



# Glen Park News

## New Intersection Must Be Reconstructed

**T**he end seemed almost in sight for the disruptive 6-month-long redo of Glen Park's busy Bosworth-Diamond crossroads, but a major design flaw means that part of the intersection now must be redesigned, dug up and rebuilt. The bulb-outs installed this summer to widen the sidewalks adjacent to the Glen Park BART station made the roadway too narrow for buses and large trucks to turn from northbound Diamond onto eastbound Bosworth, according to the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, which designed and managed the project.

As a result, buses have been driving up on the curb, and into the pedestrian zone.

So SFMTA has gone back to the drawing board to redesign the corner and then rebuild it, spokesman Paul Rose told the Glen Park News. The bulb-outs will be "shaved down" and changes will be made to the median as well, to allow buses to make the turn properly.

How long that will take, and how much it will cost, have yet to be determined, Rose said. The project has already cost just over \$2 million.

The intersection has been a construction zone since January of this year.

Work originally was set to wrap up in early June, but SFMTA pushed the completion date back to July, citing complications with sidewalk installations. Now agency representatives can't say when crews will be done.

"This was a mistake on our end and we are working to fix it as soon as possible," said Kelley McCoy, the public information officer for the project.

SFMTA said it would post project

updates online at [www.sfmta.com/glenpark](http://www.sfmta.com/glenpark).

How could the City staff responsible for a project to improve one of San Francisco's major transportation hubs, which went through innumerable design plans with much oversight, have missed something so elementary? That is a looming question.

The Glen Park Association board of directors warned SFMTA more than

two years ago that it was concerned the intersection was being made too narrow for buses to properly turn. In a letter dated May 22, 2013, the GPA board asked that the agency "please outline the standards and evaluate the turning movements and radii for adequacy and test them against the (agency's) standards, if this bulb is proposed."

At multiple GPA quarterly meetings,  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

## Purrfect Shopkeepers



Glen Park's feline friends help local merchants at their shops. Sherman, pictured above, has so far been unsuccessful in convincing his bookstore boss to change the name of the business to Cat & Beckett. See story and more photos by Stephen Labovsky on page 14.

## Downtown Glen Park Is In Transition

**C**hange may be coming to downtown Glen Park—new eateries, a new parklet on Chenery Street and other comings and perhaps

goings—but nothing is settled until the ink is dry on the bottom line.

Generating the most controversy is a proposal to build a "parklet" in front of Higher Grounds coffee house at 691 Chenery, close to the corner of Diamond Street.

The on-street seating area would replace the first parking space at that busy intersection, said Higher Grounds owner Manhal Jweinat, the project sponsor.

If the City permits the project to go forward, he explained, he will hire an architect to come up with specific plans for seating and planters, and he will be responsible for maintaining it. He estimated that building the parklet would cost \$7,000 or \$8,000, and he could do much of the work himself. "I'm doing this for the neighborhood; if people don't want it..." his voice trailed off. "But it looks like everyone wants it."

Parklets, intended to activate street life in commercial corridors by effectively widening the sidewalk for such uses as public seating, bike parking

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### GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION

#### QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday October 22, 7 p.m.  
St. John School  
925 Chenery Street  
Parking Available

#### Agenda:

- Updates from Supervisor Scott Wiener and SFPD Capt. Joseph McFadden of Ingleside Station.
- Supervisor Mark Farrell will speak on the Shared Schoolyard Project.
- November Election Forum: Speakers for and against Prop. F, an initiative to restrict short-term rentals.



## GLEN PARK NEWS

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## ❖ GPA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN ❖

From my email inbox:  
"The GPA should oppose the parklet proposed at Higher Grounds. We can't lose another parking space that shoppers need."  
by Michael Rice  
"Michael, would you sign on to a flyer supporting the parklet at Higher Grounds. It will be a great addition to the neighborhood."

"DPW denied the request to remove the big Coast Redwood at 95 Nordhoff Street. The developer is taking the denial to the Board of Appeals. Please help us save the tree."

"What's going on with the big remodeling work at the house on the corner? We didn't see any neighborhood notice about the plans."

"The stairs into Glen Canyon Park at Sussex Street are falling apart. When is Rec and Park going to fix them?"

I've paraphrased these messages, but the range of situations that arrive in my inbox (president@glenparkassociation.org) is wide and often heated. After many years—OK, it's 11 years—of mail, I know that neighbors reach out

to the Glen Park Association, for advocacy on transportation problems, more response on car break-ins or, "Can I talk about X at the next GPA meeting?"

I answer all the emails. Sometimes it's an easy question, but often the topic is a bit more controversial or unresolved. Then, I will reply, "I'm referring this to our (Transportation; Planning and Zoning; Recreation and Park...) Committee. They will work on the issues and bring it to our next board meeting for review or action." That may sound a bit bureaucratic, but we have thoughtful, dedicated board and committee members who volunteer their time to research issues, contact agency staff, see what City action is underway and recommend an answer or next step. We then respond to the question or, in some cases, debate and act on a GPA position on the matter at our monthly board meeting.

I would not have run for president year after year without the work being shared with active Glen Park board and committee members. Some of these colleagues joined after stepping up

and asking, "I want to work on the planning committee." Others who I knew would be smart help succumbed to my fervent requests. Thank you for acquiescing!

But there's more work, time and thought needed on many issues. Are more elements of the Glen Park Community Plan going to be implemented? More signals at Arlington and Bosworth? Will BART improve the plaza? Do we need to change some of the parking controls around the village?

And there's GPA committee turnover: One board member is moving to Berkeley for grad school. Another has a part-time project in Ukiah with a reopened wool-processing plant.

There's a place for you. So, sort out what you think really needs work in Glen Park, look at your calendar and email me about how you want to help. We're ready to talk with you at any of our five local, non-chain cafes.❖

*Michael Rice is president of the Glen Park Association. A list of current GPA volunteers and positions is in the box on Page 3.*

## ❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

When word started circulating that Buddies Market at Diamond and Chenery streets was facing a hefty rent hike that potentially could put the mom-and-pop shop out of business, Eric Whittington, a neighbor and proprietor of Bird & Beckett Books, set out to rally community support to keep the market in business and urge the landlord to work with the owners.

"Show your neighborhood spirit," Whittington asked in an online plea.

Husband-and-wife team Paul and Jennie Park have owned Buddies Market for the past 13 years, operating seven days a week, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day but Sunday, when the hours are shortened by an hour at each end.

The store represents the definition of convenience store, a place to pick up a quick quart of milk, a bag of chips, a six-pack of beer, toilet paper or a can of cat food. It also sells cigarettes, mass-produced, non-artisanal candy bars, pints of cheap whiskey and lottery tickets—offerings that have prompted some in the neighborhood to say that pushing Buddies out with a rent increase could be a good thing for Glen Park.



But Buddies serves a niche that the more upscale Canyon Market does not, and offers a slice of San Francisco—and urban America in general—that has been fading away: the family-owned corner grocery. These stores also have provided a path to the American Dream for many immigrant families, with the parents working long days behind the counter, socking away money to put their children through college.

Glen Park is down to three corner grocery stores: Buddies; Glen Park Market at Diamond and Bosworth streets; and Chenery Market at Chenery and Randall streets. Others that once dotted the neighborhood disappeared as refrigerators grew bigger in the mid-20th century and shoppers who used to buy food every day found it easier to make weekly trips to new supermarkets.

Walk, bike or drive through any neighborhood in San Francisco and you will spot storefronts, once home to such businesses, transformed into housing, yoga studios or any number of other uses to match changing demands and, increasingly, reflecting the reality that more people are shopping online with an added convenience of getting their goods from some web-based retailers delivered to their doorsteps the same day they order them.

As of press time, the Parks reportedly still were negotiating the price of their new rent with their landlord and have kept mum on the specifics. But Whittington, the bookshop owner, said in an online posting, that the Parks had been paying a monthly rent in the \$5,000 range and initially were hit with a 100 percent increase.

Under state law, rent control protections do not extend to commercial tenants, so once a lease is up, rents can skyrocket, particularly in hot real estate markets like the one we're in now.

As reported in the business roundup story that starts on the front page of this issue, downtown Glen Park is in flux. We hope Buddies Market will continue to be an example of stability in our neighborhood shopping area, not part of the change.❖

# Spike in Crime Menaces Glen Park

Crime, particularly petty theft, is up in Glen Park – an unsettling trend in neighborhoods throughout San Francisco.

“There has been an increase in petty thefts across the city and in every neighborhood. Mostly auto break-ins and petty thefts,” said San Francisco Police Capt. Joseph McFadden, commanding officer of Ingleside Station, which covers Glen Park.

In July, there were a dozen reports of vehicle theft, vehicle recovery, or theft from a vehicle, according to the Ingleside police crime report.

It has been more than a year since Glen Park resident Jacquelyn Paull’s car was stolen, and she’s still facing the fallout—renting a car, dealing with her insurance company, preparing to testify against the alleged car thief, and getting around on public transit. She no longer owns a vehicle, even though her car was recovered.

Ten days after her 1992 silver Saturn was stolen in April 2014, Paull spotted it on Alemany Boulevard near the farmers’ market. It was easy to recognize, she said, because of the blue tape on the roof. She called 911, and followed her stolen car to Lowe’s on Bayshore Boulevard and called police. After the driver came back to it in the parking lot, officers swarmed around him and he was in handcuffs in a matter of minutes.

“I was not going to give up,” Paull said. “That’s my car! I was adamant that I would get it back.”

The car was stuffed with junk. Nothing in it was hers. In addition, the alleged thief had damaged the inside and no amount of blue tape would fix it. Six months later, the transmission blew and the car was a total loss.

That was November 2014. Since then, Paull has been waiting to testify against the suspect in court but he disappeared. Twice. “I was told the only way they’d get him again is if they caught him for something else,” Paull said. But Paull does not blame the District Attorney’s office. “It’s not the DA’s fault. It’s happening so much, they almost have to downgrade it.”

Paull reports that two of her neighbors also had their vehicles stolen. She advises car-theft victims to alert neighbors, UPS drivers and mail carriers to be on the lookout for the stolen car. Also, check with the City’s towing contractor, AutoReturn, to see if your car has been towed. You can contact



The BofA ATM on Diamond Street has been the scene of a number of crimes.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

the company by email at [service-sf-ca@autoreturn.com](mailto:service-sf-ca@autoreturn.com) or by calling 415-865-8200. You also can check to see if your car has been ticketed, which may provide a clue about where it is parked. You can get started by following this link: <http://tinyurl.com/qzzqqp6> or calling 311.

“Sometimes,” Paull said, “you have to be your own detective.”

In addition to vehicles, thieves in Glen Park are targeting people, and not only at night. At 10 a.m. on July 29, a Bank of America ATM customer was robbed of \$600 after he received a withdrawal notification on his phone, shortly after leaving the machine, according to the Ingleside crime report. The suspect, who told officers she needed the money to feed her children, was caught with the money, cited and released.

“A lot has to do with the effects of Prop. 47, which made most of your drug offenses into misdemeanors, whereby they are cited and returned to the streets immediately for minor offenses,” McFadden said. “The plateau for felony is now \$950.” California voters approved Proposition 47 in November 2014.

Last December, Rafael Lopez was robbed on his way to work, walking to the BART station at 6:30 a.m. on Circular Avenue between Judson and Staples. Lopez said he noticed a slow-moving vehicle behind him and then heard fast-paced footsteps. Suddenly, a man “drew a gun on me and wanted my cell phone, my backpack, and my wallet. He was accompanied by a driver in a getaway car.”

The police took a report and Lopez was physically OK. “I was not about to lose my life over a cell phone,” Lopez said.

In another incident, a mugger took advantage of a Muni bus accident, reported Jeff Vidal.

Vidal said his wife was on a bus hit by a truck in the late afternoon of Aug. 5. When she exited the bus after filling out accident report paperwork, she was shoved to the ground and her bag was grabbed.

The assailant quickly rifled through her bag to find her wallet and cell phone, and then took off running. A nearby man ran after the thief and as he started gaining on his target, the assailant threw the wallet at him, which he picked up and returned to the woman. The cell phone and the attacker disappeared. Vidal said two other people helped his wife up off the ground. He said at least 20 others were nearby when the brazen episode occurred.

“Chasing after someone is brave, but foolish,” said Vidal. “We don’t need somebody getting hurt for no reason. Lending a hand to someone who has been knocked down is caring and kind. We need more of that in our lives to overcome these days. When more people start to open their eyes and lend a hand, it hopefully will shrink the opportunities for petty crime.”

For their part, McFadden said, the police “have stepped up patrols around the Glen Park area.” But, he noted, people need to take an active role by being aware of their surroundings and reporting suspicious activity and crimes-in-progress.

“What I need people to do,” McFadden said, “is to call the SFPD when they see suspicious people and their activity immediately ... before they do something more serious.”

To report emergencies, call 911. The San Francisco Police Department’s non-emergency line is 415-553-0123. ♦

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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 ❖

It's no secret that we need more housing in our city. This means encouraging a variety of different housing types, such as the larger developments we are seeing in the South of Market, Hunters Point and Upper Market neighborhoods, as well as finding smart ways to add new housing units to existing buildings in various parts of San Francisco—known as “in-law” or “secondary” units.

To allow for the flexibility of adding this kind of new housing in Glen Park and other neighborhoods, I have authored three separate pieces of legislation to allow the construction of new in-law units. The first, passed by the Board of Supervisors last year, allows new in-law units in the Castro area, and the second, passed earlier this year, allows these units to be built in most parts of the city if the building is

undergoing a seismic retrofit.

The most recent piece of legislation I authored, which was passed by the Board of Supervisors at the end of July, expands the Castro in-law unit project to all of District 8, including Glen Park. I presented the legislation to the Glen Park Association membership earlier this year, and GPA's board of directors subsequently endorsed the measure.

**IN-LAW UNITS ARE THE MOST AFFORDABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND LOW-IMPACT WAY TO ADD NEW HOUSING UNITS TO OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.**

In-law units are the most affordable, sustainable and low-impact way to add new housing units to

our neighborhoods. They don't require much new construction, which is good for our environment and more affordable in terms of construction costs. They must be constructed within the building envelope, which means neighbors won't be impacted by existing homes pushing up or out into backyards. They are generally ground-floor units, which makes them good options

for seniors and people with mobility issues. They are the most affordable kind of non-subsidized housing and, importantly, they are subject to rent control if built within a building already subject to rent control.

Adding new in-law units is a great tool for creating new housing units in our neighborhoods, and I hope we can see more areas of the city adapt legislation like this. In fact, we already

have in San Francisco's northeastern neighborhoods, where my colleague, Supervisor Julie Christensen, authored legislation almost identical to the legislation I just authored. This is a great step for our city. ❖

*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).*

## Glen Park Festival Awards Grants to Kids' Programs



Entertainers at this year's Glen Park Festival in April.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

The Glen Park Festival, a beloved neighborhood tradition, doesn't just bring people together for a joyful day of music, crafts and community—it also raises money for schools and nonprofits that work with children living in and near Glen Park.

This year's festival, held on April 26 in downtown Glen Park, raised enough money to award 12 organizations a combined \$19,000 in grants.

Festival grants went to six public schools, providing new tables at Commodore Sloat Elementary; new tetherball equipment at Fairmount Elementary; a new garden shed at Monroe Elementary; and more materials for the media center/library at Sunnyside Elementary.

Grants also will support a sixth-grade field trip at James Lick Middle School, and Glen Park Elementary's new healthy snack program that pro-

vides fresh fruits and vegetables to every student each day.

In addition, Synergy, an independent private school, will be purchasing additional books and library supplies, and students at Thomas Edison Charter Academy, a charter school known as TECA, will get new playground equipment.

Several preschools benefitted, as well. There will be new play toys at Glenridge Cooperative Preschool; sensory/motor equipment at Centro de las Olas; and a new retaining wall at Miraloma Cooperative Nursery School. The nonprofit organization Drawbridge also received funding to support an art class for homeless and other vulnerable children.

Planning for the 2016 Festival will begin in November. If you are interested in supporting the festival's mission, either financially or by volunteering to help organize the event, please contact [inquiries@glenparkfestival.com](mailto:inquiries@glenparkfestival.com). ❖

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## ❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

*Editor's Note: Evelyn Rose is documenting the histories of Glen Park and nearby neighborhoods. She will tell us about her discoveries in her new column for the Glen Park News.*

Recently in Glen Canyon, I told trails improvement volunteers that the site of today's Glen Park Recreation Center is California Historical Landmark No. 1002, the location of the first dynamite factory



Elise Beneke Tietz with a cow in Glen Canyon around 1910, when the Good Brothers owned the dairy in the canyon. Tietz died at the age of 86 in 1976.

Courtesy San Francisco History Project,  
San Francisco Public Library

in the United States and our personal link with the world's most prestigious award, the Nobel Prize. Later that day, I was asked to give an impromptu presentation about the history of Glen Canyon to the volunteers at the Silver Tree Day Camp building. Sharing that story in the shadows of the canyon was a special experience I won't soon forget.

Yes, history is a form of storytelling. The histories of Glen Park and Glen Canyon and our adjoining neighborhoods—Sunnyside, Fairmount Tract and Diamond Heights—are rich with intrigue, drama, excitement, humor, surprise, tragedy and sadness. Rediscovering our forgotten histories can help us better understand our local heritage and how the character of our neighborhoods, created from an interplay of former residents, past events and social and cultural influences evolved into what we know today. Sadly, with the passage of time and

generations of storytellers, our historic legacy has been slowly fading from view. Preserving it requires a proactive approach.

That's why I started the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project (GPNHP), to rediscover our forgotten history, document our living history and share our history with others. No matter your age, researching history can be a great adventure. We have a multitude of resources available to us today, and with the convenience of the Internet, many of those resources are easily accessible from the comfort of home. There's nothing like the thrill of that Eureka! moment after making a new discovery!

President Harry Truman once said, "The only thing new in the world is the history you don't know." The GPNHP is your platform for sharing the results of your personal historic research.

Please help us rediscover our heritage and tell us something "new." Share your stories or images about a past event, or about your family, residence, street or neighborhood on our project's website. Or, you can present your story at one of our bi-monthly

meetings. Join us! We look forward to rediscovering our region's forgotten histories with you! ❖

To learn more about our shared histories, visit [www.GlenParkHistory.org](http://www.GlenParkHistory.org). The GPNHP meets every second (even) month. Join the mailing list: [GlenParkHistory@gmail.com](mailto:GlenParkHistory@gmail.com).

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## Housing Sales Remain Strong in Glen Park

Here are the sales stats for the 2015 Second Quarter:

**Single family home sales:** Prices ranged from a low of \$797,000 to a high of \$2,625,000. 18 homes sold. Average list price: \$1,796,333 • Average square feet: 1,793 Average days on market: 21 • Average price/sq. ft.: \$1,002

**Condominium sales:** Prices ranged from a low of \$830,000 to a high of \$849,000. 2 condos sold. Average list price: \$724,000 • Average square feet: 1,118 Average days on market: 38 • Average price/sq. ft.: \$750

We're your neighbors. We know Glen Park. Call, text or email for a complimentary market analysis – there is never an obligation!



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## ❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

**W**e're throwing a Crazy 8 Celebration on Saturday, Oct. 24, and you're all invited.

It's hard to believe that the Glen Park Branch Library has been in its new building for eight years. Why celebrate at eight years? Why not wait for 10?

Well, the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library is celebrating the completion of the Branch Library Improvement Program, which renovated 23 of our 27 branch libraries, Glen Park being a completely new build. The number eight is good luck in Chinese culture, and the public art in our first-floor entryway has an eight-ish shape in it. For all these reasons, and maybe more, eight seems auspicious for us—so it's time for a party!

What makes it "crazy"? A live rock band in the library! The Not-Its are IT! Hailing all the way from Seattle, they've been tagged as part of the library's Tricycle Music Fest line-up. Get your pink tutu, sparkly shoes and swanky suspenders because the Not-Its will take the stage at 2 p.m. to rock your socks off. Put your hands in the



"The Not-Its Are It!" will be performing at the library's Crazy 8 Celebration.

air and prepare to raise the roof.

It's an all-day celebration for the whole family, from 8 months to 88 years, so get here early and stay late to meet the band and have loads of fun. Because playing is just as important as singing in early childhood learning, we

will raffle off one tricycle to a lucky concert-goer! Check [sfpl.org/tricycle](http://sfpl.org/tricycle) for the full schedule of the seventh annual Tricycle Music Fest.

After movin' and groovin' to the Not-Its, you can get your craft on from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. with the local experts from GoGo Craft and make your own mini-book or journal. Image transfer pens, vintage magazines, old postcards, washi tape, stamps and other fun art materials

will be provided to create cover art!

You still think the library is for reading and books? You are right, it is! We've partnered with our local book-seller Bird & Beckett for recommended titles to celebrate both of our eight-year milestones—they've been in the former library building for eight years, too—and to reinvigorate your reading lists. You will also have a chance to share your must-read titles in our new Bibliocommons online catalog. Find out how at the library.

More is being planned but I can promise you a yummy treat, some fun activities for kids and, most importantly, a smile and warm welcome to this beautiful library in the heart of our neighborhood. ❖

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

## GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

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

*Bird & Beckett Books and Records*  
653 Chenery St San Francisco [birdbeckett.com](http://birdbeckett.com) (415) 586-3733

## Block Parties: A Fun Way To Build Our Community

**T**here's no better way to celebrate the end of summer than to have a party with your neighbors in the middle of the street!

Neighbors from Mizpah, Chenery, Elk and Sussex streets did just that on Aug. 30.

For the Glen Park gathering, Sussex Street was blocked off between Elk and Mizpah streets—providing a safe urban oasis for kids and adults to enjoy the day.

The four participating blocks celebrated the summer potluck-style with lots of food and drinks, as well as a face-painting station, a treasure hunt and a Minion piñata. Music kept the crowd energized.

The party didn't just attract people, but their canine companions, too. Also on tap were representatives from SF SAFE (Safety Awareness for Everyone), the Glen Park History Project and the San Francisco Police Department.

The event was part of the San Francisco Neighborfest Block Party Campaign.

Neighborfest, launched earlier in the summer, is a program designed by the Neighborhood Empowerment Network with the goal of promoting block parties in San Francisco neighborhoods to create a venue where neighbors can meet each other in a safe and fun environment.

Organizers say there is no better way to meet your neighbors and build strong relationships than with an old-fashioned block party. This year SF SAFE partnered with NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team) and the rest of the Neighborhood Empowerment Network to launch the Neighborfest Block Party Program.

The program provides block party hosts with all the necessary tools and permits to throw a successful event. For more information about Neighborfest, visit <http://empowersf.org/neighborfest/> ❖



# San Jose Ave. Road Diet May Become Permanent

City traffic engineers likely will recommend permanently reducing northbound San Jose Avenue to two lanes and setting a lower speed limit, depending on traffic data taken in mid-September.

by Heather World  
“Unless speeds miraculously increase, or we have a bunch of crashes we can attribute to the pilot in some way, or traffic on the freeway mainline backs up to Ocean (Avenue), that’s the only time we have to go back to the drawing board,” said San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) Project Manager Damon Curtis at an Aug. 13 community session co-hosted by the Glen Park Association.

“Beyond that,” he added, “if we get a slight reduction in speed, then we continue moving forward.”

Spurred by neighbor complaints about speed and by accident data, the SFMTA began a pilot project in spring of 2014 to slow traffic on the one-mile stretch of roadway running from the Interstate 280 San Jose Avenue off-ramp to Randall Street.

State law prohibits cities from simply reducing the speed limit, which City traffic planners would like to see cut from 45 mph to 35 mph—or slower. Instead, localities must follow the “85 percent rule”: “You must engineer a road that 85 percent of drivers perceive to be a 35-mph limit,” Curtis said.

Initially, the three northbound traffic lanes were condensed to two. Average speeds fell by only 3 mph—from 49 mph to 46 mph—so engineers turned to the two-lane freeway off-ramp that leads to the roadway. Now vehicles merge into a single lane before the underpass that divides the highway from the city street. That single lane emerges from the underpass to join another single lane coming from San Jose Avenue, and those two lanes continue north to Randall.

According to data released by SFMTA in June, about 25,000 vehicles use northbound San Jose Avenue each day. There were 14 accidents between the freeway off-ramp and Randall between 2010 and 2014, 57 percent of which were attributed to unsafe speed, according to an update released in August.

The Phase I traffic modifications added significantly more traffic, traveling at higher speeds, along Rousseau Street and St. Mary’s Avenue—presumably by drivers seeking a detour to

escape the longer backup at the Randall intersection caused by the lane reduction from three to two. Curtis said the SFMTA is engaging with residents on those streets to find ways to mitigate the impact of the pilot.

Over the summer, staff measured the traffic delay during the rush hours. They found the two-lane configuration added two minutes to the four-minute drive between the Ocean Avenue onramp and Randall Street.

Caltrans has the authority to quash the project if it backs up the freeway too much. At an open house hosted by SFMTA on August 25, Roland Au-Yeung of Caltrans’ traffic safety branch said his agency will measure the freeway backup in September when all schools are back in session.

“We don’t want to see that people coming from Ocean [Avenue onramp] can’t get in,” he said. Maintaining a two-lane exit before the underpass mitigates some of that back-up, he said. “This way there is some extra storage on the off-ramp.”

The number of bicyclists on the stretch of northbound San Jose Avenue also increased, from an average of 145 a day before the pilot to 200 after.

Project staff has promised to update the public in October and host a community meeting at the end of the year. If approved by the City Traffic Engineer, the temporary lane striping will be made permanent, likely in February or March 2016, Curtis said.

Public opinion, as expressed in two online petitions—one opposed to the change and one supporting it—appears evenly split.

More change is afoot for the area, including a traffic signal at the intersection of Randall and Mission streets that is meant to speed up the No. 14-Mission bus route.

According to design boards brought to the Aug. 25 meeting by the SFMTA, traffic would be prohibited from traveling east on the tiny stretch of Randall between San Jose Avenue and Mission Street. Drivers who want to go east from San Jose Avenue will need to travel further north, possibly as far as 30th Street, to do so.

The latest information on the project can be found on the SFMTA website, <https://goo.gl/5POBJZ>. See the “Pilot Project Survey and Update” under “Updates” and the “Project Preliminary Evaluation Report” under “Documents and Reports.” ❖



*This ad was paid for by private citizens and is in no part funded by Airbnb or any other vacation rental platform.*

Dear Glen Park Neighbors,

Just seven months ago, a new San Francisco short-term rental ordinance went into effect which regulates homesharing. It requires that citizens conducting short-term rentals register with the City and it prohibits short-term renting of a unit which is not one's permanent residence.

But before the ink was dry on the new ordinance, and without even giving the law a chance to work, opponents of the original law initiated Prop F, to stop homesharing in San Francisco.

Over a dozen of your neighbors in Glen Park now legally rent out extra space in their homes, often to visiting friends and family of other Glen Park residents. This vital income helps us to support our families, and generates thousands of dollars for our local businesses.

Prop F will overwrite the reasonable current regulations and replace them with toxic risks that will effectively end homesharing as an option for most people in SF.

So we're asking everyone in Glen Park to give the new homesharing legislation a chance, and vote **NO on PROP F this November 3rd.** Prop F is too extreme.

Thank You!

To find out more: [SFAgainstF.com](http://SFAgainstF.com)



# Glen Park Greenway Gaining Ground

The proposed Glen Park Greenway is part of a global movement to green the urban infrastructure, producing myriad benefits, from improving storm-water management to creating new recreational opportunities.

The Glen Park project would run parallel to Bosworth Street, between Brompton and Burnside avenues, turning a patchwork of undeveloped properties into a continuous greenway connecting downtown Glen Park to Glen Canyon Park.

It is too soon to say what benefits would result, should the greenway be created. The proposal is still in the brainstorming stage and moving toward the creation of a conceptual plan. Funding has yet to be identified to build the project.

The parcels of land where the greenway is envisioned are owned by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco Public Works and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Spearheaded by the Glen Park Association, the conceptual planning process is under way. The greenway proposal was featured at a community meeting on Aug. 20 at St. John School.

There, Rosey Jencks, manager of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Urban Watershed Management Program, presented an overview of the agency's role and responsibility in maximizing eco-sound

use of San Francisco's water resources—presumably to help focus Glen Park residents' thinking and ideas for the greenway.

Jencks introduced many ideas that encourage green infrastructure, among them vegetated roofs, constructed wetlands, living walls, permeable paving, rainwater harvesting, cisterns, in-street planters and creek daylighting.

As part of the presentation, Jencks showed many grandiose green-water projects from around the globe: Potsdammer Platz in Germany and sev-

ing into the waters surrounding San Francisco.

But more is needed, particularly when heavy rains overwhelm the sewers, sending untreated water into the Bay and ocean and causing localized flooding in low-lying areas, such as on Cayuga Street in the nearby Mission Terrace neighborhood, where neighbors complain that the City has not done enough to address the problem.

Enter the Glen Park Greenway, which could serve as an environmen-

Several questions remained unanswered after Jencks' presentation, including who would be responsible for maintaining the greenway and whether it would create a habitat for mosquitoes or be a magnet for other unwanted critters and garbage.

Jencks responded that the job of her office was long-range analysis and programming; she said she was providing context for what the final greenway plan could be, and had no stake in any of the proposed greenway concepts, including whether Islais Creek might become free-flowing along the proposed greenway, as it is in the upper stretch of Glen Canyon.

"Daylighting" the creek is unlikely to happen, however. Residents of the low-lying homes below Bosworth Street have pointed out that the area is already prone to flooding. Removing the underground culvert that channels the creek beneath the greenway area could aggravate that problem.

The next greenway design workshop will be held on Thursday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. John School, 925 Chenery St. The landscape architecture team tapped to develop the conceptual plan will present some sketches showcasing preliminary ideas previously suggested by community members.

Prior to the meeting, the team will lead a walking tour of the proposed greenway site. Anyone interested should meet at 5:30 p.m. at the Glen Park BART station plaza. ❖

THE GLEN PARK GREENWAY COULD SERVE AS AN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PROJECT TO BETTER MANAGE STORM WATER IN GLEN PARK BY REDIRECTING RAINWATER TO VEGETATED AREAS, FILTERING THE RUNOFF AND REDUCING THE IMPACT ON THE COMBINED SEWER SYSTEM.

eral others in Zurich and Seoul. Closer to home there's the planned Transbay Center and an office tower on Fremont Street designed with smart water management in mind.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's interest stems from its role in operating the City's combined sewer system, which, unique in California, collects both sewage and storm water in one network of pipes, rather than two.

Ninety percent of the combined flow is treated and discharged into the Bay or ocean. This method greatly reduces the amount of toxins and pollutants collected by the city's hard surfaces, such as streets and rooftops, from flow-

tally friendly project to better manage storm water in Glen Park by redirecting rainwater to vegetated areas, filtering the runoff and reducing the impact on the combined sewer system.

Already, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission has put \$57 million into green-water infrastructure projects. The closest one to Glen Park is the Mission and Valencia Streets Green Gateway.

The proposed Glen Park Greenway isn't the only green-water opportunity in our neighborhood. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission also is eyeing whether rainwater can be captured beneath the ballfields at Glen Canyon Park.



The dotted lines show the boundaries of the proposed greenway, along the north side of Bosworth Street.

Photo courtesy of Glen Park Green



# A Radical Finds Her Voice Through Poetry

**N**ellie Wong, honored poet, radical feminist, political activist and Glen Park resident since 1990, has left her mark all over the Bay Area and beyond.

Wong, who turned 81 on Sept. 12, grew up in Oakland's Chinatown, where her immigrant parents had a restaurant. Now she has a building named after her at her alma mater, Oakland High School, where she once worked in the office for 75 cents an hour.

In her 30s, she enrolled in the creative writing department at San Francisco State, taking night courses. She signed up for one in poetry, assuming it was a literature class.

"I thought I was going to learn about poetry, but it turned out we were supposed to be poets," Wong recalled. The only poetry she had written up until then was some early attempts at haiku.

One memorable early poem was about Miss Chinatown USA, she said. The instructor called it an "angry poem" and told her to throw it away. Luckily, she ignored the advice.

Out of that beginning came four published volumes of poetry, starting in 1977 with "Dreams in Harrison Railroad Park," named for a park in Oakland. Her other three volumes of poetry include "The Death of Long Steam Lady" in 1986, "Stolen Moments" in 1997 and, most recently, "Breakfast Lunch Dinner" in 2012.

Wong never got her college degree, but the poetry experience set the course for the rest of her life. She said that "race, sex and class perspectives" came into her writing.

On the SF State campus, she met radical feminists who would become her lifelong friends. She joined Radical Women and the San Francisco-based Freedom Socialist Party, which describes itself, in part, as "a revolutionary, socialist feminist organization, dedicated to the replacement of capitalist rule by a genuine workers' democracy."

Wong is still active in the party, and a regular contributor to its newspaper. In her latest endeavor, she has edited "Talking Back: Voices of Color,"

a compilation of essays published in the Freedom Socialist newspaper and elsewhere, about the experiences and perspectives of race and racism, gender and sexuality, immigration, age and home-grown radicalism. "Together we help each other find our individual and collective voices," Wong writes in her introduction.

Nancy Reiko Kato and Merle Woo, both with ties to Glen Park, are among the contributors. In addition to her introduction, Wong has included an essay about Assata Shakur, an African-American radical who has taken ref-

uge in Cuba, where Wong met with her. Another essay, by Chris Faatz, is entitled "Luscious Poems by Nellie Wong on Love, Family, Revolution."

"Talking Back" was published by Red Letter Press, and is on sale at

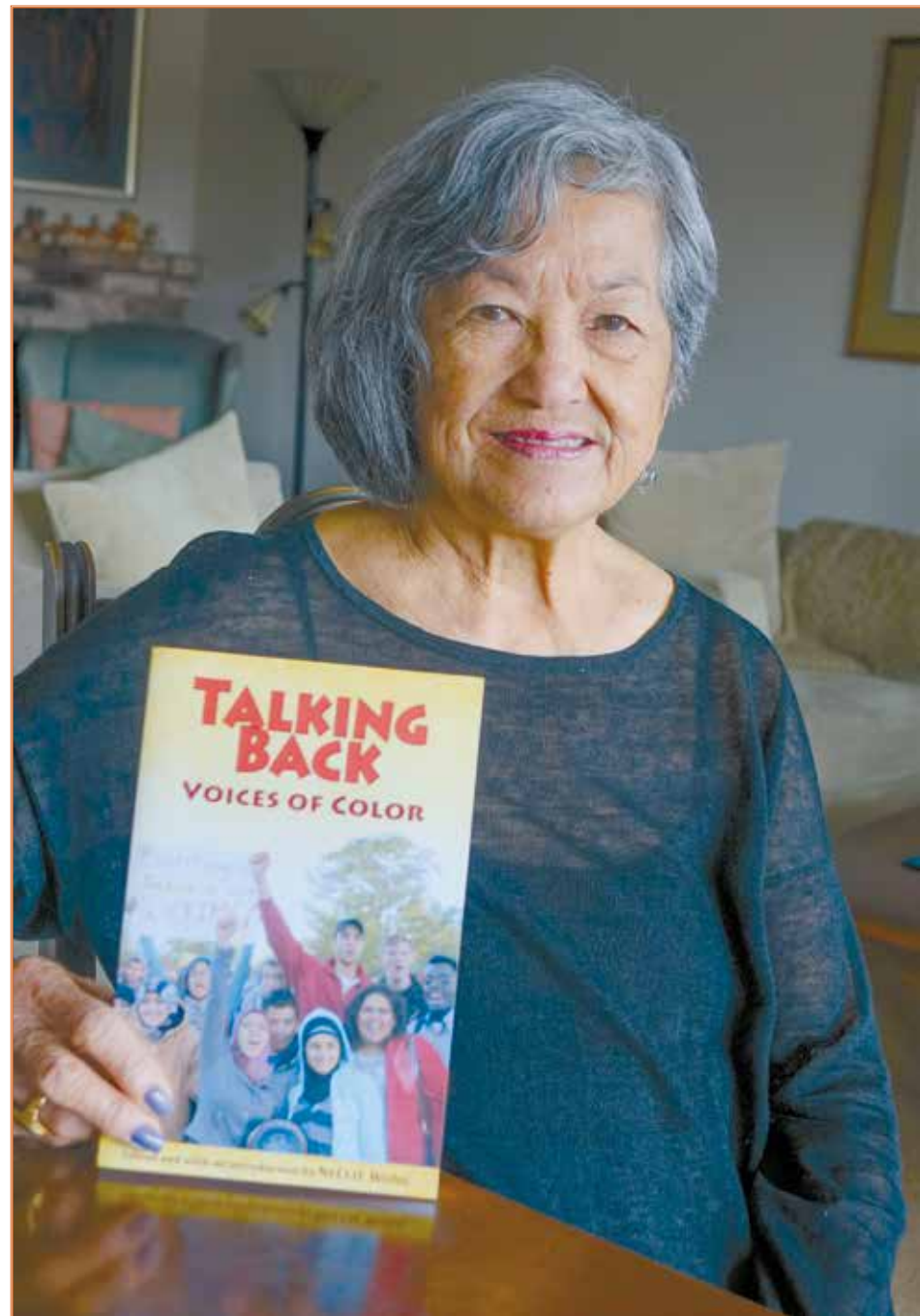
Bird & Beckett Books, where Wong gave a reading in July. It follows an earlier book that she co-edited, "Voices of Color: Reports from the Front Lines of Resistance by Radicals of Color."

One target audience for "Talking Back," she said, includes students of labor, ethnic, women's and LGBT studies. All those populations are under attack, she said. "It's a struggle to even learn our histories."

Wong, Woo and Mitsuye Yamada joined forces to produce "3 Asian American Writers Speak Out on Feminism," in 2003. Wong and Yamada were the subjects of a 1981 documentary film on Asian-American poets. She is one of the founding members of the Chinese-American women's writing collective, Unbound Feet. She has taught poetry and women's studies at the college level, and one of her poems was installed on a Muni platform on the Embarcadero.

An elegant, gracious woman, Wong supported herself as a secretary, including a long stint at Bethlehem Steel, until she retired in 1998 from her final job, as a senior analyst for affirmative action at UC San Francisco. Through it all, her passion for poetry and politics has been constant.

Showing no signs of slowing down, Wong said she is "toying with" writing a memoir. It would make great reading. ❖



Nellie Wong at home with her new book.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

## Nabbed at Our Library, Miscreant Returns in A Documentary

Ross William Ulbricht, arrested by a posse of FBI agents in the science fiction section of the Glen Park Library in October 2013, returns to the library in digital form on Saturday, Sept. 19 at 3 p.m., in a screening of *Deep Web*, a documentary that tells "the inside story of one of the most important and riveting digital crime sagas of the century"—the arrest of Ulbricht, who was found guilty last February of being "Dread Pirate Roberts," creator and operator of the online black-market Silk Road. In May, at age 31, he was sentenced to life in prison.

Silk Road was considered the globe's largest marketplace for finding illegal drugs online. The 90-minute color film is a Films & Videos program from SFPL. ❖



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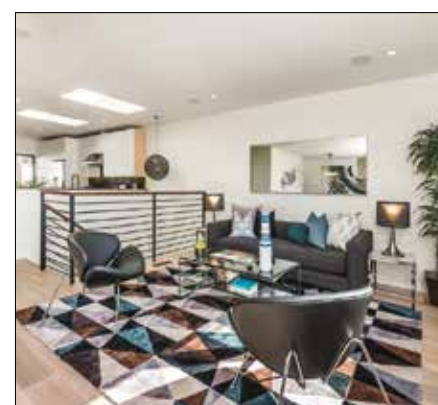
167 Stillings Ave. | \$1.6M



419 Baden St. | \$2.150M  
(represented buyer and seller)



256 Chenery St. | \$1.1M



53 Sussex St. | \$1.645M



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# Glen Park Favorite, Drummer Jimmy Ryan, Dies

I didn't know Jimmy Ryan all that well. I'd drop by Bird & Beckett and catch his ensemble serving up bebop at the bookstore.

On the second Friday of each month, Jimmy would sit at the rear of Bird & Beckett's stage, leaning over his drums, usually wearing a T-shirt, a shock of white hair curving across his forehead. On those evenings, the only time Jimmy looked happier than when his sticks supported the band's beat was when his wife Rory walked in, usually near the end of the first set, and took a seat in the audience.

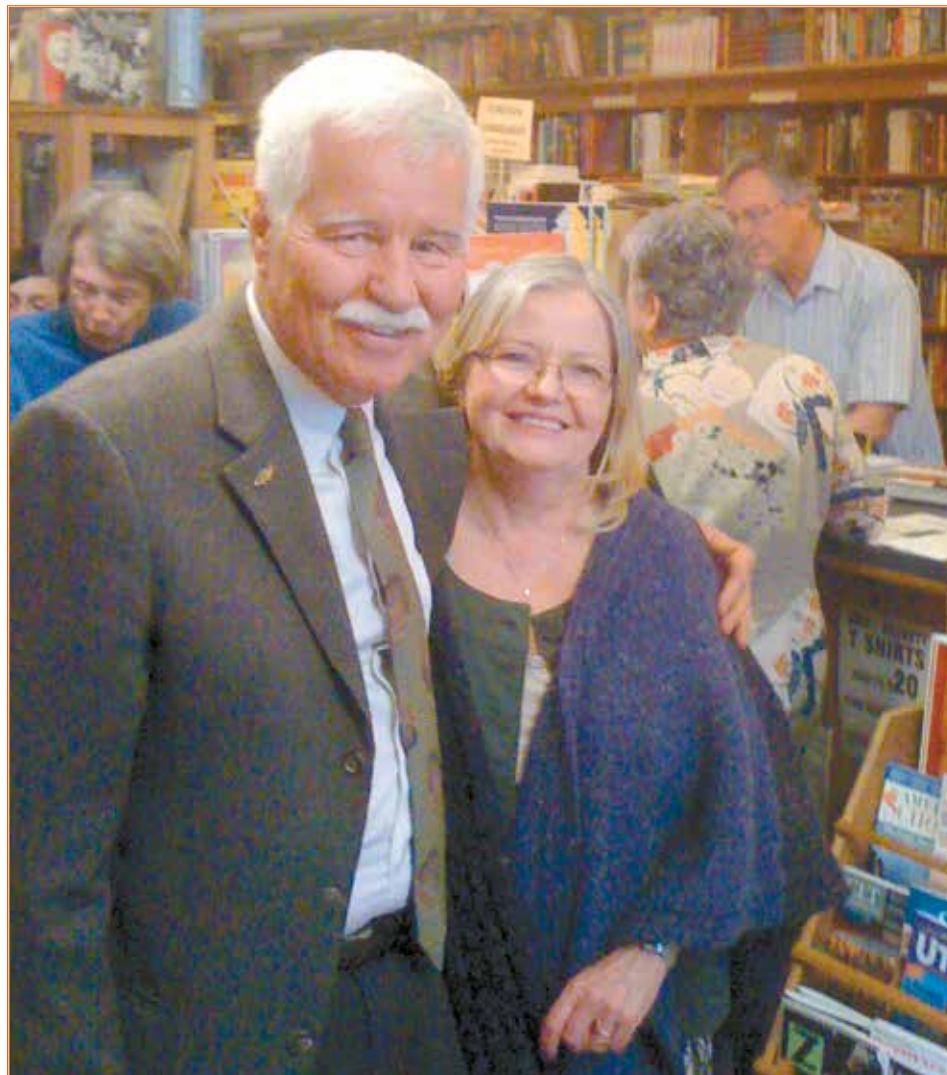
When Jimmy left us suddenly in July, the victim of a heart attack at age 75, a big part of the Glen Park jazz community took a hit.

Bird & Beckett bookseller Eric Whittington wasn't about to let Jimmy's passing go unnoticed. On Aug. 14, nearly 100 jazz fans crowded into the shop as Jimmy's Bird & Beckett BeBop Band paid tribute to its late leader for nearly three hours of jazz improvisations.

Whittington had started off the musical wake with a few simple facts. How Jimmy first began playing in the bookstore in 2002 when jazz chanteuse Dorothy Lefkovits brought in a trio led by guitarist Henry Irvin. At the gig, Jimmy noted a flyer advertising tenor player Chuck Peterson's trio. Jimmy knew Chuck, they hooked up, and the long-running "jazz in the bookshop" series had its inauguration.

"This is Jimmy's band," said Whittington, introducing Stu Pilorz, Joe Cohen, Don Alberts, Ron Marabuto and Bishu Chatterjee. "This is Jimmy's night."

"Jimmy, on drums, drove and supported the band—and his experience in the music and the business grounded them," Whittington emailed



Jimmy and Rory Ryan at Bird & Beckett bookstore.

Photos by Murray Schneider

several days later. "He was trusted and respected and appreciated for his experience, his love of the music, and for the respect he showed the other musicians of whatever generation."

This year was the 16th anniversary of jazz in the bookshop. Celebrating that milestone on May 22, Jimmy fronted a quartet of players who'd all played with one another in the shop at one time or another.

I'd written several pieces about him over the years, including one about how he'd met Rory Donovan, a Sutter Health Care nurse, when she'd dropped by the bookstore in 2003. Eric's bookshop was still on Diamond Street then, and Jimmy knew then she'd become his life's partner. They'd been inseparable ever since.

While they were walking during the Fourth of July weekend, he collapsed. Rory administered first

aid while she waited for paramedics to arrive.

"Jimmy was very patriotic," Rory told me later, "so this was always a special holiday for him. We'd gone to a Monterey Independence Day parade with friends, then to church and had lunch. Then Jimmy played his drums, and then we went on our hike."

Jimmy Ryan was born in Los Angeles in 1939, and grew up there with his two sisters, Midge and Bonnie. When he was 13, a cousin introduced him to jazz, and he began playing drums at 18. Jimmy moved to San Francisco in the 1960s, perfecting his jazz chops at clubs such as the Fillmore's Jimbo's Bop City and Ronnie's Soulville and the Jazz Workshop in North Beach.

Jimmy supported his music, and his family, with a day job in the insurance business. He and his first wife, Pat, raised a family of six children, one of whom, Joel, is an accomplished jazz trumpeter.

At Bird & Beckett on Aug. 14, after 30 minutes of music, writer Jeff Kaliss recited "Jimmy Ryan, Jimmy Ryan," a poem penned by piano player Don Alberts; then bassist Bishu Chatterjee

took the mic: "We're very happy and very sad," said Chatterjee, who'd been with Jimmy since the bookstore beginning. "Jimmy touched us all, connecting us to one another. I'll miss my dear friend, his zest for life, his love of family and his passion for bebop drumming."

Chatterjee cradled his bass, hugging it close: "I wrote this composition for Jimmy and call it 'Indra's Jewel Net,' because I was impacted by Jimmy's connection for life, both on the bandstand and off," Chatterjee told the audience. "As the Hindu myth goes, if you touched one of Lord Indra's jewels, it would reflect on others in the net. Jimmy touched so many people."

Later, Joel Ryan stepped to the stage, phrasing soulful notes in his father's memory. Afterward, standing between stacks of used fiction titles, he reminisced: "This was one of my dad's favorite places," he said. "My dad met Rory here, and he liked sharing it with as many people as he could, especially buying Bird & Beckett gift certificates for his grandkids."

Before the second set, guitarist Scott Foster sat by himself on the stage, tuning his instrument. Near him rested a photograph of Jimmy.

"You could see it in his face. You could see the joy," said Foster, who teaches music at Urban High School and who broke in with Jimmy. "Jimmy always said 'yes, yes,' and he made a place for me and was always kind to me."

Eric Whittington left no doubt as to Jimmy's role as a Founding Father of jazz in the bookshop.

"As an elder, Jimmy nurtured players," he said. "The way he assembled his band pointed to his desire to bring good musicians into the fold and help them express and extend themselves. He and Chuck Peterson, Don Prell and Scott Foster have all made it clear that they know this is a home to the music and to the musicians, and to the people who love to hear them play."

Jimmy Ryan's second wife Rory, nine children, seven grandchildren, fellow musicians and legions of fans survive him.

"Jimmy was a man who packed a lot of life and love in his years from his work in prison ministry and at our church, to playing music, to spending time with family and friends, and to educating himself about issues that mattered to him," Rory wrote me. "To the very end he did the things he loved, served the God he loved, and lived a life of joy and gratitude." ❖



Don Alberts, Rory Ryan and Jeff Kaliss at Bird & Beckett's Jimmy Ryan memorial.



# Myriad Activities Keep This Volunteer



Fernando Aguilar removes the top of one of his two beehives to show his honeybees at work.

Photo by Murray Schneider.

**F**ernando Aguilar took a minute to suit up on the former J. Eugene McAteer High School gridiron. The field, now home to the School Farm at the Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts, once witnessed a 16-year-old Aguilar catching spirals as a prep football wide receiver.

On an afternoon in July, Aguilar, a 1976 graduate of McAteer and a San Francisco native, eased into a different sort of uniform—a hooded white suit, a hat and a veil, the protective clothing of an urban beekeeper.

He was preparing to harvest honey, one byproduct of the Ecology Center of San Francisco's collaboration with the San Francisco Unified School District.

After stoking a smoker fueled by Mendocino redwood sawdust, he

pushed his hands into a pair of gloves. In a few moments, he'd funnel smoke at bees circling the beehives.

"The smoke calms them," he explained. It allows him to extract nearly 50 pounds of honey from two Student Farm hives that, combined, house 60,000 bees.

"Honey collection is seasonal," he said. "I harvest in the spring, summer and fall, although some beekeepers do so in the winter due to the blossoming of eucalyptus trees."

A sweet deal, some would say, particularly anyone who has purchased fresh-out-of-the-hive honey at the Ecology Center's farm stand on O'Shaughnessy Boulevard. Also for sale are beeswax hand balm and other bee colony

byproducts.

Aguilar happened on the farm two years ago, when he was training for that year's Bay to Breakers race.

On the July afternoon he'd scheduled to harvest honey, Tori Jacobs, the ECOSF program development

director, joined him. They stood near the Student Farm greenhouse, where students grow vegetables—chard, cabbage, kale and zucchini—and flowers, including yarrow, poppies and primroses. There are also 20 egg-laying hens.

"I care for the hens four days a week, and one weekend I see this guy relaxing on our cob bench," Jacobs said. "He's watching the hens and asks if that's OK." "I filled him in on the history of

ECOSF and its many years partnering with the two high schools, and how we sell our eggs and produce each week at the O'Shaughnessy farm stand."

"I asked Tori, 'Why don't you have bees here?'" said Aguilar.

"We were too short-handed to manage and properly take care of hives," said Jacobs, "but our long-term vision was to offer a certificated beekeeping program."

"I'd admired the work of ECOSF and its no-nonsense, hands-on environmental education and awareness, and was happy to donate 100 percent of the honey produced by the hives to it," said Aguilar. "Besides, it's personally cool to be keep hives at my old high school, right next to the football field where I have so many memories with friends another lifetime ago."

Fully suited up now, Aguilar walked to his hives, removed the top of one

OVER A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR,  
AGUILAR'S HIVES PRODUCE  
150 POUNDS OF HONEY.



# As Busy As His Honey-Making Bees

and quilted it with clouds of smoke, pacifying the bees.

The two hives are rectangular, and contain numerous removable wooden frames. Each hive consists of a roof and a floor, or the brood box. After foraging in places as far afield as Stern Grove, or as nearby as Glen Canyon, legions of bees return to their honeycombs and produce their honey and wax.

Frame by frame, Aguilar set about harvesting honey. He pulled out one frame at a time and held each up for inspection.

"Pure honey," he said, smiling behind his mask. "There are probably 200 bees clustered here."

He took what looked like a kitchen spatula and gently pushed away the becalmed bees. One by one, he laid the first of several frames into a Rubbermaid container. Later he'd transport it to his Bernal Heights garage, where he extracts, filters and bottles the honey. Frames denuded of honey are returned to the hives.

It's sticky work. "Extracting honey is messy because you need to uncup the frames with a hot knife so the honey flows out," he explained. "Then you put it in an extractor and then double-filter it to get rid of any larva and wax."

Over a period of one year, Aguilar's hives produce 150 pounds of honey.

While he continued clearing off frames, agitated bees landed on his arms and shoulders. "This is the hardest part of beekeeping, keeping them from stinging," he said. "Some are really ticked off. These guys can get pretty traumatized. They like it comfy and cozy in their 98-degree hives."

In only 30 minutes, Aguilar cleared 17 frames, depositing each in his container.

Aguilar was born in San Francisco and raised in both Noe Valley and the Mission District. The son of a Nicaraguan immigrant mother, he's the youngest of six siblings. A graduate of San Francisco public schools, he eventually earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English at San Francisco State University.

He has worked for PG&E for 38 years, first as an electrician and now as a project manager. He is currently overseeing the retrofit of Glen Park's Rousseau and Bosworth substation electrical infrastructure.

The bees are not his only volunteer gig.

As a kid, he spent two weeks each summer at San Francisco's Boys and Girls Clubs Summer Camp in Mendocino, which serves disadvantaged youths.

Today Aguilar sits on its board of directors, and runs the camp's mountain bike program. He oversaw the installation of 78 solar panels and a battery bank that will help reduce the use of diesel generators by 30 percent. An amateur astronomer, he's brought his telescope scores of times to the camp.

"It's off the grid up there," he said. "I installed four beehives there three years ago. They're surrounded by a solar-powered electric fence so bears and other critters won't destroy it. During the summer I bring my observation hive up and show the kids real bees. I have them taste honey and show them beeswax combs and candles."

In addition, for 20 years he's taught English as a Second Language and Citizenship and Literacy, part time,



Fernando Aguilar using a smoker to calm two beehives. Photo by Murray Schneider

at City College of San Francisco's Mission campus. He assists immigrants in obtaining American citizenship by helping them fill out their paperwork, and teaches civics and American history. He even puts on mock interviews,

preparing them for the United States citizenship examination.

The father of two children now both attending college, he's still finds time to maintain a beehive at the Alemany Farms, earn a certificate at the Garden for the Environment on Seventh Avenue, and volunteer for the San Francisco Beekeepers Association.

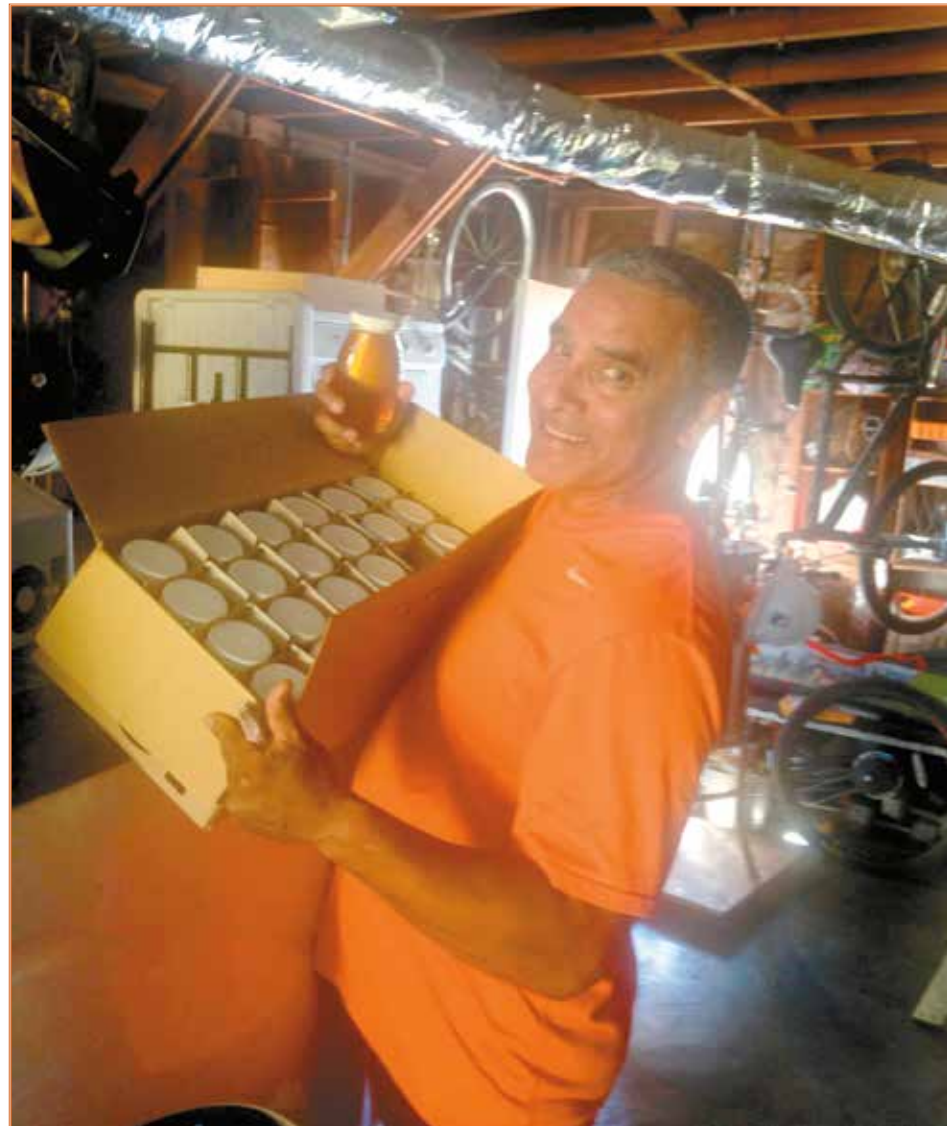
At the School Farm, his harvesting completed, he carried the tub of frames to his truck. He lifted the lid and looked in. Perhaps a dozen so bees clung to individual frames. With a gloved hand, he whisked them away before taking off his suit.

"Except for the queen, bees have a life span of only six weeks," he said. "They forage maybe a few miles from here and then their lives are over."

Honey bees from urban beekeepers such as Aguilar, some argue, are healthier than those in commercial hives. City bees face the threat of fewer pesticides and are surrounded by greater biodiversity.

"I first became interested in beekeeping as a natural offshoot of a garden interest I developed as a child," he said. "I wanted bees demystified, and I think it's neat to teach students at the Student Farm and campers in Mendocino."

As for ECOSF, program director Sam Hartman said, "ECOSF has always depended heavily on community involvement and volunteer support, and Fernando's contribution is like sweet honey the bees share with us." ❖



Fernando Aguilar holds up a jar of his honey, which is sold at the Ecology Center of San Francisco student farm store. Photo by Tori Jacobs





## The Purrfect Shopkeepers Help Out in Glen Park

In America, not that long ago, most department stores, hotels, theaters, workshops and corner grocery stores had at least one working cat. But these days you rarely encounter a cat in a place of business.

by  
Stephen  
Labovsky

Happily, that's not the case in Glen Park. Over the years, there have been a number of legendary cats working in the Village. One of the best known was the adorable Emma who for 12 years was the mouser-in-residence at Critter Fritters.

When Emma wasn't catching mice or greeting customers, she loved taking cat-naps in the store's front window. One of my fondest memories of Emma happened a few years back when I spotted her amid the store's Halloween window display, blissfully curled up around a ghoulish skull. Sadly, after years of faithful service, Emma died in 2013.

After Emma came Lulu, who was much more

reserved around people, but enjoyed the company of small dogs. But last year Lulu fell ill, and soon passed away. The store manager, Tony, said he will be interviewing for a new working cat this fall.

Up the street, at Bird & Beckett Books, there's a handsome, orange tabby named Sherman. Sherman arrived a couple of years back, and has been doing a first-rate job of controlling the rodent population ever since.

Sherman often hangs out at the front desk, where he has a job keeping a keen eye on the cash register while owner Eric Whittington is busy working at the computer. The literary feline also has a favorite place to nap: the chair next to the children's book section. That's not surprising, considering the number of children's books there are about cats. ❖



Lulu in front of Critter Fritters, top, and Emma in their window, above.

Photos by Stephen Labovsky

## Disaster Specialist Bill Lundy Dies

William (Bill) Lundy, who once served as vice president of the Glen Park Association, died on May 3, 2015 at age 72. The cause of death was Merkel cell carcinoma, a rare form of cancer. He had lived in Glen Park since 1972.

by  
Bonnee  
Waldstein

Lundy was born Oct. 24, 1942, in Portovelo, a small town in Ecuador. His father, an Australian, was a mining engineer for one of the oldest gold mining companies in South America. He'd been exempted from serving in World War II because his job helped in the war effort.

Until he was 5 years old, Bill spoke only Spanish. His family then moved to Australia until Bill was 11. Because of the roving nature of his father's work, Bill attended six different grammar schools. His mother was an American from Hollywood, and the family subsequently moved to the United States.

Bill attended the college preparatory Army and Navy Academy in Carlsbad, north of San Diego. He was a broadcast major at Los Angeles City College, went on to Cal State Los Angeles, where he earned a bachelor's degree in English, and, later, to UC Hastings where he received a doctorate of law.

He met his wife Michele in 1962 while she was studying political science at UCLA. They lost touch and didn't marry until 1972, in San Francisco. In 1973, their son Willem was born. Bill served in the Navy from 1967 to 1970 during the Vietnam War. As a lieutenant, he was a gunnery and missile officer. In Vietnam, he supervised surface-to-air missiles, took the USS Halsey in and out of port, did air traffic

control for the pilots, and retrieved pilots who were shot down.

After the war, Bill had a surety law firm that handled contractors' insurance. They would step in to finish projects, such as Playland at the Beach, when the contractor bailed on the project, went bankrupt, etc. He found that he loved studying the law but not practicing it, and

began to get involved with computers. At one time, he ran the largest computer network in the country.

In 1977 there was a fire at the Glenridge Cooperative Nursery School in Glen Canyon Park, in which the downstairs was damaged. As vice president of the Glen Park

Association, Bill got the association's support and wrote the contract for Glenridge to have access to the upstairs of the City-owned building so the nursery school could continue to operate.

In 1982 Bill started to work with Federal Emergency Management Agency as a map-reader and, after that, a geographic information system coordinator for FEMA Region 9.

He was deployed to more than 94 disasters. Many were in U.S. trust territories of the Pacific, including Guam, Palou and far-flung islands no one here likely ever heard of—Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei—dots on the map, Bill called them. Michele says that she and Bill were a unit: "He had a great sense of humor. He especially loved puns. I was on the quiet side. He cooked, I cleaned. He was punctual, I was shaky."

After Bill died, Michele found a trove of poetry he'd written. She'd known he dabbled in it at night but had no idea of the extent and variety of his poems. ❖



William (Bill) Lundy



## ✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

**D**esperately searching for some garden joy in this drought, I have at least found out which plants in my Glen Park garden have endured and even thrived. The grasses, rushes, sedges and fescues are doing well—I will be planting more of these tough survivors. I know it's a good design practice to repeat plants rather than install one of everything. I know the new plants will need some water to get started. But the established plants are so drought-tolerant, and rain (which we all hope is coming) will only encourage them to grow more.

A few words about grasses, fescues, sedges and rushes: They all look like grass to most of us, but there are differences. If you are buying grasses and grass-like plants for the first time, the best thing is to carefully note the environmental requirements: how much sun, what kind of soil, how much water. Water the plants in, give them good drainage, and don't fertilize. Grasses often do not look good in plastic nursery pots, but they should at least have signs of some new growth. Try to avoid root-bound plants—you have to untangle or cut their encircling roots and the plant will struggle to thrive.

The plants mentioned below do not “seed in”—that is, they will not fill your neighborhood with baby grasses. They all bloom, elegant flowers on top of long wavy stems—but in general not spectacular, just an extra bonus for the general usefulness of these plants. Grasses look better in groups and can be interspersed with favorite perennials, such as sages. Try a few bulbs that will peek up about the grass foliage and bloom, a lovely effect. Grasses appear in the nurseries in summer and fall.

**New Zealand Wind Grass**, *Stipa arundinaceae*: A dramatic, airy grass that becomes quite large, 3 feet by 3 feet. The long, fine leaves are upright and arching, making a nice mound of pale green, red and coppery leaves. This evergreen grass will take up some space, but a row of them make a fine trouble-free, feathery border. They like moderate water, but are doing well in Glen Park with much less.

**Blue Fescue**, *Festuca glauca* “Elijah Blue” and *Festuca* “Siskiyou Blue”: The slender,

pale gray-blue leaves of these low-bunching fescues are good for a striking contrast in the garden. I buy them whenever I see them, as they look super in masses or filling in a blank spot. In drought conditions they may brown a little, but will recover with water.

**Golden-Edged Sedge**, *Carex brunnea* “Variegata”: What a great plant! I have one and wish I had two more, but this grass seems to be hard to find. It's a sedge, which is a kind of grass, with neat, upright arching leaves edged in yellow with a nice dark green stripe down the center. In my garden, this sedge tolerates sun and part shade, rarely gets watered and looks good year round. It grows slowly to a thick clump about 2 feet by 2 feet. Let me know if you find one for sale!

**Berkeley Sedge**, *Carex divulsa*: A small mounding grass with fine dark green leaves, brown flowers, best



Golden-Edged Sedge

Photo Courtesy San Marcos Growers

planted in groups, that makes a good, low ground cover or edging. I planted a few in my garden, watered them in, left the garden unattended on a somewhat erratic drip system for three months, and this grass not only thrived but bloomed. I plan to plant many more as a groundcover.

**Dwarf Mat Rush**, *Lomandra longifolia*

“Breeze”: Lomandra is a rush—essentially, a grass-like perennial herb that I think has great potential in the garden. It will grow to 3 feet if given water, but with no water will simply slow down its growth and wait without going brown and nasty-looking. It is very stiff and upright, a vivid green, a dramatic rush. It can be trimmed. I have not seen this plant through the seasons yet, but plan to buy more as it is super-easy and tolerant of many garden conditions.

**Flax Lily**, *Dianella revoluta* “Baby

Bliss”: I know, I know, this is so not a grass. But the lovely pale-bluish strappy leaves, held stiffly upright on the plant, are a wonderful grass-like accent in the garden. This dwarf form has striking blue leaves about an inch wide. It has small blue and yellow flowers and is best in groups. Browning leaves are easily trimmed back. I think it's worth exploring the world of flax lilies, as they are tolerant of many conditions in the garden and require little care.

I have not mentioned the sturdy native grasses. The best resource is SFPlantfinder.org. Just type in your street address for a list of suitable plants, then select “grasses.” I found 13 grasses suitable for Glen Park, including the spectacular deciduous **Deer Grass**, *Muhlenbergia rigens*. These native grasses also provide food and habitat for insects and birds.

Resources: Flora Grubb Gardens, 1634 Jerrold Ave.; FlowerCraft, 550 Bayshore Blvd.; Bay Natives Nursery, 10 Cargo Way. Online, check out SFPlantfinder.org, and Anniesannuals.com.❖

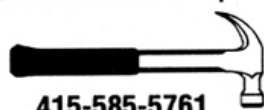
Kay Hamilton Estey is the Glen Park Garden Club columnist. If you would like to join the club, contact her at kay.estey@gmail.com.

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# Changes Coming to Downtown Businesses

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and landscaping, have been growing in popularity across San Francisco, especially in the Mission. Glen Park has yet to install one.

The Planning Commission approved Jweinat's application, but he still needs an OK from San Francisco Public Works, which issues the permit to use the public right of way.

A public hearing has been set for Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 9 a.m. in City Hall, Room 400. Additional information can be obtained prior to the hearing at 1155 Market St., 3rd floor, or by contacting the Bureau of Street-Use & Mapping: 415-554-5810 or parklets@sfdpw.org.

During the official comment period, which ended in mid-August, 14 letters opposing the parklet were received, but none in support, according to Rahul Shah, the Public Works plan-checker for the project. Since then, an additional 11 objections—and 48 pro-parklet comments—have been submitted. The Public Works hearing officer can choose to consider or disregard the second batch of comments.

At the hearing, the officer hears comments from Jweinat and the public, and representatives of the Planning Department and the Municipal Transportation Agency, which is doing a transit survey, will be present.

Then the hearing officer will consider the plans and comments and make a recommendation to Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru, who makes the final determination. The losing side has the right to appeal that decision to the San Francisco Board of Appeals.

Most of the controversy involves the location—that it's too close to the busy intersection.

While it is true that the parklet would not be allowed to extend further into the street than the edge of the existing parking space, buses and trucks already are squeezed when they turn during periods of heavy traffic. Delivery trucks often double-park illegally on one side or another of Chenery Street. Cars and pedestrians play frequent games of traffic-chicken.

In addition, the parklet—unlike Higher Grounds itself—would be open 24/7. Merchants have expressed concerns about noise, trash, alcohol drinking and graffiti. Jweinat says he will remove his sidewalk tables if the parklet is built. But under City regulations, he is responsible for messes left



The proposed location of a parklet, in front of Higher Grounds Coffee House.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

behind, even by non-patrons.

And of course there is nothing like the loss of even a single parking space to arouse opposition—especially considering the parking space already lost in front of FitGlenFit to a row of five little-used bike racks.

## Chenery Park Proposal

Two doors up Chenery Street, Janet

Tarlov, who owns Canyon Market with her husband Richard, said that they have filed a "letter of intent" with the owner of the former Chenery Park restaurant space, which has been vacant since December 2014. "But so far, we haven't heard anything," she added.

Most of the three-level building would be dedicated to producing more prepared foods for the market, but also under consideration is a street-level café—or, as she put it, "something in the front because it would be fun."

Shoppers at Canyon Market know how crammed the aisles are, and the back-of-the-store facilities are no different. The business office already has moved to another site on Chenery Street, next to East-West Integrative Medicine Clinic, which in August

opened a second therapy center at 406 Cortland Ave. in Bernal Heights.

"We've been growing ever since we opened, but the store hasn't grown one inch," Tarlov said.

## A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED PARKLET IN FRONT OF HIGHER GROUNDS IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30 IN CITY HALL

Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reportedly one of the stumbling blocks for another full-service restaurant taking over the multi-level space, would be

part of the negotiations, she said. "We haven't gotten that far yet."

## Saving Buddies Market?

At the Diamond-Chenery intersection, Paul and Jennie Park of Buddies Market are still in protracted negotiations with their landlord on how big their rent increase will be under the terms of a renewed lease. The Parks have made a tentative deal with the landlord, but as of press time had not yet gotten anything in writing. He was reluctant to give out information about the size of the increased rent because nothing had been finalized.

Paul Park, who nearly died eight years ago when he was stabbed multiple times by robbers, and his wife have run the mom-and-pop store for 13 years. On Aug. 15, Bird & Beckett Bookstore owner Eric Whittington organized a

neighborhood appeal for residents to write notes of support for the Parks that were bundled and sent to the landlord. Paul Park said that about 45 people had written. "Thank you to the neighborhood," he added. "We appreciate the support."

## More Changes in the Works

At Rockit Swirl, on Diamond Street, manager Mark Fuentes said he's negotiating to subcontract the kitchen operation to a cook specializing in organic prepared foods.

The shop, one of the most kid-friendly commercial venues in the neighborhood, specializes in frozen yogurt and assorted toppings, gelato, a limited menu of Asian-style dishes and an awesome collection of gumball machines and other gizmos for dropping a few coins.

Fuentes said that if the plans are finalized, he and his partner will keep the yogurt and smoothies operation, but will remove the noisy arcade games and possibly even the giant TV. Instead, there will be additional tables where patrons can eat and kids can study, he said. The new food operation did not yet have a name, he added.

One formerly vacant space with a new tenant is Tree Hut, at 636 Chenery St., which once housed Tina's Laundromat. But the windows are still covered with brown paper.

The business, which makes wooden watches and sunglasses, uses the operation for servicing its online sales business (treehut.co) and as a workshop, but is considering opening a retail space in the front of the store in time for the holiday shopping season.

The commercial unit at 669 Chenery St. that houses Park Salon and Little Artistas was in escrow in mid-September. The space is a single condominium, and salon owner Tim Edwards was hopeful that the buyer would allow his business to stay put by agreeing on a new lease. "The rent is definitely going up," Edwards said.

## Bank Deal Falls Through

The other big commercial vacancy in Glen Park—the former Citibank branch across from the BART station—is still available, said Rick Shaffer of CBRE, the commercial real estate firm handling the property. The deal to have another bank move into to space and take over Citibank's lease (Glen Park News, Summer 2015) fell through, Shaffer said. ♦



## ❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

If you ask most residents of Diamond Heights what they think about the neighborhood, they will probably say they like the central location in

the city, the convenient shopping center, our two parks and the proximity of Glen Canyon Park, the mix of affordable and market-rate housing and the suburban feel of the street layout. Most will say they feel fortunate to live here, even though not too much has changed structurally since the neighborhood was created in the 1960s and '70s. That will definitely change during the coming year.

**The Diamond Heights Community Association (DHCA)** has scheduled its Fall Community Meeting for Saturday, Sept. 26, 4-6 p.m., at the SF Police Academy. The meeting, open to the public, will provide updates on several structural projects, including new sidewalks on Diamond Heights Boulevard, where none exist, and new sidewalks between Billy Goat Hill and Walter Haas Park on Beacon Street.

**George Christopher Park Renovations:** S.F. Rec & Park will hold its first community meeting in the fall. The agenda includes the design of the park improvements—new play structures to replace the pressure-treated wood posts that contain arsenic, a remodeled bathroom that is ADA compliant in the Rec Center, and accessible paths into the park. Work is scheduled to start in April 2017 and be completed in April 2018.

**Walter Haas Park Dog Play Area:** Rec & Park has allocated funds, thanks to District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener, to install artificial turf on the dog-run area. The special turf, which will have a sand fill instead of rubber pellets, has been installed in Lafayette Park in Pacific Heights, with great success. The new turf will transform the often-dusty area. The installation schedule is yet to be determined.

**Cisterns:** Two new cisterns for the SF Fire Department to use as important fire-fighting tools are being constructed. One at Duncan Street and Amber Drive will be completed by the end of the year. Preliminary work on the one at Duncan and Diamond Heights Boulevard near Clipper has started in the last few months.

**The Annual Middle Eastern Festival,** Oct. 3 and 4 at St. Nicholas Church, will again provide delicious Mediterranean food, singing and cultural dancing, craft beer, hookah smoking, henna tattoos, a photo booth,

a jumpy house for kids and a raffle to win a 2015 Honda Civic; see the Calendar on Page 20 for locations and times.

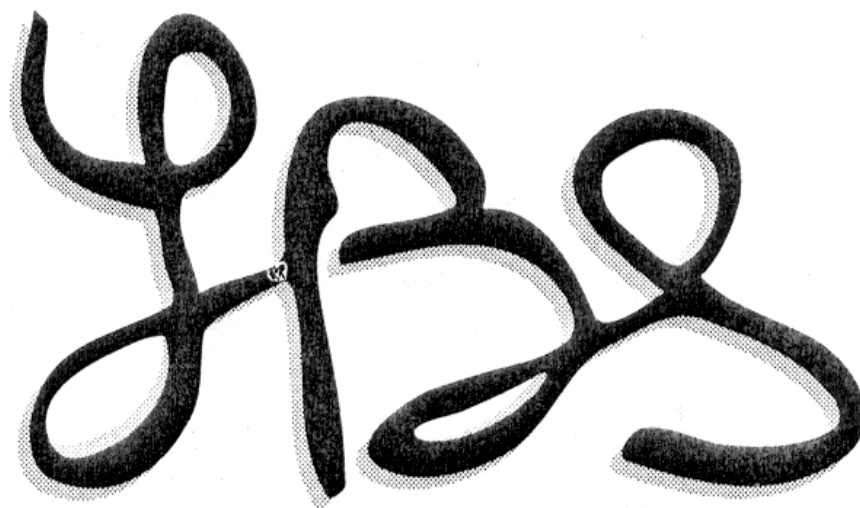
**St. Aidan's Episcopal Church** starts rehearsals in September for the 12th original musical comedy written, directed and performed by parishioners. This year's "The Divine Dymphna" was written by Sarah Glover and will find the characters torn by the forces of heaven and hell. Scrumbly Koldewyn provides the musical direction. Anyone who would like to help with choreography, photography, set design or stage management should contact Betsy Eddy, at [betsy.eddy@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.eddy@gmail.com).

In other church news, St. Aidan's has an interim rector, The Rev. Audrey Miskelley, who will lead the church while a search committee finds a new rector.

**Resilient Diamond Heights (RDH)** began meetings with neighborhood stakeholders in 2008, with the goal of developing plans for how we in Diamond Heights would work together to provide services after a neighborhood emergency or regional disaster. Our workgroup's accomplishments include the website, [www.disasterreadydhsf.com](http://www.disasterreadydhsf.com), which provides tips for preparedness and for what to do during emergencies for residents, businesses and animal companions; a written disaster response plan for community agencies and businesses; trainings for agencies; four health and safety fairs; community parties and being recognized as a Best Practice community disaster organization by FEMA and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Our RDH Response Plan includes opening St. Aidan's as a Neighborhood Support Center in times of emergency such as an earthquake or fire. For the past three years, Resilient San Francisco, a program of the Neighborhood Empowerment Network (NEN), has augmented our planning. Daniel Homsey, NEN's director, envisions neighborhood programs throughout San Francisco and has already helped to create Resilient Bayview, Resilient Miraloma Park, Resilient Sunset, etc. Our RDH workgroup meets the 4th Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at St. Aidan's Church. For those who are interested in joining the group or would like information, please contact Betsy Eddy at [betsy.eddy@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.eddy@gmail.com). ❖

*Betsy Eddy is president of the Diamond Heights Community Association. Contact her at [dhcasf@gmail.com](mailto:dhcasf@gmail.com).*



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# Volunteer Crews Set Up Camp for Weekend

**O**n the Wednesday before V-O-Cal volunteers bivouacked in 35 tents by Glen Canyon's Silver Tree Day Camp in preparation for three days of trail work, Jenny Sotelo, Recreation and Park's Natural Areas Program gardener, led five members of Friends of Glen Canyon Park along the southern-most end of Glen Canyon's recently named Coyote Crag Trail.

Sotelo's weekly work party pulled invasive mustard that dotted the narrow path's edges. "We want to remove the mustard several feet above the trail," Sotelo told her team, "so Volunteers for Outdoor California can widen it this weekend."

Single file, volunteers leapfrogged past one another, stuffing mustard into green pop-up bags. They traversed a narrow trail dwarfed by Franciscan chert rock outcrops, negotiating a path through grassland that eventually segued into coastal shrubs.

Their preparatory work would be more than matched by efforts of 125 V-O-Cal volunteers, who labored over the July 17–19 weekend to complete most of the Parks Bond-funded Glen Canyon Trails Improvement Project. Twelve V-O-Cal crews wielded Pulaski axes and McLeod brush hoes in the service of widening the trail "bench," camouflaging social paths—unsanctioned, impromptu trails that harm vegetation and can cause erosion—pushing back Cape ivy and Himalayan blackberry, pruning willow limbs and, all the while, avoiding poison oak.

After the first full day of work on that Saturday, volunteers retreated to their Silver Tree overnight campsite. There they relaxed by their tents, Islias Creek in front of them, now dormant and silent.

Cathy Moyer, the V-O-Cal executive director, stood before several boiling pots, serving as chef for that evening's dinner, a chicken Thai curry dish.

"We have a working relationship with the Natural Areas Program," she said. "This is as much about people coming together to forge community as it is about the stewardship of the landscape."

Earlier, Phil Ginsburg, general manager of San Francisco Rec & Park, weighed in: "We're lucky to have this V-O-Cal partnership over the last 10 years and are pleased to give them the opportunity to camp in the place where they've done so much work."

That work included canvassing the entire 70-acre canyon trail network,



Jenny Sotelo leads Natural Areas Program volunteers as they collect invasive mustard plants in preparation to V-O-Cal Creeks-to-Peaks trail work.

Photos by Murray Schneider

working on trail bed and corridor paths that Ginsburg and his staff have dubbed the Creeks to Peaks Trail.

"I call it 'sweat equity,'" said Cathy Moyer.

At 8 a.m., the volunteers had assembled, greeted by Inome Callahan, the weekend project leader, and a veteran of 20 previous V-O-Cal projects, eight of which have been with San Francisco's Rec and Park Department. Lisa Wayne, the Natural Areas program manager, and her cadre of gardeners, joined in. Each would supervise one of the V-O-Cal crews.

Callahan gave the crews marching orders and each set off, fanning out along the recently named Islias Creek, Gum Tree Girls and Coyote Crag trails. They walked past earlier-placed entrance maps, interpretive signs and posts mounted with small way-finding placards at key trail intersections. To their east were nearly 200 box steps installed on the hillside by Yerba Buena Engineering and Construction.

Natural Areas Program gardener

Hayes pointed to an embedded rock, which could serve as a natural bench to accommodate park users once the vegetation was pushed back.

Sunlight filtered through a canopy of arroyo willow, giving the trail a cathedral glow.

"We want to keep the sanctuary feel," said Hayes.

Another crew worked near stringer steps, similar to household stairs, that lead to the Saddle Trail, sandwiched between two chert outcrops. Francesca Verdier, a Berkeley resident who'd camped in the canyon in 2013 when she'd worked on the V-O-Cal Twin Peaks trail system project, leaned on a tamper, a tool used to flatten and compact soil. "There have been so many improvements since I was last here," she said.

Ahead of the crew, the trail doglegged to the right, then angled acutely again, heading north. Beneath Turquoise Way houses balanced on stanchions, another corps of volunteers sculpted a new trail that eventually led to a recently finished bridge. Across it, for the first time, was access to San Francisco Unified School District property. As others had, this crew widened the trail by the length of a Pulaski, a tool whose head combines both an axe and an adze.

Led by crew chief Elissa Goldner, who lives in Hayes Valley, the team worked as temperatures reached 73 degrees and would skyrocket to an unseasonable 87 degrees by the following day.

Volunteer Cassandra Van Dyne, who'd come from Napa, wielded a pick mattock. This was her third V-O-Cal project. Pausing, she studied a trio of rocks her crew had set in the parched soil, which functioned as steps.

Not far from where she stood, the



Volunteers prepare for their workday after camping in Glen Canyon.



# Of Work Improving Glen Canyon Park Trails

trail bifurcated, forking into a sequestered nook that led nowhere. A tree stump hunched in its middle. Before he died in 2014, Tom Dallman, a biology teacher at the Ruth Asawa School of the Arts at the top of the canyon—and a passionate advocate for outdoor education—envisioned this space as a natural study den for students, where they could write journals, craft poetry and compose music.

The trail progressed upward, its steepest part looming ahead. A derelict school basketball court cried for long-overdue maintenance. Poking its roof above thickets of impenetrable blackberry and twisted tree boughs, a ramshackle school portable building, blighted by graffiti, peeked above a blockade of vegetation. To its north lay Portola Drive.

Another crew, led by Alameda's Jeff Chilcott, was given the job of combating this jungle, which would become the last piece in the Creeks to Peaks Trail mosaic. By the afternoon of July 19, they'd fought their way uphill, chiseling out a swath of trail that switched back three times and finally ended at the Portola-Glenview Drive traffic light.

Chilcott walked back and forth, encouraging his volunteers, cautioning them not to dehydrate.

"This is really impressive," he said. "V-O-Cal puts it resources on trails."

On Sunday afternoon, after the volunteers had returned to base camp, Andrew Northrop, who lives on Ulloa Street, jogged up the new path. Talking a turn at the second switch-back, he paused, catching his breath, the afternoon sun causing perspiration to drip along his face.

"This is great," he said. "It's a wonderful use of open space."

Only a series of box and stringer steps and signage, scheduled for completion in the fall, remained before the project could be called complete.

One day before V-O-Cal reported for duty, where Chilcott's crew had worked for



Rec & Park gardeners and V-O-Cal volunteers stand atop the completed Glen Canyon portion of Creeks-to-Peaks Trail.

two days, a father had carried his infant daughter kangaroo-like in a pouch. He'd hiked with her, going as far as he could before being thwarted by decaying bushes and brambles next to the neglected basketball court.

In his wake, a second man had led his two grade-school sons. Both boys appeared tired. "How much longer?" wondered the younger of the two. "I don't know," answered his father. "It's an adventure, and we're exploring."

Adventures along the Creeks to Peaks Trail are now easier because volunteers from all over Northern California came to Glen Park for three days this summer, pitched their tents, picked up tools and labored to create a continuous, accessible greenbelt from Elk Street to Portola Drive. ❖



A volunteer surveys his work area.

## Water-Saving Tips

- Eliminate runoff
- Wash hardscapes only when needed for health and safety
- Equip hoses with shut-off nozzles.
- Limit landscape watering to two days a week or less



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## ❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

**Glen Park Elementary School**

For my family, the hardest part of saying goodbye to summer is knowing that our three kids will be spending a lot more time indoors once school starts. They really like their school, and they're excited to see their friends every day, but there's no denying that they miss being outside in nature, the way they can be for much of the summer.

This year things will be a little different. Glen Park School is kicking off fall with a new supplementary science curriculum focusing on environmental education. The curriculum, developed by fourth grade teacher Liz Zarr, is based on the importance of making time for kids to play and learn in nature, with the belief that the sustainability of the planet—and the physical, emotional, social and neurological health of young children—all will benefit.

Zarr says the new curriculum seeks to answer the essential questions, "What is in nature around us?" and "How do we take care of our school and our environment?"

The four main components of the curriculum are: Having Fun Outside, Field Study, School-Site Stewardship and Classroom-Based Lessons.

Outdoor experiences, presented in developmentally appropriate ways for each grade level, might take the form of digging and planting in the school garden for our youngest students, as they develop skills of scientific observation. Third-graders might create mini-habitats for living things, while fifth-graders will explore local trails and learn about renewable energy.

Having fun in nature while building the skills of close observation will set kids up for success in the core science curriculum at Glen Park School—and afterward, when they are engaging in more structured scientific lessons in middle and high school. Meanwhile, time spent outside helps improve kids' attention spans in class, improves their physical health, supports social and emotional well-being and even results in some neurological benefits.

Other events and programs we're excited about at Glen Park:

• Fresh snacks will be provided for all students again this year! Our fresh snack

program, which is supported by the SF-Marin Food Bank and is entirely prepared and delivered by parent volunteers, provides every student with a healthy morning snack of fruit, cheese,

whole-grain crackers or dried fruit every day. Thank you to the Food Bank for providing the food, and to our parents for their hard work! Thanks also to the Glen Park Festival for its generous grant, which will allow us to transform any leftover food from our snack program and thriving garden into smooth-

ies with our new blender and juicer.

• The Walk and Roll to School program is back! As part of our commitment to sustainability, Glen Park School kids will walk, ride or scoot to school once a month—under the supervisions of adult route leaders, of course.

• Mark your calendars: Our annual fall carnival will take place on Saturday, Sept. 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Brompton Avenue yard. This fun event includes live musical performances, delicious food, face painting, bouncy houses, carnival games and a raffle. The entire community is welcome. Join us!

A note for prospective parents: Our principal-led tours start October 6 at 9 a.m. and will continue on Tuesdays through the fall. For details, visit [www.glenparkschool.org](http://www.glenparkschool.org). Happy fall, everyone! ❖

*Amy St. Clair DiLaura is the communications chair of the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization. For updates on school events, see [glenparkschool.org](http://glenparkschool.org).*

**SCHOOLS WORKSHOP**

Parents for Public Schools—San Francisco hosts a workshop on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

The session will present San Francisco public school options for Pre-K, Transitional K and Kindergarten; how the SFUSD enrollment process works; and helping your child prepare for Kindergarten. For more information, visit [www.ppssf.org](http://www.ppssf.org) or call 415-861-7077.

**Sunnyside Elementary School**

Sunnyside has had a great start to the 2015-16 school year! The school looks amazing, with renovations very close to being done. The new building, completed in March, is now connected by a breezeway to our renovated old building. The yard is now much larger and has many great additions.

All the bungalows are gone, and in their place we have a specially designated kickball court, basketball courts, colorful four-square courts and much more! We also have much more room for our Education Garden—stay tuned! Our students are excited to learn in

their beautifully renovated school.

Sunnyside has a couple of new wonderful teachers this year. Fourth-grade teacher Christopher Weiss did his student teaching at Sunnyside last year, so he already feels like part of the community. We also welcome Cynthia Payne, who brings a wealth of experience to our Special Day classroom for grades 3–5.

Our librarian, Georgie Gibbs, will be full time this year, acting in dual roles as librarian and tech instructor. She will help teach kids computer skills such as keyboarding, computer research and use of common programs like Google Docs and Word. Students and teachers are excited about the opportunities for more computer literacy and preparation for computerized testing.

We are very grateful for the grants we have received from the Glen Park Association over the summer. A grant from the Glen Park Festival Association will help stock our beautiful new library-media center, which is double the size of the old library. The grant will fill many of the empty shelves.

Another generous grant will help fund the Ray, our student literary magazine. Every year Sunnyside produces a beautiful magazine that has work from all students. We all love the Ray and are thankful for the supporting grant.

Our school year has just begun but we are already planning some fun and exciting events. Our committees are currently planning craft days, a Fun Run, Halloween parties, soccer game days, garden work parties, a bike rodeo and more! We can't wait to have fun with all our Sunnyside friends.

Tours at Sunnyside will be conducted on Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. starting the week of Oct. 8. Please check our school website, [www.sunnysidek5.org](http://www.sunnysidek5.org), for information. ❖

*Kerri Spruston is president of the Sunnyside Elementary School Parent-Teachers Association.*

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# Design Flaw Forces Redo of Newly Built Intersection

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

SFMTA staff assured the neighborhood group “that the plans would work with the bus turns,” said GPA president Michael Rice.

“Frankly, it is very disappointing that SFMTA has to fix the completed curbs and sidewalks to accommodate bus turns from Diamond to Bosworth,” Rice said in September. “I hope the fix is done quickly, with little disruption, and minimal cost, and that all the signal upgrades are in place as soon as possible.”

Not only do Muni buses have to negotiate the turn, but so do the numerous private commuter

shuttle buses that must turn from Diamond to Bosworth en route to the southbound Interstate 280 on-ramp.

Asked how the mistake could have been made, SFMTA’s Rose explained that the southeast corner was designed to ensure that a fire truck could make the turn. Unfortunately, “Buses do not have as tight a turning radius as the fire trucks do,” he said.

The rest of the project was by and large completed by mid-September. “The trees have been planted and our contractors will finish with the smaller plantings. The ‘Welcome’ sign has been installed, and some additional landscaping will be done around the sign,” McCoy said in a statement.

She is working with Glen Park

Merchant’s Association President Ric Lopez and the businesses on the southwest corner of the intersection to find a location for a new bus shelter.

The Glen Park streetscape project is intended to calm traffic, improve transit connections and make it easier for pedestrians to navigate the area safely in what is the neighborhood’s busiest intersection—packed with buses, cars, trucks and people on foot.

“FRANKLY, IT IS VERY DISAPPOINTING THAT SFMTA HAS TO FIX THE COMPLETED CURBS AND SIDEWALKS TO ACCOMMODATE BUS TURNS.”

Whether the desired outcome will manifest has yet to be determined. But one result of the constant construction disruptions and

redesigned traffic lanes is that some drivers have learned to avoid the intersection entirely and take other routes through the neighborhood.

In addition to fixing the design mistake, crews still need to paint permanent roadway striping and switch from the old traffic-signal system. New light poles have been installed at the intersection with new traffic-signal heads, which as of mid-September were still covered by taped “X” marks.

“We had initially planned to switch over earlier, but due to the changes that will be happening to the southeast (BART) corner, this needs to be put on hold until everything is completed,” McCoy said. ❖



A 23-line bus makes the turn from Diamond Street to Bosworth Street.

Photo by Rachel Gordon

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and well-organized. He was also very considerate and patient in answering all of my questions. In addition, he is well-connected, which allowed me the opportunity to get a special, personal tour of a beautiful historic building, and a sneak peak at units before they were about to be listed. I never felt pressured. I highly recommend him to anyone who is buying or selling a home, and looking for an experienced, professional, knowledgeable, friendly, and patient real estate agent. E.W., BUYER

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**Y**ou've probably thought about adding a solar power system to your home, but something stops you from actually doing it. Well, this was us anyway, but we finally made the decision to do it. I want to share the story as it may help you or someone you know make the decision to move forward.

But first the market update:  
We always see a bit of a slowdown over the summer months, and this year was no exception. There were 20 sales between May 16 and Aug. 12. Of those, 19 were single-family homes and one was a two-unit building. That's down about 20 percent from last quarter. The average sale price for single-family homes was \$1,606,700. That is an average of \$960 per square foot (many buyers look at price per square foot). Just as a comparison, the average price per square foot for the entire city during the same period was \$865.

The overbidding continues, with homes selling 16 percent over the list price on average. During this period, the median list price in Glen Park was \$1,296,500, and the median sale price was \$1,532,500. The average days on market was shorter than it has been all year, with homes staying on the market just 17 days on average.

Inventory remains at very low levels all over the city. This continues to keep prices escalating. The question on most people's mind is, "Will it slow down?" Of course it will. The real estate market is cyclical, with five-to-seven-year cycles on average. As one pundit put it, we are one year closer to the end of a cycle.

The main thing that I think will cool off the market is an increase in interest rates. At their recent meeting, the board of the Federal Reserve indicated that they will raise rates before the end of the year. I'm sure it will not be by much, but it will be a signal. I don't think that will do anything about our inventory problem, but it might cool off the rapid increase in sale prices. Truthfully, no one knows what will happen, so it's just wait-and-see.

Now back to solar energy. This is the first installment of a two-column story, which I will complete in the next issue.

We had been contemplating getting solar panels installed for the past few years. We even had a couple of companies come out and give us estimates. It seemed like a big – and expensive – undertaking.

Recently a relative contacted me to say he was working with a solar company and doing installations in San

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
50 Circular Ave.	May 19, 2015	30	\$769,000	\$797,000	103.64%
62 Sussex St.	May 19, 2015	8	\$1,595,000	\$2,262,000	141.82%
150 Conrad St.	May 26, 2015	34	\$1,288,000	\$1,540,000	119.57%
128 Burnside Ave.	May 27, 2015	13	\$1,995,000	\$2,200,000	110.28%
99 Surrey St.	June 3, 2015	21	\$699,000	\$805,000	115.16%
249 Whitney St.	June 3, 2015	12	\$1,449,000	\$1,910,000	131.82%
326 Surrey St.	June 9, 2015	19	\$1,298,000	\$1,550,000	119.41%
118 Whitney St.	June 12, 2015	27	\$2,195,000	\$2,625,000	119.59%
749 Congo St.	June 24, 2015	19	\$1,295,000	\$1,425,000	110.04%
838 Detroit St.	July 8, 2015	15	\$899,000	\$1,030,000	114.57%
183 Brompton Ave.	July 8, 2015	8	\$1,895,000	\$2,075,000	109.50%
221 Chenery St.	July 10, 2015	10	\$895,000	\$1,280,000	143.02%
1040 Chenery St.	July 17, 2015	13	\$1,488,000	\$1,620,000	108.87%
11 Hiliritas Ave	July 21, 2015	11	\$899,000	\$1,525,000	169.63%
276 Bemis St.	July 24, 2015	16	\$759,000	\$885,000	116.60%
175 Brompton Ave.	July 27, 2015	7	\$699,000	\$805,000	115.16%
354 Arlington St.	July 30, 2015	23	\$1,989,000	\$2,050,000	103.07%
2397 Diamond St.	July 31, 2015	15	\$2,995,000	\$3,200,000	106.84%
27 Roanoke St.	July 31, 2015	23	\$995,000	\$1,100,000	110.55%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
357-359 Chenery St.	July 8, 2015	24	\$1,450,000	\$1,450,000	100.00%
DOM - Days on market		SP/LP - % over list price			

Francisco. I told him we were interested, and he asked me to send him a few PG&E bills. He immediately told me he could save us money and do the whole job without costing us up-front money.

I had heard about these deals before—they offered some sort of leasing option, which didn't seem to make a lot of sense. My relative's company allowed us to purchase the solar system, finance it super-reasonably and get the system installed and operational within two months. It required a minimum amount of paperwork. I think having the right person to take you through the process, and make you feel comfortable with it all, makes it that much easier.

One of the biggest benefits of buying, rather than leasing, a home solar system is the tax credits that are available to homeowners. (If you lease the equipment, the vendor gets the credits.) First, there is a San Francisco city credit. This is actually a cash rebate—yes, you get a check sent to you. It worked out to be about 5 percent of the cost of the system. Then, there is the federal tax credit. Now, they make it sound like you get this money and it lowers the cost of the system. Which is and isn't true. Yes, you do get the tax credit, and it's pretty significant. In our case, it worked out to be about 25 percent of the cost of the system.

The trick is to take that tax credit and put it back into the cost of the system. Once you get your tax return

and your refund, you should pay down the loan on the system. You also need to make sure that you have enough taxable income so that you actually get the tax credit. You may want to talk to your accountant about it first.

I also looked at the difference in the interest rate between taking out a home equity loan and what the solar company was offering. It was negligible and was much easier to go with the solar company offering. So between the city credit and the federal income tax credit, it brought down the cost of the system by about 30 percent.

Also, they tell you that your PG&E electricity bill will be nothing or close to nothing if you have the same usage as you did before the installation of the solar panels. That may be true, as I'll explain in the winter issue of the Glen Park News. But the reality is that you are still paying for the electricity—you are just not paying PG&E. It will definitely save you money over the long haul, if my calculations are correct. The average PG&E rate increase is about 6 percent per year. By adding solar, you are locking in the cost of your electricity. In the short term, this will not seem like you are saving money, just shifting it from one place to another.

One of my other main concerns was maintenance of the system. The company seems to have that covered, too, with a 25-year maintenance plan that guarantees performance of the system

and covers most repairs. It seems very comprehensive and took away my worries about buying instead of leasing.

What about the added value to your home? Now you're talking!

Recent surveys have shown that current home buyers place a very high value on homes that have eco-friendly technology, with solar being one of the biggest. The surveys also show that buyers are willing to pay more for a home that has a solar power system installed compared with one that does not. So if you think that you might sell in the next few years and it won't be worth it to install a solar system, you should rethink that. It will be worth it and it looks like you would likely get every penny of your investment back from the sale. In fact, since you get tax credits for installing the system, it may even make sense to do the installation as little as a year before you think about selling your home.

In any case, the main reason that you should think about adding solar power to your home is to decrease your carbon footprint and our reliance on fossil fuels while doing something great for our planet. Solar panels can decrease your household's carbon footprint by an average of 35,180 pounds of carbon dioxide per year. You'd have to plant 88 trees every year to offset that amount of carbon dioxide! Whatever other benefits come from it are a gift.

We were scheduled to have our system installed in September. I have already seen that there are some added expenses that you may need or choose to do when having a system installed. I will share the additional expenses, installation experience and initial PG&E bills with you in the next edition. In the meantime if you are contemplating adding a system or have any questions, feel free to reach out and I'll give you my experience and put you in touch with someone who can answer all your questions.

I hope you all have a wonderful fall season and enjoy our best weather of the year! I must say that early September has brought some of the best "summer" weather we've had in the 20-plus years I've lived here.

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, a Glen Park resident, is the Broker/Owner at Core7 Real Estate. He can be reached at [marc@opni.com](mailto:marc@opni.com), or by phone at 415-722-4018. His website is [www.altrockrealtor.com](http://www.altrockrealtor.com).*





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## ♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR SUMMER 2015 ♦

**Every Monday**

**Family Storytime & Playtime**  
4–5:30, *Glen Park Library, 2825 Diamond St.*

**Every Tuesday**

**Glen Park School Parent Tours**  
*Every Tuesday through the fall, 9 a.m.*  
For details, visit [www.glenparkschool.org](http://www.glenparkschool.org).  
**S.F. Ecology Center Farm Stand**  
2:30–5:30, *at the high school, O’Shaughnessy Boulevard below Portola Drive*  
Purchase local produce and honey. See Murray Schneider’s story on Page 12.  
**Family Baby Rhyme & Playtime**  
10:30–11:30 a.m., *Glen Park Library*  
For ages newborn to 15 months.

**Every Wednesday**

**Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Parties**  
9–noon. *Meet behind the Rec Center.*  
Volunteers are 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 email [david.burnet@sfgov.org](mailto:david.burnet@sfgov.org).

**Every Thursday**

**Sunnyside Elementary School Tours**  
*Every Thursday morning this fall, 9 a.m.*  
To RSVP for a tour, visit [www.sunnysidek5.org](http://www.sunnysidek5.org).

**Every Friday**

**Food Pantry**  
1–2 p.m., *St. Aidan’s Church*  
Volunteers run this free Food Pantry for low-income and disabled clients who live in the 94131 zip code. This is just one of the many community activities St. Aidan’s hosts. Others include yoga, AA, Al-Anon, Weight Watchers and other community groups. For details, visit [www.saintaidan.org](http://www.saintaidan.org) or call 285-9540.  
**Jazz in the Bookshop**  
5:30–8, *Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery St.*  
A neighborhood party every week, with live jazz.

**Every Saturday**

**Jazz Club**  
7:30–10, *Bird & Beckett*  
Live evening performances

**Every Sunday**

**Glen Park Village Farmers’ Market**  
10–2, *BART parking lot, Bosworth & Arlington*  
The seasonal market ends the Sunday before Thanksgiving, and returns next spring.  
**Which Way West?**  
4:30–6:30, *Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery St.*  
Concert series features Americana roots bands, jazz groups, world music performers, classical musicians.

**Saturday, September 19**

**SF Giant Sweep Neighborhood Clean-up Day, drop-off event for District 8**  
8 am – noon, *Diamond Street at 28th Street*  
To schedule a time slot call Recology Sunset Scavenger, 415-330-1300. They’ll accept items from mattresses and refrigerators to light bulbs and household batteries. Visit [RecycleMyJunk.com](http://RecycleMyJunk.com).  
**Jazz Club @ Bird & Beckett**  
7:30–10 pm  
Erik Jakabson Quintet, with Kasey Knudsen, Keith Saunders, John Wiitala, Hamir Atwal.

**Sunday, September 20**

**Book and Music @ Bird & Beckett**  
2 p.m.  
Nicholas Baham, Ph.D. presents his book, *The Coltrane Church: Apostles of Sound, Agents of Social Justice*. 4:30 – guitarist Karl Evangelista presents “The Taglish Suite” - a musical journey through 21st century Filipino-American culture.  
**Great Teen Book Swap**  
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*  
3rd Friday each month, Choose a free book to keep from the teen librarian’s selections. Take a review of the book to the next swap. For ages 12-18. Contact Marla, [mbergman@sfgov.org](mailto:mbergman@sfgov.org) or 415-355-2858.

**Monday, September 21**

**Poetry with Open Mic**  
7–9 p.m., *Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery.*  
Poets read, followed by open mic.

**Wednesday, September 23,**

**Resilient Diamond Heights**  
3:30–5, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*  
This neighborhood emergency/disaster planning work group meets monthly.

**Thursday, September 24**

**Glen Park Greenway Walk**  
5:30 p.m., *meet at the BART plaza*  
Walk along the proposed Greenway with Roderick Wyllie, landscape architect from Surfacedesign. Followed by workshop. See Bonnee Waldstein’s Greenway story on Page 8.  
**Glen Park Greenway Workshop No.2**  
6:30–8:30, *St. John School, 925 Chenery St.*  
Program: Landscape architects will present concept plans, followed by a discussion of the alternatives.

**Saturday, September 26**

**Glen Park School Annual Fall Carnival**  
11–3, *in the Brompton Avenue yard*  
This fun event includes live musical performances, delicious food, face painting, bouncy houses, carnival games and a raffle. Everyone welcome.  
**Diamond Heights Community Association Meeting**  
4–6, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*  
**Agenda:**  
District Attorney George Gascon will provide the latest news from the DA’s office including the prosecution of persons who commit car break-ins. Supervisor Scott Wiener will present issues of interest to our community and the city.

**Sunday, September 27**

**Missisipi Mike’s Glen Park Hayride: A Riptide Sunday Night!**  
7:30–10, *Bird & Beckett*

**Tuesday, September 29**

**Hispanic Latino Heritage Month Celebration**  
10:30 a.m., *Glen Park Library*  
Miguel and Susan Govea’s local family band sings and plays guitar, violin, trumpet and accordion in traditional Mexican and American folk styles. Interaction and participation in Spanish and English.

**Saturday, October 3**

**Annual Middle Eastern Festival**  
Noon–10, *St. Nicholas Church, 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd.*  
Great food, entertainment and car raffle.

**Sunday, October 4**

**Annual Middle Eastern Festival**  
Noon–8, *St. Nicholas Church, 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd.*  
**Litquake: “The Gamut!”**  
2–3:30, *Bird & Beckett*  
Glen Park writer Katia Noyes, with Liz Harvey, Alison Owings, Elizabeth Block.  
**A Riptide Sunday Night**  
7:30–10, *Bird & Beckett*  
Music by EaR Candy.

**Monday, October 5**

**Poetry with Open Mic**  
7–9 p.m., *Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery.*  
Poets read, followed by open mic.

**Wednesday, October 7**

**Understanding Social Security Benefits**  
6:30–7:30, *Glen Park Library*  
Social Security Administration Specialist Robert Pepper gives an overview of Social Security, Medicare and disability benefits, then discuss the Social Security online statement, the new retirement online estimator, how benefits are calculated, the taxation of benefits and how to file for benefits.  
**Diamond Diners lunch & social hour**  
Noon–1, *St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church*

The 1st Wednesday of every month, volunteers prepare and serve a delicious, free lunch to an interesting, diverse group of seniors over age 55 who live in the 94131 zip code. Reservations are not required.

**Thursday, October 8**

**Bird & Beckett Book Club**  
7 p.m., *Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery St.*  
A book is discussed each second Thursday; participants choose the next month’s book.

**Saturday, October 10**

**Sunnyside History Walk with Amy O’Hair**  
For information on walks and events sponsored by the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project, visit the Events Page at [www.GlenParkHistory.org](http://www.GlenParkHistory.org). A small donation is requested.  
**CCSF Storytellers: Original stories for all ages.**  
1:30–2:30, *Glen Park Library.*  
Students from the City College Theatre Arts Dept. present original texts in a group storytelling format.

**Sunday, October 11**

**Surf-a-billy Swing Time Dance Party**  
Noon, *Bird & Beckett*  
Jinx Jones performs.

**Saturday, October 17**

**Salsa Making Workshop**  
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*  
To celebrate Hispanic Latino Heritage Month, Edmundo and Juana from Canyon Market show you how to make delicious salsa and enjoy tasting the creations! Sign up at 415-355-2858.  
**Friends of Glen Canyon, Plant Restoration**  
9–noon. *Meet behind the Rec Center*  
The Friends are volunteers who help maintain and improve our neighborhood park. Tools, gloves & instruction are provided for work parties every 3rd Saturday. To join Friends of Glen Canyon Park, contact Jean Conner at 584-8576. For information, visit <http://bit.ly/glencanyonpark>.

**Sunday, October 18**

**A Riptide Sunday Night!**  
7:30–10, *Bird & Beckett*  
Featuring the GG Amos Band.

**Tuesday, October 20**

**SFPD Community Forums**  
7–8 p.m., *Ingleside Police Station, John V. Young Way off San Jose Avenue*  
The 3rd Tuesday of every month, Ingleside Station’s commanding officer, Capt. Joseph McFadden, hosts a Community Relations Forum. Keep up to date on neighborhood police issues, get acquainted with the dedicated people who keep our neighborhood safe. For information, call the station at 404-4000, or visit the website [InglesidePoliceStation.com](http://InglesidePoliceStation.com).

**Monday, October 19**

**Poetry with Open Mic**  
7–9 p.m., *Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery*  
Poets read, followed by open mic.

**Wednesday, October 21**

**Book Presentation @ Bird & Beckett**  
7–9 p.m.  
Author Elijah Wald presents his new book, *Dylan Goes Electric!: Newport, Seeger, Dylan, and the Night That Split the Sixties*.  
**eReader Drop-In**  
3–4, *Glen Park Library*  
3rd Wednesday each month, Download electronic editions from the library’s 40,000+ ebooks. Bring your Kindle, Nook, iPad or other eReader device to this workshop and learn how to download materials from the Library website.

**Thursday, October 22**

**Glen Park Association quarterly meeting:**  
*Thursdays, Oct. 22, 7-9 p.m. St. John School Gym, 925 Chenery St. Enter from parking lot)*  
**Agenda:**  
Updates from Supervisor Scott Wiener and SFPD Capt. Joseph McFadden of Ingleside station. Supervisor Mark Farrell will speak on the Shared Schoolyard Project. November Election Forum: Speakers for and against Proposition F, an initiative to restrict short-term rentals.  
**Book Presentations @ Bird & Beckett**  
7–9 p.m.

Authors J.K. Dineen and John King, both journalists at the S.F. *Chronicle*, present their new books from Heyday Press: *High Spirits: The Legacy Bars of San Francisco* (Dineen) and *Cityscapes 2: Reading the Architecture of San Francisco* (King).

**Saturday, October 24**

**Glen Park History Project Meeting**  
3:30–5:30, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*  
Topic: “San Francisco Relocated” presentation by author Diane Donovan, who will sell copies and sign her new book, plus stories of house moving associated with the Glen Park Freeway Revolt.

**Wednesday, October 28**

**Resilient Diamond Heights**  
3:30–5, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*  
(See September 23)  
**Book Presentation @ Bird & Beckett**  
7–9 p.m.  
Author Harvey Schwartz presents his new book, *Building the Golden Gate Bridge*.

**Thursday, October 29**

**Teen Film: Hotel Transylvania**  
4–6, *Glen Park Library.*  
Rated PG, 91 minutes, 2012.

**Music @ Bird & Beckett**  
7:30–10 p.m.

The Scott Barnhill Trio with bassist John Wiitala

**Monday, November 3**

**Poetry with Open Mic**  
7–9 p.m., *Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery*  
Poets read, followed by open mic.

**Wednesday, November 4**

**Fermented Foods: Learn to make your own sauerkraut, pickles, etc**  
6–7:30, *Glen Park Library*  
K.J. Landis, author of *Superior Self: Reaching Superior Health for a Superior Self* will demonstrate how you can make several healthful, delicious fermented dishes without special equipment. Capacity is limited—sign up at 415-355-2858 or at the Information Desk.

**Thursday, November 5**

**Diamond Diners lunch & social hour**  
Noon–1, *St. Aidan’s Episcopal Church*  
The 1st Wednesday of every month, volunteers prepare and serve a delicious, free lunch to an interesting, diverse group of seniors over age 55 who live in the 94131 zip code. Reservations are not required.

**Sunday, November 8**

**Surf-a-billy Swing Time Dance Party**  
Noon, *Bird & Beckett*  
With Surfer Roma.

**Saturday, November 14**

**The History of Glen Canyon Park, a walk with Evelyn Rose**  
(See Oct. 10)  
**Jewel City: Docent Lecture and Slide Show**  
4–5, *Glen Park Library*  
A preview of “Jewel City: Art from San Francisco’s Panama-Pacific International Exposition,” at the deYoung Museum from Oct. 17–Jan. 10.

**Friday November 13**

**The Divine Dymphna, a new musical comedy by Sarah Glover**  
7:30 p.m., *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*  
A must-see annual tradition created by the congregation. Tickets & Info: [www.saintaidan.org](http://www.saintaidan.org).

**Saturday November 14**

**The Divine Dymphna, a new musical comedy by Sarah Glover**  
7:30 p.m. (See Nov. 13)

**Sunday, November 15**

**The Divine Dymphna, a new musical comedy by Sarah Glover**  
2 p.m. (See Nov. 13)  
**San Francisco Village Community Meeting**  
2:30-4, *Sunnyside Conservatory*  
Information for current and prospective members age 55 and up, in the restored venue at 236 Monterey Blvd.

**LEGO Pop Up**  
1–3, *Glen Park Library*  
Get creative building with LEGO. All the pieces you’ll need to create vehicles, robots, castles and more are provided.

**Tuesday, November 17**

**SFPD Community Forums**  
7–8 p.m., *Ingleside Police Station, John V. Young Way off San Jose Avenue.*  
(see October 20)

**Wednesday, November 18**

**eReader Drop-in**  
Workshop at Glen Park Library.  
(See October 21)

**Saturday, November 21**

**Friends of Glen Canyon, Plant Restoration**  
9–noon. *Meet behind the Rec Center*  
(See October 17)

**Wednesday, November 26,**

**Resilient Diamond Heights**  
3:30–5, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*  
This neighborhood emergency/disaster planning work group meets monthly.  
**Great Teen Book Swap**  
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*  
(See September 20)