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Two Gladstone blood drives planned

To counteract the national drop in blood donations due to flooding, snow and other weather events, two blood drives are planned at Gladstone High School, 18800 Portland Avenue.

The Prom family will host a blood drive from 2 to 7 p.m. on April 29 in honor of Dave Prom, now battling multiple myeloma, a cancer of the blood. Information about the Be the Match campaign for blood marrow donation will be provided. To book an appointment, visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=GladHS>

The Gladstone High School Key Club will host a May 1 blood drive from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. To book an appointment, email Lynnda Prom at proml@gladstone.k12.or.us.

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Kraxberger student plans Make-A-Wish fundraiser

Kraxberger sixth grader Kiah Thomas already knows the importance of helping others. That's why she organized a Baskin Robbins fundraiser to raise funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

"We are proud of Kiah for raising over \$228 to support Make-A-Wish," said Steve Leitz, owner of Gladstone Baskin Robbins. "The funds will be used to make wishes come true for children with critical illnesses."

PHOTO: Sixth grader Kiah Thomas planned a Make-A-Wish fundraiser to help children with critical illnesses.

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Gladstone Schools honors counseling provider

The Gladstone School Board presented a Growing Great People Award to Sylwia Quick for Western Psychological and Counseling Services' on-site work with students at John Wetten Elementary.

"When we meet the social-emotional needs of students, they are more focused in school and better able to learn," said Principal Wendy Wilson.

PHOTO: School Board Vice Chair Jay Schmidt [left] and Principal Wendy Wilson [right] present an award to Sylwia Quick for bringing specialized counseling services to John Wetten Elementary.

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Gladstone students support Lung Association

While some people used their weekend to sleep late, a group of energetic teens from Gladstone were busy volunteering at the Fight for Air Stair Climb in Portland. The event was a benefit for the American Lung Association.

Volunteers included Gladstone High freshmen Hailey Specht, Hailey Olson, Abby Salgado, Olivia Gustafson, Ayden Hensley, Cory Rather, and Joey Maresh, along with Kraxberger 7th grader Abby Hensley.

“This amazing group of kids does good things for our community,” said Lori Specht.

PHOTO: Gladstone students volunteered at a fundraiser for the American Lung Association.

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John Wetten students hold book battle

Over 65 fourth and fifth grade students from John Wetten Elementary participated in the Oregon Battle of the Books, a statewide program to encourage students to read while boosting comprehension and teamwork.

To participate, students had to read six books from the competition list by spring break. Some of their favorite titles were The Hero’s Guide to Saving Your Kingdom by Christopher Healy and The Wild Robot by Peter Brown.

“Our students showed a real dedication not only to reading the books, but also preparing for the battle,” said Volunteer Coordinator Theresa Schmidt. “Some of the teams even used their recess time to get ready for the competition.”

PHOTO: Fourth graders Jaz _____, Ally _____ and Harlow _____ celebrate a win in John Wetten Elementary’s Battle of the Books. Each read at least six books to participate in the competition.