



# Glen Park News

## Glen Canyon Park Trail Upgrades Take A Step at a Time

**T**he Recreation and Park Department's 15-month Glen Canyon Trails Improvement Project is expected to be completed in early 2015.

Work crews soon will maneuver their last Bobcat earth mover out of the canyon, along Alms Road, exiting San Francisco's 70-acre natural area and leaving in their wake freshly minted recreational trails built with scores of sturdy box steps to make the park easier to navigate.

Funded by the voter-backed 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond, to the tune of \$900,000, the project was supported with two additional grants totaling \$320,587. More financing came from the 2013 Habitat Conservation Fund in the amount of \$130,000. Together, the upgrades cost \$1.35 million.

Recreation and Park's Trails Project, which was planned over several years during 12 community meetings, also removed hazardous trees, improved drainage, conducted sediment basin repair and updated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access between Bosworth Street and the Silver Tree camp-Glenridge nursery school site.

Glen Canyon strollers, dog walkers, summer campers, nursery school chil-

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## Crossing Guards: The Road to Safety



Rhonda Cash helps keep pedestrians safe at busy Bosworth and Diamond intersection.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

**S**an Francisco's surge of traffic injuries and fatalities in recent years has prompted the City to adopt the ambitious Vision Zero policy, which calls for eliminating all traffic fatalities by 2024.

Just 6 percent of the intersections in San Francisco account for 60 percent of the fatal and serious collisions, a sobering fact as the num-

ber of deaths in 2014 involving people who walk, bike and travel by motor vehicles was approaching 30 in early December.

None of the most dangerous locations are located in Glen Park. But the neighborhood's busiest intersection, at Diamond and Bosworth streets, has high-volume pedestrian traffic, multiple Muni bus lines and private shuttle buses maneuvering through, and a

steady stream of cars heading to and from the freeway ramps—a scenario that puts people at risk. And while the intersection may not have landed on the unenviable most dangerous list, it nonetheless is a challenging place to navigate safely.

But every weekday, there's an old-fashioned traffic-safety program at work: crossing guards. Their names are Rhonda Cash and Le Ta, and the Diamond-Bosworth intersection is their domain.

The City is preparing to start a streetscape safety improvement project at Diamond and Bosworth. New sidewalk extensions at existing bus stops

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## Glen Park Businesses Get into the Holiday Spirit

At a loss for what to buy for everyone on your holiday shopping list this year? As usual, the merchants in downtown Glen Park can help you check off every name on your list.

And with just a little bit of effort, you can find things from right here in Glen Park.

By Gail Bensinger

### Gifts

Eyedentity on Diamond Street sells custom-made beaded eyeglasses cords made by a local resident, for \$20 apiece. Other cords cost only \$6. The store sells mostly prescription glasses, but they do stock Eyebobs reading glasses (\$85) or non-prescription sunglasses that range from \$170 to \$450.

Over at Glen Park Hardware, Hal and Susan Tauber have stocked one item that couldn't be closer to home—hand-some greeting cards hand-painted by their daughter Robin. They're blank on the inside so you can personalize your holiday message—nicer than a computer-generated letter.

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### GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION

#### QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, January 14, 7 p.m.  
St. John School  
925 Chenery St.

## GLEN PARK NEWS

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## ❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

The tables on the other side of the big windows were set, awaiting the evening's diners, but the sign on Chenery Park's door thanked the neighborhood for "14 great years."

The restaurant that put Glen Park on the culinary map shut down without advance notice in November, leaving another storefront vacant. Joe Kowal, who had bought out his longtime Chenery Park partners not that long ago, was reportedly facing a large rent increase for the three-story restaurant at 683 Chenery St.

Instead, he decided to let the lease expire and concentrate on his other restaurant, Eureka, on 18th Street in the Castro. The closure meant the end of kids' nights on Tuesdays and witty seasonal decorations in those big windows, not to mention the best mac and cheese and fried chicken in our zip code.

Up the street, the doors of East-West Integrative Medicine Clinic at 605 Chenery St. remain open, but it was touch and go there for a while. Marnie

McCurdy, who founded the business 12 years ago, had several years to go on her lease when she was hit with a huge rent increase. The building owner had claimed lease violations in demanding the higher rent.

Through mediation, a smaller increase and a new, longer lease were

City, not rent, but it still leaves a hole in our business district.

Readers who have been following Marc Dickow's real estate columns in the *Glen Park News* (see Page 18) are familiar with the phenomenon of ever-rising home prices here. The term "over asking" has been part of the vocabulary of every would-be buyer and practically every homeowner, whether new to the neighborhood or long-established.

In the fall issue of the *Glen Park News*, Dickow reported,

the median sale price of a new Glen Park single-family home was about \$1.3 million. This quarter, that figure topped \$1.4 million. There are many reasons to the hot real estate market here, of course, including the appeal of taking BART to the downtown tech corridor along Market Street, the "Google buses" that stop outside the BART station, and the easy access to Silicon Valley via Interstate 280.

Yet the appeal of Glen Park extends far beyond the ease of getting somewhere else. The business streetscape is a part of that formula.

We welcome the new restaurants that followed after Chenery Park proved people here had a taste for fine dining. But we also value Glen Park Hardware, Destination Baking Co., the branch library, Perch, Critter Fritters and Canyon Market, the coffee houses, lunch places and ethnic eateries, and the hair and nail salons.

When Tommy Baik greets you by name with a smile at Glen Park Cleaners, or Rick Malouf remembers what you bought the last time you shopped at Cheese Boutique, or Eric Whittington turns his bookstore into a jazz mecca every weekend, you and they are both woven tighter into the neighborhood fabric.

Certainly, landlords are entitled to fair returns on their properties. That's a given. But a neighborhood needs basic businesses like laundrettes and full-service banks as well as enterprises that can afford high rents. Balance is everything.

One more note on the subject of closures: The Sunday Farmers' Market in the BART parking lot is closed for the season. Its reopening in 2015 is one more reason to look forward to spring. In the meantime, the volunteers who produce and deliver the *Glen Park News* wish happy holidays to everyone in Glen Park. ❖

## A NEIGHBORHOOD NEEDS BASIC BUSINESSES LIKE LAUNDERETTES AND FULL-SERVICE BANKS AS WELL AS ENTERPRISES THAT CAN AFFORD HIGH RENTS.

negotiated. McCurdy said she didn't want to relocate from the double-storefront location and jeopardize longtime relationships with the clinic's clients.

Another storefront, where Tina's Laundromat once handled the laundry of both residents and nearby businesses, has been vacant since August. That business, too, closed rather than face a big rent hike. The decision to close the Citibank branch across from the BART station two weeks before Christmas was due to corporate policy at company headquarters in New York

## Glen Park News Columnists Provide Unique Perspectives

The *Glen Park News*, published quarterly by the Glen Park Association, is a labor of love produced by a dedicated team of volunteers that writes and edits stories, takes photos, designs the pages, writes the headlines, sells the ads and delivers 3,800 copies to neighborhood homes and businesses each March, June, September and December.

Most of the staff lives in Glen Park. Some are, or were, professional journalists who want to give back to the community; others simply have a gift for writing and picture-taking and are willing to share their talents to tell stories about Glen Park.

Threading the paper together from one edition to the next is our cadre of columnists who write about real estate, local schools, gardening, politics, public safety, the library and our park.

It's not easy to come up with fresh ideas for column fodder every three months, but our columnists, rooted deep in their areas of expertise, excel at keeping their topics relevant and interesting.

Whenever one of our columnists decides to move on, it's a loss and a signal that newspapers, like the subjects they cover, evolve. Our longtime "In Glen Canyon Park" columnist Monika Lewis, who got squeezed for time due to a new full-time job, wrote her last column for us in the fall issue. We will miss her insights on nature in the canyon and park activities.

She followed in the footsteps of other formidable canyon columnists, among them Jean Conner—nature lover, Friends of Glen Canyon Park activist, tireless volunteer worker in the canyon—whose column first appeared in 1994 and continued regularly every quarter for 13 years. The editors are on the hunt for a new columnist, but in the meantime, we will continue to cover our neighborhood's prized parkland in regular news stories.

We also welcome our new "Check It Out at the Library" columnist, Katrin Reimuller (see column, Pg. 6, and story, Pg. 7) who recently took over as head of the Glen Park Branch Library from Denise Sanderson.



## ❖ GPA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN ❖

**D**ecember: Your email in-box and U.S. mail slot have streams of end-of-year solicitations from charities, foundations, conservancies, funds, clubs, action groups—for wild-life, social services, parks, international aid, refugees, medical research, food banks, human rights, museums.

You made a contribution last year, or perhaps once, three years ago. They have your email address.

by Michael Rice They call your phone number, but Caller ID is a wonderful thing.

You look at these pleas and requests, and then pick a few to help. An envelope or web donation goes off to somewhere in San Francisco, New York, Sacramento, Oakland.

But let's look in Glen Park during this season. One year ago, in December 2013, we announced the Glen Park Association's new grants program. We offered grants up to \$2,000 to organizations, institutions or public agencies to fund neighborhood projects or services. In 2014, the outcome of the grant program is all around us:

Friday nights, the crowd spills out from Bird & Beckett's Jazz in the Bookshop. There's a donation jar for the musicians and the wine, but owner Eric Whittington has to raise about \$25,000 for the weekly "neighborhood jazz party"—which Eric promotes "as the longest-running uninterrupted gathering of its kind in the city." There's no admission charge, an early evening weekly schedule, refreshments, and professional jazz musicians holding forth for two sets each Friday.

Eric told me that the \$700 grant received from the Glen Park Association "has really cemented the neighborhood's support" for his efforts to present a robust schedule of performances, "with guaranteed pay to the musicians pretty comparable to what they can make at most any venue elsewhere in town. The musicians make it clear time and again how much they appreciate the audiences they find at B&B, and the reliability of the pay.

Since B&B got the grant, it has added a Jazz Club series on Saturday nights and a once-a-month second-Sundays Surf-a-Billy Swing Time Dance Party.

Over at the Sunnyside Conservatory on Monterey Boulevard, new permanent plant labels for the thriving botanical collection will be in place in early 2015. Sally Ross, a longtime Friends of the Sunnyside Conservatory (FOSC) activist, helped put together the plan for the signs. ❖

Sally says, "With signage, which will include common name, family, genus, species and country or area of origin, it will become a point for teaching. Many school groups visit the conservatory. The relationships of various plants will be indicated through family or genus commonality. Some of the plant classification will perhaps surprise gardeners, as genetic studies have changed and outdated whole families and renamed geneses, such as the genus *Datura* and family *Agavaceae*." I am looking forward to learning more about *Agavaceae*.

A \$700 GPA grant funded a portion of the cost of the signage through FOSC. (Sally is also GPA's diligent membership secretary, but she did not participate in the decision on the FOSC grant.)

On a sunny Saturday in August, the San Francisco Mime Troupe's jazz wafted up from the green fields near the playground in Glen Canyon Park. A big crowd listened, laughed, and applauded "Ripple Effect," a sharp, funny, topical show about jobs, housing and love in the tech world of San Francisco. The Mime Troupe, now going on 50-plus years of political theater in the parks of San Francisco and the Bay Area, had always performed one summer week-

end in Glen Canyon Park.

The Troupe missed Glen Park during the 2013 playground reconstruction. But we heard that Glen Park would not be on their 2014 schedule because of other financial straits. The Mime Troupe proposed a \$1,000 grant to support a Glen Park date. We made the grant, with the stipulation that Glen Park was confirmed, and the happy event came in August.

These are some of the worthy needs right here in Glen Park, and I encourage us to think about where our support and donations can make a difference in our neighborhood.

Finally, but importantly, the GPA grant program continues. We are always looking for organizations and ideas to help the Glen Park community. The application process is very straightforward. Look at [www.glenparkassociation.org/grants](http://www.glenparkassociation.org/grants). (The GPA board recently updated the grant guidelines, to clarify that recipients should be 501(c)(3) non-profits, or have a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor, and that grants cannot be used for further fund-raising activities.)

A good holiday season and Happy New Year to all. ❖

*Michael Rice is president of the Glen Park Association.*

## Giants Celebration!



A crowd gathers in front of Glen Park Station to watch the final game of the World Series, left. Above, Glen Park residents celebrate the Giants victory at the corner of Diamond and Chenery streets.

Photos by Liz Mangelsdorf (top) and Stephen Labovsky

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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 ❖

I'm soliciting feedback from Glen Park residents about possible legislation to allow Glen Park property owners to add new secondary units—also known as in-law units or accessory units—into the existing envelope of their buildings. The legislation also would include Noe Valley, and would track successful legislation I authored earlier this year to allow new in-law units in the Castro. I'll be attending the January Glen Park Association meeting to discuss the proposal.

San Franciscans disagree about many issues, but one fact on which we all agree is that our city is in the midst of a housing crisis. Rents are through the roof, and homes prices are increasingly out of reach for middle- and working-class people. We need to employ various strategies to address this problem, including building more housing in general, creating affordable housing and keeping people stable in their existing housing.

One strategy to address our city's

housing needs is to allow and encourage people to add in-law units in their existing buildings—for example, by converting garages, large storage areas or partially above-ground basements into living units.

According to various studies, in-law units are the most affordable type

### ONE STRATEGY TO ADDRESS OUR CITY'S HOUSING NEEDS IS TO ALLOW AND ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO ADD IN-LAW UNITS IN THEIR EXISTING BUILDINGS.

of non-subsidized housing, since they tend to be modest in nature and on the ground floor. They're also ideal for seniors and people who have trouble getting up and down stairs. They can be a good option for housing family members or simply for creating new rental units.

San Francisco has historically been hostile to in-law units, but that dynamic is changing as more and more

people recognize that we must create additional, diverse housing opportunities for our residents. The Board of Supervisors recently passed legislation to allow existing illegal in-law units to be legalized, and also passed legislation I authored to allow for the creation of new in-law units in the Castro. I'm

currently authoring legislation to allow owners of buildings undergoing seismic retrofits to add in-law units while they're at it.

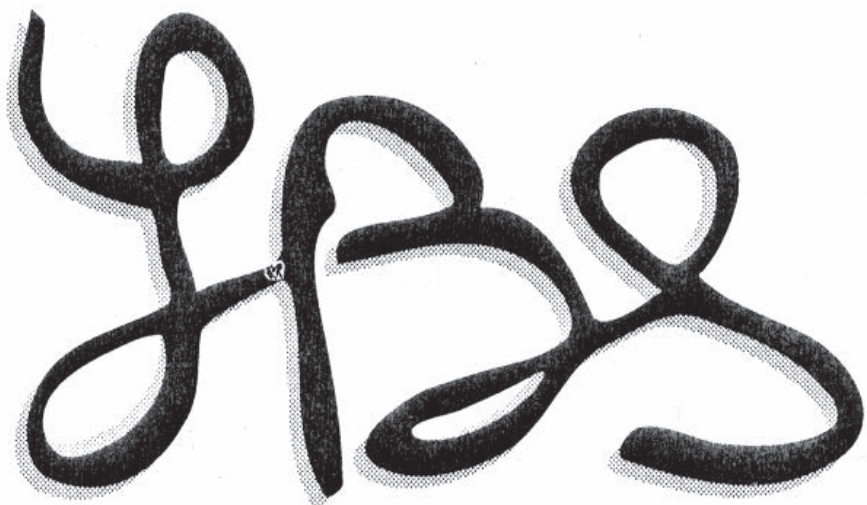
The Castro legislation, on which the Glen Park-Noe Valley legislation will be based, allows owners to add either one or two in-law units into their buildings, depending on the buildings' size. The units must be within the existing envelope of the building—that

is, a building's height or bulk cannot be expanded to create the unit—and must be created from spaces not currently being used for residential purposes. An existing residential unit cannot be divided to create an in-law unit.

The Building Code will be applied flexibly, similar to the treatment of historic buildings under the State Historic Building Code, except for life safety issues. In-law units in rent-controlled buildings also will be rent-controlled. Under our City code, if a garage is converted into a living unit, the associated curb cut must be removed and the full curb restored, which usually creates a new street parking space.

I look forward to receiving feedback from the community and to discussing the proposal at the January Glen Park Association meeting. ❖

*Scott Wiener represents District 8, which includes Glen Park, on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. More information is available at [www.scottwiener.com](http://www.scottwiener.com).*



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# Glen Park: How We Voted in Last Election

**G**len Park residents flexed their electoral muscle in the Nov. 4 election, which had a hotly contested race for the state Assembly and a roster of ballot measures dealing with the oft-contentious issues of housing and transportation.

With 4,976 registered voters in Glen Park, the turnout in the neighborhood was 63 percent, considerably higher than the 53 percent logged citywide.

An analysis of the election results by Lewison Lem, a Glen Park Association board member and a public policy consultant, found that Glen Park is a swing voting district.

On the two housing issues—Proposition G, a pro-tenant measure opposed by real estate interests, and Proposition K, a policy directive to build more affordable housing in the city—Glen Park mirrored the will of the voters

citywide, with Prop. G losing with only 45 percent “yes” votes, and Prop. K winning with 65 percent approval.

Of the three ballot measures that dealt with transportation, Glen Park voters sided with San Francisco voters as a whole, but the outcome was more lopsided. The upshot: residents in this transit-rich neighborhood served by Muni and BART are pro-transit and willing to spend money on improvements.

Proposition A, the \$500 million transportation bond, won with 72 percent support citywide and 74 percent in Glen Park. Proposition B, which would set aside millions more for Muni operations every year, based on population growth, won with 61 percent citywide and 63 percent in Glen Park.

Proposition L, an advisory measure placed on the ballot by petition that would have restricted new parking meters in San Francisco and given the pro-car forces more consideration in

local transportation policy, lost citywide with 37 percent approval, while Glen Park’s approval plummeted to an anemic 29 percent.

The battle for the 17th Assembly District seat was fierce in San Francisco, with the two candidates, David Chiu and David Campos—and their battalions of proxies—campaigning hard in Glen Park. They showed up in person, shaking hands at the BART station, the Sunday farmers’ market, and the commercial corridor. Neighborhood voters also got bombarded with campaign calls and mailers.

Chiu and Campos, colleagues on the Board of Supervisors, who share not only first names but Harvard law degrees and an allegiance to the Democratic Party, are politically in the same orbit by national standards: liberals with San Francisco values. But Campos was the favored candidate of the city’s progressive flank while Chiu had strong back-

ing from the more moderate forces.

“Glen Park is not far from the Bernal Heights home of Supervisor Campos, and Supervisor Chiu identified the Glen Park neighborhood as a potential swing district that could make the difference in the election outcome as early as the spring primary season,” Lem said. “At the end of Election Day, Supervisor Chiu won more Glen Park voters to his side.”

Chiu, who squeezed out a slim victory, bested Campos 56–44 percent in Glen Park—5 percentage points higher than the rest of the Assembly district, which represents the eastern portion of San Francisco.

“Glen Park voters may as a result have made the difference in the closely fought election,” Lem said.

Glen Park’s representative on the Board of Supervisors, Scott Wiener, won his re-election bid for the District 8 seat handily, obtaining 78 percent of the vote in a field of five candidates. ❖



A Halloween reveler enjoys an adult beverage while his baby is served up on a platter of vegetables, above. A house on Chenery street is decorated with graves and skeletons.

**Photos by Liz Mangelsdorf**

## HALLOWEEN GLEN PARK STYLE





# Happy Holidays Glen Park!



We just want to wish each one of you  
the best in the New Year. We are truly blessed to  
live in Glen Park and to be able to call it HOME.

Here's to a successful life in work,  
family, relationships and play...

**Happy Holidays to all of our friends and  
neighbors in Glen Park!**



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REAL ESTATE

## ❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

**L**et me introduce myself: I am the new branch manager and children's librarian at the Glen Park Library. I am delighted to be in the neighborhood.

The library will be hopping with programs for the rest of 2014 and into 2015.

In December, we have **Rock Out at the Library** with Alison Faith Levy (Saturday, Dec. 20, 2-3 p.m.). Formerly of the beloved Sippy Cups, Alison performs a high-energy set of songs on guitar and accordion, including songs from her album "World of Wonder," traditional children's tunes, and classic rock.

The crafty can make Fabric Envelopes for cards and gifts (Saturday, Dec. 13, 3-4:30 p.m.). Teens and preteens will have a chance to make **LED light-up crafts** with GoGoCrafts (Thursday, Dec. 18, 3:30-5 p.m.). Space for both events is limited; sign up in person or call 355-2858.

For the literary-minded, we will host a **Poets 11 2014 Reading**, a city-wide poetry contest and reading series, (Wednesday, Dec. 3, 6-7 p.m.).

The new food series, Taste it @

the Library, starts in January with **Wine Pairings: Beyond Red & White** (Saturday, Jan. 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m.). Cynthia Hogan, wine buyer for Canyon Market, will explain components of wine and how they complement food. Wine will be tasted; the session is open to those 21 and older.

For the new year, art educator Lauren Owenmark will lead **Self-Exploration Through Creativity** (Saturday, Jan. 31, 3:30-5 p.m.), an enlightening workshop where participants will create collaged cards that help with life's questions and transitions. To attend, sign up in person, or call 355-2858.

Self-exploration for the younger set will be at **Art on the Go** (Saturday, Jan. 17, 2-3 p.m.), children will create a puppet and background map that reflects their own dreams, inspired by author J. Otto Seibold's character, Mr. Lunch.

**Make a Lucky Fish!** (Saturday, Feb. 21, 2-3 p.m.), honoring Lunar New Year, is a red-envelope craft workshop. Reserve a space in person at the library, or call 355-2858.❖

*Katrin Reimuller is the new chief librarian of the Glen Park Branch Library.*

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# Glen Park's New Librarian Branches Out

**K**atrin Reimuller's first career was as a lawyer. Her second was as a stay-at-home mom. Her third is being a librarian, most recently the new branch manager of the Glen Park Library, where she landed in mid-November.

In a small office filled with unpacked boxes, Reimuller took time out from her busy second day on the job to talk about her previous posts as a children's librarian and her pleasure at being in our neighborhood. She replaced Denise Sanderson, who has moved nearby to be manager of the Noe Valley branch library.

This is Reimuller's first assignment to a branch library during her eight-year tenure with the San Francisco Public Library. Her first post in the system was as manager of the children's bookmobile, which took her all over

the city. Then for a while she managed the entire bookmobile fleet, which once had six vehicles but now is down to four.

Next came a stint at the Main Library as elementary services coordinator, with responsibility for children from kindergarten age through middle school. Now, in Glen Park, she is both branch manager and chief children's librarian, overseeing 10 full- and part-time employees who serve readers in all age brackets. (Some vacancies will be filled soon, she said.)

Our branch already has a large, sunny section, separated from the adults' area, filled with kids' books, and a solid calendar of special children's programs, on which she plans to build.

One of those unpacked boxes contained Legos, which Reimuller called valuable in exposing youngsters to things like creativity, structure and

spatial relationships—important lessons disguised as play.

Another important area she cited is STEM programs for kids of all ages. STEM—science, technology, engineering and math—has seen a lot of activities around the country aimed at exposing students, especially girls, to learning in those fields. It even has its own website: [www.ed.gov/stem](http://www.ed.gov/stem).

That seems like a natural for Glen Park, where so many parents of young children are connected with the world of technology in its various forms. But first, Reimuller said, she wants to determine “what the community needs and wants.”

Public libraries are one of the best things about America, she declared. If they didn't exist and someone came up with the idea of a place with free access to books, publications and computer services, where customers can search on their own in open stacks and request



New Library Manager Katrin Reimuller.

help from trained professionals, “It would never be funded.”

Reimuller lives in North Berkeley, where two of her three children, a sixth-grader and a high school sophomore, still live at home; her 20-year-old is a junior in college. She travels to work via BART—“the commuting is really good.” She previously worked in the East Bay at the El Sobrante Library and the Contra Costa County library system.

She was born in Southern California, but her family moved to Pt. Arena in Mendocino County when she was 7. She attended Cabrillo College and San Francisco State as an undergraduate, and holds a law degree from UC Berkeley and a library science degree from San Jose State. Reimuller practiced law briefly before beginning Career No. 2, and still values some of the lessons from that period of her life—analytical, prioritizing and writing skills.

Her busy daily schedule affords “limited free time” for personal reading, although she reads the New Yorker on her tablet during her BART commutes. She makes use of Zinio, a smartphone and tablet app available free through the library website, for access to digital magazines, and usually checks out the Huffington Post and the New York Times online. People magazine, she said, is a “guilty pleasure.”

As Reimuller settled into her new job in Glen Park, she was still unpacking boxes and getting to know the branch's patrons, staff and collections. “I'm super-excited to be back in a bricks-and-mortar library,” she said. ♦

## New Mandarin Immersion Guide for Parents

**G**len Park's Beth Weise doesn't speak Mandarin, although she “kind of” understands it. But her two daughters do, thanks to the Mandarin immersion program at Starr King Elementary School on Potrero Hill.

“I had always hoped my kids would grow up bilingual,” said Weise, whose day job is as a reporter at USA Today.

Just as her elder daughter was about to start school, Starr King's immersion program began, and both Zhou Qing, now 13, and 11-year-old Zhou Yi (for this article, Weise asked that only their Chinese names be used) were enrolled.

Out of that experience came a “labor of love”—a self-published, 458-page book entitled “A Parent's Guide to Mandarin Immersion.” It's available on Amazon or at Bird & Beckett Books (\$18.95). A e-book version is in the works (\$9.95).

“It's a ‘niche’ book, but there was nothing written about how Chinese



Weise with her new book, “A Parent's Guide to Madarin Immersion.”

Photo by Gail Bensinger

immersion works,” Weise said.

Immersion learning encompasses more than just language classes. The youngest students are taught all subjects except English reading and writing in the specified language. That gradually is reduced until, in the fifth grade, lessons are half Chinese, half English.

And while the market is tiny, it is growing. When Qing started first grade, the Starr King program had no more than 30 students, and now it's more than 180. No prior language

knowledge is needed by either the students or their parents.

Mandarin immersion also is available at other San Francisco Unified School District schools, including Jose Ortega Elementary. A program has been started at Aptos Middle School, and one is planned for Lincoln High School. Nationally, there are 184 Mandarin programs.

Weise had joined the Starr King PTA—“the typical mom thing”—and started writing a blog about

the program for other parents who had started a Mandarin support group. The research and writing gave her the idea of publishing the handbook.

She also maintains the Glen Park Association website ([glenparkassociation.org](http://glenparkassociation.org)), and edited the Glen Park News until she decided to write the book, which she estimated would take a few months. Now, two and a half years later, “I've written the book that I wish I had had when we were contemplating this program for our kids.” ♦



# Park Trail Upgrades Take One Step at a Time

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

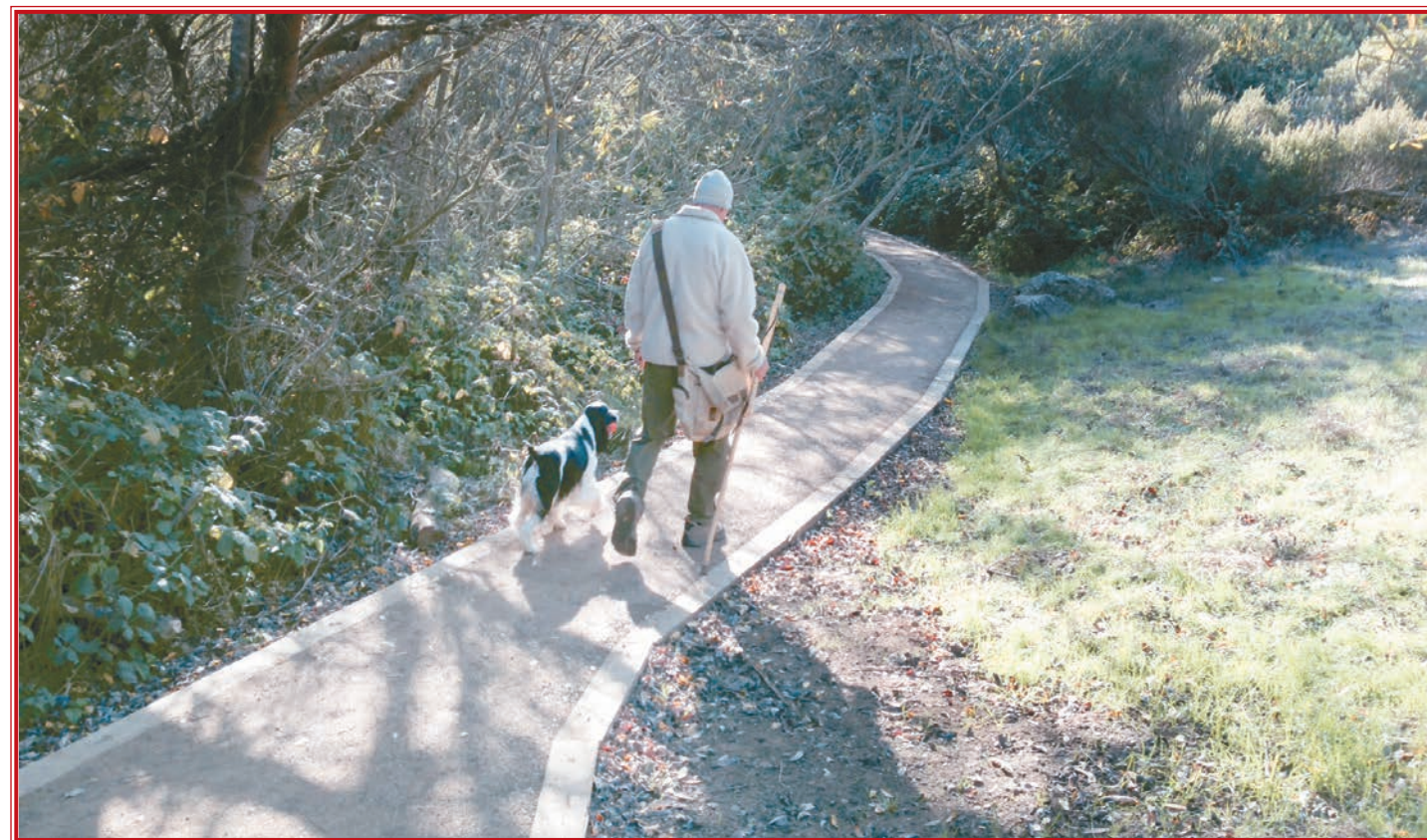
dren and their parents now will enjoy improved pedestrian access in a sanctuary removed from the city's urban bustle. Along trails named Gum Tree Girls, Islais Creek and Coyote Craggs, they can continue observing coyotes, red-tailed hawks, great-horned owls and white-crowned sparrows.

"The canyon trail work is great and it'll benefit the young and old, joggers and walkers," said Jim Hanratty, a park volunteer who lives on the first block of Stillings Avenue. "There's a little something for everyone."

Winding through a variety of habitats, from riparian willow to rocky grass and scrublands on the canyon's steep eastern slope, recreational walkers can negotiate a path from Elk Street to Christopher Playground in Diamond Heights.

It was possible to do so before construction began in October 2013, but now, assisted by durable box steps and stringer steps, hikers have a reduced risk of faltering or straying off trail, which in past years contributed to erosion and endangered sensitive habitat areas.

Taking advantage of three new stream crossings, canyon users of all ages can now better take in several Islais Creek restoration refuges. While protected by new retaining walls and



A man and his canine companion walk on an improved trail in Glen Canyon.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

split-rail fencing, hikers can observe Franciscan chert outcrops and eucalyptus and redwood trees, each of which borders either the east or west side of one of San Francisco's two remaining above-ground running creeks.

What caps the project, though, is a final 300-yard segment of trail mosaic.

Yet to be constructed is a path that will be the length of three football fields, which eventually will switchback through San Francisco Unified School District property and add the final link in Recreation and Park's Creeks to Peaks Trail vision.

With that project in mind, Phil Ginsburg, general manager of the Recreation and Parks Department weighed in: "The Creeks to Peaks Trail project is a model trail system. It provides easy public access to a natural oasis in an urban environment."

Seeded with \$85,000, Creeks to Peaks is a featured project of the San Francisco Park Alliance, which held a gala dinner in September at the Randall Museum to trumpet Recreation and

Park's greenway centerpiece.

When completed, walkers will be able to take a dogleg trail to the west of the Turquoise Way homes supported high above the trail on stanchions, step along a newly built Islais Creek stream crossing and, following interpretative and way-finding signage, strike a path to Portola Drive.

Utilizing this green-belt thoroughway, walkers never again will need suffer exhaust fumes from cars along O'Shaughnessy Boulevard.

Heading north, leaving the School of the Arts behind them, hikers will be able to cross heavily trafficked Portola Drive at Glenview Drive and continue up an uninterrupted stretch that leads to Twin Peaks. ❖



Crews build new railway steps in Glen Canyon.

Photo Murray Schneider



## ❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

For readers unfamiliar with the history of Diamond Heights, here's some background. Until the 1960s the area had few homes or trees, and consisted mainly of barren ground, with some grassland where dairy cows grazed. A rock quarry was situated where Walter Haas Park now delights people of all ages.

In the 1950s, the Redevelopment Agency purchased the land to build a model community that included affordable and market-rate housing, a shopping center, a school—now the San Francisco Police Academy—and homes for three faith-based organizations that won their places in the community by lottery.

Monterey pines and New England Christmas trees were among the trees planted along the sidewalks, and the medians were landscaped. Little has changed structurally since the neighborhood was created, except for the renovations at Walter Haas Park, which reopened in 2005.

Some of the Monterey pines have been removed because they were at the end of their life expectancy, and the median strips were no longer well maintained by the City due to budget constraints. Currently there is a sense of renewed care and concern about the appearance of the neighborhood, thanks to the Median Project, the lovely Little Red Hen Community Garden at Duncan Street and Amber Way, and the

expectation of renovating the play structures and access walkways at George Christopher Playground.

**Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project:** The Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project held its third workday on Oct. 11. Project head Paul Matalucci organized volunteers to plant the median islands from Addison Street to Berkeley Way.

Plans for 2015 include a monthly workday to groom and maintain the new plantings, and to plant the wide median islands between Diamond and Duncan streets. Enormous gratitude is felt for Paul and the volunteers who are turning barren patches of dirt into attractive landscapes. If you'd like more information or to support the project, contact Paul at paul@wordwc.com or 826-0445, or visit dhhmedian.wordpress.com.

**Holiday Party:** Our community disaster planning group, Resilient Diamond Heights, along with St. Aidan's Church and the Diamond Heights Shopping Center, will host a holiday party for the neighborhood from 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 20. The party is free and people of all ages are welcome. Refreshments, music, Santa and activities for children will be provided.

**Diamond Heights Community Association:** Looking forward to 2015, the DHCA will continue to work on projects to improve the safety and appearance of the neighborhood. Our organization has advocated for a well-marked crosswalk mid-block to access the Diamond Heights Shopping Center.

Far too many people have been injured taking shortcuts across busy Diamond Heights Boulevard.

Our advocacy list includes installation of sidewalks where none exist; a bus shelter at Casa De Vida, home for 24 people with disabilities; replacement of trees that were removed on Diamond Heights Boulevard; improvement in the Muni's 52-Excelsior line for on-time reliability; "Next Bus" signs at more bus stops; more disabled curb cuts; and continuing support of the median project.

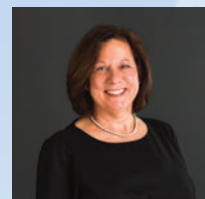
The DHCA wishes all a happy holiday season. Please contact us with suggestions for improving the safety and appearance of our community. ❖

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



Volunteers plant drought-resistant plants on the Diamond Heights Boulevard median. Photos by Paul Matalucci

SEASONS GREETINGS  
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PEACEFUL & PROSPEROUS 2015



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During this time of year, we gratefully look back and reflect on family and friends. We have the good fortune of living in such a wonderful community as Glen Park.

Some community highlights I have proudly participated in:  
Glen Park Festival Sponsorship Committee  
Glen Park Festival Sponsor  
Glen Park Merchants Association

My commitment to the community continues with my continuing pledge to make a donation to a San Francisco school of your choice for every home listed and sold in our community. Each new Glen Park homeowner will also receive a membership to the Glen Park Association.

Wishing you a Healthy & Prosperous 2015

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# Glen Park Jazzman Chuck Peterson Has

Chuck Peterson, like Robert Zimmerman, was born in Duluth, Minn. Zimmerman changed his name, became Bob Dylan, and altered American music forever.

Chuck Peterson kept his name, moved to San Francisco when he was 20 years old and carved out a living as a working musician.

by Murray Schneider  
“I was a journeyman horn player,” said Peterson on a recent afternoon, sipping a cup of Higher Grounds coffee, sprinkled with three tablespoons of sugar. “I’d just show up.”

And he still does, continuing to play tenor saxophone on the fourth Friday of each month, as he’s done since 2002, at Bird & Beckett Books and Records. His next gig is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 26, at 5:30 p.m.

A Glen Park resident since 1979, Peterson recently moved from Martha Street to Arlington Street, near the bookstore. Now 83, he’s a bit challenged by steep hills and his eyesight is failing.

He moved to San Francisco in 1951, entered San Francisco State College, as it was called then, and graduated with a BA in music. He earned a master’s degree in music and a California teaching credential.

Unable to find a full-time teaching job, Peterson became a substitute teacher, playing music at night and on weekends. Along the way he and his wife had three children. Principals’ secretaries called him to sub, but he coveted the calls from bandleaders and “contractors” from city hotels even more.

“They were called ‘casuals,’” said Peterson. “If I was lucky, I’d be called as a sideman at the Fairmont and the Mark Hopkins. It was the mid-1950s, and people wanted to dance to Glenn Miller.”

Eventually, he landed a full-time job teaching music in a South San Francisco middle school, but continued picking up gigs, which is what he really loved. “I couldn’t play the music, the way I wanted, and teach, too,” Peterson said. “The last time I picked up a band leader’s baton was at a 1960 graduation ceremony. The superintendent was in the audience, and after ‘Pomp and Circumstance,’ he yelled, ‘You can come back anytime you want, Pete.’”

But he didn’t go back, instead becoming a freelance musician. “I just wanted to cobble together a living,” he said.



Chuck Peterson, left, with Bird & Beckett proprietor Eric Whittington.

Photos by Murray Schneider

“In 1962 I got my big break: Tennessee Ernie Ford came to town, and I won an audition for his new television show.”

Ford, who’d hit it big with “Sixteen Tons,” put out a casting call, and Howie Dudune, Peterson’s San Francisco State classmate and his current band mate, passed along the tip.

“I got the tenor sax chair, and I

could also play clarinet,” said Peterson. “It was the best years of my life, both financially and professionally, and it led to other jobs.”

Ford’s show lasted from 1962 to 1965 on KGO morning television. Two shows were taped each day, which allowed Peterson plenty of time to take on night jobs and practice.

“For me it was always simple,” said Peterson. “Practice and be on time.”

He also played in the pit orchestra at the Curran Theater when Carol Channing starred in “Hello Dolly,” and at the Golden Gate Theater when Rex Harrison played Henry Higgins in “My Fair Lady.” “I backed Yul Brynner in ‘The King and I,’ and Mickey Rooney in ‘Sugar Babies.’ Rooney would gab with the band, but Brynner never came out of his dressing room.”

The band played for “Mame,” “Hair” and “Sweeney Todd,” he said, “but it was ‘A Chorus Line’ that was the most fun to perform, because it had the hippest music. I played alto sax, clarinet, flute and piccolo. The more instruments you played, the more you were paid.”

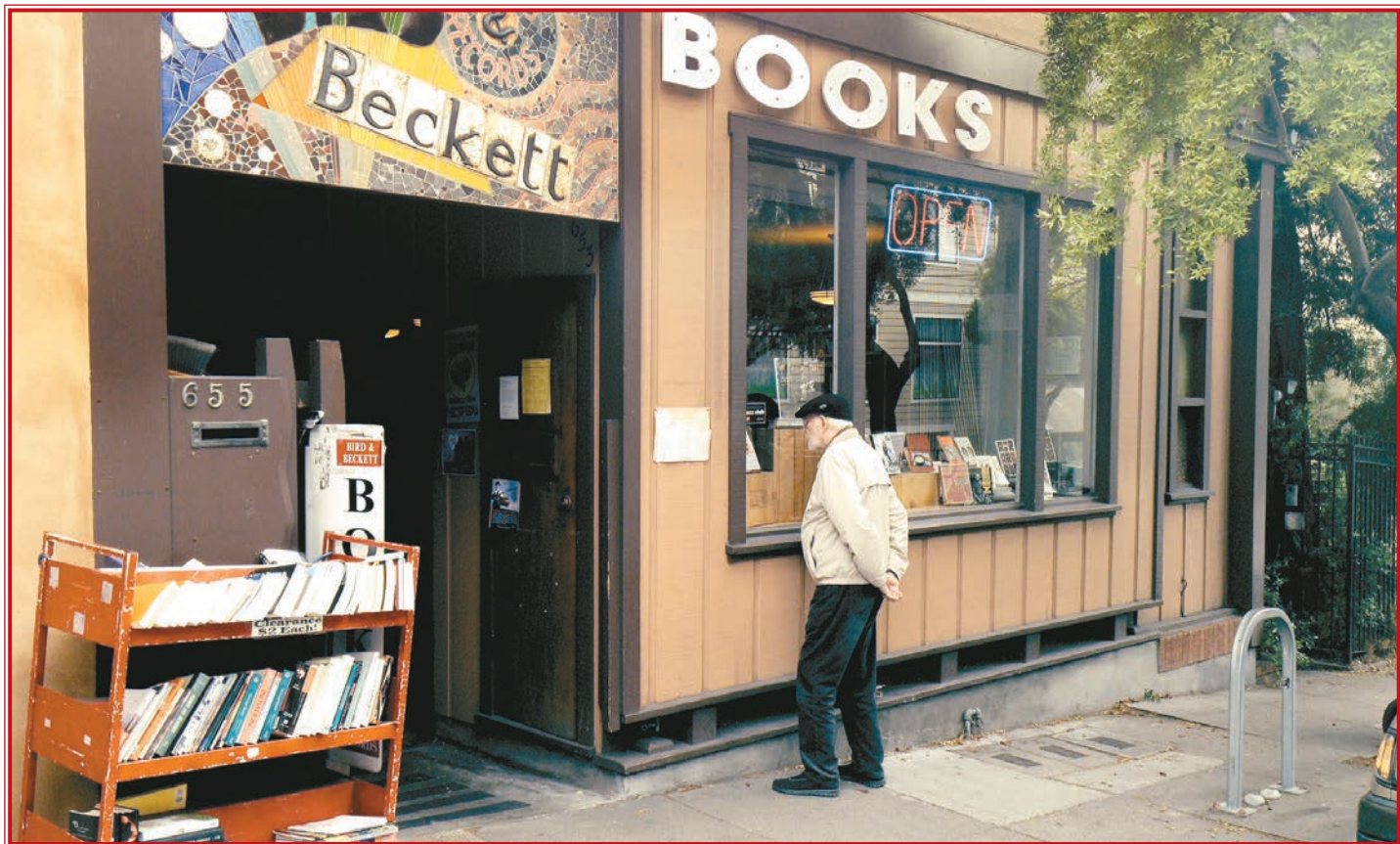
He took whatever jobs came along, patching together a living in pass-through bands and one-nighters. He backed Petula Clark, Tony Bennett, Sammy Davis, Jr. and Marvin Gaye.

And then there was Elvis.

“We went on a four-city tour with Presley, to Oakland, Portland, Seattle and back to the Cow Palace,” said Peterson. “As jazz players, none of us knew much about him except his name.”

“We weren’t allowed to have any contact with him,” he recalled, “even in the hotel. Security was tight.”

It wasn’t all jazz, or even rock ‘n’ roll. “I’d go into the recording studios in the Haight and on Bush and Folsom streets



Saxophone player and longtime Glen Park resident Chuck Peterson scans the window at Bird & Beckett on Chenery Street.



# Music in His Soul



Peterson, right, plays his saxophone on a Friday night at Bird & Beckett.

and record jingles for 60-second commercials. Except for a Harrah's commercial, there were so many I've forgotten now what was being advertised. I recorded 'Spirit in the Sky,' and my daughter told me recently that it was used in a Denzel Washington movie.

"In 1984 I took a sabbatical from 'La Cage aux Folles' at the Orpheum and traveled to Japan with 'The Wiz.' It was a New York band, but a local guy, Ron Stallings, played in it. Ron played with Glen Park Hardware's Hal Tauber in their high school band."

Peterson's mantra was "Have chart, will travel." He never stopped working, playing his horn at Pearl's, the Chi Chi Club, the Palace Hotel, the Circle Star Theater and the Hilton Hotel. He played at Bimbo's for 18 months. "I even played the Moulin Rouge, a strip joint on Broadway," Peterson winked. "The girls never talked to us guys in the band, though."

As a member of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 6, he earned a living wage with full medical benefits. "During this time there was an organization called the Music Performance Trust Fund that filtered residuals from the recording industry to the national union, and it trickled down to Local 6," said Peterson. "In the mid-'60s some of us formed the Sideman's Association to ensure that where the money ended up was day-lighted. Today you'd call it 'transparency.'"

"In this way, we were able to finance something the City called 'Music in Public Places,' which showcased acts in Aquatic Park and Golden Gate Park. The money didn't come directly to artists, but it meant additional jobs for us and benefited the public at the same time."

Eric Whittington, owner of Bird & Becket, added, "Chuck wasn't afraid

to push for better contract terms for working musicians, and in fact, from what I've heard, he was at the forefront of winning certain contract concessions that helped keep the profession viable in the late 1950s, '60s and '70s."

Now, Whittington's bookstore is Peterson's musical home.

"Chuck's the founder," he said of his jazz programs. "Chuck gave us the opportunity to get this thing started, and he and his confreres are still at its center, and the young players will make sure it doesn't stop."

Jimmy Ryan, Don Prell and Scott Foster all played with Peterson. Now they are fronting their own ensembles, influencing their own disciples while entertaining Glen Park audiences.

"Chuck and his colleagues bring decades of priceless experience to the Bird & Beckett bandstand and embody a direct link to bebop's formative years," Whittington said. "For young players, bop continues to provide a wealth of musical raw material and ways of interaction in performance, so that music has the potential of being always fresh and inventive."

Like the jazz he performs, Peterson's professional life has been improvisational, made up as it went along. "Jazz," he said, "is not scripted, it's full of self-expression and variations."

"I was a less than top-of-the-line saxophone player," said Peterson, "but it was worth it because I always worked."

Whittington begs to differ. "Chuck is a thoughtful and soulful player, who swings hard and blows with conviction."

"I made an adequate income and I enjoyed doing it. It was always changing and it was never dull," Peterson said, "and now it's a pleasure to continue playing for the knowledgeable audiences at Bird & Beckett who sit, listen and never talk." ❖

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# Glen Park Gift Guide for the Holidays

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While you're in their store, stock up on Christmas tree lights, and maybe a new tree stand. What about gifts? Hal recommends a Rockwell rechargeable screwdriver for do-it-yourselfers, while Susan points out stocking stuffers—flower and vegetable seeds, little lights, batteries for any type of gadget, key rings and other assorted tchotchkes. For the newly water-conscious, there are hand-held showers and faucet aerators.

Across the street at Critter Fritters, the windows are decorated this year in seasonal red and green. Among the gifts suitable for pets and their owners are dog Christmas cards and pet-odor scented candles (“Not that strong,” says Tony, the one-named decorator-in-chief.)

For \$5, you can get the perfect pet—a toy bird on a perch named Polly that cheeps when you wave your hand in front of her sensor, intentionally or otherwise. For live pets, there will be gourmet dog cookies appropriate for both Christmas and Hanukkah.

Critter Fritters will be throwing its annual holiday party on Thursday, Dec. 11, from 4 to 7 p.m. Pets are optional.

Perch, the gift shop on Chenery Street, is selling amazing handmade wreaths by local artist Bryan Mosé. They are composed from eclectic Christmas tree ornaments, feathers, ribbons, toys and lots of glitter. Each one took a week to make, says owner Zoel Fages, and all of them light up. They range in price from \$435 to \$475.

Perch also is selling trays hand-painted with local scenes, including the



Decorative Christmas trees adorn Perch's storefront.

Photos by Liz Mangelsdorf

Golden Gate Bridge and Sutro Tower, by another San Francisco artist, Nate Tan. Handmade tote bags in denim and cowhide also were made locally.

Fages has set up a corner for men's gifts, including some stylish gym bags, and the kids' section features kits to make geodes and color-it-yourself nightlights. Also available: cards and giftwrapping paper.

At Bird & Beckett, owner Eric Whittington says he is paying special attention this year to children's books—"dozens of individual new titles." Of course, he's not neglecting grownups either, with a selection of art, photography and cookbooks suitable for gift-wrapping.

And there's plenty of jazz on hand, starting with the CD, "Jazz Is My Religion" (\$10 – "the people's price") sitting on the counter. Featuring the Dave Parker Quartet, the session was recorded right there in the store. As for live music, there will be a klezmer ensemble on Sunday, Dec. 21, right in the middle of Hanukkah. (Check the Community Calendar on Page 20 for additional music events during the holidays.) In addition to books of all genres and recorded jazz, B&B offers T-shirts, tote bags and jazz posters.

At ModernPast, the shelves are full of small housewares that would look fine on a gift recipient's coffee table or mantelpiece.

Mail Depot, across Diamond Street from the BART station, is the place to go to ship off out-of-town gifts. But you also can get stocking stuffers and other holiday necessities, including stationery, holiday cards, wrapping paper and packaging of all sizes.

## Food and drink

Expecting company over the holidays? There are plenty of choices available in the village. Canyon Market will cook your entire Christmas dinner, or

fill in any gaps on your holiday table with prepared side dishes, bread and special desserts. Be sure to order early.

Check the market's shelves for gift possibilities, too—bottles of olive oil and vinegar, chocolate bars, unusual condiments, house-made cookies and an abundant array of wines. The market has stocked up on special Champagnes for the holidays. And there are plants and cut flowers to give to your hosts or decorate your own home. There's also a selection of wrapping paper right inside the Wilder Street entrance.

Canyon Market's eighth annual holiday party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 13, with tastings and live music inside the store. On the patio outside, you can adopt a dog from Muttville. The party is a fundraiser for this local dog-rescue organization (muttville.org), which finds homes for older dogs. Gift bags full of goodies will be for sale, with all the proceeds going to Muttville.

Cheese Boutique on Chenery is stocking up on Italian panettone, German stollen, and other imported and domestic treats. You can get cheese trays or Middle Eastern spreads for your parties, or custom-made gift baskets as gifts.

Destination bakery once again will offer its yummy buche du Noel, the traditional "Yule log" cake. Other annual holiday offerings include mince pies, panettone with candied fruits, a brandy-soaked fruitcake, and cookies.

Want some refreshment before you go home to wrap gifts and string holiday lights? Stop in at Bello coffee house for a special holiday "barista creation," or head across Diamond Street to Glen Park Station for seasonal hot toddies, eggnog with brandy and hot-buttered rum.

Glen Park's dinner-only restaurants all offer gift certificates. Le P'tit Laurent is closed Christmas and New

Year's Day, but will be open with a prix fixe special menu on New Year's Eve. Manzoni will be open for dinner Dec. 31.

For those who want to start 2015 with sushi, Tataki Canyon will be open New Year's Eve, but closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Our wonderful pizza joint, Gialina, also offers gift certificates for any denomination. It will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 24, reopening Jan. 2.

## Gift Certificates and Services

For the picky adolescent or the adult who has almost everything, consider giving a pick-your-own gift. All the shops and food purveyors mentioned in this story sell gift certificates—even Glen Park Hardware.

At RockIt Swirl, if you buy ten \$5 gift certificates you get one more free. You can give an Eyedentity eye exam for \$146, or you can purchase all or part of your gift recipients' new glasses.

You might consider bestowing a service or membership on someone who deserves a little luxury or a tune-up. A Saturday night Bird & Beckett Jazz Club membership costs \$75. The smallest Glen Park residents would enjoy art lessons at Little Artistas, 667 Chenery St.

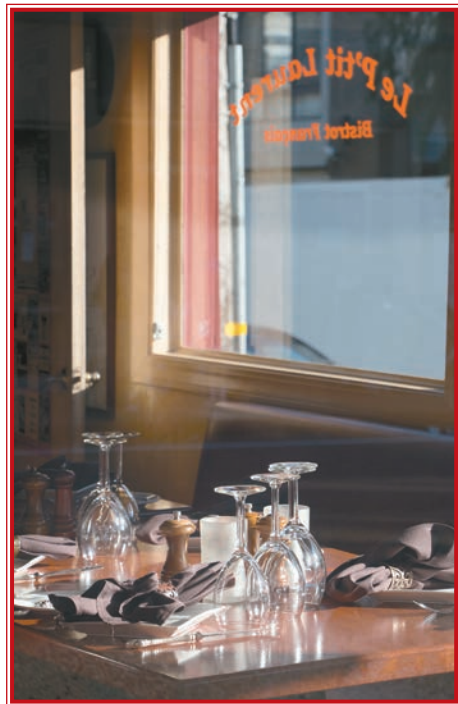
Gift memberships or entrée to single workouts, special classes or yoga lessons are available at the fitGLENfit gym at 666 Chenery. At Centered Body Pilates, 652 Chenery, you can buy certificates for single sessions, 5-packs and 10-packs.

East-West Integrative Medicine Clinic at 605 Chenery has gift certificates available for massages (\$90 for 60 minutes, \$125 for 90 minutes), and will give you \$5 off if you mention the Glen Park News.

The numerous nail and hair salons on Diamond, Wilder and Chenery streets—Sassy Salon, Glen Park Nails, Star Nails, Dior's Hair Salon, Sunshine Nails, Urban Soul Salon and Park Salon—all offer gift certificates, and some of them offer hair products and nail polish for sale as gifts.

## Holiday Alternative

Not into Yuletide joy? Celebrate a do-it-yourself "Jewish Christmas"—a Woody Allen movie and Chinese food—instead. There's no new Woody Allen movie out this year, but old ones can be reserved on DVD at the Glen Park Library. And our new Chinese restaurant, Win Garden, 2794 Diamond St., will be open for business as usual on Dec. 25. ❖



Le P'tit Laurent is always a good place to get a gift certificate.



# Safeway's Grand Plan to Renovate Store on Monterey Blvd.

In 1942, while World War II was in full swing, Sunnyside and Glen Park residents had something to cheer about on the home front: A brand new grocery store on Monterey Boulevard.

Almost 30 years later, in 1970, baby boomers raising their own families were disappointed to see their Safeway store close for two years, but they celebrated once again, when it reopened in 1972.

Now Safeway is looking to remake the store once again and on Dec. 11, the San Francisco Planning Commission will decide if the large grocery chain can tear down the decades-old Sunnyside neighborhood market and build another one in its place.

This planned closure affects not only Sunnyside Safeway shoppers, but their Glen Park neighbors as well, because the grocery void on Monterey Boulevard will need to be filled by other stores in the area during construction if the project gets the go-ahead from the City.

"The existing Safeway [fills] an important neighborhood need," said

Natalie Mattei, Safeway's real estate manager. However, she added, "Many aspects of the store are now antiquated."

Mattei said the project, if approved, would take approximately a year to construct and would include "an expanded organic department, service meat and seafood departments, new pharmacy, and expanded grocery and health and beauty options."

She said the project also would provide additional benefits to the neighborhood: upgrades to the Monterey Boulevard median, and new bus and pedestrian "bulb-outs" at the Foerster Street-Monterey Boulevard intersection to enhance pedestrian safety by widening the sidewalks and shortening the crossing distance.

Richard Goldman, a Sunnyside resident who has shopped at the store for 20 years, is a proponent of the project that will double the size of the market. While the temporary loss of the store would be a blow to shoppers, Goldman said, it needs to happen. "The current building is decrepit," he said.

Others are not exactly excited.



A rendering of the proposed new entry level of the new proposed Safeway.

Danielle Grillo likes the Sunnyside market because "it's less crowded than most stores because it's hidden and only neighbors know this Safeway." If a new Safeway were to come in, however, she would welcome a larger variety of merchandise.

"They need more of a selection," Grillo said. "Their seafood section is very small and all frozen, nothing fresh."

So, where will dedicated shoppers like Goldman and Grillo go if the store closes, as proposed, in March 2015 and doesn't reopen until spring of 2016?

"If it closes, I am headed to Daly City," Grillo said. "Other San Francisco

stores are too crowded!"

The nearest Safeways to Glen Park are in Diamond Heights and on Mission Street. We are fortunate to have the independent Canyon Market on Diamond Street in downtown Glen Park. A Whole Foods market is on Ocean Avenue near City College.

Diamond Heights Safeway customers like Jeff Vidal, who has been shopping there since he was a child in the 1970s, wonders whether that store could handle an overflow of customers while the Monterey Boulevard store is temporarily closed. "Parking at Diamond Heights can be a challenge at times, and I do foresee a larger crowd venturing to Diamond Heights during this construction time," Vidal said.

Richard Tarlov, owner of Canyon Market, is not sure the closure would drive an influx of patrons to his business: "We might get some of those customers, which we would love," he said. "As far as accommodating them, we will do what we try to do every day, which is practice outstanding hospitality." But, he noted, a remodeled Sunnyside Safeway "would be a bigger competitor."

No matter what the outside of the building looks like, or what features are offered inside, Vidal said the most important aspect of a store is the people. "A smile, a thank you goes so far these days." ❖

*The Planning Commission is scheduled to consider the project on Thursday, Dec. 11 at noon in Room 400 at City Hall. A video of the new store, and drawings and interior store layout, are on the website: [www.sunnysidesafewaysf.com](http://www.sunnysidesafewaysf.com).*



A rendering of the proposed remodeled Safeway, seen from Monterey Boulevard.

Courtesy of Safeway



# Capturing the Moment, One Window at a Time

Sixty years ago, Halloween trick-or-treaters trooped along Diamond Street, armed with shopping bags in one hand and bars of Lava soap in the other. If businesses or homeowners didn't continue filling their bags, kids might soap merchant windows and the windows of parked Chevys, Fords and Plymouths.

Tricksters were pretty benign all those years ago; soap, after all, is water-soluble.

These days, Tom Coulter, owner of Glen Park Station on Diamond Street, pays Lucas Armand and Johnny Breeding to paint his saloon's windows, and afterward the paint is removed with razor blades.

It was October, after all, and an even-numbered year to boot. So the Halloween windows of Glen Park's venerable bar shared space with that other American pastime—baseball.

"I like it and our customers appreciate it," said Coulter, as he stood before Armand and Breeding's "splash" art, which this year boasted tombstones, one of which announced: "RIP Cardinals." That's the St. Louis Cardinals, the team the Giants beat to win the National League championship.

The two window painters returned after the pennant win and added the words, "The World Series—Champions 2010, 2012" above their earlier orange and black GIANTS inscription. Below it, the two childhood friends, who moved to San Francisco together from Portland 32 years ago, painted "World Series—2014."

Fingering a one-inch foam brush and balancing two containers of acrylic paint atop a ledge, Armand surveyed his work. Images of full employment ran through his mind as he calculated the 24 other venues that would employ him now that the Giants were making a run at their third world championship in five years.

"I'll be painting all over town now," said Armand, who was born in Eagle Pass, Texas. "I missed most of the Cardinals series because I was doing a Crepevine in Berkeley."

Window art is an old and honored form of outdoor advertising. It kept graphic artists employed and created customer awareness well before Steve Jobs ever dreamed of dolling up computer fonts. Such sign painting, reliant upon graceful parabolas, often enhanced department store window displays featuring well-appointed mannequins.



Glen Park Station owner Tom Coulter outside his bar.

Photos by Murray Schneider

In the era when kids conjured soap-ing windows along Chenery Street, mothers dragged their mischief-makers to shop at Union Square. There they watched window trimmers such as Armand and Breeding ply their craft at upscale stores like City of Paris and I.Magnin. In those days Woolworths served up submarine sandwiches at its lunch counter, and MacFarlane Candies dished out double-decker ice cream cones—and Glen Park moms bribed their kids with these offerings. With a hoagie and a block of rocky road chocolate in either hand, Sussex and Surrey street kids watched window artists perform their magic.

All these years later the tradition continues. "I was painting a window at a restaurant at Market and Church a few years ago, and a mother walked over and said her 5-year-old son was a tough critic and wanted to talk to me," said Armand. "The mom said her boy was 'brutally honest.'"

Armand held his breath as the boy closed in on him.

"Your work is really great. I like it," the boy offered.

"I'd made the grade," said Armand. "I felt validated."

Splash art relies on cursive strokes and follows limited borders. It has few guidelines and fewer parameters. Unlike other art, it's supposed to be temporary, designed to become catchy, hand-painted commercial window campaigns.

"It's from memory, neither studied nor sketched beforehand," said Armand. "I get out of my car, carry my paints to a window and toss up a draw-

ing on the spot. There are no stencils or patterns."

In other words, Lucas Armand simply splashes it on. "I was trained as an architect, but I liked this sort of work," Armand said. "It keeps me outside and it incorporates art into business."

"I've always been an artist, though," he said. "When I first got to San Francisco in 1982, I was homesick. I earned \$1,400 painting for two solid weeks. I used the money I made and returned to Portland with lots of Christmas presents."

Armand is rarely without paint and brush, working Mission Street bars, coffee shops such as Tart to Tart in the Inner Sunset, and lots of restaurants, several in the East Bay. There's not a holiday—St. Patrick's Day, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Thanksgiving, Independence Day, Gay Pride Week—that doesn't see Armand's and Breeding's imprimaturs.

Their efforts aren't without downsides, though.

"Once I was doing a window and a City cleaning crew drove up and washed down the window before it could even dry," said Armand. "Another time a police officer got out of his patrol car and yelled. 'Get down from there.' He thought I was a tagger. I told them I get paid for this."

Glen Park barkeep Coulter has been paying Armand for nearly 10 years now.

"Christmastime is always the best," said Armand, who lived in Diamond Heights for three years. "Kids come close and get really involved and ask, 'Are you an artist?' Their eyes light up

and they ask, 'do you color outside the lines?'"

It is during this season that Armand's art, full of squiggles and curlicues, refuses to remain within linear boundaries.

"Once, during Easter, though, I painted a bunny on a, but it was kind of frightening so I took it off," said Armand, who moonlights creating digital images that he shops around card shops and science fiction bookstores.

"You know, sign painting is a dying art," he said with a shrug of resignation. "It's a joy, though. Each window is a joy."

The word die isn't in the 2014 San Francisco Giants vocabulary. Two days before Halloween they didn't think of giving up the ghost.

The day after Armand and Breeding made the final Series brush stroke, Bruce Bochy's team went on to wax the Royals 11-4 in a four-hour marathon Game 4, and a day later, on Madison Bumgarner's left arm, they shut out Kansas City 5-0 in Game 5.

After the KC sixth game 10-0 blow-out, it all came down to arguably the most exciting event in American sports.

Tied three games to three, the Giants needed only nine more innings to squeak out a 3-2 win and become the best team in Major League Baseball, winning on Joe Panik's glove and on Bumgarner's arm yet again.

"They keep on coming back, those Giants," said Coulter,

So does Lucas Armand who decided to put his acrylics away, take a step through the swinging door of his favorite saloon and lift a beer, not a brush, in honor of the World Champions.

"I watched the game at the Glen Park Station," he said. ❖



Artist Lucas Armand and the window he painted at Glen Park Station.



# Jam Maker Fadi Malouf Fondly Remembered

**F**adi Malouf, known in Glen Park as the entrepreneur who created and sold Grandma's Homemade jam at the Glen Park Farmers' Market, the Cheese Boutique and other markets in the Bay Area, died suddenly on October 29 following a heart attack. He was 58.

It was an end to a life with many highs and lows, but through it all, many people who knew Fadi described him as an optimistic go-getter with the next big plan tucked into his back pocket.

Born in Lebanon in the northern mountain village of Kafarakab, Fadi grew up with his cousin Rashid "Rick" Malouf, who, with his wife Nada, own the Cheese Boutique on Chenery Street. Fadi's family owned orchards and vineyards, and made arack liquor, a national favorite.

Fadi came to the United States to study food science and fermentation at UC Davis and graduated in 1984. He returned to Lebanon to join the family business and start his own family. He came back to the U.S. in 2001 to visit his ailing brother, and was here when the 9-11 attacks happened. Having lived through decades of civil war and religious strife in Lebanon, Fadi made the decision to stay and make his life here.

Fadi became an increasingly successful chemical engineer. Then, in 2007, he suffered a horrific industrial accident in which he was burned over much of his body. He was not expected

to live, but he did recover after years of surgeries and rehabilitation.

Faced with the decision of what to do next, he decided to use his food background to take a new direction. Rick and Nada Malouf helped Fadi launch his fledgling jam company, Grandma's Homemade. His first variety was based on the recipe for fig jam his grandmother used to make. Other flavors soon followed, along with a growing market for his product.

Tina, 20, Fadi's youngest daughter, a business major at San Francisco State University, helped Fadi with many aspects of his burgeoning business and was also a regular at the Grandma's booth at the farmers' market. "Once I graduate, I'm going to work with my dad and get that business going," Tina told Nada.

Fadi is also survived by his son Nicholas, 31, a project manager at Intuit, and daughter Rachel, 27, a pharmacy graduate student at the American University of Beirut. Susannah Lydon, of Bernal Heights, was Fadi's longtime companion.

Although building his business entailed many long hours of hard work, much of it physical, Fadi found the time to be active in the expatriate Lebanese community.

He was a board member of the Lebanese American Association, a non-profit organization that engages in educational, medical and economic issues facing the Lebanese community in the United States and Lebanon.

One of Fadi's long-term goals was



Fadi Malouf with his longtime companion Susannah Lydon.

Photos by Stephen Labovsky

to return to his village every summer, where he would hold a farmers' market, just like the one in Glen Park. All the surrounding small villages would bring their local produce to sell there.

As Fadi's jam business grew he seemed to be everywhere, but he was very much at home in Glen Park, among his many friends.

"He was a hardworking man, and

honest. Even when he had problems, he didn't impose them on other people," recalled Manhal Jweinat, owner of Glen Park restaurants Higher Grounds and Manzoni's.

"I remember the things about his personality," he continued. "He was always happy; he loved socializing with people. You could feel the love for his family." ❖



Fadi Malouf at the Glen Park Farmers' Market.

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## ✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

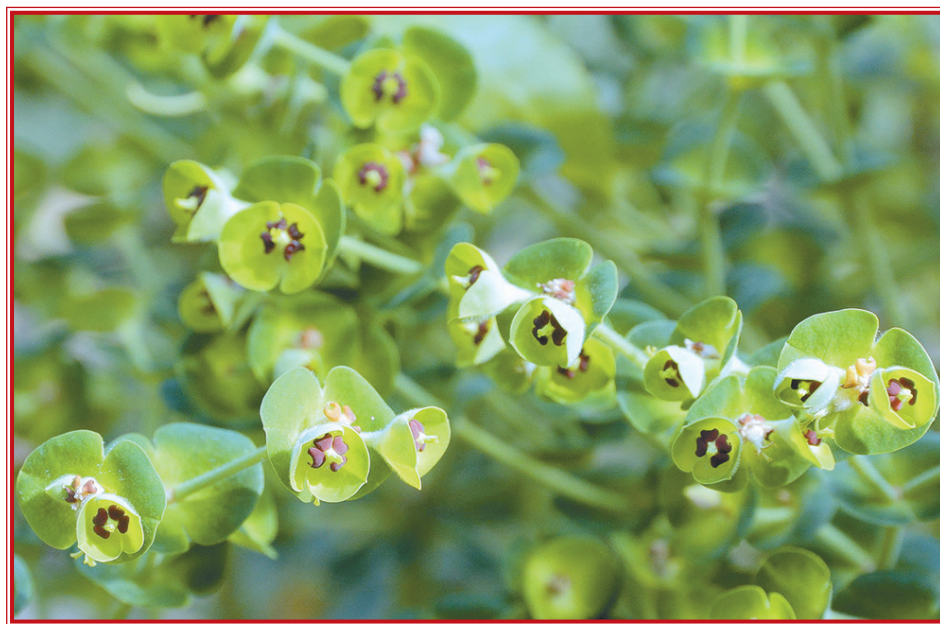
### Water-Wise Gardening Advice from the Glen Park Garden Club

We have a drought, that's clear, but there is no need to give up gardening. Instead we are learning to love the dramatic and brilliant drought-tolerant landscape that supports so much bird and insect life.

Here's a 10-step program to help keep that beauty alive in drought years.

**Plan ahead:** We all know water runs downhill and pools at the lowest point. This also happens to moisture in the soil. Therefore, put plants that are truly drought-tolerant uphill, and others that need more water downhill, or in a more sheltered position. Some sturdy California natives, such as the California lilac, don't like summer water or regular irrigation at all. Put that plant where it will be happy.

**Learn to love mulch:** Mulch is invaluable. Put it around your plants. Do not dig it in. It will stop the soil from evaporating moisture, retard weeds and preserve the fertility of the soil. Use a good mulch (no large redwood chips—they take too long to decay). Mulch slowly deteriorates into the soil, a good thing.



*Euphorbia characias wulfeni*

**Don't fertilize; use compost instead:** Who needs all that lush green growth that has to be supported by water? Use compost and compost teas, which will slowly and sustainably supply your plants with nutrition.

**Install water-permeable hardscape:** When installing your new stone patio or path, try a water-permeable design to reduce runoff. For instance, separate flagstone pavers with fine gravel—the

water will filter through the gravel into your garden. Many permeable paving stones, bricks and fine gravel are available at local stores. This technique reduces runoff and the water is available to plant-root systems.

**Get technical and recycle household water:** Install a rain catchment barrel (not hard to do), or a laundry-water recycling system (more complex) for reusing household water.

An excellent resource for advice is SFWater.org. It is legal in San Francisco to install a low-cost graywater system in one- or two-residential-unit buildings without a permit. The website has a design manual for DIYers. The programs are the "Laundry-to-Landscape Gray Water Program" and "Making Your Own Closed-Top Rain Barrel System." There are videos, measurement guides and lots of free advice online.

**Get technical and install an irrigation system:** Install pipe irrigation, with a timed system of drips and sprays placed around the plants that need water. It's a DIY project, with all the tools and piping available at, for instance, Urban Farmer in the Outer Sunset, where the staff will give advice or install it for you. Irrigation systems save water, and they take a lot of the worry out of gardening.

**Stay low-tech and bucket:** I have buckets in the shower and near the kitchen sink, and save a lot of clean water. I use it for containers, which need more water than plants in the ground.

**Use low-water plant families for beauty and drama:**

Euphorbias are striking perennials for the contemporary garden. The many kinds feature unusual green, yellow or bronze flowers, with bright green foliage

that stays on the plant all year. A favorite for Glen Park gardens is the large *Euphorbia characias wulfeni*, with brilliant green leaves and chartreuse flowers. Most varieties are drought-tolerant.

Salvias are perennial sages that require moderate water initially but less once established. Favorites are lipstick salvia, *Salvia greggii*, with bright pink and white flowers, and (contributed by a reader in Balboa Terrace) the tough black sage, *Salvia mellifera*, a nice deep green evergreen with attractive flowers.

Succulents comprise a large group of plants in many plant families. In general, the thick fleshy leaves help the plant survive low-water situations. Particularly useful and dramatic are the agaves, aloes and aeoniums. Do not assume they all like full sun and no water—read succulent labels carefully.

Native plants are so much fun to use in this area. My current favorites are coffeeberry, *Rhamnus californica*, a reliable green shrub with tiny flowers and large berries, and coyote bush, *Baccharis pilularis* "San Bruno," tough, low and evergreen.

**Help newbies survive:** All new plants need water, even if the label says "drought-tolerant." It's a good practice to water plants deeply and infrequently—this encourages new roots to grow down and deep. Never water plants just a little bit and often, because the roots stay up near the surface to drink and therefore dry up faster.

**Use these resources:**

SFWater.org. Select the "Environment" tab, then click on "Conserving water and diversifying supply" for rain-barrel and graywater instructions.

Bay Natives Nursery, 10 Cargo Way, for California native plants and information.

San Bruno Mountain Watch, mountainwatch.org, information on native plants and Mission Blue Nursery sale dates.

Helpful books: *Sunset Western Garden Book* (see the section on plants for dry areas); *Gardening for a Dry California Future*, by Leslie Patten, and *Succulents Simplified: 100 Easy-Care Varieties*, by Debra Lee Baldwin.

Broadmoor Landscape Supplies, 1350 El Camino Real, South San Francisco, for permeable pavers, gravel, mulch, compost and more.

The Urban Farmer, 2833 Vicente St., for irrigation supplies. ❖

*Kay Hamilton Esty is the Glen Park Garden Club columnist. If you garden in Glen Park and would like to join the club, or you have questions or input, contact her at kay.esty@gmail.com.*



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# Glen Park Crossing Guards Earn Thanks and Smiles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and at crosswalk corners will make it easier for pedestrians to cross safely, and the streets will be restriped to improve visibility.

Future plans, pending funding, call for redesigning the streets in the area and installing new traffic signals to improve traffic safety.

Cash and Ta work for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to enhance neighborhood safety—Cash for the past four years, Ta for the past nine.

Armed with hand-held stop signs and whistles—and covered in neon reflectors—Cash and Ta are out there making the daunting intersection safer.

Taking in the scene day in and day out, the crossing guards shared their thoughts on making the streets safer. Cash likes the idea of widening the sidewalks to give pedestrians more room to move around safely, especially at the crowded bus stops. She also thinks ideas such as adding a left-turn signal for drivers, or allowing pedestrians to cross the intersection in all directions at the same time—as at

some downtown intersections—could be beneficial.

Other safety improvements, she said, come down to common sense.

She sees people all the time walk across the street talking on their cell phones, oblivious to their surroundings. “I always tell them ‘look up, look up,’” says Cash. “They’re not aware of where they’re at. There’s this one guy I always see with his phone and one day I asked him, ‘What do you take in your coffee?’ And he says, ‘Why?’ And I said, ‘I just want to know what to give you when you go to the hospital.’ And when I said that, it looked like the bell went off in his head. He said, ‘You’re right,’ and we just get a big kick out of that every morning. He never used that phone again” when he walked through the intersection.

But for the most part, the Glen Park crossing guards say, drivers and pedestrians follow the traffic rules. What they offer are an extra buffer from the potential dangers. “We feel safe. We lead with our signs. We look both ways. We have our whistles. For the most part, we feel safe,” Cash said.

You might sooner recognize them by their giant ear-to-ear smiles than by their bright SFMTA work vests. Cash lives not far from her work post, in Bernal Heights, with her two grandsons. Ta lives with her son in the Excelsior.

And they don’t just work in the neighborhood. Cash frequents Glen Park Cleaners and treats herself to a sandwich at Canyon Market when she can; Ta loves the library. Pebbles Cafe serves them both free coffee whenever they stop by. “We see a lot of the same people every day and they always say thank you,” says Cash. “They always tell me I’m doing a great job.”

Whether it’s the ebb and flow of traffic, the daily lives of residents or changes in the area, Cash and Ta are in tune with and watch over the neigh-

borhood. Bus drivers honk their horns or wave; Ta has watched neighborhood kids grow up over the years; and one resident, after moving out of the neighborhood, came back to show her appreciation: “She moved out of San Francisco and came back to thank me for keeping her safe and she gave me a gift card,” says Ta. “We’re here saving lives. From the homeless to the well-dressed, they always say thank you.”

Ta nods enthusiastically. “That’s how I feel, too,” she says with that same big warm smile. ❖



Le Ta on the job in front of the Glen Park BART station.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

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## ❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

**T**his year started out with a bang and just kept rolling. Many had predicted that things would slow and inventory would increase, but that didn't happen. There is definitely some buyer burnout, which has begun to move things in a more even direction. It will be interesting to see how the first quarter of 2015 shakes out.

Here in Glen Park, from Aug. 20, through Nov. 7, 14 single-family houses, two condominiums and three two-unit buildings sold. The average sale price for single-family homes was \$1,576,143, which is an increase of about 5 percent from the last quarter. During this period, the median list price in Glen Park was \$1,235,000, with the median sale price at \$1,432,500. Sale prices averaged about 16 percent over the asking price, which is about where it's been for most of the year. The average number of days on the market remains at about three weeks.

Overall, in San Francisco, there is a general feeling that things have slowed a bit—properties staying on the market longer, more price reductions than we've seen in years, offer dates coming and going without any offers. I would attribute some of that to buyer burnout—would-be buyers getting beat out too many times by higher offers and all-cash offers. I know that a couple of my clients have decided to take a break.

I also think some sellers are pushing hard for really high list prices because they feel that the market is so hot. While it may be true that we've seen some unusually high sale prices, listing prices that start out too high can cause a property to sit on the market and become stale until the price is dropped. It's all perception.

In Glen Park, however, that is not the case at all. Our neighborhood remains one of the hottest and most desirable in the city. All but one property sold in the last quarter was at or well over asking, and they sold quickly. The Federal Reserve continues to signal that interest rates will remain low, keeping buyers in the market. There continues

to be strong desire to own property in the city, so I think we are in for a pretty solid year.

### Predictions for 2015

One of my business partners, Shawn Case, took an in-depth look at what the market has done over the past several years. I'd like to share some of his findings with you to help predict what the market might look like in the year ahead.

First, after reading countless articles that tell a similar story, San Francisco is expected to do well in terms of job growth, income growth and population growth for the next several years. This is being fueled by the tech sector, which accounts for more than 30 percent of the jobs added since 2010. If all that holds true, it bodes well for a continued increase in housing demand and

prices. Granted, new supply is coming on line, but the number of newly constructed units that will become available still lags far behind the predicted population growth numbers.

We looked at citywide appreciation rates in five-year increments since 1995. Even though we have had some significant price increases the last couple of years, those increases are still modest compared to the periods from 1995 through 1999, and from 2000 through 2004. The year-over-year prices from 2011 to 2014 all went up close to 14 percent. The data suggests more modest growth in the next couple of years, perhaps in the 5–10 percent range per year. Here are the sale price increase or decrease numbers:

- 1995-1999 - 48.5 percent increase
- 2000-2004 - 63.6 percent increase

- 2005-2009 - 1.0 percent increase
- 2010-2014 - 37.8 percent increase

The usual housing cycle in San Francisco is closer to seven years. The current run-up in prices began at the beginning of 2012, so we are almost at the end of year three of this cycle. That means we still have several years to go.

Finally I looked at Glen Park average sale prices for single-family homes over the past few years. Here are the sale price increase or decrease numbers:

- 2013-2014 - 14 percent increase
- 2012-2013 - 22 percent increase
- 2011-2012 - 2 percent increase
- 2010-2011 - 6 percent decrease

So from 2010 to 2014 we have seen a 30 percent increase in average sale price of single-family houses in Glen Park. None of this is any guarantee of future growth, but I think I am pretty safe in saying that we will see modest growth over the next several years, barring any major economic event.

It's hard to believe that 2014 is at an end—seems like it just started! I hope that you and your family have a wonderful holiday season and a great new year. Let's all continue our rain dances and hope for a wet winter. See you in the neighborhood!

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](mailto:news@glenparkassociation.org), [marc@opni.com](mailto:marc@opni.com), or the *Glen Park News*, 2912 Diamond St. #407, San Francisco, CA 94131. ❖

*Marc Dickow is a Glen Park resident and the Broker/Owner at Core7 Real Estate. He can be reached at [marc@opni.com](mailto:marc@opni.com), or 722-4018. His website is [www.altrock-realtor.com](http://www.altrock-realtor.com).*

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
882 Chenery St.	Aug. 22, 2014	13	\$849,000	\$1,200,000	141.34%
227 Arlington St.	Aug. 28, 2014	71	\$1,399,000	\$1,450,000	103.65%
419 Baden St.	August 29, 2014	33	\$1,995,000	\$2,150,000	107.77%
191 Moffitt St.	Oct. 3, 2014	28	\$1,275,000	\$1,320,000	103.53%
1861 Church St.	Oct. 3, 2014	17	\$995,000	\$1,475,000	148.24%
550 Laidley St.	Oct. 8, 2014	8	\$995,000	\$999,999	100.50%
256 Chenery St.	Oct. 14, 2014	9	\$799,000	\$1,100,000	137.67%
631 Congo St.	Oct. 16, 2014	38	\$1,395,000	\$1,572,000	112.69%
125 Moffitt St.	Oct. 17, 2014	6	\$1,175,000	\$1,415,000	120.43%
44 Everson St.	Oct. 21, 2014	12	\$1,800,000	\$2,800,000	155.56%
1750 Noe St.	Oct. 28, 2014	12	\$2,395,000	\$2,725,000	113.78%
163 Laidley St.	Oct. 31, 2014	35	\$1,195,000	\$1,380,000	115.48%
612 Arlington St.	Nov. 4, 2014	20	\$849,000	\$900,000	106.01%
150 Randall St.	Nov. 6, 2014	32	\$1,599,000	\$1,579,000	98.75%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
17-19 Valletta Ct. 2-Unit Bldg.	Sept. 9, 2014	36	\$1,100,000	\$1,450,000	131.82%
170 Fairmount St. Condominium	Sept. 26, 2014	8	\$1,195,000	\$1,405,000	117.57%
315 Arlington St. Condominium	Oct. 7, 2014	21	\$749,000	\$945,000	126.17%
485 Chenery St. 2-Unit Bldg.	Oct. 10, 2014	17	\$1,095,000	\$1,230,000	112.33%
2780-2782 Diamond St. 2-Unit Bldg.	Oct. 31, 2014	0	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	100.00%
DOM - Days on market      SP/LP - % over list price					



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## ❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

### Sunnyside Elementary School

After nearly two years of planning and construction, we at Sunnyside School are thrilled to announce that our new building is finally finished. Classes moved in November, and everyone is enjoying the big, beautiful new rooms. The building also includes a huge library and an outdoor classroom. Our teachers and students are very excited to use these lovely new facilities.

Our project is not quite over, however. Renovations will continue on the old building throughout the winter and spring. Over the summer, various improvements in our yard also will be made. By the fall of 2015, we will have a big open playground with no more temporary bungalows—just two beautiful permanent buildings, ready for the next generations of students.

This year marks the beginning of the planning process for our Green Schoolyards bond. Working with landscape architects and SFUSD, we will be designing improvements to our yard that will expand our garden and green space. We are grateful to have the opportunity to bring more nature into our urban children's lives.

All of these improvements were supported by bonds and would not be possible without the support of San Francisco voters. Thanks to all of you who keep the public schools in mind when you are at the ballot box!

We are also grateful for the support of the Glen Park Festival, which gave us two grants this year. One was recently used to purchase several new computers for student use.

The other Glen Park Festival grant is funding our partnership with the San Francisco Opera. Artists from the Opera have arrived on campus and are helping our kids write and stage their own mini-operas, which they will perform in the spring.

Our two major fall PTA fundraisers, the Annual Fund and Run to the Sunnyside, were very successful. As always, our amazing community pulled together to provide the support our school needs for the many academic, arts and wellness programs our PTA pays for.

We would especially like to thank Travis Jensen Photo and Atlas Skate Shop for their support of our Fun Run. We are also very grateful to Bernal Star for sponsoring a dining-night-out for

families that doubled as a great community builder and also raised funds for the school. Finally, we would like to thank Acrosports, La Mediterranée, Planet Granit, Ocean Cyclery, Mollie Stone's, Lovejoy's Tea Room, Jensen's Mail and Copy, Pacific Catch, Fresca, Gallery of Jewels, Chloe's Closet, Divisadero Touchless Car Wash and SF Bay Cruises for their support of past fundraisers. All of these folks are helping us to build a better school for our kids! ❖

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

### Glen Park Elementary School

The days are growing chillier, and evening comes more quickly as we head into late fall, but inside Glen Park School, the hallways are glowing with artwork and energy, learning and liveliness.

The past year has brought exciting shifts in our school culture and curriculum. We've embraced the PAX

Good Behavior Game, which helps kids sustain attention, self-manage and cooperate with others to create a peaceful, productive, happy environment for learning. When one of our teachers blows a harmonica at morning circle or in the bustling hallway, every kid grows quiet, holds up two fingers in the peace sign and listens. We love PAX!

Our garden is thriving, and our students are now enjoying the literal fruits of their labor in the class garden time through Education Outdoors. And thanks to Glen Park kindergarten parent and SFUSD Director of Sustainability Nik Kaestner, who has been working with our garden coordinator Mary Catherine Muniz, we now have monthly Walk and Roll to School Days.

Groups of Glen Park students and their parents gather at points around the city to walk, scoot and bike ride to school together, encouraging green habits, building community and having fun in the process. If you see one of our "walking school buses" one day, please wave and say hello!

It was a busy fall at school. Our book fair—a favorite event for all our kids—took place in early November, and gave our families an opportunity to

purchase books for their students while raising money for more books for our classrooms.

Glen Park School teachers have hosted one family STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) night, and are planning three more over the coming months. Spring also brings our annual Shape Up Walk and our silent auction, both important fundraisers for the school.

Interested in learning more about Glen Park School? Tours are held on Tuesdays at 9 a.m.; 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 is the communications chair of the Glen Park Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization. For school event updates, visit [glenparkschool.org](http://glenparkschool.org).*

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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 membership meeting: Wednesday, Jan. 14, 7 pm, at St. John School, 925 Chenery St. The agenda includes election of officers for 2015, and a discussion with District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener about his proposed legislation to let Glen Park property owners add new in-law units.

## \* Glen Park Recreation Center \*

Thursday, Dec. 13: Registration for winter activities. The Rec Center's winter schedule was pending as we went to press. Visit [sfrecpark.org](http://sfrecpark.org) for information, or call 337-4705.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, Dec. 9, 11, 16 & 18: Tot Playtime in the auditorium.

## \* 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: Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 21.

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](mailto:david.burnet@sfgov.org).

## \* Sunnyside Conservatory \*

Sunday, Dec. 7, 1–3 pm, 236 Monterey Blvd.: Holiday Card + Ornament Making Party. Free. Bring your old holiday cards, gift-wrap, calendars and magazines. Lots of examples and inspiration for handmade cards and ornaments using recycled, found, salvaged and everyday materials will be provided, along with some cardstock, punches and other notions. Children are welcome, but must be supervised by an accompanying adult.

This event is underwritten by a 2014 grant from the Glen Park Festival. It is co-sponsored by Friends of Sunnyside Conservatory and the SF Rec and Park Department.

## HOLIDAY EVENTS IN THE VILLAGE

Tuesday, Dec. 9, 5:30–7:30: Santa makes his annual visit to ModernPast, 677 Chenery St., to chat with Glen Park kids about you-know-what.

Thursday, Dec. 11, 4–7 pm: Critter Fritters' annual holiday party.

Saturday, Dec. 13: Canyon Market's 8th annual holiday party, a fund-raiser for Muttville, the nonprofit older dog-rescue agency. Tastings and live music in the store, adopt a dog outside.

Sunday, Dec. 21: Bird & Beckett's regular Sunday concert series presents a klezmer ensemble in tribute to Hanukkah.

## SEASONAL POP-UP SHOP

ModernPast on Chenery Street has created Miel, "a cultural pop-up shop" that features works by local and international artists from Mexico and Latin America. "Miel's decorative home and garden furnishings bring unique and complimentary items to those seeking unusual gifts and adornments," said proprietor Ric Lopez.

The seasonal pop-up shop, in the ModernPast store, opened Nov. 30 and will close Jan. 31, 2015. Its eclectic wares include jewelry, ceramic ware, textiles, tin stars, hats, scarfs and paper flowers.

## \* Glen Park Branch Library \*

The Glen Park Branch Library, 2825 Diamond St., presents a lively agenda of events. Our new branch librarian, Katrin Reimuller, lists some coming events in her "Check It Out at the Library" column on Page 6. A full schedule is always available at the library, and all programs are free.

These ongoing events are scheduled this winter:

\* Every Monday, 4–5:30 pm: Family Storytime and Playtime (all ages).

\* Every Tuesday, 10:30–11:30 am: Baby Rhyme and Playtime (birth to 15 months).

\* Second Wednesdays, 3–4 pm: eReader Drop-in (starting January 2015).

\* Second Wednesdays, 4:30–6 pm: Glen Park Knitting Circle (all ages & levels welcome).

\* First Thursdays, 3:30–5:30 pm: Teen Time.

\* Fourth Saturdays, 3–5 pm: Saturday @ the Movies (call for titles)

## \* Diamond Heights

## Community Association \*

Saturday, Dec. 20, 3–6 pm: Holiday party for the neighborhood: Hosted by the DHCA's community disaster planning group, Resilient Diamond Heights, along with St. Aidan's Church and the Diamond Heights Shopping Center. The party is free and welcomes people of all ages. Refreshments, music, Santa and activities for children.

## \* Glen Park Farmers' Market \*

Our seasonal market is closed till spring. The year-round Noe Valley Farmers' Market is open every Saturday, 8 am–1 pm at 3861 24th St., between Sanchez and Vicksburg streets.

## \* SFPD Community Forums \*

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

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

Next dates: Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 17.

## \* St. Aidan's Episcopal Church \*

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, 101 Goldmine Dr., hosts yoga, AA, Al-Anon, Weight Watchers and other community groups. For details, visit [www.saintaidan.org](http://www.saintaidan.org) or call 285-9540.

## \* Bird &amp; 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](http://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 7 pm when there's no evening event.

## WEEKLY &amp; MONTHLY SERIES

## 📖 Bird &amp; Beckett Book Club:

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

🎵 Surf-a-billy Swing Time Dance Party: 2nd Sunday of each month, Noon to 1:30 pm.

\*Dec. 21: The Lee Vilensky Trio – surf.

\*Jan. 11: TBA - check [birdbeckett.com](http://birdbeckett.com)

\*Feb. 15: Todd Novak & the Benny Hillbilleez – hot-rod surf-a-billy!

🎵 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.

\*5th Fridays: Special guests – check [birdbeckett.com](http://birdbeckett.com)

🎵 Jazz Club: Saturday nights, 8–11 pm.

\*1st Saturday: Smith Dobson Quartet.

\*2nd Saturdays: Grant Levin Quartet.

\*3rd Saturdays: Check [birdbeckett.com](http://birdbeckett.com).

\*4th Saturdays: Terrance Tony Quartet.

\*5th Saturdays: Check [birdbeckett.com](http://birdbeckett.com).

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

\*Dec. 7: Buena Vista Jazz Band – trad jazz.

\*Dec. 14: Grant Stewart with the Patrick Wolff Quartet – jazz.

\*Dec. 21: The Chelm Feelharmonic – klezmer.

\*Dec. 28: Duncan James/Ray Scott Duo – jazz guitar.

\*Jan. 4: Avotcja & Modupue – jazz/world.

\*Jan. 11: Montara Mountain Boys – country/Americana.

\*Jan. 18: Billy Higgins Legacy – jazz.

\*Jan. 25: Dave Rocha Quartet – jazz.

✉️ 📖 Poetry with Open Mic, hosted by Jerry Ferraz:

\*1st & 3rd Mondays, 7 pm.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

\* Sunday, Feb. 1, 2 pm: Tule Literary Review reading.

\* Tuesday, Feb. 10, 7 pm: Early childhood educator Sydney Clemens' book release: Seeing Young Children with New Eyes.

\* Sunday, Feb. 15, 2 pm: Poet Kim Shuck's book release: Clouds Running In.

\* Wednesday, Feb. 25, 7 pm: Film screening – The Red Poet (about SF Poet Laureate emeritus Jack Hirschman), directed by Matthew Furey – poet and filmmaker in person.