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Senator Merkley honors Gladstone Food Pantry

At a January 2 town hall at Gladstone High School, Senator Jeff Merkley honored the Gladstone Food Pantry with the gift of a flag flown over the nation’s capital.

More than 70 volunteers run the pantry, a partner of the Oregon Food Bank. Last year it provided free food for 6,635 visitors, about 70 families each week.

PHOTO: Gladstone Food Pantry volunteers Dan Olberding and Kristi Haller-Shaffer join Pantry coordinator Alex Van Pelt in accepting an American flag from Senator Jeff Merkley.

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PHOTO: The Leopard Leaders from John Wetten Elementary continued their tradition of making holiday cards for residents at a local senior center. “The students wrote thoughtful messages and designed cards to help cheer up their neighbors and spread a little joy,” said third grade teacher Lauren Thompson.