



Glen Park News

Saddle Trail Upgrades Make Glen Canyon Slopes Easier to Trek

The Saddle Trail, which runs along the rocky northeastern slope of Glen Canyon Park, has been given a labor-intensive makeover to reduce hillside erosion and make that part of the 70-acre neighborhood parkland more accessible for visitors.

by
Murray
Schneider

The project, part of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's Natural Areas Program, which began on Jan. 16 with construction of 62 box steps along the canyon's eastern hillside, was completed on March 1, after work crews from Yerba Buena Construction Co. spent the month of February building a series of narrower stringer steps that stretch along a western slope of the area.

Christopher Campbell, a Rec and Park Natural Area Program manager, inspected the stringer step construction work on Feb. 20, more than halfway through that portion of the project: "Altogether, 26 steps have now been

placed," he said then. "Rain and the hardness of the chert slowed the work."

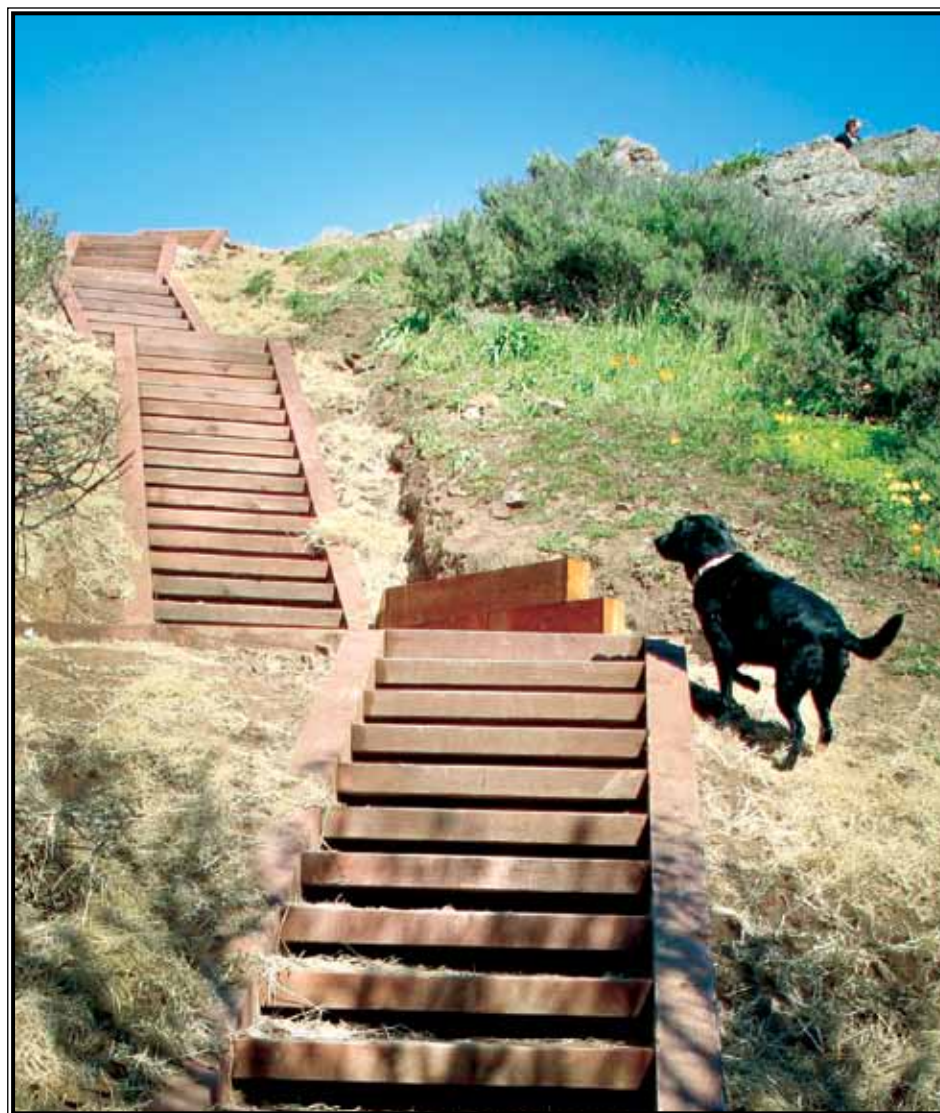
A week later, workers continued hauling materials up the work-in-progress.

Then, on March 1, the entire project was finished, ready for Glen Canyon Park day-trippers to enjoy.

"This is an incredibly rocky hillside," said Mike Hawley, a 30-year construction veteran. He pointed to a worker below him slinging a sledgehammer and another wrestling a bucking jackhammer. Hawley hails from Yosemite, where he has decades of experience building mountain steps: "This is a steep slope and these guys did great work."

The earlier Saddle Trail Project component had positioned 62 box steps on the eastern canyon slope, which now allow hikers to ascend from the Willow Loop Trail to a series of switchbacks that punctuate two chert outcroppings 120 feet above the canyon floor.

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New Saddle Trail steps improve hillside access.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf.

GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION MEETING

Thursday, April 11th at 7 p.m.

St. John School, 925 Chenery St.

The agenda, still being planned at our press time, will include matters of interest and importance to Glen Park residents.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GLEN PARK FESTIVAL
SUNDAY, APRIL 28 ~ PG. 2

GARDEN TOUR
SUNDAY, APRIL 28 ~ PG. 8

FARMERS' MARKET
SUNDAY, MARCH 31 ~ PG. 8

Muggings Keep Glen Park on the Alert

The request seemed innocent enough: A stranger approached a man and asked for the time. When the man looked down at his watch, the stranger grabbed the laptop from under his arm and ordered the now-victim to get down on the ground.

The victim "felt something pushing on the back of his head causing him to fall to the ground," according to the police report. Then, "two more suspects appeared and used their foot to pin the victim's head to the ground." The thugs rifled through their mark's pockets and

took his cell phone, wallet and shoes. That happened on Feb. 27, just after 11 p.m., at Chenery and Roanoke streets.

Seven weeks earlier, on Jan. 9, around 8:30 p.m., near Richland Avenue and Miguel Street, neighbors heard a woman screaming for help; she was being robbed. Multiple calls to 911 brought the police, but by the time they arrived the suspects had fled.

Still shaken, the victim told officers that as she was walking home from the Glen Park BART station, across the Richland bridge, she noticed someone had come up close behind her and she sensed danger. She said she crossed the

street and the man followed, walking faster and getting closer. Another man ran toward her from across the street. She was boxed in as the two assailants worked in tandem and reached for her purse and backpack.

"One of the suspects then grabbed her from behind and held her in a choke hold. The victim then yelled out for help but the same suspect covered her mouth to prevent her from screaming," according to the police account. They grabbed her purse and fled, jumping into a van to make their getaway. She suffered a bloody nose in the attack.

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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

Improving Muni service is a top priority for me and for many people in Glen Park. For Glen Park residents, reliable Muni service is essential to connecting to other parts of the city, whether riding the J to Noe Valley or Market Street, or taking the No. 44 up over Twin Peaks and into the Sunset. Many of us are fighting for more funding for Muni maintenance and service improvements, while also pushing Muni to making internal operational and system reforms to provide a better experience for riders.

One way we are working to improve Muni service is through implementation of the Municipal Transportation Agency's Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP). The TEP is a holistic approach to improve Muni's system-wide reliability and to provide faster trips for riders. The primary improvements being studied under the TEP fall into two categories: service changes, and proposals to increase bus speed. Service changes include rerouting bus lines, changing roadway design and bus stop placement, increasing bus frequency and changing the kinds of vehicles Muni uses. Pro-

posals to increase Muni's speed focus on improvements to corridors used by the busiest bus lines and rail routes.

One of the key candidates for improvement in our district is the J-Church between Balboa Park and the Church/Duboce intersection. Several changes are being considered, including replacing four all-way stop-controlled intersections with traffic signals, adding a transit-only lane on Church Street, adding a pedestrian bulb-out at 30th and Chenery, creating a new outbound boarding island at San Jose Avenue at Santa Rosa, and creating more consistent stop spacing. These changes aim to reduce the J's travel time between Duboce and Balboa Park by 12 percent, or 6 1/2 minutes.

Another proposal would extend the 35-Eureka to the Glen Park BART Station via Diamond Heights Boulevard and Diamond Street, in order to provide a direct connection between the Castro Muni station and Glen Park BART. The No. 35 would turn around near Glen Park BART using Wilder, Arlington, Bosworth and Diamond Streets. The segment of the 35 along Farnum, Moffit, Bemis and Addison would be eliminated.

While there are no proposed route changes for the 44-O'Shaughnessy, frequency improvements will lead to the No. 44 running every 8 minutes during peak periods instead of the current 9 minutes.

The TEP is now undergoing environmental review, and the draft environmental impact report is expected to be released this summer. Muni will be conducting community outreach starting in a few months. You also can check the website at www.sfmta.com/tep to find out more about the plan, to sign up for the TEP e-mail list, and to read the most recent quarterly TEP newsletter.

The TEP is an important program for the Glen Park neighborhood, the district and the City. It will help get us closer to having the reliable, efficient transit system that San Francisco deserves. Community participation and feedback are essential in this process. ♦

Scott Wiener represents District 8, including Glen Park, on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. To receive Supervisor Wiener's monthly newsletter or to follow him on Twitter or Facebook, go to www.scottwiener.com

Glen Park Festival Promises April Fun

The 15th annual Glen Park Festival will be held this year on Sunday, April 28, with lots of music, crafts booths, good eats and community-building on tap.

The popular neighborhood event will get under way at 10 a.m. and wrap up at 4:30 p.m. in the heart of downtown Glen Park.

This year's festival will feature a lively day of music on the main stage on Diamond Street near Chenery, with local music star Misisipi Mike Wolf returning for his third year as the Festival's Master of Ceremonies and DJ. The entertainment kicks off at 10 a.m. with kid-friendly Gayle Schmitt and the Toodalla Ramblers, followed by Misisipi Mike and Midnight Gamblers, up-and-coming Bay Area string band Nobody from Nashville, San Francisco trio The GoldDiggers, and finishing with the rockabilly riffs of Jinx Jones and the KingTones.

Come listen and dance to the musical entertainment, enjoy our many Glen Park eateries as well as the "Off the Grid" food court, shop and visit

more than 50 booths of local artists, craftspeople and community organizations. Be sure to bring the kids to the children's entertainment area on Wilder Street and to the new children's games booth at the corner of Diamond and Kern Streets.

Each year, proceeds from the Festival are awarded to schools and organizations that work with children in the Glen Park area.

The festival's annual raffle and T-shirt sales are two of the major fundraising vehicles for the grant program. New this year: In addition to the popular "tree logo" T-shirt, sweatshirts and canvas tote bags also will be available. Merchandise can be purchased in advance via the festival's website. Raffle tickets also will be available in advance of the festival at several neighborhood businesses, including Chenery Park Restaurant, CUP Café, Eyedentity, Glen Park Dental and Perch.

In 2012 the Festival raised \$5,300 to fund these projects: A new wood fence and gate for the garden area at Miraloma Cooperative Nursery School; updated books and materials

for the library at Fairmount Elementary, including fiction and non-fiction books in Spanish and English; an after-school enrichment project developing a new mural at Glen Park Elementary School; play materials at Glenridge Cooperative Nursery School, including a new water activity table and dado building squares; gardening and science equipment for the new Garden and Environmental Education Program at Sunnyside Elementary School; development of an on-site sustainable garden at Thomas Edison Charter Academy; and on-site learning opportunities with SaveNature.org's Insect Discovery Lab for children at Wind in the Willows Early Learning Center.

The festival is organized by a committee of volunteer residents and business owners. Additional help is always needed on the day of the event. To apply for a grant, volunteer for the Festival, make a donation, or for general information on the festival, visit the festival website at <http://glenparkfestival.com>.

And remember, in compliance with City law, the Glen Park Festival will be a no-smoking event. ♦

FROM THE EDITORS

Glen Park is finally stretching awake from its long winter nap. Despite the disruptive renovation project in Glen Canyon Park, the trails there are starting to see more people and dogs. The Girl Scout troop associated with St. John School has proved that commerce is on the upswing, if cookie sales at their table on Diamond Street near Chenery, outside Glen Park Cleaners, can be used as an economic barometer.

Glen Park Festival organizers are hustling to get ready for this year's street party on Sunday, April 28. The festival has proven to be a great community-builder—it benefits neighborhood youth programs and is bottom-line fun.

For those who are eager to pick up fresh veggies, fruit, nuts, cheese and much more, the Glen Park Farmer's Market is about to open its third season. It will kick off March 31 and run every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through Nov. 24. The market, located in the BART parking lot at Bosworth and Arlington streets, has become a popular destination, not just for Glen Park residents, but also for our neighbors in the Sunnyside, St. Mary's Park, Diamond Heights and other nearby neighborhoods.

We also welcome the village's newest business, fitGLENfit, a dog-friendly

gym that took over the Cheese Boutique's former space at 666 Chenery St. (The beloved Cheese Boutique moved next door in one of those all's-well-that-ends-well stories.) The grand opening of the gym on Saturday, March 2, followed a wine-and-cheese open house the night before, giving people a chance to check out the offerings and extend a hello to the proprietors, husband-and-wife team Jeanne and Dean Eriksen. We wish them much success.

On the negative side, we've seen an uptick in crime in Glen Park, mostly street robberies that involve thugs snatching people's laptops, smart phones and iPads as well as purses. The police warn us to beware, and we ask the police and the district attorney to catch and prosecute the culprits.

In the end, the community and criminal justice system must come together to say enough is enough and make sure the wonderful, vibrant streets of Glen Park are safe. The message: Call the cops if you see suspicious behavior; get to know your neighbors; and shop and eat at our neighborhood businesses. A strong neighborhood is a safe neighborhood.

And on that note, we'll see you at the Farmers' Market and the Glen Park Festival. ♦

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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GPA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Walk on Surrey Street west of Castro Street and see the progress at the Surrey Steps. What was once an informal path between Sussex Street and Surrey Street at the end of Penny Lane is now in the middle of a makeover with new plantings and timber steps. This shortcut is the outcome of a long effort of Surrey and Sussex neighbors to upgrade one of Glen Park's mid-block lanes. Penny Lane starts at Diamond Street, a mapped but unimproved street under Department of Public Works control.

As with other lanes in Glen Park, such as Ohlone Way and Poppy Lane, adjoining residents had added planting or grading with some eclectic results. Four or five years ago, though, neighbors had ideas to improve Penny Lane.

I spoke with Adam King, a Diamond Street resident (and an architect) whose property adjoins Penny Lane, part of the core of a group working with the Department of Public Works and the San Francisco Parks Alliance to make the

Surrey Steps happen. Adam contributed the design; the late Jeff Britt (a former Glen Park Association vice-president) worked on the planting plan; resident Todd Renschler attended Parks Alliance workshops and in 2008 founded Friends of Penny Lane, formalizing what had been an anarchic process, so the group can handle donations. There are more than 40 names on their e-mail contact list, with seven Saturday workdays scheduled through May.

But, like all good things in San Francisco, there was a process, with a lot of knocking on doors and talking with neighbors. DPW supports "Street Park" projects, where DPW corridors can be improved as greenways or pedestrian routes, but DPW needed to see a list of people supporting the plan, along with the project description, design, plant selection, budget and funding sources. That was accomplished.

The group has raised \$6,000 in donations for materials, and the Parks Alliance serves as fiscal agent to manage the money. The real budget is the labor

committed by the many people showing up for workdays. DPW provides tools for the workdays, as well as hauling away bags and bags of cuttings and waste. An unexpected outcome is that excavated dirt is going to Karen Peteros at the Bee Farm on San Bruno Avenue. For now, the first run of timber steps is in place from Surrey Street, and construction of concrete-block walls for planter beds has begun.

The Surrey Steps success has lessons for other potential "Street Parks" in Glen Park, such as the Bosworth Street corridor shown in our Community Plan.

Here are some important steps needed to move an idea forward:

- ▣ Identify a feasible project. Surrey Steps is only a first segment of Penny Lane.
- ▣ Develop connections with DPW, other City agencies and the Parks Alliance.
- ▣ Reach out to neighbors, and work to get buy-in and commitments. Expect questions about design, access and safety.

- ▣ Develop a budget and a fund-raising plan.
- ▣ Expect a core team to keep things moving, run the e-mail lists and work schedules.

After talking with Adam, I thought how the neighborhood calendar is always packed with "meetings": We had meetings on the Glen Park Community Plan. Meetings with charts and easels on the Glen Park Recreation Center renovation. Meetings on tree evaluations in the canyon. Meetings on public safety with the SFPD. Meetings to come: BART parking lot development; Natural Areas Plan; Transit Effectiveness Plan route changes in Glen Park. We discuss plans and policies, and comment on decisions by City agencies.

But we can also get together on projects like the Surrey Steps and get our hands dirty, dig up weeds, move soil and build new paths to connect our neighborhood. ♦

Michael Rice is president of the Glen Park Association.



WHAT OUR PATIENTS ARE SAYING!

Everyone at GPD is **kind, caring and knowledgeable**. My family has been going there for 7 years. The staff are wonderful with my 4 and 6 year old children. — Amber W.

I actually look forward to going to the dentist now. **LOVE** this place!! — Rob H.

Three words to describe GP Dental: **Friendly, courteous, and professional**. I have recommended many friends to them. Their appointments always start on time and they always try to work with you if you have dental emergencies. — Diana R.

"I love my new look. Thank you so much for giving me **a reason to smile again**." — Deborah J.

I barely felt the procedure as Dr. "Carlos" replaced two old fillings. Seriously—I didn't even have the "melting face" syndrome afterward! And here's a sentence you never hear: **"I was getting my teeth drilled and I fell asleep."** That's how gentle it was... I got in a nap! — Matt D.

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Glen Park Merchants Handle City's New Bag Fee with Ease

Barry Leonard, the owner of Critter Fritters, was skeptical at first about San Francisco's new 10-cents-a-bag fee, but he's changed his mind. "I thought it was going to be a pain in the neck, but from what I see here, it's working."

Leonard was talking about the bag ordinance at about 3 p.m. one recent weekday. "I haven't used a bag all day," he noted. Most customers have adapted easily to the push to bring their own sacks for their purchases. And, he added, that's good for both the environment and his bottom line—his shop is using 60 percent fewer bags now.

Before Oct. 1, when the charge went into effect for most San Francisco stores, Leonard and other shopkeepers absorbed the cost of bags as part of doing business. Now they get to keep those dimes if customers request bags.

Across Chenery Street at Glen Park Hardware, co-owner Susan Tauber said that people who buy a dozen nails still get a free bag to put them in. But if they want that smaller bag to go into a bigger one along with other purchases, then they must pony up.

"Most people have an aversion to paying for a bag," noted Tauber, who owns the store with her husband Hal.

That's exactly the point, said Guillermo Rodriguez, director of policy for the San Francisco Department of Environment. It's the so-called "check-out" bags that are being targeted, he explained. Individual food items—a loaf of bread or a half-dozen tangerines or a salad's worth of loose-leaf lettuce—at Canyon Market don't have to be stuffed, unprotected, in your pocket.

But the City wants the bread and the tangerines and the lettuce and the bottle of olive oil and the container of peanut butter and the quart of milk all to go into your canvas tote instead of a one-use-only paper or compostable plastic bag. It's the same with those dozen nails at Glen Park Hardware store and the cat toys at Critter Fritters.

"The anecdotal evidence is that there's a significant drop in single-use bags," Rodriguez said. He said his department will conduct an audit later this year to see whether retailers are complying with the ordinance, although he was vague about what would happen to possible holdouts.

San Francisco has joined more than

50 other cities and counties around California, and dozens more across the nation, in trying to discourage checkout-bag use. The City already had banned the use of plastic bags by large chain supermarkets and drugstores in 2007.

Some Glen Park food businesses, like their counterparts throughout the city, have another seven months to prepare for the dime-a-sack requirement. Destination Bakery, Tyger's and the other restaurants and sandwich shops all will still be able to put their sandwiches and baguettes in bags or boxes "protecting prepared food," as Rodriguez describes it. But as of next Oct. 1 they, too, will have to charge for the container bags those individual items go into.

Even though the change has not yet affected him, Joe Schuver, owner of Destination, says the ordinance is a good idea: "It's going to make people stop and think."

Canyon Market, Glen Park's biggest retail store, spends 17 cents for each large paper bag with handles, said Richard Tarlov, who owns the gourmet grocery with his wife Janet. Those thin dimes still don't cover the cost, but the number of container bags used each day has been cut in half and, at 7 cents apiece instead of 17, that's a significant saving for a business that buys its shopping bags in 250-unit bales.

"It's gone over really well," said Tarlov. But there are no plans to stop offering bags for people who either forgot their totes or stop in for spur-of-the-moment purchases.

Like other businesses around the city, especially food emporiums, Canyon Market sells reusable tote bags embossed with its name. The hardware store used to offer them, but ran out, Tauber reported.

Bird & Beckett Books has totes with its familiar songbird logo. Only about three or four customers a day ask for a regular bag, said owner Eric Whittington. He said, half-jokingly, he's considering getting a supply of butcher paper to use in bad weather: "If it can keep meat juice in, it can keep raindrops out."

In that vein, Ric Lopez at Modernpast said he offers newsprint and cellophane rather than bags to wrap smaller items. For those who want conventional bags, he keeps a dime jar on his counter for customers who don't have one.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Holy Innocents

visitors welcome

celebrating tradition & diversity



9am Sunday Family Service
This energetic celebration of God's inclusive love is designed to be child-friendly and is also widely attended by many who do not have kids. Coffee and refreshments follow the service.

During the school year, Godly Play begins at 10 o'clock for children 3 to 10. Based on a Montessori model, the children are invited to wonder about the meaning of Biblical stories.

11am Sunday Choral Eucharist
Following the model of more traditional Anglican worship, incense, organ and choral music are used in this high-church service. While it is a very traditional service in most aspects we use more inclusive language in our references to God so that a wider variety of 21st century people may feel included and so that we can continue to expand our image of a loving God. Children are always welcome. Coffee hour follows.

Last Sunday of each month, there is a single combined service at 9:30am followed by brunch.

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For more info, contact the Rev. Rosa Lee Harden: vicar@holyinsf.org



Dog-Friendly Gym Opens In Downtown Glen Park

It took Jeanne and Dean Eriksen longer than they expected to get their new Glen Park fitness business up and running. After they bought the 1917 building at 666 Chenery St.

and set about remodeling the former Cheese Boutique storefront, they spent a considerable amount of time restoring the tile on the building's lower façade, painstakingly removing decades of paint and searching out replacement tiles that match the originals.

The result of their effort is a subtle visual gift for passersby that enhances the village ambiance.

Inside, the 80 or so visitors who dropped in during the Grand Opening of fit GLEN fit on Saturday, March 2, found an array of more than two dozen exercise machines, plus weight equipment and an upstairs fitness studio. Many signed up for memberships.

The gym's "green" ambience is enhanced by a panel of living plants on the back wall, with a panel of moss as decoration. Energy-saving features include the neighborhood's

biggest (and coolest) ceiling fan.

Members receive a card that opens the door during whatever hours they wish to work out; a fingerprint scanner also allows access.

Like the Eriksens' first gym, fit BERNAL fit on Cortland Avenue, the Glen Park location offers group training classes including TRX, spin and yoga, for members and non-members. For information, visit their website, fitglenfit.com, or stop by the gym during staff hours, which will be posted on the website and in a front window.

A unique service will help time-strapped people facing the choice of whether to walk the dog or go to the gym: By appointment, fit GLEN fit will take your dog for a one-on-one walk while you work out.

As we reported last year, the Cheese Boutique moved to new quarters right next door, in the space formerly occupied by Dalere's Beauty Salon, which moved upstairs. The arrangement preserved two popular family-operated neighborhood businesses, while making room for the newest addition to the Chenery Street commercial strip. ♦



Jeanne and Dean Eriksen restored the building's façade. Inside are (below, clockwise from left) a full complement of workout machines, an upstairs room for classes, bikes at the ready. Photos by Denis Wade and Jack Orsulak.



Sunnyside Carpenter Built His Home in Glen Park—

After Chris Mickelsen built his two-bedroom house at 201 Joost Ave. in 1926, he decided he didn't want to stop with the bungalow that spanned the uphill side of Baden Street. So by Murray Schneider he went on to carpenter a good part of western San Francisco, including homes surrounding Stonestown.

Then he crossed the county border after World War II and, as construction superintendent for Stoneson Brothers, helped build Broadmoor Village in Colma.

"My father was an earlier riser," reminisced Ron Mickelsen, Chris's son, now 80, who was raised in the Joost Avenue house. "He believed America was all about opportunity, and he was willing to work hard to get it."

Chris Mickelsen was born in Aarhus, Denmark, in 1893, and several years later followed his parents, Hans and Laurine Mickelsen, to Whitehorse, Wyo., where Hans worked mining the coal that fueled the Union Pacific Railroad.

"My grandfather was an accomplished bricklayer," said Ron. "After the 1906 earthquake and fire, he and my grandmother came to San Francisco and helped rebuild it." Chris came too.

The Mickelsens lived at 511 Congo St., which perched on a windswept, eucalyptus-dotted slope where neighbors' chickens and goats grazed. Hans worked repairing brickwork destroyed by the quake, and Chris became a journeyman carpenter, poring over the Sears, Roebuck catalog to practice his English.

When World War I broke out, Chris enlisted and was assigned to the Presidio-based 91st Division. "Joining the army was the fastest way to citizenship," said Ron Mickelsen. "My father always said Denmark didn't do a darn thing for him, and he wanted to become an American as fast as he could."

While in basic training at Ft. Lewis, Wash., Chris met Anna Cramer, of Bellingham, whom he married after the war, in 1920. The newlyweds lived



Clockwise from top: Chris Mickelsen and his parents at their home, 511 Congo St.; Ron as a Glen Park schoolboy; Chris in his WWI uniform. Mickelsen family photos.

at 34 Nordhoff St., a one-bedroom, 560-square-foot earthquake cottage around the corner from his parents' home. Their first daughter, Evelyn, was born in 1921, followed by Lorraine in 1923. The house quickly became too small, so Chris built 201 Joost St. for \$1,000. The family moved there in 1927, and Ron was born in 1932.

Ron, who attended Glen Park

Elementary, James Denman Middle School and Balboa High School, recalls his Glen Park boyhood fondly. "The gym was new then," he said, speaking of the WPA-built Recreation Center. "But behind it was the creek, and we'd dam it up with derelict lumber and then swim before the Health Department came and cleared it."

Islais Creek left Glen Canyon in

an underground culvert paralleling Bosworth Street. Ron and his friends explored the culvert with flashlights at the ready. "There was a kind of grate to keep debris out, made of old railroad ties and spaced two-and-a-half or three feet apart, but kids could easily get through it. We never walked too far, though, before we got scared and turned around."

"There was a stable in the canyon back then," said Ron. "There were halters and ropes hanging, and there was never anyone around, so we just rode the horses."

On Joost Avenue, Ron played kick-the-can with neighborhood kids. "Our watchwords were 'What are we going to do today?'" Ron said of a time when a 10-punch Muni pass bought a boy days of adventures.

"We'd take the bus through the Inner Sunset and to the museum and the aquarium," continued Ron. "The de Young exhibited a First World War tank, and the aquarium always had the alligator."

The ferry took him to the World's Fair on Treasure Island, Key System trains transported him across the Bay Bridge to Lake Temescal in Oakland, and the Muni whisked him to the Sutro Baths, Playland and Fleishhacker Pool and Zoo.

"There was lots of empty land back then, and we had our share of dirt roads," Ron said. "There was a quarry near Baden and Mangels where people dumped junk and where we flew our kites."

In those days in Glen Park, a creamery stood where the BART station is now, a public library branch rented space on Bosworth Street across from Glen Park Elementary, and saloons punctuated Diamond Street.

"There was a cop who 'stationed' himself all day in the back of one of the bars," said Ron. "By the end of the day, when he'd walk out to check his call box on the corner, he had a red nose."

Glen Park Elementary, Ron remembered, bore similarities to a police academy. "Our principal was strict and the school was regimented," he recalled. "The principal carried a long-handled brass bell and made us line up, and then would shout, 'Go to Class.'"

Lorraine Monks, 89, Ron's older sister, has similar memories.

"We only had 20 kids in a grade," she said, "and on Monday the principal would line us up on the play yard and make us recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing the National Anthem."

Ron majored in horticulture at Cal

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and His American Dream



Left: Ron's sister (and Linda's mother), Evelyn Long, made a nostalgic visit to 201 Joost in 2010. Photo by Linda Peebles. Right: Ron Mickelsen and his niece, Linda Peebles. Photo by Murray Schneider.

Poly. After graduation, he was drafted, and was stationed in Austria at the end of the Korean War. Chris retired from home-building in 1950, and he and Anna moved to the coast. In 1957 Chris started a nursery on a 59-acre property just off Highway 92 in Half Moon Bay.

After his Army service, Ron joined the family business, which he and his wife, Christine, still run. Anna died in 1970 and Chris, in 1983. Ron served as president of the Half Moon Bay Chamber of Commerce, and is active in creating coastal bicycle trails and parks. In 2006, Half Moon Bay named him Farmer of the Year.

Ron's niece, Linda Peebles, a retired English teacher, remembers visiting her grandparents, Chris and Anna, in the 1950s. "I loved visiting my grandfather during the summer. We'd begin each morning listening to 'The Breakfast Club' on the radio," she said. "There was a big picture window and I could see trees, haystacks and horses. Later I'd help feed chickens and pick vegetables."

Evelyn Long, Linda Peebles' mother, Ron Mickelsen's sister and Chris Michelson's daughter died in January 2012. She was 90 years old.

And the Joost Avenue house? It's been sold a time or two since the Mickelsen's left, finally in 1994 to Sally Ross, membership chair of the Glen Park Association. Pruning her holly tree one summer day in 2010, Ross noticed a family looking over her shoulder.

Ross invited everyone inside. She seated Evelyn Long, who was in failing health, in the living room. Linda Peebles recalled that it was where her mother had listened to "One Man's Family," the long-running radio drama about stockbroker Henry Barbour and his family living in Sea Cliff.

"She had a great smile," said Sally Ross. "It was very nice for her."

Nice, indeed, for the daughter of an American carpenter, remembering one man's family that lived on a street called Joost in a neighborhood called Sunny-side. ♦

Glen Park Merchants Handle City's New Bag Fee with Ease

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Paul Park at Buddies Market said that his shop, too, sells only a handful of bags a day. "I ask the customers" whether they want a bag, he reported, "but most of the people say no." Jung Lee of Glen Park Delicatessen says 30 or 40 customers a day request bags, but perhaps his location across from the BART station at the intersection of several bus lines affects the bag business.

Even before the new ordinance went into effect, many of Cheese Boutique's customers brought their own tote bags or backpacks, said owner Rick Malouf. When people give him a dime for their

paper bags, he drops it in the tip jar, he added. One man put a dollar bill in the jar, saying it was prepayment for 10 bags.

Zoel Fages at Perch said he approves of the spirit of the 10-cent rule. "I understand the law—it makes sense in the setting of a grocery store," he said.

A lot of his customers are buying gifts, which he wraps in colorful tissue paper and nestles in a Perch bag—his version of a gift box adorned with ribbon. Fages explained that his bags are sturdy, made of 100 percent recycled materials, cost 22 cents each, and are "a gift from us to you." ♦



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Glen Park Plays Major Role in SF Native Gardens Tour

T. S. Eliot notwithstanding, April is not the cruelest month. In Glen Park, in fact, it may be the kindest month for the senses, when native plants in public and private gardens seem to have no goal other than to delight.

by
Jeanne
Halpern

Walk the trails in Glen Canyon Park and, at the boardwalk, savor the bright yellow of seep monkey flowers beside the deep blue of Douglas iris. Or visit any or all of more than 20 private gardens open to the public for one day only on the San Francisco Native Plant Garden Tour.

That day is Sunday, April 28, and this year, about half the gardens are in the Glen Park-Noe Valley-Sunnyside-Mt. Davidson areas. You'll discover native plants in sun and shade, in front and back yards, in driveways and on small sidewalk strips, and in flower pots on decks, porches and patios.

You'll see traditional gardens where native plants have been combined with exotics from far and wide. You'll find gardens with California natives only—and even gardens with only San Francisco natives. Some gardens have easy-access and others are webbed with trails and stairways. Fortunately, the garden lists provided on the website (see below) indicate the few gardens that some people might find challenging. In any case, a walking stick and sturdy shoes can be

helpful.

Sponsored by the Yerba Buena chapter of the California Native Plant Society, the 2013 tour also will offer opportunities to talk with local gardeners about starting native-plant gardens and which plants thrive in this area. You'll be able to pick up pamphlets about the advantages of natives, such as saving on water bills, attracting more birds, insects and butterflies to your garden, and keeping your garden colorful year round. In my garden, for instance, 48 species of natives were in bloom last April and 62 in May, but even January boasted 13, including manzanita (pink and white), ceanothus (many shades of blue), tree mallow (bright fuchsia) and the graceful silk tassel (luminous white). There's never a month without a bloom, and where there are blooms, can birds and bees be far behind?

The self-guided tour is free and open to the public on Sunday, April 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information and maps for the 2013 tour, go to <http://cnps-yerbabuena.org/gardentour> in April. To get a general sense of what the tour has been like in recent years, go to the same website and look at the 2012 or 2011 tour any time.

If you have specific questions, contact the tour chairperson, Susan Floore, at sfloore@att.net and be sure to write "Garden Tour" in the subject line. ♦

IN GLEN CANYON PARK

Over thousands of years of residence in the area, native peoples in California developed many and varied uses

for the plants and natural areas of their home. This includes studying these native plants and passing down information about how to safely consume and transform plants into food, medicine, clothing, supplies or shelter. Some plants can have multiple uses, from food, when prepared in a specific way, to building baskets, nets, bows, and arrows.

While some plants native to California are in short supply today, in previous centuries they were abundant and used regularly by native peoples, who also ensured that they would be maintained and replanted for future people to use. Our local parks allow these plants to grow in a protected area, continuing the tradition of appreciating what nature has provided.

Soap plant, so named because the bulbs can be used for cleaning, is one example of a plant with multiple uses. Fibers on the outside of the bulb are used to make brushes. To catch fish, cut soap plants were placed in the water, which would stun the fish so that they would float to the surface, allowing them to be easily rounded up with a net.

Soap plant is common in canyons and dry shady places such as Glen Canyon Park, and is identifiable by its strap-like leaves with wavy margins. The flower

stalk, ranging from four to eight feet tall, appears in late spring to summer, with one-inch white flowers that bloom in the evening.

In addition to its cleaning and fish-stunning uses, the leaves of the soap plant were sometimes eaten, after baking in the oven overnight to destroy soapy characteristics.

Many plants can be eaten—but only if prepared properly to remove elements that would be harmful to eat. Acorns, for example, have a tannin substance that is bitter to taste. But if the acorns are baked in an oven, ground into a powder and leached with water, they can be made into bread or soup, which featured in the diets of many native tribes. In fact, the acorns from local oak trees were a main food staple for a lot of people in the area.

The Friends of Glen Canyon Park website has additional information about the park, photos of local plants, and activities taking place there. Visit <http://bit.ly/glencanyonpark>. Work parties meet Wednesdays and the third Saturday of every month at 9 a.m. by the rec center in the park.

While the main Elk Street entrance is closed by construction, the park is accessible from Elk Street through a gate behind the softball backstop, opposite Paradise Street, or a stairway on the hillside opposite Sussex Street. ♦

Monika E. Lewis writes about our neighborhood canyon.

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Corny but True – Man Bites Dog at the Farmers' Market

Imagine my excitement when I discovered a favorite summertime treat at the Glen Park

Farmers' Market last September. No, not the berries, veg-

gies or other tempting traditional farmers' market fare. Down at the end of the market near Arlington Street a new stall was selling—corn dogs!

As a kid in the 1950s I looked forward to Pronto Pups at the Sonoma County Fair every July. Dispensed by a vendor who travels the county fair circuit, those hot dogs on a stick, dipped in cornmeal batter, are still one reason I drive to the

annual fair in Santa Rosa.

Even better are the hand-made corn dogs at the Nevada County Fair in Grass Valley, where all the food booths serve fresh food prepared on-site by area civic organizations. The local Job's Daughters have the corn dog concession—just look for the longest line.

In Glen Park, our corn-dog fix comes courtesy of Sticks, which offers a variety of sausages including veggie, all batter-dipped and deep-fried on the spot.

Proprietors Vanason Lam and Trung Tran told us they'll be back when our seasonal Market opens on March 31 this year. ♦



The Glen Park Farmers' Market is Back!

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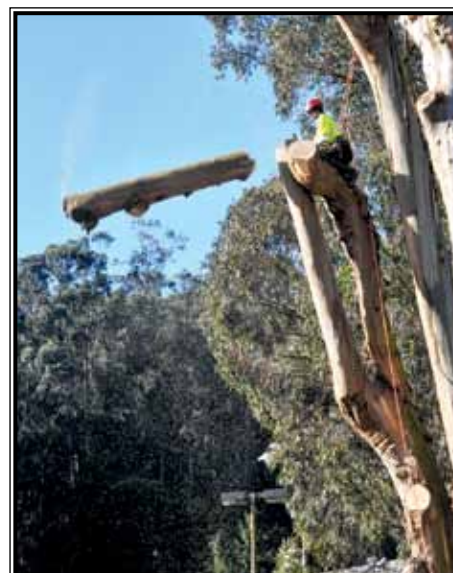
Glen Canyon Park Renovation is Moving Forward



By February, the old tennis courts and trees above them along Elk Street were history (above, photo by Denis Wade). Tree limbs littered the slope above Rec Center before being cleared (below, photos by Liz Mangelsdorf). In the treetops, a worker wields his saw (bottom right, photos by Michael Waldstein).



Construction work at Glen Canyon Park is well under way. After years of planning and community meetings, securing voter-approved bond funding and clearing legal and political hurdles concerning the removal of park trees, work commenced in early January. If all goes according to plan, it will be completed in November. In addition to the controversial, landscape-altering removal of trees near the Elk Street entrance, the old tennis courts and surrounding retaining walls, as well as the playground structures, have been removed. In addition, the Recreation Center is closed temporarily while a new heating system is being installed. Project boosters predict that, in the end, all the disruptions will have been worth it. There'll be new tennis courts, an updated rec center with ADA-compliant bathrooms, a new, larger children's play area and a more pedestrian-friendly Elk Street entrance. More information can be found at <http://sfrecpark.org/project/glen-canyon-park-improvement-plan>.



A Greener Neighborhood: Here's How It's Done

Limited by its geography, San Francisco is known for putting a premium on any amount of space.

Sprawl is not an issue in a city surrounded on three sides by water, and “infill” has become a mantra. Glen Park, with its hills and valleys, narrow streets and fixed borders, needs to maximize every square inch of empty or underutilized space.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) and the San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) have joined together to promote the greening of San Francisco neighborhoods through the creation of street parks and sidewalk landscapes in available spaces. The site could be a sidewalk, stairway, median strip, traffic circle or other vacant land.

This January, the department and the alliance held a workshop, at which people who had helped create street park projects in their neighborhoods got together to share ideas and tour some of the imaginative, beautiful sites. Also attending were those who have projects under way, as well as some who wanted to know how to get projects approved and started. Julia Brashears of SFPA led the session, assisted by Jerad Weiner of DPW.

Promoting green space is a lot easier than making it happen. The process of developing a street park goes something like this: Neighbors identify DPW land that isn't being used and complete a street parks application. They organize a neighborhood planning meeting and create a drawing of the proposed planting plan and budget, then submit it to DPW.

DPW makes a site visit to ensure the space is safe and accessible for the volunteers who'll be working on it. They

consider the completeness of the site plan, the budget and proof of community support and involvement. Having many neighbors sign a statement of commitment can head off objections later on.

One intriguing term that came up in the discussion of available spaces is “unaccepted street.” Even though a street is on the map, it might be too steep or narrow for the City to accept responsibility for maintaining it.

Or it could be a castaway sliver, the victim of freeway or other expansion. It could be just right, however, for residents to apply their creativity and sweat equity to turn it into a sweet neighborhood refuge.

The overarching concept that DPW looks at in evaluating a proposal is plausibility: Does the scale and scope of the proposed project match the volunteers' capabilities? There are limitations imposed on sky-high aspirations: no tunnels, huge walls or kinetic art, for instance. The right of way must not be obstructed. Qualified persons must do any construction.

Apart from enthusiasm, street-park projects need funding. There must be a fiscal agent to handle the financial aspects. The Parks Alliance does this through its Park Partner program. If the neighborhood group has no fiscal partner, the Parks Alliance advises on how to apply for funding and grants.

One source of funds is the Community Challenge Grant, which has been handled by the City Administrator's office since 1992. The CCG is funded through business taxes of 1 percent, tapping out at \$1 million annually. Grants range from \$3,000 to \$100,000.

There are two grant cycles, in the



Pennsylvania Street Gardens (above) replaced a mess next to a freeway ramp. Neighbor Annie Shaw (at center, below right) tells a group how she and others planted the garden. At left below, Aileen Barr shows tiles she created for new Hidden Garden Steps on 16th Avenue.

Photos by Michael Waldstein.

spring and the fall. The spring cycle is open until March 29, and grants will be awarded in June. It will then take another three to four months until all the paperwork is in order for the project to get under way. Projects that are already in process can also be funded with a challenge grant.

Each member of the Board of Supervisors has an annual \$100,000 discretionary fund for worthy community projects. This can be another support stream.

Veterans of this process say that it's better to start small and work from there. Some well-organized groups

raise a lot of money. Volunteers can build momentum by having regular workdays, sharing food and making it a party atmosphere.

Lanita Henriquez, the CCG program manager, says that there's a lot of competition for funds. Talking about a proposal with members of the Parks Alliance can give hopefuls insight into who else is applying, and for what. With the limited funds available, challenge grants probably won't be awarded to similar projects—for example, murals in different parts of the city.

DPW handles the day-to-day details



of the project, such as tool rentals and green waste pickup.

One thing many projects have in common is that the concept originates with one or two determined residents who are willing to jump over every bureaucratic hurdle to realize their green dream. They are the ongoing stewards, but they need to gather the support of neighborhood volunteers to build and sustain the project.

Pennsylvania Street Gardens, at Pennsylvania Avenue and 18th Street, is a spot along the off-ramp of the Mariposa exit of southbound Interstate 280. Annie Shaw, who lived across the street, got tired of her view of dumped debris and dog poop. Although she had no gardening experience, Shaw dug in. Beginning in December 2008, she spent every day for the next year devoted to improving that patch of ground.

She prowled Craigslist for free plants. Instead of going through bureaucratic channels, Shaw just did it, spending around \$5,000 of her own money. She admits the big risk she took, but along the way she gained support and help from her neighbors. Then DPW and CalTrans, which has jurisdiction over the freeway off-ramp, forgave her transgression. She's now creating another street park nearby, beside the freeway—this time totally by the book.

Aileen's Studio, at 18th and Folsom streets, is the incubator for The Hidden Garden Steps at 16th Avenue between Kirkham and Lawton streets in the Sunset. The stairway will be covered with mosaic, tile by tile and donation by donation, with lush garden-theme designs created in the studio. This idea is the brainchild of Liz McLoughlin, who wanted to create an effect similar to the first 16th Avenue Stairway a couple of blocks away.

Storrie Garden, at Storrie and 18th streets in the Castro, used to be a fine example of urban blight, an eyesore of runaway ivy, graffiti, syringes and other detritus. Then Blade Ferriter and his neighbors transformed it into a lovely oasis. It's a terraced garden with different zones of various plants and wildflowers that attract butterflies. A path of Urbanite, a non-asphalt material, snakes through the narrow strip. Along the way are benches to enjoy a concentrated dose of urban nature.

For information on Street Parks: www.sfdpw.org/index.aspx?page=1237; Community Challenge Grants: www.sfgov.org/ccg; Pennsylvania Street Gardens: psgsf.org.

Hidden Garden Steps: www.hiddengardensteps.org ♦

Work Completed on Saddle Trail Upgrades

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The 62 box steps, some weighing as much as 135 pounds, end at the 120-foot canyon crest, where the trail morphs into switchbacks that thread through two chert rock outcroppings.

The stringer steps comprise the last leg of a loop that descends from the switchbacks, back down to the Willow Loop Trail.

Steve Walker, another Yerba Buena worker, joined Hawley at the top of the narrow stringer steps when the project was almost done. "This is second nature to us," he said. "There will be 70 stringer steps when all is said and done."

The \$157,000 project was funded through a 2008 California Department of Parks and Recreation Habitat Conservation Fund Grant.

Lisa Wayne, manager of the Natural Areas Program, wrote the grant that is consistent with the program's land-management mission, which seeks to protect Glen Canyon's arboreal, plant, grass and riparian habitats.

The Saddle Trail Project is the third leg of the Wayne-written grant, which late last year funded sediment removal along Islais Creek and removal of invasive Cape ivy along a trail that leads to Diamond Heights' Turquoise Way.

Well over 400 habitat-friendly California native plants complement the 62 box steps, put in place in January. Volunteers from Friends of Glen Canyon Park planted 50 of these plants. The coyote mint, silk tassel, coyote brush and California sage that embroider the hillside go hand-in-hand with the adjacent native grasses, which provide sanctuary and sustenance for canyon animals, birds and insects.

"We wanted to mirror canyon plants and plant composition," said Christopher Campbell, a week after volunteers Ken and Monika Lewis and Kathy Velykis planted the shrubbery.

The rock bed housing the stringer steps is chert, the same geology that makes up the two outcroppings bookending the saddle.

The Saddle Trail Project is separate from the 2008 Glen Park Renovation Project, which is scheduled for completion in November 2013 and is funded by the City's voter-approved 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond. The same day that Mike Hawley and Steve Walker shouldered rebar up the stringer steps, workers near Elk Street at the bottom of the canyon were hauling debris from where tennis courts



Workers installed stringer steps (above) and box steps (below) on the Saddle Trail.

Photos by Murray Schneider.



stood only weeks before.

Up on the slope, surrounded by hammers, shovels, electrical cord, buckets and jackhammers, with the work nearing completion, Christopher Campbell surveyed what had already been accomplished. He watched several day hikers crest the hill, negotiating the switchbacks that eventually will be feath-

ered with California native plants and shrubs, enriching the park experience for everyone.

"It's about access as well as erosion control," Campbell said. "These steps improve access."

As the work neared completion, Mike Hawley smiled and noted, "These steps will outlast us all." ♦

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News from the Garden Club

Native plants are a great addition to the local garden—but challenging to write about as there are hundreds of wonderful plants to choose from. So

here is a short list of tried-and-true favorites of the Glen Park Garden Club members.

All these plants are drought-tolerant, disease-resistant and reliable, and they do not require much maintenance. It is often better not to irrigate these plants, because they are accustomed to our semi-arid foggy climate. Resources are listed at the end of this column.

California lilac (*Ceanothus* species): Handsome, slow-growing shrubs with small, dense lilac, pale blue or deep blue and purple flowers and interesting leaves, often glossy or deeply engraved. *Ceanothus* will grow into graceful shrubs that can be lightly pruned to shape. A great backbone plant for sunny spaces. Little or no summer water once established.

Pink-flowered currant (*Ribes sanguineum*): Tall, elegant shrubs with pale green leaves and long, drooping panicles of pink flowers in the spring. A lovely, deciduous woodland shrub that takes sun near the coast, and some water. Tough once established.

Bleeding heart (*Dicentra formosa*): A charming, low woodland perennial that naturalizes readily. It disappears completely in winter and around February will begin to put up dense fern-like leaves and then a host of pale pink flowers held well above the foliage. More regular water and shade will encourage longevity.

Douglas iris: These deep-purple perennial flowers have been hybridized into many colors, and are reliable bloomers, very pretty, with thin, strappy leaves. They can be cut back in the fall and last in the garden for five years or so before needing to be divided and replanted.

Salvias: There are many lovely peren-

nial native sages. Most are good food sources for hummingbirds. Try hummingbird sage (*Salvia spathacea*), with thick green leaves topped by bright pink, lobed flowers. This plant does well with regular watering, grows in clay soil and spreads easily. Musk sage (*Salvia clevelandii*) has thin, gray, highly scented leaves and lavender flowers—a mounding large shrub that is good in sun with fast drainage. The leaves will scent the entire garden in summer.

Mimulus or monkey flower: Sticky bright green leaves and pale yellow to deep orange flowers make this large perennial a standout. The plants looks punky during the winter and can be cut back, but they will return with vigor in late winter and bloom all spring and into the summer. Many different species and varieties are available.

And of course there are the annuals—plants that last only one year. Most of these are sun-lovers. Their bounty of color makes them worth planting every year, or starting from seed. They work well in containers. Good choices include bright gold and white tidy tips (*Layia platyglossa*); rich orange California poppies (*Eschscholzia californica*); deep blue thimble flowers (*Gilia capitata*); and pink, oh so pink, Farewell-to-Spring (*Clarkia amoena*). There are so many more, all worth trying in our local gardens.

For good plants and advice try Bay Natives Nursery (www.baynatives.com) on Cargo Way in San Francisco. Las Pilitas Nursery website (www.laspilitas.com) is a font of information on plants and conditions. Wikipedia has an informative entry List of San Francisco Bay Area wildflowers. For education and great plant sales, contact the local branch of the California Native Plant Society (www.cnps-yerbabuena.org). ♦

Kay Hamilton Estey is the Glen Park Garden Club columnist. E-mail her at khestey@mindspring.com.

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Spike in Muggings Keeps Glen Park Residents on Alert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Soon after, she posted an account online to thank neighbors for coming to her aid and to warn others of the danger.

Her account also showed the raw consequences of street crime.

“Physically, I am OK,” she wrote. “The muscles around my neck and throat are very tight and sore. My voice is hoarse. My left shoulder and muscles are sore from when they ripped the bag off my arm. I know all of these will heal in time. Emotionally, I am shaken/in shock.”

Between those two incidents, thugs attacked others as they walked the streets of Glen Park, often on their way to or from BART.

Police confirm there’s been a spike in muggings, not just in Glen Park, but in neighborhoods across the City—on buses and trains, on streets, just about anywhere robbers think they can grab loot and flee.

While that’s troubling enough, “one of the alarming trends is that they tend to be more aggressive, pushing people to the ground,” said San Francisco Police Department Capt. Tim Falvey, commanding officer of Ingleside Station, whose territory includes Glen Park.

In most cases these days, muggers are after iPhones, which can fetch around \$300 on the black market. Victims also are targeted for their laptops and iPads.

The robberies subsided a bit after

police busted three robbery suspects on Cortland Avenue in late January, confiscating a gun at the same time. Falvey said investigators believe the trio are responsible for several armed robberies. But their arrests didn’t stop the muggings, with new reports in Glen Park, Noe Valley, Balboa Park and surrounding neighborhoods coming in regularly.

There also has been a spate of home and business burglaries in Glen Park and adjacent areas that have kept people on edge. And while the numbers may not be alarming, the easy access to crime reports on neighborhood e-mail lists, for example, creates heightened awareness—and a stark reminder that our oft-bucolic village is in the middle of a busy urban corridor where crooks are on the lookout for crimes of opportunity.

Supervisor Scott Wiener, who represents Glen Park, Noe Valley and other neighborhoods in District 8, hosted a well-attended community forum in February to address residents’ concerns about crime.

Capt. Falvey said police have stepped up patrols in Glen Park and other neighborhoods under his watch—when staffing permits. Police headquarters also sends “violence-reduction teams” to San Francisco’s crime hot spots, which are determined by daily tracking of criminal offenses. Plainclothes decoy officers have been deployed in Glen Park, carrying an iPad. By mid-March, those fishing expeditions had yielded no bites.

Falvey also has asked his officers to park their patrol cars in high-visibility locations, such as near the Glen Park BART station, when they take a break to grab a cup of coffee or a bite to eat. That way they can walk a corridor, even if only for a block or two, and get to know the merchants and neighborhood regulars.

But, the captain added, the police can only do so much. He said law-abiding residents and out-of-town commuters and visitors can do more to keep from being victimized.

One of the first rules, he said, is don’t walk around with a cell phone or other electronic device in open view. Keep them tucked away. “Out of sight, out of mind,” he reasoned.

Motion-activated lights on the front of homes and businesses, or outdoor lights that stay on continuously after nightfall, serve as another deterrent. He also warned people who park their cars on the street to keep valuables out of view, and not to leave a garage-door opener in a car, likening the device to a front-door key that can give burglars quick and easy access.

But if you do fall victim to a street crime, Falvey cautioned against resisting, especially if a gun or knife is involved. Instead, he said, it’s probably best to comply with the bandit’s demand to hand over valuables, but at the same time try to be a good witness.

Don’t look culprits in the eye, which may only provoke them. Instead, slyly

get a good look at what they look like and what they’re wearing—the color and style of clothing and shoes; whether they have on multiple jackets or hoodies that can be peeled off during their escape; identifying tattoos, scars, jewelry and hair styles. Record in your mind their height, weight, skin

color. Listen for distinctive voices and speech patterns. If there’s more than one, what, if anything, do they call each other? If they take off in a car, try to remember what it looks like—make and model, color, decals, dents, full or partial license plate number. Note what direction they travel.

And if the suspects are apprehended, Falvey asks victims and witnesses to work with police and prosecutors. “Just because we caught them, doesn’t mean it’s over,” he said.

Members of Ingleside Station’s Community Police Advisory Board also are gearing up to lobby prosecutors and the courts to not go soft on violent offenders. District Attorney George Gascón told the Glen Park News that he is aware of the community’s concerns and takes such crimes seriously.

“We have seen a rise in burglaries and robberies in the Glen Park neighborhood, especially around mass transit areas,” Gascón said. “We are working with the community on neighborhood awareness, prevention campaigns and prosecution of crimes to make Glen Park a safer place to live.” ♦

Jeff Britt, an Avid Gardener and Orchid Specialist, Dies

Jeff Britt, a founding member of the Glen Park Garden Club who had a distinguished career in horticulture and garden design, died in February after a valiant battle against cancer.

The longtime Glen Park resident passed away peacefully at home with his friend, Kevin Ames, and his beloved dog at his side. He is survived by his mother, Helen Britt.

An avid gardener, Jeff started his first vegetable garden at age 11, mowed lawns in his Marin County neighborhood as a boy and put himself through college by working as a gardener. He graduated from UC Davis with a degree in Plant Science/Environmental Horticulture in 1978 and worked in horticulture ever since.

In 1981, after working as an assistant manager at a retail nursery in Marin, Jeff began a 26-year career at Rod McLellan Co. in South San Francisco, where he rose to president and CEO. The company was known worldwide as one of the most diversified horticultural businesses, offering a wide variety of plants, cut flowers and foliage, and soil and fertilizers under the Supersoil brand.

Jeff started there as an orchid grower and hybridizer, eventually becoming the head of the orchid department. As a breeder, he created some of the most widely distributed and popular orchids sold around the world today, such as Colmanara Wildcat. His expertise in

orchids took him around the world, speaking at conferences and symposia and consulting at other nurseries.

All through his professional life in horticulture, he designed and developed many gardens, some his own, but mostly for friends and family. Thanks to his encyclopedic knowledge of roses and garden plants and a painterly eye for their use in garden design, his gardens are uniquely beautiful.

His passion for horticulture and gardening was showcased in his own exquisite garden in Glen Park. He always had the best, most interesting and lovely plants in his English-style garden and it was crammed with many kinds of roses and blooms of all types.

His inclination to continually develop and experiment in his own garden made it always interesting to visit. Indeed, his garden was on many garden tours, including the Open Days program for the Garden Conservancy, the California Horticultural Society and the Glen Park Garden Club.

Jeff’s garden is featured in the book *Great Gardens in Small Spaces* (Melba Levick and Karen Dardick, Rizzoli, 2003) and in *Martha Stewart Living*.

Locally, Jeff helped build and maintain the Village Garden at the bend of Diamond Street just above Chenery Street. He also generously advised and mentored other Glen Park gardeners and freely gave plant cuttings. His plants are now in gardens throughout Glen Park. ♦

“ONE OF THE ALARMING
TRENDS IS THAT
THEY TEND TO BE
MORE AGGRESSIVE,
PUSHING PEOPLE
TO THE GROUND”

GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE

There's nowhere for interest rates to go but up!

The real estate market in San Francisco continues to improve, and prices are continuing their climb, due mainly to the still record-low inventory and low interest rates. Interestingly, though, sellers who are trying to push prices too far are being corrected by the market. There is a limit to what most people will pay for a home—even here.

From Oct. 28, 2012, thru Feb. 19, 2013, 25 homes were sold in our neighborhood for an average price of \$1,100,354, which is consistent with the past three quarters. In the last quarter, the median list price in Glen Park was \$899,000, while the median sale price was \$975,000. Sale prices here remain about 10 percent over asking.

At the regular meeting of the Federal Reserve in January, the Fed assured the market that it will keep its bond-buying program in place indefinitely. For you and me, that means interest rates should remain low for the time being.

When clients and friends ask me about refinancing their existing home loans, I recommend doing it now. There's nowhere for rates to go but up. A general rule of thumb is that if your current mortgage rate is more than 1 percent higher than the current interest rates, you will save money in the long term by refinancing.

Here's a simple example: Your currently have a fixed mortgage of \$450,000 at 5 percent interest. If you are able to refinance at 4 percent, over the term of the loan you will save close to \$100,000.

One thing that causes people to hesitate about refinancing is that they think they can't qualify for a refi. It is certainly more difficult to qualify than it was several years ago. Even if you have a lot of equity in your home and you are making your current payments and haven't missed any, the banks are much more stringent in their requirements.

I asked mortgage broker Debbie Stedt of Guarantee Mortgage (dstedt2825@aol.com) for some tips for anyone considering a refi. Here are her recommendations:

To obtain a mortgage, all income, assets and debts must be documented, so get your documentation in order. All documents must be current. Many lenders will require updated pay stubs and asset statements after 30 days, and require a credit update after the first of the month for updated mortgage payments.

A credit refresh is ordered by the

lender before loan documents are drawn. Any new debts can impact the loan approval, so it's best to avoid assuming new debts while going through the loan process. Credit inquiries, variations in name, and questionable previous addresses must be explained in a signed letter.

Asset statements must include all pages. The source of any large deposit into any of your accounts must be explained. Large deposits are defined as more than 10 percent of the borrower's monthly income.

Self-employed borrowers must prepare signed year-to-date profit-and-loss statements. The income from the last two years' taxes returns will be used for qualifying, and must be verified by the IRS with tax transcripts.

Verbal verification of employment will be confirmed before loan documents are drawn, and again before the loan is funded. Borrowers should notify their lender of any employment changes to avoid any delays or problems with final funding.

Throughout the process, as conditions are submitted to the lender, they may request additional conditions based on the documents provided.

Federal Reserve and consumer protection agency regulations are being heavily monitored, so all lenders are making sure they cross their t's and dot their i's.

In summary, you will be asked to provide documentation on everything short of your first-born. Don't fight it and don't be surprised. You want the loan, so be prepared and proactive. Get your documentation together and contact a mortgage broker.

I'd love to make this an interactive column, answering any questions that you may have and writing about topics that would be of interest to you. You can send any questions or topic requests to marc@herth.com or the Glen Park News, 2912 Diamond St., #407, San Francisco, CA 94131. ♦

Marc Dickow, a Glen Park resident, is a Realtor at Herth Real Estate. He can be reached at marc@herth.com, or 722-4018. His website is www.altrockrealtor.com.

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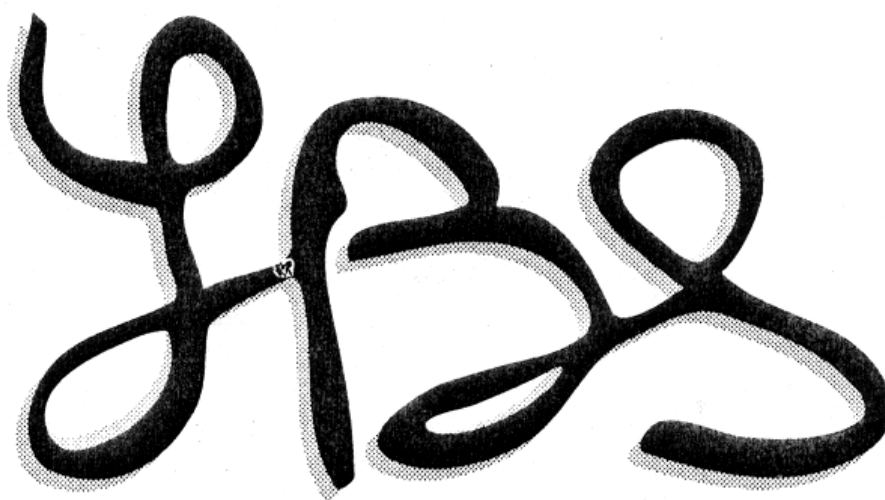
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Recent Glen Park Sales

ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM*	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE
1007 Chenery St.	10/31/12	118	703,300	705,000
115 Mateo St.	11/1/12	21	995,000	1,210,000
775 Chenery St.	11/7/12	13	965,000	1,130,000
45 Farnum St.	11/15/12	35	899,000	910,000
50 Conrad St.	11/20/12	5	798,000	875,000
1821 Church St.	11/20/12	25	1,695,000	1,950,000
143 Burnside Ave.	11/26/12	20	699,000	700,000
35 Melrose St.	11/28/12	46	729,000	799,000
924 Chenery St.	11/29/12	13	775,000	975,000
210 Laidley St.	11/29/12	15	1,199,000	1,900,000
57 Bemis St.	12/3/12	89	1,290,000	1,290,000
140 Moffitt St.	12/4/12	33	799,000	852,000
15 Surrey St.	12/7/12	77	1,825,000	1,825,000
464 Chenery St.	12/7/12	43	789,000	922,000
264 Surrey St.	12/12/12	14	675,000	850,000
2510 Diamond St.	12/14/12	14	799,000	1,010,000
2614 Diamond St.	12/21/12	27	929,000	1,060,000
2400 Diamond St.	12/31/12	44	1,795,000	1,885,000
2469 Diamond St.	12/31/12	23	929,000	1,025,000
150 Arbor St.	1/11/13	20	699,000	760,000
44 Nordhoff St.	1/15/13	76	899,000	950,000
155 Farnum St.	1/24/13	82	698,000	790,000
360 Chenery St.	1/31/13	14	995,000	1,200,000
248 Arlington St.	2/6/13	35	850,000	850,000
196 Lippard St.	2/8/13	80	1,099,900	1,085,000

*DOM - Days on market



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Work Resumes on Condos



Four partially built condominiums on Rousseau Street between San Jose Avenue and Bosworth Street, abandoned years ago when the housing bubble burst, are finally evolving from eyesore to actual dwellings. Neighbors, happy that an end to the blight may be in sight, say they will be even happier when construction crews stop blocking the street and parking on the sidewalks. Eight condos on Bosworth Street, at right in the bottom picture taken from Arlington Street, were completed and sold in 2012.

Photos by Denis Wade

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in every sense of the word. I had a great feeling of confidence with him handling even the most minute details of selling my home. He is personable, always available and has a lot of insight into the emotional factors involved in a real estate transaction. I would recommend him to anyone who wants a **person of high integrity.**

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CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY

The Glen Park Library is expanding options for accessing online courses and e-books for the tech-savvy and beginners alike.

In our database collection, we have added Ed2Go — online, instructor-led courses for professional development and personal enrichment. Ed2Go offers a variety of courses in areas such as business, technology and personal development. Whether you'd like to master Microsoft Excel, explore holistic and integrative medicine, or get started on your screenplay, Ed2Go has a class for you. Courses start every month, and run for six weeks.

We now offer monthly drop in e-reader training, on the second Tuesday of the month at 3 p.m. We have added Axis360, which features children's picture stories, cookbooks, travel and craft titles.

The Blio reader can download your items from Axis360 onto smartphones, tablets and personal computers, including Windows, Mac OS/iOS and Android. However, the Blio reader is not compatible with Kindle e-Readers other than the Kindle Fire.

Elsewhere in the San Francisco Library system, the next-to-last rebuilt or remodeled branch library just opened its doors. On Saturday, Feb. 23,

the Bayview Branch Library reopened in a new building at the intersection of Third Street and Revere Avenue.

The new, seismically safe and accessible 9,000-square-foot library was built to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Its environmental features include solar panels, two living roof gardens and an innovative air-circulation system.

The new Bayview library features a designated teen area, a children's area with interactive learning spaces, and an expanded collection of books and materials. There also are a large Chinese-language collection, more public computers, two quiet study rooms, an interior courtyard and a meeting room with after-hours access for community meetings and events.

The Bayview Library is easy to reach from Glen Park on the 44 Muni bus line.

The Community Calendar on Page 16 has information about coming events at our local library. To find out more about our programs and other library news, please visit our Glen Park Library Blog at glenparklibrarysfpl.blogspot.com. ♦

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



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✿ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ✿

Glen Park Elementary School

Forty-two Glen Park students took their seats on stage for the second annual Glen Park Elementary School Spelling Bee on Jan. 13. The students, representing all six grades, had been preparing for the Bee since December, when the whole school participated in the Great American SpellCheck, a fund-raiser leading up to the Bee itself.

The audience of students, teachers and parents cheered for the spellers and watched intently as the 42 gradually dwindled to two students. In a nail-biting back-and-forth finish, fifth grader Rahul Bulsara and fourth grader Brandon Stites battled for nine rounds, until a champion was declared.

Rahul will represent Glen Park at the next level of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, the San Francisco Chronicle Regional Bee. We are proud of all our spellers, and our whole school is cheering for Rahul as he continues to represent our school.

Good luck, Rahul!

Chess classes: This school year, David Flores, father of one of our kindergarten students, has been volunteering at recess to teach our kids to play chess. It has been so successful that we've expanded the program.

The Parent Teacher Organization has purchased five more chess sets so up to 20 students can play at one time. David is teaching the fundamentals, and he even organized a team that has been participating in tournaments with other public and private-school students in San Francisco.

The PTO would like to expand this program further, so if you are interested in volunteering with David, contact us through glenparkpto@gmail.com.

Shape UP Walk: The second Glen Park Elementary Shape UP Walk will take place on Friday, March 22. Like last year's walk, this is a school-wide fitness event with a fund-raising component. The challenge is to have our entire school "walk" the coast of California, a distance of 1,016 miles. Funds collected from the event are used to support the Playworks program at our school.

The walk will be in the afternoon on Friday March 22nd. An obstacle course will be set up in the main yard for K-2 students, and children in grades 3-5 will be walking laps around the school. This year, we are partnering with Kintera, a company that provides online fund-raising hosting for nonprofit

organizations.

Playworks is a national nonprofit organization that transforms schools by providing play and physical activity at recess and throughout the school day. Through on-site direct service and trainer-led professional development workshops, Playworks restores valuable teaching time, reduces bullying, increases physical activity and improves the school and learning environment.

At Glen Park, the PTO committed to providing the necessary financial support for this important program.

Anyone can sponsor one of our students or give to our school through the website. To get started online, go to: glenparkpto.kintera.org/shapeup2013.

Kindergarten tours: Glen Park School looks forward to welcoming our new families this spring. SFUSD assignment letters will be in mailboxes around March 16. We will have tours for new families on Tuesday, March 19, and again on April 2 and 9. The PTO will also be hosting a morning coffee on those dates, so stop by at 8:40 for coffee and a chance to meet our great school community.

Glen Park Festival: We are also looking forward to the Glen Park Festival. Our school will have a booth, with a muffin and cookie bake sale and children's activities. We will also be selling our fabulous Glen Park Hoodie sweat-shirts, so you can wear your neighborhood pride on your chest and support your local school at the same time. Make sure to stop by our booth, or order one before they sell out at glenparkpto@gmail.com. We love being a part of this neighborhood! ♦

Shelley Wharton Smith is co-president of the Glen Park Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization.

Sunnyside Elementary School

School is back in session, and Sunnyside is thriving. In just two years, we've grown to a student body of 400, up from 330. To accommodate the rising demand, our building and grounds are undergoing major renovation. The project will add permanent classrooms and shared spaces to our main building, enhance disabled accessibility and fire-life safety, and bring other improvements to Sunnyside. This project is currently in its planning phase. Construction will start in summer 2013. Funds come from voter-approved Proposition A, the third and final installment of \$1.3 billion in

bonds to modernize and improve safety in San Francisco Unified School District facilities.

The green space at Sunnyside is growing, too! A generous grant from the Glen Park Association allowed Sunnyside to expand its Garden and Environmental Education Program, with a new program coordinator, weekly classroom activities, new supplies and additional green space for our students.

We have also launched monthly Garden Work Days. One Saturday or Sunday each month, you will see a team of parents and community volunteers on the school grounds and along the perimeter, doing a variety of garden duties. Our next Garden Work Day is Saturday, Sept. 22, from 9 a.m. to noon. We invite community members to drop by to lend a hand, or to simply say hello. For more information, please contact Cathy Meyer at mulkeymeyer@att.net.

Additional grants have allowed our school to maintain a rich and dynamic arts program. Flyway Productions is coming back this year to lead a semester-long series of dance classes for first and third graders. Neighbors might remember Flyway Productions from last year. They had a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to produce a free, site-specific dance piece.

Entitled "Wall Ball," the piece was performed on the roof and along the outer walls of our school.

We're also pleased to welcome back San Francisco poet Gail Newman as Sunnyside's poet-in-residence. Other arts programming at our school includes music, visual arts and theater.

Another important date to keep in mind is Oct. 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., when Sunnyside will hold its first Bike Festival. This is a free community event, and everyone is invited! Held in partnership with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's Safe Routes to School Program and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, our Bike Festival will include bike safety tips, "freedom from training wheels" workshops, bike repairs, a community bike swap, food and other activities.

We are also collecting bikes of any size to donate to Sunnyside families who cannot afford to purchase them. If you have a bicycle you would like to donate for this purpose, please contact Cathy Meyer at the above e-mail address.

We look forward to a great school year and to seeing our neighbors and friends in Glen Park. ♦

Leah Tarlen is president of the Sunnyside Elementary School PTA



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Ede Lauterbach, Pioneer Flight Attendant, Dies at 91

Longtime Glen Park resident Edith Lauterbach, a co-founder of the first union that fought for fair labor practices and higher salaries in the airline industry, died on Feb. 4.

Ede, as she was known, was one of five United Airlines flight attendants who, in 1945, organized the union now known as the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, which announced her death. She was 91.

The Washington-based union said in a statement: "The evolution of the flight attendant profession and the legacy of Edith Lauterbach go hand in hand. Her fearlessness and devotion to advancing rights at work paved the way for thousands of flight attendants."

John H. Hill, assistant director for aviation at the Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum at San Francisco International Airport, called her "a central figure in the development of the flight attendant profession and its labor history."

Lauterbach, who was also a charter member of the CWA's Retiree Association of Flight Attendants, moved to Glen Park in 1975. An inveterate gardener, she lived at the intersection of Arbor and Diamond streets.

A native of Oxnard in Southern California, she grew up on a five-acre farm. Her father was a high school chemistry teacher who raised chickens and pigs, and her mother loved gardening.

"My mother grew flowers and peanuts," Ede recalled during an interview in August. (See the Winter 2012 Glen Park News.) "The best thing about growing up on a farm was you never had to pay for your fruits and vegetables."

Her love of baseball was a life-long passion. "We grew up playing baseball in the pastures," she said. "The boys took turns at bat and we'd catch the fly balls."

Ede went to work for United three years after she graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, at a time when stewardesses were required to be unmarried and to adhere to strict weight, height and appearance requirements.

Pent-up demand for higher salaries, with the lifting of World War II wage ceilings, percolated through the booming American economy. Ede and four colleagues pushed for a union to fight on behalf of their profession.

"These five women were all very special," said retired United flight attendant Georgia Nielsen, who met Ede in 1976. "Pilots were receiving increases in their salaries, and Ede felt it only just that flight attendants did, too."

Ede remained an activist for workers her entire life.

Marcy Ballard was Ede's neighbor for 37 years. A retired high school English teacher at Jefferson High School in Daly City and a former president of the American Federation of Teachers, Local 1481, she recalled, "We'd whis-

per to each other 'Solidarity Forever' every time someone would make an anti-labor remark."

"Ede will be remembered as a friend of all working people, both men and women," said Nielsen, a past president Local AFA-CWA, Council 11. "Ede enriched our lives, giving us all access to the good life."

Ede found time to be a good neighbor, helping start the first Glen Park neighborhood watch.

"When my husband Jim was ill for seven years with Lou Gehrig's disease, Ede would go to the farmer's market and bring fruit and other thoughtful gifts to the nurses taking care of him," her neighbor Marcy Ballard said. "With Ede gone, Glen Park will never be the same."

Ede's neighbors reciprocated her generosity, ringing her doorbell, inquiring about her welfare and running errands as she grew frailer.

"Ede was so happy in Glen Park, and good neighborhoods are so hard to find," said Lisa Lauterbach, Ede's Southern California niece. "Ede was surrounded by fantastic women the likes of Sue Fitzgerald, Patty Phillopian and Marcy Ballard, all of whom were wonderful and made Ede's life so much more comfortable."

In recognition of Ede's contribution to air travel, the union's board of directors resolved that every Oct. 1, her birthday, be declared "Union Founders Day," and that "each year on that date



we pause to remember our founding mothers and reflect on their contribution to our profession."

At the SFO museum, Hill said that in 2004 she spoke on "Creating and Sustaining the Flight Attendants Union" at a symposium at the airport.

"Ede continued to make a difference in the well-being of her colleagues and the safety of her passengers," said Hill. "We feel privileged to help sustain the legacy of Ede's extraordinary career for the public benefit, and we will always be grateful for her generosity and the warmth of her personality."

Said Nielsen: "Ede had a wonderful approach to both women and men. She had a soft touch with both colleagues and passengers." ♦

Hey Drivers: Slow Down!

We're all busy, but a recent incident reminded me that trying to shave a few minutes off a car trip just isn't worth it.

On January 30 I sent an email to the Glen Park Parents list reminding drivers

not to try to scoot past the line of cars dropping-off students at St. John School on Chenery Street by driving in the oncoming traffic lane to get around them. Here's what I posted:

"Last week one of St. John's student-crossing guards was almost killed by someone who tried to go around the line. Which is why SFUSD Officer Murray was sitting on his motorcycle across from the school this morning. Which I found out when he pulled me

over for (stupidly, arrogantly and dangerously) doing exactly that.

"I looked at my watch from the time he pulled me over to when he finished running my license. It took 130 seconds for the line of cars to clear. I put children at risk, and broke the law, to save myself just over two minutes time. I'll waste that staring out the window today.

"But at the time it seemed intolerably long so I looked down the street, saw there were no cars coming in the other direction and scooted past five cars waiting to drop kids at school.

"We live in a crowded city and sometimes things slow down on the streets. But really, what was I thinking? 130 seconds seemed like forever. What I can't stop imagining is what forever would have felt like if I'd hit a child." ♦



Cars line up on Chenery Street to drop off students at St. John School.

Photo by Elizabeth Weise.

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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.

☐ **Next Meeting:** Thursday, April 11, 7 pm, at St. John School, 925 Chenery St. For the agenda, check in April at glenparkassociation.org.

☉ Glen Park Festival ☉

Sunday, April 28, 10 am–4:30 pm: Diamond & Wilder Streets in downtown Glen Park. Music, dancing, great food, arts & crafts, much more. Free, but buy raffle tickets to benefit neighborhood kids' causes. See story on Page 2.

☉ Friends of Glen Canyon Park ☉

The Friends are volunteers who help maintain and improve our neighborhood park and enhance our knowledge and enjoyment of the city's natural wonderland. Their regular activities in the canyon continue while reconstruction work is under way between the Recreation Center and Elk Street. 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 activities in the Canyon:

☐ **Third Saturday of each month, 9 am–noon:** Meetings and Plant Restoration Work Parties. Tools, gloves and instruction are provided. **Next dates:** March 16, April 20, May 18.

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

Volunteers are also welcome to work in the canyon with the Recreation and Park Department's Natural Areas Program staff. For information, contact Joe Grey at 831-6328 or e-mail joe.grey@sfgov.org.

☉ Garden Tour ☉

Sunday, April 28: This year's San Francisco Native Plant Garden Tour will include many gorgeous gardens in Glen Park, Noe Valley, Sunnyside and Mt. Davidson. See story on Page 8.

☉ Glen Park Farmers' Market ☉

Sunday, March 31, 10 am–2 pm: Our neighborhood farmers' market opens for the season at the BART parking lot, Bosworth and Arlington streets, continuing every Sunday through Nov. 24, 2013.

☉ Glen Park School ☉

Tuesdays, March 19, April 2 & 9: Kindergarten tours for new families, starting with coffee at 8:40 a.m. 151 Lippard Ave., 469-4713.

☉ Silver Tree Summer Camp ☉

Saturday, March 16: Registration begins for the 11-week summer day camp at Silver Tree in Glen Canyon Park. The summer session begins Monday, June 3 and ends Friday, Aug. 16. For information about enrollment and cost, visit sfrecpark.org, click "classes," then "registration info."

☉ 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.

All residents are encouraged to participate in these informative monthly Community Relations Forums hosted by Capt. Tim Falvey, 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:** March 19, April 16, May 21.

☉ 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 16 for more information. A full schedule is always available at the library, and all programs are free.

Following are a few of the events planned this spring:

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

☐ **Every Tuesday, 10:30 am:** Baby Rhymes & Playtime. Rhymes, stories and fingerplays for ages birth–3 years.

☐ **Mondays, April 8 & May 13, 10:30 am,** Preschool Videos, for ages 3–5.

☐ **First Fridays:** School-age programs for ages 6 and older, 4 pm.

☐ **Friday, April 5, 4 pm:** Learn the Art of Seeding. For children ages 6–17.

☐ **Thursday, March 28, 4 pm:** Shadow Puppet Theatre.

TEEN PROGRAMS

☐ **Third Thursdays, 3:30 pm:** Teen Book Swap.

☐ **Thursday, April 25, 3:30 pm:** Henna Tattoos.

ADULT PROGRAMS

☐ **Second Tuesdays, 3–4 pm:** Drop in E-Reader training.

☐ **Wednesday, March 27, 6:30:** Grand Jury.

☐ **Saturday, April 20, 1 pm:** Craft class; make an orchid pin. Call to sign up.

☐ **Fourth Saturdays, 3 pm:** Saturday at the Movies.

☉ St. Aidan's Episcopal Church ☉

Every Friday, 1–2 pm: Food Pantry, for

low-income and disabled clients who live in the 94131 ZIP code. St. Aidan's, 101 Gold Mine Drive at Diamond Heights Boulevard, 285-9540.

☉ School of the Arts ☉

If you hear music wafting through the air on the **third Wednesday of the month**, the folks at the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts at the top of Glen Canyon hope you'll bear with them—you may be hearing student performances during the acclaimed high school's monthly Diversity Days.

Throughout the school year, students present an eclectic calendar of music, dance and theater performances as well as visual arts exhibits, all open to the public. There's a modest charge for most events, and free parking in the lot off O'Shaughnessy Boulevard. To find events you'd like to see, visit sfsota.org.

☉ 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, pick up a monthly events schedule at the bookshop, or call proprietor Eric Whittington at 586-3733. Shop hours are 11 am–7 pm Saturday–Thursday, 10 am–9 pm Friday (hours often extended evenings of events).

SPECIAL EVENTS

• **Sunday, March 17, 2 pm:** Poets Xochi Candelaria, Robin Ekiss & Roxane Beth Johnson.

• **Sunday, March 24, 2 pm:** Patrice Vecchione: a poetry reading & workshop

• **Monday, March 25, 7 pm:** Poets Patrick James Dunagan, Derek Fenner & Christina Fisher.

• **Saturday, April 6, 7 pm:** Release reading & celebration for the 4th annual Bird & Beckett Review: AMERARCANA 2013

• **Sunday, April 7, 2 pm:** Jeff DeMark – original stories interspersed with songs.

• **Sunday, April 14, 2 pm:** Writer Marc Dulman: *Soul On the Run* – a novel of Dante.

• **Sunday, April 21, 2 pm:** Peter Orner – author of *Love & Shame* & *Love extemporizes*.

• **Sunday, May 12, 2 pm:** Poets Caya Schaan & Leslie Simon: a Mothers' Day reading.

• **Wednesday, May 15, 7 pm:** Poets George Albon & Benjamin Hollander.

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:** Every Friday, 5:30–8 pm. A neighborhood party to help unwind from the work week.

• 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.

• March 17: Interstellar Space: Anthony Brown presents a concert & discussion of John Coltrane's universal music & spirituality.

• March 24: Pooja Chaudhuri & Ferhan Qureshi – Indian Classical.

• March 31: Ferhan Qureshi & Mallar Bhattacharya – Indian Classical.

• April 7: Noel Jewkes & Larry Vukovich – Jazz from Film Noir.

• April 14: Jon Frank Quartet – Jazz.

• April 21: Éclair de Lune – Gypsy Jazz.

• April 28: Studio 5 with Mark Reynolds–Jazz.

• May 5: Trio BZF (Ron Belcher/Jim Zimmerman/Ken French) – Jazz.

• May 12: Macy Blackman & the Mighty Fines – New Orleans Rhythm & Blues.

• June 2: Pugsley Buzzard – Solo Stride & Boogie Woogie Piano from Down Under.

• June 9: Terry Rodriguez Trio – Jazz.

• June 23: Chaude Symphonie – Le Jazz Hot.

• June 30: Matt Renzi Trio – Jazz

🎤 **Poetry with Open Mic,** hosted by Jerry Ferraz: Third Thursdays, 7 pm.

• March 21: HD Moe & Cesar Love.

• April 18: Virginia Barrett & Bobby Coleman.

• May 16: Sterling Bunnell & Jerry Ferraz.

• June 20: Rosemary Manno & Ronald Sauer.

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