

Rotary plants Pillars of Peace

Joining a global effort, the Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary Club has begun planting Pillars of Peace across the Gladstone community.

A Pillar of Peace is a handcrafted monument that promotes peace, friendship, kindness, and community unity. Gladstone's Pillars of Peace were designed last spring by advanced art students from Kraxberger Middle School, and each one is unique.

"Now more than ever we must focus on peace," said club president Josette Godsey. "Our hope is that these monuments will inspire the people of Gladstone to work together to make our town a caring and supportive community for the diverse group of people who live and work here."

The first three Pillars of Peace were installed at Gladstone Center for Children & Families, the Gladstone Senior Center, and Max Patterson Park. The next four will be installed this fall at John Wetten Elementary, Kraxberger Middle School, Gladstone High School and Cross Park.

Photo: The Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary Club dedicates a Pillar of Peace in Cross Park, during the Gladstone Community Festival. Pictured are Joe Kauffman, Bruce Wadsworth, Dr. Bob Everett, Colin Black, Josette Godsey, student artist Breanna Hogan-Beckerle, Leslie Robinette, and Jal Duncan.

Grocery Outlet raises funds for Gladstone Food Pantry

The Grocery Outlet store on McLoughlin Blvd. held a month-long "Independence from Hunger" food drive in July, asking customers for cash and food donations for the Gladstone Food Pantry.

"We are so grateful for this generous gift," said pantry foods director Leslie Robinette. "The store raised \$5,911 to replenish our shelves with a variety of foods we can't usually provide. This will make a real difference in stabilizing the lives of struggling families."

The Gladstone Food Pantry, located on the north side of the Gladstone High School campus, serves 50 families a week, providing an array of nutritious foods in partnership with the Oregon Food Bank, Dave's Killer Bread, Bob's Red Mill, and over 40 volunteers.

Families in need are invited to visit Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 p.m. or Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Easy access is provided off Nelson Lane in Gladstone.

Photo: Leslie Robinette and Zane Robinette, volunteers with the Gladstone Food Pantry, provided information during the month-long food drive at Grocery Outlet.

Gladstone launches monthly parenting classes

Help is available to parents of children six and under thanks to a series of monthly parenting classes at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families [GCCF]. All classes are free, with free dinner and childcare provided.

Each class runs once a month from 6 to 8 p.m. September through June at 18905 Portland Avenue. To register, call Chelsea Hamilton at 503.367.9116 or email ClackamasParenting@gmail.com. Courses include:

Beautiful Babies: Meets every first Thursday

This class is for moms & dads who are expecting or have children under 18 months old. Topics include child development and milestones, parenting styles, self-care, sleep, feeding, and playing with your baby.

Terrific Toddlers: Meets every second Thursday

This class is for parents with children 18 months to 3 years old. Topics include toilet training, child safety, positive discipline, learning through play, and encouraging language and social development.

Growing Up: Meets every 3rd Thursday

This class is for parents with children age 3 to 6. Topics include school readiness and adjustments, healthy screen time, nutrition, love languages, and positive sibling relationships.

Fatherhood – the Art of Being Dad: Meets every 4th Thursday

For dads with children from birth to age 6, this helps you enjoy and understand your role as a father while providing opportunities for support, education, and personal growth.

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Gladstone offers fall recreation programs

From line dance and Spanish to investing, crafts, and cooking classes, the Gladstone Community Schools program offers dozens of affordable course options for all ages.

Youth options include driver education, martial arts, dance, sports, and music classes. A full list of options is at <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/district-departments/community-education/>. For more information, call 503.650.2570.

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Gladstone invites kindergarten sponsors

Gladstone’s full-day kindergarten program welcomes supporters to “Adopt-a-Classroom” for the 2017-18 school year. The program helps provide enrichment activities, hands-on projects, and student support to the district’s youngest students. Each sponsor will be recognized with a plaque at the classroom entrance and recognition on the school website.

Each sponsor provides a \$250 contribution, used for field trips, science and art supplies, books, and help for struggling families. To contribute, call Jere Applebee, Director of Early Learning, at 503.496.3939.

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Spanish dish featured at free cooking demo

For those seeking menu ideas for when it’s too hot to cook, gazpacho may be the perfect solution. Community members are invited to learn ways to prepare this chilled Spanish soup at a free cooking demonstration at the Gladstone Food Pantry.

The free event will take place on Saturday, August 19 from 10 a.m. to noon at the pantry, located on the north side of the Gladstone High School campus off Nelson Lane.

“This recipe can be easily customized depending on your family’s preferences and what vegetables you have,” said nutritionist Stephanie Kurzenhauser. “It can be made mild or spicy to suit your taste.”

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Gladstone High launches online payment system

Thanks to a new payment system, Gladstone High families can pay their school fees online. To use the new system, visit <http://gladstone.k12.or.us/high/online-payment/>. Directions are provided.

“The system can be used to pay registration fees, sport and activity fees, purchase yearbooks, order transcripts, and more,” said bookkeeper Debbie Poyser. “This is easy and convenient for families because they can pay from home rather than coming into the school.”

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