

Veterans invited to Gladstone High celebration

Veterans or enlisted personnel from any branch of military service are invited to a special event in their honor at Gladstone High School. The event will take place on Thursday, November 8, starting at 10:15 a.m. with a reception in the cafeteria.

Honored guests will be treated to a featured speaker and performances by the Gladstone High band and choir in a full school assembly. For information, contact Leslie Robinette at 503-974-5077 or email robinettel@gladstone.k12.or.us.

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John Wetten students explore careers

What do you want to be when you grow up? That’s the question elementary students at John Wetten pondered this week during the school’s annual College and Career Day event.

Twenty-two presenters were on hand, from a veterinarian, a police officer, and TV news reporter to a nurse, a welder, a school principal, and a paramedic.

“The goal of college and career day is to show our students the educational and career paths,” said volunteer coordinator Theresa Schmidt. “Speakers shared with students the path they took to get their job. Some went to college, some served in the military, and some started out sweeping floors but worked their way up to manager. Students had great questions for our speakers, and they were really engaged.”

PHOTO: Third grader Abigail Hansen monitors her pulse using equipment provided by her father, AMR paramedic Michael Hansen, who presented to a group of first and second grade students.

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SMART wins Growing Great People award

The Gladstone School Board presented a Growing Great People Award to Start Making A Reader Today (SMART). Senior Program Manager Nathan Buck accepted the award, along with site coordinator Natalie Mount.

The nationally recognized reading program brings volunteers in to share books and a love of reading with children in preschool through grade 3. Children participate twice a week and each receives 14 free books to take home and share with their families.

“SMART has served Gladstone Head Start and kindergarten students for several years,” said Jere Applebee, Director of the Gladstone Center for Children and Families [GCCF]. “We’re excited that this year, the program has expanded to include students at John Wetten Elementary.”

The program is in search of volunteers who can help one hour each week during the school year. To find out more, visit www.getsmartoregon.org/volunteer/

PHOTO: GCCF Director Jere Applebee [left] presented the Growing Great People Award to SMART leaders Natalie Mount and Nathan Buck.

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Gladstone teacher honored as Teacher of the Month

Fifth grade teacher Kala Ott was recognized on K103 radio’s Honor Roll for her commitment to student learning and her creative efforts to build a positive and supportive classroom culture. She has taught for seven years.

“My son has blossomed under her tutelage, going from someone who dreaded reading to a kiddo who devours book after book,” said parent Andrea Alba, who nominated Ott for the honor. “When you step into her classroom, you are instantly transported into the wonderful world of Harry Potter.”

As an honoree, Ott received a number of prizes, including a \$500 gift card for school supplies, a Concordia University continuing education scholarship valued at \$2800, a \$2500 technology grant for Chromebook computers, and catered lunch for the teacher’s lounge from Jersey Mike’s.

PHOTO: Gladstone fifth grade teacher Kala Ott was recognized by the K103 honor roll for her innovative approaches to classroom learning and her ability to build relationships with students.

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