



TOWNSHIP OF ORLAND

For Immediate Release
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Orland Township's Pet-Palooza a hit with residents

(Orland Township, IL -- Sept. 20, 2019) - Residents were lined up and eagerly waiting for the start of Orland Township's 8th Annual Pet-Palooza, according to the office of Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady.

Local businesses and groups from the Orland Township area were just as eagerly waiting for residents to visit their booths so they could share information on their organization with them.

"It's always wonderful to see so many residents out spending the afternoon with their pets," said Supervisor O'Grady. "I am happy we are able to have Pet-Palooza and provide this opportunity for pet owners."

A variety of local vendors, ranging from pet boutiques, animal hospitals, restaurants and rescue organizations were in attendance.

Minnie's Memorial Fund at P.A.W.S., founded by Wayne and Joan Hochwarter and named after their beloved dog Minnie who lost her battle with cancer, has been a Top Dog Sponsor at all eight Pet-Paloozas. Minnie's Memorial Fund pays the veterinarian bills for dogs that come into P.A.W.S. in need of extensive medical care and is funded through the sales of homemade dog bandanas at events like Pet-Palooza.

"We started the fund to keep Minnie's memory alive by helping dogs that come into PAWS with special needs," said Joan. "To date, we have raised funds to pay the medical bills of 59 dogs."

"We support the mission of Orland Township's Pet Pantry and believe it has kept many pets in their homes and out of shelters," added Wayne. "It is great being associated with such a dynamic and well-organized event; Orland Township sure knows how to throw a party!"

Manteno resident Theresa Pratt attended her second Pet-Palooza this year with her dog Luna. "I really enjoy being able to take my dog to an event that is all about them," said Pratt. "I love to see all the different pets and how much all their owners love them, and visiting all the different vendors. It's a great way to spend the afternoon with your pet."

Angie DePalma, a professional dog trainer at Kriser's Natural Pets, attended her first Pet-Palooza this year, bringing agility equipment and also participating as a contest judge. "I enjoyed judging the competitions. There were some exceptional competitors and the costume contest was so much fun for everyone," DePalma said.

Prior to the start of the contests, DePalma offered tips and helpful hints to pet owners who were attempting to get their dogs to run through the agility course. “I also enjoyed seeing all of our four-legged friends having so much fun playing the games, trying out the mini-agility course and spending their afternoon at such a fun event.”

Admission to Pet-Palooza was free, however attendees were encouraged to make a donation to the Township’s Pet Pantry, “Crashy’s Closet,” which provides pet food and supplies to families in need.

Orland Township’s Pet-Palooza took place on Saturday, Sept. 14 on the Township grounds, 14807 S. Ravinia Ave., Orland Park.

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Photo Captions



Residents were lined up waiting for the start of Orland Township’s 8th Annual Pet-Palooza.



Orland Township Supervisor Paul O'Grady greeted residents at the entrance of Pet-Palooza and helped handout goodie bags.



Theresa Pratt and her dog Luna attended their 2nd Pet-Palooza.



Professional dog trainer Angie DePalma (left) helped residents guide their dogs through the agility course.