

## Gutter Dance XI scores a strike for the McCarty Center

Gutter Dance XI, a charity bowling event, presented by the Hal Smith Restaurant Group, raised over \$8,000 for the McCarty Center on May 8.

Proceeds from this event go to the Camp ClapHans scholarship fund. Camp ClapHans is a residential summer camp project of the McCarty Center. The scholarship fund helps to offset the cost of camp tuition for qualifying families.

As 72 bowlers arrived at the Sooner Bowling Center to prepare to bowl this two-line event, they were treated to an Italian dinner provided by corporate sponsor Johnny Carino's Italian Restaurant in Norman.

There were a variety of ways that participants in the Gutter Dance were rewarded for their efforts during this event. There were door prizes; prizes for getting a strike with a colored pin in the rack; a prize for the team with the most creative bowling shirts; 1st, 2nd, 3rd and last-place team trophies; and a chance to win a 2014 Chevrolet Spark 1LT courtesy of corporate sponsor David Stanley Chevrolet.

The Gutter Geezers were a two-time winner. They won the most creative bowling shirt contest and they finished last place in the Gutter Dance with a pin count of 166. The Gutter Geezers were Darcie Ware, Meagan Ervin, Ashli Velez and Katherine Devonshire.



The third-place team was The Unbowlables with a pin count of 1,087. Team members were Rod Parker, Natalie Prokup, Aaron McCord and Corey Meehan.

The second-place team was Strike Force I with a pin count of

1,203. Team members were Philip Favela, Kenneth Stuart, Scott Winter and John Bear.

The winner of Gutter Dance XI was Tiffany's Restaurant of Noble with a pin count of 1,321. Team members were Donnie Hicks, Jerry Dover, Shirley McGee and Robert Kent. Tiffany's Restaurant has competed in this event for the last six years. They have placed first or second in each of those years.

The height of the evening was the 7-10 roll off. The top 10 bowlers for the evening got one chance to make the hardest shot in bowling - the 7-10 split. The lucky bowler to make this shot would win a 2014 Chevrolet Spark. But once again, there were no winners thus proving this is the hardest shot in bowling.

Other corporate sponsors who helped make the Gutter Dance possible included Republic Bank and Trust, Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Norman Family Dentistry and Blake Virgin, attorney at law.

Gutter Dance XII is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2015.

# Gutter Dance XI



1st Place

The Tiffany's Restaurant team from Noble is once again Gutter Dance champions with a total pin count of 1,321. Tiffany's Restaurant has won first place in four of the last seven Gutter Dances. They placed second in the other three events. Team members (l-r) are Donnie Hicks, Jerry Dover, Shirley McGee and Robert Kent.



The Little Guys Movers team have been participants in the Gutter Dance since the first event in 2004.



2nd Place

Always in the top three are Gutter Dance regulars Strike Force I from Maxwell Supply in Oklahoma City. Winning second place with a pin count of 1,203 are (l-r) Phillip Favela, Kenneth Stuart, Scott Winter and John Bear.



3rd Place

Third place with a pin count of 1,087 are The Unbowlables from NuMotion, a durable medical equipment company. Team members are (l-r) Rod Parker, Natalie Prokup, Aaron McCord and Corey Meehan.



Last Place

The Gutter Geezers from the J. D. McCarty Center were double winners at Gutter Dance XI. First, they won the "most creative bowling shirt" contest. Then they won the last place trophy awarded for effort and fun with a pin count of 166. The Gutter Geezers are (l-r) Meagan Ervin, Ashli Velez, Darcie Ware and Katherine Devonshire.



A lucky bowler from the OrthoCare team won a new bowling ball and bag in the door prize drawing.

## The Building Block

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The Strike Force I team came to the Gutter Dance this year dressed as the Blues Brothers. Here Kenneth "Elwood" Stuart shows his best bowling form.



Becky Melsek, director of nursing for the McCarty Center, was one of three volunteers who passed out gift cards to bowlers who made strikes. Helping Becky were Reni Hanley, director of speech-language pathology, and Deanna Koldoff, a hospital volunteer. Other volunteers helping with the event were John Knehans who sold "ringer" tickets and Jane Gaston who oversaw the bowlers buffet.

# Mobile screening program continues visiting the state

## *Atoka, Oklahoma is the latest stop*

The J. D. McCarty Center's mobile screening team has continued its trek across the state with a stop in Atoka.

The mobile screening program visited the southeastern Oklahoma community on May 30 and met with two children at the Kiamichi Technology Center-Atoka campus.

The program is an effort by the hospital to reach more families in the state who have children with disabilities. The screening team meets with families and offers them information about resources available through the hospital and through state and federal programs.

The hospital's mobile screening team members are a nurse, social worker and psychological clinician. During the screening, the team meets with parents and their children to talk about the child's medical, social and behavioral history. Team members also share information about the hospital's comprehensive inpatient evaluations, inpatient respite care and outpatient services and programs available throughout the state.

The hospital started the mobile screening program in 2012 to reach out to more families, including those who live in counties that have not received hospital services within a year. The McCarty Center provided services last year to children from 64 of Oklahoma's 77

counties.

Atoka marks the fifth stop for the mobile screening program. The screening team also has visited Holdenville, Tishomingo, Okmulgee and Perry.

A goal with the program is to provide information to families in areas of the state that may have limited access to services for children with disabilities, said Darcie Ware, the hospital's director of social services and a member of the screening team.



*Director of Social Services Darcie Ware plays with Ryan Shown during the mobile screening in Atoka.*

"As the only hospital of our kind in Oklahoma, reaching out to these areas through the mobile screenings has allowed children to receive services that might otherwise remain unavailable to them," Ware said.

"The program can also help save families time and transportation costs since they can meet with the screening team in a community near them, instead of traveling to the hospital's location in Norman," Ware said.

"The mobile screenings help



*Susan Long, RN, listens to Isaac Johnson's heart as a part of the mobile screening process.*

the families save time and resources that may be challenging to come by when there is a child with special needs involved," she said.

Families who have participated in the mobile program said they appreciated getting to meet with the screening team and receiving information about services that can assist their children.

Cindy Barnes, of Milburn, came to visit the team in Tishomingo to learn about resources for her son, Tucker, who is autistic. Barnes said she felt comfortable meeting with the team and was excited to hear about services available at the McCarty Center.

Tucker, 13, came to the hospital as an inpatient last year, and Barnes said she has noticed improvements in how he listens and communicates. He also has shown more independence, when it comes to feeding, bathing and dressing himself.

"I think it was a great experience for us," Barnes said about her son's stay at the McCarty Center. "I definitely want him to come back."

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[See Atoka Mobile Screening](#)

# Atoka mobile screening

She also encourages other families who have children with special needs to take advantage of the mobile screening program.

"I just think it would be a great experience for them," Barnes said. "I think it will be an opportunity for them to learn about more resources."

The McCarty Center is planning to add more stops to the mobile screening program.

"The mobile screening team is looking forward to increasing the number of screenings that occur each year to help to increase the number of families that can be served in areas that are currently lacking service opportunities," Ware said.



**Above:** Sandra Myers-Johnson, the psych clinician member of the screening team, interacts with Ryan Shown during the screening process.

**Below:** Sharla Bardin, public information manager, plays with Ryan Johnson and his brother while Ryan waits to begin the screening.



Members of the Moore West Junior High Student Council present a check to Vicki Kuestersteffen, center, for \$250. The money was raised during their "Movies for a Mission" project.

## Students watch movie, raise money for JDM Moore West Jr. High donates \$250 to hospital

What a "reel" deal!

A group of students from Moore West Junior High hosted a movie night in April to raise money for the McCarty Center.

The event, called "Movies for a Mission," brought in \$250 to the hospital and was organized by the student council at the school.

Students gathered at the school on April 4 to watch the comedy "Napoleon Dynamite."

"The kids had a blast," said Amanda Deemer, a teacher at the school and a student council sponsor. "I think overall it's been a great experience for the students."

Deemer said the students came up with the movie mission idea last fall and then discussed where they wanted the money to go.

Andrea Garcia, 12, a council representative, suggested the McCarty Center since her cousin has received services from the hospital.

Andrea said she visited the

McCarty Center one day with her cousin and was impressed by how happy he was while at the hospital and how kind and helpful the employees were to her family.

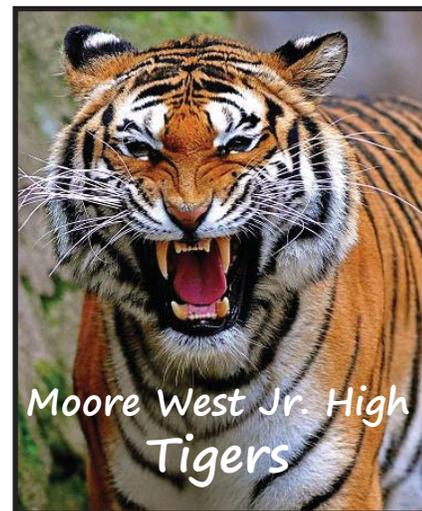
The student council later voted and chose to donate money from the fundraiser to the hospital.

Initially, the student group wanted to host a movie night in December but winter weather delayed those plans. They moved the date to April, and about 200 people attended the event, Deemer said.

Members of the student council then visited the hospital on April 22 to present their donation. The group met with Vicki Kuestersteffen, director and CEO of the McCarty Center, took a tour of the building and also ate snacks with some of the patients.

Andrea and other students in the group said they were excited about donating money to the hospital and getting the chance to meet some of the patients.

"I feel like we did a good thing," Andrea said about the fundraiser. "I feel proud of my school."



Moore West Jr. High  
Tigers

# Dance group wows crowd at recital

## *Kids, volunteers treat audience to '50s theme show*

It was a night of pop tunes, poodle skirts and a surprise appearance by Elvis.

It was also a night of terrific performances and proud parents.

Members of the creative movement dance group hosted a recital in April to showcase the skills they have learned throughout the program.

The dance group started last fall at the McCarty Center to give kids with disabilities the opportunity to learn about dance, work on physical movements and have an outlet to express themselves.

Students from the University of Oklahoma led the classes and worked on dance moves with the kids that could be adapted to accommodate a child's ability level. Students partnered with one child and worked with that child each class.

More than 80 people attended the spring recital, including families, friends and employees from the center.

The recital featured a 1950's theme with music from Elvis Presley. Dancer Josh Williams got the chance to portray Elvis during the event, and one song featured the other dancers rushing to see him and swooning in his presence.

"I am extremely proud of what the kids have accomplished," said Emily Scheele, a sophomore at OU who led the

dance program.

Scheele taught the classes and also recruited OU students with experience in dance, therapy or education to join the dance group and work with the young dancers.

Scheele said she is proud of the volunteers who worked with her and believes they "gained a clearer understanding of how much children with disabilities are truly capable of."

Also, some of the volunteers "were actually so touched by the experience that they are now actively pursuing a career in dance/movement therapy."

The volunteers who participated in the dance program were:

Taylor Warta

Julie Jenner

Haylie Perry

Dallas Crotty

Mistral Salas

Natalie Rothbauer

Beth Wells

Kylie Bishop

Jessie Barr

Caitie Bogenrief

Lisa Fiedler

Madison Deere

Tori Lindsey



*Expressive Movement volunteer Dallas Crotty teaches Ariel Carroll some dance moves during the first dance class last fall.*



*OU student Caitie Bogenrief dances with Jordyn Nichols during dance class.*



*Anicka Weller practices for her dance recital with dance instructor Dallas Crotty.*