He walked the parade with the other animals and stayed by Stumbo's side the rest of the day.

"Pets on Parade" was part of the summer reading program "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales" at Mauney Memorial. The End of Summer Reading Celebration "Zippity Zoo" will be held on Friday, July 28, at 10 am behind the KM Historical Museum, where Mayor Rick Murphrey and Children's Librarian Christy Conner will be forced to kiss a pig for the kids who've met the library's reading goals.



Allie Stumbo brought her 2-week-old colt, Moonstrike, to the parade. His previous owners were afraid that they would have to put him down since his mother died during childbirth but the Stumbos claimed him and are nursing him back to health. He seems to be more steady on his feet these days.

EMILY WEAVER/HERALD

Erwin stood beside his two little "human" buddies Ethan and Simon Dellinger.



Photos by Emily Weaver



Gracie Plonk's face lit up when she stood beside her dog, Molly. To her right, Mary-Carter Johnson found joy in her new windmill and of course her dog, who is also Molly's son, Buford.

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