

Gladstone High turns out for community service

For the 5th straight year, athletes and student leaders from Gladstone High School volunteered on a rainy Saturday, taking on outside chores for seniors across the community.

“Give It Back Day has become a school tradition,” said Key Club sponsor Lynnda Prom, event coordinator. “This is our school’s way of thanking our community for support of athletic events and school fundraisers.”

At this year’s event, 138 students joined forces with 19 staff members and five community volunteers, tacking outdoor chores at 22 different sites. They raked leaves, mowed lawns, pruned hedges, and spread bark mulch. Besides helping senior citizens, they also tackled trail improvements at the Gladstone Nature Park.

“We are grateful to both 7-Eleven and the Gladstone Boosters Club for providing donuts, lattes, and hot dogs to our volunteers,” said Vice Principal Patti Alexander. “Despite the rain, we had fun and helped a lot of people.”

PHOTO: Gladstone High seniors Madison Mogil and Hiram Luis join junior Aly Rice doing yard work for a neighbor, part of their school’s annual day of service.

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Gladstone Robotics Fair

For eight years, the Gladstone High School robotics team has hosted FIRST Fair, one of the largest youth robotics conferences in the nation. This year’s event was attended by 282 people from 28 schools across Oregon and Washington.

“We offered 25 workshops, from pneumatics and electrical control systems to Java programming and mechanical design,” said Gladstone Robotics Coach Steve Stewart. “We were excited to have participants travel here from all corners of the Northwest, including Brookings, Hermiston, and Bend.”

FIRST is a national program, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology. Their goal is to teach students hands-on skills in programming, fabrication, and electrical work, while also building skills in publicity, teamwork, and gracious professionalism.

Gladstone’s team has been a regional standout, placing second among 20 competitors in this fall’s Girls Generation challenge. This month the group also won a \$1,500 grant from the Oregon Department of Education.

PHOTO: Robotics team members in Gladstone’s FIRST Fair workshop learn about pneumatics. Participants included students from 28 schools across the Northwest.