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Bomb squad does robotics demo at Gladstone High

Students from Gladstone High’s robotics, engineering technology, and construction technology classes got a close-up look at three robots used by the Oregon State Police Explosives Unit. The robots play various roles, from bomb surveillance and containment to deployment of water cannons or transporting an injured person to safety.

“This was an amazing opportunity to show students real world applications of robotics,” said robotics coach Steve Stewart. “This definitely got them thinking about career possibilities.”

Photo: Gladstone High seniors Billy Siegle and Josh Skinner ask questions about a bomb squad robot strong enough to lift a human body.

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Gladstone High Band takes first in League Competition

Gladstone High’s Symphonic Band finished first in the Tri-Valley League competition and qualified for the state competition at Oregon State University on May 9.

“Our band had the opportunity to work with clinicians this winter, and that really helped us fine tune our performance,” said Director Seth Arnold. “With each competition we get a little better.”

The group will perform this summer in the Gladstone Community Festival parade on August 4.

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Gladstone Education Foundation invests in school innovations

This spring, the Gladstone Education Foundation [GEF] awarded more than \$10,000 in grant funds to support six projects in three schools.

“I’m pleased about the range of students who will benefit, and the variety of activities that can now be offered,” said GEF Board Member Bill Stewart.

Funded projects include:

- John Wetten Elementary: After school STEAM Science Classes
- Kraxberger Middle School: Chromebooks for Study Skills Course
- Kraxberger Middle School: After School Mentor Program
- Gladstone High Robotics Team: STEM Diversity Summer Program
- Gladstone High: Shakespeare Performers Workshop
- Gladstone High: Digital Classroom Library

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John Wetten students hold book battle

Fifty John Wetten 4th and 5th graders participated in the Oregon Battle of the Books [OBOB], this year. Library assistants Julie Kempster and Nancy West organized the event, where several teams competed to answer questions about 10 books from the statewide list.

“Students were very excited about Battle of the Books,” said Volunteer Coordinator Theresa Schmidt. “Children took the competition very seriously and were diligent about preparing.”

The Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary Club provided T-shirts for the event.

Photo: Fifth graders Nicholas Ste-Marie and Gabi Cronin ponder a question during their Battle of the Books competition.

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The Clackamas Bookshelf spreads books across Gladstone schools

A Gladstone non-profit The Clackamas Bookshelf has given a free book to each student in Gladstone Schools this year.

Book giveaways happened at Gladstone High and Kraxberger Middle School in early April, with students offered a variety of titles from The Lord of the Rings to A Wrinkle in Time.

John Wetten students received free books on Everybody Reads Day in March. Students at the Gladstone Center for Children & Families get free books delivered each month.

“We’re grateful to the Gladstone Education Foundation for funding this project,” said Executive Director Katy Preston. “The more books a child has at home, the better their academic success.”

Photo: Gladstone High sophomore Jacob Moore chose a classic at a free book giveaway by The Clackamas Bookshelf.

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Oregon Symphony quintet performs at John Wetten Elementary

Is a bassoon taller than a fourth grader? What’s the difference between a double reed and a single reed? On Tuesday, John Wetten students learned these things and more during a performance by the Oregon Symphony’s wind quintet.

The group performed several pieces, including Beethoven’s Wind Quintet and Prokofiev’s symphonic fairy tale Peter and the Wolf. The performance was part of the Symphony’s youth outreach program to inspire children to study and enjoy music.

Photo: The Oregon Symphony’s Wind Quintet performs for students at Gladstone’s John Wetten Elementary School.

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Seussical takes the stage at Gladstone High

Gladstone High School will stage Seussical the Musical this weekend. The whimsical play by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty brings to life several popular children’s books by Dr. Seuss, including Horton Hears a Who, Yertle the Turtle, and the Cat in the Hat.

“People of all ages will enjoy this uplifting and colorful story of love, loyalty, sacrifice, and caring,” said Director Emmett Pearson. “The musical performances are quite fun.”

Performances are 7 p.m. on April 13 and 14, with a 2 p.m. matinee on April 15 at the Gladstone High School performing arts center, 18800 Portland Avenue. Tickets, sold at the door, are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and children.