

NR 102314

130 Gladstone High students give thanks through community service

On October 18, 130 athletes and student leaders from Gladstone High School turned out in force for *Gladstone Gives Back*, the school's annual day of service. Fanning out across the town, they spent five hours helping seniors and shut-ins by raking leaves, mowing lawns, stacking firewood, and pulling weeds.

"Our community supports Gladstone schools in so many ways, from volunteer work and attending sports events to fundraisers and volunteerism," explained Athletic Director Ted Yates. "This is an opportunity for our students to pay it forward."

"Our family saw at least three groups doing yard work and taking care of outdoor community spaces we drive by every day," said Gladstone resident Kecia Melton. "It warmed my heart!"

PHOTO CAPTION: Gladstone High junior Ali Petruzzi, a soccer and softball player, volunteered with other athletes and student leaders from her school help seniors and other neighbors with yard work.

PHOTO CAPTION: Gladstone High freshmen Ben Perez (top) and Austin Monsrud get the to root of the problem in pruning a neighbor's bush.

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Gladstone High invites Veterans to November 4th celebration

In celebration of Veteran's Day, Gladstone High School invites military veterans, active duty personnel, and their families to an assembly in their honor.

The event will take place Tuesday, November 4 from 10 to 11:20 a.m. at Gladstone High, located at 18800 Portland Avenue.

The event will include refreshments and music performances by the school's band and choir, with recognition of each branch of the service.

PHOTO CAPTION: Veterans salute Gladstone High students at the school's 2013 Veteran's celebration.

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Gladstone Holiday Bazaar to benefit kids in need

The annual Gladstone Bazaar is set for Saturday, November 1, in the cafeteria at Gladstone High School, 18800 Portland Avenue. Sale hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

With over 65 sale tables, the event features affordable prices on fall, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and home décor items, including gifts, food, and personal items. An array of items includes ornaments, wooden decorations, floral creations, soaps and ceramics. The Boy Scouts will be selling beverages, lunch, and treats.

For more information, call Tenna Reed at 503.997.7068. A portion of funds raised will support at-risk students at Gladstone High School.

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Gladstone Schools launches season of giving

In preparation for the holiday season, Gladstone Schools is encouraging community members to do what they can to help others. Several opportunities are available:

Sock & Underwear Drive: The Gladstone Community Clothes Closet, which provides free clothing to youths from birth to 21, requests donations of new packages of socks and underwear for girls and boys. Donations can be delivered to Gladstone High School during school hours, 18800 Portland Avenue.

Canned Food Drive: Gladstone High School is gathering donations of non-perishable foods to support the school's Adopt-a-Family holiday effort. Needed items include peanut butter & honey; pancake mix & syrup; pasta or rice; tuna or canned chicken; oatmeal or other healthy breakfast cereals; or cans of stew, chili, or hearty soups. Donations can be delivered to Gladstone High during school hours or brought to Friday's homecoming football game. Those who bring two cans will save \$1 on admission to the game.

SMART volunteers: Love kids? Love books? Volunteer as a mentor for Start Making a Reader Today (SMART), and you can spend 2 hours a week reading with preschoolers at the Gladstone Center for Children and Families, 18905 Portland Avenue. To apply, call Nathan Buck at 971.634.1607 or email nbuck@getsmartoregon.org.

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Fun Kraxberger event to showcase after school activities

To encourage more students to get involved in clubs, sports, and activities, the Gladstone Youth Coalition plans a fun event to showcase opportunities open to Kraxberger Middle School students.

Research shows that youths who participate in after school activities with an adult mentor are less likely to get involved in drugs and alcohol, and more likely to be successful in school.

The free event is scheduled from 3:10 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4 at Kraxberger Middle School. It includes a giant slide and inflatable obstacle course, 9-Square in the air, and GaGa Ball, with pizza and Italian sodas served at 6 p.m.

Students and parents are invited to find out more about Kraxberger's KAOS afterschool program, the Gearheads Robotics Club, the Board Game Club, teen activities at Gladstone Public Library, intramural sports, and more.

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Andra Breshears honored as an Amazing Kid

Gladstone High School senior Andra Breshears was featured in a special section of the Portland Tribune and Clackamas Review newspapers this week, honored by Pamplin Media as an Amazing Kid along with 21 others in the Portland area.

Andra's accomplishments include organizing the *Gladstone Gives Back* day of service and the high school blood drive, helping with the Senior Center spaghetti feed, supporting the Bike Safety Rodeo, and helping with the Gladstone Easter Egg Hunt. Besides serving two years as the Key Club president, she has also been a reading buddy at John Wetten Elementary. She is also an athlete, playing right field on the school softball team.

"Andra is a remarkable young woman, respected by her peers and by staff," said GHS Vice Principal Patty Alexander. "She is also active in her church, an outstanding student, a mentor for younger students, and a positive role model for all. She is kind, generous, thoughtful, and always willing to help."