

NR 052015

Workshop to help early childhood professionals

A free workshop will provide strategies and resources to help early childhood professionals prepare children for modern kindergarten. Gladstone Schools, Oregon City Schools, and Northwest Family Services sponsor the event, intended for childcare providers and preschool teachers.

The same workshop is offered on two nights at different locations:

- Thursday, May 28, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Eastham School, 1404 7th Street in Oregon City.
- Tuesday, June 2, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families, 18905 Portland Avenue in Gladstone.

To reserve a spot on either night, contact Yina Arias at 503.901.9863. Free childcare will be provided.

“Many parents rely on friends, family childcare providers, and preschools to help children get ready for kindergarten,” said Lennie Bjornsen, Gladstone’s Director of Student & Family Supports. “We want to share enrichment opportunities, web links, and other strategies to help children build school ready skills to learn math and reading.”

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Food Pantry wins Community Impact Award

The new Gladstone Food Pantry has been honored with a Youth Services Community Action Impact Award from Clackamas County.

The award recognizes the organization’s work in providing food to struggling families with children through both the school district’s Backpack Buddies program and the food pantry. Located in the portables behind Gladstone High School, the facility is open to families twice a week: Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon.

“We are lucky to have a team of Special Education students from Gladstone High to help us load the backpacks with food each week,” said Gladstone High Principal Natalie Osburn. “Doing this work, they build skills in sorting and inventory, so it’s truly a win-win.”

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Donation helps Gladstone High art program

Ceramics students at Gladstone High School are well stocked with clay and other supplies thanks to a contribution from Gay Leiber, the grandmother of student Alex Thompson.

Leiber donated 500 pounds of clay, some potter's wheel bats, and \$100 worth of ceramic glazes to the school's art program.

"She spent a Saturday afternoon teaching me how to mix ceramic glazes," said art teacher Chris Rich. "It was one of the best professional development workshops I've ever had!"

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Recreation Guide offers summer day camps and driver education

Looking for ways to keep kids busy and learning all summer long? Check out the Gladstone Summer Recreation Guide, which offers affordable youth classes and day camps in sports, art, music, dance, and martial arts. Adult classes are also available, from Zumba and crafts to investing and Spanish.

One special opportunity is the Missoula Children's Theater drama day camp, which offers students from grades 1-12 the opportunity to produce Jungle Book, working with professional actors.

The Gladstone driver education program provides an opportunity for students who pass their drive test in the class to get a waiver on the DMV behind-the-wheel test. A discount is available for students eligible for free and reduced price lunch.

To download the catalog and register on-line, visit <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/district-departments/community-education/>. For more information, call Sue Surratt at 503.650.2570.

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Tonkin Challenge run & walk to benefit schools

Registration is underway for the Tonkin Challenge, a community fun run/walk to benefit schools. Thanks to local sponsors, including the Gladstone Education Foundation and the Gladstone/Oak Grove Rotary, 100% of the entry fees paid for by runners who select "Gladstone High School" at registration will be proportionally divided between all four Gladstone Schools.

"This event supports two important priorities: fitness and schools," said Superintendent Bob Stewart. "What a fun way to kick off summer! We hope lots of Gladstone families turn out to show support for our kids."

The event, scheduled for the morning of **Sunday, June 7**, starts at Wilsonville Audi, 26600 SW 95th Avenue. Options include:

- **5K Run/Walk [adults \$37/kids 14 & under \$16]**
- **10K Run [adults \$47/kids 14 & under \$16]**
- **Half Marathon [adults \$57; \$62 with t-shirt]**
- **Teacher entry to any race [\$42]**

Register on-line at <http://www.tonkinchallenge.org/>. The above pre-registration prices go up the day of the event.

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Golf Tournament to benefit Gladstone schools

Stone Creek Golf Course is the setting for the Gladstone Education Foundation's annual Golf Tournament. Last year's event raised \$7,000 for Gladstone Schools.

The tournament is scheduled for noon on Friday, July 31, with a shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. Registration is \$125 per single or \$450 per foursome, including range balls, green fees, a golf card, a gift, a box lunch, a barbecue, and awards. The course is located at 14603 S. Stoneridge Drive in Oregon City.

Corporate sponsorships are available at \$1,000, \$750, and \$250. To register or sponsor the event, call Tammy Tracy at 503.650.2777 or Terry Marsh at 503.789.7922.

"This is a fun way to kick off participation in the Gladstone Community Festival," said GEF board member Leslie Robinette. "Stone Creek is a gorgeous championship course."