

The Building Block

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An e-newsletter of the J. D. McCarty Center for children with developmental disabilities

Camp ClapHans \$10,000 winner of Gutter Dance 'Sweet' 16

Gutter Dance 16, a charity bowling event presented by The Hal Smith Restaurant Group, was held Thursday, May 16. Twenty-one teams from around the Oklahoma City metro area converged on the Sooner Bowling Center in Norman to bowl for fun, food, prizes and bragging rights in support of the McCarty Center's Camp ClapHans summer camp.

This year's Gutter Dance netted \$10,053 for Camp ClapHans operations.

"Camp ClapHans is a residential summer camp program for kids 8 to 18 years old with developmental disabilities. Camp ClapHans was built entirely with donated money, and camp operations are funded in the same way," said Greg Gaston, director of marketing. "The Gutter Dance is just one of the events through the course of the year that contribute to the camp's operation."

Camp ClapHans began its 7th season on Sunday, June 9. The camp is located on the south end of the McCarty Center's 80-acre campus in Norman.

Team winners for Gutter Dance 16 were:

In third place, with 1,194 pins, was Noble's Tiffany's Restaurant. Team members were Donnie Hicks, Ian Hicks, Jerry Dover and Robert Kent.

In second place, with 1,352 pins, was Republic Bank & Trust. Team members were Jenny Hunter, Patti Truesdell, Russell Benson and Jeff Buyten.

And repeating as the **first place team** for the second year in a row was the Loving Care Home Health team with a pin count of 1,428. Team members were Tommie Autry, Don Hendrix, Randall McGinnis and Chris Autry.



The Loving Care Home Health team comprised of (l-r) Randall McGinnis, Chris Autry, Tommie Autry and Don Hendrix successfully defended their championship from last year with another first place win. Their total pin count was 1,428 pins. Chris Autry also won for the second year in a row the trip for two to Branson provided by Reynolds Ford. This prize is for the bowler with the most strikes in two lines of bowling. Autry rolled 14 strikes.

"The Gutter Dance always honors the last place team," said Gaston. "The Gutter Dance isn't so much about being a good bowler, but about supporting a worthy cause and having fun doing it." This year's winner of the last place trophies with 450 pins was the Metro Appliances & More team. Team members were Heather Terpening, Suanne Livingston, Jennifer Giamelle and Angela Marshall. This team also won the most creative bowling shirt contest. They each won an oil change from Firestone on Main in Norman.

The big prize of the night was a 3-day/2-night trip to Branson provided by corporate sponsor Reynolds Ford. The prize went to the bowler with the most number of strikes made. This year's winner, with 14 strikes, was once again Chris Autry.

"There are several elements that go into making a long running, successful event like the Gutter Dance," said Gaston. "It's our teams, it's our strike and door prize providers, our many, many lane sponsors and our corporate sponsors: The Hal Smith Restaurant Group, Johnny Carino's, Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Norman Family Dentistry, Republic Bank & Trust, The Norman Transcript and Reynolds Ford."



Taking second place in Gutter Dance 16 with a total pin count of 1,352 was the Republic Bank & Trust team. Team members were (l-r) Patti Truesdell, Jenny Hunter, Jeff Buyten and Russell Benson.



The Alley Girls, sponsored by Metro Appliances & More, were double winners in this year's Gutter Dance. The team won the coveted last place trophy with a total pin count of 450 pins for two lines of bowling. They also won free oil changes from Firestone on Main in Norman for the most creative bowling shirts. The Alley Girls were (l-r) Suanne Livingston, Jennifer Giamelle, Heather Terpening and Angela Marshall.



Director of Human Resources Tina Martinez (r) hands Doug "Prancer" Haws a strike prize. Haws' team was the Reindeers.



Tiffany's Restaurant from Noble consistently places in the top three teams of the Gutter Dance. This year they placed third with 1,194 pins. Team members were (l-r) Ian Hicks, Jerry Dover and Robert Kent. Not shown is Donnie Hicks.



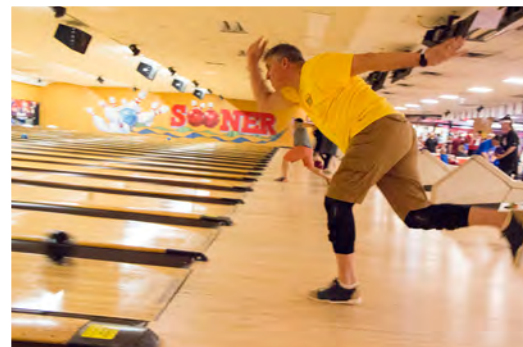
Thursday
May 14,
2020



This year's Gutter Dance trophy.



Cara Taylor, director of speech-language pathology, (l) explains the complexities of being a great gutter dancer to Sharla Bardin, public information manager for the McCarty Center.



Joe Steil of the Okie Wreckers team demonstrates good bowling form during Gutter Dance 16 charity bowling event. Steil's team is sponsored by the 40 et 8 of Oklahoma, a veterans group who are the founders of the McCarty Center.

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Norman Conquest is Saturday, July 13

Proceeds benefit Camp ClapHans

Registration now open

Registration is now open for the 24th annual Norman Conquest bicycle tour hosted by the Bicycle League of Norman. Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 13 to conquer the heat and conquer the hills of eastern Cleveland County.

In April 2018, Bicycle Magazine named the Norman Conquest one of the top fifty rides in America. This is not the first time that the Norman Conquest has made this list. The Norman Conquest has a reputation for being well organized with support and a selection of good routes to match every rider's ability.

The Norman Conquest is considered to be a good warm-up ride for the 'Hotter N Hell Hundred' in Wichita Falls, Texas, in August.

This year's Norman Conquest will be held Saturday, July 13. The ride will begin and end at the McCarty Center, 2002 East Robinson in Norman. Start time for the ride is 7 a.m.

Proceeds from this event will once again benefit the McCarty Center's Camp ClapHans. Camp ClapHans is a residential summer camp for children with developmental disabilities ages 8 to 18. The BLN has been supporting Camp ClapHans since 2008.

There are three ways to register for this event. You can register online by going to www.bikereg.com/norman-conquest; or you can register Friday evening, July 12, from 5-9 p.m. at O'Connell's Irish Pub at

769 Asp Avenue on Campus Corner in Norman; or you can register at the McCarty Center the morning of the ride from 5:45-6:45.



A rider in the Norman Conquest gets his bike checked out by a bicycle mechanic prior to the ride. New this year, riders in the Town Tour will have to present their bikes for an equipment check.

The registration fee for the 2019 Norman Conquest is \$30 per rider if registered by June 11. From June 11 to July 11 registration is \$35 per rider. After July 11 registration is \$40. All entry fees include a hot catered lunch after the ride and a "carbo loading" pasta dinner at O'Connell's on Friday night July 12. The pasta dinner for non-participants may be purchased for \$10. Visit www.bicycleleagueofnorman.com for family and tandem rider fees.



Gaylan Oliver, executive chef of the McCarty Conference Center, grills hamburgers, veggie burgers and hotdogs for the Norman Conquest riders served with sides of cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans, cookies and brownies. Everyone leaves full and satisfied.

There are five routes to choose from and they are well marked on the course. There are maps available at the registration tables the morning of the ride. The routes are the 10-mile town tour, the 10-mile 'taste of the hills', the hilly 22-mile ride, the very hilly 46-mile trek and the seriously challenging 66-mile "Grimwood Loop" named in honor of Michael Grimwood. Grimwood was killed a few years ago by a distracted driver while riding with a friend south of Purcell. The Norman Conquest was one of his favorite rides.

The start time for the ride is 7 a.m. The start of the ride will be staggered based on the ride route. The 66-mile riders will start first, followed by the 46, 22, 10 and town tour riders. There will be an approximate 5 minute delay between groups. The town tour riders will have an escort through town.

The BLN announced that new for this year is a requirement for all town tour bikes to go through an inspection process before the ride begins. Last year the police escorts noticed that several bikes being ridden were not safe due to maintenance issues. Town tour riders should plan on arriving at least a half-hour before the start of the ride to go through the inspection.

The BLN also reminds riders that bicycle helmets are mandatory for this event.

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See Norman Conquest

Norman Conquest

“We want to remind riders that the Norman Conquest is a ride and not a race,” said Katrina Menard, Norman Conquest co-chair. “We have something for all interests and riding levels.”

The Norman Conquest is supported by rest stops along all routes as well as mobile mechanical support and SAG vehicles. The routes are well marked and maps are available at the registration tables Saturday morning. Besides a hot, delicious meal with air conditioning at the end of the ride there will also be free massages for the riders and door prize drawings, including a drawing for a bicycle.

Riders coming from out-of-town are encouraged to contact www.VisitNorman.com for hotel information. For complete Norman Conquest information and links go to www.bicycleleagueofnorman.com.

The BLN support and encourages the growth of recreational bicycling in and around Norman by organizing ride events, supporting bicycle safety and educational activities, participating in local government planning for improved bicycle access and emphasizing the healthful and social aspects of cycling. The BLN hosts semiweekly group rides during the spring and summer months and maintains the Clear Bay mountain bike trails at Lake Thunderbird. For information visit www.bicycleleague.com.



Cindy Carter-Kappus
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

Cindy Carter-Kappus joins McCarty Center

The McCarty Center is excited to welcome Cindy Carter-Kappus to our team. Carter-Kappus, an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse with extensive experience in pediatric neurology, will offer a full-time outpatient neurology clinic at the hospital with Dr. Marc Hille, a pediatric neurologist.

Carter-Kappus brings to the hospital a commitment and passion for working with children with special needs and their families and close to 30 years of experience in nursing. Prior to the McCarty Center, she has worked for Integris Pediatric Neurology, the Children’s Center Rehabilitation Hospital, Integris Baptist Medical Center and Integris Southwest Medical Center.

In addition, Carter-Kappus has worked since 2005 with Hille and has assisted Hille during the neurology clinic that he offers at the McCarty Center. “I love this place,” she said about the hospital. “I have been referring people here for many years.”

Carter-Kappus said she is excited about the new clinic and the opportunity to improve access to care for children with disabilities and to develop treatment plans and strategies to enhance their quality of life and maximize their potential.

Mike Powers, the hospital’s Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Coordinator, said McCarty Center officials are thrilled about the new venture with Carter-Kappus and believe it meets a critical service need for children with disabilities.

“We’re extremely excited to bring someone of Cindy’s history and passion for serving Oklahoma’s children with developmental disabilities to the McCarty Center and we look forward to this great partnership,” Powers said. “Her experience and work ethic will be an incredible asset for the hospital and for the children who will be served by the clinic.”

The clinic will open later this summer and will be accepting referrals. For more information call 405.307.2883.

Book bus visits McCarty Center, Camp

McCarty Center patients and campers at Camp ClapHans got the opportunity to receive free books from the Rolling Thunder Book Bus.

The book bus visited the hospital in May and the camp in June to give kids the opportunity to board the bus--which features OKC Thunder colors and logos--and pick out a free book.

All the books on the bus are purchased new and range from kindergarten through high school reading levels, according to information about the bus.

The Book Bus has made more than 2,000 appearances at schools and organizations in central Oklahoma and has distributed 168,798 books.



The Rolling Thunder Book Bus visited the McCarty Center in May, and Camp ClapHans in June.

Dance program features galaxy of stars

Dancers and volunteers with the Expressive Movement Initiative enjoyed a space jam with their “Out of This World” theme for the spring 2019 recital. Songs included “Walking on Sunshine” and “All Star.”

EMI is a student organization from the University of Oklahoma and the group has hosted a dance program at the McCarty Center since 2013.



Top: EMI instructors and students go for the big finish in a group routine during the spring recital.

Bottom: The spring EMI dance ensemble takes a bow at the end of their recital.

Kids check out exotic sports cars

Patients and campers from Camp ClapHans got to see some unique sports cars during visits in June from Redline4Kids.

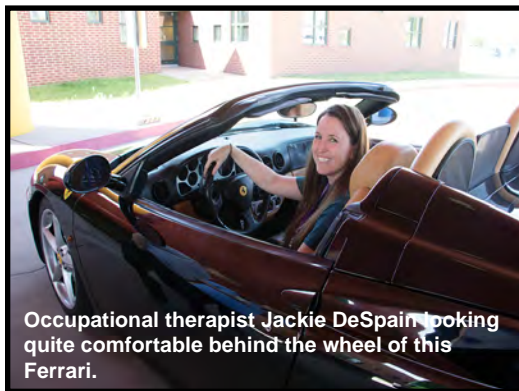
Redline4Kids is a nonprofit organization that involves owners of exotic cars who bring their cars to children’s hospitals to help brighten patients’ days. The crew brought out a Ferrari, Corvette, McLaren and Nissan GT-R during their visits in June.

Chance Wynn, founder of the organization, said the group’s mission is meaningful to him since he spent many years of frequent hospital visits when he was a child. At 4 years old, he was diagnosed with systemic juvenile arthritis.

Volunteers with the organization also visit children’s hospitals in Texas and Florida and will be coming back to visit patients at the McCarty Center this fall.



Manny Nicholas felt the need for speed as he sat in the driver’s seat of a Ferrari, one of the exotic cars brought to the McCarty Center by Redline4Kids. All the cars brought to the hospital are capable of 200 mile-per-hour plus speeds.



Occupational therapist Jackie DeSpain looking quite comfortable behind the wheel of this Ferrari.



Campers were treated to a visit from an Air Evac Lifeteam helicopter during the first camp session of the summer.

Camp starts summer with a roar

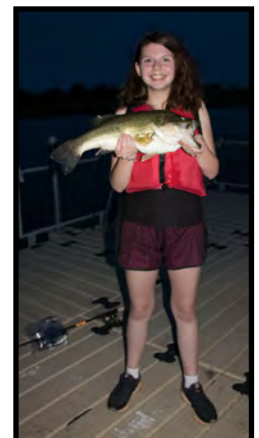
This summer is getting “Wild” at Camp ClapHans.

Sessions started on June 9, and this year’s theme is “Wild About Camp.” Activities have included a visit from Extreme Animals, an organization that gives kids the chance to meet various animals up close, such as a kangaroo, lemur and boa constrictor.

Other activities have featured a helicopter landing from Air Evac Lifeteam, inflatables, stargazing with members of the OKC Astronomy Club and a visit from the Norman Fire Department. And more fun is in store in July with water games with athletes from the University of Oklahoma and a performance from the Drums4Life group.

Summer sessions end July 17. For more camp information and photos from this summer, follow @campclaphans on Instagram.

Camper Luccinda Locke (right) caught a large mouth bass estimated to weigh between 6 and 8 pounds during an early evening fishing trip. This is the largest fish caught by a camper in the seven years the camp has been in operation.





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Norman J.D. McCarty Center

August 16, 2019

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