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**Education Foundation raises \$68,000 for Schools**

The Gladstone Education Foundation recently held two major fundraisers for Gladstone youths, teachers, and community groups.

Over \$56,000 was netted at this month's Dinner & Auction, attended by more than 300, and \$12,000 was raised in July's annual golf tournament.

"This was one of our most successful fundraising years!" said GEF President Terry Marsh. "We are excited these funds will support classroom innovations, expand, early childhood programs, and develop life-long learners."

**PHOTO: Bill Kemnitzer, GEF Board Member, sells Mardi Gras beads at the auction fundraiser. The event netted \$56,000 for the non-profit, which supports Gladstone youths.**

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**Gladstone High celebrates Veterans**

Gladstone High welcomed Veterans and current military personnel from across the region to their annual Veteran's Celebration. All branches of the military were represented, along with survivors of World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf Conflict, and recent conflicts.

"This is an opportunity to thank these men and women for their service to our nation," said Principal Kevin Taylor. "We treat them to a reception and a concert, with performances by our band and choir."

**PHOTO: The Gladstone High School choir performed at the school's annual Veterans Celebration.**

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**Construction skills build career paths**

When Gladstone High senior Alexis Bottcher was asked to build a multi-level cedar produce display bin in her high school construction class, she had no idea how challenging it would be.

"It was difficult," she said. "We had to keep changing the plan. It was definitely a process to get pieces to fit around the curve."

Her teacher Mike Leone offers beginning and advanced Construction Technology courses, giving students the opportunity to use a wide variety of tools for practical projects such as picnic tables, dog houses, and creating a snack shack for the softball field.

"What we hear from students is that they are eager for classes that teach hands-on skills," said Leone. "What we hear from universities is that students entering engineering programs need to arrive with practical experience in project planning and using tools. My class meets both needs."

**PHOTO: Gladstone High senior Alexis Bottcher shows off her completed project, a cedar produce display bin for the Gladstone Food Pantry.**

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**Dictionaries expand third grade knowledge**

What's the longest word in English? How do you spell remuneration? What's a gerrymander? What does the Constitution say? The answers to all these questions and more can be found in the new dictionaries given to all third graders at John Wetten Elementary School.

Delivering the dictionaries is an annual tradition for the Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary Club. Education is one of the club's focus areas or community service.

"The children were so excited to explore the dictionary and discover all the resources inside, from maps and planetary information to the Declaration of independence," said Rotarian Baldwin van der Bijl. "This resource will serve them well beyond third grade."

**PHOTO: Third graders Delilah Schwanki and Clayton Hewlett explore their new dictionaries, a gift from Gladstone/Oak Lodge Rotary.**

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**Gladstone Kids Clothes Closet announces holiday closures**

To allow volunteers time to celebrate holidays with family, the Gladstone Clothes Closet will be closed on the following dates:

- Saturday, November 11
- Thursday, November 23
- Saturday, November 25

The Clothes Closet recently received a very large clothing donation, which they are still processing. Therefore, no new donations will be accepted during November.

Regular hours for the Clothes Closet are Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. The facility is located on the Gladstone High School campus, off Nelson Lane. Families who need children's clothing are invited to visit once each season.