

.....
Head Start, Clothes Closet win honors for contributions to Gladstone

Clackamas County honored the Gladstone Ministerial Alliance and Head Start with Community Impact Awards for their work to fight poverty and help low income families build on their strengths. Both organizations were nominated for their collaboration with Gladstone Schools.

The Gladstone Ministerial Alliance was recognized for creating the Gladstone Community Clothes Closet this year. Located on the campus of Gladstone High School, the clothes closet provides free clothing to youths from birth to 21. The effort is run by a collaborative volunteer team from five Gladstone churches: St. Stephen Lutheran Church, Gladstone First Baptist, Gospel Fellowship Community Church, Tri-City Baptist Temple, and Gladstone Church of the Nazarene.

Head Start of the Clackamas County Children’s Commission was honored for their work to provide preschool and family services to low-income children at the Gladstone Center for Children and Families. Eighty children attend the preschool program, which meets the needs of the whole child while preparing them for the rigor of modern kindergarten. In addition to preschool, families receive home visits, health screenings, referral to social service programs, and parent classes.

“Gladstone Schools is grateful to the Gladstone Ministerial Alliance and Head Start for their work to stabilize struggling families,” said Lennie Bjornsen, Director of Student and Family Support. “When students have their basic needs met and access to preschool, they have much better success in our classrooms.”

.....
Gladstone story hour gives 520 free books to children

This year the Gladstone Center for Children & Families (GCCF) delivered over 520 free books to children attending the GCCF’s story hour. The bi-monthly event drew crowds of up to 140 children under age six per for stories and educational activities tied to a particular theme or author. Each child attending received a book at each visit.

“The research is clear,” said Dr. Don Brown, Director of the GCCF. “The more frequently you read to your child, the larger their vocabulary, and the more success they will have in school. We encourage every family to read together daily, including those with infants and toddlers.”

The bi-monthly story hour is organized by partner agencies and schools housed at the center. Books were provided thanks to a grant of \$1,000 from the Gladstone/Oak Grove Rotary Club and a \$650 grant from First Books.

“We were excited that the number of children served jumped from 354 last year to 520 this year,” said Gladstone kindergarten teacher Mary Stoffer. “Our goal for next year is to deliver 1,000 quality books into the hands of our littlest community members.”

To donate to the Story Hour book giveaway, contact Leslie Robinette at 503-974-5077.

.....
Gladstone Education Foundation seeks garage sale donations, volunteers

If spring-cleaning led to the discovery that you have *too much stuff*, consider donating clean, gently used household items, clothing, sports equipment, baby gear, books, furniture, office supplies, craft supplies, and collectibles to the Gladstone Education Foundation garage sale.

For item pick up or to volunteer, call Corinne at 503-722-2284 or Kathy at 971-227-2655. All donations are tax-deductible, and all proceeds will benefit students in Gladstone Schools. The garage sale will take place at Gladstone High School on June 13, 14, and 15.

.....
Registration begins for August golf fundraiser to benefit schools

Golfers, kick off your involvement in the Gladstone Cultural Festival at the golf tournament fundraiser organized by the Gladstone Education Foundation. All proceeds benefit Gladstone Schools.

The tournament is at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, August 1 at Stone Creek Golf Course. Participation is \$125 per Golfer. Hole sponsorship is \$1000 and includes golfing for four players. To sponsor a hole or to register your team, call Bill Kemnitzer at 503-522-2884 or email billkemnitzer@aol.com.