

NR 022118

**Gladstone students perform dragon dance**

Students from Gladstone High School’s Confucius Classroom Mandarin language program performed a traditional dragon dance at a recent Lunar New Year celebration in West Linn. A video of their performance is available at <http://bit.ly/2Elqofa>.

“My students learned about Chinese culture and gained a lot of confidence from this performance,” said teacher Hao Li. “Next we hope to plan to perform for elementary and middle school students in Gladstone.”

**PHOTO: Gladstone High Chinese teacher Hao Li leads his students in a dragon dance performance in celebration of the Lunar New Year.**

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**School Board honors Gladstone Fire Department**

The Gladstone School District awarded the Growing Great People Award to the Gladstone Fire Department in recognition of their many contributions to the school district and the community.

“Gladstone Fire not provides CPR training to our middle school and high school students,” said Gladstone High Principal Kevin Taylor. “In addition, they take a leadership role in our community-wide Adopt-a-Family Christmas giving project, raising funds for toys, helping with food boxes, and personally delivering gifts to local families.”

**PHOTO: Gladstone fire officials Izaak Thoman, Mike Funk, and Kirk Stempel accepted an award from the Gladstone School Board for their fire department’s service to the community’s children.**

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**Gladstone swimmers shine at State**

Two juniors from Gladstone High School represented their swim team in the state competition.

Avery Marshall finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the 100 freestyle and 10<sup>th</sup> in the 400 freestyle relay.

Adin Williams, a world-ranked para swimmer, finished first in the 50 freestyle, improving his personal record by 3 seconds. He also finished first in the 100 freestyle, improving his personal record by 4 seconds.

“Three to four seconds is a big gain in the shorter races,” said coach Charlotte DeBaltzo. “I’m proud of both our swimmers for their strong showing at State.”