



# Glen Park News

## Fatal Fire: Looking Back, Moving Forward

**J**ust over a year has passed since veteran San Francisco firefighters Lt. Vincent Perez and Anthony Valerio perished while combating a house fire in Diamond Heights. They were first to respond from Engine Company 26 on nearby Digby Street.

by Murray Schneider  
It was June 2, a Thursday morning at 10:47, when their fire engine pulled up in front of 133 Berkeley Way, a multi-storied, 1975-era house built into the hillside.

They immediately consulted a resident who had called 911 less than three minutes before, confirming there was no one endangered in the house.

"There's a three story wood frame house," radioed Perez. "Light smoke showing from garage. More to follow."

At 10:49 a.m., Engine 26 updated Battalion: "Working fire below grade. Making a lead from top down."

Perez, 48, and Valerio, 53, entered the building, dragging 200 feet of 1 3/4-inch hose up the exterior stairs and then to an interior downstairs level, searching for the seat of the fire: "We're looking for it," Perez said. "Zero visibility, more to follow."

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### GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION MEETING

Thursday, July 19, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Glen Park Recreation Center  
Elk/Chenery streets, inside the park

- ▣ Glen Park Recreation Center improvement plans – what's new?
- ▣ Parks bond for November ballot – should GPA endorse it?
- ▣ Traffic improvements for Bosworth/Diamond intersection – what's happening?
- ▣ My house must have a history – how do I find out more?



SFFD Capt. Anita Paratley oversees a "Vinnie's Move" exercise in Diamond Heights.

Photo by Chris Hardy

## GLEN PARK NEWS

The *Glen Park News* is published quarterly by the Glen Park Association. Signed articles are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the Glen Park Association.

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## NEWS FROM CITY HALL

As always, a lot is happening at City Hall that will have a direct impact on our quality of life. Here are a few updates.

### Redistricting

The City went through a redistricting process for the 11 supervisorial districts following the 2010 federal census. The new boundaries, under our City Charter, were drawn by the Redistricting Task Force, composed of nine members appointed by the Mayor, Board of Supervisors and Elections Commission. The Task Force's decision is final.

District 8 is now among the largest districts, growing from approximately 69,000 residents to about 75,000. I advocated for the district to stay intact, and it largely did.

Added to District 8 are the area between San Jose Avenue and Mission Street, known as College Hill; more of Valencia Street; and a portion of Mission Terrace southeast of Highway 280. Gone are portions of Monterey, Joost, Congo, Baden and Melrose, which are

now in District 7, as well as a few blocks of the Lower Haight that are now in District 5.

The addition of the east side of San Jose Avenue will give me greater leverage to work with the community on both sides of San Jose, as well as with city and state agencies, to improve this troubled roadway for all impacted neighborhoods.

### Parks Bond

I've been deeply involved in the process leading to the Parks Bond that was recently introduced at the Board of Supervisors for the November ballot. The two District Eight projects affected by the bond are \$12 million to finish the Glen Canyon Rec Center, enough to finish that project and deliver a usable facility for the community, and nearly \$3 million for the dilapidated George Christopher Playground. The bond also has additional funds to award grants for community-driven projects at additional parks.

An inaccuracy has been circulating about the bond. As you may be aware, Rec & Park is pursuing its Natural Areas Plan (NAP). The NAP is con-

troversial, and there are strong views on both sides. NAP will come to the Board of Supervisors later this year or early next year and will either proceed or not proceed. There will be plenty of opportunity for public input. The Parks Bond contains funding for trail restoration and removal of hazardous trees. No money from the Parks Bond will, or can, be used for NAP. Period.

For those who are opposed to NAP, I ask that you not use this as a rationale for opposing the bond.

Opposing the Parks Bond will do nothing except deprive the community, citywide, of improved playgrounds, better irrigation systems, usable city pools, and the many other wonderful benefits that would result from the improvements that this measure could generate. Opponents of NAP have every right to oppose the program. But, please, let's keep this debate separate from the Parks Bond, which has nothing to do with NAP. ♦

*Scott Wiener represents Glen Park and other District Eight neighborhoods on the Board of Supervisors.*

## GPA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

You are walking from "downtown" Glen Park to Noe Valley or the Mission. Go up Chenery Street, past Bird & Beckett and Destination Bakery, by houses and flats of every style. Or walk on Arlington Street, with an older stock of homes, some fronting the green space above the roar of San Jose Avenue. A lush community garden fills a triangle near Highland Avenue. But walk down to the end of Roanoke Street and you'll find one of the "Bernal Cut Paths," a paved walkway behind the Arlington Street houses.

There's some graffiti, but the path is in good order for walkers and bikers, all the way to Randall Street. If you cross the Richland Avenue bridge or the Highland Avenue bridge, you'll find another greenway path on the east side of the cut that follows the route from Glen Park to Randall Street. There is overgrown vegetation on the slopes down to San Jose Avenue, and another well-kept community garden. And, yes, some sketchy folks might be pushing a shopping cart along the path.

I've walked the whole route, recently with a group of "College Hill Neighbors" who live in the newly added part of our District 8 supervisorial district between Mission Street and the Bernal Cut.

At the April Glen Park Association meeting, Tom Cantrell from College Hill spoke about his neighborhood's plans to work with the City, raise grant money, and set up "stewards" for segments of the east side of the cut.

The lavender garden near Randall already has been cleaned up, but there is much more to be done. The Bernal Cut folks are ready for a long-term effort to enhance these quiet, useful and overlooked pathways. With help from Glen Park neighbors on the west side of the Cut, both routes could be on the way to improvement.

When you follow the Bernal Cut paths into Glen Park, a few-minutes' additional walk takes you to the potential greenway that parallels Bosworth Street from Diamond Street all the way to Glen Canyon at Elk Street.

In fact, the Glen Park Community Plan, finally adopted in 2011, calls for the "the vacant City-owned parcels along Bosworth Street (to) function as an informal trail and greenway through Glen Park. This path provides a valuable green resource for the neighborhood. The opportunity exists to create an attractive linear greenway and safe walking route between the village and Glen Canyon."

Many of us know this route, which varies from a clear trail between Brompton and Chilton avenues, with a climb over a railing at Chilton, to the rough path behind the St. John parochial school, and along a narrow corridor out to Burnside and Paradise avenues—just steps from the canyon.

The greenway scheme is in place, but detailed plans, funding and implementation are to come.

The Glen Park Community Plan proposes to "develop landscape design for a linear recreational greenway linking the Glen Park neighborhood commercial area to Glen Canyon Park along City-owned Bosworth Street parcels and nearby streets," and then, to "build and maintain linear recreational greenway path."

Getting the greenway done will require initiative, commitment and cooperation among Glen Park neighbors, and a longish list of City agencies: Public Works, Recreation and Park, Public Utilities Commission, and Planning. Along with pedestrian and traffic improvements in the village, the enhanced, safe, well-designed greenway will be a very visible and positive piece of the Community Plan. ♦

*Michael Rice is president of the Glen Park Association. For news about Bernal Cut improvements, see Bonnee Waldstein's story on Page 8.*

# Now that’s one shell of a good oyster

If you're an oyster lover, there's nothing better than really fresh ones. But getting them really fresh often entails driving all the way out to Point Reyes or Tomales Bay—an hour-and-a-half drive northwest from San Francisco. But in Glen Park, we can easily solve that problem with a visit to our own farmers’ market and the “From The Sea To You” stand. You'll shop there with Julio Ortega, which is always fun because of Julio’s wit and winning personality. You can open your oysters at home, or Julio will open them for you.

The Glen Park Farmers’ Market, sponsored by the Glen Park Merchants Association and the Pacific Coast Farmers Market Association, began its second season on April 1. It operates on Sundays in the BART station parking lot at Bosworth and Arlington streets, and is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Nov. 25.

In addition to fresh oysters, you can pick up stone fruits, berries, cheeses, green veggies, bread, flowers, an eclectic mix of prepared foods and other goodies sold by nearly two dozen vendors.

*Photo and commentary by Glen Park resident and oyster aficionado Michael Waldstein.*



## FROM THE EDITORS

Glen Park has been in the news lately, and not just in the Glen Park News. Some of it’s good and some of it nothing short of maddening.

Let’s start with the good: The proposed \$195 million parks bond that City officials are eyeing for the November ballot calls for pumping \$12 million into Glen Canyon Park to help fund the major renovation planned for the recreation center. Backed by Mayor Ed Lee and the Recreation and Park Department, the proposed bond still needs to win the endorsement of the Board of Supervisors if voters are going to get a chance to weigh in. Passage at the ballot would require at least two-thirds approval. Our District 8 supervisor, Scott Weiner, is on board, as he stresses in his column on Page 2.

Now, on to the maddening note. City parking control officers have been out mining the curbside spaces for cars and trucks whose drivers allegedly have not curbed their wheels properly. The offense carries a \$50 fine. The law makes sense when you park on a hill. But the tickets have been issued on stretches of Chenery and Laidley streets, where perplexed drivers swear the roads are level and say they would hard-pressed to know which way a ball would roll if a test were done.

The law states that wheels must be curbed if there’s a grade of at least 3 percent. A spokesman for the Municipal

Transportation Agency, which employs the parking cops, said there’s been no stepped-up enforcement of the law but rules are rules, and if they’re violated, the citation book might be pulled out. Just for the record, we’d like to note that the rash of uncurbed-wheel tickets comes as the transportation agency scrambles to plug a gaping budget hole.

One more disturbing note is a spate of street robberies, particularly around the BART station and along the routes that people take to walk to and from there. The favored target is smart phones. Hoodlums grab them from usually distracted people who are talking and texting. Word to the wise from officers at the SFPD’s Ingleside Station: Keep your electronic gear out of sight, and always be aware of your surroundings.

Despite the handful of annoyances, there’s very little to complain about and lot to be thankful for in Glen Park. We have friendly and engaged neighbors and community groups; a wonderful array of small businesses, including our bustling Sunday farmers’ market; rich transit options; our own annual festival; unpaved lanes that are fun for exploring; backyard visits by raccoons, skunks, possums and mocking birds; avid gardeners; jazz concerts; and more. And we at the Glen Park News have you, our readers, and for that we are thankful. Enjoy the summer. ♦

The mission of the Glen Park Association is to promote the collective interests of all persons living in Glen Park, to inform and educate about neighborhood and citywide issues, to promote sociability and friendships and to support beneficial neighborhood projects.

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# Cheese Boutique: Creating an American Dream

One day a couple of decades ago, the owner of a small deli in the Inner Sunset neighborhood decided on a whim to take the Monterey Boulevard exit off Interstate 280, and discovered a neighborhood he had never been in before. A vacant storefront caught his eye, and he decided on the spot to open a second Cheese Boutique.

That wandering driver, Rachid Malouf—known to his legions of satisfied customers as Rick—has been a fixture in the heart of the Glen Park village for 19 years. When he moved into the Chenery Street space, there were no white-napkin restaurants, no bakery, gourmet grocery or taqueria. The wine shop down the block was owned by Tiffany and Paul Farr, and the two neighboring stores began the gentle gentrification of Glen Park.

Rick recalls those early days as tough. He asked the people who came for cheese what else they wanted him to stock, learning local tastes and introducing his customers to the Middle Eastern hummus, tabouli and baba ganoush that he and his wife Nada make by the gallon. They treated their customers as friends, remembering birthdays and asking about vacations, telling jokes and talking about stuff that had nothing to do with cheese, like the complicated politics of their native Lebanon.

“They became our extended family,” he said.

And the Maloufs became ours. Their daughters Rima, now 27 and a paralegal, and Carla, now 22 and a first-grade teacher, spent plenty of time making sandwiches and offering tastes of cheese when they weren't attending college classes. (One of these days, their 11-year-old brother, Michael, might put on an apron, too.) Rick's nephew, Brian Anthony, now manages the Irving Street Cheese Boutique and his cousin, Fadi Malouf, a sometime counterman whose dimpled smile shows off the family connection, perfected his delicious fig jams by offering tastes to everyone who came into the shop.

Rick, 54, and Nada, 48, come from the same village in the Lebanese mountains, and both were educated in French-speaking schools in Beirut. Cheese wasn't part of their future plans; Rick wanted to attend university in Paris, while Nada started college in Lebanon but quit when they got married. Both spoke Arabic and French,



Rachid and Nada Malouf, proprietors of the Cheese Boutique.

Photo by Michael Waldstein

but knew little English when they arrived in America.

After the Lebanese civil war broke out in the 1970s, when Rick was 19, his parents decided to send him to San Francisco, where two of his four sisters lived. As an only son, he was exempt from conscription, but they were taking no chances. He started working for one of his brothers-in-law, who owned two delis, learning English and picking up some delicatessen Italian along the way. He again met Nada, the younger sister of boyhood friends, on a 1984 visit to Kfar Aaqab in Lebanon, and returned a year later for their wedding.

Nada, too, has Middle Eastern turmoil in her background, though she doesn't remember the details. When she was 3 months old, her family took her to an ancient monastery in nearby Syria to be baptized. They expected to be there for a few hours before returning to Lebanon. But on that day, a coup led by Hafez al-Assad overthrew the Syrian government, and they were stranded with no luggage or supplies for the baby until the border reopened three weeks later. Nada's mother recalls a soldier asking about the party of 25, wondering at “so many people for a girl?”

The couple first opened a shop on Taraval Street in the Sunset, but that failed. “We didn't make a go of it. We didn't know how to run a business,” Rick said. But they tried again, and

with the help of a generous landlady on Irving Street they learned the ropes. That branch was 6 years old when Rick drove for the first time past Diamond and Chenery streets.

The vacant Glen Park store had been an Italian deli until the previous owner died. That landlady, too, helped the couple succeed.

The Maloufs intend to stay in Glen Park until they retire a decade or more from now. Nada said she'd like to return to college then, to study nutrition. When he retires, Rick wouldn't mind helping out some young person who is starting a business. They both believe firmly that the kindness that you send out into the world gets returned. “When I was in my 20s and needed help, I used to have older people who helped me,” Rick said.

The Maloufs, now U.S. citizens, lived above the Irving Street shop until Michael's birth, when they bought a house in Daly City. Eventually Rick's parents, both of whom have since died, came to the Bay Area, while Nada's family settled in Canada.

Their Lebanese ties remain strong: two of Rick's sisters and other relatives from both families still live there, and all the local Maloufs return from time to time. Rick gets a bit dreamy talking about the tiny tract of mountain land he inherited from his father, now planted with fig trees. “It's quiet and calm there,” he said, showing photos of

individual trees as if they were members of his family, too. There was a lot of rain this winter, so he expects a good crop of fruit: “The birds will enjoy that.” Hoping to grow figs at home, he planted a tree in Daly City: “The gophers had a good time, but I was very sad the gophers ate the roots.”

When word spread in Glen Park late last year that the Maloufs would lose their lease because the building had been sold, people streamed in to say how sorry they were and to offer help. “I can't forget the love and passion the customers have shown,” Rick said. “That really goes deep inside you.” As reported in the spring issue of the *Glen Park News*, a happy ending—and a new beginning next door—was provided by the Daleres, who have moved their salon upstairs and rented the storefront to the Cheese Boutique, to the great gratitude of the Maloufs and the neighborhood.

The switch-over required new plumbing—four City-mandated sinks!—and electrical work, but official inspections went smoothly. The new shop is much smaller, so they have downsized, jettisoning some groceries and frozen foods they once carried. But the cheeses and meats, the house-made sandwiches and Middle Eastern foods still attract the same loyal Glen Park customers.

“We love the people here,” Nada said. “It reminds us of back home—everybody knows everybody.” ♦



Manhal Jwein at Manzoni restaurant on Diamond Street (above). Tataki Canyon on Chenery Street (below).  
Photos by Liz Mangelsdorf



## New Restaurants Draw Rave Patron Reviews

The Yelp reviews are in, and they have a lot of exclamation points. For Manzoni: “What a treat!!!” For Tataki Canyon: “Holy Good Food!!!!”

The latest two Glen Park restaurants are enhancing our reputation for destination dining, with neighborhood residents and people from other parts of the city and—often via BART—elsewhere in the Bay Area.

**Manzoni**, Manhal Jwein’s new Italian restaurant at 2788 Diamond St., gets high marks for decor, with an elegant wood ceiling and a stone-and-brick arch dividing the space into front and back “rooms.” It has been full most nights since its low-key opening in January, with lots of repeat customers dining their way through the menu’s specialties from all over Italy.

Jwein, the longtime proprietor of Higher Grounds nearby on Chenery Street, says that the pappardelle, the ravioli and the nightly specials are all best-sellers. Business is better than he had expected: “I’m happy that people

are happy about it,” he said.

The other gustatory newcomer transports diners to a different part of the globe with a Japanese-centric cuisine.

Kenny Zhu says some diners are doing comparisons of all three Tataki restaurants—**Tataki Canyon** at 678 Chenery St., Tataki South on outer Church Street, and just plain Tataki on California at Divisadero. Each has a different menu, but Zhu, one of the three owners, says that at the Glen Park branch, sushi still reigns as the most popular dish.

The owners have tweaked the Tataki Canyon menu to reflect local preferences, adding more small plates and a charcoal grill, and dropping the daily special dinner. Popular new items are grilled chicken wings yakitori and two kinds of sliders.

In addition to keeping us well-fed, both Manzoni and Tataki Canyon also fit that current economic slogan, “job creators.” Jwein says he employs eight people, and Zhu has seven or eight employees each night. They’re all hard at work making Glen Park one of the tastiest neighborhoods around. ♦



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# Glen Park Festival Benefits Children's Programs

Once again this spring, the annual Glen Park Festival was a rousing success, drawing crowds of people who came to eat, dance, check out the community booths, do some shopping and meet up with neighbors in the heart of our village. It also had the added benefit of raising more than \$5,000 for local children's programs.

This year's festival, held on April 29, was a real family affair! Music and entertainment has long been an important part of the Glen Park Festival, with a children-oriented band typically kicking off the day. This year, however, when "Gayle Schmitt and the Toodalla Ramblers" packed up their instruments after a rousing kid-friendly set, those little tykes stayed on!

Kids of all ages could be seen strutting and stomping on the dance floor throughout the day, enjoying the sounds of Misisipi Mike and the Midnight Gamblers, our neighborhood band District 8, Jinx Jones and the KingTones, and Pangea.

But the festival is not just about good times on the dance floor. Each year,

proceeds from the festival are granted to local schools and organizations that work with children. This year, seven neighborhood institutions will benefit from the nearly \$5,300 that was raised.

The grants include \$491 for a new water activity table and other classroom improvements at Glenridge Cooperative Nursery School; \$650 for a new wood fence and gate for the garden area at Miraloma Cooperative Nursery School; \$1,135 to fund the garden program at Sunnyside Elementary School; \$1,000 for library books and materials at Fairmount Elementary School; \$1,000 for scholarships for an after-school mural arts program at Glen Park Elementary School; \$500 to develop the onsite sustainable garden at Thomas Edison Charter Academy; and \$500 for tuition assistance at Wind in the Willows preschool.

Grant applications are usually available a month prior to the festival. Future applicants are encouraged to participate in the festival in some way, whether by becoming a vendor or sponsor or by volunteering on the day of the festival. More information can be found at <http://glenparkfestival.com/beneficiaries.shtml>. ♦



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Musicians had the crowd dancing.

Photos by Michael Waldstein



# Lemon Tree Registry Promotes Sharing Homegrown Produce

There's an official registry of lemon trees in San Francisco, and Glen Park has just two on the list. But anyone who has peeked over backyard fences knows our neighborhood has a lot more lemon trees.

"It's a perfect weather neighborhood for Meyer lemons," said by Madeline Felder, Isabel Wade, the "chief lemon ambassador" of Just One Tree, the non-profit organization that maintains the registry.

Glen Park is one of the sunniest areas in San Francisco, which is why it is ideal for growing lemon trees. Just One Tree's mission is to provide San Francisco and similar cities the ability to rely on residents to source produce locally.

Just One Tree wants to enable people to share their home-grown produce with others, which will benefit the environment since it means fruits and vegetables will not have to be shipped in from other regions, or even other countries. It also aims to get healthy food to people who may not be willing or able to buy it in the store.

Cal Broomhead and his family own one of the registered trees in Glen Park. It's a potted Meyer lemon they've had for about seven years. Most of the year, it sits in their Thor Street backyard, but come the winter solstice, it's brought indoors. "It's our Christmas tree," said Broomhead.

The family hangs lights and ornaments on the 3-foot-tall tree, and on New Year's Day, it's taken back outside. But soon, the tree will be planted in the ground, ending its holiday reign. The Broomheads plan to pot another lemon tree, however, to take over the holiday tradition.

Their lemon tree has hit-and-miss years when it comes to a bountiful harvest. When lemons do grow, they're picked and juiced.

San Franciscans, it appears, have a penchant for citrus, consuming more than 25,000 tons a year, according to Just One Tree. But the local food-shed produces an estimated 5.3 tons annually, which means a lot of citrus, including a lot of lemons, is being imported each year.

About 235 lemon trees currently are registered with the organization. The goal is to grow the number to 12,000—both by chronicling the trees already growing in city yards and by getting people to plant new ones.

Just One Tree is starting with lemons, but may expand to other produce. The goal is to have everybody sharing their local produce so it's cheaper and doesn't have to be imported.

To register your lemon tree, go to [www.justonetree.org](http://www.justonetree.org). Not only can you register your lemon tree, you also can get helpful tips on how to take care of it and delicious lemon recipes to try out. ♦

JUST ONE TREE: [www.justonetree.org](http://www.justonetree.org)

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# Newly United Neighbors Working to Heal the Cut

Glen Park residents and their neighbors to the east in College Hill have joined forces recently to clean up the Bernal Cut—the mile-long, freeway-like section of San Jose Avenue that separates the two neighborhoods—and now they also are joined politically.

Under the City's newly revised map of supervisorial districts, College Hill was removed from District 9, represented by Supervisor David Campos, and added to District 8, Supervisor Scott Wiener's territory that also includes Glen Park. Despite the Bernal Cut barrier, the two neighborhoods are within easy walking distance via the Highland and Richland avenue bridges that cross San Jose Avenue.

Residents on the east side of the Cut had taken to calling themselves “The Lost Tribes of College Hill” until some of them got together to put themselves on the map. The result is the newly registered College Hill Neighborhood Association (CHNA).

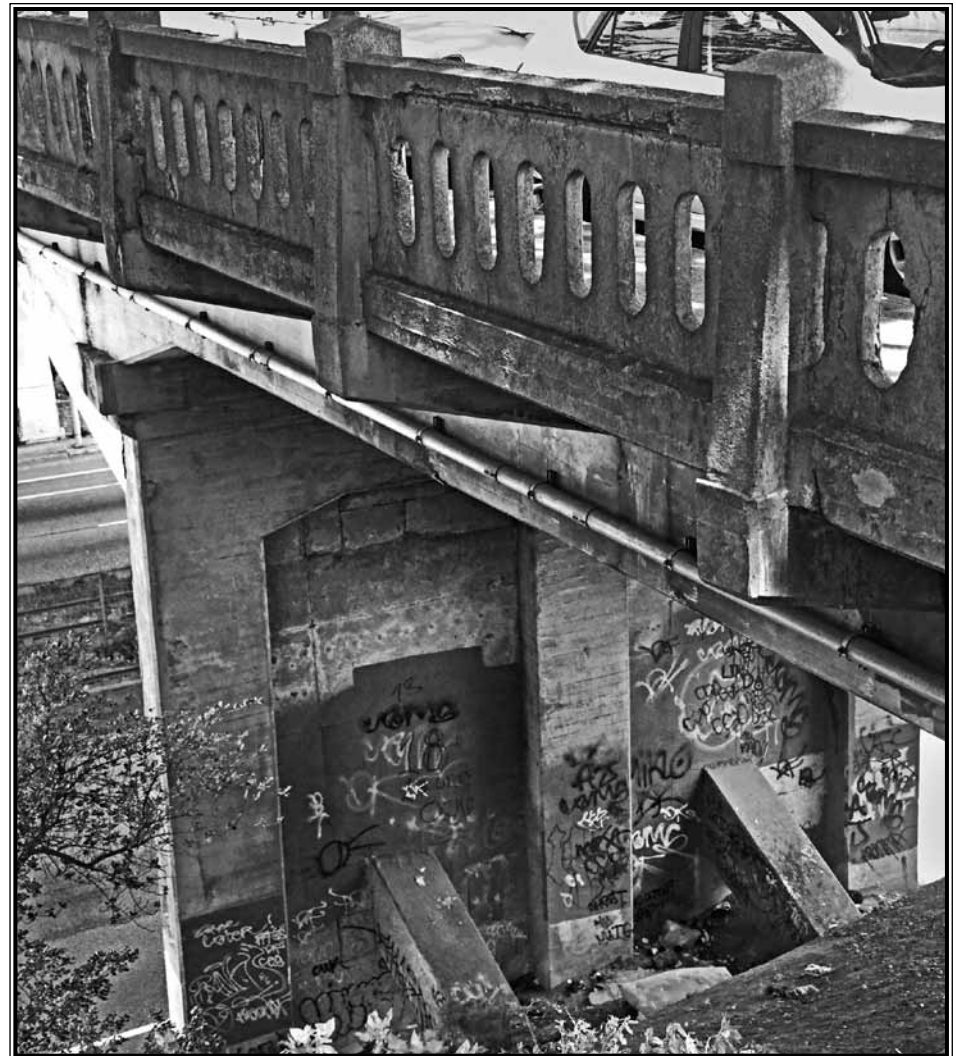
College Hill is bounded by Randall Street, the 280 freeway entrance, San Jose Avenue and Mission Street. There once actually was a college—St. Mary's—before it moved to Oakland in 1889, then on to Moraga in 1928. Street names such as College Avenue, College Terrace and St. Mary's Avenue

recall that legacy.

The Bernal Cut was carved by Precita Creek. In 1864, it was developed into a one-track railroad bed, operated by the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad Company (later to become part of Southern Pacific).

At the Glen Park Association meeting in April, Tom Cantrell and Robert Lane, president and treasurer, respectively, of the CHNA, recounted how they joined neighborhood activist Sandy Cardoza and volunteer landscape architect Albert Cruz to come up with a plan for the Bernal Cut. It consists of six segments, three on either side of San Jose Avenue.

The improvements would include such friendly diversions as par-course exercise stations; improved stairways at Richland, Highland and Appleton avenues; small plazas and garden areas; a sculpture under the Highland Avenue bridge; and possibly a mural on retaining wall on the Glen Park side. At the San Jose Avenue level, the CHNA proposes reducing the number of north-bound traffic lanes to make way for tree planting, and adding a bike lane on the east side of the street. They want to



Volunteers have lots of work to do.

Photos by Michael Waldstein

clear, clean and plant the slopes along the avenue.

Cantrell and Lane, who moved to College Hill from the Castro in 2010, said they are seeking a San Francisco Community Challenge Grant to begin work on the first two segments.

Susan Leeds, through the Department of Public Works' Adopt-a-Street

Program, has organized a regular event, the monthly Third Saturday Clean-Up, working with DPW personnel and neighbors along the Cut.

Cleaning up the Cut will be daunting; a brief walk highlights decades of neglect and abuse. The concrete walls along the Richland and Highland bridges are decaying, with orange paint



**BERNAL CUT**



pointing out spots in need of repair. The staircases that connect San Jose Avenue with the streets above are in terrible disrepair, with many chipped or broken steps. Before any beautification projects can proceed, the DPW must do an initial restoration, which is not likely to happen anytime soon.

On the Bernal side of the Cut are stands of fennel and weeds, interspersed with abandoned attempts at beautification—plantings and fencing that have been overwhelmed by nature's entropy.

In sum, anyone seeking a feel good project with guaranteed quick and lasting results had better look elsewhere.

Cardoza, who's lived in College Hill for 10 years, said she just got fed up with the situation. An activist who calls herself a "project-based learner," she began an attempt to clean up the area, pulling up weeds and watering the trees. In January, on the Martin Luther King Day of Service, a group of volunteers and DPW workers began clearing the slopes of weeds and debris. That was followed a community meeting in February with Mayor Ed Lee, who lives in Glen Park. Wiener, whose district now encompasses both sides of the Cut, is seeking funds for individual projects.

Help for making improvements

is available through the DPW's San Francisco Street Parks Program, which creates community gardens on public rights of way, and the City's Community Challenge Grant Program, which provides matching funds for physical improvements and greening. These programs require that volunteers become land stewards and assume responsibility for completion and maintenance for three years of the projects they undertake. The grants have many restrictions—funds can't be used for walls, fences or grading, for example. Any work that is DPW's responsibility cannot be done with grant money. The maximum award for a grant is \$100,000.

Next came a lot of footwork—posting flyers and knocking on doors. Cardoza and Cantrell joined forces, and change started happening. Cardoza created a blog, Heal the Cut ([www.bernalcut.com](http://www.bernalcut.com)), which details progress and problems on various projects, announces cleanup day projects, and gives advice on technical issues. Residents of Arlington Street have also been active in improving the Glen Park side of the slope, too. Their efforts were described in the Fall 2009 issue of the *Glen Park News*.



Already in place on the College Hill side of the Cut is the Gavin Newsom Lavender Garden at Randall Street, which has been brought to aromatic life under the sponsorship of the DPW and Starbucks. (The department has a practice of naming an improved area for the current mayor.)

CHNA secretary Erica Ruhland, who was tending the lavender, explained her motivation to a visitor: "Tom(Cantrell) and I moved in within a month of each other and started cleaning up the path, got other neighbors involved, and that led to forming the neighborhood association, along with Susan Leeds, and recruiting other people."

Kris Vieira, another neighbor, said he was "annoyed at how nasty and unsafe the area is. We don't have a backyard or outdoor space, so this is it for us, and we like plants and gardens."

The existing path along the stretch between Highland Avenue and Randall Street is gradually turning into a pleasant walkway. One economical solution being used is to lay down cardboard over the weeded area and cover it with rolls of sheet mulch, then a layer of jute mesh.

Another method is the "lasagna gar-

den," in which cardboard is laid over the weeds to block the sun; then the plot is watered and covered with a mix of compost and wood chips. When that stuff decomposes, it's ready. With no existing watering system along the Cut, volunteers coax along the new plantings using a 4-gallon backpack sprayer.

Then there's the human element, for which there are no simple answers. The

Bernal Cut is notorious as a place of homeless encampments and illegal dumping, of human waste and detritus from those with alcohol and drug addictions. Cantrell's day job is working with the

homeless, and he prefers to use persuasion and offers of resources. The hope is that by making this place much more used by neighborhood residents, such encampments would be discouraged.

To learn more or to join efforts to improve the Cut, e-mail [collegethillsneighbors@gmail.com](mailto:collegethillsneighbors@gmail.com). Heal the Cut updates are at [www.bernalcut.com](http://www.bernalcut.com).

Glen Park residents interested in undertaking similar efforts can learn more about the City's Street Parks Program at <http://sfdpw.org/index.aspx?page=1237>, and the Community Challenge Grant Program at <http://sfgsa.org/index.aspx?page=4264>.



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# Fatal Fire: Looking Back, Moving Forward

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

That was the final radio transmission from Perez, a City firefighter for 21 years.

The two men suffered burns over 40 percent of their bodies when they were caught in a “flashover,” a wind-driven burst of flame that raged as hot as 700 degrees.

The day was cloudy; the temperature was 57 degrees. It was 10:52 a.m. and only five minutes had elapsed since they had appeared on the scene.

A year later, Capt. Anita Paratley, holding a copy of the San Francisco Fire Department’s Safety Investigation Report – Line of Duty Death, sat shoulder-to-shoulder next to firefighter John Christy, assigned as a peer counselor for the department.

“Below grade fires are some of the most dangerous,” Paratley said, leafing through a copy of the 156-page report. “With overhead wires, attached wood-structured housing and strong winds, battling San Francisco fires requires aggressiveness.”

Aggressive firefighting is one thing, but combating inevitable lowered firehouse morale in the aftermath of a fire such as the Berkeley

Way conflagration is an entirely different matter, especially in the wake of the loss of experienced veterans such as Perez and Valerio.

“Any family grieves,” said Christy, who served as a paramedic just as Valerio had, and who enrolled in extensive stress training after 9/11. “What hap-

pened to us was a hit to our nervous system. But we’re all here to support one another.”

Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White, in the wake of the publication of the Safety Investigation Report, reviewed its contents with Perez and Valerio’s grieving families.

“I went over the report line-by-line,” said Hayes-White, who oversees SFFD’s 1,371-member force. “It conjured up emotions, but at the same time it took steps toward healing.”

Perez and Valerio still remain on the minds of the community.

“We wanted to make some tangible sign of appreciation,” said Jeanette Oliver, manager of the Diamond Heights Shopping Center, located just a few blocks from the station. “Engine 26 took a hit in morale and they are still grieving pretty badly.”

To commemorate the loss, the shopping center commissioned landscape architect Elise Tilson to design a garden behind the fire station. There, three flowering cherry trees now grow in memory of Perez, Valerio and Louis Mambretti, who died in 1995 fighting another Diamond Heights fire.

The garden was dedicated on June 2, a tangible remembrance of the respect for the two men who died in the fire that rocked the City a year ago to the day, and a tribute that mirrors the thousands who flooded San Francisco on June 10 last year to honor Perez and Valerio at a St. Mary’s Cathedral funeral. The tele-

**“I WENT OVER THE  
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**-- Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White**



vised event drew firefighters from across California, culminating with a column of more than 150 fire engines that filed through city streets, along Interstate 280 and eventually ended in Colma, where the two heroes were laid to rest.

Nothing voiced from St. Mary’s pulpit, however, equals the eloquence of Jeanette Oliver one year later: “I am struck by the fact that gardens represent a stand against chaos and disintegration,” she said, “and it’s exactly right that a garden should represent the memory of firefighters who dedicate their lives to preserving the order and harmony of our community.”

The house fire that took Mambretti’s life 17 years ago burned on Everson Street less than a mile from Berkeley Way. It was fueled by 70-mph winds. Under the circumstances, it wouldn’t take a leap to conclude Engine 26’s nine firefighters feel snakebit.

Paratley, a 23-year veteran of the SFFD who has seen duty at firehouses in Noe Valley, the Richmond, the Mission and downtown, has her thoughts: “Some haven’t moved on,” said Paratley, who earned a degree in social work from New York University. “Many are still grieving.”

If Paratley—who was assigned to Engine 26 in January—learned anything from her NYU courses, it is how



to manage feelings of loss, consoling those under her command and not allowing them to dwell on the past. “I’m protective of my people,” the 55-year-old said. “But we have to live for today.”

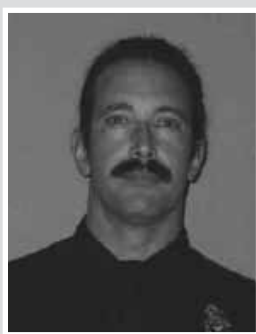
Paratley understands that in the aftermath of extreme stress continuity is essential, which is why her default position prescribes engaging Engine 26 in time-tested training.

Days after she and Christy sat reviewing the Safety Investigation Report,

## IN MEMORY



**Lt. Vincent Perez**



**Anthony Valerio**



Clockwise from top left: Station 26 honors fallen firefighters with commemorative plaques; Engine Company 26 holds a drill to fight fires at multi-story structures; memorial garden planted behind the station. Photos by Chris Hardy

Engine 26's four-member crew halted in front of the Diamond Heights Village three-story condo complex, designed with three levels of outdoor balcony walkways connecting lengthy inside halls. Engine 26 trucked there to practice "Vinnie's Move," named for Perez.

"Vinnie said we should fight some Red Rock Way fires this way," said Paratley, as she led an exercise that involved dropping a utility bag with equipment, which allowed firefighters to lift a fire hose to the balcony instead of running it through circuitous stairwells. "Vinnie called it 'drop the bag,' and it was a good call by Vinnie."

Tami Turner, who has eight years on the job as a firefighter and engine driver, wrestled with curled fire hose after it had been bled of its water. "Training like this is a heads up," she said. "It gives us a chance to talk it out."

Paratley agreed: "It gives us an oppor-

tunity to evaluate and gain situational awareness," she said, critically studying the rope tie. "We could probably have been a little faster with the knot on the half-inch cord."

Paratley helped firefighters Mike Hastey and Ben Canedo coil hose inside the truck, while Turner walked to a hydrant across the street, wrenched a valve open and topped off the truck's water supply.

"I'm traditional," Paratley said. "San Francisco is one of the few departments that still uses wooden ladders. I'm proud we have them."

Well before the drill, Christy, who enrolled in classes in psychology and human behavior after the destruction of the Twin Towers, had his own take on why Engine Company 26 morale never hit rock bottom, even before Paratley took charge seven months ago: "It's traditional at firehouses that captains rule the roost. Anita's someone who has your

back. We don't want to let her down."

Offered Paratley: "I brought fresh eyes, but it didn't take long to realize the positive attitude here. I was taken around the district, shown the water supplies and the difficult streets. Time was spent getting me up to speed." Before the drill, Paratley had inspected the Red Rock Way condo complex three times.

"I suppose I brought a matriarchal style to a patriarchal culture," Paratley said. She lives on Arlington Street and moved to San Francisco for its music and cultural diversity. Even now she exudes that oft-commented-upon New Yorker's exterior toughness that hides an interior sentimental tenderness: "We want to know if people are in there," she said, thinking of 133 Berkeley Way. "We want to know before we get there."

When Perez and Valerio entered the Berkeley Way house they were unaware that an electrical short had sparked a fire below them that had already begun to race up the rear of the hillside house. They were not found until 21 minutes later, overcome by extreme heat conditions, their protective breathing apparatus and helmets compromised. Carried to the sidewalk, they immediately received medical attention and then were rushed to San Francisco General Hospital.

Perez was pronounced dead later that day. Valerio, a 13-year veteran of the SFFD with another 14 years as a health department paramedic, died two days later.

Paratley thought about them, and the federal government's National Institute for Operational Safety and Health (NIOSH) report, which was issued after the SFFD Safety Investigation Report: "It's better to be honest and learn," she said, thinking about the recommendations in each report, both of which cite the dangers of below-grade fires, the importance of personnel accountability and coordinated action at a fire scene,

and the necessity of arriving at a fire and "sizing up" before a crew enters a building.

"The Incident Command System is a good model," she said. "But we need to improve communication, to better know where we are and what each one of is doing."

To this end, the NIOSH report recommends essential staffing levels necessary to fund fire chief's assistants—the firefighters who can coordinate the multiple communications at each embattled fire ground—and the funding of incident safety officers, firefighters assigned to assess hazards and recognize the need to sound a Mayday call that places personnel above property.

"It is important to recognize that a situation is grave and understand this immediately, so firefighters can be found and extricated," said Paratley.

Now, a year after the deadly blaze, workers are rebuilding the house at 133 Berkeley Way. One can see the construction from the eastern slopes of Glen Canyon. Scaffolding climbs in a matrix of geometric right angles along the rear of the structure.

Only blocks away, on a recent Saturday, some 300 people gathered to dedicate the memorial garden and remember the three fallen firefighters from the Diamond Heights fire station. "Lou, Vince and Tony served valiantly. They'll always remain in our hearts," said Paratley, standing above the garden's carpet of ornamental grasses, lavender and yarrow.

"You can't underestimate the pride and respect we have for our firehouse," said Oliver, who has overseen the Diamond Heights shopping center for 25 years. "It's rare to find a neighborhood that has so much affection for its firefighters."

Paratley, who says she doesn't live in the past, turned her head, her eyes glistening. "I could almost cry. Vince and Tony had all the necessary training. You just can't plan for all the variables." ♦

# PILATES

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# Pre-dawn Blaze Shines Light on Temporary Rentals

I was at the old family home in Santa Rosa (where I haven't lived since 1963!) and the sirens in the distance were getting louder, heading north on Mendocino Avenue toward our street. There were a lot of them, coming closer and closer. They seemed to be right outside. As I slowly woke up, I realized they *were* right outside, filling Diamond Street and Surrey Street in a sea of flashing lights, rumbling idling engines and, very quickly, the sound of a power saw cutting up a neighbor's charred hillside deck.

When I finally opened my eyes, the digital clock read 2:53 a.m.

Surprisingly few neighbors were out on the sidewalk by the time I stumbled down to the corner. The woman across the street confided that she, too, had incorporated the sirens into a dream. We were vastly outnumbered by wide-awake firefighters, summoned by a neighbor who smelled the smoke. Thanks to the firefighters' quick response, all four nearby wood-frame houses were spared any damage.

The deck that burned on Sunday, May 20, is at 106 Surrey St. A few hours earlier, neighbors said, it had been the site of a Saturday night barbecue by residents of the adjacent house. They out were on the sidewalk too, having been awakened by the firefighters and hustled out of the shingled home where they'd been sound asleep.

The five young people were weekend renters from Maryland, they said. My journalistic instincts were dull in the middle of the night, so I neglected to ask what had brought them to San Francisco for the weekend. The Bay to Breakers race maybe? It really doesn't matter.

What may matter is how they found their way from Maryland's Eastern Shore to sleepy Surrey Street in Glen Park. The answer is the line "Amazing

Retreat House by Glen Park" that heads the house's listing on airbnb, the online site that links hotel-averse visitors looking for rental deals with landlords eager for income from paying guests.

On Sunday after the early morning fire, the three-bedroom, three-bath, "beautiful Arts & Crafts house" was still listed on airbnb at \$350 per night (\$322 nightly for a week) plus a cleaning fee of \$155. Amenities included a gas barbecue and deck heater, shown in airbnb photos,

with a \$40 added charge for a full bottle of propane. The security deposit was \$500. (Good luck getting that back when the deck catches fire on your watch!)

The house on Surrey Street was by far the costliest Glen Park listing on airbnb in the weeks after the fire. More

than a dozen other neighborhood listings ranged from \$60 per night for a garden apartment on Bemis Street up to \$230 for a three-bedroom "Stylish house, Fab Sf [sic] views, Quiet" on Beacon Street. The listing says the latter was a farmhouse designed and built by the current owner's grandmother in the 1930s, a story for another time perhaps. A private suite on Chenery Street was priced at \$130 per night.

Some of these airbnb rentals are in homes that function like regular bed-and-breakfast inns where owners interact with their guests. Others appear to be typical vacation rentals. In either case, they comprise an extensive neighborhood resource that's only recently emerged on the radar of locals seeking convenient quarters for visiting friends or family.

The owners of the Surrey Street property were said to be out of town when their deck burned. The house rules say no smoking indoors, but they might consider adding the rebuilt deck to that prohibition: the SFFD incident report lists the cause of the fire as discarded smoking materials. ♦

WHAT MAY MATTER  
IS HOW THEY FOUND THEIR  
WAY FROM MARYLAND'S  
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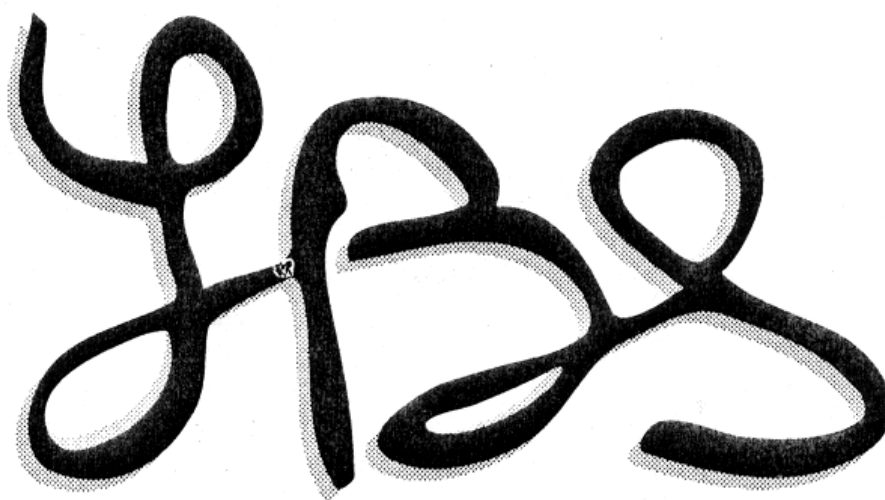
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## Signs of the Times Start Appearing on Our Street Corners

**P**roving that you don't have to shout to be heard, San Francisco's all-cap street signs are being replaced by versions with upper- and lowercase letters to make them easier to read. You can see an example of the new signs in Glen Park, at Laidley and Miguel streets.

by  
Heather  
World

The City's budget may be tight, but the new signs won't rattle the bottom line and will put San Francisco in compliance with state and federal guidelines, said Paul Rose, spokesman for the Municipal Transportation Agency.

"We will only replace the signs as they need to be maintained," he said. A new street sign costs about \$250, including labor. "The costs would come out of

our budget, but additional costs should be minimal."

The federal government issued a host of new sign regulations that were adopted by California this year. The bureaucratically titled Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices contains 1,402 pages of specifications for everything from minimum retroreflectivity levels for sign design to the location of speed-limit signs.

According to the federal government, studies have shown that reading text in all capital letters, which make all words a rectangular shape, is harder than reading words that include the varying heights of lowercase letters, Rose said. "This switch could make roads safer because signs are easier to read," he added. ♦

## Condo Progress Report: Good News, Bad News

**A** year ago we reported encouraging news from the partially built 12-unit condo complex on Bosworth and Rousseau streets: The long-delayed project had been sold on the courthouse steps through foreclosure, and work was under way to complete the eight condos on Bosworth

Street that were closest to completion. Neighbors of the derelict development were excited that progress was at hand.

By this June, seven of those Bosworth Street homes had been sold. The remaining unit, at 418B Bosworth, has one bedroom, granite countertops, a short walk to BART and an asking price of \$649,000.

The news is not so bright from Rousseau Street, where four abandoned condo structures still sit forlorn and weather-beaten. When Encore Housing Opportunity Fund purchased the entire distressed property in December 2010, those four buildings were estimated to be 15 to 20 percent complete.

People who have been watching for progress there may not have to wait too much longer.

The property at 2-10 Rousseau St. has been put back on the market, with a price tag of \$1.75 million. An online listing describes the buildings as "4 partially completed townhomes." The listing broker reports receiving numerous calls, and notes that there is increasing demand for local condominiums.

Neighbors who overlook the site from their homes on Arlington Street, and passersby on San Jose Avenue, hope a new buyer will soon step up to turn the blight to bling. ♦

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# School's Dismissed for Glen Park Elementary Principal

In 1982, Marion Grady began what became a 29-year career as principal of Glen Park Elementary School. Now she is retiring and looking forward to whatever adventures may come her way.

Previously principal at Charles Drew Elementary School in the Bayview, Grady, 76, has been involved in educational pursuits much of her adult life.

Born and raised in San Francisco, she is proud to say she's been a part of the school district "far longer than anyone would want to know!" This includes the last 52 years working in various positions within the San Francisco Unified School District, beginning as a classroom teacher. But running Glen Park Elementary, a school nicknamed "Big Blue" for its bright blue exterior, has been her legacy.

As a college student, studying education wasn't her initial pursuit. Her focus at City College and later at San Francisco State University was actually on recreation. But one day, Grady recalls, she went home frustrated and told her father that recreation really wasn't her

thing and she wanted to pursue something else. "It's just not organized; I can't stand working like that!" she told him.

Her father's reply: "Get out of it; don't do anything you don't want to do." She soon learned that her older sister had confessed a similar complaint to her father just three weeks earlier. Her sister was just a month away from earning a master's to go into teaching, a career she thought too confining.

Their father had given the same advice to her sister: "Get out of it." She did, and went into recreation. She recently retired as the aquatics supervisor for the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department.

After nearly three decades as principal at Glen Park Elementary, Grady has compiled a long list of accomplishments during her tenure. One of her more noteworthy achievements began during her second year there. The idea blossomed one Sunday morning as she thumbed through the entertainment section of the Sunday paper.

She read that Jacques d'Amboise was coming to town to introduce his National Dance Institute, founded in



Marion Grady retires after 29 years at Glen Park Elementary. Photo: Ashley Hathaway

New York City in 1976. Grady picked up the phone and called him, saying, "I'd like to know more about this; will you come to Glen Park School?" D'Amboise and his dance troupe agreed, and Glen Park School became a National Dance Institute school "almost immediately," Grady proudly proclaims.

The program was free for students for the first two years. After that, San Francisco Arts Education Project picked it up and the program was expanded beyond dance to include theater and chorus. "It's a very well-rounded kind of opportunity that we're able to provide," she said. "That excites me, it really does!"

Grady has earned a reputation for running a tight ship at the well-kept school on Lippard Avenue. She has been busy with what she calls the "greening of the school," which has been in the planning process for three years. They will soon start with an edible garden down in the lower section of the campus and she hopes the community also will want to get involved.

Along with her accomplishments, Grady has received some criticism for one underlying issue—that she has never fully embraced parent involvement. "It is a rumor and I was blasted for years about it," she said. "The reality is, we used to have a Glen Park parent association that was not (an official) PTA because the parents didn't want one at the time. People would say, 'Let's start one,' but we never made it for the PTA requirements."

She said it got somewhat complicated

and there were other issues besides the PTA, factors such as shifts in demographics that were beyond her control. Latinos now comprise nearly half the school population of about 340. Glen Park Elementary's score on the Academic Performance Index was 764 last year, earning a 4 on a statewide scale of 1 to 10.

Another challenge Grady has faced over the past six years is failing eyesight. "It was really just a fluke," she explained, starting with one eye surgery and a detached retina. Ten surgeries later, and another detached retina in what she says was her "good eye," Grady is nearly blind but her vision has stabilized and she considers herself lucky.

"Wearing dark glasses after surgeries, the kids would ask me, 'Are you blind Mrs. Grady?' and little did I know at the time that I would eventually go blind in one eye!"

She needs to get very close to recognize a face but is thankful she feels safe and comfortable working day to day at the school and chooses not to use a sight cane. "I don't want to feel like a victim," she confessed.

Before her vision loss, Grady said, she had always been a very visual person. Asked what's next for her, she replied, "I'll have to create new hobbies because most of my hobbies were visual. I'll probably take dance lessons or something."

Although June 30 marked (instead of marks) Grady's last day as principal, she hopes as opportunity will arise that will keep her connected to Glen Park Elementary. ♦

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✿ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ✿

Glen Park Elementary School

Recently I was reading my daughter a Chronicle article on the state budget crisis and the proposition to increase tax revenues that is supported by the California Parent Teacher Association (aka the PTA). With the earnestness that only an 8-year-old can muster, my oldest asked me, “Mom, does PTA stand for Parents who Talk A lot?” It took most of the day to stop laughing, but she raised a valid point. Our family has had a front row seat for the beginnings of the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and for the current downward slide of the California education budget. There has been a lot of good (Glen Park Elementary and the PTO!), bad (budget cuts) and just plain ugly (more budget cuts) that kept parents talking over the past few years.

First, the good: Our school supports an increasingly vibrant PTO, and we usually can count on at least 20 to 30 parents and teachers coming to the monthly meetings. Our teachers are reporting that more parents are involved in the classroom, on the yard, and on fieldtrips. I no longer hear Yogi Berra-esque quips that “Nobody goes there!” when people learn that my family tromps down the hill to Glen Park School.

The PTO, a separate, independent nonprofit that isn’t affiliated with the PTA, was small and relatively new when our family started at the school. I will never forget the looks of surprise when several parents from our kindergarten class walked into the year’s first PTO meeting. A small group of parents had suddenly doubled in size. Now all of our PTO momentum is paying off to benefit our teachers, students, and—we hope—the greater community.

We celebrated the 100th anniversary of Glen Park Elementary with a big party that was a wicked success, and a delightful opportunity to introduce our beautiful building to our community. We look forward to welcoming everyone back again in the fall for another festival, so stay tuned for details.

Our long-time principal, Marion Grady, announced her retirement (see

Ashley Hathaway’s story on Page 14. Her years of service have eclipsed that of most district personnel and most teachers. For nearly 30 years, Grady arrived at school each day hours before the bell rang, and often left after dark. Her dedication and passion has made Glen Park Elementary a better place to learn and grow for our children. The PTO helped assemble a committee of seven to find someone who could replace our principal. Our school had a big wish list, and we are lucky that we have a great new principal coming our way—Jean Robertson, formerly principal at Grattan Elementary School in Cole Valley.

We also set an ambitious goal of raising \$25,000 to pay for our school’s partnership with Playworks, a nonprofit that provides a full-time staff member in charge of ensuring that all our students have safe, healthy and inclusive play and physical activity at recess and throughout the entire school day. For an organization that had never raised more than \$3,000 in one year, it was a tremendous leap. We set an ambitious schedule of fund-raising events and, with the help of the community, we raised more than \$30,000.

Now for the bad and the just plain ugly: Unfortunately, \$30,000 in PTO funds won’t compensate for the ever-decreasing state support for public education. Our school has lost multiple staff members over the years. The school year will probably be shortened by at least nine days next year (which means thousands of dollars of pay cut from teachers’ salaries). If the governor’s proposition to raise sales and income taxes is not successful, we can expect even more cuts to the budget. One idea is that the school year should be shortened by a full month!

According to my back-of-the-envelope calculations, if all 350 students at Glen Park School graduate from college, they can be expected to earn a collective total of \$735 million. That is a tremendous amount of potential attending just one school in San Francisco, but underfunding threatens not only their prospects, but also the entire state. I am naive enough to hope that

the great citizens of Glen Park will support public education for every kid in California this coming November.

We will have a lot more to talk about in the coming year. We hope that you can drop by when school begins in August, and learn first-hand what a great public education looks like. We could always use help on the recess yard,

Sunnyside Elementary School

The Sunnyside PTA was excited to host its first booth at this year’s Glen Park Festival. Thanks to a committee of eight adults and several children, we sold 20 gallons of lemonade—more than five shopping bags full of lemons squeezed! We also sold 700 home-baked cookies and 85 SpringFest raffle tickets. Sunnyside’s beloved lollipop tree made lots of children very happy since every child won.

Sunnyside Elementary has been awarded a grant of \$1,135 to support the new Garden and Environmental Education Program. We are honored to have the continued support of the Glen Park Festival, which had enabled us to launch many wonderful programs at our school.

Kindergarten classroom rotation, Tuesday, August 14, 9–10 a.m.: Incoming families are invited to bring their child to the auditorium. Incoming kindergarteners will be split into three groups and rotated through the three classrooms for activities like storytime, creative play and drawing. This will give the K teaching team a chance to meet the students before assigning them to classrooms, and will give the incoming K’s a chance to meet the teachers and experience the classroom space before starting school on Monday. Parents will wait in the auditorium during the rotation.

Kindergarten orientation, Thursday, August 16, 6–7 p.m.: New Sunnyside families can learn their children’s new kindergarten classroom and teacher assignment at this meeting in the auditorium, followed by orientation in their child’s classroom. The teacher will go over a typical day in the classroom, discussing rules, expectations and

materials, and answering questions. Free childcare will be provided in the auditorium while parents attend the orientation session, but afterward children will get a chance to stop by their classroom and say hi to their new teacher.

Academic Support Committee: Under the leadership of Jennifer Helton—historian, academic, first-grade room parent, and mom of an incoming kindergartner—the Academic Support Committee works throughout the year to enhance learning at Sunnyside. The committee explores ways for volunteers to provide support to our teachers in the classroom and in the yard. It provides funds for classroom supplies and professional development.

The just-ended year’s largest success was restructuring the math enrichment program. Starting next fall, first through fifth graders will participate in the new, expanded program. The committee also introduced the science-based garden program taught by Melinda Stockmann.

Next year the Academic Support Committee will collaborate with the Tech Committee. Their collaboration will train teachers on the use of the new laptop cart and start a Tech Integration Committee to develop a school-wide plan for teaching and implementing technology in the classroom. Next year will also bring expanded academic enrichment activities at Sunnyside. We will continue the science fair and participation in History Day ([www.historydaycalifornia.org/](http://www.historydaycalifornia.org/)), as well as enlarge the garden with more flowers and veggies.

For the latest Sunnyside Elementary updates, visit our website, [Sunnysidek5.org](http://Sunnysidek5.org).

Cathy Meyer is president of the Sunnyside Elementary School PTA

WE CELEBRATED THE  
100TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF GLEN PARK  
ELEMENTARY WITH  
A BIG PARTY  
THAT WAS A  
WICKED SUCCESS.

STARTING NEXT FALL,  
FIRST THROUGH  
FIFTH GRADERS  
WILL PARTICIPATE  
IN THE NEW,  
EXPANDED PROGRAM.

## IN GLEN CANYON PARK

Islais Creek runs through Glen Canyon Park, passing by the day care center beneath a bridge that provides access to

either side. Further up the canyon is the seep, a side meadow that flows into the creek. There's a boardwalk across the seep, since the area is muddy, in contrast to the dry, rocky hillsides above. Here, the meadow is dominated by ferns, cattails, checkerbloom and yellow-eyed grass. Park workers enclose some areas here to allow native plants to grow.

Monkeyflowers prefer the damp, muddy seep. Willow trees like the seep, too—this spring the creek collected additional water from the rains. The creek, once a major watercourse that powered generators for electric streetcars and local businesses in the 1890s, still runs through the meadow and wooded areas.

As the path winds through the park, the ceanothus, fringe cup, crimson columbine and Douglas iris grow in an area maintained by park employees and volunteers. In the spring, the brightly colored blooms attract bees. The purple Douglas iris has a yellow landing zone for bees to land and feed on the nectar. Pink checkerblooms grow March through May in the grasslands.

The path that emerges in the middle of the park, with a view of the rocks, was laid by VoCal (Volunteers for Outdoor California) and police cadets during a work party in June 2008. They also put in a new walkway next to the creek on the western side, and improved trails

in the Canyon. Climbers are attracted to the rocks in the area up the canyon, beyond the seep, where there is a grove of native oaks.

Back in the sheltered area by the creek, moss and lichen grow on the rocks, with horsetails growing by the creek, almost touching the water. Fringe cups and yellow dudleya flowers grow on rocky outcrops and flower from June to November. After the rain in February, the creek flowed up to the bridge; now it's returned to a lower level, but is still flowing well.

Some of the canyon's plants figured in California history. Early pioneers used soap plant to wash clothes, since it

creates a soapy lather in water. Onion bulbs and miner's lettuce grow along the creek, and can be eaten after washing the bulbs from the onions or the leaves from the miner's lettuce. Onions can be identified by their long stalks, small white flowers, and pungent smell, while miner's lettuce has light green, circular leaves and white flowers in the center of a leaf.

Farther up the path, the buckeye tree leaf out in spring; later on in the season it will grow large seeds that

hang from the branches. The houndstongue, which grows under the trees near the daycare center, can be identified by its long leaves and blue flowers in the middle of the plant. Other native plants include the coyote bush, pink flowering currant and holly leaf cherry, which on one day this spring was being visited by a pair of mourning doves, stellar's jays and a woodpecker.

On the way out of the canyon, I saw the baby great horned owl nesting in a tall tree by the path, looking over the natural area.

Visit the Friends of Glen Canyon Park website, <http://bit.ly/glencanyonpark>, for information about the park, including photos of plants, and activities taking place there. ♦

*Monika E. Lewis writes about our neighborhood canyon.*

## DIGGING THE DIRT

News from the Garden Club

Adventurous Bay Area gardeners and chefs are picking up on the latest craze with enthusiasm—foraging for edible

plants, in gardens and in the wild. Of course, we all need to know how to avoid poisonous varieties, but the safety rules are basic—don't eat anything you can't identify, and avoid plants that have been sprayed with chemicals or grown along a dog walk or on a street with heavy traffic.

The first place to look is in our own cultivated gardens, where many plants and weeds are edible. Orange and yellow nasturtium flowers add a peppery taste to a green salad. Blue borage flowers, pansies, violets, daylilies, rose petals and lavender flowers are edible. I avoid the leaves and stems (often too hairy or tough) and stick to the young, fresh, smaller flowers to decorate salads, cakes and cookies. The pale pink flowers of Society Garlic have a mild onion taste, and the leaves can be used as chives. Calendula is edible, and to my amazement so is the common weed *Oxalis pes-caprae*. The flowers are edible, with a sour lemony taste—good in small amounts. Perhaps a few tiny yellow flowers eaten in a salad is the best revenge for this invasive Glen Park weed.

From the wild and in our gardens come dandelions (the young leaves are excellent), dock, miner's lettuce, chickweed, wood sorrel (very tart), wild fennel, wild mustard, fiddleheads, purslane, stinging nettles, elderflowers, sea beans (aka pickleweed), a host of edible berries and, of course, mushrooms.

It's easy to get involved. Here are some resources where you can learn more about gathering edible wild plants, including a wonderful cookbook. A guided walk is a great way to get to know local and native edible plants. Have fun!

ForageSF has a website where you can sign up for popular Wild Food Walks that will show you how to pick the right stuff. ForageSF also holds a roving, underground supper club with delicious wild-gathered food prepared by local chefs. More information is online at [foragesf.com](http://foragesf.com).

Ask Bird & Beckett Books for a copy of *The Wild Table: Seasonal Foraged Food and Recipes*, by Connie Green. The author is the queen of Bay Area foragers, with many years of experience collecting wild food, including a remarkable selection of mushrooms and fungi. She supplies this bounty

to local gourmet restaurants. Sarah Scott, her co-author, is a chef. Super recipes—many with mushrooms and greens. It's a gorgeous book, worth it for the photos alone. Thomas Keller of French Laundry restaurant fame wrote the introduction.

*The Bay Area Forager: Your guide to Edible Wild Plants of the San Francisco Bay Area*, by Kevin Feinstein and Mia Andler, includes color photos that help with identification, and there's an iPhone app to assist in the field.

*First Ways: Urban Foraging and Other Wilderness Adventures*, is written by Becky Lerner, who is based in Portland, but clicking on the Resources tab on her website, [firstways.com](http://firstways.com), yields a mine of useful information relevant to our area. Good stuff on avoiding poisonous plants, where to forage safely and how to avoid harming the environment while foraging. Her book list and reviews are excellent.

*Hunt, Gather, Cook*, by local award-winning journalist Hank Shaw, is about harvesting the bounty of wild foods in North America. His book is charming, down to earth, filled with advice, recipes and photos for identification.

*Wild Edible Plants of Western North America*, by Donald Kirk, identifies plants and has line drawings; no recipes, but useful.

FeralKevin.com, apart from possessing my current favorite website name, is a site that is clear and easy to read. FeralKevin offers classes and guided walks for foragers in the Bay Area.

StarChefs.com has an informative article on a few of the top Bay Area chefs who use foraged food, at [starchefs.com/cook/features/foraging-san-francisco-bay-area](http://starchefs.com/cook/features/foraging-san-francisco-bay-area).

Mycological Society of San Francisco. Very geeky, and the best place to learn about which mushrooms are edible, and contacts for guided walks; visit [www.mssf.org](http://www.mssf.org). ♦

*Kay Hamilton Estey is the Glen Park Garden Club columnist for the Glen Park News. E-mail her at [khestey@mindspring.com](mailto:khestey@mindspring.com).*

### GLEN PARK NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

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## NEIGHBORLY NEWS FROM SUNNYSIDE

You might think that having spent two months in Rome, I would have nothing to write that would relate

by  
Bill  
Wilson

to Glen Park, but you would be wrong. Those who are inclined to complain about parking in Glen Park would have a major cause of anxiety in Rome. If there is a vacant inch curbside, wait a few minutes and it will be gone, taken by a scooter, a motorcycle or a car.

When you walk down some streets, you might think that Rome is the most bike-friendly city in the world. What look like bike racks, with metal U-shaped poles, are spaced every few feet, but in fact they are parking barriers, put there to prevent people from parking on the sidewalk.

There are too many of everything. Want to cross the street? You may have to walk a few spaces to find room enough between cars—even if you are in the crosswalk. I have no idea how someone in a wheelchair gets around in Rome.

Rome has banned private cars in parts of the historical center of the city. I have had the opportunity to walk down several pedestrian-only streets while on an afternoon stroll from Piazza di Spagna to Piazza del Popolo. It makes a great difference and it wasn't even the height of the tourist season.

The success of the Sunday Streets program in San Francisco, and events

like the Glen Park Festival, suggest that temporary closures of some streets would benefit local neighborhoods. Certainly, waiting until there is literally no room to park before dealing with the problem doesn't benefit anyone.

If you would rather come see for yourself, and if you have some flexibility in your schedule, I recommend that you visit during "Settimana Della Cultura" (Culture Week). For nine days, Rome's many museums have free or reduced admission. During 2012's week in April we visited 10 museums in 8 days. I know that doesn't add up but according to my native guide—my husband—the only thing worse than Rome during a bus strike is Rome when it rains during a bus strike. On Friday of Culture Week there was both a bus strike and rain, so we ended up taking a break.

There just aren't words to describe the awe and wonder inspired by all that art, although there is an official diagnosis to describe the effect of an overload of the senses that is produced by seeing too much—it's called Stendhal syndrome.

You can share some of the experience by viewing photos, from the museums that allowed picture-taking, on my website, [www.billwilsonphotos.com](http://www.billwilsonphotos.com). ♦

*Columnist Bill Wilson is president of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association, [www.snasf.org](http://www.snasf.org).*



Roman drivers park anywhere they can.

Photo by Bill Wilson

### San Francisco Real Estate Is Sizzling Hot!

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multiple  
offers over  
asking -  
closed in  
2 weeks



*We represented the sellers in this transaction, and listed this Surrey Street Glen Park home at \$1,049,000*

#### The San Francisco real estate market is hot right now!

Employment in the technology sector is booming, and confidence seems to be back. More often than not, we are seeing well priced homes in good locations sell over the asking price after receiving multiple offers.

If there is a problem with today's market, it's the lack of inventory in terms of homes for sale. Buyers want to buy, but there simply aren't enough homes to choose from at the moment. Those homes that are on the market are now selling at an accelerated pace.

If you have been putting off the sale of your home in recent years because you thought you might not receive a good price for your property, it could be time to reconsider. Interest rates are low and buyers are out there. We see them every week.

For a FREE consultation and an evaluation of your home's potential price in today's hot real estate market, please contact us. This is a special neighborhood. We live here, and we're very good at selling its homes.



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REAL ESTATE

# The Mitch Badran Legacy: Wiring Wizard, Math Whiz, Higher Grounds Regular, Unabashed Doting Dad

**M**itch Badran, raised in Glen Park and a daily presence at the Higher Grounds café for 28 years, died of congestive heart failure on Valentine's Day. He was 82 years old.

At the time of his death, Badran lived on Chilton Street, in a house that had been in his family since 1951. It was there that friends and family gathered on May 6 to celebrate his life. They recalled his talent for home repairs and his love of mathematics and, above all, his love of his daughter, Emily Dezurick-Badran.

"There wasn't anything he couldn't repair," said Marion Bellan, a friend. "Mitch was tenacious, he'd go on and on until any appliance was fixed."

His Chilton Street downstairs garage bespoke his tenacity. A workbench housed rows of well-used tools. The ceiling was crisscrossed with electrical conduits that ended in a state-of-the-art service box affixed to a wall.

"After Mitch put in the wires," said his nephew, Dave Peel, "the City inspector wanted his electricians to take a tutorial from Mitch on how to do the job correctly."

"A favorite memory I have of my father," said Dezurick-Badran, "is the inscription he wrote beneath his senior class yearbook photo. It said, 'I want to be a radio technician on the moon.'"

"We had an old black-and-white TV on the blink when I was a kid," said Peel. "Mitch took the back off it and repaired it."

Badran graduated from Commerce High School in 1947 and then enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He then made a

career as an electrical technician, working for PG&E, Fairchild and United Airlines before retiring in 1982 when Emily came along. He wanted to watch her grow up.

"Emily was his life," said Bellan.

If his daughter was his life, so was mathematics. On any given morning or afternoon, village friends could find him thumbing through physics and calculus textbooks at Higher Grounds.

"Mitch filled spiral notebooks with math problems," remembered Mary Huizinga, who lives on Laidley Street and often watched Badran puzzle over differential equations while he nursed a cup of coffee. "He notified publishers when he found mistakes in the textbook or the answers."

He built a Barbie doll house—replete with a working elevator—for his daughter, Huizinga recalled.

"Mitch kept everything Emily ever did," said Peel. Tacked to a garage wall, testimony to his affection for his daughter, was a collage Emily created, entitled, "Math Never Tasted So Good!"

"Mitch was comfortable with himself, always stoic, and he wanted no speeches," said Peel. "He wanted to keep things simple."

In addition to his daughter and her husband, Andrew Bishop, he is survived by Emily's mother, Sharon Dezurick, and several nieces and nephews. His ashes, along with rose petals, were scattered beneath the Golden Gate Bridge. "Afterward we celebrated his life with a bit of Armenian brandy," Huizinga said. "To Mitch," everyone toasted, keeping it simple. "It was great knowing you." ♦

## CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY

Summertime means that our annual Summer Reading Program is in full swing. It began June 1, but you still have plenty of time to join because it doesn't end until Saturday, Aug. 4. The Summer Reading Program is now for all ages. Each age group will read for a different number of hours to earn a grand prize: adults (19 and up), 40 hours; teens (13-18), 30 hours; and children (through age 12), 10 hours of reading or having books read to them.

Adults who read for 40 hours will receive a canvas tote bag. All who have reached that level will automatically be entered into a virtual raffle and a chance to win a \$30 Books Inc. gift certificate.

Teens who have read for 30 hours will win a journal and a blue-jeans pencil. All who have reached 30 hours will automatically be entered into a virtual raffle for a chance to win movie tickets, iTunes gift cards or VISA gift cards.

Children who read for 10 hours will get a choice of grand prizes. They can choose a book bag and journal, a book, or passes for such places as Pump it Up, Presidio Bowling Center and Aquarium of the Bay. Each library will also be having a weekly raffle, and children just

need to come to the library to participate.

In addition to encouraging people to sign up for the Summer Reading Program, the Glen Park Branch would like people to submit reviews so we can post them on our "Community of Readers" bulletin board. We have the forms available at the library. We would love to hear about what you have read recently!

You can sign up for the reading program at the library or online at [sfpl.org/summerread](http://sfpl.org/summerread).

The Community Calendar on Page 20 has information about other coming events. To find out more about our programs and other library news, visit our Glen Park Library Blog at [glenparklibrarysfpl.blogspot.com](http://glenparklibrarysfpl.blogspot.com).

*Denise Sanderson is chief librarian at the San Francisco Public Library's Glen Park Branch.*

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### ☉ Glen Park Association ☉

Quarterly meetings are held in January, April, July and October. Everyone is welcome, members and non-members alike. Annual dues of just \$10 support the Association's important work on behalf of the neighborhood.

**Thursday, July 19, 7 pm**, at Glen Park Recreation Center, in the park at Elk and Chenery streets. The agenda ranges from important current events to neighborhood history.

### ☉ Supervisor's Community Meeting ☉

**Saturday, July 21, 4 pm**, 101 Goldmine Dr.: District 8 Supervisor Scott Weiner will hold a community meeting at St. Aidan's low level activities room.

### ☉ Glen Park Farmers' Market ☉

**Every Sunday through Nov. 25, 10am – 2 pm**, Bosworth and Arlington streets, in the BART parking lot. Our popular farmers' market is more popular than ever in its second season. For information, visit [facebook.com/GlenParkVillageFarmersMarket](http://facebook.com/GlenParkVillageFarmersMarket).

### ☉ Friends of Glen Canyon Park ☉

With about 130 members, the Friends of Glen Canyon Park sponsor a variety of activities to maintain and improve our neighborhood park and enhance our knowledge and enjoyment of the city's natural wonderland. To join Friends of Glen Canyon Park, contact Jean Conner at 584-8576. For information about Friends' activities, visit <http://bit.ly/glencanyonpark>.

Meet behind the Rec Center for these educational activities in the Canyon:

☐ **Meetings and Plant Restoration Work Parties:** Third Saturday of each month, 9 am–noon. Next dates: July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15. Tools, gloves and instruction are provided.

☐ **Weekly Work Parties:** Every Wednesday, 9 am – noon.

### ☉ Sunnyside School ☉

Cathy Meyer has more information about these events in her column on Page 15.

☐ **Kindergarten Classroom Rotation:** Tuesday, Aug. 14, 9–10 am. Opportunity for parents, teachers and incoming kids to meet before classroom assignments.

☐ **Kindergarten Orientation:** Thursday, Aug. 16, 6–7 pm. Classroom and teacher assignments and orientation.

### ☉ St. Aidan's Episcopal Church ☉

St. Aidan's, 101 Gold Mine Drive at Diamond Heights Boulevard, offers a variety of programs that may be of interest to their Glen Park neighbors. For information, please contact the church at 285-9540.

**Food Pantry:** Every Friday, 1–2 pm, for low-income and disabled clients who live in the 94131 ZIP code.

### ☉ SFPD Community Forums ☉

**Third Tuesday of every month, 7–8 pm**, at Ingleside Police Station, John V. Young Way off San Jose Avenue. For details call the station at 404-4000, or visit the website [InglesidePoliceStation.com](http://InglesidePoliceStation.com).

All residents are encouraged to participate in these informative monthly Community Relations Forums hosted by Capt. Daniel Mahoney, Ingleside Station's commanding officer. Keep up to date on neighborhood police issues, get acquainted with the dedicated people who keep our neighborhood safe.

**Next dates:** July 17, Aug. 21, Sept. 17.

### ☉ Glen Park Branch Library ☉

Denise Sanderson, manager of the Glen Park Branch at 2825 Diamond St., oversees a lively agenda of events at our local library. See her column on Page 18 for more details. A full schedule is always available at the library, and all programs are free.

Following are a few of the events planned this summer:

#### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

☐ **Baby Rhymes & Playtime:** Every Tuesday (except July 10 & Aug. 28), 10:30 am. Rhymes, stories and fingerplays, ages birth–3 years.

☐ **Preschool Videos:** Second Monday of every month, 10:30 am. For ages 3–5.

☐ **Lizard Lady and her Reptiles:** Friday, July 6, 1 pm. For ages 6 and up.

☐ **Eddie Madril, Native American hoop dancer:** Saturday, July 21, 2:30 pm. For all ages.

☐ **Songs with Alison Faith Levy:** Tuesday, July 10, 10:30 am. For all ages.

☐ **Connecting Kids & Honey Bees in the City:** Saturday, July 28, 1:30 pm. For ages 3 and older.

☐ **End-of-Summer Reading Party with "It's in the Can":** Friday, August 3, 4 pm. For all ages.

#### TEEN PROGRAMS (AGES 12–18)

For information about these programs for teens, contact Marla at [mbergman@sfpl.org](mailto:mbergman@sfpl.org) or 355-2858.

☐ **Basic Knitting for Teens:** Fridays, July 6 & 26, 2:30 PM. Registration is required.

☐ **Teen Movie: "Flipped":** Friday, July 13, 2 pm.

☐ **Insect Discovery Lab:** Friday, July 20, 1 pm. For ages 8 and up.

☐ **Teen Book Swap:** Thursday July 26, 3pm. Get a free book—just swap us a review! The Teen Librarian will give free books to the first people who want them, until the books run out. You will swap us a bookmark review by the next book swap. The books available may include advance readers' copies, new or old titles, nonfiction or graphic novels/manga.

☐ **PS3 Gaming Day:** Thursday, August 16, 1pm.

#### ADULT PROGRAMS

☐ **Getting Ready for Kindergarten:** Saturday, July 7, 1:30 pm. Parents for Public Schools will be presenting this program to help parents learn what they need to know and do to get their child ready for kindergarten.

☐ **Film: "The Lady from Shanghai":** Saturday, July 14, 3 pm. A classic!

☐ **Author Talk: Dinah Sanders, author of Discardia:** More Life, Less Stuff, will give a reading and mini-workshop on small changes you can make to reap big rewards. Wednesday, Aug. 22, 6:30 pm.

### ☉ Bird & Beckett Events ☉

Bird & Beckett Books & Records, 653 Chenery St., presents literary and musical events under the auspices of the nonprofit Bird & Beckett Cultural Legacy Project. Admission is free, but requested donations make the series possible, and your purchases are vital to keep the book store open. Tax-deductible contributions to the Cultural Legacy Project help keep cultural programming alive in Glen Park.

Check online for the latest information at [www.birdbeckett.com](http://www.birdbeckett.com), pick up a monthly events schedule at the bookshop, or call proprietor Eric Whittington at 586-3733. Shop hours are 11 am–8 pm Monday–Thursday, 10 am–9 pm Friday–Saturday, 10 am–7 pm Sunday.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS:

• Sunday, July 1, 2:30 pm: Poets at the Plate – Baseball Poems.

• Sunday, July 8, 2:30 pm: "Look What the Cat Dragged in Again" – Whitman McGowan CD-release spoken-word performance.

• Sunday, July 15, 1 pm: LaborFest Writers Group Reading.

• Sunday, July 22, 2 pm: AD Winans – San Francisco Poems.

• Sunday, July 29, 2:30 pm: Renee Gibbons – Longing For Elsewhere: My Irish Voyage Through Hunger, History and High Times.

• Sunday, August 5, 2 pm: "Lost Keys" – Writers Zachary Bernstein & Chris Martin.

• Sunday, August 12, 2:30 pm: Joe Pachinko – Geek City Apocalypse.

• Sunday, August 19, 2 pm: Poets Marvin Hiemstra & Stephen Kopel.

• Sunday, August 26, 1 pm: Poets RD Armstrong & G. Murray Thomas.

• Sunday, September 2, 2 pm: Phil Cousineau – The Painted Word.

• Sunday, September 9, 2 pm: Poet Carol Tarlen Memorial Reading.

#### WEEKLY & MONTHLY SERIES:

☐ **Two book groups** meet monthly, at 7 pm. Call the store for title(s).

☐ **Bird & Beckett Book Club:** 1st Thursdays.

☐ **Political Book Discussion Group:** 2nd Thursdays.

🎷 **Live Jazz in the Bookshop:** A neighborhood party every Friday, 5:30–8 pm.

• 1st Friday of the month: Don Prell's SeaBop Ensemble.

• 2nd Fridays: The Jimmy Ryan Quintet.

• 3rd Fridays: The Chuck Peterson/Scott Foster/Don Prell/Ron Marabuto Quartet.

• 4th Fridays: The Chuck Peterson Quintet.

🎷 **Which Way West?:** Every Sunday, 4:30–6:30 pm. This concert series features Americana roots bands, jazz groups, world music performers, classical music and more. All ages welcome.

• July 1: Buena Vista Jazz – Trad Jazz Septet.

• July 8: Natalie Cressman's Pentagram – Contemporary Jazz Quartet.

• July 15: Noel Jewkes Quartet – Jazz.

• July 22: Charles Hamilton Quartet – Jazz.

• July 29: Axelrod/Elmore/Ventresco – Popular Music of the Ragtime Era.

• August 5: Barbara Hunter Quartet – Jazz.

• August 12: Bright Side Band.

• August 26: Jim Grantham Quartet – Jazz.

• September 2: Young/Griesser Quintet – Jazz.

• September 9: Sukhawat Ali Khan – Sufi Music.

• September 16: David Solbach Trio – Jazz.

• September 23: New Monsters – Jazz Quintet.

• September 30: Smooth Toad.

• October 7: Jay Sanders plays the music of Kenny Dorham – Jazz Quintet.

• October 14: "Messin' with Mezz Mezzrow" – Gerry Fialka and the Jazzbos.

• October 21: Ragtime Skeddaddlers.

• October 28: Pepper Adams Tribute – Jazz Quartet.

🎤 **Poetry with Open Mic:** 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7–9 pm.

• July 2: Jane Rades & Gail Mitchell.

• July 16: Jerry Martien & Carlos Suarez.

• August 6: Ronald Sauer & Steve Shwartz.

• August 20: David Beckman & Ed Coletti.

• September 3: Virginia Barrett & Bobby Coleman.

• September 17: Paula Hackett & Alfonso Texiedor.

• October 1: Rebecca Farivar.

📖 **Literary Talks:** Last Sundays at 2:30 pm (August to May). Walker Brents III addresses literary, mythological and philosophical topics. ♦