



Shelters Quickly Fill As Portland Drops Homeless On Gresham's Doorstep

New Shelters On Stark, Burnside and Glisan Offer Hope for East County's Homeless. More needed.

Homeless. You see it everywhere. Not just downtown on skid row, but on local streets, pushing old shopping carts full of belongings or camping in the bushes. Where did they come from? Why are there so many?

Ten years ago, Portland said it would end homelessness. Today thousands still sleep outside every night in the metro area. Help is everywhere, housing is not.

As the City of Portland prepares to clear-out the hundreds of homeless campers along the Springwater Corridor Trail social service agencies and suburban communities like Gresham brace for the potential influx of homeless individuals moving into East Multnomah County.

This year alone three new homeless shelters with a total of 468 beds have opened within a 2.5 mile area between 122nd Ave and 162nd Ave as part of [Multnomah County's "A Home for Everyone" program](#) to aid the homeless.



In February 2016 a year-round family shelter opened at [16015 SE Stark](#), operated by [Human Solutions](#), with space for 134 guests offering a kitchen, showers, laundry, computer lab, and services. In late July a second year-round family shelter opened in the Hansen Building (former Multnomah County Sheriffs office) at [122nd & NE Glisan](#) with space for 200 adults offering service by day and shelter at night. And early this fall, a 134 bed year-round women's only shelter will open at [16141 E Burnside](#) operated by Multnomah County and Human Solutions offering overnight shelter and services.

All but a handful of these beds are taken, and many more are still needed.

See **HOMELESS** Page 2



Waterside Apartments Selects Final Project Design

After nearly a year of public input and design changes the final design for the proposed Waterside Apartments project at [16539 NE Halsey](#) is ready to be submitted to the City of Gresham for approval.

Having addressed earlier concerns SGS Development is confident the new design will be a welcome addition to Wilkes East.

wilkeaseastna.org

Craig Smith, Director of Development, SGS Development, LLC will discuss the Waterside project at WENA's August 22 meeting. Bring your questions. ■

Download this newsletter with active links at: wilkeaseastna.org/newsletter.htm

**Mark Your Calendar!
Wilkes East Neighborhood**

**Summer Meeting
August 22nd • 7PM**

**Albertina Kerr • Bldg "CI" (H)
722 NE 162nd Av**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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- Wilkes Elementary Design Chosen
- 6th Nadaka Festival, Sat Aug 20th
- WENA Summer Meeting, Aug 22, 7PM

Nadaka Happenings Summer Edition

By *Monica McAllister*
Nadaka Nature Park Coordinator

Summer is in full swing at [Nadaka Nature Park](#)! The community garden is brimming with life, families are enjoying the play area, and the forest provides a welcome sanctuary from the heat for wildlife and community members alike. 'Friends of Nadaka' has been busy as bees the past few months providing environmental education activities, community events, and stewardship opportunities for our neighbors, schools, and partnering organizations.

We are most excited about the upcoming **Sixth Annual Nadaka Nature Park Festival** that will take place **August 20th from 12-3pm**. This family friendly event will include a visit from the [Audubon Society of Portland's Education Birds](#), crafts, games, face painting, free hot dogs and drinks, dance and music performances. Various partnering organizations will have information booths and fun hands on activities for the whole family. We would love to have volunteers from the Wilkes East neighborhood to help with the event. If you are interested please contact Monica, the Nadaka Coordinator. We can't wait to see everyone at this amazing event!

Another great way to get involved at Nadaka is to help restore a healthy habitat at Nadaka Nature Park with [SOLVE for the Beach and Riverside Cleanup](#) event on **September 24th 9-12pm!** We will be removing invasive species such as English ivy and Himalayan blackberry from the forest. Tools, gloves, training and light refreshments will be provided.

See **NADAKA** Page 3

Wilkes East Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Published three times a year. 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@wilkeeastna.org. WENA reserves all rights, and all copy may be edited for clarity and length. Download a PDF of this newsletter online at: www.wilkeeastna.org/newsletter.htm.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Chair **Kris Freiermuth**
chair@wilkeeastna.org
- Vice Chair **Greg Hartung**
vicechair@wilkeeastna.org
- Secretary **(Vacant)**
secretary@wilkeeastna.org
- Treasurer **Billy Simmons**
treasurer@wilkeeastna.org
- Land Use **(Vacant)**
landuse@wilkeeastna.org
- At-Large **Bob Lundbom**
webmaster@wilkeeastna.org
Juanita Null
member2@wilkeeastna.org

BOARD MEETINGS

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

SPECIAL THANKS

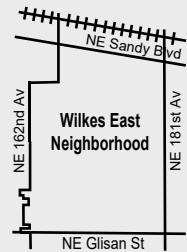
- The Wilkes East Neighborhood newsletter is funded, in part, through a generous grant from from the [City of Gresham](#).
- Printing by [Print Results Inc.](#) 503-287-9566
- Meeting hall: [Albertina Kerr](#) - 722 NE 162nd Av

Got an interesting story to share?

Email it to: info@wilkeeastna.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@wilkeeastna.org for details.



Dear Neighbors • a message from your WENA President

NEWS ITEMS

Like all of you, we've been consumed by the news of homeless shelters being opened in our area and concern for our community. Join us Monday, August 22nd 7PM as the project coordinator for Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury's office discusses homeless projects in our area.

We were a bit shocked by the news of printing giant RR Donnelley's decision to permanently close its plant at 17401 NE Halsey St, after so many years in our community. Cuts began around Aug. 1. The closure is a loss of 113 jobs.

LAND USE

Land-use continues to take up much of our time. Here's a run down of those items:

The Waterside project at 165th & NE Halsey has begun land preparation. The board met with SGS Development LLC developer Chet Antonsen & project coordinator Craig Smith during the July Board meeting. A public-app meeting was held Wednesday August 2, where Smith gave those in attendance an update & took questions about the project. Craig Smith will speak at our upcoming August Public Meeting about their progress & offer a timeline for the project.

We added one (1) new land-use item to our list. Rick's Fencing (on 201st & SE Stark) has requested a zoning change for the vacant property at 178th & NE Halsey (west of the Arco station). They are proposing an 8,400 SF retail commercial building with outside storage yard. Other land-use items in progress are: Courtyard by Marriott, NE 181 near exit 13; Christensen Electric at 172 & NE Sacramento; Columbia Care at 17720 NE Halsey; Wilkes East Elementary School; Chevron Station project at 181st & NE Sandy Blvd; and Stark Firs Apartments at 641 NE 162nd.

CODE ISSUES

Code issues continue to be a problem. Quite a few illegally parked cars in the bike

lanes have been noted along NE Halsey St between 162nd & 181st, as well as along 172nd between NE Glisan & NE Halsey. We encourage you to take pictures to send along when reporting to the NET group (*Neighborhood Enforcement Team*) at the City of Gresham. Report abandoned cars, blocked driveways, graffiti, foliage blocking line of sight at intersections & side streets, and stolen property to 503.618.2866, online at greshamoregon.gov/services/mygresham or download the Free "MyGresham" app for Apple or Android. Using "MyGresham" is every bit as good as a phone call.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

• **Monday August 22, 2016 7-9PM**

WENA Summer Public Meeting

Albertina Kerr Campus, 722 NE 162nd Ave, Training Bldg (formerly Bldg H). From 162nd & NE Holiday go east on Holiday to 165th, turn right, go 1 block, turn right onto campus. There is plenty of parking (there will be other meetings at the same time at other locations on campus). AGENDA: Craig Smith, Project Dir SGS Development LLC, update on Waterside apartments 165th & NE Halsey St; Elizabeth Currie, Project Coordinator for Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury's office, Homeless projects in our area.

• **Saturday August 20, 2016 12-3PM**

6th Annual Nadaka Community Festival

Nadaka Nature Park, 175h & NE Glisan.

• **Monday November 17, 2016 7-9PM**

WENA'S Fall Public Meeting

Albertina Kerr Campus, 722 NE 162nd Ave, Training Bldg (formerly Bldg H)..

As always, thank you to all who donate their time & energy toward making Wilkes East a better community.

See you around the neighborhood!

Your Friend & Neighbor,

Kristen Freiermuth

HOMELESS (Page 1)

Several area residents have expressed concerns about the concentration of shelters within such a small geographic area and wonder how this new homeless population will impact the already stretched social services in our area.

Join us Monday August 22nd 7PM when Liz Currie, Senior Policy Advisor, Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury, discusses the homeless crisis and answers your questions at WENA's Summer Meeting,

Albertina Kerr, 722 NE 162nd Ave Bldg Cl. Plan to attend this lively discussion. ■

Newsletter Volunteers Needed

Looking for a way to create positive change in your community?

Volunteer to help with the Wilkes East Neighborhood newsletter. We need writers and editors for content preparation. Bring your ideas and energy.

Contact info@wilkeeastna.org

info@rideconnection.org



503.226.0700

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

www.rideconnection.org

NADAKA (Page 1)

Dress to work in natural areas: long pants, brimmed hat, and closed-toe sturdy shoes. Please bring a water bottle and a friend! Businesses, schools and community groups are welcome! Activities include: invasive plant removal, litter cleanup, working in the community garden. To register for the event go to: <http://www.solveoregon.org/get-involved/events/nadaka-nature-park-cleanup>. This event is a great way to give back to the community and meet others in the neighborhood with similar interests.

The past few months have been an exciting time at Nadaka. Since March, we have partnered with [Audubon Society of Portland](#) to host the “[Welcome Back Vulture Day](#)” event, five Bird Walks and Jim Labbe led a *Bird Walk for Russian Speakers*. [Ivy Watson, City of Gresham](#), and [Heather Buley, Backyard Habitat Certification Program](#), led a *Plant ID Walk*. [Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon](#) and [Growing Gardens](#) taught a free *Container Gardening Workshop* at the park for community members. Our Second Annual *Nadaka Tea Fundraiser* in June secured approximately \$1,000 for park programming. Partners and community members donated items such as refreshments, space, tea tableware as well as jewelry, home goods, gift cards, and more as raffle items. This event was a wonderful way for community members to meet their neighbors and support Nadaka Nature Park.

Other events include “*Tadpole Tales*” for 2-5 year olds, a *Nature Art Camp* June 20-24th, with [St. Aidan's Episcopal Church](#), and three day camps at Nadaka with games, education, art, and gardening in partnership with [Latino Network](#). [People, Places, and Things](#) came to Nadaka for their “*English in the Park*” field trip for the “*Exploring Nature, Exploring Language*” program. [Montavilla United Methodist Church's M&M's Walking Group](#) had a tour and plant walk at the park. Two bilingual *Nature Discovery Days* were held at the park for moms and children under the age of seven with [Mount Hood Community College's "Early Head Start" group](#) and the “*Healthy Families*” group. ‘Friends of Nadaka’ has also worked consistently with three [SUN](#) programs to provide environmental education, stewardship opportunities, and a safe place for students to explore and play both in the classroom and at the park.

Stewardship at Nadaka was robust with 5 public events and 4 private events to remove invasive species, planting natives, litter removal, mulching and general park maintenance in the forest, garden, front two acres, and nature based play area. The largest stewardship event in the history of Nadaka was during [City of Gresham's 3rd Annual Green & Clean Event Day of Service](#) with 152 volunteers. We also partnered with SOLVE for our Community Planting Event, SOLVE It for Earth Day Cleanup, and a stewardship day for the SUN youth from [HB Lee Middle School](#), [Glenfair](#), [Salish Ponds](#), and [Hartley Elementary](#) schools. Private stewardship events were held for the TIVNU youth group, the [MESD/ Wheatley School](#) (trains disabled individuals for future employment opportunities), US Bank, and [Portland Adventist Academy](#).

We have been fortunate to have a team of wonderful interns at the park the past two months. This year we have had two SummerWorks interns, four Talon Apprentices from Audubon Society of Portland, and 8 STRYVE ([Striving to Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere](#)) helping with environmental education, camps, stewardship, gardening, and outreach at the park. This wonderful

group of young professionals are making a huge difference in their community and gaining experience for future job opportunities. Please feel free to stop by the park and tell them what a wonderful job they are doing!

Looking for a way to create positive social and environmental change in your community? Volunteer at an event or **become a Nadaka Ambassador**. Friends of Nadaka is currently accepting applications for Nadaka Ambassador positions. For more information about the Ambassador Program and Nadaka updates, please visit www.friendsofnadaka.org, “*Friends of Nadaka*” on Facebook, or wilkeseastna.org. For picnic reservations, donations, or providing environmental education to your school, please contact Monica at monica@friendsofnadaka.org or call at 503-956-8558. Help us fulfill our mission to nurture nature, food, and families in West Gresham. We look forward to seeing everyone at the park this summer! ■

Wilkes Elementary School Design Selected

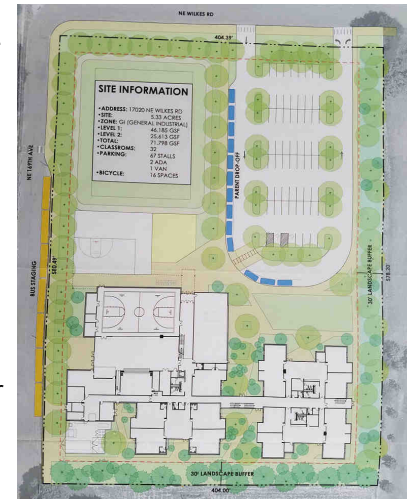


After months of community outreach and public input the Reynolds School District has chosen a design for the new Wilkes Elementary School located at 169th & NE Wilkes Rd, Portland OR.

In 2015 Reynolds School District No.7 completed a *Facility Master Plan* which called for the replacement of the Wilkes Elementary School building on the current site because the existing school (which is the oldest in the district, and dates to the late 1880's) was determined to be a high seismic risk with cost to repair it outweighing the cost to replace it. In May 2015 voters approved a \$125 million bond to fund this and other district projects.

The new 72,000 SF two-story school will be located in the playfield south of the current building on the 5.33 acre site. The current school will remain in operation until the new building is ready for occupancy.

The new school has 31 classrooms with capacity for 588 students, and parking for 8 large buses, 4 small buses, 67 cars and 16 bicycles. ■





BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

Seeking motivated, passionate, creative individuals to join our Board

Share your point of view and help shape our neighborhood Together WE can make a difference!

Join the Board

Did you know you can become a [Member-at-Large](#) at any time? Being a Board member is a great opportunity and experience for any neighbor, whether you've been on a board before or you're considering the idea for the first time. No experience required.

New members will serve for 1-year with a dynamic, enthusiastic, committed group of other volunteers who work hard on behalf of this neighborhood. Put your talents to work too!

Board members are asked to commit to about 5 hours a month of volunteer time, including attending monthly Board meetings (4th Monday of every month 6:30-8pm) and at least one committee meeting per month. To learn more about this exciting opportunity email info@wilkeseastna.org.



Have You Prepared Yet?

"Subduction zone earthquakes off Oregon, Washington more frequent than previous estimates"

Oregon State University, Aug 5, 2016

CORVALIS, OR - [A new OSU study](#) suggests massive earthquakes on northern sections of the Cascadia Subduction Zone, affecting areas of the Pacific Northwest with major population centers such as Portland, Tacoma, Seattle and Vancouver BC, are somewhat more frequent than previously believed. The chance of one occurring within the next 50 years is also slightly higher than previously estimated.

A section of the zone from Newport to Astoria, Oregon, was previously believed to rupture on average every 400-500 years, that average has now been reduced to 350 years.

The last major earthquake on the Cascadia Subduction Zone occurred in January 1700, more than 315 years ago.

Are you ready? You're not? Let's get strated.

Visit wilkeseastna.org/node/2120 for valuable resources.

Kristen Freiermuth

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 PORTLAND, OR 97230-6103
 (O) (503) 255 7685 (FAX) (503) 255 8536

6TH ANNUAL NADAKA COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Saturday, August 20th
 12:00-3:00PM
 Nadaka Nature Park



17615 NE Glisan Street
 Gresham, OR 97230

NE Pacific St.
 NE 172nd Ave
 NE 178th Ave
 NE 181st Ave

NE Glisan St
 NE 176th

Tri-met bus #25
 25-Glisan/Rockwood

Free Family Friendly Nature Festival

- Live Music
- Aztec Dancers
- Scavenger Hunt
- Live Education Birds
- Games & Crafts
- Community Organizations
- Face Painting
- Free Hot Dogs
- While supplies last

Nadaka Nature Park 503-956-8558 *Hablamos Español* monica@friendsofnadaka.org

Celebrating 25 years!

RACE FOR THE CURE

September 18

To register visit: komenoregon.org

Register Now

Got a tip or story to share?

If you've got an interesting tip, story or article idea that you'd like to share email it to: info@wilkeseastna.org

Save the Date!

Wilkes East Neighborhood Summer Meeting
 Monday, August 22nd, 7-9PM

Albertina Kerr • 722 NE 162nd Av
 Building "C1" (small bldg, center north)

- Waterside Apartments Design
- Homeless Projects in Our Area
- Neighborhood news & update

See you there!

Nextdoor

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