



Glen Park News

Glen Park Loses Last Bank Branch In Village Center

To the consternation of local merchants, Citibank is closing its Glen Park branch at the end of the business day on Dec. 11—exactly two weeks before Christmas.

The Citibank branch, at the intersection of Diamond and Bosworth streets, is the only full-service bank in the neighborhood, and has six full-time employees. Its 24-hour ATM machine also will be shut down, leaving only Bank of America and Wells Fargo ATMs available in the shopping district.

“We make daily change runs to the bank,” said Richard Tarlov, who owns Canyon Market with his wife Janet. “We rely on a quick turn-around on change.”

The alternative, he said, is to order more cash using an armored delivery service, which means changes in the market’s cash-control system: “We are not happy about it.”

The local Citibank branch, at 2895 Diamond St., referred all questions about the closure to the megabank’s New York City headquarters. Spokesman Andrew Brent did not give a specific reason for the closing, but said that bank managers “continually evaluate our branch network” to decide whether to open or close branches. It is one of nine Bay Area branches being closed by year’s end.

“The Citibank branch on Diamond

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GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday, October 16, 7 p.m.
St. John School
925 Chenery St.

Redo for Park’s New Tennis Courts



Construction work is under way to replace Glen Canyon Park’s new tennis courts.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

A community celebration marking the ribbon-cutting of Glen Canyon Park’s first-ever renovation took place last spring. But now, just months later, the bulldozers and caution tape are back.

A design flaw in the new tennis courts is causing the City to re-grade them at a cost of \$250,000. Some see the second renovation as necessary, while others are scratching their heads over the redo.

The courts, which were inaugurated in March, were designed by a San Francisco Public Works landscape architect who relied on construction specifications for recreational courts and not courts for professional-level of play, which is the current standard.

The Recreation and Park Department received complaints about the slope of the courts from members of the public

and decided that a fix is in order. The funding will come out of Public Works’ capital budget and will take funding away from other park projects.

The project necessitates closing the Glen Canyon Park courts from the week of Sept. 2 into January 2015, although park officials say that construction could be completed sooner. That is sure to disappoint many of the regulars who play tennis on the park’s two courts and had to make do for more than a year with no courts while they were being moved and rebuilt during the larger overhaul of Glen Canyon Park.

Not only will the tennis courts be closed, but the adjacent playground will be impacted by the traffic and noise of construction. The sidewalk on the west side of Elk Street, and at least a portion of the “drop-off zone,” also will be affected and closed at times.

“It has come to the department’s

attention that the slope of the tennis courts at Glen Canyon Park is not in line with current United States Tennis Association (USTA) recommendations,” said Recreation and Park Department spokeswoman Connie Chan. “Currently, the tennis courts slope up to the net with a high point in the middle of the courts. With the correction, there will not be a high point in the center of the courts, and this will meet USTA standards.”

Miriam Moss, a neighbor who served on the Rec and Park tennis advisory board, is a longtime advocate for the park. She has been vocal about flaws in the court. Her concerns got the ball rolling on the second renovation. “Because of the slope, the net is four inches too high,” said Moss. “Balls don’t have a true bounce because of the slope. It clearly affects the game of tennis even for beginners, even though

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GLEN PARK NEWS

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❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

On Wednesday, Nov. 28, 1951, the Santa Rosa Press Democrat's weekly "Schools" page included its usual array of news articles written by students at the city's high school, junior high and elementary schools. One of the by-lines identified the student writer as "Dennis Wade, Santa Rosa Junior High School Reporter." Even though they misspelled her son's name, Ruth Wade—herself the daughter of a pioneering newspaper publisher—saved the page of kids' stories.

Glen Park News Copy Editor Denis Wade—who followed his Press Democrat debut with a journalism degree from San Jose State and stints at the San Mateo Times and NBC News among others—thought of that school news page recently when a Glen Park School fourth-grader told him she'd like to be a writer when she grows up. Then in August local news media carried the story of 18 donated iPads stolen from a classroom at our neighborhood school by thieves who blended in with families at an open house. Principal Jean Robertson and third grade teacher Anna Fulton told reporters what happened. But nobody interviewed the kids.

We asked Robertson for a report from ground zero. Fulton asked her students to write about the theft and their reaction. She sent us responses from two of her 8-year-olds:

- "How I felt when the robbers took the iPads: very, very sad as I cried to sleep. I wanted to learn time and math on the I pads. The rivers [robbers] were caring [carrying] backpacks and took the iPads in their backpacks."
- "I felt very sad when the 18 iPads got stolen because we could of [have] used them to do math and write with them. We could of [have] used them to read. I am very upset that someone stole it from the kids in our class and Ms. Fulton."

In her "Elementary School News" column on Page 17, Amy St. Clair diLaura addresses the aftermath of the iPad theft. In each issue, she keeps readers up to date on important events at the school. And now that two of Fulton's third-graders have broken into print, we look forward to more perspective from the students and other young neighborhood residents.

One youthful writer contributes her second story to the Glen Park News in this issue. Isabel Gordon, who recently turned 9, wrote about our local farmers'

market. Her story is on Page 16. She is another volunteer with a family journalism connection—her mothers are the former award-winning Chronicle reporter Rachel Gordon, our very own editor-in-chief, and Liz Mangelsdorf, a former Chronicle photojournalist who is our design editor.

On Page 21, we introduce you to Betsy Eddy, When her name kept popping up in conjunction with her activities as president of the Diamond Height Community Association, we realized some of those activities are important to our readers as well. We're pleased that she agreed to become the newest Glen Park News columnist. Her first column includes an important item that is particularly timely in view of the Aug. 24 Napa earthquake. She writes about the Diamond Heights Disaster Response Plan, created by a coalition of agencies and local groups called "Resilient Diamond Heights."

Another new columnist didn't make it in time for this issue. He's the new commander of the SFPD's Ingleside Station, Capt. Joseph McFadden. He took over from Capt. Timothy Falvey, our erstwhile "police beat" columnist, in August. We look forward to getting to know McFadden in our winter issue this December.

Falvey isn't the only Glen Park News columnist lost to a City personnel shuffle. Librarian Denise Sanderson's final "Check It Out at the Library" column is on Page 7. She's moving to the Noe Valley branch. We will miss them both.

Everyone who works on the Glen Park News is a volunteer, and most have "real" jobs. So we're grateful that they find time to fit the neighborhood newspaper into their busy work schedules; proud, too, that they give readers information that matters. Realtor Marc Dickow writes about things that affect the biggest asset many of us have—our homes. Kay Hamilton Estey brings her

extensive professional knowledge to the Glen Park Garden Club's "Digging the Dirt" column. Monika A. Lewis keeps us up to date on our biggest community asset, through her "In Glen Canyon Park" column (originated by Jean Conner).

Husband-and-wife team Michael and Bonnee Waldstein are longtime volunteers. He takes top-quality photos, she writes articles. Her specialty is sitting through hours-long meetings, keeping track of what's important and what's not, and reporting the results in language readers can easily understand. Case in point: her GPA meeting report on Page 15.

Other regulars include Murray Schneider, a retired high school teacher and principal; in this issue he tells the stories of two neighborhood women—one who bought an "earthquake cottage," the other a World War II army nurse. Murray is adept at multitasking: in addition to writing and taking photographs, he is our distribution manager, responsible for getting the newspaper from the printer to the neighborhood volunteers who deliver it to Glen Park homes and businesses.

Associate Editor Gail Bensinger, also a seasoned Chronicle veteran, is always on the lookout for new volunteer writers, young and old. She works with our contributors, polishes their copy, to make sure everything meets professional standards.

Liz Mangelsdorf stepped in to help turn our photographs into professional-quality print images several issues ago. This year our desktop publishing volunteer's own business became too time-consuming, so Liz added "design editor" to her volunteer responsibilities. Summer break from the digital media classes she teaches to middle school students gave the former Chronicle photographer time to refine her skills with a new design program. ❖

Disaster Preparedness Training Sessions Will Begin This October

The San Francisco Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Training (NERT) program offers free disaster preparedness training classes on six Wednesday evenings, Oct. 1 through Nov. 5, at St. Aidan's church, Gold Mine Drive at Diamond Heights Boulevard.

Classes begin at 6:45 p.m. To get the full benefit of the training, participants should attend all six sessions. Oct. 8 is the last date new students may join this course.

To register, visit <http://bit.ly/1uoZytB> or call 970-2024. For information, visit www.sfgov.org/sffdnert.

❖ GPA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN ❖

Fall in San Francisco! Warm days as the fog recedes from its constant blanket over Glen Park. The cheerful noise of school kids back at Glen Park Elementary, Fairmount Elementary and St. John's. Persimmons, pears and pomegranates start to appear at the farmers' market.

Then one afternoon in October, you pick up your mail at home, and another

fall-in-San Francisco event has arrived: The San Francisco Voter Information Pamphlet.

It's the size of a small telephone book. (You do remember telephone books, don't you?) If you live in a multi-voter household, each of you will have your very own.

Yes, along with more than 20 congressional, state and local offices, not to mention seven state propositions, there are 12 local measures on the ballot.

You were going to recycle the pamphlets? Pick up and think about information on candidates and measures from forums, mailers, newspapers, the Web, your friends, your not-friends? But you will think about all 12 local measures, right?

- Proposition A: San Francisco Transportation and Road Improvement Bond
- Proposition B: Adjusting Transportation Funding for Population Growth
- Proposition C: Children's Fund; Public Education Enrichment Fund; Children and Families Council; Rainy Day Reserve
- Proposition D: Retiree Health Benefits for Former Redevelopment Agency and Successor Agency Employees
- Proposition E: Tax on Sugar-Sweetened Beverages
- Proposition F: Pier 70
- Proposition G: Additional Transfer Tax on Residential Property Sold Within 5 Years of Purchase
- Proposition H: Requiring Certain Golden Gate Park Athletic Fields To Be Kept As Grass With No Artificial Lighting
- Proposition I: Renovation of Playgrounds, Walking Trails and Athletic Fields

- Proposition J: Minimum Wage Increase
- Proposition K: Affordable Housing
- Proposition L: Policy Regarding Transportation Priorities

Many of the measures have a long record about their goals and how they got on the ballot. Since I like to write about Glen Park, I picked a couple and thought about how they might directly affect our neighborhood. (These are my own thoughts, and not a position of the Glen Park Association.)

Proposition A, the transportation bond, is intended to fund long-term improvements in Muni service and

expected extension of the 35, but the many bus lines on Mission Street are an option for parts of Glen Park. The bond would fund plans to improve service on that busy corridor, with boarding islands and signal changes.

Proposition B, to adjust transportation funding for population growth, was introduced by District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener, who represents Glen Park. This charter amendment would require the City to make increases in transportation funding directly proportional to annual population growth, as determined by the controller. This is a more general measure than Prop. A, and one can't predict how it would affect Glen Park.

Wiener wants a clear commitment that transportation funding will grow along with population, and be less subject to year-to-year budget battles. With in-fill growth potential in Glen Park and surrounding neighborhoods, this measure could assure that transportation services, such as bus frequency, are upgraded in line with increased demand.

Proposition E, the tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, is going to generate more mailers. In mid-August, a canvasser rang our doorbell to ask for support to defeat the measure. I am sure we will get more door hangers, robo-calls, and mailers.

Full disclosure: I believe that Prop. E should pass. The health effects of sugary drinks are established. Just as cigarette taxes have reduced smoking, the cost of sugary drinks can bear this change

and have long-term benefits.

The soda industry is arguing that this measure would be a "regressive tax," making San Francisco less affordable to families. Please! I realize that there are merchants who oppose the measure on economic grounds. But if you look around Glen Park, our businesses provide a great range of groceries and beverages. I think these are sustainable businesses, without relying on the pricing and volume of drinks subject to the Prop. E tax.

Don't forget to read about nine more propositions! ❖

Michael Rice is president of the Glen Park Association.

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE
FOR THE NOVEMBER 4TH ELECTION
IS OCTOBER 20TH.



reliability; transit accessibility; pedestrian safety; traffic signal systems; street changes like bulb-outs, medians and bike lanes; upgrade transit corridors to reduce congestion; and improve Muni maintenance facilities.

What could Prop. A bring to Glen Park? The planned traffic signals to Arlington-Bosworth-I-280 on-ramp and at Lyell-Bosworth, to help pedestrians, buses and cars move through those congestion points. Implement changes at the tangled Randall-Mission-San Jose intersection. Better service on the J-Church, with more signals on Church Street to make intersections safer.

We have BART, J-Church, and bus service on the 23, 36, 44, 52, and the

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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.

◆ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ◆

Here are two traffic improvement updates for Glen Park:

Diamond and Bosworth Intersection Improvements: The streetscape and traffic improvements at Diamond and Bosworth are moving forward. On Aug. 19, the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) board approved the contract, which means the contractor can now move toward breaking ground.

Generally the start date for construction is about six weeks after the contract is awarded, so construction should commence around the end of September.

The project will greatly improve the Diamond and Bosworth intersection by widening sidewalks, making traffic signal improvements (e.g., left turn signals), adding pedestrian bulb-outs and installing landscaping. These improvements will make the intersection safer for residents and people using the Glen Park BART station, as well as improve traffic flow due to the addition of a left-turn signal for southbound Diamond traffic turning onto Bosworth. This project resulted from

a federal earmark obtained by the late Representative Tom Lantos.

Northbound San Jose Avenue Pilot Project: The pilot program to increase street safety and reduce speeding on northbound San Jose Avenue has been ongoing since June 6. Previously, the design of northbound San Jose Avenue resulted in automobiles driving at free-way speeds, which was dangerous for drivers, cyclists and residents of neighboring side streets. The current pilot program now has northbound San Jose Avenue mirroring the design of the southbound direction.

MTA has been reviewing feedback on the pilot program, which has been mostly positive.

We've also received reports of increased northbound traffic congestion approaching Randall Street, which we take seriously. After receiving this feedback, MTA traffic engineers made observations during both the morning and afternoon peak driving periods to analyze the issue.

During the recent study, MTA found that congestion approaching Randall increased during morning and afternoon rush hours to at most a two-minute wait (backing up to the pedestrian bridge),

but only for a 20–30 minute period during these peak periods. The rest of the time, the wait either didn't exist or was similar to pre-pilot conditions.

This increase in wait time approaching Randall during peak hours needs to be weighed against the safety improvements that the pilot provides. MTA will continue to gather data so that we have as much information as possible once the pilot ends and we need to make a decision about permanent solutions.

Please continue to send MTA feed-

back on the pros and cons of the project. Any traffic design change has benefits and drawbacks. It's important for the agency to hear from the public in assessing how to proceed once the pilot ends. ♦

Supervisor Scott Wiener represents District 8, which includes Glen Park, on the Board of Supervisors. To receive his monthly newsletter, or to follow him on Facebook or Twitter, go to www.scottwiener.com.

Tennis Courts Are Closed Again for Reconstruction

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they might not recognize it. Anyone beyond an advanced beginner can't play here. No other court in the city has a slope like this."

Mathew Holt is the director of tennis at the Olympic Club and is on the Junior Council of the United States Tennis Association for Northern California. "There's a members-only court in Tiburon that hosts tournaments with a similar slope to these Glen Park courts," he said. "I run 12 tournaments a year and these (Glen Park courts) would be great courts for that."

Others who play the new Glen Park courts say they're fine with them, as is. "I have played tennis all my life and I can't tell the net is off," said Glen Park resident and contractor John Clark. "In my opinion, the only way you can measure a difference like that is if you use a leveling transit from the baseline, but we don't relate to the net that way because we're on the same plane as the net."

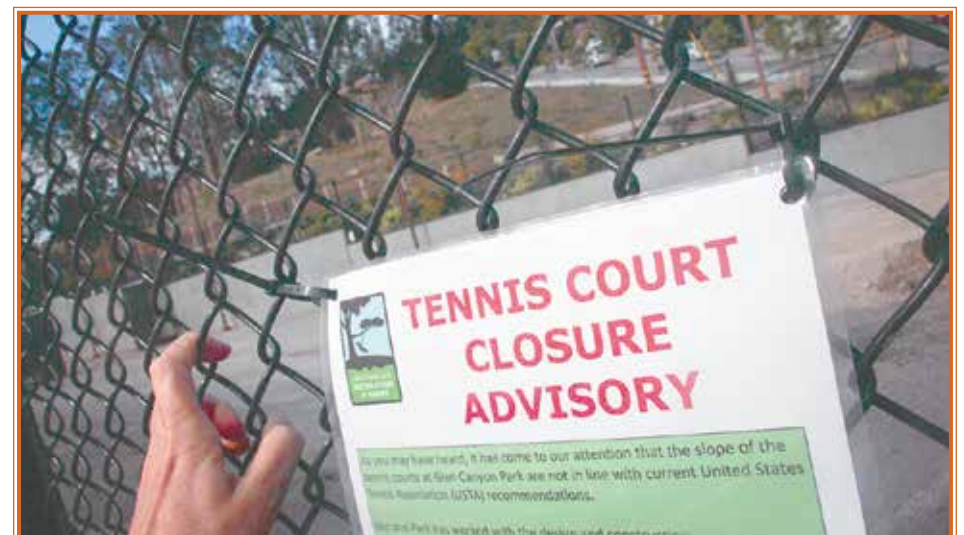
Said another Glen Park local, Steven

Uchida, "For me, as a non-professional player, [the slope] doesn't bother me a bit. I've played on courts with cracks in the surface, no wind screens and shadows all over the place. These courts are great compared to those."

Chris Bautista and Alejandro Brambila have been playing tennis for about 14 years, two times a week, and they commute from the Duboce Triangle neighborhood to play in Glen Park. "We've played on courts with real noticeable slope issues," they said. "These courts are amazing. These are some of the best courts in the city."

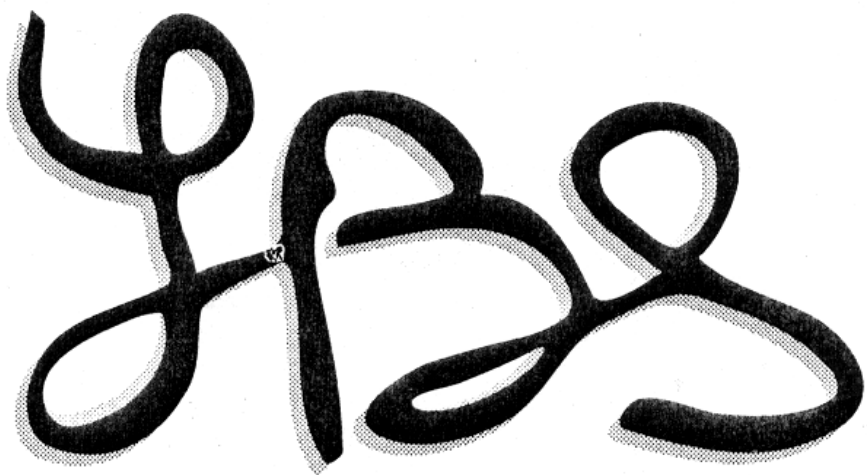
Harry Lew is a longtime Glen Park resident who heads a group that meets to play on the Glen Park courts twice a week: "I do not understand the reason for redoing the courts. It is just wasting time and money to me."

But Rec and Park's Chan said it is important to make the fix now and get it right, as it relates to the recently completed larger overhaul of the park. It's "a long-term investment that improves the quality of recreation and physical health of our park users." ♦



Sign at entrance to courts tells the bad news.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf



Lucy B. Stephenson
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New Trail Names Reflect History and Nature

For decades, the trails in Glen Canyon Park were nameless pathways that meandered up and down hillsides and past a chattering creek. But

by
Susan
Sutton

As part of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond's Citywide Trails Improvement Program, the department sponsored a trail-naming contest from March 12 to April 15 this year.

After receiving more than 75 suggestions, a committee—comprising representatives from trail, recreation and nature organizations, as well as the Glen Park community—decided on three: Islais Creek Trail, Coyote Crag Trail and Gum Tree Girls Trail.

The committee also decided to name the trail corridor that will connect Glen Canyon Park and Twin Peaks "Creeks to Peaks." The Recreation and Park Commission approved the names.

"The contest was publicized at the opening of the Glen Canyon Park Playground, as well as through a blog post on the (department's) website

page for the Glen Canyon Trails Improvement Project," said Rec and Park spokeswoman Connie Chan.

Islais Creek Trail, which starts at the Glen Park Recreation Center and continues north to the top of the canyon at Portola Drive, is a nod to the canyon's creek, which runs the length of the outdoor haven and continues underground to the bay.

The name was a clear choice because the creek is a main feature in the canyon, according to a department report on the topic. "Islais is a Native American word for the Islay cherry (*Prunus ilicifolia*), a native coastal California plant," the report explains.

In addition, the report said, this trail is "also recommended as the southern leg of the proposed Creeks to Peaks Trail, a regional trail corridor that would ultimately extend to the lookout at Twin Peaks.

Coyote Crag Trail, which perches atop the canyon, acknowledges the canyon's most recent four-legged wild inhabitants. The trail begins at the Sussex steps, runs through the eastern grassland and above, and continues through and around rock outcrops.

The report conveys that several name suggestions included the word "coyote," which serves as a reminder to be aware of the curious creatures. The report also noted that visitors to the trail may spot a coyote along the way.

The third rocky path, Gum Tree Girls Trail, celebrates a group of women who saved part of the canyon from being paved over for a freeway. According to the Recreation and Park Department, "a plan to widen O'Shaughnessy Boulevard and make it part of the freeway system was defeated by community opposition led by the 'Gum Tree Ladies,' a group of local women who united around efforts to save Glen Canyon from development."

This trail "extends from the Glen Park Recreation Center to the rock outcrop in the middle of the park. The trail passes by grasslands, stands of eucalyptus, the creek and over the boardwalk." The gum trees refer to the eucalyptus trees along O'Shaughnessy Boulevard.

The trail name was suggested by, among others, two sisters in honor of their late mother, Geraldine (Geri) Arkush, as well as Zoanne Nordstrom and Joan Seiwald, who helped lead the freeway revolt.

The proposal reads: "Together in the 1960s, this trio of neighborhood activ-

ists rallied Glen Park residents to successfully oppose a four-lane freeway/expressway that was planned to pass through the southwestern part of Glen Park Playground and the western part of the Canyon. They formed a Save the Park Committee, devoted to protecting the park for future generations. In 1967, after several years of disputes and protests, the City finally conceded, and the 'high capacity roadway' was abandoned."

The name "Gum Tree Girls" was meant to be a mocking moniker, poking fun at three women who were, in the eyes of City engineers, preventing progress for a few dozen spindly trees. The tenacious protesters, however, gladly accepted the name and made it their own.

Nordstrom said in a recent interview, "I saw an engineer digging holes and he told me that the roadway was going to be a freeway. I said, 'The hell it is!' I decided it wasn't gonna happen."

Nordstrom believes City officials thought they could get away with it because at the time, Glen Park was a working-class neighborhood and the residents were "too dumb" to organize against it. So the Gum Tree Girls, whom she describes as a "conservative Catholic, a radical Catholic, and me," fought and won.



Map of Glen Canyon with new trail names.

Courtesy of SF Rec and Park

WHEN YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT REAL ESTATE IN GLEN PARK

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GLEN CANYON PATHWAY

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After a Year, fitGLENfit is Working Out in Glen Park

No one who lives in Glen Park has any excuse to be out of shape—pure and simple.

There's Glen Canyon Park, with its many recreational facilities and programs. For the unstructured and inspiring approach, there are the newly improved hiking trails to wander.

by **Bonnee Waldstein** Then there's Sol Gym, a long-time workout studio on Diamond Street.

And, since March 2013, Glen Park village has had another fitness option: fitGLENfit, sister of fitBERNALfit, gives people on the go a chance to make that workout a part of daily life.

Owners Dean and Jeanne Eriksen, both in their 30s, have crafted and curated a space with the latest exercise equipment. They also offer a variety of small-group classes, and individual instruction by their trained staff.

In choosing to open a second gym, Dean and Jeanne wanted a space that, unlike the Bernal Heights gym, could accommodate both a workout area and a studio for classes including yoga, Pilates and TRX (total resistance exercise).

"We envisioned a place that would fit the profile of the neighborhood, its village feel—and a strategic location that people could walk to, and fit exercise into their daily routines," explained Dean. "I could see ourselves in this community; we have a like mindset," added Jeanne. They feel that the gym has been good for other businesses nearby, by creating more foot traffic on a daily basis.

The couple has become a part of Glen Park. Having emigrated from Bernal Heights, they now live in the neighborhood with their 2-1/2 year old daughter, Charley.

In terms of strengthening equipment, fitGLENfit has the latest Technogym machines, which are used in a lot of physical therapy and rehabilitation settings, as well as in Olympic practice. The idea is that the machines provide the user with a full range of motion through pulley mechanisms, instead of the isolated movements of traditional weight machines. The equipment is good for overall exercise, as it engages secondary and supporting muscle groups instead of just one muscle. People recovering from injuries find healing through the fluid motion of the machine.

"If people need help, we can always fit them with a piece of equipment that



TRX (total resistance exercise) class at fitGLENfit gym.

Photo courtesy of Dean Eriksen

meets their needs," commented Dean.

The TRX setup allows, within one hour, a combination of strength, balance and cardiovascular training, using the gravity of one's own body weight.

For straight cardio workouts there are treadmills, ellipticals and stationary bikes. The gym has an Adaptive Motion Trainer, which is a hybrid of a stair-stepper and traditional elliptical, which changes stride during the workout.

In the same area, there are free weights. Specialized equipment such as pull-up assists allows users to do pull-ups without lifting their full body weight, and functional trainers that give more full-range exercise by pulling cables.

Classes are kept small so instructors can give individual guidance. Vinyasa yoga and spinning are very popular, Dean said. Other offerings are TRX, Pilates and several other types of yoga.

"Because there are fewer people, you feel comfortable asking the teacher for modifications, and the teacher can make sure people don't get injured," Jeanne observed.

Arwyn Moonrise, the program director for yoga and Pilates, said, "The

teachers are all very seasoned, so it's the best instruction you can get."

Sydney Gurewitz Clemens, a gym member who lives on Arbor Street, concurred.

"I chose Jim (Jim Wolff, general manager and lead personal trainer) to be my trainer because he's very smart and

direct. Also, the gym is a pleasant, civilized place. It's clean, breezy, and it smells good!"

The Eriksens' goal is to offer activities that complement each other, so people can have variety in

the types and intensity of their workouts.

Members can use the gym from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day. Non-members are welcome to the facilities and classes, for a fee.

FitGLENfit has a guiding principle of environmental responsibility, Dean said. "We want to be very conscious of our environmental footprint, and we felt that there are some businesses that opt not to be, because of additional operational costs. While it may be more expensive to be green, we're willing to take that on because of our social responsibility to the environment and

the community."

The furnishings are made with recycled and reclaimed materials where possible.

The gym has installed solar power, which generates a 10 percent surplus, and it uses 100-percent compostable disposables and nontoxic cleaning materials. They are the first gym in San Francisco that is registered with the San Francisco Green Alliance.

The gym also supports five San Francisco-based environmental agencies, including Baykeeper.org.

Dogs are another "pet project" at FitGLENfit. The Bernal location has a dog lounge, with indoor and outdoor spaces. That's not available in Glen Park, but members can take advantage of low-cost dog walks. Dog owners don't need to choose between walking their dogs and doing their own workouts.

The Eriksens are planning to add more dynamic classes, and will be doing more outreach in the community. FitGLENfit has gotten off to a successful start in Glen Park. Now that they have a foothold, they're hoping to build up their presence and continue to make Glen Park an even healthier place to be. ❖

For information about the gym, see www.fitglenfit.com.

WE ENVISIONED A PLACE
THAT WOULD FIT THE
PROFILE OF THE
NEIGHBORHOOD,
ITS VILLAGE FEEL.

❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

The Glen Park Library has been receiving a great response since we added Sunday opening hours in May. It's great that the library can now be part of a Sunday routine of going to the farmers' market, getting coffee at one of the local coffee houses and, now, checking out books and DVDs at the library.

As fall approaches, it is once again time for One City One Book: San Francisco Reads. One City is an annual citywide literary event that encourages members of the San Francisco community to read the same book at the same time, and then discuss it in book groups and at events throughout the city.

The selection this year is Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*, a beloved book that celebrates San Francisco in the 1970s. For almost four decades, *Tales of the City* has blazed its own trail through popular culture—from a groundbreaking newspaper serial to a classic novel, to a television event that entranced millions around the world. The first of nine novels about the denizens of the mythic apartment house at 28 Barbary Lane, *Tales* is both a sparkling comedy of manners and an indelible portrait of an era that changed forever the way we live.

Maupin will appear at the Main Library's Koret Auditorium on Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. in conversation with San Francisco novelist K.M. Soehnlein.

At the Glen Park branch, we will celebrate a popular 1970s craft with a macramé program on Oct. 11 at 3 p.m.

Also this fall, we will be hosting two programs as part of VIVA, the library's celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month, which takes place every year from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. On Sept. 20, Tengo Tango will here. They are a duo on guitar and bandoneon (a kind of accordion); the performers describe tango and perform examples of styles. And on Oct. 9 at 4

p.m. we will have a chocolate tasting for kids and teens.

I will be moving on from the Glen Park Library. I have been the branch manager here for the last 7½ years, and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time. It's a wonderful neighborhood full of

friendly people, great food and beautiful nature. I am transferring to become branch manager at the Noe Valley Library.

The Community Calendar on Page 24 has information about other coming events at the library. To find out more about our programs and other library news, please visit our Glen Park Library Facebook page at www.facebook.com/glenparkbranchlibrary. ❖

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

GLEN PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

2825 Diamond Street
(near Bosworth)
Tel: 355-2858

Monday/Tuesday 10-6,
Wednesday 12-8,
Thursday 12-7,
Friday/Saturday 1-6,
Sunday 1-5

Glen Park History Project Seeks Neighborhood Input

Today, the neighborhoods of Glen Park, Sunnyside and Diamond Heights are dynamic and lively. We pride ourselves in the special vibe that permeates our district, like no other in San Francisco.

Unseen, however, are the contributions our neighborhoods have provided to the history of San Francisco. Important memories lie beneath our feet within the general boundaries of the southern slope of Twin Peaks, the lower eastern slope of Mt. Davidson near O'Shaughnessy Boulevard, Interstate 280, San Jose Avenue, and 30th and Chenery streets.

Did you know that Islais Creek was tagged to be a major source of fresh water for San Francisco as early as 1854? That Glen Canyon by 1861 was home to some of the earliest "milk ranches" in San Francisco? Perhaps you didn't know that Alfred Nobel

of Sweden personally licensed the first dynamite factory in the United States in 1868 in Glen Canyon, designated as California Historic Site Number 1002 but still lacking a plaque.

The Sunnyside was a destination for the first electric railway in San Francisco in 1892. A park and zoological gardens meant to challenge the supremacy of Golden Gate Park was elaborately planned in 1897 by real estate agents Baldwin & Howell, who then settled for a downscaled version to help sell home lots in the new Glen Park Terrace. The Sunnyside Observatory, constructed around 1898 for stargazing and the keeping of exotic plants, would achieve landmark status in the 21st century.

The Gum Tree Ladies would save our neighborhoods from the freeway mania enveloping the city in 1959–1960. At about the same time, Diamond Heights became the last major area in San Francisco to be developed, and was the first project of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, under the federal Community

Development Law of 1951.

The area of Glen Park, Sunnyside and Diamond Heights is one of the few in the City that does not yet have an organized historic research and preservation effort, such as the Bernal Heights History Project, the Western Neighborhoods Project, the Portrero Hill Archive Project and the Tenderloin History Project, among others.

Because conserving our rich history takes a village, it's time to introduce the Glen Park Neighborhood History Project to include Glen Park, Sunnyside and Diamond Heights. The mission of the project is to rediscover our forgotten histories, document our living histories, and share our histories with the community at large. We will accomplish this through research, publications, an online presence and speakers' program.

Though a fledgling organization, the interest generated by the project has been exciting! The first meeting was held on Saturday, May 10, at the Glen Park Branch of the public library. On Aug. 16, a work group met at the Glen Park branch library and scanned and meta-tagged back issues of Glen Park's neighborhood newspaper. The project is part of a citywide effort to digitally conserve neighborhood news being led by Shaping SF, a San Francisco history project responsible for the history wiki foundSF.org. Another critical project will be to work with the Recreation and Park Department to place the plaque designating Glen Canyon as California Historic Site No. 1002.

Are you interested in becoming a charter member? Do you know stories or tidbits of history about Glen Park, Sunnyside and Diamond Heights that you would like to contribute? If so, email GlenParkHistory@gmail.com for more information. We are also now on Twitter @GlenParkHistory

Let's preserve our neighborhood history. Join the Glen Park Neighborhood History Project! ❖

Evelyn Rose is the organizer of the Glen Park Neighborhood History Project



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Business News

Changes Under Way in Downtown Glen Park

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Street is in close proximity to several other Citibank branches, including one less than a mile away on Mission Street near Ocean Avenue, and after a thorough review, we determined that it will close,” Brent said. The nearby branch he referred to is in the Excelsior, at 4638 Mission St., where parking is even tighter than it is in Glen Park. (According to Google Maps, it’s a three-mile drive or a 10-minute bus ride away.)

A number of stores—Buddies Market, ModernPast, Bird & Beckett, Critter Fritters and Glen Park Hardware—are debating whether to shift their banking to somewhere closer than that. Several mentioned the Bank of America branch in the Diamond Heights shopping center.

“It’s so inconvenient,” said Susan Tauber, co-owner with her husband Hal of Glen Park Hardware. “We’re going to move our accounts.”

Over the years, she said, she has gotten to know the branch employees. She recounted an incident several years ago when the bank notified her that there was “funny activity” on her Citibank credit card before she even realized her purse had been stolen from the store.

“The tellers are marvelous,” she said. “It’s such a shame for the tellers.”

Branch employees said they were told they could transfer to fill vacancies at other Citibank branches, or look for jobs at other banks.

As for the timing, in the midst of the holiday season, Brent said, “We announced the closure in August, months before it will happen, to give customers and employees the time to manage the transition. Customers can always conduct their financial transactions at any Citibank branch regardless of where their account is based, but if merchants wish to transition accounts to a nearby branch before the closure, we are ready to help them do so.”

Other Openings and Closings

The summer saw other changes in the commercial heart of our village as well. The Chinese restaurant and one of our three coffee houses are under new ownership; a new tech services company has moved in, and the neighborhood has lost one of its two laundromats.

The newest Chinese restaurant, Win Garden, is the third to occupy the



Citibank, Glen Park’s only full-service bank, is closing its doors for good during the holiday season.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

2794 Diamond St. location in a year. It is open daily for lunch and dinner and already is drawing praise from diners.

The new owners, Shiliang Guan and Spring Huang, both have worked at other Bay Area Chinese restaurants, but this is their first chance at ownership. They have put together a large menu featuring Szechuan and other Chinese dishes, including a range of dim sum (available all day), and beer and wine are available.

All dishes are available to eat in or take out. Win Garden offers delivery, catering of party trays and on-line ordering.

Guan, the chef of Win Garden, and Huang, who is in charge of the front of the house, are more than business partners—they have been married since 2008, and their first child, a girl, was due in September.

Win Garden replaced China House, which opened on Valentine’s Day and closed on July 31. China House owner Jerry Luo, who still owns another restaurant with the same name in Half

Moon Bay, had moved into the space previously occupied by Hong Sing, whose owners retired in November 2013 after 27 years at the Diamond Street location. Luo said that a combination of not enough business, high rent and problems with staffing the

restaurant, on Diamond Street.

The Rays bought Cup from the owners of the Toast restaurant chain. They have expanded the menu beyond coffee, tea and pastries to include sandwiches, salads, juices, sodas and smoothies. Cup is open daily from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The San Francisco office of Nexway, a French e-commerce support company, moved into 650 Chenery St. in June. Ten people work at the Glen Park office, which provides customer support and account management services.

Nearby, at 636 Chenery, Tina’s Laundromat closed in August, reportedly because of a big rent hike, and as of press time no new tenant had been announced. That leaves Glen Park with only one laundromat, JT Laundry, at Chenery and Miguel streets. It is open daily from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. A side effect of Tina’s closure: Critter Fritters is no longer offering towel service at its in-store dog-washing station, and has asked customers to supply their own. ❖

THE NEWEST CHINESE RESTAURANT, WIN GARDEN, IS ALREADY DRAWING PRAISE FROM DINERS.

kitchen were the reasons for the China House closure.

Down Diamond Street, past the BART station and around the corner at 6 Monterey Blvd., Cup coffee bar is now under the ownership of the Ray family—married couple Sam (Ismat) and Yami and daughter Annie. The elder Rays, natives of Jordan, know the neighborhood coffee scene well—Sam, a retired CPA, used to help out his old friend Manhal Jweinat at Higher Grounds on Chenery Street. Jweinat also owns Manzoni, an Italian restau-

A Little Free Library Pops Up on Surrey St.

They say the best things in life are free, and Meredith Steiner thinks so, too—particularly when it comes to books.

Steiner, who has lived in her Glen Park home on Surrey Street since the late 1990s, is a children's librarian at West Portal Library. Steiner celebrated a birthday and Mother's Day this past May. Her children asked what she wanted for a gift to celebrate both occasions. Her reply: "I really don't need anything—all I want is a Little Free Library!"

The idea of a Little Free Library began in 2009. Todd Bol of Hudson, Wis., built a miniature version of a small schoolhouse as a tribute to his mother because she loved reading and had been a schoolteacher. After mounting it on a post in his front yard, he then filled it with books.

The neighborhood fell in love with the little box of books and he soon built several more to give away to others. Each one had a sign that read "FREE BOOKS," and by the end of 2011 the concept had grown to more than 400 boxes throughout the country and became known as "Little Free Libraries."

The enthusiasm and passion for these little boxes has spread worldwide and Steiner is delighted to be a part of it. Knowing that she couldn't build one

herself, she feels very fortunate to now finally have one installed.

"My kids' grandfather enjoys building things and I knew he would do a really cool job with it. I sent him some e-mails about it and he built one for me!"

The kids and their grandfather, Ron Black, installed the Little Free Library in front of the Steiners' home on May 29, 2014, and it was up and running two weeks later.

Steiner started off by putting in some books from the West Portal library and her own collection from home, and now people are bringing books and taking books on a regular basis. "The kids' books tend to go fast and obviously that's a high priority for me," Steiner says. "I want children to get excited about it, so I try and put more kids' books in, and they have a higher turnover, which is good."

More importantly, though, she says she really likes the community gathering aspect of it; when people stop and look, she often meets new neighbors. She wants people to take books and not feel they need to leave books. "I want people to feel completely comfortable to take; I have access to get books here and there; I have plenty."

You will find Steiner's Little Free Library on Surrey Street at Lippard Avenue. For more information and history, visit the main website at littlefreelibrary.org/ ❖



Elijah Black, 13, and his grandfather Ron Black install the Little Free Library.
Photo by Meredith Steiner



Meredith Steiner with her Little Free Library on Surrey Street.

Photo by Ashley Hathaway

A graphic advertisement for Bird & Beckett Books and Records. It features a cartoon illustration of a brown bird with a yellow beak and a white ruffled collar, perched on a tall stack of books. The books are labeled with various genres: "Live! MUSIC", "JAZZ", "POETRY Readings", "MAGAZINES", "NEWSPAPERS", "RECORDS LPs 45s 78s", "BOOKS", and "New USED COLLECTIBLE". The background is a solid blue color.

Bird & Beckett Books and Records
653 Chenery St San Francisco birdbeckett.com (415) 586-3733

Volunteers Beautify Diamond Heights Blvd.

Many Glen Park residents shop at the Diamond Heights Shopping Center or use Diamond Heights Boulevard as a route to other San Francisco neighborhoods. For most of those trips, the street medians between Berkeley Way and Duncan Street are invisible—a blur of vegetation and dirt on the way to somewhere else.

But take a closer look on your next trip. You'll notice the overall median's size (nearly 30,000 sq. ft.) and state of disrepair. Many of the current plants have lived long past their maturity.

Where the medians are wide and imposing, they have a singular impact on the neighborhood's visual appeal. Anyone passing through the area by bus, car, or foot—residents and visitors alike—forms an impression, consciously or not.

The Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project, launched this spring, intends to inspire neighborhood residents to replant and maintain the medians through donations and volunteer hours. The project has received approval from the San Francisco Parks Alliance's "Street Parks" program and from San Francisco Public Works.

In May, we received a District 8 Greening Grant from the Office of Supervisor Scott Weiner. Together with Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) and Public Works, we scheduled two planting days this summer, starting with the narrow medians near Addison Street.

Glen Park residents John Priola (steward of the Bosworth median) and Adam King (steward of the Penny Lane project) have generously shared their expertise in community coordination and horticulture.

Our summer work days attracted as many as 22 volunteers to help with soil preparation and planting. On two Saturdays, more than a dozen of our own volunteers turned out, plus many more from FUF and Public Works.

Gopher activity is a recurring problem. Each plant had to be installed with a gopher-proof wire basket around the roots. As a result, each plant required two volunteers and up to 15 minutes.

Of the approximately 400 plants acquired through our first grant, nearly 100 were in the ground after our first two work days. The remaining plants are waiting for our next planting day. To finish Phase I and get them all in the ground, we'll schedule one marathon work day and ask volunteers to sign up for 2-hour work slots.

The date of the next work day will be announced through Nextdoor.com and through our stakeholder groups. The Diamond Heights Community Association will post the notice on its website, dhcasf.org.

If you'd like to be kept informed, please share your e-mail address (see below).

We will be engaging a landscape architect to help us develop a plan for the whole project. Design choices will anticipate plant life expectancy and site maintenance requirements for at least

the next decade.

Preliminary design criteria include:

- Pedestrian/vehicle safety
- Driver visibility
- Pedestrian access to cross the median
- Irrigation, low-water usage
- Long-term maintenance
- Site-specific plant selection, and
- Visual appeal/aesthetics

Active residents strengthen a neighborhood. Public displays of cooperation signal an area that's alert and ready to act. In addition to the aesthetic benefits, the median project will bring

neighbors together to form relationships, foster unofficial disaster response networks, increase property values and give residents an outlet for their creative and communal impulses.

For more information, to share an idea or feedback, or to pledge volunteer time, please don't hesitate to call or e-mail me. ❖

Diamond Heights resident Paul Matalucci holds the title of DHB Median Project Lead. Contact him at paul@wordwuc.com, or 826-0445.

Prescription for Wellness: Take a Walk in Glen Canyon

San Francisco family practice physician Daphne Miller prescribes outdoor activities for her patients.

In a recent article, she wrote, "Evidence has made it increasingly clear that exposure to green space can affect our health just as much as other lifestyle factors." When you visit the doctor, you may be asked if you smoke, how much alcohol you drink and whether you exercise, she pointed out. But how much time do you spend in nature? "An unlikely topic." But not in Miller's practice.

"Research shows that nature exposure can have a significant beneficial influence on well-being," Miller wrote. "This growing body of research has made me appreciate my local parks as a ubiquitous, low-cost, low-risk health therapy worthy of a prescription. The 'nature prescriptions' I dole out to my San Francisco patients look something like this:

"Drug: Exercise in Glen Canyon Park.

Dose: 45 minutes of walking or running.

Directions: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 7 a.m.

Refill: Unlimited."

Miller has observed that her inactive patients who initiate a new exercise regimen outdoors are likely to stick with it. "It seems that a number of things contribute to this 'stickiness'—the constantly varying scenery, the camaraderie of the trail, the fact that monthly dues and expensive Spandex outfits aren't required."

She added: "My patients report a host of other benefits from their nature routine: less fatigue throughout the

day, a sense of calm, better sleep, a drop in weight and even lower blood pressure."

"Health centers across the country are starting to look at more system-wide strategies for making the nature-health connection," Miller reported. "The Southeast Health Center in San Francisco's Bayview-Hunter's Point is collaborating with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Institute at the Golden Gate to educate the clinic's health providers about local nature trails and to explore ways of increasing patients' access to nature."

Perhaps sometime in the not-too-distant future, Miller suggested, "nature exposure" will become a critical "vital sign" collected at the start of every medical encounter, along with blood pressure, temperature and pulse.

"Maybe we could begin with this question: 'In the past week, how many times have you skipped a stone, smelled a flower, chased a butterfly or watched a sunset?'"

Miller actually writes out the "nature prescription" and hands the paper to her patient, for emphasis and motivation. Using two web-based resources—the California State Parks Find Recreation website and the Bay Area Open Space Council's Transit to Trails website—she gives patients a concrete "prescription" with directions, maps and distances to open space areas. ❖

Daphne Miller, M.D., is a board-certified family physician, author, hiker and associate clinical professor at UCSF. In 2002 she opened a neighborhood medical office to practice family medicine in the Noe Valley.



Volunteers work on Diamond Heights Boulevard.

Photo by Paul Matalucci

Park Art Competition Back to Drawing Board

After months of reviewing more than a dozen artists' portfolios, displaying artwork for review, and soliciting public comment, a selection panel this summer did not recommend any of the works of art proposed for installation in Glen Canyon Park. So the process will begin anew.

In January 2014, a public art selection panel comprising two arts professionals, a community representative, a Rec and Park representative and a member of the design team reviewed and scored the portfolios of pre-selected artists. The top three scorers were invited to create specific pieces of artwork for a site near the Glen Park Recreation Center for further competition.

The artists—Mark Brest van Kempen, John Roloff and Chris Sollars—met with committee members and neighbors, spending months working toward the goal of installing art in the park.

But in the end, none of their art pieces stood shining on a display pedestal adorned with ribbons. So the artists melted down their projects, cut new clay and began molding fresh ideas. They hope to fire up the kiln in the coming months.

The idea for an art installation in Glen Canyon Park was born as a collaborative work between the San Francisco Arts Commission, the Recreation and Park Department and San Francisco Public Works. The goal, according to Rec and Park: "To commission signature artwork in association with the renovation of the Glen Park Recreation Center, which highlights the site's natural environmental attributes or reflects its unique history."

"Public art plays many roles, depend-

ing on its location. The role of art in a hospital is, for different than that at a recreation center," said Susan Pontious, program director of the City's civic art collection and public art program.

"The role of public art is for aesthetic and cultural enhancement of civic spaces and to engage the public directly

with the creative work of artists in order to create more inspiring social spaces and to promote a rich, diverse and stimulating

cultural environment in order to enrich the lives of the city's residents, visitors and employees, and to enhance the city's image both nationally and internationally," Pontious said.

The process was lengthy and detailed, which included displaying the proposals at the Glen Park Recreation Center and accepting public comments.

"PUBLIC ART PLAYS

MANY ROLES, DEPENDING ON

ITS LOCATION."

Car Sharing May Expand in Glen Park

Two more parking spaces on Bosworth Street may soon be reserved for car-share vehicles, as the City experiments with ways to free up more parking.

Car sharing allows people to rent vehicles for short periods, and pick them up and drop them off in neighborhood parking spots. Backers of the program say the convenience reduces the desire and need for people to own their own vehicles, and, as a result, fewer parking spaces are needed.

The Car Sharing Policy and Pilot Project will reserve up to 450 on-street parking spaces for the three car-sharing organizations that qualified to participate: City CarShare, ZipCar and Getaround. The idea is to make the shared vehicles more visible, more available, and easier to get to.

"We're interested in finding ways to get the most out of the curb in a city that is getting more and more crowded," said project manager Andy Thornley of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. "It's a really great way potentially to optimize parking."

The two-year program was launched last August, but so far the only spaces marked as reserved are 12 that were part of an earlier pilot project that began in 2011. A City CarShare spot on the north side of Bosworth just west of Brompton is one of those spots.

Three more on-street "pods" were proposed in the heart of Glen Park at the intersection of Diamond and Chenery streets for the larger pilot, but they were scuttled by Ric Lopez, president of the Glen Park Merchants Association.

"We're not doing it because we're against it," Lopez said. "We're doing it more thoughtfully."

Downtown Glen Park has several car-share pods on private property already, so there's no need to take away scarce street parking Lopez said. Zipcar has a lot next to the Glen Park Library, and the BART lot also has reserved spots for car share vehicles.

Lopez met with representatives of the car share organizations and Thornley. Together, they decided to propose one more City CarShare spot and a Zipcar spot on Bosworth instead.

The project received environmental clearance to reserve 900 of the city's 275,000 on-street parking spots.

The locations are being vetted in waves, first by the SFMTA itself. The organizations were then required to knock on the doors of properties fronting their proposed spots and gather feedback.

Next, each spot gets a traffic engineering hearing. Finally, locations are sent to the agency's board of directors for approval. By mid-August, 170 spots across the city had been approved.

The process has been slow going, Thornley said. "This has been a tough

sell because there are counterintuitive assertions," he said.

Thornley cites studies from UC Berkeley showing that each car share vehicle removes as many as 13 other vehicles from the road. Still, those changes don't happen right away, and meanwhile parking in the city is scarce.

The pilot is scheduled to expire August, 2015. Car sharing companies will then collect data from each car, including how often it was used and how many unique users it attracted. They will also poll their members to see if the ubiquity of car share vehicles influenced their decision to buy or get rid of personal vehicles.

"Given the short turnaround, this pilot isn't likely to show dramatic changes about how many cars your neighbors have," Thornley said. A pilot that measured 200 spaces for at least a year would yield adequate data for evaluation, he added.

"It is very much at this point effectively a one-year pilot," he said. Next spring or summer he will consider asking for extension of the pilot if more data seems needed.

Extension notwithstanding, the pilot is still just an experiment, Thornley said. "If it doesn't prove out, it won't be a permanent thing," he said. "We really want to find out whether this is something that is good for San Francisco neighborhoods, but we have to try it to find out." ❖

Considerations included feasibility, maintenance and safety.

San Francisco law requires that 2 percent of the construction cost of all capital improvement projects be allocated for public art.

Alfredo Lopez, who hikes the canyon with his 8-year-old daughter Kyla, likes the policy of art in the parks: "I think it's a great idea. That area serves as a gateway to the trails. Having pieces of art to view would be a nice addition."

Lopez, like others, is concerned about vandalism. "Unfortunately," said Pontious, "there is no way to assure that any type of property will not be vandalized."

But, she added, "The Arts Commission requires that artwork we commission be fabricated in durable materials that can be cleaned should they be vandalized."

The tentative timeline for re-selecting art pieces began in August. Glen Canyon Park Public Art Selection Panel will meet on Sept. 30 at 2pm at 25 Van Ness Ave., Suite 70. The first project selection panel meets in October. The process includes various committee and commission approvals, artists' orientations, displays of finalists and, finally, contracting the selected artist for the work in March 2015.

While some were disappointed at the decision to not accept any of the previous finalists, others see it as an affirmation of the commission members' determination to ensure the artwork chosen is right for the area.

"The San Francisco Arts Commission is committed to acquiring works of art of the highest aesthetic standards reflective of diverse social and cultural perspectives," Pontious said.

Lopez would like to see art that celebrates the free spirit of the children who enjoy the playground. "Because of that area's close proximity to the children's area, I think something geared toward capturing children's imagination would be best," he said.

That idea fits one of the commission's goals. "The role of public art in our parks helps create distinctive sites within the neighborhood context that reflect the character of the neighborhood," Pontious said.

"The specific project goal for the Glen Canyon project is to commission a unique sculptural artwork in association with the renovation of the Glen Canyon Recreation Center that will inspire or engage the park's users and enhance the community's connection to the Recreation Center and the park's natural areas." ❖

Emily Bratt's Family Has Always Told

Emily Bratt still speaks with a trace of an accent from Flatbush, Brooklyn, where she was born 93 years ago.

She has lived in Glen Park since 1950, first settling on Bemis Street when it was nothing more than a dirt path. That move came after she served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in the final days of World War II, but before she spent 35 years practicing nursing in San Francisco's Public Health Department and teaching community nursing at St. Luke's Hospital.

All the while she found time to raise three children with her husband, Thomas Bratt. "I was simply a mother," she said, sitting in her living room on a summer morning, compartmentalizing memories of the Second World War, as veterans are prone to do.

"It was a terrible war," she said. "Americans don't know the half of it."

With a brother then serving in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, Bratt graduated from nursing school at New York's Metropolitan Hospital on Roosevelt Island and enlisted in the Army Nurse Corps. Sent to boot camp at Ft. Dix in New Jersey, she was commissioned a second lieutenant in February 1945.

Patriotic fervor ran high, she recalled. "We were all there to win the war."

"Besides, there were no men around at home," she added, with a self-deprecating smile, "and Revlon offered women a cosmetic bag and an overcoat if they enlisted."

Victory in Europe was only three months away, and the United States had begun moving resources to the Pacific, concentrating on defeating Japan. Bratt, however, remained on the East Coast. Assigned to a veterans' rehabilitation hospital in Atlantic City, N.J., she helped treat seriously injured veterans who were transferred from Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C.

"A big part of my job," said Bratt, was nursing amputees, sometimes caring for men who'd lost both legs."

After VJ Day at the end of the war in August 1945, the army shipped Bratt to occupied Korea, where she spent the remainder of her hitch assigned to the American military base in Pusan. The Korean War was still several years away, and the Cold War hadn't heated up yet.

"We took care of our personnel stationed in Pusan," she said. "Pretty routine medicine, such as penicillin injec-



Second Lieutenant Emily Bratt, Fort Dix, New Jersey, 1945.

Family Photo

tions, and the occasional emergency, such as accidental gunshot wounds."

The nurses were bivouacked in former Japanese barracks, and kept on a short leash, not unlike the "convent-like" atmosphere she had experienced in nursing school.

She mustered out in August 1946. "My

brother, Irwin, was discharged in Los Angeles, and he encouraged me to join him. I didn't like L.A., and came to San

Francisco, and briefly lived in a rooming house at Franklin and California streets."

**"A BIG PART OF MY JOB WAS
NURSING AMPUTEES,
SOMETIMES CARING FOR MEN
WHO'D LOST BOTH LEGS."**

From the kitchen of her Arbor Street home, where she's lived since 1953, she gazed out the window upon a large expanse of the Excelsior District. "I met Tom Bratt at San Francisco State in 1948. Then I earned a BA degree in nursing education and later a BS in public health from UC Berkeley."

"Tom and I were married on June 10, 1950, just two weeks before the Korean War began."

Tom Bratt, who won nine Battle Stars on a U.S. Navy destroyer during World War II, was a social worker and carpenter who came from a large Glen Park clan. His father, George, had raised Tom, four brothers and one sister, with his wife, Beb.

Moffitt Street wasn't a street at all back then, just part of a hillside dotted with wildflowers and buffeted by winds, and the young couple lived in a studio on George Bratt's property, which backed up on Bemis Street. Their son Tim was born in 1951, followed by Karen in 1953.

When Karen was eight months old, at midnight a few days before Christmas, a runaway car hurtled through the studio and crashed at the foot of the bed, where Karen was asleep in her crib. She was thrown from the crib.

"She wasn't hurt," said Bratt. "Tom and I called it our Christmas miracle."

Another daughter, Holly, was born in 1960. Tom went on to help build much of the Doelger housing in the Westlake neighborhood of Daly City, while Bratt continued her nursing career, which lasted until she retired in 1985.

"I was busy raising a family while teaching community nursing at St. Luke's," said Bratt, whose children attended Glen Park Elementary, James Lick Junior High School and Balboa and McAteer high schools.

"Working as a public health nurse, I'd make home visits, providing information about TB and venereal disease, and I'd check on new mothers. I'd offer information to each about baby formulas. I remember a single mother who had five children. Seeing how young I was, she questioned my knowledge and asked if I had any children of my own."

"Back then there were empty lots next our house, and Tim, who was only eight at the time, slid down Arbor to Diamond on a cardboard box and broke his leg."

The extended Bratt family was locally legendary, legions of them domiciled throughout Glen Park. Her father- and mother-in-law held court, entertaining aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, sons and daughters and grandchildren. "Our family was like its own village, but so was Glen Park, even back then," said Bratt. "Everything we needed you could find here."

"Best of all was Connie's Grocerteria

Stories. At Age 93, She Still Does

on Chenery Street, where fitGLENfit is now. Constantine Portale owned it, and he ran it with his wife, Rose.”

“Connie was always formally dressed with a tie and apron, and he had slicked-back hair,” she said. “I’d give a key to the kids, say so long and send them to Connie’s or off to Glen Canyon. They’d come back for supper. Connie was handy, and he’d lend Tom tools. Dinner was always family time, where we shared the day’s adventures.”

Some of their Glen Park adventures were extraordinary.

“Once at the Bank of America on Diamond Street, when Holly was 10, a masked man burst in while we were waiting. He yelled, ‘Everyone on the floor.’ He grabbed money from each of the tellers’ drawers and jumped into a waiting getaway car. We never found out whether he was caught.”

“We’d sit at this very kitchen table at dinner and retell stories.”

Stories such as the “pigeon man” of Diamond Street, who fed the birds until they gathered in annoying flocks and the neighbors had to call the police. “The cops weren’t difficult to find, since they all hung out at the Glen Park Station when they were off duty.”

Bratt pointed to her kitchen table, a Formica model of the sort that graced America’s Betty Furness-inspired kitchens in the ’50s. “Connie Portale gave it to us.”

Tom Bratt died in 1994. Karen married and still lives on Hearst Street and has a daughter, Erica, who graduated



Emily Bratt, second from right, just before she shipped out to Korea. Family Photo

from USC and routinely checks in on her grandmother.

Emily Bratt suffered a massive heart attack in 2012. Holly lives with her and has been a special comfort since Tim died of cancer in 2008.

Years before she retired, Bratt took up watercolor painting, and it’s helped salve the loss of her son. Holly has helped, too, by fashioning a flower, herb and vegetable garden in Bratt’s backyard, an 85th birthday present. Planted with lavender, tomatoes, rosemary, jasmine, sage and dahlias, it’s her sanctuary.

“It’s been my secret Shangri-La,” said Bratt, who uses it to heal and to soothe.

It is where she writes children’s stories and poetry, as well as paints.

“It’s my cocoon, and I sit there every day and sip my coffee.”

There she thinks about her husband, Tom, and how he collected her at Connie’s grocery after she finished her St. Luke’s shift and they’d drive up the Diamond Street hill together. She

thinks about Holly studying at Higher Grounds in preparation for her nursing degree, and how Laurent Legendre from Le P’tit Laurent told her after her heart attack he’d do anything to help.

She thinks of Tim, who practiced law and who performed in Bay Area amateur theater productions such as “The Secret Garden.” She thinks about Pusan, and how her navy orders included time in Yokohama en route there to be fitted for a winter coat.

And she thinks about the VA hospital in Atlantic City all those years ago.

“I think about a wounded soldier, a young 21-year-old boy. He’d lost a leg and he was inconsolable.”

“Walter Reed would send rehabilitated vets to our Jersey facility. These men came and attempted to cheer up our patients. One visiting soldier was a bilateral amputee—he had lost both of his legs—and he told my patient he’d be able to dance again.”

“The boy simply turned his face away, saying he never would.”

“Nonsense,” she said the young officer told him. “Let me show you.” He walked to the 23-year-old nurse from Flatbush and swept her into his arms.

“We took a turn around the ward floor,” said Emily Bratt with a smile. ❖



Emily Bratt, above, with her daughter Holly Bratt in her Arbor Street garden, and right, looking over music in her living room. Photos by Murray Schneider



Kids Reap the Benefits Of Festival Grant Awards

The day began with heavy fog and light rain, an ominous sign for a certain group of neighbors and business owners. They'd been checking their weather apps for weeks, hoping that the prediction of rain would

give way to sunnier forecasts and sustain a multi-year streak of good luck. Even with this physical proof that the luck may have ended, the Glen Park Festival committee members climbed out of bed, threw on their newly minted festival T-shirts, and gathered in the quiet, misty darkness of Glen Park Village.

It was the fourth Sunday in April and, after all, the Glen Park Festival must go on—rain or shine.

Although the festival set-up was a moist event, fortunately the dark clouds gave way to lighter skies. By 10 a.m., the sun was shining and the event had begun. More than 2,000 neighbors and visitors to Glen Park gathered to enjoy live music, try tasty food from “Off the Grid” food trucks

and survey wares from local artists and craftspeople—creating a joyful day full of community spirit.

But the benefits of the festival extended beyond the day of the event. All proceeds of the festival benefit local nonprofit organizations and schools, and 2014 was a banner year for the festival grant program.

Thanks to generous neighborhood businesses and a \$10,000 gift from a corporate sponsor, the festival had \$25,000 to award this year—more than triple the usual amount. With this bounty to share, the festival made significant efforts to expand outreach to potential beneficiaries, and received 18 applications—again, more than triple the usual number of applicants.

To make the decision-making process increasingly objective, the festival grant subcommittee consulted with professional grant program administrators to devise a rubric that balanced several factors. Three independent raters reviewed all of the grant applications and rated each application on



The Glenridge Cooperative Nursery School booth at the festival. Glenridge was among the award recipients. Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

the quality of the proposed project, including:

- Educational and/or community-building value of the project.
- A well-conceived project: the proposal clearly demonstrates that the applicant has a reasonable plan for enacting the project.
- Capacity: applicant demonstrates the ability to implement the project.
- Achievable, valuable outcomes: it's clear what participants or the community will gain from the project, and those outcomes are valuable to the community.
- Uniqueness: the project serves a niche that might not otherwise be filled.

Proposals were given additional points depending on the percentage of low-income children served; the percentage of Glen Park area children served; and volunteer or other participation in the festival itself. Grant awards were made based on the average total points for each project, resulting in what the subcommittee believed to be a fair distribution of funds to 13 well-deserving community projects.

Among first-time applicants who received grants, Friends of the Sunnyside Conservatory was awarded funds to purchase supplies and pay instructors for its annual card-making party. Also, the Golden Gate Philharmonic, a citywide children's orchestra, received funds to purchase supplies.

As usual, several local public schools were among the recipients. Monies were granted to fund a history field trip to Sacramento for fourth-grade students at Commodore Sloat Elementary School; to purchase an outdoor stage

for community events at Fairmount Elementary School; to provide a new stove and new picnic tables for Glen Park Elementary School's outdoor learning area; and to expand a one-on-one tutoring program at James Lick Middle School.

The Sunnyside Elementary School PTA submit two applications. A proposal to support its Arts Resource in Action program with San Francisco Opera was fully funded, and a request for funds to purchase a laptop cart was partially funded.

Several private, charter schools and nursery schools also received grants. Thanks to the festival grant program, there will be new play materials at Glenridge Cooperative nursery school and new furniture and props for the reading area at Noe Valley nursery school. Sixth-grade students at St. Paul's School will be enjoying an overnight science field trip, and there will be new library supplies at Synergy School and Thomas Edison Charter School.

The festival committee hopes to repeat this increased level of grant funding next year.

Of course, we rely on our hardworking sponsorship chair and the generosity of the community, but that is the plan. Planning for the 2015 festival will begin in November. If you are interested in supporting the festival's mission, either financially or by volunteering to help organize the event, please contact inquiries@glenparkfestival.com. ♦

Rebecca MurrayMetzger is chair of the Glen Park Festival.

Housing Sales Remain Strong in Glen Park

Here are the sales stats since June:

Single family home sales: Prices ranged from a low of \$725,000 to a high of \$2,703,000. 19 homes sold.
Average list price: \$1,271,726 • Average square feet: 1,559
Average days on market: 23 • Average price/sq. ft.: \$982

Condominium sales: Prices ranged from a low of \$950,000 to a high of \$1,200,000. 5 condos sold.
Average list price: \$1,062,000 • Average square feet: 1,396
Average days on market: 23 • Average price/sq. ft.: \$782

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Hot Topics: Rec Center and Public Safety

Considering July 30 was the middle of summer—or what most people outside of San Francisco experience as summer—the recent meeting of the Glen Park Association offered up a well-attended, wide-ranging community meeting.

Michael Rice, GPA president and chair of the meeting, began by having each person introduce him- or herself to the group and say how long they've been a Glen Park resident. Attendees ranged from two-year newbies to 59 years, the latter accompanied by a warm round of applause.

Topics ranged from hyper-local to statewide.

Glen Canyon Trails Improvement

Melinda Stockmann, project manager in the Rec and Park Department, presented an update on the Creeks to Peaks Trails Project, which is under way with funding from the 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks bond and other sources. The San Francisco Parks Alliance is also pitching in via its September annual fundraiser.

Trails will be connected between Twin Peaks and Islais Creek in Glen Canyon Park. It's in the planning stages, and will be completed sometime in 2016. One of the connectivity issues is that the trail encompasses some land in the School of the Arts campus.

An arrangement needs to be made with the Board of Education to include this property in the trails connection. It also could provide a valuable opportunity for SOTA students to participate in the project.

Other works in progress include way-finding signage, maps in several locations and interpretative illustrations.

Work on the grasslands continues. Currently the eastern slope is almost complete; alternate routes and trails are opened and closed as materials are staged and work takes place, causing some confusion among park-goers. Along the Turquoise-Amber stretch, two asphalt ditches were demolished and the vegetative swale restored, which will improve drainage and control erosion.

For the slide presentation on the project, go to http://sfrecpark.org/wp-content/uploads/Glen-Canyon-Trails-Improvement-Project_Glen-Park-Association-Meeting-Presentation_7.30.14.pdf. Updates are posted monthly.

Recreation Center Improvements

Karen Mauney-Brodek of Rec and Park updated the group on the renovation and expansion of the Glen Park Recreation Center, which is being financed with 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks bond funds. Design development will continue through the fall and construction is slated begin next summer.

Among the improvements will be additional space; upgraded mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems; seismic and safety upgrades; ADA and LEED compliance improvements, and overall renovation of the building, both exterior and interior, including the restrooms and gymnasium.

Some changes to the plan were made, owing to funding shortages, and creek and other environmental conditions that became apparent during the recreation area renovation. Instead of three indoor multipurpose rooms, there will be two plus one outdoor multipurpose space. Also, the teaching kitchen will be reconfigured.

Current designs can be seen at: <http://sfrecpark.org/wp-content/uploads/Presentation-Glen-Park-Neighbors-7.30.2014-Update-on-Rec-Center-Design.pdf>

Public Safety

Police Capt. Timothy Falvey (who has since transferred out of the district) reported an array of statistics for the Ingleside District. There was some good news: overall, crime was down in the first half of the year. There's been an 11 percent drop in felonies year to date. Violent crime was down 28 percent, including one homicide.

Robberies in Glen Park were down 20 percent compared with the same time last year. Burglaries were down 23 percent; half of them involved residences undergoing construction or remodeling, in which tools and equipment were stolen. Other burglaries were made easier by open doors and unlocked windows, especially those on the second floor.

In many cases, after a few arrests, crime tapered off, indicating the same perpetrators may be responsible for many of the crimes. Investigative tools used to tie crimes together resulted in a lot of arrests.

Education about safety while using cell phones and mass transit is paying off.

But problems remain. One is pedestrian and bicyclist safety. While police staffing levels are down around 10 per-

cent, citations are up around 40 percent. Officers are focusing attention on the streets around the top of Diamond Street, and the violations are the type that are most likely to cause collisions.

Auto thefts were up quite a bit. Police are trying to track patterns of where vehicles are stolen and where they are dropped off. The favorite targets are pre-2001 Hondas, which are known to have worn-out locks. Captain Falvey suggested getting a steering-wheel lock (a "club").

Vandalism of autos is a growing problem and one that's hard to deal with, since it can take only 30 seconds to smash several car windows.

What's being done about this: There are grants for vehicle theft abatement, in part by using "bait" cars; police are tracking people on probation and parole, mapping their addresses and paying parole informational visits; plainclothes officers are being deployed.

District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener

Our supervisor gave a rundown on citywide issues he's been engaged with:

- Rebuilding the police department, which is now 300 officers short. With additional academy classes,

staffing should be fully restored to 2,000 by 2017–18.

- Road resurfacing is fully funded for the second year in a row.
- From the local budget, the City backfilled \$3 million in HIV federal funding cuts.
- Park patrol officers will be increased with additional funds. One major goal is to abate out-of-control vandalism and graffiti in the parks. Currently there are two or three park patrol officers for the entire 220-park property system.
- Additional resources will be allocated for Animal Care and Control officers, staff and shelters.
- A ballot measure for Muni funding is planned for November. There is a \$2.2 billion shortfall in deferred maintenance.
- Legislation is pending to allow in-law units in the Castro in order to promote affordable housing. This might be expanded to include Noe Valley and Glen Park in the future.
- A "soda tax" will be on the ballot in November, 40 percent of which would go to the school district for programs that promote physical activity and healthy nutrition. ❖



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STATE BALLOT MEASURES

YES PROP 1: Water Bond

YES PROP 2: Rainy Day Fund

YES PROP 45: Make Health Insurers Justify Rates

NO PROP 46: No Position

YES PROP 47: Reform Sentencing

YES PROP 48: Approve Tribal Gaming Compromise

LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

YES PROP A: Transportation Bond

YES PROP B: Muni Funding

YES PROP C: Children's Programs

YES PROP D: Retirement Benefits

YES PROP E: Creating a Healthy San Francisco!

YES PROP F: Pier 70 Redevelopment

NO PROP G: No Position

NO PROP H: Against Playgrounds

YES PROP I: For Playgrounds

YES PROP J: Raise Minimum Wage

YES PROP K: Affordable Housing

NO PROP L: Outdated Transit Policies

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Glen Park Farmers' Market: A Weekly Paradise for Kids

The Glen Park Farmers' Market is a great place for kids. When you're old enough, like 7 or older, your parents may tell you it's OK to walk around on your own while they are shopping nearby. You can taste samples of food, and if you have some money, you can buy some. You don't just have to watch your parents buy things. You get a sense of what it's like to be a grown-up—a kid's future.

There are a lot of kids at the farmers' market. Some are being pushed in strollers; some are just starting to walk on their own. Some are bigger.

I usually go to the market with my best friend, Connie. We like to taste the different hummuses, chips, peaches, blueberries, tomatoes, carrots and cherries. We love this time of year when there's so much outstanding fruit. The farmers' market also is a great place to try new things, like different jams.

We like to talk to the vendors—the people who sell the stuff. We ask if something is organic, how much it costs, which kind of peach do they think is best. Sometimes we talk to them about how they grow things. Do they plant the seeds? Do they harvest?

At the farmers' market, you're outside and you have a feeling of being free, wandering around to see what's for sale that week, what's new.

It's a good idea to talk to your parents before you ask for samples of food, to make sure you're not going to

eat something you shouldn't because maybe you're allergic.

Last year, we wanted to taste the different cheeses, but the cheese person said we couldn't try the cheese without a thumbs-up from our parents. I felt sad and mad. But that only happened a couple of times. Now we can try the cheese—and buy it if we want. One week, I bought some "Mellow Yellow" curds. They're delicious.

The farmers' market has a lot to do for big and small kids. You can make art—one time we made puppets out of paper bags. It's free and fun. We also listen to music. We like to chill out for a while and hear the musicians. Sometimes Connie and I give them \$1 if we like what they're playing.

My favorite thing about the farmers' market is sitting down with the food we bought and eating it right there. It seems to taste even better than if we eat it at home.

We're lucky to have a farmers' market so close. Even if you don't like what they're selling that week, it's a great place to hang out with your neighbors and friends. ❖

Isabel Gordon, a 9-year-old Glen Park resident, has been going almost every week to the Glen Park Village Farmers' Market since it opened in 2011. Operated by the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Assoc. in partnership with the Glen Park Merchants' Assoc., the market operates Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bosworth Street and Arlington streets. The last market day this season is Nov. 23.



A young shopper looks over organic fruit at the Glen Park Farmers' Market.

Photo by Isabel Gordon

❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

Glen Park Elementary School

Welcome back to school, Glen Park!

Our academic year got off to a sweet start with a joyful week of classes, followed by a barbeque and ice cream social on Friday evening. Both our seasoned school families and our new kindergarten families are full of energy and can-do spirit.

Our school community has already had reason to rally: As many of you have heard, on Aug. 14, eighteen iPads intended for our third-grade classrooms were stolen from the school grounds. Third-grade teacher Anna Fulton said, "We were planning to use the iPads as a center in literacy to build students' reading and writing stamina. I'd like to use reading apps that support the students' reading levels, and to excite those who don't already have a love for reading. This could be the medium that really pulls those students' intrinsic values home."

We are working hard to raise the funds to replace the iPads. We're accepting donations (as well as used iPads of any model) at www.glenparkschool.org. If you are feeling philanthropic, please consider contributing. Our kids and our community will be very thankful. As principal Jean Robertson said, "I am confident that this entire incident is going to strengthen our community." Thank you for your support.

In other news, we're busy preparing for our annual Fall Carnival, which will take place Saturday, Sept. 27 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The carnival is always fun, as well as one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Stop by with your kids to enjoy live musical performances, grab a delicious lunch and partake in face painting, bouncy houses, classic carnival games and a raffle. The entire community is welcome. We look forward to seeing you!

Fall is an exciting time at school. Students, teachers and many parents gather outside at morning circle to greet each new day with curiosity and enthusiasm—and yes, a little trepidation for our youngest kids. Students are finding their way in new classrooms, while teachers are geared up to introduce a fresh group of kids to a new year of learning.

In 2014–15 students look forward to spending more time in our school garden, learning chess during recess, and playing on our new school soccer teams. Our Parent Teacher Organization is energized and focused on bringing our

school community together, as well as fundraising to help our school become the best it can be.

Interested in learning more about Glen Park? Our school tours will start in October. Tours will be held on Tuesdays at 9 a.m., and will meet in front of the school office. We invite all prospective parents to come look around and get a feel for Glen Park School. ❖

Amy St. Clair diLaura chairs the Glen Park Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization. For school-event updates, visit www.glenparkschool.org.

Sunnyside Elementary School

The school year is off to a great start here at Sunnyside. We are excited to welcome our new principal, Dr. Renée Marcy. She brings many years of teaching experience to the job, as well as a strong and inspiring commitment to equity and high academic standards. We are all grateful that she has decided to join our community!

We are also welcoming three new partnerships this year. Reading Partners, which provides one-on-one reading support for students, will be opening a center on our campus. Two programs that focus on character education and helping children develop strong behavioral skills—No Bully and Harper for Kids—will also be joining our site this year.

Our lovely little neighborhood school is a bit dusty and noisy at the moment because we are in the middle of a massive renovation project. Over the summer, the bones of our new building went up, and many upgrades were made to our main building's interior. These were desperately needed, as our building is more than 80 years old.

Work on the new structure will be complete by December, though more renovation work will continue through next fall, when renovations will be complete. We are very grateful to our neighbors for their tolerance of this much-needed work.

We are also deeply grateful for the grants we have received recently. The Glen Park Festival Association recently awarded us grants, which will be used to support our partnership with the San Francisco Opera and to purchase laptop

computers. Art4Moore also awarded us a grant to support our Art Cart, and a

Lowe's Foundation grant supports our garden program.

We are also thankful to many local businesses that donated to our Spring fundraisers: Kokkari, Anchor Oyster Bar, Osha, Vino Rosso,

Liberty Café, Fresca, Pacific Catch, Foreign Cinema, BiRite and Canyon Market. Without the support of these organizations and businesses, we would not be able to provide the programs that make Sunnyside special.

We are so fortunate to be part of a community that shows such strong support to public education. Last spring we were honored to be named a California Distinguished School,

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as well as making the Honor Roll of California for Business Education schools. These awards honor the work we have done to close the achievement gap and working to ensure that all of our students are skilled and successful.

We are looking forward to another great year at Sunnyside. ❖

Jennifer Helton is president of the Sunnyside Elementary School Parent-Teachers Association.




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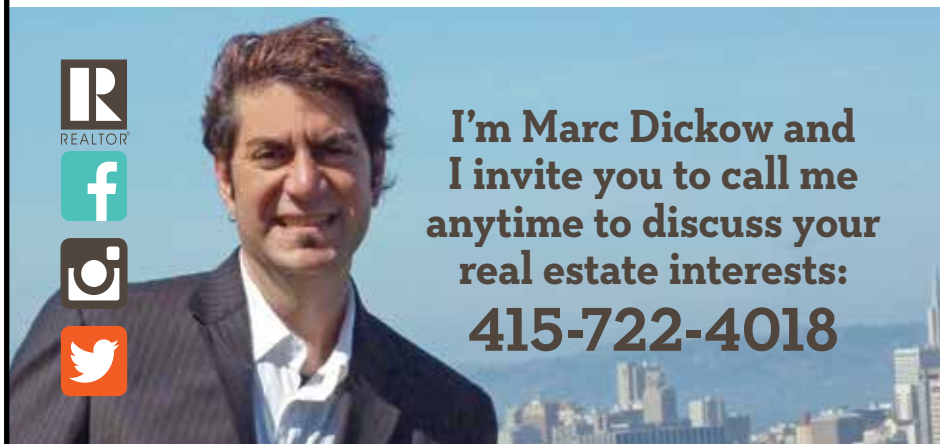
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IN GLEN CANYON PARK

Spring and summer have been a time for construction in the park and renewal of its natural resources.

On the summer day I visited, construction vehicles were traveling around the area on some park paths. Although by now most of the construction and planting in the main area are finished, some work was still going on in the paths beyond the rec center.

The front of the park and paths include many flowers blooming in the spring and summer, including the purple Lewis monkeyflower, with its rounded petals, and aster, also purple, with many long, thin petals growing from a yellow center.

On the area that overlooks the creek near the Silver Tree daycare center, birds out in the trees included the downy woodpecker and house finch. The woodpecker has a white underside and black wings with white spots, with the male bird featuring a bright red patch on his head. They are often

found in woodlands and areas with lots of brush and trees. House finches are brown with red coloring across their back on the males, and grayish-brown on the females. The leafy trees extended above the creek, providing shade and room for the birds to perch.

At ground level, California towhee birds, are large, brown sparrows that hop back and forth to search for insects. They often can be seen around the brown, soil-covered paths of the park, where they can dig and brush along the area with their feet to find food. We found them throughout the park, and along nearby paths as we left the canyon.

The Friends of Glen Canyon Park work parties are held every third Saturday and every Wednesday at 9 am at the Rec Center in the park. Visit the Friends of Glen Canyon Park website for additional information about the park, and photos of local plants and activities, at: bit.ly/glencanyonpark. ❖

Monika E. Lewis keeps us informed about our neighborhood park.



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News from the Glen Park Garden Club

It's always good to wander out into the chilly green winter garden and find a few welcoming blooms. There are a couple of ways of achieving this—my first suggestion is to plant some of the larger winter-blooming shrubs.

The most obvious choices are camellias—reliable bloomers and a favorite of Glen Park gardeners. Many grow into showy specimens, with bold, glossy leaves and fat, rose-like flowers. Flower colors range from deep reds to pale pinks and whites. Some are fragrant.

Camellias like slightly acidic soil and light sun to light shade. They are not drought-tolerant unless well established. They really need well-drained soil—in general, that means most plants don't like standing water around their roots or soggy soil. Camellias will appear in the nurseries from fall through winter. There are hundreds of varieties, so pick your color and size. Ask for the “early” bloomers. Here are three gems; there are many more:

Swan Lake camellia, Camellia japonica “Monke”: Large white double flowers in winter, glossy leaves. The camellias labeled “japonica” are readily available and reliable. They are often tall shrubs with large leaves, and bloom in late fall and winter.

Variegated camellia, Camellia japonica “Daikaguru Variegated”: Striking pink and white double flowers, glossy leaves, evergreen. Loves our mild climate.

Tanya camellia, Camellia sasanqua “Tanya”: Deep, gorgeous pink single flowers. A small shrub with many flowers and slender glossy leaves.

Here are some more winter flowering shrubs:

Bodnant Dawn viburnum, Viburnum x bodnantense “Dawn”: Deciduous, with lovely scarlet fall color on the deeply veined leaves, followed by fragrant deep pink flowers on the naked branches from fall to spring. A big spectacular spreading plant (8 by 10 feet), so give it room.



Swan Lake camellia



Coral aloe

Christmas rhododendron, Rhododendron “Christmas Cheer”: About 4 feet high with deep green leaves, this formal-looking, shapely plant bears big pink flowers in late January and February. Likes acid soil and good drainage.

Flowering maple and abutilon hybrids are good choices. Abutilons are the shrubs with those lovely, hanging bell-shaped flowers, also known as Chinese lanterns, which are almost perpetually blooming. The flowers are red, orange or yellow. Abutilons enjoy light shade and thrive with good drainage. Reliable and tough. New drought-tolerant varieties are available.

For a contemporary look, grow aloes, dramatic clumping spiky plants with striking flowers in winter and early spring. Good drainage and sun are a must for all aloes. Plant on sunny hill-sides. Three popular varieties are:

Wolberg aloe, Aloe vryheidensis: A small, slow-growing, clumping plant

good for small gardens. Flaming red-orange flowers on 2-foot-tall spikes in winter.

Fence aloe, Aloe tenuior: A spreading giant that may grow to 10 feet, this shrubby aloe bears bright yellow flowers throughout the year.

Coral aloe, Aloe striata: Small blue-green rosettes of leaves that push up charming clusters of coral pink flowers in late winter.

A second approach to winter flowers is to purchase annuals in the fall, the perfect planting time for Glen Park gardeners. Buy small plants and get them in the ground early enough—before it gets too cold—and you will get some late winter-early spring blooms to keep that garden joy going. Try pansies, primroses, stocks, viola, cineraria, nemesia and schizanthus.

This list could be so much longer. Here are some resources:

- Take a winter walk in the San Francisco Botanical Garden to research what is in bloom.
- Check out your Sunset Western Garden Book for more varieties of the plants mentioned above.
- Search for possible shopping opportunities online at anniesannuals.com.
- Visit local nurseries such as FlowerCraft at 550 Bayshore Blvd., Flora Grubb Gardens at 1634 Jerrold Ave. and Succulence at 402 Cortland Ave. ❖

Kay Hamilton Estey is the Glen Park Garden Club columnist. If you are interested in joining the Glen Park Garden Club, contact her at kay.estey@gmail.com.



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Alma Hecht's Cottage Is Historic and Tiny

Alma Hecht is convinced that she lives in an earthquake cottage.

Purchased 15 years ago, her home is tucked away in a Glen Park backyard behind another house on Chenery

Street. "It was Sept. 9, 1999, when I bought it," she said, as she and Moki, her 4-year-old Australian shepherd, circled her California native plant garden one recent morning. "It was 9 a.m., and it was my lucky day."

Then the house measured only 500 square feet, but she's since doubled its size. Today Hecht, a certified landscape designer and arborist, lives on two levels, each with a bedroom and a bath. The original space, constructed from Douglas fir and redwood, now showcases a sitting room, dining room and kitchen. The downstairs houses a studio where Hecht can pore over her plans for a number of upcoming projects.

"I'm planning a garden now at Douglass and 24th," she said. "It's for a dog groomer, and I'm working it off partially in trade—eggs for life, and lots of grooming for Moki."

She has never asked the City's Planning Department to certify her home as an historic earthquake shack, one of the 5,610 built in the aftermath of the 1906 temblor that sent San Franciscans searching for temporary shelter, but she is confident of its provenance. "When I bought the property," she said, "I was told it was an earthquake shack."

Altogether, 16,448 of the 250,000 refugees who were left homeless in the aftermath of the 7.9 magnitude April quake were housed in 14-by-18-foot and 10-by-14-foot "cottages." The shacks were placed in 11 refugee camps whose locations included Dolores Park, Precita Park and today's Park Presidio Boulevard.

Based on a U.S. Army design, approved by the City and built by union carpenters between September 1906 and March 1907 for about \$100 each, the shacks boasted sturdy roofs, fir floors and redwood walls. All were coated in uniform olive drab, using surplus military paint. None had plumbing or electricity, and they were built with the intent of moving survivors from tents to studier shelters as San Francisco's winter rains approached.

When the refugee camps were closed in 1907, 5,343 shacks were moved by horse and wagon to private lots, mostly at the occupant's expense. Many were hauled away to the Sunset and Richmond districts, and placed on lots where two cottages could be cobbled together to create a small house. Bernal Heights acted as a magnet for others.

Earthquake shacks weren't built to last, and probably only a few remain. City officials authenticate earthquake cottages by digging into lath and plaster

and finding walls stuffed with daily newspapers used for insulation. To date, 21 shacks have been given the imprimatur.

"While upgrading the electricity," Hecht said, "I found the rafters



Alma Hecht and Moki in her living room.

Photo by Murray Schneider

covered in newspapers from 1906."

Not long after she moved to Glen Park, Hecht spent a year in Massachusetts, earning a master of arts degree in landscape design in 2002 from the Conway School of Landscape Design. Originally from Southern California, she came to San Francisco in 1987 and lived in Noe Valley, the Castro and the Lower Haight before settling in our neighborhood. When an acquaintance

from Friends of the Urban Forest told her about the house on Chenery Street, she leaped at the opportunity.

Hecht's house is filled with an array of furnishings in keeping with the simplicity of her cottage and its early-20th century pedigree. Her garden gives an illusion of extending the house and making it feel more spacious.

Finches, towhees, robins and song sparrows visit Hecht's yard. "I've always had a garden," she said.

Inside, rooms have well-thought-out color schemes, rich in hues and tonality, and are filled with antiques and art acquired in Europe by her late mother during the 1950s. Hecht's kitchen is light and airy, decorated in French provincial style, and segues to a sitting room naturally lit by multiple win-

dows. The impact is one of harmony and balance.

Hecht stood by a secretary and pointed up. "That's a 19th century Italian game board my mother left me."

Not everything is a family heirloom.

"I'm a bit of a dumpster diver," she confessed "When Bird & Beckett was at its Diamond Street location, I walked to a Friday jazz performance and saw something gold glinting from a container. I scrambled up and dragged out a frame and fitted it with a mirror. When you live in a small space, mirrors are tools for expanding space."

Her tour of space-saving continued.

"Here I designed the window seat so that I can pull the storage drawers beneath out, lift off the cushions, open the hinged plywood and re-lay the cushions," she said. "Voila! A cozy nook for me and a friend to watch TV or a movie."

"The orange chair was a street-corner find that I had reupholstered, and the little red chair belonged to a friend," she said. She pointed to the master bedroom. "The headboard on the bed is a screen I traded with a little antique store for a piece I no longer wanted."

Hecht has been happy in her scaled-down sanctuary.

"In 2007, after the construction, my house won a Green Building Council award for the greenest small-home remodel."

Neighbors can see for themselves on one of the California Native Plant Society tours she leads around her diminutive grounds.

Alma Hecht, with both a sense of history and a modern sensibility, has managed to fashion an eclectic living space.

Summing up, she says about her home: "It's comfortably elegant." ❖



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❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

I was deeply honored when the Glen Park News staff asked me to write a Diamond Heights column for the paper, and immediately began thinking of the many ways Glen Park and the neighborhood up the hill work together on significant projects.

Michael Rice and the officers of the Glen Park Association (GPA) have provided terrific guidance for the Diamond Heights Community Association (DHCA) on many issues. Our communities share boundaries with Glen Park Canyon, and both our associations advocated for the Parks Bond 2012, to great benefit for our recreation areas. As a result, the Recreation and Park Department will convene meetings in early 2015 to gather input on replacing the unsafe play structures in George Christopher Playground.

Supervisor Scott Wiener's quarterly Glen Park and Diamond Heights community meetings at St. Aidan's Church (Gold Mine Drive at Diamond Heights Boulevard) benefit both our neighborhoods. Wiener provides a wealth of knowledge on issues in our communities as well as matters that affect all of San Francisco. With support from the

supervisor, our neighborhoods allied together to convince Muni to approve the 35 bus route that will retain service to Farnum, Moffit, Bemis and Addison streets and extend the route to the Glen Park BART station.

Median Replanting: This year, Paul Matalucci, a 10-year resident of Diamond Heights, created the Diamond Heights Boulevard median project, a volunteer effort with the goal of replanting the median strips from Addison to Duncan, in order to give the neighborhood a more attractive appearance. (See story on Page 10.)

John Priola, who oversaw the Bosworth Street median project, has lent his experience, which has helped our median planning efforts move along quickly. Thanks to a District 8 Greening Grant from Supervisor Wiener's office, Matalucci led two workdays this summer, when volunteers planted drought-tolerant, low-growing plants in several median beds near Addison Street.

Election Preview: Residents of both neighborhoods regularly attend each other's association meetings. Our next DHCA Community Meeting will be Saturday, Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. at the S.F. Police Academy, 350 Amber Dr.,

behind the Diamond Heights Shopping Center. Presenters will discuss both sides of some of the more controversial initiatives on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Disaster Planning: If disaster strikes, our neighborhoods will undoubtedly work together on response and recovery. Resilient Diamond Heights, a partnership between the Diamond Heights Shopping Center, St. Aidan's Church, St. Nicholas Church, private and nonprofit housing developments and community agencies, has created a Diamond Heights Disaster Response Plan. The plan calls for activating a Neighborhood Support Center at St. Aidan's in times of crisis.

A new project entails opening the center during times of extreme temperatures. During the heat wave in May, many people went to the Bank of America and Safeway in the shopping center to cool off and rest from the heat. Look for community announcements when we have our next heat wave to learn the times that St. Aidan's will be open to provide relief from high temperatures.

Diamond Diners: St. Aidan's monthly Diamond Diners for people 55 and older, served lunch to more than 60 people on Aug. 6. Participants

are getting to know one another, and many of them continued conversations long after finishing lunch. The free lunches are offered on the first Wednesday of each month, at noon. No reservations are necessary.

Coming Events: St. Aidan's will present its 11th annual original musical comedy, *Lost and Found*, on Nov. 15, 16 and 17. I am producing the show, and volunteers who would like to act or to help with choreography, props, costumes or sound or take a part in the play are encouraged to e-mail me. St. Nicholas Church, Diamond Heights Boulevard at Duncan, will hold its popular annual Middle Eastern Food Festival on Oct. 4 and 5.

Details of these events are in the Community Calendar on Page 24.

Your Input: Please contact me with any comments and questions about issues in Diamond Heights and with any thoughts on projects that our two neighborhoods can work on together. For more information on the work of the DHCA, please visit our website at www.dhcasf.org. ❖

Betsy Eddy is president of the Diamond Heights Community Association. Contact her at dhcasf@gmail.com.

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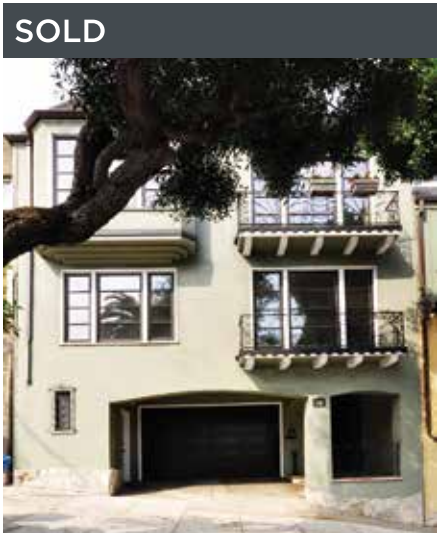


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❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

Many sellers ask me for ideas about getting their homes ready to bring on the market. One topic of these conversation is landscaping. Does it really add value?

How far should one go?

When you look at a house for sale, the first impression is almost always the one that sticks with you. When you see a home that has a nicely manicured yard or nice planters in front of the house, it makes a lasting impression. As they say, you only get one chance to make a first impression, so make it the best one you can.

For many homes here in Glen Park, the view from the sidewalk is of planter boxes or areas up against the house, and maybe a tree. First of all, if you have planter boxes or containers that have plants in front, make sure they are in good condition, freshly painted or stained. The plants should be healthy, vibrant and well groomed. If they aren't, consider putting in some fresh plants.

Go for native plants. (Here's a link to a list of native San Francisco plants: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_San_Francisco_Bay_Area_wildflower.)

If you have a tree or trees in front of your house, make sure that they are trimmed and healthy. For those of you with backyards, it's a good idea to have a gardener come over and clear the yard, trim all the bushes and trees. Same deal with any planters in back—freshly painted or stained, neat and clean.

If you are on a hill, have the gardener clean up the hill. Get rid of debris and trim the vegetation so that it looks

attractive. If you are using a Realtor, she or he can help you find a good gardener or landscaper. I'm also happy to make recommendations upon request; just drop me a line.

What about the fact that we are in a drought and are being asked to conserve as much water as we can? Well, of course you need to take this into consideration when doing any landscaping or planting. I've recently done a lot of research on graywater irrigation systems. Why send your laundry water to be treated at a sewage treatment plant when you could use it to water plants and trees in your own yard instead? Graywater is water from washing machines, showers, bathtubs and bathroom sinks. Reusing graywater can:

- Decrease potable water use by up to 40 percent, depending on the site.
- Decrease water and wastewater utility bills.
- Diversify the city's water portfolio and provide an alternate source of irrigation water, reserving treated potable water for high-quality water needs.
- Reduce the energy (approximately 2 watt-hours per gallon of water) and chemicals needed to treat wastewater.

There are several inexpensive systems available that don't require a permit. If you are using water other than from a washing machine, you will need to get a permit, but it still does not have to cost very much to install.

For a great guide to using and installing graywater irrigation systems, you can go to <http://sfwater.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=55>. This has most of the answers to questions you may have. It also gives you sources for getting any additional information.

With water-sewer rates increasing, this becomes an excellent investment and another great selling point when the time comes to put your house on the market.

Glen Park Market Update: From May 18 through August 19, 2014, 19 single-family homes, and six condominiums were sold in our neighborhood. The average sale price for the single-family homes was \$1,503,408.

During this period, the median list price here in Glen Park was \$999,000 with the median sale price being \$1,300,000. Sale prices averaged about 14 percent over the asking price, which is down slightly. But it is summertime,

when we generally see a little slowing.

Inventory is also down a bit from the last two quarters, which continues to keep competition strong. The average days on market remains at about three weeks.

There has been talk of things slowing down a bit, but it all depends on what area of the city you are in. We are still seeing many multiple-offer situations, but there seem to be fewer this past quarter.

Is there buyer burnout? I don't see it. Are we overvalued in San Francisco? Not at all. I do believe that prices may be leveling out a bit, which is just fine.

Obviously, we can't sustain the dramatic increases of the past couple of years, although I have said that before. With the continued combination of low inventory, low interest rates and

a strong desire to buy in the city, and especially in Glen Park, we will continue to see strong sales and strong values.

Enjoy the fall weather (our summer). I hope to see you in the neighborhood soon.

I'm pleased that this is an interactive column, answering questions that you have and writing about topics that are of interest to you as a reader. You can send any questions or topic requests to news@glenparkassociation.org, marc@opni.com, or The Glen Park News, 2912 Diamond St., #407, San Francisco, CA 94131. ❖

Marc Dickow, a Glen Park resident, is the Broker/Owner at Core7 Real Estate. He can be reached at marc@opni.com, or 722-4018. His website is www.altrock-realtor.com.

Single-Family Homes

ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
1783 Noe St.	May 19, 2014	24	\$1,195,000	\$1,705,000	142.68%
53 Sussex St.	May 19, 2014	6	\$999,999	\$1,025,000	102.50%
264 Surrey St.	May 22, 2014	53	\$2,495,000	\$2,525,000	101.20%
101 Miguel St.	Jun 5, 2014	10	\$2,399,000	\$2,703,000	112.67%
95 Nordhoff St.	Jun 12, 2014	39	\$2,027,000	\$2,445,000	120.62%
48 Whitney St.	Jun 13, 2014	21	\$1,495,000	\$1,745,000	116.72%
40 Sussex St.	Jun 17, 2014	13	\$1,249,000	\$1,490,000	119.30%
78 Harper St.	Jun 20, 2014	6	\$1,299,000	\$1,500,000	115.47%
62 Natick St.	Jun 27, 2014	19	\$735,000	\$750,000	102.04%
119 Stillings Ave	Jul 1, 2014	11	\$699,000	\$725,000	103.72%
64 Surrey St.	July 3, 2014	27	\$899,000	\$1,011,750	112.54%
2605 Diamond St.	July 10, 2014	23	\$999,000	\$1,300,000	130.13%
61 Mizpah St.	July 15, 2014	20	\$839,000	\$1,005,000	119.79%
162 Arbor St.	July 15, 2014	24	\$895,000	\$950,000	106.15%
258 Sussex St.	July 18, 2014	39	\$850,000	\$950,000	111.76%
645 Congo St.	July 25, 2014	13	\$2,185,000	\$2,500,000	114.42%
616 Arlington St.	July 31, 2014	25	\$899,000	\$1,200,000	133.48%
86 Whitney St.	August 7, 2014	14	\$1,725,000	\$1,875,000	108.70%
166 Chilton Ave.	August 8, 2014	25	\$725,000	\$910,000	125.52%

Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings

ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
53 Wilder St. #402 - Condominium	Jun 27, 2014	55	\$999,000	\$950,000	95.10%
414 Arlington St. - Condominium	Jul 11, 2014	11	\$755,000	\$960,000	127.15%
168 Everson St. - Condominium	Jul 16, 2014	26	\$1,025,000	\$1,190,000	116.10%
125 Randall St. - Condominium	Jul 22, 2014	8	\$925,000	\$1,200,000	129.73%
192 Laidley St. - TIC	Jul 23, 2014	117	\$522,500	\$516,000	98.76%
53 Wilder St. #404. - Condominium	Jul 24, 2014	17	\$899,000	\$1,010,000	112.35%
216 Roanoke St.	May 13, 2014	38	\$429,000	\$525,000	122.38%
319-321 Roanoke St.	Feb 6, 2014	52	\$929,000	\$915,000	98.49%

DOM - Days on market

SP/LP - % over list price

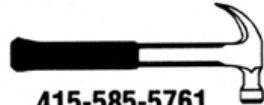
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♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR ♦

* 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, Oct 16, 7pm at St. John School, 925 Chenery St.

Agenda includes an Election Forum on San Francisco Ballot Propositions.

* Glen Park Recreation Center *

The Rec Center offers two sessions this fall, September/October and November/December. Open gym hours for Basketball, and auditorium hours for free Tot Playtime, are below. Other activities can affect times; to verify, call 337-4705.

BASKETBALL

Open gym hours:

- * Tuesday: 10:30 am–5 pm, & 8–8:45 pm.
- * Wednesday: 9 am–6 pm.
- * Thursday & Friday: 9 am–4 pm, & Friday, 7:30–8:45 pm.
- * Saturday: 9 am–4:45 pm.

TOT PLAYTIME

* Thursdays in the Auditorium, 10–11:30 am. Dates:

* Sept. 18 & 25; Oct. 2 & 9; Nov. 6, 23 & 20; Dec. 4, 11 & 18.

* 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.

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: Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15.

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 David Burnet at 871-0203 or e-mail david.burnet@sfgov.org.

* Glen Park School *

Fall Carnival: 151 Lippard St. Saturday, Sept. 27, 11 am–3pm. Live music and dance performances, classic carnival games, face painting, bouncy houses, homemade Latin food and baked goods, and a raffle.

The Carnival is always a fun party, as well as one of our biggest fund-raisers of the year. The entire community is welcome..

* Glen Park Branch Library *

The Glen Park branch library, 2825 Diamond St., presents a lively agenda of events. See "Check It Out at the Library" on Page 7 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 autumn.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

* Family Storytime: Every Monday, 4 pm. Books, songs, rhymes and fun for children of all ages.

* Preschool Videos: Every second Monday of the month, 10:30 am: For ages 3–5.

* Baby Rhymes & Playtime: Every Tuesday, 10:30 am.: Rhymes, stories and fingerplays for infants to 15 months.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

* Chocolate Tasting: Thursday, Oct. 9, 4 pm. For ages 10–18. Class Size is limited; sign up with the librarian – 355-2858.

* Modern Macramé Workshop: Saturday, Oct. 11, 3 pm. Ages 12 and up. Space is limited; sign up at the information desk or call 355-2858.

* Great Teen Book Swap: Friday, Oct. 17, 3:30 pm.

ADULT PROGRAMS

* Tiptoeing Through the Twilight Zone An Explorer's Guide to Understanding Dementia. Wednesday, Sept. 17, 6:30 pm.

* Tengo Tango – The History of Tango Glen Park. Saturday, Sept. 20, 4 pm."

FOR ALL AGES

* eReader Drop-In: Second Tuesdays, 3–4 pm.

* Knitting Circle: Second Wednesdays, 4:30 pm.

MOVIE DAYS

* *Adam's Rib* (1949): Saturday, Sept. 27, 3 pm.

* *House on Haunted Hill* (1959): Saturday, Oct. 25, 3 pm.

* *Monster House*: Thursday, Oct. 30, 4 pm. For ages 10 and up.

* Diamond Heights

Community Association. *

Community Meeting: Saturday, Oct. 11, 2 pm, SF Police Academy, 350 Amber Dr. Presenters will discuss some of the more controversial initiatives on the Nov. 4 ballot.

* Glen Park Farmers' Market *

Every Sunday through Nov. 23, 10 am–2 pm, BART parking lot, Bosworth & Arlington streets. The market will resume operation in the spring.

* San Francisco Village *

Neighborhood Circle: Saturday, Sept. 27, 2–4 pm, St. Aidan's Church, Gold Mine Drive at Diamond Heights Boulevard. A social and informational gathering for current and prospective members over 60

who live in Glen Park, Diamond Heights, Noe Valley and the Castro and Upper Market neighborhoods.

SF Village is a member-based nonprofit organization, part of a nationwide network that helps older residents stay in their own communities by providing practical assistance, social opportunities and activities based on mutual interests.

* 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. Joseph McFadden 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: Oct. 21, Nov. 20

* St. Aidan's Episcopal Church *

Annual Original Musical Comedy, Lost and Found: Weekend of Nov. 15, 16 & 17, 101 Goldmine Dr. at Diamond Heights Blvd. Volunteers who would like to act or help with choreography, props, costumes or sound are encouraged to e-mail betsy.eddy@gmail.com.

Diamond Diners: First Wednesdays, noon–1 pm. A monthly free lunch and social hour for seniors over age 55 who live in the 94131 zip code. Reservations are not required.

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

Community Activities: St. Aidan's hosts yoga, AA, Al-Anon, Weight Watchers and other community groups. For details, visit www.saintaidan.org or call 285-9540.

* 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, supported in large part by individual neighborhood donations. Admission is almost always free (Saturday night jazz club is the major exception). and your patronage of the shop is vital to keep it going. Contributions to the Cultural Legacy Project are tax-deductible.

Check online for the latest information at www.birdbeckett.com, pick up a monthly events schedule at the bookshop, or call 586-3733. The shop opens at 11 a.m. seven days a week and closes at 7pm when there's no evening event.

SPECIAL EVENTS

* Friday, Sept. 19, 8 pm: Laurie Pepper presents her memoir of the late Art Pepper, ART: Why I Stuck with a Junky Jazzman. Special jazz tribute to Art Pepper from 5:30 pm.

* Sunday, Sept. 21, 2 pm: Poets Lisa Gluskin Stonestreet and Robert Thomas.

* Tuesday, Sept. 23, 7 pm: Poet Maria Mazziotti Gillan.

* Sunday, Oct. 5, 2 pm: Taurean Horn Press 40th Anniversary Reading.

* Thursday, Oct. 16, 7:30 pm: LITQUAKE – Poets Seth Amos, Neeli Cherkovski, Patrick James Dunagan, Marina Lazzara and Jessica Loos.

* Sunday, Oct. 19, 2 pm: Poets Diane di Prima and QR Hand with pianist Walter Earl.

WEEKLY & MONTHLY SERIES📖 **Bird & Beckett Book Club:**

2nd Thursday of each month, 7 pm. All welcome.

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

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

* 2nd Fridays: Jimmy Ryan's B&B Bebop Band.

* 3rd Fridays: The Scott Foster Group.

* 4th Fridays: The Chuck Peterson Quintet.

* Special 5th Friday Guests: Aug. 29: Dave Parker Quartet.

🎵 **Jazz Club:** Saturday nights, twice monthly, 8–11 pm: A new concert series showcasing some of the city's top jazz musicians.

* 1st Saturday of the month: hosted by multi-instrumentalist Smith Dobson V.

* 2nd Saturdays: hosted by pianist Grant Levin.

* 3rd Saturdays: hosted by bassist Heshima Mark Williams.

* 4th Saturdays: hosted by saxophonist Terrance Tony.

* 5th Friday, Nov. 29: McCarthy/Scott/Bennett/Zimmerman Jazz Quartet

🎵 **Which Way West?:** Which Way West? Concert Series: Every Sunday, 4:30–6:30 pm.

* Sept. 28: Johnny Escobedo, El Guajiro – la musica cubana.

* Oct. 5: Ian Carey's Duocracy – Jazz.

* Oct. 12: Ferhan Qureshi Ensemble – Pan-Arab Music.

* Oct. 19: Hamir Atwal Quartet – Jazz.

* Oct. 26: Joshua Workman Quartet – Jazz.

* Nov. 2: Pugsley Buzzard – Solo originals and stride piano.

* Nov. 9: Tom Lander Trio – Jazz.

* Nov. 23: Dave Bendekeit and the Keepers of the Flame – Jazz.