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Kids' Day for Special Olympics a Big Success

By Celia Magidson



Buki the Clown was a favorite for face and body art.
Photo Celia Magidson

The weather was sunny during Kids' Day at the New Rheem Theatre in Moraga last Saturday. The Moraga Police Officer's Association, in collaboration with the theater, organized the event to raise money for the Special Olympics of Northern California, a non-profit that provides athletic opportunities to children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

As a part of their commitment to community service, the Moraga Police Officer's Association, in conjunction with other service organizations, helped carry the Special Olympics torch across different parts of the state during the Northern California Law Enforcement Torch Run. Sergeant Brian South of the Moraga Police Department and president of the Moraga Police Officers Association said, "That is how we got involved. We did a movie night last year and this year, a Kids' Day. We're really excited to support Special Olympics and to do a community event."

After a special matinee showing of the movie "Despicable Me," children ages 3 to 10 were able to enjoy all sorts of fun activities such as balloon animals, face painting with Buki the Clown, carnival games with prizes, fingerprinting and, of course, food. The event was entirely staffed by Moraga police officers. One mother, Christina Polk, commented on the nice crowd; and Max, a young participant, said: "I had fun at the frog throwing."

Rheem Theatre manager Lindsey Pirkle said they sold 155 tickets, three times more than last year; all proceeds benefitted Special Olympics of Northern California.

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