



Nadaka Nature Park and Gardens, Grand Opening Celebration Saturday April 4, 2015 10am-12pm

Natural play areas, picnic shelter, and community gardens complete the park

By Monica McAllister

Nadaka Nature Park Coordinator

The year 2015 is off to a great start at Nadaka Nature Park and Garden. The final stages of the park's natural play area and community garden are progressing beautifully. As of February, [Verde](#) has finished seeding the eco-lawn and planting of hundreds of native plants. In addition, ADA ramps into the play area, wooden benches, and berry trellises around the community garden have been completed. The parking lot of St. Aidan's has recently received some much need TLC and has been partially paved with gravel to make it more accessible to the nature play area.

A big thanks to [Alpha High School](#) students who planted over 400 hundred plants in the rain gardens along NE Pacific Street February 23rd. The project was funded by [Federal CDBG](#) funds and will



New picnic shelter at Nadaka Nature Park and Gardens, 176th & NE Glisan

be a great tool for teaching the community about how rain gardens work to improve the health of our watershed. Alpha High School will also be visiting Nadaka every other Tuesday to do stewardship and educational activities starting March 3rd. If you are in the area come and let them know they are doing a great job.

Alpha HS is not the only school who will be consistently at Nadaka this spring. [HB Lee SUN](#) students will continue to visit Nadaka once a week to learn more about plant, animals and forest ecology.

See **NADAKA** Page 3

Habitat for Humanity Begins Construction of Glisan Gardens



Habitat for Humanity Glisan Gardens, 25 energy efficient homes available Dec 2015

By Sasha Davis

Habitat for Humanity Portland

This month, [Habitat for Humanity](#) Portland/Metro East breaks ground on Glisan Gardens, located at 165th and northeast Glisan Street, in the Rockwood neighborhood.

The City of Gresham helped Habitat purchase the large 1.64-acre lot, along with Housing and Urban Development HOME and SHOP program funds. The site will become 25 energy efficient homes to local, hardworking families who build and then buy their homes with a 0%-interest mortgage.

wilkeeastna.org

To date, Habitat has built over 70 homes in and around the Rockwood area, where the City has completed a number of projects to improve streets, help small businesses and enhance parks and other community amenities. Habitat's consistent home building efforts in Rockwood are stabilizing classrooms and contributing to the larger effort aimed at making an attractive high quality neighborhood for families.

The first phase of Glisan Gardens includes 12 homes and is underway to be completed and sold by December of this year. Families have already been selected for this phase. The second phase will include the final 13 homes. The Open Application Round for this phase is currently scheduled to begin in December of 2015.

To learn more about the selection process for phase two of Glisan Gardens, contact Reihanna DaRosa, Homeownership Program Manager at 503-287-9529 x19, or Reihanna@habitatportlandmetro.org

See **HABITAT** Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Nadaka Nature Park, Grand Opening
- Habitat, Glisan Gardens Construction
- Reynolds Approves \$125M Bond
- HB Lee SUN School, Improving Lives
- Earth Day Recycling Event, Apr 18th
- Gresham DMV Now At 181st & Halsey
- Neighborhood Clean-Up, Jun 27th

2015 Reynolds School Bond Seeks Voter Support on May 19

By Valerie Tewksbury

Citizens for Safe Reynolds Schools

Measure 26-143 asks Reynolds School District voters to approve a capital bond authorizing \$125 million in construction on the May 19, 2015 ballot. This bond is projected to cost \$1.56 per \$1000, the same tax rate as our patrons' 2014 Property Tax Bill.

The completion of these projects would improve the learning environment for thousands of our students. Modern spaces cost less to operate and the savings can be used to make additional improvements throughout the district. The Bond Projects include:

Safety & Security Upgrades at All Schools

All buildings will have improvements to safety and security, including secure controlled access entrances that require visitors to go through the office to enter the building, automatic door locks on exterior doors, and improved lighting and cameras.

See **REYNOLDS** Page 2

Did you know? The average American produces more than four pounds of garbage per day. Over the course of a year, that is more than 1,600 pounds of garbage. person.

Mark Your Calendar!
Wilkes East Neighborhood

Spring Meeting
March 23rd • 7PM

St Aidan's Church
174th & NE Glisan

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](http://www.wilkeeastna.org) for details.

SPECIAL THANKS

- The Wilkes East Neighborhood newsletter is funded, in part, through a generous grant from 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)

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

Residential street sweeping returns to Wilkes East the second Monday each month, March through December. Remember to remove curbside objects to your driveway. And please don't put leaves or yard debris in the street.

The Grand Opening of Nadaka Nature Park & Garden will be held Saturday April 4th, 10am to 12pm. This event marks the official opening of the newly developed south two acres of the park. Public officials, project partners, and Audubon of Portland will be on-hand. Bring the kids and explore your new park!

Monday March 23rd is WENA's Spring Public Meeting, 7pm at St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 174th & NE Glisan. Guest speakers include: Monica McAllister, Nadaka Nature Park & Gardens; Habitat for Humanity, Glisan Gardens project; Oregon Department of Transportation, Summer road projects; Eastrose Unitarian Church, proposed land-use zoning change.

Recent weeks have seen an uptick in area crime. DeLeon's Tortilleria Y Tienda, 162nd & NE Glisan was burglarized early February 8th. Homes burglaries were reported in Sandstone and on NE Hassalo St. Cypress Park had several car break-ins. And, fresh graffiti has been seen along NE 162nd Ave.

As a reminder- If your neighborhood does not have a [Neighborhood Watch](http://www.neighborhoodwatch.org) 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 want 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. Visit our website at [wilkeeastna.org](http://www.wilkeeastna.org).

See you around the neighborhood!

Your Friend & Neighbor,

Kristen Freiermuth

REYNOLDS (Page 1)

Replace Troutdale, Fairview, and Wilkes Elementary Schools

This bond will include the replacement of three elementary schools, Troutdale, Fairview (each is 88 years old), and Wilkes (101 years old). Recommendations to replace these schools were based on safety and security concerns, including collapse in a seismic event, as well as other needed capital repairs, such as windows, roofs, HVAC, electrical and plumbing. Replacing these schools will also increase capacity for future growth.

Wilkes Elementary has experienced water leaks, plumbing backups inside the school, and depressions on the property. Safety and security concerns include: collapse in seismic event; evacuation plan for one classroom from windows and over window wells in the basement (fall hazard). Go to <http://vimeo.com/channels/rsdfacilities> for videos on conditions at all three schools.

Replacing these schools will assure that 100% of the investment will be returned and will reset the life of the school to another 75-100 years and assure that heating, plumbing, roofing and play areas are modern, fully functioning and safe. Current construction techniques and school design will lead to lower operating costs and higher educational outcomes.

construction techniques and school design will lead to lower operating costs and higher educational outcomes.

Renovate Reynolds High School

Enrollment at RHS is 750 students greater than the building's capacity, making it the most over-crowded facility in the district. Bond projects would add 18 classrooms, new, modern science labs, and enlarge the commons area to accommodate the number of students. Security would be improved by connecting all buildings with hallways so students will not be leaving the main building during passing times, and installing a secure controlled access entryway so visitors are required to go through the office before entering the building.

How You Can Help

Please vote YES on your May ballot on Measure 26-143. Donations and volunteers are also needed to reach voters through mail and in person. Please contact Valerie Tewksbury, chair of Citizens for Safe Reynolds Schools at valerie@reynoldsbond.org or (503) 804-7010, and like our Facebook page www.facebook.com/safereynolds. ■

Did you know? A leaking toilet can leak 20 to 30 gallons a day. That's more than 600 gallons of wasted water a month.

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)

These posters will be showcased at the Grand Opening of Nadaka April 4th from 10-12pm.

Nadaka Nature Park will be partnering with [Slough School](#) to provide classroom lessons to Hartley Elementary School's SUN program monthly. These classroom programs will be paired with stewardship and a nature hike at Nadaka once a month. On April 17th, Hartley Elementary School and Salish Ponds Elementary school will be doing a [SOLVE](#) sponsored cleanup with their families at Nadaka.

Last of all, we are excited to announce that Monica McAllister has been hired as the Nadaka Nature Park Coordinator. Monica started this February and will have her office based out of [St. Aidan Episcopal Church](#). To contact Monica for volunteer opportunities or events at the park and garden, email her at monica@friendsofnadaka.org.

Upcoming Events!

This spring and summer at Nadaka will be filled with fun activities for the whole family. Come join [Outgrowing Hunger](#) and [Friends of Nadaka](#) at St. Aidan's Murdock Hall for the Community Garden Open Enrollment Sunday March 15th 1-3pm. Registration for the garden is typically done online through the [City of Gresham](#) but during this event, we will help register community members with limited access to computers, Internet, or who simply have questions. This event will be a great opportunity to meet your fellow gardeners and community members while enjoying a potluck style meal. The Community Garden will also host future gardening workshops, seasonal potlucks, recipe exchanges and more. For additional information on our community garden and questions on how to sign up for a plot please contact Community Garden Manager Adam Kohl at 971-231-4191 or adam@outgrowinghunger.org. You can also go online at <http://greshamoregon.gov/gardens/> and click "register online" for a plot in the community garden.

The Grand Opening of Nadaka Nature Park and Garden will be held Saturday April 4th 10am to 12pm. This event marks the official opening of the newly created nature play area and community garden on the south two acres of the park. Public officials and project partners will be there to say a few words about Nadaka. [The Audubon Society of Portland's](#) Education Birds will be present and teaming up with [Slough School](#) to provide environmental education. Nature play experts from [ONPLAY](#) will be demonstrating the possibilities the nature play area can provide. Children and adults will be provided wildflower seeds to plant and grow at home as a souvenir from the event. After the ceremony stick around to explore all that Nadaka has to offer.

Looking for a way to give back to Mother Nature just in time for Earth Day? Join [Friends of Nadaka](#) and [SOLVE](#) Saturday April 18th 9-12pm for a SOLVE IT Cleanup event at Nadaka Nature Park. We will be pulling invasive species and doing a park cleanup. To save time and paper please register ahead of time by visiting:

<http://solveoregon.org/get-involved/events/nadaka-nature-park-cleanup>. In addition to the SOLVE Cleanup, Nadaka will be having a Stewardship Saturday the first Saturday of every month with the exception of July and September. The specific dates for the spring/summer are May 2nd, June 6th, July 11th, and August 1st. Equipment and light refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

Read more at <http://www.wilkeseastna.org/node/1745> ■

What's important to you? Tell us at info@wilkeseastna.org

wilkeseastna.org

SUN Community School, Improving the Lives of Children

By Lee Orr, SUN Coordinator
HB Lee Middle School

The [H.B. Lee](#) MFS ([Metropolitan Family Service](#)) SUN Community School is one of 27 Community schools that MFS facilitates in North Clackamas and Multnomah County that provide year round extended day academic support and enrichment classes for almost 10,000 students every year. H.B. Lee serves over 350 students each week, of which 225 kids receive free meals and transportation. SUN academic classes include: Math and Reading Academy, Newcomer Academy (for ESL students,) Homework Club, and Study Center. The Newcomer Academy is supported by our partners at [IRCO](#), who provide onsite, after-school mentorship. We also feature Destination Imagination, a science challenge club offering students opportunities to hone their creative science skills as they tackle new team challenges each week.

Other classes provided offer leadership training, help with the transition to middle school, high school, college preparation, and adult education.

The [I Have a Dream Foundation](#) (IHD) has been a valuable partner in supporting H.B. Lee and the "Dreamers" students who have set their sights on college and careers. IHD has been instrumental in meeting, planning and hosting college night events and bringing to our fold, [Girl's Inc.](#), a leadership group aimed toward girls of all ethnicity and backgrounds; providing them a forum to discuss issues important to them. H.B. Lee is also the home of the WEB and Student Council who serve to provide leadership opportunities for matriculating 6th graders and 8th graders preparing to transition into high school. Other featured classes include orchestra club, film theatre, yoga, soccer, basketball, and ultimate Frisbee.

For students seeking culturally specific activities, we offer the Latino Club facilitated by [Catholic Charities](#), SRB (Sisters Reflecting Sisterhood) and BRB (Brothers Reflecting Brotherhood) through Self-Enhancement. Inc., and RISE facilitated by Pathways of Oregon. We expect to add the Slavic club, hosted by [NW Impact](#), a class focused on the needs of Slavic kids and families in our community soon. Each of our culturally specific clubs provides students the opportunity to develop leadership skills, strong connections to their school, and community.

H.B. Lee's MFS SUN Community School also offers adult evening classes that include: English as a Second Language on Thursday evenings and Abriendo Puertas (Opening Doors) an evening parenting class offered once a week for 2hrs in Spanish - with both classes running for 8 weeks. We also offer a cooking and nutrition class for adults, teaching parents how to prepare healthy food on a limited budget. On January 14th we held our inaugural Family Info Night event, offering families access to resources in the community as well as how to navigate their kids through grade transitions.

H.B. Lee's MFS SUN Community School is also supported by [AmeriCorps](#). We feel it is important that youth experience nature outside the classroom. Our [AmeriCorps](#) volunteer leads our gardening class and nature walks to Nadaka Nature Park in partnership with [St. Aidan's Church](#), twice per week.

Although we have made some great strides, there is always more work to do. As our efforts intensify, we aim towards continually helping all people move beyond the limitations of poverty, inequity and social isolation – in short, we are "Moving Lives Forward."

Visit us at <http://www.metfamily.org/what-we-do/community-schools/> ■

PO Box 536 • Fairview, OR 97024



MAX Blue Line Stations to Receive Safety Improvements

MAX riders will notice changes in the coming months as TriMet invests in safety improvements and station upgrades on the East side. Fourteen stations between

Hollywood/NE 42nd Ave Transit Center and Cleveland Ave will undergo renovations that will increase safety and security, and pave the way for information displays and equipment for the upcoming electronic fare system.

The trees on the platforms have been removed to increase security camera views and make way for more and better lighting. Cameras will be upgraded, shelters will undergo changes, including improved windscreens, and other amenities will be installed. The changes will create better visibility, increase safety and discourage inappropriate activities.

The \$12 million project will upgrade 14 Blue Line stations between Gresham and Hollywood over the next five years ■

Earth Day 2015 Recycling Event Saturday Apr 18th 9AM-2PM

Gresham City Hall, 1333 NW Eastman Pkwy. Free to all Gresham and Wood Village residents.

Accepting: small appliances, rigid plastics, plastic bags, block Styro-foam™, paper ONLY shredding (two grocery bag limit), fluorescent tubes and bulbs, cell phones, batteries (three-pound limit). No: TV's, computers, monitors or electronics accepted. ■



Gresham DMV Moves to 181st & NE Halsey



Effective March 2, 2015 the Gresham DMV office is now at [1519 NE 181st Ave](#) in the Halsey Crossing shopping center, next to Safeway. The new 6,800-square foot facility will provide a larger lobby, better customer parking

and space to conduct driving tests. A spokesperson for ODOT says that after 17 years, Gresham DMV had simply outgrown the old 5,253-square foot location at 2222 East Powell. ■

PUBLIC NOTICE

[Eastrose Fellowship UU](#) on 181st Ave & NE Wasco is preparing to include the house at [1120 NE 179th Ave](#) as part of it's church facility. The City of Gresham requires Eastrose to follow the process for a [Type II Special Use Review](#), [Design Review C](#). The public may speak to this change in land use at the WENA neighborhood meeting at St. Aidan's Church, 17405 NE Glisan, 7 p.m. Monday, March 23. This meeting will give Eastrose leaders a chance to hear local concerns and address them (if possible) prior to submitting the formal application to the city. This opportunity also provides surrounding property owners and other interested people a chance to learn about the proposal before it is submitted as well as to offer comments. For more information contact Sue Aschim, Eastrose representative, 503-200-9489, sue.aschim@gmail.com. ■

Are you motivated, passionate, creative?



Help shape our neighborhood. Join the Board.

Being a Member-at-Large 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 with a dynamic, enthusiastic, committed group of other volunteers who work hard on behalf of this neighborhood.

Joining the board is a one year commitment where you'll gain knowledge that will be relevant even after your time on the Board. To learn more email info@wilkeseastna.org.

"Together WE can make a difference!"

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

Dump Your Junk



Cars \$10

Pickup \$20

HOUSEHOLD JUNK, METAL, YARD DEBRIS. NO: TVS, PAINT, FOOD, FLORESCENT'S, TIRES, ROCK, OR HAZARDOUS

**Sat Jun 27, 9-Noon • Look for signs
179th & NE Sandy Blvd**

Save the Date!

**Wilkes East Neighborhood
Spring Meeting
Monday, March 23rd, 7PM**

St Aidan's Episcopal Church, 174th & Glisan

- Completion of Nadaka Nature Park
- Habitat for Humanity, Glisan Gardens
- ODOT Summer Road Projects
- Eastrose Fellowship Land-use change
- Neighborhood news & update

See you there !



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!](#)

Have You Signed Up?