



Nadaka Community Festival, June 18th at Nadaka Nature Park. Everyone's Invited!

Fun for the Entire Family. Music, Food and Activities.

A festival to celebrate the accomplishments of WENA and the other partners who have joined together over the past two years.

By: Lee Dayfield

Festivities will include disc golf demonstrations, free hot dogs and soft drinks, music, face-painting and activities for the kids, and a Gresham Fire Department fire truck.

Nadaka's partners include St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, Trust for Public Lands, Audubon Society of Portland, HB Lee Middle School, People for Parks, Metro, City of Gresham, Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian, Columbia Slough Watershed Council, East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, SOLV, Rockwood Neighborhood Association and hundreds of volunteers.

These partners and tireless volunteers have been able to acquire with grants and through the generosity of the Nelson family



Nadaka Nature Park "Nelson" property addition, 175th & Glisan.

the 2 acres adjacent to Nadaka Nature Park on the south commonly referred to as the "Nelson Property".

During that time 36 cleanups have been held, 2 DOGIPOTS® installed, bird houses, trash cans, benches, over 1,000 native plants and trees have been planted, trash and invasives removed, tools and gloves have been purchased for cleanups, barbed wire has been removed on the north and south edges of the park, and the south gate has been opened to the public for the first time.

See **NADAKA**, page 2



Proposal for Disc Golf in Columbia View Park

By: Ty Baker

We have the chance to put a disc golf course in at Columbia view Park.

Have you seen any of the past events in the park on Saturday mornings? This is a great activity for your whole family. There are women, men, elders, and children all enjoying disc golf.

This can be a wonderful activity for all and will get us outside to enjoy the sun and get some exercise.

Join us at the Nadaka Nature Park event June 18th from 12PM-3PM to see a demonstration and learn more about disc golf.

There is a local non-profit organization (Rockwood D.G. Foundation) that is involved with the project along with the Disc Domination Disc Golf Club and the local disc golf shop, Disc Golf Depot. These three organizations, along with 50+ community citizens have been raising funds

and awareness of the project and have submitted a proposal to the city.

The Rockwood Foundation and Disc Golf Depot have been involved in many projects throughout the community including saving the Park Place Coffee Shop, running educational disc golf clinics, and running tournaments throughout the Portland area.

The Columbia View Park disc golf project is **fully funded** by donations from players, volunteers, and local businesses. NO TAXES will be used to install this course.

For questions or to schedule a clinic, you can contact Ty Baker at 503-708-2826. www.rdgf.org, www.discgolfdpot.com. ■

Did you know? There are 3000+ disc golf courses worldwide as of 2010 - 87% are free to play.

Mark Your Calendar!

Wilkes East Neighborhood

NEXT MEETING
August 22, 2011 • 7PM

St Aidan's Church
174th & NE Glisan

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Reynolds School District 2011-12 Budget Decisions Explained

By: Theresa Delaney Davis

Chairwoman, Reynolds School District

Hello Friends: Thank you for inviting me to speak at your April meeting. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing old and new friends and look forward to doing it again. As I explained in my remarks, education funding and budgeting is complex. I will do my best to encapsulate the information.

- We started with a beginning fund balance this year of **\$8.8 M**
- We took action to collect money sweep all our reserves, savings, made some money by refinancing:
 - \$1.0M- Collected money the State owed us from 08-09 for high cost disability reimbursements
 - \$1.6M- Leftover PERS from 08-09 because our 09-10 costs were less than expected
 - \$2.3M- Leftover unemployment reserves from 08-09 because 09-10 costs were less than expected
 - \$0.9M- Gained from refinancing all debt to get a better interest rate and a triple AAA rating
 - **\$1.4M**- Leftover ARRA/Stimulus funds not spent
 - \$7.2M- Added it all to the beginning fund balance: **\$7.2 M**
- For a total increase to the general fund of: **\$16.0 M**

Basically we laid all the money on the table to increase the general fund so it is clear exactly how much, where and what we have. We didn't magically 'find' it. We swept all accounts, collected some money owed, saved money too and put it all in one pot. Now we need to allocate it back out. That means we need to set dollars in categories to pay our bills. The operating costs for the district for one month average \$800,000.

The biggest chunk we will wrestle with is setting aside \$6,748,154 to cover (a) 17.98% increase in PERS and (b) cover the reductions from the State. Schools have been unfunded deeply in the last couple of years and the Feds made up for it but those dollars are going away.

See **REYNOLDS**, page 3

Wilkes East Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Published quarterly. Over 1500 copies distributed throughout Wilkes East.

The Wilkes East Neighborhood Association (WENA) is a non-profit organization in Gresham, Oregon. Deadline for submission is the 10th of the month prior to publication. Submit material to info@wilkeaseastna.org. WENA reserves all rights, and all copy may be edited for clarity and length. PDF version (with active hyperlinks) of this newsletter online at: www.wilkeaseastna.org.

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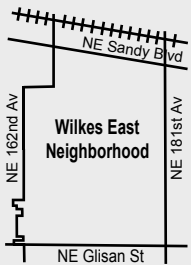
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BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30PM. See [website](http://www.wilkeaseastna.org) for details.

SPECIAL THANKS

- Funding for the Wilkes East Neighborhood Newsletter was paid in part by a generous grant from the [City of Gresham](http://www.cityofgresham.org).
- Printing by [Print Results Inc.](http://www.printresults.com) 503-287-9566
- Meeting hall: [St Aidan's Episcopal Church](http://www.staidan.org)



Dear Neighbors • a message from your WENA President

In April we noticed an increase in "tagging" in our area. Graffiti Removal Kits are available from the City of Gresham. Take a photo before removing the tag. Call the Graffiti Reporting Line, 503-618-3089, or visit wilkeaseastna.org/node/725 for links to graffiti removal and online reporting.

John Deere at 181st & San Rafael will be adding 55,000 sq ft of warehouse to their existing facilities. MedCure will be constructing a new 24,529 sq ft building at 181st & Sandy Blvd. MedCure serves as a link between donors, medical researchers and educators throughout the United States that rely on donors to help them discover cures and develop new and effective treatments and therapies. Though neither company is within WENA's boundaries they will provide jobs and impact our area traffic.

WENA's Annual Meeting will be Monday August 22nd at 7PM at St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 174th & NE Glisan. On the agenda is Josh Stein, Assoc AIA to speak about John Deere's project; an officer from the

Metro Gang Unit to discuss gangs & graffiti in our area and Lydia Corran will speak about the services of "Ride Connection."

A special thanks to all the WENA volunteers. Because of your efforts we have received an \$8,000 matching grant from the City of Gresham. With this grant we will be able to continue the newsletter for another year and have Porta Potty service at our activities and clean-up events.

We are always looking for volunteers to help deliver flyers, newsletters and write articles - especially human interest stories. If you'd like to get involved or have any suggestions please let us know.

Last, a big "thank you" to the donors and supporters listed on the front page of our website for their generous contributions.

Happy Summer everyone!

See you at the Aug 22nd Annual Meeting!

Your neighbor,
Kristen Freiermuth

NADAKA (Page 1)

With all these accomplishments the greatest one has been raising the awareness of Nadaka as an outstanding nature park and the continued partnership building by WENA of businesses, social agencies, and schools in our neighborhood who care about Nadaka and want to help make it even better.

Event sponsors: Metro Nature in Neighborhoods, City of Gresham, Friends of Nadaka Park, Wilkes-East Neighborhood Association, St Aidan's Episcopal Church, Eastrose Unitarian Universalist Church, Lost Coast Designs, MBMC Consulting and Albertsons.

If you'd like more information about Nadaka Nature Park or to become a volunteer visit wilkeaseastna.org and click on the Nadaka Nature Park banner. ■

188th/187th Ave Realignment

The 188th/187th Avenue Realignment project should be completed by July 31st. The realignment creates a direct north-south connection from E Burnside through the Rockwood Triangle and includes a new signalized intersection at 187th & SE Stark for improved safety. ■



Recycling TV's and Computers

Wondering what to do with those broken or unwanted TV's and computers?

Take them to your nearest Goodwill or Salvation Army store or drop-off location and they'll gladly take them off your hands for free!

[Oregon E-Cycles®](http://www.oregonecycles.com) is a free, easy recycling program for computers, monitors and TVs. Just bring seven or fewer computers (desktops and laptops), monitors and TVs at a time to a participating collection site. *Computer peripherals (keyboards, mice, etc.) and other types of electronics are not included.*

GOODWILL STORE

- Gresham, 413 NE Burnside Rd
- San Rafael, 1640 NE 122nd Ave

SALVATION ARMY DROP-OFF

- Wood Village Fred Meyer
- Division Fred Meyer

FREE, LOW COST TRANSPORT



503.226.0700

[door-to-door rides](http://www.wilkeaseastna.org) for seniors and people with disabilities.

Did you know? Aluminum, glass and paper are the three materials most easy to recycle -- and the most important recycling fact is that you can make a difference.

New Max Stations Open May 27th

The new Rockwood/E 188th Ave Max Station platforms are scheduled to open Friday May 27th. The "Rockwood Sunrise" artwork will illuminate as trains arrive and depart the station. The project was funded by a \$3M grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation and \$1.95M from the Gresham Redevelopment Commission. Construction began in May 2010. ■

REYNOLDS (Page 1)

Three years ago schools received 54% of the state budget, two years ago it went down to 47%, and next year is reduced to 39%. We are definitely doing more with a lot, lot less. Until more jobs materialize the state coffers are dangerously low.

As stewards of the public funds, we are worried about spending reserves down to \$1M or \$2M as we have done for years. Our administration is proposing we hold on to reserve amounts, continue to operate lean, and raise expectations of excellence and performance. To do the best job possible to teach our children and maintain our buildings, we will need to be prudent and careful with these one-time dollars.

As you can see, we will be spending all our savings and must be wise. Roughly 20% of our budget comes from property taxes. The rest comes from the State. Extra money for restricted items like transportation, nutrition, special education and English language learning come from the Feds. A couple of years ago Reynolds reduced 160 jobs when the I-Tax went away. This time we will reduce jobs and cut some hours to be efficient since the ARRA/Stimulus money goes away. Other districts are cutting deeply to catch up to what Reynolds did in 2 stages. I'm proud to say we were the only district in the state that did not have to cut anything last year. Moving into the future is much less optimistic.

We are working hard to take care of our children and community. As a board, we are very appreciative of the Wilkes East Neighborhood Association, of our friends, neighbors, staff and community. We thank you for your support. Keep sending us your opinions. Board Members contact information is on our website at reynolds.k12.or.us. If you have any questions, let us know. We will be making decisions in the next month or so. Thank you and invite me again. ■

H.B. Lee Middle School SUN Outdoor Club is making sure that invasive plants don't stand a chance at Nadaka Park

By: Cally Wolfer, Community Involvement Specialist
SUN After School Program

SUN is a non-profit working inside of H.B. Lee Middle School that provides mentoring services, tutoring services, meal programs, and after school clubs, classes, and trips for low income and high risk youth. Our goal is to provide positive after school activities, meals, mentoring, and tutoring in hopes that students will reach their highest potential in spite of adversity.

One of the many classes offered is the Outdoor Club that operates after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Every Thursday, we work in the school garden building beds, planting vegetables, shoveling mulch, and weeding. Students are also learning about native and invasive plants, and there is no better way for them to learn than to dig in and get muddy. Every Tuesday there is a surge of excitement as 15 students pick up shovels, grab gloves, and head to Nadaka Nature Park to remove invasives.

Each week the students look forward to their ventures to Nadaka Nature Park and thoroughly enjoy this little piece of seemingly untouched wilderness just a few blocks from their school.

They have been hard at work removing invasive plants such as English Ivy, Himalayan Blackberry, and Herb Robert.

Nadaka Park is proving to be a much needed reprieve from their tedious day of being inside a building and sitting at a desk. It is a much anticipated treat of the week to run away to Nadaka Park where they play games in the open air, get their hands dirty in rich brown soil, and laugh and run beneath a canopy of rich green leaves. The students are not only giving something back to this planet as they work at Nadaka Nature Park, but they are

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receiving one of sweetest gifts that nature can offer...freedom to grow, discover, and to simply be.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about the SUN after school program at H.B. Lee Middle School please contact Cally Wolfer at 503-255-5686 ext. 8048 or 503-706-2834 or email callyw@metfamily.org.

We are always in need of volunteers to assist in teaching clubs and classes, to mentor, tutor, to do office work, or even to teach their own class! We look forward to hearing from you! Who knows? Maybe you will find yourself exploring the natural world with our outdoor club at Nadaka Nature Park; we would dig that too! ■

Bike Rides for Adults and Families
Join the fun! Free monthly bicycle rides.

Sponsored by the City and Gresham Regional Center Transportation Management Association.

Saturday family group rides. Slow paced. Routes are mostly on bike paths, bike lanes, and low traffic streets. Distance 8 to 10 miles. Dates: 6/11, 7/23, 8/13 and 9/10.

Sunday adult group rides. Moderately paced. Explore Gresham/Troutdale/Sandy River area and East Portland. Distance 15 to 25 miles. Dates: 6/12, 7/24, 8/14 and 9/11.

All rides leave at 10AM from Gresham Main City Park located at Powell Blvd and Main St.

Read more: wilkeseastna.org/node/716 ■

Did you know? Only 3% of the water on Earth is fresh -- the other 97% is salted.

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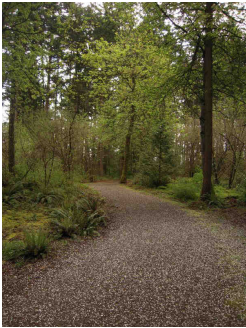
• TOURS 10-3, THIRD SATURDAY •

A lasting vestige of
 East Multnomah County's
 agricultural roots



Zimmerman Park
 17111 NE Sandy Blvd

Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes
 Historical Society. frwhs.org



Nadaka Cherry Blossoms

NADAKA HAPPENINGS IN 2011

By: Lee Dayfield

• On April 16th we held a cleanup with SOLV and 26 volunteers participated including Girl Scout Troop 1485, students from Sam Barlow High School and Mt Hood Community College's Oregon Leadership Institute. The area along the west fence was cleared of invasives. A big "thank you" to Jazzy Bagel, Albertson's at 181st and Fred Meyers for supporting our community events.

• April 22nd was a great celebration of Earth Day at Nadaka with 60 students, teachers and parents from Hollydale Elementary. This was the 3rd year Hollydale Elementary came to Nadaka for a cleanup. They worked on removal of the invasive plant called "Stinky Bob" (Herb Robert) and mulched around new native plantings. After working hard in the morning they spread out blankets in the meadow and ate lunch.

• Eagle Scout Jordan Beehler recently installed two owl boxes in the forest and four bird houses in the meadow. He has been working on this project with the Audubon Society of Portland and City of Gresham staff for a number of months. In addition his Troop 606 repainted the Nadaka turtle and has installed two new cement benches on the meadow. This started as a "bird house" project in our Metro Nature in Neighborhoods grant and Jordan has done an incredible job of coordinating this entire project and getting donations of all the materials used. A really big "thank you" to Jordan and his entire Scout Troop.



Jordan Beehler

• The Audubon Society of Portland held its third annual bird walk through Nadaka on May 27th. Last year the group identified nine different birds on their walk.

• HB Lee's SUN Outdoor Club students have been visiting Nadaka every Tuesday at 4 pm in April and May to learn about native and invasive plants. They are removing invasive ivy and Herb Robert and have had fun with at least one game of race around the trail or hide and seek at each visit.

• On June 18th WENA is organizing its first Nadaka Community Festival. St Aidan's Episcopal Church and Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist are working with WENA to put this event together. From 9AM to Noon there will be a cleanup in

Nadaka Nature Park. From Noon to 3PM there will be a disc golf demonstration, music, games for children, free food, face painting and informational booths for everyone to enjoy.

• A new DOGIPOT® pet waste station with trash can was installed by the Dayfields at the south gate of Nadaka which is now open to the public. You may also have noticed the new wooden bench on the meadow. These items were purchased with Metro Nature in Neighborhoods grant money obtained by WENA. With the opening of the south gate children are now walking through Nadaka on their way to and from HB Lee Middle School. It has also been noticed that people are walking from Glisan into the park with their dogs or for just a leisurely stroll along the trail.

• At the last WENA general meeting in March a presentation was made about moving forward with grant applications for the improvements of Nadaka on the Nelson property to the south. There was unanimous approval by those in attendance to support these efforts. The grants, if received, would be used to support the elements contained in the City's Master Plan such as a community garden, nature based play area, eco lawn. ■

Saturday Family Walks: May-Oct

Free monthly Saturday walks around the greater Gresham area from 9AM to 11AM lead by the Gresham Regional Center Transportation Management Association. Dates: May 14, Jun 11, July 9, Aug 13, Sep 10 and Oct 8, 2011.

Meet at Gresham City Hall Plaza (next to the Gresham City Hall MAX Station). Walks start at 9AM. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a bottle of water. Walks cover a couple miles at a pace suitable for families, take 1½ hours and return to the starting location. Read more: wilkeseastna.org/node/718 ■

Farmer's Markets Reopen for 2011!

Farmer's markets are a fantastic source for fresh, seasonal, locally produced foods and artisan products. For a list of area markets, dates and times visit: wilkeseastna.org/node/741 ■

Save the Date!
Wilkes East Neighborhood Annual Meeting
Monday, August 22, 2011 7PM

- John Deere Expansion Project
- Metro Gang Unit
- Disc Golf Proposal
- Human Solutions
- Election of Officers

See you there!



Follow our progress!
"Friends of Nadaka"
on Facebook

Nadaka Community Festival

At Nadaka Nature Park
 Saturday, June 18, 2011

Cleanup 9 am to Noon
 Food & Fun Noon-3

NE 175th Ave. between Glisan and NE Pacific St.

Disc Golf Demonstration Acoustic Music Jam
 Free Hot Dogs Children's Activities
 Gresham Fire Department's Fire Truck

Fun for the Whole Family

Sponsors:
 Metro Nature in Neighborhoods • City of Gresham • Friends of Nadaka Park
 Wilkes East Neighborhood Association • St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
 Eastrose Unitarian Universalist Church • Lost Coast Designs • MBMC Consulting