
Booster Club tree sale to benefit Gladstone athletes

Need to simplify your holiday season? Choose your Christmas tree at the Gladstone Boosters tree sale, and proceeds will benefit sports programs at Gladstone High.

The sale runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 6, in the parking lot at Gladstone High, 18800 Portland Avenue. Choose from beautiful Douglas fir, Grand fir, Nobles, or wreaths. Local delivery is available.

Saturday School at GHS provides free student support

If school were open on Saturday mornings, would anyone show up? At Gladstone High, the answer is a resounding yes, with up to 120 students – about 20 percent of the student body – participating in Saturday School in recent weeks.

Offered from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. most Saturdays, the program provides students with a free breakfast and teacher support for homework help, test re-takes, and access to computer labs and art supplies. Some students drop in to work on group projects, while others catch up on assignments to help them juggle busy schedules of classes, activities, and sports.

“Students like the family feel here,” said Vice Principal Patti Alexander. “It’s like we’re at the kitchen table. Students know that teachers care about them, and that connection is huge.”

The program, staffed by three teachers and Principal Dr. Natalie Osburn, is funded by a \$10,000 grant from Trust Management Services LLC, and a \$1,300 grant from the Gladstone Education Foundation.

Gladstone High student coin drive raises funds for holiday giving

Through December 10, Gladstone High students will be digging through pockets and under couch cushions looking for spare change to donate to the school’s annual coin drive, a fundraiser for the Adopt-a-Family holiday giving effort.

“Teaching students about the importance of gratitude and giving to others is a core value we are teaching in our classrooms this year,” said Principal Natalie Osburn. “If students reach their goal of raising \$1,200, they will be rewarded with a homework-free week later in the year.”

To make a contribution, stop by the GHS school office during school hours. Proceeds will be used to purchase food, clothing, and gifts for 25 local families facing hard times.

Community concerts celebrate the season

Gladstone High School music programs will celebrate the joy of the holidays with two December concerts. Both events are free and open to the public. Concerts will be held at the Gladstone High Performing Arts Center, 18800 Portland Avenue.

The GHS band will perform at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9. The GHS choir will perform at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16.

Order Football Championship shirts by December 11

To celebrate the Gladiators' State Championship football win, t-shirts and sweatshirts will be available, with orders expected to arrive before Christmas. Options include:

Item #1: 100% cotton short sleeve T in "sport gray"
Sizes YM-YXL & AS-A6XL
\$11

Item #2: 100% cotton long sleeve T in "sport gray"
Sizes YM-YXL & AS-A4XL
\$14

Item #3: 50/50 cotton/polyester crew neck sweatshirt in "sport gray"
Sizes YM-YXL & AS-A4XL
\$19

Item #4: 5-/50 cotton/polyester hooded sweatshirt in "sport gray"
Sizes YM-YXL & AS-A4XL
\$24

Orders must be placed by Thursday, December 11, with the Gladstone High School bookkeeper (Debbie Poyser in the main office at GHS, 18800 Portland Ave). Checks should be payable to GHS Football. Any questions? Call Karla Schumaker at 503.781.9122 or Val Kirchem at 503.201.7546.

Gladstone High School opens new food pantry; coordinator needed

Nationally, one in five families with children 18 and under lives below the poverty line. To help stabilize families so students can succeed in school, Gladstone High School is opening a food pantry.

Starting December 4, the pantry will open Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. The pantry is located next door to the Clothes Closet in a portable on the north side of the GHS campus (18800 Portland Avenue). Side road access is available off Nelson Lane.

The school is searching for the right volunteer to coordinate food pantry operations, a leader willing to contribute eight hours a week. Those who wish to apply can contact Principal Natalie Osburn at 503.655.2544.

"The pantry will give families an emergency food box to help stretch their budget in tough times," said Osburn. "In time, we hope to provide service on Saturdays, to offer cooking classes and to partner with a community garden to provide fresh produce."

Partners providing food for the project include Gladstone Christian Church, First Baptist Church of Gladstone, the Gladstone Education Foundation, Gladstone High and Kraxberger Middle School.

The food pantry will close for winter break starting December 18. It will reopen January 8, 2015.

Winter activities guide offers fun & learning

If you've made a commitment to try something new in 2015, registration is underway for a number of

opportunities in the Gladstone Community Education & Recreation Guide.

From genealogy, youth sports, and ukulele classes to dance, fencing, Zumba, and art, there are offerings for all ages and interests. Driver Education is also available.

To view the course guide and register, visit <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/about-us/community/community-education/>. For more information, call Sue Surratt at 503.650.2570.