



## Youth Non-Profit Expands to East County. Building \$5M 8,500-sq-ft Youth Center on Former PAL Site

Focus on At-risk Youth. Facility to Open Fall 2015.

[Friends of the Children](#), a Portland non-profit, is making a significant investment in the East County community. The non-profit agency has begun the final planning phase of their budgeted \$5 million project—an 8,500-square-foot youth center located next to Pat Pfeiffer Park on NE 172nd Ave.



Friends of the Children youth center design, 424 NE 172nd. Opening Fall 2015

Construction is set to begin in February, and the facility opens in the fall of 2015.

Founded in 1993, Friends of the Children is a mentoring program dedicated to transforming the lives of children in need. Youth are selected in kindergarten and paired with a "Friend," a full-time professional mentor. Youth's benefit from this strength-based relationship through high school graduation.

The organization currently serves over 425 youth, half of whom live east of I-205. According to Friends of the Children's COO, Mark Young, the organization anticipates enrolling many of each year's new

class of kindergartners from East County elementary schools. The program focuses on enrolling youth whose life challenges put them most at-risk of school failure, juvenile delinquency and early parenting.

As a way to support children and families in the surrounding neighborhoods, the [City of Gresham](#) is making available the former [Police Activities League](#) site to Friends of the Children through a 99-year lease for \$1 per year.

See **YOUTH** Page 2

Download our interactive newsletter. Visit [www.wilkeseastna.org/newsletter.htm](http://www.wilkeseastna.org/newsletter.htm)

## Albertina Kerr Historic Louise Home to Receive \$2.7M Update & Addition



New 4,000 sq.ft. 2-story addition to historic Louise Home

Built in 1925 as a juvenile hospital offering maternity services for dependent girls, the historic Albertina Kerr Louise Home will undergo its first major renovation in more than 30 years.

The 3-story 12,000 sq.ft. Georgian style building is the oldest and most recognizable building on the [Albertina Kerr](#) Gresham campus at 722 NE 162nd Ave.

The Louise Home will retain its historic structure and facade and receive a full

interior renovation including seismic, structural and ADA building updates. A modern 2-story 4,000 sq.ft. addition between the two wings on the east side of the building will complete the renovation providing much needed space for Albertina Kerr programs and support staff.

While preliminary work has already begun, the planned start for the renovation is See **LOUISE** Page 4

**Did you know?** Gresham's elevation is 301 ft. The average winter temperature: high 46°F, low: 35°F. Annual snowfall 3".

**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**Wilkes East Neighborhood**

**Fall Meeting**  
**November 17th • 7PM**

**St Aidan's Church**  
**174th & NE Glisan**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- \$5M Youth Center Opening Fall 2015
- Historic Louise Home Renovation
- Reynolds Athletic 2014 Hall of Fame
- Simply Ways to Stay Cozy This Winter
- Zimmerman House Holiday Events
- Nadaka Nature Park/Garden Project

### Reynolds School District 2014 Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, Sat Nov 24, 2014

The [Reynolds School District](#) is proud to announce the 2014 class of inductees to the Athletics Hall of Fame:

- Mike Kostrba (1956-1960): Mike was a three-sport standout in football, wrestling and track and field. During his senior year, he earned a place in the state wrestling meet, all-conference honors in football, and was named to the Shrine All-Star football game. Mike went on to compete in football at Lewis and Clark College where he helped lead the Pioneers to an undefeated season in 1963. Mike went on to serve as the athletic director at Sandy High School.

- Jeff Wiens (1975-2005): Jeff began his career as a health teacher and assistant baseball coach at Reynolds High School in 1975, by the spring of 1978, Jeff had taken over the head coaching duties and led the Lancers to the Columbia Division title. In 1980, Jeff became the athletic director at Reynolds, but in 1986 he coached the softball team to a runner-up finish in the OSAA state championships. Jeff's leadership was invaluable during the consolidation of Reynolds and Columbia High Schools in 1989.

- Daniel Bennett (1971-74): Dan was a standout in football, basketball and track and field. As a junior, Dan led the Lancers to a fourth place finish in the state basketball tournament and was named to the all-tournament team. He also earned league and state honors in both basketball and football during his junior and senior seasons, including first team all-state and honorable mention all-America in basketball. Dan concluded his basketball career at the Oregon Institute of Technology, where he helped the Owls qualify for the NAIA National Championships in 1978.

See **REYNOLDS** Page 3

PO Box 536 • Fairview, OR 97024

**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](mailto:info@wilkeaseastna.org). WENA reserves all rights, and all copy may be edited for clarity and length. PDF of this newsletter with active links online at: [www.wilkeaseastna.org/newsletter.htm](http://www.wilkeaseastna.org/newsletter.htm).

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- President** ..... **Kris Freiermuth**  
krisfreiermuth@wilkeaseastna.org
- Vice President** ..... **Marc Thornsbury**  
marcthornsbury@wilkeaseastna.org
- Secretary** ..... **Greg Hartung**  
secretary@wilkeaseastna.org
- Treasurer** ..... **Billy Simmons**  
treasurer@wilkeaseastna.org
- Land Use Chair** ..... **Curt Duval**  
landuse@wilkeaseastna.org
- Members-at-Large** ..... **Bob Lundbom**  
webmaster@wilkeaseastna.org
- Juanita Null**  
member2@wilkeaseastna.org

**BOARD MEETINGS**

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

**SPECIAL THANKS**

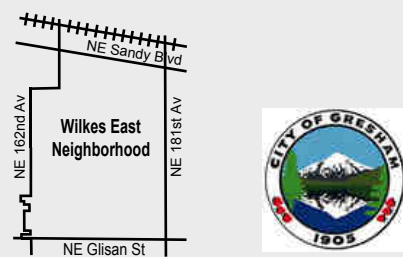
- The Wilkes East Neighborhood newsletter is funded, in part, through a generous grant from the [City of Gresham](#).
- Printing by [Print Results Inc.](#) 503-287-9566
- Meeting hall: [St Aidan's Episcopal Church](#)

**Got an interesting story to share?**

Email it to: [info@wilkeaseastna.org](mailto:info@wilkeaseastna.org), or mail to: PO Box 536 • Fairview, OR 97024

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Get involved. Let us know how you'd like to help. Email [info@wilkeaseastna.org](mailto:info@wilkeaseastna.org) for details.



*Dear Neighbors* • a message from your WENA President

Save the date- Monday, November 17th, is WENA's Annual Meeting, 7PM at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, 174th & NE Glisan Street. Speakers & topics will include: Brenda Allen, Multnomah County Asst. District Attorney on prostitution in Gresham; Kelle Landavazo, Gresham Emergency Management Coordinator shares the City's Emergency Plan; Shaunna Sutcliffe, City of Gresham Residential & Schools Recycling Coordinator discusses the laws governing curbside recycling; Lee Dayfield with Friends of Nadaka will update everyone on the activities at Nadaka Park; and our annual Election of Officers.

You may have noticed considerable activity at Nadaka Nature Park this past couple of months. Dirt was moved and pilings added for the Children's Nature Play area. Several hundred yards of concrete has been poured to create easy-access pathways through the park. Widening of Pacific Street will soon be complete making a much nicer route for Cypress Park residents. There will be a report given at the upcoming meeting about the community gardens and a detailed update on the progress at the park.

On Saturday September 27th the annual Nadaka Community Festival was held. Festi-

tival activities included the Aztec Dancers, Audubon Society educational birds, NW Panman, face painters & craft volunteers. For the 4th straight year Albertsons fed everyone in attendance, serving 150 hot dogs & buns plus sodas & chips. Thank you Albertsons staff & managers!! When you shop at Albertsons please give them a "high five" or "thumbs up" for their continued assistance with this event. They are a big community supporter!

As a reminder- If your neighborhood does not have a neighborhood watch group, we encourage you to consider forming one. It's an excellent way to get to know your neighbors and keep your neighborhood safe. Let us know by email or phone if you would like any assistance!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who volunteer to serve WENA as well as those who take time to read the newsletter & check out our website [wilkeaseastna.org](http://wilkeaseastna.org).

And finally, I want to wish everyone a joyous and safe holiday season.

Your Friend & Neighbor,

*Kristen Freiermuth*

**YOUTH (Page 1)**

"The new facility will allow Friends to better serve their East County youth where they live," says Young. "Youth told us what they wanted was a home-like and calm environment, and that's how we've designed the building."

Demolition of the previous building was underway when a recent fire broke out at the site. "This was a very harrowing moment for our project, since the existing gymnasium is included in the plans for our new facility," Young explains. "Thankfully, the [Gresham Fire Department](#) responded very quickly. We've been working closely with the City so they were aware of our plans and were able to save the gym and our project."

According to Young, the new space will also serve the wider community through collaboration with multiple service organizations which include [Boys and Girls Club](#), [Rosemary Anderson/POIC](#) and [Rockwood Pathways Collaborative](#). Through a significant investment of \$250,000 by the [Windermere Foundation](#), the space will include an integrated, centralized learning kitchen

leveraged as a place for community activities in partnership with [Zenger Farm](#) and the [National College of Natural Medicine](#).

"We are pleased to welcome Friends of the Children to the City of Gresham. This highly respected organization will fill a crucial gap in services for children in our community, and we are thrilled to partner with them," says Gresham Mayor Shane Bemis.

President of Friends of the Children, Terri Sorensen, says the project demonstrates the organization's commitment to serving those most in need: "We serve the most vulnerable children, wherever they may be. Investing in a strong East County collaborative effort will improve the lives of our children and, just as importantly, the neighborhoods in which they live." ■

**Thanksgiving is a time to reflect**

Take the time to give thanks for all that's good in your own life -- and to give to others who may not share the same good fortune this holiday season.

[info@rideconnection.org](mailto:info@rideconnection.org)

**503.226.0700**

*Providing responsive, accessible transportation for seniors and people with disabilities at no cost*

[www.rideconnection.org](http://www.rideconnection.org)

**REYNOLDS** (Page 1)

• Dan Baker (1972-2006): Dan started his teaching career in 1972 at Rockwood Middle School as a science teacher and coach of three sports: football, wrestling and baseball. In 1978, he moved to Columbia High School and continued to coach as an assistant in the football and wrestling programs. In 1984, he was named the head football coach at Columbia, and led the Chargers until the schools consolidated in 1989. Dan moved into administration in 1993 and continued his unyielding support of extra-curricular activities throughout his career.

**Banquet Info**

This year's banquet will be held Saturday, November 22, 2014, at the Gresham National Guard Armory. The evening will begin with a no-host social and silent auction at 5:30pm, followed by a sit-down dinner. After dinner is served, the inductees will be introduced and recognized for their tremendous contributions to the Reynolds School District athletics program. This year's banquet sponsors are [Barclay Events](#) and the [Skyland Pub](#).

Tickets for this year's banquet are \$30 per plate, with reserved tables of eight available for \$240. Tickets may be purchased by contacting Shauna Stanfill at: [rhs\\_athleticboosters@yahoo.com](mailto:rhs_athleticboosters@yahoo.com) Visit us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/ReynoldsHallofFame?ref=hl> ■

**Nadaka Nature Park & Garden Project**

*By Lee Dayfield, Friends of Nadaka*

Wow, 2014 has certainly been the most amazing year yet at Nadaka. Construction began in August on the south two acre site next to [St. Aidan's Episcopal Church](#). At the time of this article the community garden has been plowed and irrigation installed. The covered picnic shelter should be complete by newsletter distribution. The north end of the nature based play area is finished and the rest is halfway complete. Construction should be complete by the end of November.

On July 19th the 2nd Walk & Talk took place. Three former [Camp Fire Girls](#) shared stories about their days at Nadaka. This Spring we hope to hold a Camp Fire Girls Tea fundraiser. If you were a Camp Fire Girl or would like to be involved in this event contact Lee at 503-998-1044 or [leewilkeseastna@hotmail.com](mailto:leewilkeseastna@hotmail.com).

So far this year there have been 478 volunteers working at Nadaka for a total of 1,286 volunteer hours! These volunteer hours are used as match for the grants we have received. In addition to groups mentioned in the last WENA newsletter [Springwater Trail High School](#) students, [Confluence Environmental Center AmeriCorp](#) members and [East Hill Church](#) have volunteered at Nadaka.

[The Oregon Tradeswomen](#) have built two sheds, four ADA raised beds and eight berry trellises for the community garden. During their seven week project St. Aidan's generously made their facilities available to the women. Thank you so much St. Aidan's.

[Cedar Mills](#), the City of Gresham's general contractor on the job has been working really well with the Nadaka Team of [Verde](#), Oregon Tradeswomen and [Belkor Log Works](#). This project is truly a team effort. Just a reminder that grant funds are paying for the building of this park from [Metro](#), [East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District](#) and [Oregon Parks & Recreation](#), not City funds.

Some additional interesting facts about this one of a kind citizen driven project:

- Logs for the longhouse play structure were donated by [Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation](#).
- All other wood elements are from Douglas Firs removed from Nadaka because of laminated root rot.
- The gravel removed from the easement road that was down the middle of the two acres was reused onsite.
- Sustainable juniper from [Northwest Sustainable Wood](#) was used for the ADA boxes and trellises.
- Boulders for the play area were from the Rockwood Police Station on NE 181st when it was being built.
- It has provided jobs and job training for women and minorities through Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc, and Verde.

In July the Friends of Nadaka received a \$61,000 [Nature in Neighborhoods grant](#) from Metro. This will be used to hire a Nadaka Project Coordinator in January 2015. It will also enable us to have programs for youth at Nadaka next summer. The [Columbia Slough Watershed Council](#) and [Audubon Society of Portland](#) will take the lead on these programs. [Outgrowing Hunger](#) will also provide some classes around the community garden. An Ambassador Program is planned to create more eyes on the park as well as environmental education.

The Audubon Society of Portland through its [TALON program](#) (TALON stands for Teach, Advocate, Lead, Observe, and Nurture) has created a "Birds of Nadaka" brochure which should be available soon. Audubon's Conservation Education Coordinator Gladys Ruiz staff's Audubon's Eastside Office at [Leach Botanical Garden](#) along with Urban Conservationist Jim Labbe.

October 6th was the first day the new group of [HB Lee SUN](#) students went to Nadaka. They will be going every Wednesday after school, weather permitting. The students learn about the plants and trees in the forest and remove invasives. St. Aidan's is again providing snacks for the students each Wednesday.

Work began October 16th on NE Pacific with removal of the chain link fence. A sidewalk will be installed, rain gardens on the north side, ADA ramps at the corners and the entry improved. It is now beginning to look like a real park that the neighborhood can be proud of. The Pacific Street project is being funded with Federal grant dollars.

The [Friends of Nadaka](#) and St. Aidan's Episcopal Church wrote letters of support for the City's [HEAL](#) Cities Small Grant application for a pedestrian crossing to hopefully slow traffic down along this stretch of NE Glisan making it safer to cross. The grant was awarded and the crossing will go in next year.

On October 25th a No Ivy Day Event was held at Nadaka. This was organized by the City of Gresham and Friends of Nadaka to coincide with the [City of Portland's 2014 No Ivy Day](#) which they have held once a year. This is the first time a group in Gresham has participated. Another first for Nadaka.

The Friends of Nadaka still need contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations to continue to build this project. [Columbia Slough Watershed Council](#) (CSWC) is the Friends' fiscal agent and they are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization so any donations are tax deductible. Grant funds have covered most major construction but contributions are still needed to cover things like community garden tools, signage, bike racks, benches, printing, copying, paint for sheds, etc.

The community garden will be run by Adam Kohl of [Outgrowing Hunger](#). If you are interested in a plot or volunteering contact Adam at 971-231-4191 or [adam@outgrowinghunger.org](mailto:adam@outgrowinghunger.org).

For Nadaka updates visit [friendsofnadaka.org](http://friendsofnadaka.org), check out Friends of Nadaka on Facebook or visit [wilkeseastna.org](http://wilkeseastna.org). ■

**Celebrate An Old Fashion Christmas**



*If you've enjoyed the Zimmerman House during the day, you should see her at night!*

**An Evening at the Zimmerman Heritage Farm**  
 17111 NE Sandy Blvd  
 Gresham, OR  
[www.echohistory.org](http://www.echohistory.org)

The historic Zimmerman House was built in 1874 and was home to three generations of the Zimmerman Family. Their furnishings and personal articles remain in this two-story Victorian home, including children's toys, games, Christmas post-cards, and winter clothing.

This year's evening tours will be:

- Tuesday, December 9th 3pm-8pm
- Tuesday, December 16th 3pm-8pm

Parking is extremely limited, so please consider car pooling.

Please reserve the time you'd like to visit the house, and allow approximately 45 minutes to explore both floors of this wonderful Victorian-era home. For reservations go to:

<https://zimmermanheritagefarm.eventbrite.com>

Admission is free, but the suggested donation for this special event is \$5 per person 18 and older.

For more information call 503-261-8078, or email [info@echohistory.org](mailto:info@echohistory.org), or visit [www.echohistory.org](http://www.echohistory.org).

Zimmerman House will also open on Saturday, December 20th from Noon-4pm. Reservations not required. ■

**Freeze the Grease, Save a Bundle**

After big holiday meals, no one likes to be stuck doing the clean-up. But if you aren't careful with leftover gravy, pan drippings and sauces a grease-clogged drain could ruin your holiday and cost you a bundle.

When fats, oils and grease are poured down the drain, they stick to the inside of pipes causing messy sewer backups and expensive cleanup and repair.

The simple solution: Pour the grease into a can, freeze it, and toss the can into the trash. ■

**LOUISE** (Page 1)

December 2014, with project completion scheduled for September 2015.

Albertina Kerr's campus is currently undergoing a major revitalization. This fall the non-profit recently celebrated the completion of a 6,000 square foot expansion of the Crisis Psychiatric Care unit, a new 4,500 square foot Intensive Treatment group home and the addition of a second neighborhood group home nearby. To complete the 10-acre campus overhaul, the historic Louise Home will be expanded and renovated into a modern hub for community-based child mental health services and foster care.

The completed Campus for Children's Mental Health will bring together, at a single site, leading children's mental health practitioners, critical program services and facilities that are Albertina Kerr's hallmark.

To learn more about Kerr's services visit [AlbertinaKerr.org](http://AlbertinaKerr.org). ■

**Tips for Staying Cozy this Winter**



After a hot summer, temperatures are finally dropping—and winter is just around the corner. Grab a coffee or a hot apple cider, put on your favorite flannel, and cuddle up to your sweetie because we've got you covered when it comes to the best tips for keeping toasty indoors.

Take advantage of winter sun. Yes, there is sun, even in Oregon winter! When it's shining, be sure to open south-facing window curtains, drapes, and blinds during the day, so the sunlight can naturally heat your home. Close window coverings at night to keep the heat in.

Cover drafty windows. Tape a do-it-yourself, clear, plastic film to the inside of your window frames. Make sure the plastic is sealed tightly to the frame. Installing window treatments, such as blinds, drapes, or shades, can also help reduce heat loss.

Adjust the temperature. Set the thermostat 10 to 15 degrees cooler when you're not home to use less energy and lower utility bills. Lowering the temperature slightly at night and adding an extra blanket to the bed keeps the whole family extra cozy.

Give your home a free check up from Clean Energy Works. Your home does a lot for you—everyone needs a check up every once in a while. We'll give you a complete look at all the ways you can improve your home: becoming more efficient, creating comfort, providing better air quality, and even being safe during an earthquake. Take an online eValuation, and use HomeScope to see what your neighbors are doing for their homes—with all kinds of information on rebates and financing available when you're ready for a home upgrade. It's all available at: [www.cleanenergyworksoregon.org](http://www.cleanenergyworksoregon.org) ■

**Did You Know?** Plugged-in cell phone chargers and other wall transformers consume electricity even when not in use.

*Save the Date!*

**Wilkes East Neighborhood Annual Meeting**  
**Monday, November 17th, 7PM**

St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 174th & Glisan

- Increase in Prostitution in Gresham
- What is Gresham's Emergency Plan
- Laws governing Curbside Recycling
- New Changes at Nadaka Nature Park
- Election of Officers

*See you there!*

**Nextdoor**  
 Have You Signed Up?  
 Nextdoor.com is the neighborhood-centric social network for you, your neighbors and your community. It's the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online. And it's free! [Sign-up today!](http://Sign-up today!)