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Gladstone teens help neighbors

For the third consecutive year, student leaders and athletes from Gladstone High scattered across their community to tackle lawn mowing, leaf raking, painting and other chores for seniors and homebound neighbors.

In all, 106 students participated with help from 25 teachers, alumni, and parents. Together they worked at 22 different locations in Gladstone.

“Community service is one of the most important things we teach at Gladstone High,” said event organizer Lynnda Prom. “Our neighbors help students in so many ways, from volunteering and supporting fundraisers to cheering on our athletic teams. This event is a chance for students to give back.”

PHOTO: Gladstone High athletes Mitchell Kuhn, Keegan Reilly, Matthew Schroedl, Cami Williams, and Emily Tunon help first grader Jayden Browning tackle yard work and painting projects for a neighbor.

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Volleyball team makes lunches for homeless

GHS volleyball coach Bree Melton leads by example. Serving the homeless has long been her family’s mission, but now she’s found a way to involve the Gladstone High Volleyball team in her effort, A Time to Give.

In October, the team gathered to prepare lunches and fill toiletry bags which the Melton family distributed to individuals in downtown Portland, along with clothing and free haircuts.

“Involving students in this work is important. It is an opportunity for them to give back to their community and to take the time to see the way of life from a different perspective,” said Melton. “It gives them an opportunity to realize the importance of being kind to everyone, and that the smallest act of kindness can change a person’s life.”

PHOTO: Gladstone High volleyball players help make sandwiches for homeless people. Pictured [left to right] are Ashlee Delair, Elli Philo, Grace Chappell, D.J. Thompson, Alyssa Thompson, and Erica Leach.

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Community to weigh in on leadership priorities

What qualities and skills should our next Assistant Superintendent have? As Gladstone Schools considers hiring for this key leadership role, community input is invited at a forum on Wednesday, October 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the District Board Room.

Deputy Superintendent Pia Leonard will retire in June after 20 years' service to the district, including 16 years as Deputy Superintendent and 4 years as Gladstone High principal.

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Rotary grant to help Gladstone kids

A \$1,400 grant from Gladstone/Oak Grove Rotary will provide Gladstone students with necessities like backpacks, socks, shoes, and underwear. School counselors and the Youth Clothes Closet run by the Gladstone Ministerial Association will help distribute the needed items.

"The goal of this effort is to provide for some essential needs," said Rotary member Baldwin van der Bijl. "We know that kids have better odds of academic success once their basic needs are met."

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John Wetten jog-a-thon raises big bucks

"*Mustache dash*" was the theme of this year's jog-a-thon at John Wetten Elementary School, which raised over \$28,000 for the school.

"This was good exercise for our students, and the array of mustaches was hilarious," said Principal Wendy Wilson. "We are so grateful to those who contributed, to help our school provide field trips, technology, and school events."

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GHS Cheer takes honors

Several members of the Gladstone High Cheer team competed at the Oregon Cheerleading Coaches Association All-State Competition on October 17 in Springfield.

Kylee Schassen took 6th in the All-State Individual Competition and is a member of the All-State Team. Annah Sargent, Taylar Schassen, Ainsley Powell, Elissa Carbajal, & Adri Hauge took 3rd at All-State in the All Girl Stunt Team Competition. Chad Lee, Salina Scharbrough, Kallann Parman, Kylee Schassen & Hiram Luis took 3rd in the All-State Co-ed Stunt Team contest.

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Food pantry shifts Thursday hours

With darkness falling earlier, the Gladstone Food Pantry has made a slight shift in Thursday hours. The Food Pantry will be open Thursday afternoons from 3 to 5:30 p.m., and continue regular Saturday hours of 10 a.m. to noon.

The Food Pantry, which partners with the Oregon Food Bank, provides food to any family or individual in need. Meat, dairy products, bread, canned goods, frozen foods, and fresh produce are available. Patrons are invited to visit once a week.

The Food Pantry is located on the north side of the Gladstone High School campus off Nelson Lane near the greenhouse. To donate food or get more information, call Leslie Robinette at 971.246.0302.

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Gladstone High students honored

Kennedy Coy and Riley Green were named school winners for the prestigious Wendy's High School Heisman Award, which recognizes exceptional high school seniors for their accomplishments in the classroom, on the field, and in the community. Both are students at Gladstone High School.

Coy, a softball player, maintains a 3.93 grade point average while also participating in leadership and Bible study.

Green, a football player, maintains a 3.76 grade point average and serves as National Honor Society president.

"We are proud of these young leaders who are role models for fellow students as scholars, athletes, and leaders," said Gladstone High Principal Natalie Osburn.