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Community members find security, fun in Octoberfest festivities



Dr. Tom Jones lets a child hold a tarantula, as he does annually at Octoberfest. Photo by: Hannah Haggerty

By: Ellen Laws

Every year, Gardner-Webb puts on an event called Octoberfest. This is an event open to the children and parents in the community to trick or treat in a safe, fun environment.



Gardner-Webb invited families to the campus on October 29th for its annual Octoberfest event. The free evening of entertainment sets for 6-8 p.m. in the Tucker Student Center on campus.

The children and their parents dressed in costumes and were met with candy, popcorn and a variety of games and crafts. Inflatable rides and a hayride was also offered.

Gardner-Webb clubs set up several different booths that the children can participate in. This year, GWU Campus Civitan decided to do an outer space theme. Each member dressed up as a planet, a star or an alien. Children got to play Tick-Tack-Toe, a memory game and have their face painted by Civitan's members.

The Japanese club had a plinko game, like the one featured on the popular television show "The Price is Right" with use of treats rather than money, and a craft where children could make cherry blossom tree.

Eddrinia Jordan, member of the Japanese club, said, "Octoberfest provides an opportunity for the community to come together and allows children to be able to celebrate the season of Fall with festival activities in a safe place."

To see more photos from Octoberfest, [click here](#).



A visiting child participates in one of the many games that are available at booths at Octoberfest.

Photo by: Hannah Haggerty