



Glen Park News

Creeks to Peaks Trail Making Great Strides

The long-awaited completion of the Glen Park section of the Creeks to Peaks Trail finally is under way. When construction is finished, one of San Francisco's significant natural areas—70-acre Glen Canyon Park—will be more readily and safely accessible.

In this last phase of the project to link Glen Canyon Park with Twin Peaks, natural-surface box steps, particularly in steep areas at both ends of switchbacks, are being constructed at the top of the campus of the School of the Arts—formerly J. Eugene McAteer High School. Other improvements include refinement of the walking surface, drainage and placement of a trailhead sign on the south side of Portola Drive.

The contractor's start date, originally Jan. 19, was postponed until Feb. 22 due to bad weather. The work is now scheduled to be finished in late April.

Rec and Park has situated a staging area at the Portola Drive trailhead. This space includes fence panels and signs signaling a trail detour route to Turquoise Way during the remainder of the project.

"The section of trail that traverses the School of the Arts property is a critical piece of the Creeks to Peaks trail corridor," said Joey Kahn, a Rec and Park spokesperson.

The project got a boost when voters approved the 2012 Clean and Safe



Volunteers and Rec and Park staff remove part of an old car from behind the School of the Arts as they work on completing the Creeks to Peaks Connector Trail. Photo courtesy of San Francisco Parks and Recreation

Neighborhood Parks Bond, which allocated \$4 million to the Park Trail Improvement Program.

Prior to 2012, voters approved the 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Park Bond that included the Park Trail Improvement Program, which allocated

\$5 million for restoration of recreational trails, protection of natural resources, development of trail networks and improvement of overall safety.

In recent months, the San Francisco Park Alliance and the Open Space Fund helped underwrite completion of

the Creeks to Peaks Connector Project.

The finished trail will give hikers access to vistas of wildflowers, owls and hawks, songbirds and banana slugs, one of San Francisco's two remaining above-ground creeks, Franciscan chert rock

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GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday April 21, 7 p.m.
St. John School.
925 Chenery St.

Agenda:

- Presentation on Better BART Initiative for systemwide upgrades
- Updates from Supervisor Scott Wiener.

Farmers' Market Called Off for 2016

The Glen Park Village Farmers' Market, a fixture of Sunday mornings in the neighborhood since 2011, will not be returning this year and could be shuttered for good.

The farmers' market had operated on the BART parking lot across from the Glen Park station. But BART alerted market organizers that the lot would

be unavailable several Sundays this year "for a variety of reasons" related to upcoming weekend BART closures for needed rail repairs. As a result, the lease was not renewed.

That was the message Molly Burke, regional transit agency's government and community relations manager, delivered to the presidents of the Glen Park Association and Glen Park Merchants Association in a March 16 email.

Alyssia Plata, a spokeswoman for the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association, which managed the Glen Park market and still operates more than five dozen others in the Bay Area, said BART's plans drove the decision to call it quits in Glen Park—at least for this year.

She conceded, however, that there was a secondary factor: The Glen Park

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GLEN PARK NEWS

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♦ GPA PRESIDENT'S COLUMN ♦

Many of us in Glen Park, and our visitors, are all too familiar with crossing into Glen Canyon Park at the Sussex Street and Diamond Heights-Elk intersection. It's easy to park or walk on Sussex Street, and the stairway into the park, although in poor condition, is a well-used route to the playground, the Rec Center and the improved Glen Canyon trails.

But Diamond Heights Boulevard carries heavy traffic from Portola Drive, connecting to Bosworth Street via Elk Street. Despite the legal right of way for pedestrians, the up-and-downhill traffic means walkers have to wait carefully for a break in traffic to cross. We live right at that corner, and I can practically count the few times I've seen drivers slow down or stop for walkers, often with dogs, children or strollers, who've stepped off the curb.

Back in 2011, the Recreation and Park Department initiated the year-long community process for the park improvement plans. Neighbors raised this crossing-safety question right away. As park plans evolved, the "Preferred Plan" brought back to the meetings did show crosswalks, widened sidewalks, and a possible "pedestrian-activated flashing beacon" at the intersection. Rec and Park staff was clear, however, that the final plans for the intersection were in the purview of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), not Recreation and Park Department.

Fast forward to 2014. The new playground and tennis courts reopened

and Rec Center plans moved ahead, but we heard that SFMTA was deferring intersection plans. The Glen Park Association board of directors wrote to SFMTA, detailing the needs, including the heavy use for Silver Tree Day Camp drop-off all summer.

At least two or three Rec and Park staff members work to ensure that campers cross safely at the drop-off.

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STROLLERS, WHO'VE STEPPED OFF THE CURB.

SFMTA wrote back that the intersection conditions did not meet their criteria for a new crosswalk.

In early 2015, I learned about SFMTA "traffic-calming" projects, where neighbors can apply for measures, such as speed bumps on a busy block. With my neighbors, I pulled an application together, and in January this year we heard that the speed bumps would be planned on the downhill block of Diamond Heights between Arbor and Sussex. That was a start, I thought.

Many Glen Park neighbors have voiced frustration and concern about how seemingly reasonable changes have been deferred or delayed. I hear this at GPA meetings and see it online.

Now, I'm happy to report that real changes are finally on the way to deal with this problem. Through strong support from Supervisor Scott Wiener, SFMTA and Rec and Park are starting on detailed planning for crosswalk improvements at the Sussex Street and

Diamond Heights-Elk intersections.

I spoke with Patrick Golier, a manager at SFMTA. His staff will begin engineering studies in March and April, looking at feasibility, grades, visibility and safety needs at the intersection. By June, he expects that staff will have a recommendation on the design. We discussed neighborhood review and input, and he understands this need. It looks like SFMTA staff will present the plans for discussion at GPA's July 2016 quarterly meeting. Final design and construction will likely run into late 2016 or early 2017.

I followed up with Karen Mauney-Brodek, the Rec and Park project manager for Glen Canyon Park. Karen is very happy that the plans for intersection changes are finally moving ahead. The Silver Tree drop-off and speeding traffic on Diamond Heights Boulevard have been a big concern. She said the Glen Park Association helped push this through, along with Supervisor Wiener's backing.

Rebuilding the steps into the park at Sussex Street is also a long, loud neighborhood priority. Mauney-Brodek told me Rec and Park is working with landscape architects at the Department of Public Works to complete an appropriate design. She will report on progress, but no construction schedule is set yet.

We are often dismayed at how City agencies respond—or don't—to neighborhood questions and issues, but working constructively with staff and officials step by step can be successful. We'll keep posting the progress. ♦

Farmers' Market Called Off for 2016

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

market struggled last year to attract the volume of shoppers it needed to remain vital. The dwindling crowds led to fewer vendors and a smaller selection of produce and prepared foods, which in turn made the market less of a draw. "It was a challenge," Plata told the Glen Park News.

District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener, who represents Glen Park on the Board of Supervisors, lamented the closure.

"I'm disappointed that the BART parking lot is no longer available for the farmers market, which has been a

fantastic weekly event for the neighborhood," Wiener said. "I will be happy to work with neighbors and merchants to identify a new location."

The neighborhood market ran from spring to Thanksgiving, with a pause over the winter months.

The Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association has not ruled out bringing the market back to Glen Park, Plata said.

Ric Lopez, president of the Glen Park Merchants Association who was instrumental in getting the market started, initially hoped the market would operate on Wilder Street, off of Diamond

Street near Chenery Street. But that would have necessitated a weekly street closure, which generated opposition.

Lopez is said to be hunting for a temporary location for this year. Meanwhile, he let BART know that he would like to see the market return to the parking lot in 2017.

"The farmers' market has become an integral part (of) Glen Park and surrounding neighborhoods," he told BART's Burke. "The farmers' market has become a neighbors' gathering place on Sundays and will be greatly missed." ♦

❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

Last fall, the *Glen Park News* reported on the front page that changes seemed imminent in the business district—from a possible new on-street parklet to new tenants for vacant storefronts. Six months later, alas, practically nothing has changed.

Instead of a parklet taking up a single parking space on Chenery Street in front of Higher Grounds coffee house, the City decided to turn that space into an extension of the red zone at the corner to give buses, trucks and cars more space to turn at the busy intersection. According to Ben Jose of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, the new red-paint job will go onto the curb by the fall.

In a neighborhood where every parking space is precious, maybe it's time to consider removing the drastically underused bike-rack that takes up an entire parking space on Chenery Street in front of FitGlenFit, or turning that space into a parklet instead.

More distressing, perhaps, are the still-vacant locales that once housed

Chenery Park restaurant, on Chenery Street, and the neighborhood's only full-service bank, a Citibank branch across from the BART station.

According to some neighborhood merchants, the out-of-state owner of the restaurant site is considering an extensive remodel of the three-level building, with residential quarters upstairs and a retail space—probably not a restaurant—at street level. An offer by Canyon Market to take over the spot for a café and back-of-the-store needs is dead, according to Richard Tarlov, who owns the market with his wife Janet.

The property owner could not be reached for comment. But if a reconstruction plan is in the works, there's no sign of any activity to that end. Instead, the empty tables sit inside the front windows, awaiting diners who never come—or even someone to pick up the junk mail that accumulates inside the front door.

As for the bank site, there are periodic rumors that another financial institu-

tion will move in. But according to Rick Shaffer of the commercial real estate firm handling the property, nobody has contacted him with an offer.

Nor are the empty spaces our only concern. Hal and Susan Tauber, neighborhood residents who have run Glen Park Hardware on Chenery Street for decades, are planning to retire. Susan says they have had inquiries about buying the business, but as of press time no deal was in the works. We will report on developments there in a future edition.

Do two vacancies in so compact a business district discourage potential shoppers, on foot or otherwise? Yes, says Ric Lopez, owner of ModernPast on Chenery, who heads the merchants association. Not really, says Zoel Fages, owner of Perch, across the street from ModernPast; he adds, "I thought it would, but it hasn't."

Both views have their supporters. But for those of us who love Glen Park and believe in supporting our merchants, those blank windows leave holes in the heart of our village. ❖

❖ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ❖

Improving pedestrian safety—and street safety generally—is increasingly urgent in San Francisco. As our city grows, we have more traffic, more buses, more pedestrians and more cyclists. We need to make sure our streets, and particularly streets with a large number of pedestrians, are as safe as possible.

Glen Park is no exception. Due to the neighborhood's proximity to the freeway, as all residents know, we see growing traffic and increased safety risks.

For years, we've worked to improve safety at the Diamond-Bosworth intersection, which has been a struggle due to the limited geometry of the intersection and the growing traffic congestion.

Elk Street is another challenging street, and we need to make it safer. I'm committed to make that happen. A large number of pedestrians cross Elk Street every day to access Glen Canyon Park and use the Rec Center, the playground, ball fields, the Silver Tree building, or just to use the park. The crossing is dangerous. Cars routinely speed down the hill onto Elk Street from Diamond Heights Boulevard, around a curve. It's harrowing to walk



Pedestrians cross busy Elk Street at Sussex Street.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

across the street, particular if you're a slow walker or accompanying children.

For years, neighbors have expressed a desire to improve Elk Street's safety. Last year, neighbors organized and submitted a traffic-calming application to the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA), which determined that street safety changes on Elk Street are warranted. However, MTA does not have identified funding for a robust project.

After hearing about the MTA's determination and the agency's lack of funds, as chair of our County Transportation Authority I worked with our staff to find money to make the improvements more complete. I'm happy to report

that we have identified funding. MTA will work with the neighborhood to identify the best and most effective safety improvements along Elk Street. If you're interested in participating in this process, please stay involved with the Glen Park Association.

We all want safer streets in our neighborhoods and around our parks. Thank you to the neighbors who have advocated for these changes. ❖

Supervisor Scott Wiener represents District 8, which includes Glen Park, on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. More information is available at www.scottwiener.com.

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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.

St. John School Searches For Its Oldest Graduate

Initially located on Marsily Street near St. Mary's Park, St. John Grammar School first opened its doors on Jan. 8, 1917. The K-8 Catholic school eventually relocated to 925 Chenery St., where it has thrived for the past 49 years.

The St. John community will celebrate the school's centennial anniversary next year, and events are being

planned in anticipation of this historic milestone.

As part of the 100-year celebration, the school is searching for its oldest living alumnus. If you attended St. John in the earlier years, you might be that person, or might know who it might be. Alumni are encouraged to call Joy Durighello at 415-584-1828 or email jdurighe@ccsf.edu.



Archbishop McGucken arrives to open the relocated school on Chenery Street in 1967.



The sewer repairs on Surrey Street.

Photo by Denis Wade

Sewer Break Necessitates Rebuilding of Surrey Steps

Penny Lane is a lovingly refurbished sliver of mostly unpaved roadway-cum-pathway that lies between backyards on Surrey Street below, and Sussex Street above, off Diamond Street. At its end a footpath runs up to Sussex, and another leads down to Surrey. Those paths have had a rough winter.

Two years ago, a team of local volunteers headed by Diamond Street resident Adam King, an architect with BAR Associate, built retaining walls and steps at the footpath between Surrey Street and the lane. They enhanced the "Surrey Steps" project with hundreds of drought-tolerant native plants. (See Glen Park News, spring 2014.) Their efforts were aided by a Mission Clean and Green team, under the watchful eye of San Francisco Public Works.

Underneath Penny Lane is a private sewer line, which connects with a public line that drops from Sussex Street down to Surrey. The harsh storms that occurred around the turn of the New Year caused a break in the portion of the system near the junction of the private and public pipes, King said. The Sussex-to-Surrey line had to be replaced, along with connections beneath Surrey Street.

Public Works crews completed the sewer repairs in late February, he said. The new pipe is made of polyethylene,

which is impervious to tree roots, and the City agreed to install a catchment drain to capture surface water runoff. The new drain should help with a problem of erosion at the graveled steps that the volunteers had installed at the Surrey Street leg, King said.

"We are going to reinstall everything," King promised. Volunteers worked in March "to get the path functioning again." Next comes the job of reinstalling low retaining walls of decorative concrete blocks, followed by replanting the steps in the fall. The majority of plants that were removed were set aside for safekeeping. ❖



Surrey Street connector to Penny Lane.

Photo by Gail Bensinger

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Glen Park Festival Set for April 24th

The Annual Celebration Raises Money to Benefit Programs for Children and the Community

What began a century ago as a gathering of neighbors, and reinvented in 1997, the Glen Park Festival has become a perennial favorite and notable annual fundraiser for local children’s programs. Last year, the Glen Park Festival raised \$19,000 through attendees, sponsors and donations that was used to fund equipment, field trips, and educational programs for schools and community organizations in and around Glen Park.

“It’s moving to witness the generosity of our friends and neighbors and the impact the festival has each year on the kids in this community,” said Glen Park Festival Association president, Rebecca MurrayMetzger.

This year’s festival will take place on Sunday, April 24th, from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Diamond Street between Bosworth and Chenery, and on Wilder from Diamond to Carrie. Those sections will be closed to automobile traffic on the day of the festival.

You can add the Glen Park Festival to your calendar: <http://bit.ly/GPFest16>

Live Entertainment

Live music kicks off at 10 a.m. with popular children’s musician Frances England, followed by Humanistic, Sugar Ponies, Jinx Jones and Bayonics. Chuck Polling is back to emcee the event. The festival also features wares from local artists and craftspeople, cold drinks including beer and wine, food trucks and booths, as well as kids’ activities.

Kids’ Activities

Visitors can expect even more family fun this year. Kids’ activities include two bouncy houses, arts and crafts, live entertainment in the Children’s Area and a fire truck. Little Artistas, Drawbridge, The Rabbit Hole and Brickz for Kids will be leading activities—and new this year—pony rides by Mission Ponies.

Helping the Cause

All proceeds from the Glen Park Festival go toward local children’s programs. “In addition to money raised at the festival itself, we also welcome private donations and encourage supporters to explore any matching programs through their employers to have the greatest benefit,” MurrayMetzger explained.

Entries for prize drawings and T-shirts will be on sale at the Glen Park Festival Booth. T-shirts are also available for pre-purchase at <http://glenparkfestival.com/shirts.shtml> and donations are tax deductible.

If you can’t make the festival, prize drawing entries will be available for advance purchase beginning the first week of April at: Destination Baking Company (598 Chenery St.), Eyedentity Vision (2786 Diamond St.), Perch (645 Chenery St.), Glen Park Dental (590 Bosworth St.), and Cup Coffee Bar (6 Monterey Blvd).

Tickets are \$2 each, 3 for \$5 and 6 for \$10. You do not need to be present to win.



Neighborhood children enjoy the music at last year’s festival.
Glen Park News File Photo

Getting There

Parking is hard to find on festival day, so public transportation is highly encouraged. The festival is located one block from the Glen Park BART station. The J-Church drops off passengers two blocks away, and Muni

routes 44-O’Shaughnessy, 36-Teresita and 52-Excelsior have stops at the entrance to the festival.

Stay Tuned

For more information visit www.glenparkfestival.com, call (415) 729-4059 or email inquiries@glenparkfestival.com. ❖

18th-Annual
Glen Park Festival

A Neighborhood Tradition to Support the Glen Park Community

Sunday, April 24th
10am to 4:30pm on Diamond Street

Entertainment Schedule

Master of Ceremonies: Chuck Polling	
10:00-10:45 AM	Frances England (Children’s and Family Entertainment)
11:00-12:00 PM	Humanistic (Jazz/Funk)
12:20-1:20 PM	Sugar Ponies (Indie/Folk)
1:40-2:55 PM	Jinx Jones (Rockabilly/Twang)
3:15-4:30 PM	Bayonics (Latin/Funk/Reggae/R&B)

❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

You may have noticed that a familiar smile is no longer at the Glen Park Library. Kate Brown retired on March 1 and headed off to rural northern New Mexico, where she's building an eco-friendly home she has named Happily Ever After. That moniker says a lot about Kate and her positivity, as she claims no building knowledge or skill. This isn't the first time Kate's followed a dream.

When she was growing up, the local branch librarian lived next door and Kate thought being a librarian would be a great job. Her mother so strongly emphasized the neighbor's education and intelligence that young

Kate thought it out of her reach. Fast forward several decades, when Kate happened upon the garage sale of a librarian. The woman was so down to earth and encouraging that Kate took another look at following this dream. Luckily for Glen Park, she did!

Before becoming a librarian, Kate sold everything from doughnuts to wedding dresses, and so it's not surprising that she has shined at public service. As she put it, "What I'm proudest of in my work [at Glen Park] is that I've met my own (very high) standards of customer service the vast majority of the time. I feel good about the interactions I've had with patrons and the relationships I've built with people in the community. I've tried to always remember that I'm representing the Library—and that I'm paid by the taxpayers! I don't think anyone paying their taxes will feel that their money has been misspent on me."

Denise Sanderson, the longtime Glen Park Branch manager who is now at the Noe Valley Branch, couldn't agree more. "Working with Kate was great because of her attitude. She could tame the most frustrated patrons and have them leave in a better mental state than when they arrived."

Working in a big urban library sys-

tem, Kate had thought that she would move around in various positions and locations—she's had a habit of getting bored with jobs after a few years. But Glen Park proved the exception to her rule. She liked her bosses, her coworkers and the patrons. She loved the physical space with its abundance of natural light. She liked the neighborhood and the people. She's had the pleasure of watching patrons grow, chronologically and metaphorically.

One young reader she grew to know was vying for the same Harry Potter title on a long hold list; now he's a young man, about to graduate from high school. She found her work with the library and the community rewarding, and she will miss it.

A "true believer" in the free public library, Kate knows that she will stay connected to libraries somehow, as a patron or in another role. Right now she is looking forward to new adventures. She hopes to discover unknown talents and surprise herself. Building skills are high on Kate's list, and perhaps her husband Jason, a contractor, will give her a few tips.

We all miss Kate at the library and are rooting for her, Jason, and their dog Lucky as they follow their dream! You can keep in touch with Kate and the building of Happily Ever After on her blog, at jbgcontractor.com/happily. ❖

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

GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

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Wednesday 12-8

Thursday 12-7

Friday/Saturday 1-6

Sunday 1-5



Kate Brown with her pit bull Lucky, outside Mora, N.M.

Photo by Jason Brown



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Merrymaker's Spirit Will Keep on Truckin'

Eric Hanson, who delighted the neighborhood with his elaborately decorated Grateful Dead-themed Halloween house on Brompton Street, and the colorful ladybugs painted on his driveway, will be remembered April

17 at a memorial service by Bonnee Waldstein and Elizabeth Weise after his unexpected death. Hanson, 61, died at home on Feb. 10 of natural causes.

Soon after word of Hanson's death spread, a makeshift memorial grew outside his home, with flowers and hand-written remembrances. His family in Sonoma has been "overwhelmed" by the outpouring of emotion in Glen Park over his death, his brother-in-law Avram Goldman told the Glen Park News.



While the family knew that Hanson was well liked, "I don't think we knew how well he was loved," said Goldman, who is married to Hanson's sister, Lori. "Someone told me he was like the mayor of Glen Park. He knew everybody; he touched people in different ways."

Hanson loved holidays. He was especially known in Glen Park for the elaborate Grateful Dead decorations he lovingly crafted in front of his house each Halloween. It was a huge hit with neighborhood children, who flocked to see what he'd come up with.

But he didn't just love Halloween. Thanksgiving and Christmas were also favorites.

"He'd dress up as Santa and go around and give out presents," said Goldman. "He was a kid at heart."

Children adored him. Hanson had painted the outlines of ladybugs on



Photo of Brompton Street's Eric Hanson, courtesy of his family.

his driveway, letting kids on his block fill them in with different patterns and colors. One ladybug, his own creation, was in honor of the Grateful Dead.

Hanson was good friends with Grateful Dead band leader Jerry Garcia's limo driver, who often got him backstage for shows. "He went to hundreds of shows," said his friend, Dave Donner, who lives on Chenery Street.

Hanson also was known to neighbors as a wonderful baker who took pride in his cookies, pies and banana bread, which he happily gave away.

"He once won a prize at the Laidley Street Fourth of July bake-off," said his neighbor, Clare Thompson.

One of his greatest loves was dogs, and he worked as a dog walker. Other dog

walkers and runners knew him well, for almost every morning he was out for a walk down Chenery before 7:30 a.m., heading to Glen Canyon Park. He always had time for a cheery, "Hey!" and encouraged joggers with cries of "Go, go, go!" as they ran by.

Hanson lost his own dog, Micro, a Great Dane, several years ago. He buried him in the green space along Bosworth and vowed to never get another dog because the pain of the loss had been too great. Instead he cared for neighbors' and friends' dogs, taking them for extended outings in the mornings.

"He just seemed a big, goofy guy. His two favorite things in life were animals and children because they were just so pure and they could be happy. He really bonded with all the dogs in the neighborhood. It was just pure love, that's what that guy was, he was just pure love. He never said anything negative about anyone," Donner said.

Hanson was born and raised in San Francisco. He grew up in the Tank Hill neighborhood at the top of 17th Street. He attended Twin Peaks Elementary (since renamed Rooftop) and graduated from Washington High School in 1972, Donner said.

After high school he went to Hawaii for a few years, but then returned to San Francisco.

His father, Howard Hanson, was a longshoreman. With the help of his father, the younger Hanson found his career as a welder and worked for many years repairing shipping containers at the Port of Oakland



Eric Hanson with neighbors on Halloween.

"He had an accident at work and injured his knee, and he couldn't work any longer. That was probably about 11 years ago," said Goldman.

Hanson moved into his house on Brompton in 1982. He made his living walking dogs, power washing houses and with an enormous garage sale

on sunny weekends that covered the sidewalk in front of his house. He sold items he found and fixed up.

A memorial service for Hanson will be held in the auditorium at St. John School, 925 Chenery St. at 1 p.m. April 17. Donations can be made in Hanson's memory to the San Francisco SPCA. ❖



An impromptu memorial at Eric Hanson's house.

Photo by Elizabeth Weise

Glen Park Canyon: A Walk Through History

One wintry day, 18 San Franciscans braved the chill as they listened to Evelyn Rose spin tales from Glen Canyon's past on one of her patented Glen Park history walks.

Rose, who writes a Glen Park News column called "(Hi)Stories of Our Neighborhoods," called her tour Bovines, Dynamite and High-Flying Shows: The Amazing History of Glen Canyon Park.

"The core goals for Glen Park, Glen Canyon, Sunnyside, Fairmount and Diamond Heights," she told the attendees, "is to rediscover our forgotten history, document our living history and share our history with others."

Evelyn Rose's storyboard is rich in anecdotal folklore, filled with eccentric characters and populated with hucksters, heroes, hustlers, engineers, entrepreneurs and environmentalists.

Her first story fit the bill.

In 1867 Alfred Nobel leased one acre of land on the western hillside of Glen Canyon, near what is now the Bosworth Street park entrance. Constructing an eight-foot fence surrounding a 25-by-60-foot compound, Nobel hired a chemist and eight immigrant Chinese workers to manufacture dynamite. Two years later, on Nov. 29, 1869, an explosion ripped through the facility, resulting in three fatalities.

"This was the era of canal and railroad public-works construction, and dynamite was prized," explained Rose. "The Glen Canyon explosion caused a huge flash of light that could be seen as far off as downtown."

Rose, continuing on her planned route, pointed to parched Islais Creek, which begins on the flank of Twin Peaks. Channeled through an underground culvert that begins north of the WPA-built Rec Center, the creek now



Old newspaper clippings help tell Glen Canyon's History.



Evelyn Rose leads a walk through Glen Canyon Park. Photos by Murray Schneider

empties into the bay south of AT&T Park.

"When it ran above ground, the creek supplied 80 percent of San Francisco's water, and was carried all the way downtown by gravity-forced flumes," she said.

A bit farther north, the group ascended box steps to the saddle trail that straddles Franciscan chert rock outcrops. Behind Rose, across O'Shaughnessy Boulevard on a 600-foot high promontory, loomed El Sereno Court, a cul-de-sac on the slope of Mt. Davidson. Immediately above Rose loomed Diamond Heights. To her north stood the football scoreboard at Ruth Asawa School of the Arts.

"We can see a lot from here," Rose said. "In the 1880s, a dairy farm, Gardiner's Ranch, operated on this slope."

The earliest local record of John Holmes Northrup Gardiner dates to 1861. The Rhode Island native milked dairy cows with the assistance of five employees. He later moved to Montgomery Street and eventually returned to Rhode Island, where he died in 1894.

"Down below," said Rose, "Silver Tree summer camp just celebrated its 75th anniversary, and to our north there was once a golf-driving range where SOTA now is."

"Climbers called these rocks Miraloma Rocks," she said, "and as early as the 1930s rock climbers from Stanford, Cal and the Sierra Club came here and challenged them." She circulated a photograph showing a group of

collegians rappelling from the cliff's face.

Doubling back, the history buffs navigated the eastern side of Islais Creek, demarcated by a split-rail fence constructed by Richard Craib and Friends of Glen Canyon Park in the early 2000s. She stopped at what looked like a horseshoe-shaped campfire pit, camouflaged by English ivy and California blackberry.

"I think this may have been a water trough for Archibald Baldwin's zoo animals," Rose said.

Baldwin was an 1890s businessman and a pugnacious real estate developer who would go on to build homes on much of Mt. Davidson, St. Francis Wood, Westwood Terrace and Westwood Highlands. He encouraged prospective homebuyers to hop Behrend Joost's streetcar for a nickel, step off at Chenery and Diamond, then walk to Elk Street. Baldwin was hoping they'd take a flyer on one of the 70 25-by-100-foot lots he was selling for \$250 to \$350 each.

"A.S. Baldwin proposed building a great zoo to make the houses more salable, and populate it with all sorts of exotic animals," Rose said. He wanted his Mission Park and Zoological Garden to become home to black bears, kangaroos, baboons, hyenas, coyotes and foxes, a scheme that proved too grandiose for City Hall. But before he was forced to downsize, the quarrelsome developer slugged it out with Charles Clinton, a city supervisor. No push-

over, Clinton landed a jaw-jarring blow to the side of Baldwin's face. Mayor James D. Phelan, adopting the roll of referee, separated them.

Before he sold out in 1903, Baldwin mounted pavilions that regularly attracted as many as 15,000 people to see bareback horse riders, lion tamers, aeronauts leaping from air balloons, trained homing pigeons, a female sharpshooter named Lillian Smith, wrestling matches and prize fights. In the aftermath of the 1898 Spanish American War, the 4th Cavalry musicians from the Presidio played where the baseball diamond and soccer field now stand.

"By the early 1900s, things began to peter out," said Rose. "Baldwin found his Chenery Street lots not selling. Buyers didn't want to look out their front windows and see throngs of people traipsing by to get to his zoo."

After he sold out in 1903, the Crocker Estates took over management, and the canyon continued to be a popular destination for private parties. The City bought the land in 1922, and reopened it to the public.

Rose and her group moved along a path paralleling the creek, a trail Glenridge nursery children named Banana Slug Way. Rose pointed across the creek.

"Over there, along the fire road, California wanted to construct a freeway," she said. The elevated roadway would have bisected Glen Canyon, cresting at Portola Drive and continuing through the Inner Sunset and Richmond districts before reaching the Golden Gate Bridge.

"The Gum Tree Girls—Geri Arkush, Zoanne Nordstrom and Joan Seiwald—battled Public Works first over widening Bosworth in the 1960s," Rose said, "and then the California Highway Department over the freeway."

Arkush has died, but Nordstrom and Seiwald are often seen together walking the Gum Tree Girls Trail in the canyon, named in their honor.

Back at the canyon entrance, Sally Ross, who lives in the Sunnyside neighborhood, made ready to depart. "Evelyn's walk was most enjoyable, showing actual places where events took place," she said. "It made information even more meaningful, making the canyon's history something that can be enjoyed and passed along to others."

To learn more about the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project and future neighborhood walks, visit www.GlenParkHistory.org. ♦

❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

The Glen Park Branch of the San Francisco Public Library – on Croton Avenue? The Glen Park School – between Fulton and Park, at Berkshire? Today, these street names sound nonsensical. Yet they are the earliest iterations of some of the oldest named streets in Glen Park. How did they come to be?

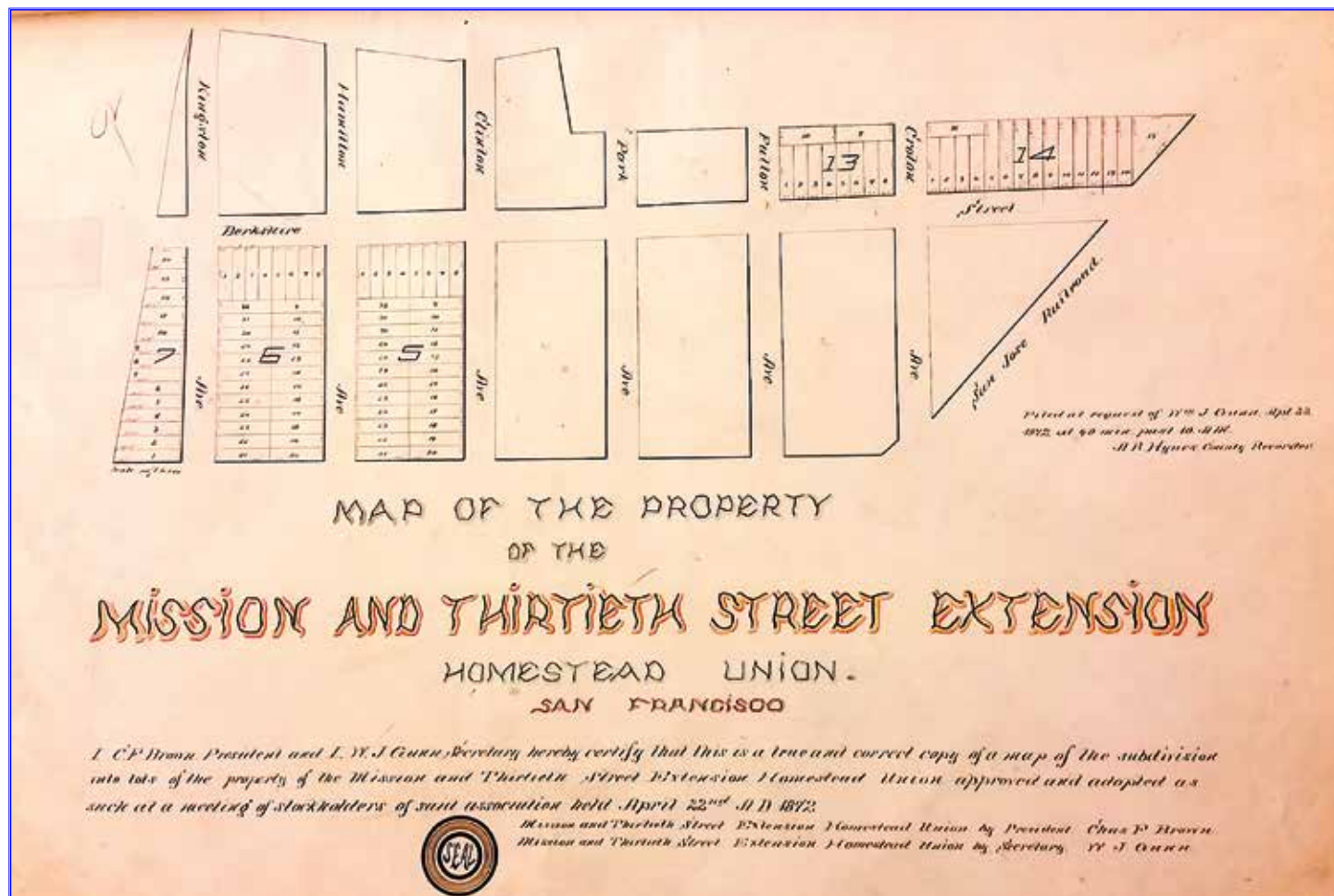
The dairy history of Glen Park runs deep in our neighborhood legacy. As early as 1776, open-range cattle from Mission Dolores were grazing the hills of what would become Rancho San Miguel in 1846. After the Gold Rush, an influx of predominantly European dairymen established milch ranches—dairy farms—in the rural landscape of what was called the “Outside Lands” west and south of the city proper. By 1860, several milch ranches were operating along the banks of Islais Creek as it flowed from Glen Canyon eastward to San Francisco Bay.

One of these milch ranchers, George Ulshofer, was born in Bavarian Germany in 1820. The San Francisco Directory first lists Ulshofer as a milch rancher near the Presidio in 1858. By 1860, he was on 25 acres of land at “Rock House Hill, near the old San Jose Road, 5 miles from City Hall.” (According to maps, a large rock more than 20 feet tall sat near what is today’s Lyell and Bosworth intersection. Ulshofer’s ranch was likely centered up the hill west of the rock, where Glen Park School sits today). By 1863, Ulshofer was the milkman at Mission Dolores and, by 1864, was running a milch ranch at 17th and Eureka streets.

Believing the ranch at Rock House Hill to be abandoned in 1869, the trustees of the Mission and Thirtieth Street Extension Homestead Union laid claim to the land. Ulshofer insisted he still owned the property but, after litigation in 1872, the transfer to the Homestead Union was complete. On April 22 of that year, the homestead map was filed with the City.

In this map, the borders of the street plan mirror the outline of Ulshofer’s original property lines. Berkshire Street (today’s Bosworth Street) was the backbone of our first named streets. Intersecting Berkshire (from east to west) were the avenues of Croton (Diamond), Fulton (Brompton), Park (Lippard), Clinton (Chilton), Hamilton (Hamerton), and Kingston (Burnside). By 1909, all the streets had been renamed.

George Ulshofer died in 1898 and is interred at San Francisco’s Columbarium. Along Chenery Street



The 1872 homestead map, courtesy of the San Francisco Public Library. Berkshire Street is today’s Bosworth Street, Croton is Diamond Street, Fulton is Brompton Avenue, Park is Lippard Street and Clinton is Chilton Avenue.

at Chilton, there is a slight bend in the street, the same bend mapped in Ulshofer’s original property line.

When passing by, tip your hat to Ulshofer’s legacy! ❖

Evelyn Rose is documenting the histories of Glen Park and nearby neighborhoods. To learn more, visit www.GlenParkHistory.org. The Glen Park Neighborhood History Project meets every other (even) month. Join the mailing list: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

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El Niño Rains Worry Flood-Prone Neighbors

They stood as if someone had driven them, like so many stakes, into the floor. They looked at each other and then looked away. They glanced out at the world that was raining now and raining and raining steadily.”

In Ray Bradbury’s short story “All Summer in a Day,” the children on Venus celebrate the hour of sunlight that warms their spirits once every seven years, only to stand in stunned silence when the unrelenting rain returns.

Residents in one low-lying area tucked between Glen Park and Mission Terrace and surrounded by Interstate 280 and Alemany Boulevard do not have to endure seven years of constant rain, but the feeling is similar to the Venusian children when the tap-tapping of raindrops falls on their windows. For these residents, rain triggers thoughts of flood, contamination and loss.

In December 2014, the Bay Area faced the onslaught of a huge storm that closed schools and businesses after years of drought. For some, it was a welcome sight. For others, it was a nightmare.

The City’s stormwater system was overloaded with rainwater, and because the rainwater and sewage water occupy the same pipes, what could not be handled underground bubbled up onto the streets in some areas that were developed atop streams and marshes.

Some streets were ankle deep in water and raw sewage, and floodwater rose higher in some areas.

Writer Blane Bachelor, who moved here with her husband in 2011 from Atlanta, bought a house at Rotteck and Cayuga streets in 2014 after years of renting. Just three months later, the flood destroyed many of their belongings, still in boxes in their garage.

“To say it’s been stressful is an understatement,” she said. “It upended our lives.”

They lost clothes, photos, personal items—“irreplaceable” things, she said.

Nearby, on Trumbull Street, high school teacher Armando Castillo looked out his window that December afternoon to see cars floating down his street. “I had a lake on my street,” he said.

A 14-Mission Muni bus tried to navigate the water, but became stuck and had to be towed out, he said. That was after all the passengers had



A bus drives down flooded Trumbull Street in December 2014.

Photo by Armando Castillo

to evacuate—and trudge through the knee-deep wastewater.

Castillo lost his washer and dryer, Persian rugs, furniture and other items. His mother’s car was a total loss. Then came the mold. The hardwood floor and drywall had to be replaced, too.

Some residents banded together, hired an attorney, and filed a class-action lawsuit against the City.

“The City of San Francisco needs to address the significant health risks that continue to occur when raw sewage is forced into my clients’ homes when the City’s combined sewer and storm drains fail each year,” said the residents’ attorney, Mark W. Epstein, of Seiler Epstein Ziegler & Applegate LLP.

In addition, he said, “The failure of the City’s sewer system has greatly impacted the value of my clients’ homes. It is not hard to understand that someone is going to be willing to pay far less money to purchase a home that is regularly inundated with raw sewage than the same home that is not.”

Jean Walsh, a spokeswoman for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which operates the City’s sewer system, declined to comment on the specifics of the lawsuit because it’s still active litigation. But, she said, “We recognize that there are some areas of our sewer system that need improvement, and we are working hard to prioritize projects.”

Walsh said the City has convened an interdepartmental task force to develop a comprehensive “flood resilience study” to take into account economic impact factors such as property damage, and identify improvements for the areas of the system where increased storm-water control is warranted.

“This study will help guide future ratepayer investments and prioritize projects citywide,” she said. “We expect it to be completed in late spring of this year.”

She said the combined cost of these projects will be approximately \$250 million, and the projects still must go through extensive planning, design and environmental reviews. Construction could start this year or next.

However, Walsh cautioned, “No urban drainage system can be built large enough to withstand all extreme rain storms. There are certain parts of town where we are planning to improve our system, but even when these projects are complete, intense rainfall that exceeds the system’s capacity could still cause flooding in these low-lying areas.”

Bachelor and other impacted residents want the City to make them whole again. “We are not asking for a handout,” she said. “We just want our homes back to normal.”

Damaging floods in the same area in

2004 resulted in San Francisco paying out nearly \$1 million in damages.

Meanwhile, the City has made arrangements for interested homeowners, renters and businesses in all areas to participate in a federally backed affordable flood insurance program. More information is available at sfwater.org/StormPrep.

In addition, the SFPUC’s Floodwater Grant Program reimburses eligible property owners up to \$30,000 for making improvements to their properties that lower their risk of damage or harm due to flooding, Walsh said.

On top of the damage to personal items, neighbors have raised concerns over potential health risks. Bachelor said she waded through the sewage water with a cut on her foot and at her doctor’s advice was tested for various diseases and infections. And then there’s the issue of the resale value of her home.

“This is about our financial and physical health,” Bachelor said.

With more rains promised this spring, the residents, many of whose homes are buffered by City-supplied sandbags, sit and nervously await the outcome.

“It’s a nightmare,” Castillo said. “When it rains now, I look out my window all night long.” ❖

✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

In Glen Park and throughout the rest of San Francisco, from mid-January through March, you can see magnolia trees covered with lovely, showy blossoms. Although magnolia trees are not native to our area, our unique climate appears to suit them quite well. The flowers are large, fragrant and white, pink, red, purple or yellow in color.

Magnolias are valued worldwide for their lovely forms and beautiful flowers. The leaves of the evergreen species are usually glossy, leathery and dark green. The evergreen buds, stems and undersides of leaves are an attractive gold color and covered with hairs.

Besides being beautiful, magnolias are low-maintenance, easy to grow and relatively pest-free. There are deciduous, semi-evergreen and evergreen species.

The deciduous species bloom in the late winter or early spring before the tree leafs out. The magnolia fruit resembles a cone, but is actually a woody aggregate that opens in the fall to reveal bright orange-red berries that birds love.

Magnolias can be either large shrubs or trees. Some of the larger varieties will grow to be 40 to 80 feet tall, with a 30 to 40 foot spread. They like full sun or part shade, and dislike windy locations that can damage the large flowers and break the brittle branches. The tree prefers moist, rich, slightly acidic soil, but will adapt to clay, loam and sand. They absolutely need good drainage, and once established are moderately drought-tolerant. They require infrequent but thorough watering.

In San Francisco, magnolias make a good street tree, and also do well in small gardens. Species recommended by sfenvironment.org for use as street trees are some of the smaller varieties of Southern magnolia: *Magnolia grandiflora* Little Gem, St. Mary (evergreen, 15–20 feet tall), and Russet. All are evergreen and grow 15–20 feet tall. Friends of the Urban Forest (www.fuf.net/resources-reference/urban-tree-species-directory/) recommends Southern magnolia and sweet Michelia (*Magnolia doltsopa*) as street trees.

If you plan to plant one as a street tree, you will need a relatively large tree basin because of their shallow, thick roots. Their roots are rope-like, mostly unbranched, and are found in the top foot of the soil. This makes them difficult to transplant once they are established. The nature of the roots also means that this street tree won't be cracking your sidewalk!



A magnolia blossom at San Francisco Botanical Garden.

Photo by Patrick Gonzales, Flickr

Planting in autumn is best, although the evergreen varieties prefer spring planting. Popular varieties for San Francisco gardens are star magnolia (*Magnolia stellata*), a native of Japan that grows 15–20 feet tall; saucer magnolia (*Magnolia x soulangeana*), a native of France that grows to 25 feet or less; sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), a lemon-scented tree that blooms in early summer; and Yulan magnolia (*Magnolia denudata*), which produces spectacular white blossoms up to 8 inches across.

There are more than 200 species of magnolias. They were among the earliest flowering plants. They evolved at least 95 million years ago—long before bees—and were probably originally pollinated by beetles and flies. Magnolias do not produce nectar; instead they have pollen enriched with proteins, which pollinators use as food. They are native to East Asia, the Himalayas, Eastern North America and Central America. Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) is prolific in the southeast United States, where it is a native. In the rest of the world, the ancient flowering trees have become rare, as development threatens the habitat of the remaining wild populations.

The San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park maintains a significant magnolia collection that is the largest outside China. Many of the species are native. It has more than 100 different varieties, many of them rare. Conservation work at the Botanical Garden is important as magnolia trees become increasingly endangered. The staff is actively involved in propagating these trees,

well here. Of the 84 different magnolias in the San Francisco Botanical Garden's collection, 11 species are listed as endangered.

Unfortunately, the Botanical Garden's special magnolia programs are over for the season, but check their website (www.sfbotanicalgarden.org/garden/magnificent-magnolias-2013.html) for more information.

Most local garden centers stock magnolia trees that do well in Glen Park. Here are some places to buy magnolias: Flowercraft (550 Bayshore Blvd.) currently has varieties: Star magnolia Royal Star; Saucer magnolia Alexandrina and Black Tulip; Purple Lily magnolia; Southern magnolia Southern Charm, and Rosemarie hybrid. Flora Grubb Nursery (1634 Jerrold Ave.) has Magnolias Silver Cloud and various Saucer magnolias.

For more information about magnolias, check the website of the Magnolia Society (www.magnoliasociety.org), or see "Magnolias: A Gardener's Guide," by James M. Gardiner. ❖

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



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Intersection Work: When Will It End?

After shutting down for the Christmas holidays, work on the Bosworth-Diamond intersection began again intermittently on Feb. 8. However, City officials couldn't provide a solid timeline for when the work of redoing the intersection to fix planning errors would be finished.

The original construction began in January 2015; the entire project has now dragged on for 15 months.

"We don't have a clear-cut schedule of when construction will stop," said Kelley McCoy, a San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency spokesperson. She hoped it might be by mid-April.

In mid-March, crews spent a few days replacing landscaping along the Bosworth median. The established plants were removed when the northeast corner of the intersection was reconfigured.

The contractor also completed the handicapped-accessible ramps and side-

walks at the intersection in February, said McCoy.

The original traffic-calming efforts at the intersection included removing car lanes in both directions on Bosworth Street, and pushing the sidewalks out to make the pedestrian crossing shorter. That was completed in the fall of 2015 after nine months of work.

However, it was then discovered that SFMTA planners had made the intersection too narrow. Buses and large trucks could not navigate the turns without going up on the curb or onto the traffic median between the lanes on Bosworth.

The Glen Park Association noted that it had pointed out to SFMTA more than two years earlier the possibility that the proposed new traffic lanes would be too narrow for turns by large vehicles, but SFMTA staff responded at the time that the design was adequate.

At the quarterly Glen Park Association meeting in October 2015, SFMTA's director of sustainable streets, Tom McGuire, apologized for the mistake.



A temporary barrier blocks pedestrians from trampling plants on the median, above. Caution tape is wrapped around the highway sign below.

Photos by Liz Mangelsdorf

Work to redo the intersection began in October 2015. Prior to shutting down operations just before Thanksgiving, SFMTA contractors were able to cut back sidewalks and redo the southeast corner of the intersection in front of the Glen Park BART station. City rules mandate that street construction work in commercial corridors be stopped during the holiday shopping season, to avoid impacts on local merchants.

Fixing the northeast corner of the intersection, in front of the former Citibank location, remains to be done, although crews don't have to remove the entire sidewalk and corner, said McCoy. "We're really just shaving that corner down to make it less pointy, so that the buses can get by. Right now they're clipping it," she said.

Some crosswalk ramps also have to be finished and there are some areas of sidewalk that have been filled with concrete but not yet given their finish, she said.

Residents might note that the plantings along the Bosworth meridian between the BART station and Glen Park Dental were pulled out after being planted in the fall. That's because they were being crushed by pedestrians.

"People were walking across from the BART station and trampling them," said McCoy. SFMTA is considering the possibility of putting up a small fence to keep people from walking across the median outside of the crosswalk area.

"We know it's a popular place to cross for people who park in the BART

lot. We're very aware that people are going to cross regardless of what we put there. But we do want to deter people from doing that because it is very unsafe," she said.

It will be the third time the median has been planted since 2012. It was initially landscaped with more than

50 drought-tolerant plants, such as agave and salvia, by local resident John Priola and small group of fellow volunteers.

In February 2013 Priola was recognized by the San Francisco Parks Alliance for his work in a ceremony at the median and was later awarded a "Street Parks Anniversary Celebration Certificate of Appreciation" by the

San Francisco Parks Alliance.

Asked why so little work has been done on the intersection since the City-mandated holiday stoppage ended at the start of the New Year, McCoy said she didn't know all the reasons, although some scheduled tasks had to be postponed because of wet and rainy conditions.

The hope is to finish all the work by the end of March, McCoy told the Glen Park News on March 10.

No date has been set for the grand unveiling of the sign marking the entrance to Glen Park, now covered with plastic on the northwest corner of the intersection. McCoy said her agency was conferring with Supervisor Scott Wiener's office on when to hold a ribbon-cutting. "Since we don't have an exact date of when [the work] will be finished," she said, "we can't set a date for when it will be unveiled." ❖



GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE 2015 WRAP-UP

Median Sales Price - Single Family Rolling 12-Month Calculation

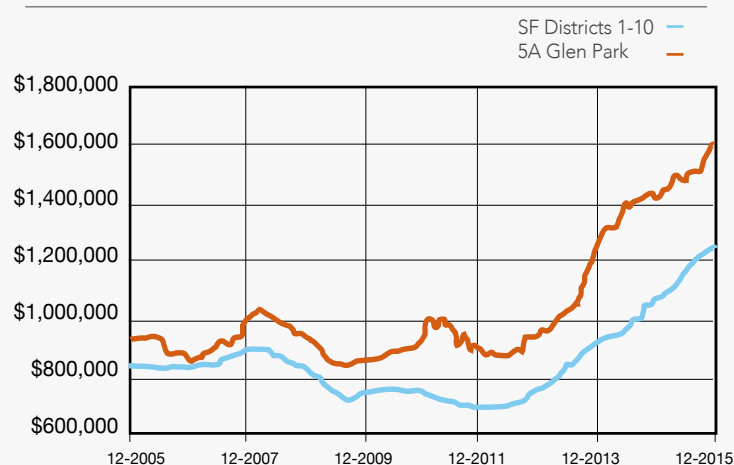


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San Jose Avenue Changes Are Not a Fad Diet

Though it failed to slow speeds as intended, a narrower northbound San Jose Avenue piloted between Interstate 280 and Randall Street is here to stay because it may have resulted in less traffic along the busy thoroughfare, say City officials

by
Heather
World

That section of roadway was reduced from three lanes to two in a pilot project.

“The road diet on the City street portion has reduced traffic volumes and increased bicycle ridership,” said San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency traffic engineer Damon Curtis at a final public meeting in January to discuss the changes. “We’re not prepared to reverse those benefits.”

The SFMTA counted 20 percent fewer vehicles per hour using the street during the morning commute.

“We are actively attempting to verify whether we’ve truly seen some diversion or if it’s simply because we reduced capacity and the same number of cars are coming through and it’s spread out over a longer period of time,” Curtis said.

Other permanent changes, now scheduled for late 2016, include a concrete barrier to protect bike traffic, between St. Mary’s Street to about 150 feet south of the Randall intersection, where the bike lane breaks for a right-turn pocket.

The speed limit along the street will remain 45 mph, though the City will add a yellow “suggested speed limit” sign of 35 mph. There also will be more visible street-name signs to reduce confusion about one-way streets and how to access downtown Glen Park from the freeway off-ramp.

At the January meeting, planners also announced they would implement changes to the intersection of Dolores Street and San Jose Avenue as proposed in the Mission Streetscape plan. The City will widen sidewalks to shorten pedestrian crossings along Dolores where the boulevard meets San Jose Avenue.

In addition, plans are in the works for a controlled crossing spanning San Jose Avenue from Dolores to Brook streets. That means either a traffic light or a flashing beacon warning drivers to stop for crossing pedestrians, Curtis said.

A suggested signal for northbound traffic at Brook Street has not been publicly vetted.



Northbound traffic backs up on San Jose Avenue, as seen from the Highland Avenue bridge.
Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

Two Roadways, One Project

Still being decided is the fate of the second half of the “Northbound San Jose Avenue & I-280 Off-Ramp Road Diet Pilot Project,” which sought to improve safety by slowing traffic along the artery connecting the freeway to Noe Valley, Glen Park and Bernal Heights.

The corridor moves about 25,000 vehicles per day and qualifies as a “high-injury corridor” under San Francisco’s Vision Zero policy, which seeks to reduce traffic fatalities and severe injuries.

Of the 29 injury accidents on the northbound roadway between 2003 and 2014, 12 were due to unsafe speed, according to state records.

The first phase, begun in spring 2014, reduced lanes on San Jose Avenue from three to two. When that failed to slow traffic, engineers implemented the second phase, reducing the freeway off-ramp from two lanes to one. This

also failed to slow traffic on San Jose Avenue, and drivers began to complain of near-miss accidents.

At the January meeting, Caltrans officials said they would like to return to the two-lane exit.

“Because there was no precipitous benefit downstream, we’re hoping to put back the two lanes coming off,” said Ramiel Gutierrez, a transportation engineer with the Caltrans Office of Traffic Safety.

The City is still grappling with state highway officials over its design, which will be influenced by the further study of the change in traffic volume, Curtis said.

Project supporters have appreciated seeing San Jose Avenue become more like a street and less like a freeway off-ramp, in line with the vision of the Glen Park Community Plan. Collin Martin lives between Bernal Heights and Glen Park. He supports the effort to slow speeds on the arterial, though

he has problems with some aspects of the implementation.

He cited the congestion at the Randall intersection: “Right now during peak hours, only one lane goes through due to backup at the Dolores signal,” he said. “This is a big cause of the backup for this entire area.”

He suggests engineers convert the short right-turn-only lane at the Randall intersection back to a through-lane to allow traffic to flow as it did formerly.

Project detractors have focused on increased congestion, increased pollution, increased traffic volume and speeds on side streets, and failure of the changes to reduce speed.

Rebecca Charyn drives through the intersection every evening during rush hour and says between the newly created congestion at the off-ramp and at the Randall intersection, her commute time has been increased by nearly 20 minutes since the pilot was implemented.

“I wouldn’t mind if I was inconvenienced if speeds were lowered,” she said. “But to be inconvenienced daily without getting any kind of reward is really frustrating. My quality of life is important, too.”

GPA Board Requests

The board of the Glen Park Association has urged the agency to follow Caltrans’ recommendations to restore the two-lane freeway exit, until a final design is determined.

The GPA also asked the agency to coordinate the design of San Jose Avenue with other projects in the area that affect traffic along the corridor. Planners are considering a signal at the intersection of Randall and Mission streets, an initiative of Muni Forward, the SFMTA’s public transportation improvement plan. The signal likely would change access to Bernal Heights by precluding right turns from San Jose Avenue northbound onto Randall. Bernal-bound drivers would likely be sent further north to Brook Street.

Finally, the Glen Park Association has emphasized the importance of assigning responsibility for keeping the corridor clean. Since the pilot began, bicycle traffic has grown to an average of 200 riders a day, but the street is regularly littered with broken glass and garbage. Public Works, the City department charged with street cleaning, has been challenged with cleaning within protected bike lanes and is investigating feasible solutions. ❖

Greenway Concept Plan Gets Thumbs Up

This year's first quarterly meeting of the Glen Park Association on Jan. 21 began with the election of officers. A mix of incumbents and new officers were elected unanimously: President, Michael Rice (12th year!); Vice President, Scott Stawicki; Treasurer, Dennis Mullen; Membership Secretary, Hilary Schiraldi; Recording Secretary, Stephany Wilkes; and Corresponding Secretary, Mic Ames.

Grant-Making Program 2016

Outgoing Vice President Nicholas Dewar announced a round of funding of grants by the GPA for 2016. The GPA has a \$20,000 reserve fund, which it allocates to specific grants. They are awarded to nonprofit organizations that benefit Glen Park directly. In 2015 the GPA awarded \$1,000 to the Sunnyside Elementary School PTA to support publication of a student journal, *The Ray*. It also awarded \$1,000 to the Friends of Penny Lane to support further construction of the Surrey Street steps.

Guidelines and application form are available at <http://glenparkassociation.org/grants/>.

Deadline for application submission is March 31. Grant recipients will be announced in mid-May.

Glen Park Greenway Concept Plan

After three community meetings, the GPA members were asked to vote on approving the final Greenway concept plan. Dewar gave a brief recap of the history of the plan. (For more detail on the design process, see the Glen Park News, Winter 2015.)

One contentious aspect of the plan was inclusion of Paradise Street in the connection to Glen Canyon Park, because of issues of privacy and street tree feasibility.

To address these and other concerns, two additional meetings were held between GPA committee members and the residents of Paradise Avenue and the Chilton-Burnside stretch, along the proposed corridor. As a result, an earlier scheme to have an upper path between Burnside and Elk streets, and tree planting along Paradise, was scrapped. The final plan might include some less obtrusive connectivity, such as wayfinding signage.

The result is basically an improved walking path (no bikes). Details, such as appropriate vegetation, lighting and

safety, will be determined later.

Some in the group worried that the new Greenway will be more attractive to the homeless and for undesirable activities. In response, it was pointed out that there would be more foot traffic and recreational activity. This has been shown in other City projects to discourage homeless encampments and nefarious activities, rather than increase them. Also, the Greenway will be designed to encourage people to keep moving through it rather than hanging out.

Other concerns were cost and maintenance. There's no answer for that yet, although it would be the City's responsibility. The more community support there is, the more likely City agencies will work with us on these issues. Foundations might also provide funding. It's also possible that the project might not get done.

After the lengthy discussion, the members of the GPA voted unanimously to endorse the Glen Park Greenway Concept Plan.

You can follow the progress of the Glen Park Greenway Plan at <http://www.glenparkgreenway.org/>

Supervisor Wiener Presentation

District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener ran through a number of issues he's been working on.

One of his major priorities is to streamline the requirements for approving affordable housing, in the middle of an unprecedented housing crisis in the city. Even if we can somehow get costs down, housing is still unaffordable for many, including seniors, emancipated foster youth and teachers. Even if the money and land are available and there is no opposition, it takes a long time, from three to nine months, to go through the approval process.

Wiener's proposal to simplify the authorization process for affordable housing was passed unanimously by the Board of Supervisors and signed into law by the mayor.

Wiener sits on the Budget Committee again this year and is pursuing continued increases in police staffing. Five new academy classes have been funded, so we can expect more patrols in the future.

Also, new police officers will help reform the culture of the department by bringing in younger, more diverse officers, he said. The latest class of cadets elected a transgender woman as class president.

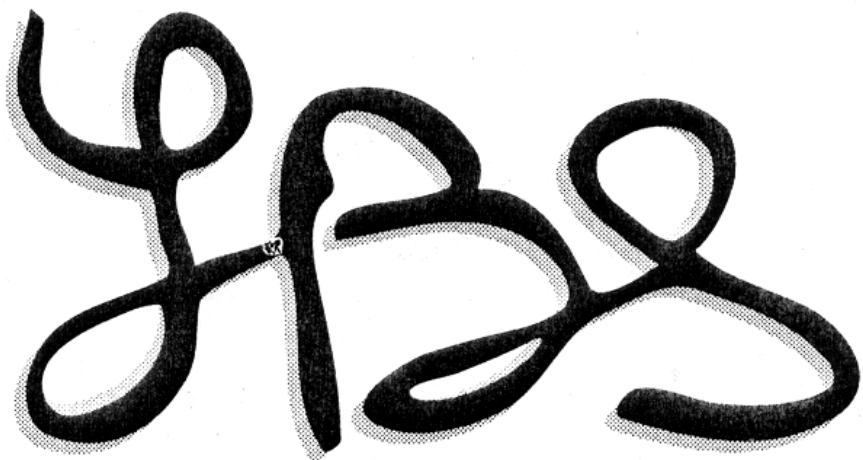
As a member of the regional Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Wiener talked about the proposed Warriors stadium and its impacts on transit. Right now the T-Third Street Muni line is too sporadic. When the Central Subway opens in 2018-19 connecting the Bayview and Chinatown neighborhoods, it is forecast to be Muni's highest used line, surpassing the N-Judah.

The next wave of streetcars is coming and the old ones will be phased out. The number of lightrail vehicles will be doubled and will provide more robust access to the arena. The SFMTA is moving toward dedicated bus lanes going to the Mission and the Castro. Later, Caltrain high-speed rail could go to the Transbay Terminal. One proposed route would take Caltrain down Third Street.

There was discussion about longstanding concerns in Glen Park, such as pedestrian and cyclist safety, street trees, enforcement of leash laws and the shortage of park patrols.

Wiener acknowledged that the Diamond-Bosworth intersection project has been completely mismanaged by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. It's the worst he's seen, he said. The budget has been consumed, so there isn't any funding for the planned signals on Bosworth at Lyell and Arlington streets. The SFMTA is responsible for finding the resources to get it done and Wiener said he will keep pushing for it.

On a more positive note, Wiener favored making San Jose Avenue more of a boulevard. The freeway cutting through the neighborhoods is not good, he said. The eastern slope can be a very blighted area. It would be a massive capital project but it would be a great thing. ❖



Lucy B. Stephenson

Certified Public Accountant

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NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS

The Diamond Heights Community Association has been working with several individuals and agencies involved in a variety of neighborhood improvements. Those involved include District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener; volunteer leader Paul Matalucci; staff members of the City's Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Public Works and the SF Municipal Transportation Agency; Catmex, the organization carrying out Diamond Heights Boulevard median preparation; and a host of community volunteers who have made the following projects possible:

Boulevard Median Project: The median islands on the 5200 and 5300 blocks of Diamond Heights Boulevard have been cleared and prepared for planting in the spring. Landscape architect Brennan Cox has designed a colorful blend of low-growing, drought-tolerant plants and grasses. The landscape plan was reviewed by the neighborhood at a DHCA meeting on March 1. In addition, as many as 15 Italian stone pines will be planted at intervals along the two blocks.

Volunteers are still needed for this huge effort. Matalucci, project leader, says that no experience is necessary, just the desire to help improve the neighborhood. Volunteers will be trained in good planting techniques. Workdays are scheduled for several Saturdays from March to May. The project website, dhhmedian.wordpress.com, has dates and details.

A hot lunch and beverages are provided, along with tools, gloves and kneepads. For more information contact Matalucci at paul@wordwc.com or 415-826-0445.

New Sidewalks: Along with the repaving of Diamond Heights Boulevard later in the year, Public

Works will construct sidewalks along the boulevard at these locations:

- North side, from 5143 Diamond Heights Blvd to the bus stop near Clipper Street.
- West side, from Berkeley Way down Elk Street, bordering Glen Canyon.
- West side, from Berkeley Way uphill to the existing sidewalk.
- North side of Gold Mine Drive uphill from Diamond Heights Boulevard at Addison Street.

Renovation of George Christopher Playground: The Recreation and Park Department received input on renovations at two community meetings last fall. One more meeting to review the final draft plans will be scheduled this spring. Completion of construction is estimated for 2018.

Crosswalk Planning: The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency has started the preliminary work for installing a crosswalk mid-block on the 5200 block of Diamond Heights Boulevard, to connect the shopping center with residents across the street. This project will provide a much-needed pedestrian-safety improvement.

Cisterns: Construction of two new cisterns for the Fire Department has taken longer than anticipated. The first is at Duncan Street and Amber Drive, the second at Duncan and Diamond Heights Boulevard near Clipper. The SFPUC hopes to complete the work and reopen blocked streets this spring.

Diamond Heights Community Association: The Board meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m., at the Police Academy on Amber Drive. Board meetings are open to the public. Additional community-wide meetings are planned for 2016. ♦

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

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❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

Glen Park Elementary School

First, a friendly welcome to new Glen Park School families. We are excited to meet you and to introduce you to our wonderful community. If you'd like to come visit us, whether it's for the first time or to get better acquainted, please join us at one of our spring tours: March 15 and March 22, both at 9 a.m. Tours meet at the school office. Signups are not necessary.

If you're able to get to Glen Park by 8:40 a.m., feel free to join our students and families in the Brompton yard for our morning circle—it's a great way to get a feel for our school community.

Principal Jean Robertson will host an evening tour on April 5 at 5 p.m. Glen Park has an art-focused STEAM night for our community that evening; touring families are welcome to participate. STEAM is an acronym for the curriculum areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics.

Students have been focusing on opinion writing, and their work has been convincing! Parents, teachers and our

principal have all been the recipients of persuasive essays on everything from why sharks are important, to how littering harms the earth, to why our students want a soccer field on the yard. Keep those opinions coming, kids!

Spring has brought with it a flurry of cultural events, as Glen Park celebrated Lunar New Year (red lanterns abounded!) and Black History Month. At morning circle, teachers and students took turns reading poems by African American authors and talking about important individuals in African American history; the week culminated in a school-wide assembly of poetry, dance and music. Thanks to Glen Park teachers and staff for helping us all learn something new every morning.

It's a busy fund-raising season for us, with some exciting changes this year. Our annual shape-up walk—a student-participation fund-raiser at which kids raise money for Glen Park School by running laps and completing obstacle courses—is going technicolor. This year it's been renamed the Rainbow Runathon, and kids will be spritzed with washable color every time they

complete a lap of the school. If you see some rainbow-hued kids running around Glen Park on March 25, give them a big thumbs up!

Our annual silent auction is also approaching. It will be held on Saturday, May 7, at Chez Poulet, 3359 Cesar Chavez St. Glen Park families will be selling tickets and approaching neighborhood businesses for donations. We appreciate your support.

It's raining as I type this. Let's hope the deluge continues and that we are now enjoying a wet spring. Happy rainbows to all!❖

Amy St. Clair DiLaura is the communications chair of the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization. For updates on school events, see glenparkschool.org.

Sunnyside Elementary School

Our 2015–16 school year has been full of fun, learning and discovery for Sunnyside students. They have been working hard in the classrooms and playing hard in our new yard. The kids are really enjoying our new basketball courts, kickball court and four square courts as well as our garden space.

Sunnyside started the new year with an amazing science fair put on by our fourth and fifth graders. They all worked hard on their projects, and it really showed in the quality of their work. The kids researched and carried out experiments on everything from

mushrooms found in San Francisco parks to sugar found in candy, and there were even some live animals involved! We are all so proud of our student scientists and their teachers.

Science wasn't the only thing our kids worked hard on in January. They were also busy working on classroom collaborative art projects. Every classroom worked on its own art project, and they came up with some beautiful pieces. We had a ton of parent volunteers helping with these projects, and they are all ready for our upcoming fundraising Parents Night Out and auction. We are so thankful to have such an involved and active family community.

Each classroom also had the opportunity to work with robots and our math enrichment instructor. Did you know that our Sunnyside kindergartners are programmers? Students really enjoy learning how to make the robots move, make sounds and putting it all together to make them follow patterns and more. All students up to our fifth graders are also working with the robots and are able to program them to go through mazes, tell jokes, respond to voices and lots more! Our wonderful math enrichment instructor works with each class on problem solving and programming for 14 weeks.

You are all invited to our annual SpringFest. This year it will be held on Sunday, May 1, starting at 11 a.m. There will be games, arts and crafts, face-painting and student performances. We would love to see you there!❖

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

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Creeks to Peaks Trail Making Great Strides

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

outcrops, reintroduced habitat-friendly native plants, redwood and California oak trees, perhaps even a coyote or two napping beneath arroyo willow.

The improvements include realigned tread surfaces, sustainable grades and elevated hiking paths that eliminate muddy trail sections.

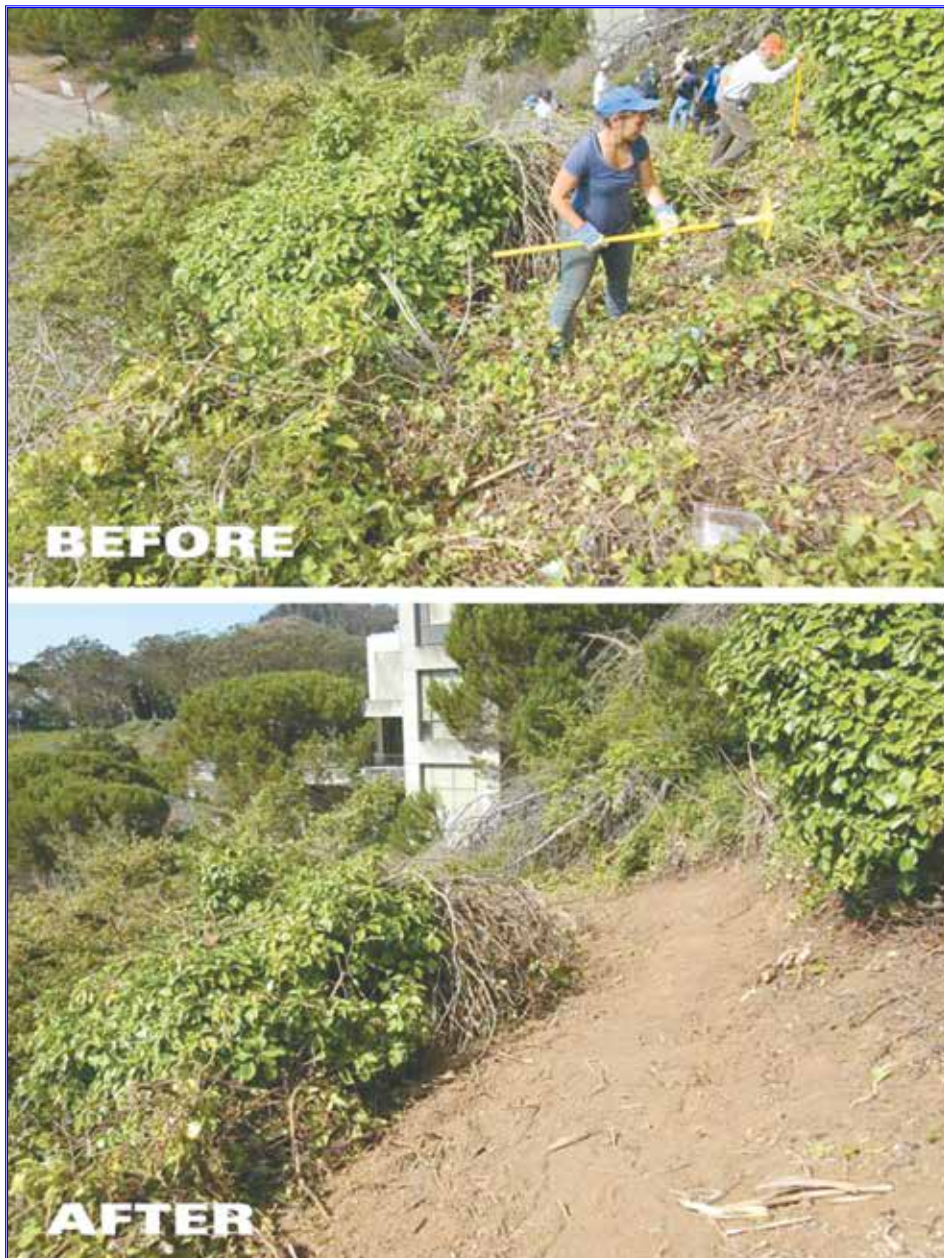
The added box steps and the trail grading complete a process that began in the spring of 2011, when the Trust for Public Land led a participatory design process that solicited input from the public about what it envisioned in Glen Canyon Park.

The result of 12 public meetings, as well as a three-day work party last July by Volunteers for Outdoor California and Rec and Park staffers, the Creeks to Peaks link creates a safe, accessible connection between Glen Canyon Park

and the summits of Twin Peaks.

Except for crossing Portola Drive at Glenview Drive, hikers will be able to enjoy an extended green beltway from Glen Canyon's Elk and Bosworth street entrances to Twin Peaks. Canyon trails, some more strenuous than others—recently named Gum Tree Girls, Islais Creek and Coyote Crag—have long been enjoyed by neighborhood hikers, rock climbers, dog walkers and nursery school and summer camp kids. Completion of the Creeks to Peaks trail will encourage nature lovers from other areas of the city to wrap their imaginations around Glen Canyon's delights.

“The Creeks to Peaks Trail, once this last piece of trail improvements is completed will connect Glen Canyon to Twin Peaks with a premier urban hiking experience not found in many cities,” said Kahn of Rec and Park. ❖



Before and after photos of the trail behind the School of the Arts.
Photos courtesy of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

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“Marc is extremely professional...”

“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

A portion of each of Marc's commissions go to fund projects for his Core Concern:
THE RUTH ASAWA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS



❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

Now that we have all the data from 2015, let's look at what happened and where we might go from here.

But first, the market update:
We saw a little more activity in Glen Park between Nov. 4 and Feb. 10, with a total of 18 sales. Of those, 13 were single-family homes, three were condominiums and two were multi-unit buildings. The average sale price for single-family houses was \$1,455,692, which is about where it was for the prior three-month period. The average sales price was about 12 percent over the list price—the median list price was \$1,149,000 while the median sale price was \$1,310,000. That was a little below the last two quarters. The average number of days on market was a bit longer than it was last quarter, at 26 days.

Let's see how 2015 looked as a whole, and compare it to the last five years.

First let's look at 2015:

- Total number of homes sold: 72
- Average list price: \$1,483,361
- Average sale price: \$1,683,597
- Average days on market: 22
- Average price per square foot: \$931

Compare that to 2011:

- Total number of homes sold: 48
- Average list price: \$1,039,645
- Average sale price: \$1,031,771
- Average days on market: 51
- Average price per square foot: \$568

Thus we see an incredible 63 percent increase in average sale price over the past five years, while the days on market were less than half where they had been. We talk about inventory problems, but 50 percent more homes were sold in 2015 than in 2011. Between 2014 and 2015, there was an increase in sale price of 13 percent.

Now let's compare Glen Park's numbers to San Francisco as a whole and see how we did:

In 2015:

- Average list price : \$1,463,491
- Average sale price: \$1,633,577
- Average days on market: 27

In 2011:

- Average list price: \$956,484
- Average sale price: \$948,212
- Average days on market: 63

How about our neighbors in

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
288 Bemis St.	11/16/15	14	\$1,095,000	\$1,450,000	132.42%
147 Stillings Ave.	11/18/15	1	\$1,149,000	\$1,300,000	113.14%
277 Bemis St.	11/20/15	7	\$895,000	\$1,150,000	128.49%
130 Chilton Ave.	11/30/15	11	\$899,000	\$1,060,000	117.91%
2563 Diamond St.	11/30/15	6	\$1,895,000	\$1,895,000	100.00%
814 Detroit St.	12/2/15	12	\$1,279,000	\$1,310,000	102.42%
283 Bemis St.	12/10/15	17	\$1,795,000	\$2,150,000	119.78%
155 Arbor St.	12/15/15	34	\$928,000	\$1,080,000	116.38%
3001 Castro St.	12/21/15	118	\$1,695,000	\$1,695,000	100.00%
232 Bemis St.	12/22/15	24	\$949,000	\$1,085,000	114.33%
1231 Bosworth St.	12/23/15	32	\$899,000	\$899,000	100.00%
382 Surrey St.	12/28/15	38	\$1,749,000	\$1,900,000	108.63%
149 Laidley St.	2/3/16	25	\$1,695,000	\$1,950,000	115.04%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
315 Arlington St.	12/3/15	12	\$899,000	\$1,000,000	111.23%
407 Miguel St. #A	12/10/15	66	\$579,000	\$605,000	104.49%
409 Miguel St.	12/10/15	64	\$479,000	\$510,000	106.47%
140-142 Laidley St. - 3 units	12/4/15	39	\$2,995,000	\$2,950,000	98.50%
3101 Castro St. - 3 units	1/26/16	44	\$1,380,000	\$1,265,000	91.67%
154 Laidley St. - 5-unit building	10/23/15	42	\$1,750,000	\$1,823,000	104.17%
DOM - Days on market SP/LP - % over list price					

Sunnyside? In 2011 the average sale price in Sunnyside was \$628,000. The average sale price in 2015 in Sunnyside was \$1,255,000. That is a whopping 100 percent increase! If you look at just 2014-15, prices increased from an average of \$892,000 to \$1,255,000—a 40 percent increase. Why such a jump in Sunnyside? As buyers are getting priced out of Glen Park, Noe Valley and Eureka Valley, they are turning to neighborhoods considered to be more affordable, so prices are increasing more rapidly in those areas.

To take one more example, let's look at the Excelsior district. In 2011, the average sale price was \$468,000, compared to \$827,000 in 2015—a 76 percent increase. From 2014 to 2015, the increase was about 18 percent. Again, buyers turned to the more affordable areas of the city.

What does it all mean to Glen Park homeowners? Let's say you purchased your home for \$950,000 in 2011. You might well be able to sell it in today's market for \$1.5-1.6 million, depending on its condition and what improvements you have made.

Moving forward, all signs indicate that the San Francisco market will remain very strong. Buyer demand

should remain high as inventory levels continue to be low. From what I expect and what the pundits are saying, we will see more modest increases in home prices—somewhere between 3 and 5

percent—so we should be at more normal increase in prices and gains in equity. Since no one has a crystal ball, it will be interesting to see where we end up at the end of 2016. Last year at this time, I predicted that prices would increase around 5 percent for 2015, but it was actually 13 percent. Demand vs. supply!

How about interest rates? The Federal Reserve did raise the key interest rate one-quarter of 1 percent in the last quarter, the first raise in more than a decade. Predictions at the beginning of the year were that we would see about a 1 percent rise in rates during 2016, but for a number of reasons that is now in question. Currently a 30-year fixed rate loan is at about 3.75 percent, which is virtually unchanged from a year ago.

Enjoy your spring, and I'll see you around our hood.

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

Marc Dickow, a Glen Park resident, is the Broker/Owner at Core7 Real Estate. He can be reached at marc@opni.com, or by phone at 415-722-4018. His website is www.altrockrealtor.com



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♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR SPRING 2016 ♦

Every Monday

Family Storytime & Playtime
4–5:30, *Glen Park Library, 2825 Diamond St.*
Books, songs and fun for children of all ages.

Every Tuesday

Family Storytime & Playtime
10:30–11:30, *Glen Park Library*
Books, songs and fun for children of all ages.

Every Wednesday

Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Parties
9–noon. Meet behind the Rec Center.
Volunteers are welcome to work with the Recreation and Park Department’s Natural Areas Program staff. For information, contact David Burnet at 415-871-0203 or email david.burnet@sfgov.org.

Every Friday

Food Pantry
1–2 pm, *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.staidan.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
8–10, *Bird & Beckett*
Live evening performances

Every Sunday

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

Canyon Moonlight
7:30-9:30, *Bird & Beckett*
A weekly concert series.

Monday, March 21

Poetry with Open Mic
7-9, *Bird & Beckett*
Poets read, followed by open mic.

Tuesday, March 22

Glen Park School Tour
9 a.m., *Glen Park School, 151 Lippard St.*
Drop-in tour for new and potential parents.

Wednesday, March 23

Resilient Diamond Heights
3:30–5, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*
This neighborhood emergency/disaster planning workgroup meets the 4th Wednesday of each month. Glen Park residents are welcome to participate.

Thursday, March 24

Marble Machine Tinkering
2–4, *Glen Park Library*
Roll a marble down a contraption of your own design, built with everyday materials and your imagination. By The Exploratorium Tinkering Studio.

SAT Workshop
4:30-7, *Glen Park Library*
CCSF Forum Magazine
6-8, *Bird & Beckett*
Literary Magazine by CCSF students. Contributors read their work. Past contributors are welcome.

Saturday, March 26

Grant Levine Duo
4-6:30, *Bird & Beckett*
2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.

Thursday, March 31

Hardware Craft
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*
Make a bracelet or necklace with hardware, like washers and nuts. We bring the materials, you make the craft. Ages 10–18.

Monday, April 4

Poetry with Open Mic
7-9, *Bird & Beckett*
Poets read, followed by open mic.

Tuesday, April 5

Evening School Tour
5 p.m., *Glen Park School, 151 Lippard St.*
Principal Jean Robertson will host tour of the school.
Homeless/Unhoused in San Francisco
7-9 pm, *Bird & Beckett*
An informational meeting with Amy Farah Weiss and the Saint Francis Homelessness Challenge

Wednesday, April 6

Diamond Diners Lunch & Social Hour
Noon–1, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*
The first Wednesday of the month, volunteers prepare and serve free hot lunch to seniors over age 55 who live in the 94131 zip code. Reservations are not required.

LEGO Free Play
2–4, *Glen Park Library*
First Wednesday of the month. Legos for architects, engineers and artists of the future. Parents and caregivers are welcome to building with their child. Monday program for ages 5-12.

Friday, April 8

Teen Time
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*
2nd Friday of the month. Teens do homework, hang out, and occasionally play video games

Saturday, April 9

Glen Canyon Park History Tour
10-1, meet at the *Glen Park* cow sign on *Elk St.* at the *car turnout*, near *Chenery St.*
Bovines, Dynamite, High-Flying Shows: The Amazing History of Glen Canyon Park, led by Evelyn Rose. All ages welcome. Well-behaved pets on leash also welcome. Group limited to 15 people. Reserve by emailing GlenParkHistory@gmail.com, or calling 415-584-1498. Suggested minimum donation \$5 to help support GPNHP activities
Playdate at the Library
1–4, *Glen Park Library*
Tents for hiding; baby corral for lounging; Big Bilder™ for fort creating; percussion instruments for beating and banging; and other fun and family friendly activities.

Grant Levine Duo
4-6:30, *Bird & Beckett*
2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.

Sunday, April 10

Past Presidential Politics
2-3:30, *Bird & Beckett*
Scholar Fred Martin on Abraham Lincoln’s path to re-election.

Thursday, April 14

Teen Game On!
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*
2nd Thursday of the month. Come play PS3 or Xbox 360 games on our big screen! We have a selection of games, but you can bring your own T or E rated games to. Challenge your friends to determine who is the ultimate gamer! Ages 8–18 welcome.
Bird & Beckett Book Club
2nd Thursday of the month, 7-9, *Bird & Beckett*
A book is discussed each meeting. Participants choose the next month’s book

Friday, April 15

Great Teen Book Swap
3rd Friday of the month, 3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*
Free book! Just swap us a review. Here’s how it works: the teen librarian will bring out several books (new titles, old titles, and titles that have not been published yet) and allow teens the chance to browse through them for one that they’d like to keep. Teens will, in turn, give us a review of the book by the next swap. For ages 12–18.

Saturday, April 16

Rosie Fabric Pins
1:30–3, *Glen Park Library*
Create your own beautiful Rosie Pin to celebrate the coming of summer! Esther Kwan leads this fun craft workshop. Her fabric Rosie Pins have been displayed and sold at various boutiques and at the SF Quilters’ Guild. All materials provided. Space limited. Sign up at the Information Desk or call 415-355-2858.

Sunday, April 17

Lego Free Play
1–4, *Glen Park Library* (See April 6)
Marina Lazzara, Julie Rogers & poets!
2-4, *Bird & Beckett*

Monday, April 18

Poetry with Open Mic
7-9, *Bird & Beckett*

Tuesday, April 19

SFPD Community Forums
7–8 p.m., *location varies*
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 people who keep our neighborhood safe. For information, visit the website at InglesidePoliceStation.com or call the station at 415-404-4050.

Wednesday, April 20

eReader Drop-In
3–4, *Glen Park Library*
Did you know that you can check out electronic editions of library books for free? Learn how to enjoy SF Public Library’s collection of more than 40,000 eBooks at this workshop. Bring your Kindle, Nook, iPad or other eReader device and learn how to download materials from the library website.

Thursday, April 2

Glen Park Association Meeting
7pm, *St. John Church*
*Agenda: Updates from Supervisor Scott Wiener
*Presentation on Better BART Initiative for systemwide upgrades.

Saturday, April 23

Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project General Meeting
3:30-5:30, *Glen Park Library, meeting room*
Special guest Susan Sutton, who will discuss the history of Silver Tree Day Camp in Glen Canyon.

Grant Levine Duo
4-6:30, *Bird & Beckett*
2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.

Sunday, April 24

18th Annual Glen Park Festival
10-4, *Diamond and Wilder*
Come enjoy of day of fun, music, art, food, and festivities as Glen Park once again kicks off the neighborhood festival season!
Native Plant Garden Tour
11-3, *Free self-guided tour*
The S.F. Native Plant Society’s Yerba Buena Chapter will open at least 20 gardens in Glen Park, Miraloma Park, Noe Valley and other neighborhoods, with knowledgeable native plant enthusiasts as hosts. Find ideas for your own garden to save water and attract birds and butterflies. Visit cnps-yerbabuena.org for a map, descriptions and addresses.
Walker Talks
2:30-4, *Bird & Beckett*
Walker Brents III address various issues.

Wednesday, April 27

Resilient Diamond Heights
3:30–5, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.* (See March 23rd)

Thursday, April 28

Fun with Ozobots
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library*
Have you ever made a robot dance? Ozobots follow marker-drawn trails and read color-coded instructions. Ozobots are a fun and easy way to try out simple coding and robotics.

Sunday, May 1

SpringFest
11 a.m., *Sunnyside School, 250 Foerster St.*
Games, arts and crafts, face-painting, performances.

Monday, May 2

Poetry with Open Mic
7-9, *Bird & Beckett*
Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
7 pm, *St. Finn Barr, Room, 415 Edna St.*
Quarterly membership meeting

Tuesday, May 3

Nachoem Wijnberg: A Reading
7-8:30, *Bird & Beckett*
The author, whose book “*The Jews: A Novel*” has just been translated into English, is joined by a translator.

Wednesday, May 4

Diamond Diners Lunch & Social Hour
Noon–1, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.* (See April 6th)
LEGO Free Play
2–4, *Glen Park Library* (See April 6th)

Wednesday, May 11

Stream Comics and More with Hoopla
6:30–7:30, *Glen Park Library*
The Library offers free streaming of popular eBooks, music, TV shows, feature films and audiobooks. Find out how you can read, watch, and listen from your portable devices in this quick overview of hoopla. Bring your laptop, tablet or smartphone for a hands-on demo of this awesome free service.

Thursday, May 12

Teen Game On!
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library* (See April 14th)
Bird & Beckett Book Club
7-9, *Bird & Beckett* (See April 14th)

Friday, May 13

Teen Time
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library* (See April 8)

Saturday, May 14

Glen Canyon Park History Tour
10-1, *Glen Park, Elk St. turnout near Chenery St.* (See April 9th)
Sunnyside History Walk
11-1, meet at *Baden and Monterey, a short way from Glen Park BART*

A Walk Down Mid-Century Monterey Boulevard, led by Amy O’Hair. All ages 12 and up are welcome. Well-behaved pets on leash also welcome. Group limited to 15 people. Reserve now by emailing SunnysideHistory@gmail.com. Moderately difficult, with some stairs. Severe weather cancels. Suggested minimum donations \$5.

Grant Levine Duo
4-6:30, *Bird & Beckett*

Sunday, May 15

Lego Free Play
1–4, *Glen Park Library* (See April 6)

Monday, May 16

Poetry with Open Mic
7-9, *Bird & Beckett*

Tuesday, May 17

SFPD Community Forums
7–8 p.m., *location varies* (See April 19)

Wednesday, May 18

eReader Drop-In
3–4, *Glen Park Library* (See April 20)
Cross-Talk: An Anthology of Greek Poetry
7-9, *Bird & Beckett*

Friday, May 20

Great Teen Book Swap
3:30–5, *Glen Park Library* (See April 15)

Wednesday, May 25

Resilient Diamond Heights
3:30–5, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.* (See March 23rd)

Tuesday, May 31

Zoomobile
3–5, *Glen Park Library*
The Zoomobile brings an up-close and hands-on experience to learn about the wonders of nature and the animals who share our world. Space is limited to 35 children. Call 415-355-2858 for reservations.

Wednesday, June 1

Diamond Diners Lunch & Social Hour
Noon–1, *St. Aidan’s Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.* (See April 6)