

Gladstone High School launches garden project

Students at Gladstone High will launch a horticulture club, build a demonstration garden, and raise food for the school's Food Pantry thanks to a \$7,900 grant from Clackamas County.

The project, led by the non-profit Food Waves, kicks off Saturday, April 23, with a volunteer project to build raised beds and learn soil preparation techniques. Community members are welcome to join the effort from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. near the Gladstone High greenhouse located off Nelson Lane.

Teacher Brad Kuntz is excited to involve the horticulture club in growing food for both the school cafeteria and the Gladstone Food Pantry. Special education students from the school's community service class will also help with the project, learning hands-on skills such as planting, watering, weeding, thinning, and harvesting.

"As a National Green Ribbon School, Gladstone High is known for teaching and practicing sustainability, waste reduction, and resource conservation," said Kuntz. "We are delighted at this opportunity to expand student learning and community service to help feed families in need."

Donate food at the Gladstone Library by Saturday!

The Gladstone Library's Food for Fines event will benefit two programs that provide free food to low-income families in Gladstone. An added bonus is that for *each* food item donated, the library will forgive \$1 in library fines for overdue materials.

Food for Fines week runs through April 16 at the Gladstone Public Library, 135 E. Dartmouth Street. Programs benefiting include the Gladstone Food Pantry, which serves 50 families per week, and Gladstone Schools' Backpack Buddies program, which provides food to 70 families each week.

Top needs include:

- peanut butter
- pasta or rice
- canned tuna, chicken, or salmon
- canned spaghetti sauce
- soups or chili or stew
- Jiffy corn bread mix
- canned fruits or vegetables

- breakfast cereal or oatmeal
- boxed meals such as tuna helper, macaroni & cheese, or pasta alfredo

April 14: Kindergarten Preview Night welcomes families

The Gladstone School District welcomes parents with children starting kindergarten in the fall to Kindergarten Preview & Orientation Night. Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2016 are eligible to register.

Children are welcome at the event, which runs from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 14, at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families, 18905 Portland Ave. Dessert will be provided. Registration information, a school tour, a school bus ride, and a classroom visit will be included. Contact Heidi Smith at 503-496-3939 to RSVP.

April 19: iBuild trades apprenticeship & career fair

Helping your teen consider career options? Looking for a family-wage job? Giving advice to students? Find out about work, apprenticeships, and job training opportunities in building trades at a free information night in the gym at Gladstone High School.

The event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, from 5 to 7 p.m. at 18800 Portland Avenue. Raffle prizes will be offered to all attendees, with an additional raffle prize for students who bring a parent.

“We want to give students an opportunity to learn about career pathways for electricians, roofers, plumbers, bricklayers, cement masons, carpenters, sprinkler fitters, sheet metal workers, and more,” said event organizer Loren Watts. “These are high demand, family-wage careers.”

Represented organizations include:

- The Northwest College of Construction
- Watts Heating & Cooling
- Yorke & Cutis General Contractors
- MP Plumbing
- Mr. Rooter
- Bear Electric
- Northwest Institute of Electrical Technology
- La Porte & Associates
- U.S. Postal Service
- Portland General Electric
- Northwest Natural
- The Workforce Coalition
- ABC Apprenticeship

Parents are strongly encouraged to accompany students to the event.

April 22 & 23: Gladstone High to stage Snow White

Drama students at Gladstone high will stage the classic Grimm Brothers fairy tale Snow White. From the lovely princess, mischievous dwarfs, the poisoned apple and the scheming queen, theatergoers will experience laughs, chases, and theater magic sure to delight young audiences and the young at heart.

Community performances are scheduled in Gladstone High School's Dorothy Sawyer Performing Arts Center, 18800 Portland Avenue at 7 p.m. on April 22 & 23. A special 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, April 23 is planned for students and parents from John Wetten Elementary. Admission is \$5 at the door.

April 23: Workshops connect preschool parents & educators

On April 23, the Gladstone Center for Children & Families will host a free, half-day conference for parents of young children [birth to 5] and early childhood professionals. Registration for *Ready, Set, Learn!* is available at online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/ReadySetLearn.

Ready, Set, Learn will take place on Saturday, April 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families: 18905 Portland Avenue. Free childcare, a light breakfast, plentiful snacks, and raffle prizes will be available.

Workshops include brain development, positive discipline, nutrition, how to choose a preschool, and how to get your child ready for modern kindergarten. Local organizations will have information tables with details about preschools, social services, and parent resources. Classes will be offered in both English and Spanish.

For information, call Yina Arias at 503.496.3943.
