



Glen Park News

Glen Park Resident Tapped for Supervisor

Glen Park resident Jeff Sheehy, the newest member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, didn't make his political mark as a neighborhood activist. But the District 8 representative plans to pay a lot of attention to traffic congestion, potholes, car break-ins and other neighborhood livability issues.

by
Rachel
Gordon

"I think it's great to have somebody from Glen Park in the Board of Supervisors seat, but I also think it's great no matter where you live in the city to have someone focused on neighborhoods, having someone who's raising a kid in the public schools, having someone who's just a regular guy," he said.

That regular guy who grew up in Texas has a solid history in the rough-and-tumble world of San Francisco politics, having gained prominence for his years of work as an HIV/AIDS activist—he's the first person on the Board of Supervisors openly living with HIV—and as a crusader for LGBT rights.

At one time, he served as then-Mayor Gavin Newsom's advisor on HIV/AIDS. When current Mayor Ed Lee tapped him for the supervisor's post, Sheehy was the longtime director of communications at UC San Francisco's AIDS Research Institute.

Sheehy, who served as president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club, helped craft and win City Hall backing for San Francisco's groundbreaking Equal Benefits Ordinance. The 1996 law, successfully defended in court and withstanding pressure from business interests, requires employers with City contracts to offer the same benefits to people with domestic partners as their married colleagues receive.

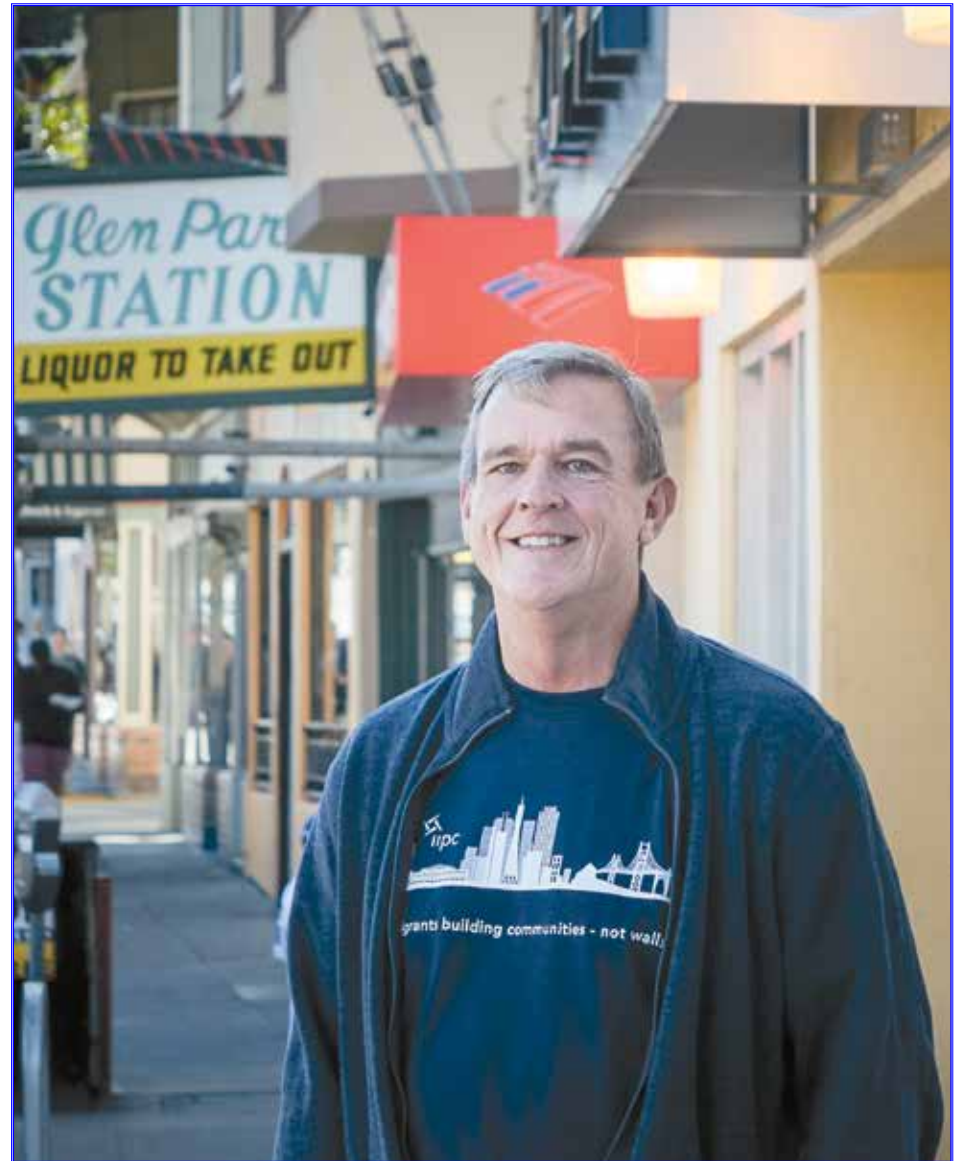
Today, more than 4,000 companies across the United States conform to San Francisco's mandate, and many other state and local governments followed San Francisco's lead with similar laws of their own.

"Jeff Sheehy has spent his entire life fighting for his community and for what he believes is right, and I know that as supervisor, Jeff will be a proven fighter for residents of his district and for our entire city, too," said Mayor Lee, himself a Glen Park resident, who appointed Sheehy to the seat vacated by Scott Wiener. Wiener, who backed Sheehy's appointment, gave up his Board of Supervisors job after winning his race for state Senate in November.

Lee announced the pick on Jan. 6, and Sheehy took the oath of office two days later.

Sheehy, who turns 60 in April, lives with his husband Bill Berry, the trans-actions coordinator for a real estate

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Newly District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy on Diamond Street in Glen Park.
Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

One Classroom: 13 Different Teachers

Miss Nelson is much put-upon. Her students are so inconsiderate and uncooperative that one day, she does not show up to school. Her students, who took much joy in torturing her, are at first excited to have a new victim, but soon realize that Miss Viola Swamp, her replacement, is no push-over.

by
Susan
Sutton

In his book *Miss Nelson is Missing!*

Harry Allard describes the scene when Miss Nelson's substitute arrives: "I am your new teacher, Miss Viola Swamp." And she rapped the desk with her ruler. "Where is Miss Nelson?" asked the kids. "Never mind that!" snapped Miss Swamp.

In the end, when the children in Room 207 learn to behave and to appreciate Miss Nelson, she returns, and the students eagerly welcome her back.

For the children in Room 6 at Glen Park Elementary School, their parents believe it was the students who suffered needlessly after a succession of 13 teachers and temporary substitutes served as their first-grade teacher from mid-October to early January during the current school year.

In mid-October, when the main concern of the first graders and their parents was choosing a Halloween costume,

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GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday April, 6
7 p.m.

St. John School
925 Chenery St.

- Presentation on the Recology rate increase
- Rec+Park—status of the rec center construction
- Glen Park Greenway, status and future work days.

GLEN PARK NEWS

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❖ GPA PRESIDENT'S (AMERITUS) COLUMN ❖

Jan. 26, 2017: I'm in front of the standing-room-only crowd at the Glen Park Association meeting at St. John School. Are they here for the dramatic annual election of GPA officers? Oh, wait.

by
Michael
Rice

Our newly appointed District 8 Supervisor, Jeff Sheehy, will be coming to speak. That

brings the folks out tonight.

Yet, before Jeff arrives, a bit of drama ensues as I announce I am stepping down after 12 years as GPA president. I truly appreciate the thanks I hear, and the welcome offered to Scott Stawicki as the new president.

Now: A few weeks later, I am looking back on learning and helping about many Glen Park topics and issues, including 12 years of writing this column in the Glen Park News. The columns were long filed away on my Mac, and each opened with a click. I found some lessons in those old columns.

In December 2008, I wrote a list of goals it would be great to see in Glen Park and San Francisco. Some are under way, some have stalled and some, I'm afraid, are wishful thinking, as you can see below:

- "Repave every patched, pot-holed, bumpy street; Is there any drive across town where we don't have to wait and take a detour for PG&E, SFPUC or Public Works paving work?"
- At the same time, pull down the poles and wires and put everything underground at one go; improve street lighting; Wishful thinking.
- Buy lots of buses for Muni. Make them easy to ride—in Nashville, every city bus rider can swipe a Visa or MasterCard; Clipper Cards – Yes!
- Widen the sidewalks; paint lots of yellow crosswalks; Spotty. Still waiting for new crosswalk at Sussex and Elk; Diamond and Bosworth was a hard experience to get right.
- Build a linear park along the city property parallel to Bosworth from Diamond Street to Elk Street; Progress. We have the adopted Greenway Concept Plan, and look forward to a Community Challenge Grant to start new landscaping.
- Renovate the Glen Park Recreation Center; With 72 percent "Yes" in Glen Park, we passed Proposition B in 2012. The expanded, updated Rec Center will open this spring.
- Fix more schools; build fewer jails. We are fixing schools. Jails are on hold.



New GPA Vice President Stephany Wilkes and outgoing President Michael Rice.

Photos by Michael Waldstein

• Make the auto companies turn their engineering and industrial base to putting out quiet, fuel-efficient transit vehicles." There are lots of new hybrid buses on the street, but I am not such a fan of a future of streets filled with "self-driving" cars. In October 2009, I wrote about neighborhood parking, concluding: "Finally, I remember: After I moved to San Francisco in the 1970s, it was only about two weeks before I realized every

car trip in the city needs a plan: Where will I park when I get there? It won't be right in front of the store or restaurant. I learned to enjoy walking a couple of extra blocks." ❖

Michael Rice served tirelessly as president of the Glen Park Association from 2005 through 2016. A roster of current GPA officers, including new officers elected at the January 2017 Annual Meeting, is on Page 3.

Glen Park Association Elects New Leadership

Michael Rice capped his 12-year run as president of the Glen Park Association and handed the leadership torch to Scott Stawicki on Jan. 26 at the Association's quarterly meeting, when members elected offi-

cers for the coming year. by Bonnee Waldstein

Rice said it had been quite an honor to serve, but added, "I'm happy to get some of my time back!" He presided over more than 40 neighborhood meetings during his tenure at the helm. He also spent countless hours dealing with representatives of the City and community groups on matters important to Glen Park.

Rice highlighted a few of the issues he's worked on over the years: the Glen Park Community Plan, the Glen Park Greenway and the improvements in Glen Canyon Park—and he noted the continuing challenges of transit and parking in our bustling neighborhood.

He also observed that it will be good for the neighborhood and the association to have new leadership.



Michael Rice, center, talks with new GPA President Scott Stawicki, right.

Stawicki paid tribute to Rice's long service: "Whether you know it or not, Michael's touched your life in many ways by his diligent work on behalf of our neighborhood. He's got big shoes to fill."

In addition to electing a new president, the GPA members elected Stephany Wilkes vice president, Dennis Mullen treasurer, Heather World recording secretary, Bonnee Waldstein corresponding secretary and Hilary Schiraldi membership secretary. ❖

❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

The Glen Park News is produced by a diverse group of volunteers. Our youngest reporter—to date—was an 8-year-old student who reported on kid-friendly aspects of the erstwhile Glen Park farmers' market. The oldest will turn 80 this spring. All of our editors have professional Bay Area newspaper experience. One was also a reporter for NBC News and Associated Press.

In each issue, our neighborhood columnists cover topics ranging from gardening to real estate, from school and library activities to local history, and from City government issues to news from the Glen Park Association and our neighbors in Diamond Heights.

Amid the quarterly influx of information we assemble for readers, it's easy sometimes to take for granted a whole other group of volunteers who actually bring the paper to you.

Regular readers are familiar with the byline of Murray Schneider on stories about interesting neighborhood people and events, and about Glen Canyon Park (where he also volunteers). Schneider also wears the hat of Distribution Manager. He coordinates that whole other group of volunteers, making sure the Glen Park News is delivered individually to homes throughout Glen Park and in batches to

the Glen Park Library and local businesses.

Three of Schneider's longtime volunteers are giving up their routes this spring, but a new generation is already picking up where they left off.

Surrey Street's Zoanne Nordstrom, one of the trio of "Gum Tree Girls" who successfully fought plans to build a freeway through Glen Canyon, has given up her Glen Park News delivery route. A former president of the Glen Park Association, Nordstrom is still going to be a loyal reader.

This Spring 2017 issue is the last that Steve Uchida will be delivering. Steve is moving to Monterey County at the end of April. In addition to delivering the Glen Park News, Uchida, a retired postal worker, volunteers each Wednesday with Friends of Glen Canyon Park.

We're also grateful for the service of Rebecca MurrayMetzger, who has done double duty as a reporter and a paper carrier. She is moving to Westwood Park and ending her delivery duties.

Lots of kids had paper routes back when most local papers were delivered daily. From the time he was a fifth grader till he was well into high school, Schneider rode his bike around the Outer Sunset district, delivering the San Francisco Call Bulletin. Our copy editor

delivered the Burlingame Advance on his bicycle in San Mateo Park when he was in sixth grade.

But the Glen Park News easily tops them: We have a new paperboy who's a second grader. Raiden Ippen delivered his neighborhood route for the first time in December. His mother Chandra Ippen emailed Schneider: "Just wanted to let you know that Raiden delivered all the papers yesterday. So glad to be part of this effort." Well done, Raiden.

Schneider reports that our Fall 2016 item seeking volunteers paid dividends: "Chandra replied to it, as did several others. We now have a waiting list of future paper deliverers."

Shelley Estelle's son is the youngest carrier. "He's just four and a half," Estelle told Schneider. "He got really excited about having a job that I could pay him for, so he can buy Legos. We'll do it together." This issue will be his "trial run," distributing papers to 135 houses near his home.

Another "newbie" newsboy who joins us this spring is 14-year-old eighth grader Daniel Golinski, who will cover 130 homes in the Surrey-Laidley-Chenery area.

We think the Glen Park News is the best little all-volunteer paper in town. If you'd like to participate, let us know. ❖

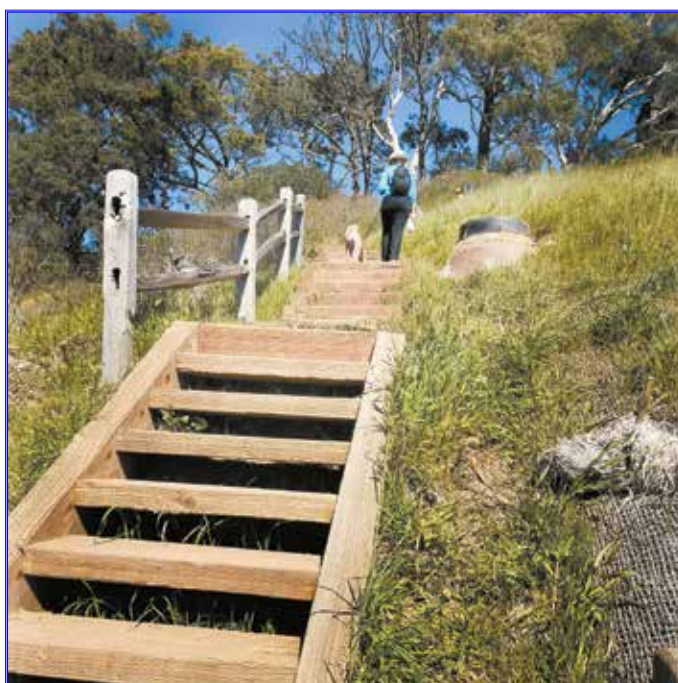
How We Learned to Love the Stairs

When Rec and Parks started "improving" Glen Canyon Park with boardwalks and box steps, I hated the "urbanization" of a unique, unspoiled—and irreplaceable—refuge smack in the middle of San Francisco. Up in the canyon, by the creek, the trickle of water and smell of anise magically conjured childhood play along the banks of Santa Rosa Creek behind my grandparents' home.

Turns out I wasn't the only one fretting, and ultimately reconsidering my objections.

Jodell Scott, who lives on Arlington Street with her dog Teagen, put my thoughts into words, in a recent post on the site Nextdoor Glen Park:

"A couple of years ago, there was some controversy about putting in



One set of new stairs, leading up to Christopher Playground.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

stairs in the steep terrain of the beautiful and natural Glen Canyon. I didn't really have a strong opinion at the time, although at first it looked strange to see something man-made in such a glorious and natural setting.

"After the recent epic rains I am a true fan of these stairs. I noticed that between downpours I could still walk in the hills with my young and lively dog. The hill and trails held up with those stairs, and the path never became inaccessible with mud as some of the lower canyon and hillside areas without stairs did.

"I think it was great foresight to plan this addition to the canyon, because it will preserve those trails for many years and through all kinds of weather."

She went on to hope that the old Sussex Street stairs (from Elk) are in the overall plan for an upgrade.

While Scott applauds the hillside stairs' conservation aspects, I've grown to appreciate the accessibility they afford to people who otherwise couldn't navigate steep areas. Now, as my agility and balance decline with age, I must confess I sometimes wish for handrails! ❖

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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.

Recreation Center Makeover in Nearing Completion

For many Glen Park residents, the extensive renovation of the Recreation Center building in our beloved Glen Canyon Park seems never-ending. But have faith—the end is near. The plan is to have the Rec Center open well in time for summer activities.

The bond-funded, \$12 million project has faced a number of unforeseen obstacles, including extensive dry rot in the exterior walls. And, most recently, unrelenting rains have presented challenges for contractor crews working on

the final aspects of the exterior.

The latest and most involved work has been exterior stucco application to the building walls. First, multiple base layers of blue waterproof coating were applied, then an additional layer of darker scratch coat, and finally the treatment of outer stucco in a light sandy color.

“The color is integrated into the final layer of stucco, not painted onto it,” explained Brett Desmarais, the Recreation and Park Department project manager overseeing the makeover.

Additionally, a special anti-graffiti clear coat will be applied to the lower 10 feet of the building’s wall.

The latest series of delays can mostly be blamed on Mother Nature. Rain and moisture have been the main factors delaying completion of the stucco work. Site work in general is also greatly hampered by rain; this includes trenching, irrigation, walkways and landscape planting. The outdoor areas involved in these specific projects do not dry out quickly, adding additional delays.

Interior construction however, has continued to progress. A retractable wall in the new building addition has been installed, as well as a welcome desk with newly installed drywall and wood trim. Basketball hoops, tile work in the restrooms, renovation of the fireplace and a fully equipped kitchen—not a large

“teaching” kitchen as previously proposed—are in final stages of completion.

Work on new landscape drainage and irrigation is next, followed by paving and planting. A new domestic water line and backflow preventer has been installed near the sidewalk at the corner of Elk and Chenery streets, with a water meter beneath the sidewalk. The visible equipment for the backflow preventer is covered by a metal cage.

A finishing touch will be an approved art installation, comprising three “Solar Totems,” created by Charles Sowers Studio; they will be placed near the picnic tables. The sculptures will be installed once their foundation is put in place.

Project Manager Desmarais regularly posts progress updates. To follow the updates, visit: <http://sfrecpark.org/project/glen-canyon-park-2012-bond/> ♦



Construction progresses inside the recreation center.

Photo by Brett Desmarais

♦ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ♦

I am writing this on a rainy Friday afternoon and thinking that you will be reading it on a glorious spring day. After all the rain, I have visions of a beautiful spring with colorful, fragrant flowers, butterflies, invigorating walks in Glen Canyon and of course many trips to the library.

The library has many events for you this spring, all of which are included in the Community Calendar on Page 24 of this issue. I want to take this moment to invite you to two special programs that focus on Glen Park.

In honor of Women’s History Month, on Wednesday, March 29 at 6:30 p.m., Evelyn Rose, chair and founder of the

Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project, presents “Glen Park Ladies,” a talk exploring the lives of some of Glen Park’s earliest civic activists and suffragists, and how they played important roles in the history of Glen Park, San Francisco and beyond. Wearing your knitted pink

caps is encouraged!

To celebrate the library itself, join us on Saturday, May 20, 2–5 p.m. for the Glen Park Library Open House. The Open House will start with classical music by the Glen Park Trio. The trio comprises two flutists, Stephen Shapiro and Danny Beagle, and violinist Janet Houser. Shapiro, former executive director for the Community Music Center, is a longtime Glen Park resident and a tremendous library supporter. He has gathered the trio together to share music in our beautiful space.

While enjoying the music, you can taste-test our food demonstration (exactly what is to be determined, as we’re still planning the menu); participate in craft and kid activities; and learn more about the many free library resources. At 3:30 we will have a huge treat—the Fratello Marionettes will perform “The Vaudeville Follies,” a family cabaret variety show presented in the spirit of the old-time music hall.

The puppeteers perform in full view of the audience. The show is filled with sophisticated marionettes that range in size from one to three feet tall, and include singers, dancers, clowns, classical trick marionettes and our trained dog, Puddles. There’s even a clown blowing up a balloon! This is a day at the library that shouldn’t be missed. ♦

Katrin Reimuller is the chief librarian of the Glen Park Library.

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

GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

Monday/Tuesday 10-6

Wednesday 12-8

Thursday 12-7

Friday/Saturday 1-6

Sunday 1-5

❖ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ❖

I am honored to serve as your new District 8 supervisor. The neighborhoods of District 8 are vibrant and diverse, and it is our neighborhoods that make San Francisco great.

My husband Billy and I live in Glen Park with our daughter, a sixth grader in San Francisco public schools. I'm focused on ensuring that San Francisco continues to be a great place to grow up. That means keeping families in San Francisco, making sure City services are delivered well and efficiently, and preserving neighborhood quality of life.

As a Glen Park neighbor, I am focused on our community. When I attended the Glen Park Association meeting, it was great to see so many of you and welcome new President Scott Stawicki.

Now, I am working to help fund the improvement plan for the Greenway (see story, Page 12) and to fix the congested intersection at Diamond and Bosworth streets.

During recent floods near Cayuga Avenue in nearby Mission Terrace, I went door-to-door to speak with community residents, and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is working on solving this recurring problem once and for all.

For Women's History Month this March, we'll honor Glen Park School Principal Jean Robertson for her work educating young people. We must thank the people in our community who make history every day by leaving a positive impact on our youngest residents.

Board President London Breed appointed me to the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee,

where my first citywide priority is working with my colleagues, the community and our public safety professionals to develop a comprehensive neighborhood crime prevention strategy. I've heard many great ideas: investments in crime prevention efforts, more neighborhood foot beat officers, providing resources for effective prosecution and community organizing are just a few.

Supporting the sheriff in warrant enforcement could be an effective way to assist the Police Department in addressing petty crime. My goal is to coordinate the various public safety agencies so the City can be successful at keeping our neighborhoods safe.

I will also serve on the Budget and Finance Committee, where we will work diligently to fund City-wide priorities—healthcare, including programs for long-term survivors of HIV/AIDS; children's services; and public transportation. We will also work to provide critical funding for neighborhood concerns, so please reach out to

our office with your budget priorities.

Our first Glen Park neighborhood office hours are scheduled for Friday, March 24, 1–5 p.m. More information will be circulated soon.

Finally, I urge you to join me and the rest of the City family to resist attacks from the new administration. San Francisco faces an existential threat. Our values are the polar opposite of those expounded by the people taking power in Washington, D.C. To that end, I am serving as vice-chair of the newly established Budget and Finance Federal Select Committee. This committee will help prepare budget responses to assaults ranging from repealing the Affordable Care Act to attacks on Sanctuary City policy.

Please feel free to call my office, at 415-554-6968, or send an email to jeff.sheehy@sfgov.org. I look forward to seeing you around our neighborhood. ❖

Supervisor Jeff Sheehy represents District 8, which includes Glen Park, on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Annual Glen Park Festival Set for Sunday, April 30th

Celebrating its 19th year, the Glen Park Festival will take place on April 30 in downtown Glen Park, with all proceeds going to key programs for neighborhood children and the community.

Last year's festival raised \$14,000 for community programs, supported entirely by T-shirt sales, individual donations, festival sponsors and vendors.

The only way to purchase the popular long-sleeve version of the Glen Park Festival T-shirt is through pre-sale on the website, at <http://glenparkfestival.com/shirts>. Orders must be placed before April 13. Short sleeve-styles are available through pre-sale and at the festival. This year's T-shirt will feature a new design.

Many organizations and programs benefited from the Glen Park Festival last year: Centro Las Olas Preschool purchased art supplies; Commodore Sloat Elementary School refurbished one of its learning areas; Fairmount Elementary School created community-building events; Glen Park Elementary paid for an eco-friendly cleaning team; Glenridge Cooperative Nursery purchased learning toys; and Miraloma Cooperative Nursery purchased microscopes.

Other recipients: Monroe Elementary School used its grant for art, cooking and garden supplies; Noe Valley Nursery School bought new toys and equipment; St. Finn Bar Catholic School developed a garden learning area; and Sunnyside Elementary School purchased refurbished iPads for two special-education classrooms.

The 2017 Glen Park Festival will be open from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and feature entertainment, vendors, food, beer and wine. Entertainment on the main stage will include popular returning acts Jinx Jones and Bayonics, and new additions Fog Swamp, Rojai. There also will be salsa lessons with Moira.

Children's entertainment starts at 10 a.m. and will include street painting and bubbles with Little Artistas; puppet-making with The Rabbit Hole; a martial arts demonstration with One Martial Arts; Bricks for Kidz Interactive Lego demonstration; and arts and crafts with DrawBridge.

Donations always are welcome and tax-deductible. Interested sponsors and vendors can contact the committee: <http://www.glenparkfestival.com/> supporters. Community organizations that wish to apply for a grant can do so by May 23, 2017 on the website: <http://www.glenparkfestival.com/beneficiaries> ❖

19th-Annual
Glen Park Festival

A Neighborhood Tradition to Support the
Glen Park Community

Sunday, April 30th
10am to 4:30pm on Diamond St.

Entertainment Schedule

Master of Ceremonies: Chuck Polling	
10:00-10:45 AM	Children's Entertainment
11:00-12:00 PM	Fog Swamp
12:15-1:00 PM	Rojai
1:15-2:30 PM	Jinx Jones (Rockabilly/Twang)
2:30-3:00 PM	Salso Lessons with Moira
3:15-4:30 PM	Bayonics (Latin/Funk/Reggae/R&B)

Changes Abound in Business District

Tataki Canyon is gone, but sushi is not—Tekka House will open its doors soon. Rockit Swirl has morphed into Cuppa, with the new sign going up on the family friendly eatery's storefront in early March.

Glen Park Hardware, under its new ownership, is settling into the fabric of our neighborhood, and the new health drop-in clinic has been "ahead of budget." Where Bernie Kelly's museum-piece IBM Selectric once held sway, construction is proceeding on a skin care salon and boutique called Pono.

The small Glen Park business district is, as ever, in a state of flux.

Tekka House

Justin Guan and Andrew Chen were boyhood friends back in southern China. Their families immigrated to San Francisco when they were teenagers and they both ended up in the restaurant business. Now they're joining forces to open Tekka House at 678 Chenery St., with Guan as the business manager and Chen as the chef.

Before the opening, they took a break overseeing a minor makeover to the interior and working out the details of their new menu, to talk about their plans.

Tekka means tuna roll, which

Chen said is a "sushi chef's basic." Chen, 25, graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School. He backed into tuna rolls from an odd direction—studying automotive technology at City College. To earn money, he got a job at a Japanese restaurant, and decided he liked fish rolls better than car engines.

Guan, 26, graduated from Balboa High School, then studied finance at San Francisco State University. He is part-owner of two other San Francisco food establishments, a hotpot restaurant and a milk tea bar.

They chose Glen Park for their new venture because it is "a really nice neighborhood," Guan said. For Tekka House, they will offer a variety of ramen dishes, soup and small plates in addition to sushi. They will offer carry-out, and will feature Japanese sakes, beer and local wines.

To begin with, they will keep Tataki's hours—open daily for dinner and Saturday and Sunday for lunch. There will be a staff of six or seven, including the Tataki kitchen staff. Down the road, they are considering whether to open for weekday lunch, and a website will be up soon.

Cuppa

Sophie Lang, the new manager and part-owner of Cuppa at 2810 Diamond St., lives in Glen Park and

has raised her three children, ages 7, 17 and 24, here. She thinks it's really important for the neighborhood to have a place where families are welcome, and where groups of kids can hang out in an environment created for them.

"We need to make the kids happier," she said.

The changes from the shop's earlier life as Rockit Swirl are noticeable. There are kids' board games (donations are welcome) stacked near the giant TV, and fewer toy machines. The rides are gone, and some of the furniture is new.

The yogurt bar is still there—with the addition of some non-dairy options based on almond milk, but the ice cream is gone. There are more choices of tea drinks—hot and cold, black and green, bubble and not—and the menu has been adjusted to include healthier options.

For the kids who drop in after school, there are smoothies and fries with various toppings. The prepared foods are transpacific, including such items as spam musubi, a Hawaiian favorite, and lumpia.

Lang is a former Realtor who bought the business from Mark Fuentes late last year. Cuppa is open Monday through Thursday, noon to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Glen Park Hardware

Aaron Esquivel, the new owner, and Jonathan Travis, the new manager, are still learning the quirky habits of Glen Park residents when it comes to hardware, and they're enjoying every minute of it.

"The people of Glen Park have been amazing," Esquivel said. "We are still receiving so much goodwill in the neighborhood. I'm loving it."

The store, at 685 Chenery St., sold out of electric candles before the evening Women's March on Jan. 21, the day after President Trump was inaugurated. Sandbags disappeared quickly during this wet winter.

Sometime this spring, the store will close briefly for installation of a new floor and new sliding shelving, which will increase the space for stock by nearly 50 percent. In early March the manufacturer had not yet set a delivery date for the custom-made shelves; Travis said that as soon as the dates are known, they will be posted online on the Glen Park Bulletin Board, as well in in the store's windows.

Meanwhile, Glen Park Hardware's new garden center, located at the back of the shop, is doing well, and rain has caused a run on tarps and non-skid tape. Ant killers and rodent control products are selling well, as are various types of caulking. Other best-sellers include rubber mallets, spray bottles and brooms.

Light bulbs, which become ever more confusing, are steady sellers, and the store now carries a type that can be turned on and off remotely.

When the store reopens, there will be a new key center, a four-machine unit capable of making keys with chips and for motorcycles and equipment. And, due to the scheduling of the hardware industry, they're ordering now for next Christmas—if you know you will need something, stop in and ask to have your items added to their shopping list.

Esquivel and Travis count on neighborhood shoppers to request preferences on merchandise. They will start carrying SodaStream water-carbonation equipment soon. After the remodeling, they will be testing out rental items—tools, barbecues and a smoker, perhaps a sump pump.



Rockit Swirl on Diamond Street has become Cuppa.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Justin Guan (left) and Andrew Chen, the new owners of Tekka House
Photo by Gail Bensinger

Business Roundup

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Staying open later in the evenings and on Sundays has proved to be good business, although they may change the early morning hours. And one more pleasant surprise for customers: When the remodeling is done, there will be a popcorn machine.

Pono

Debra Carvalho is a proud third-generation San Franciscan, although her father and husband are Hawaiian. She has named her shop Pono, which means, roughly, goodness, cleanness or righteousness in Hawaiian. The shop is expected to open in mid-April.

An experienced esthetician and massage therapist, Carvalho has worked at salons all over the city, including a stint at the former Bon Dia salon on Wilder Street, but this is the first time she will have her own business.

Pono, located on Diamond Street between Kern and Bosworth streets, will offer waxing, massages, various

body treatments and a variety of facials, including hot stone therapy, cold jade stones, oxygen therapy and holistic skin care.

In addition, there will be a boutique selling such items as locally made jewelry, gifts for men such as shaving kits, scarves and “sweet” lingerie. It will be a “fun little boutique,” Carvalho said.

As for the typewriter that used to be visible through the front window, Carvalho said she asked the building’s owners to leave it, but to her regret they took it away before turning over the keys.

GoHealth Urgent Care

Before Christmas, the new clinic had a rash of “pumpkin pie opening injuries”—people who managed to cut themselves while opening cans of pie filling. There has been one dog bite. But mostly, there has been a run of strep throat and upper respiratory ailments. And cases of the flu—not only the walk-in patients, but also among the staff. ♦

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❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

The land bordered by Bosworth, Brompton, Lippard and Joost Streets was originally part of the Ulshofer milch ranch. By 1871, it had been platted as Block 3 among the first streets in the future Glen Park (see Glen Park News, Spring 2016). The City later acquired the property in March 1905 from the estate of pioneer real estate agent John Pforr. Purchased for \$5,600 (about \$152,000 today), the City planned to construct the Sunnyside School there.

However, after the Great San Francisco Earthquake in April 1906, with displaced residents relocating to Glen Park in droves, the City set up a temporary refugee camp on the future school site. With the influx of new residents, many students from Glen Park and the Sunnyside were attending the overcrowded Fairmount School; others attended a temporary school set up in shacks at the refugee camp. When the City decided to build a new school in the Sunnyside district, the name for the planned school on Block 3 became the Glen Park Grammar School.

Designed by architects Havens and Toepke, Glen Park's first school was a beautiful Mission Revival structure noted to be on an "exceedingly picturesque" site, a "high eminence [with] an unobstructed view for many miles." Constructed of Oregon pine, with a shingled exterior, heavily molded window frames, and "modern sanitary appliances," its 10 to 12 rooms could hold up to 450 students. Completed in December 1907 at a cost of \$45,000 (\$1.2 million today), it finally opened to students in August 1908. Two new



The newly constructed Glen Park Grammar School just after its completion in 1908.

Photo courtesy of OpenSFHistory.org

wings and an auditorium were added in 1914. Celina R. Pechin, then in her 24th year in the district, was the first principal of the school.

By the time of the Great Depression in the 1930s, the school was outdated and considered a fire hazard. Under the Works Progress Administration (WPA), created by President Franklin

Delano Roosevelt, and during an era known as the Golden Age for San Francisco school design, prominent architects Lewis P. Hobart and Walter Danforth Bliss combined Art Deco style with stripped Classicism to create the new Glen Park Elementary School.

The two-story-plus-daylight basement structure was built with reinforced concrete for fire- and quake-proofing. Zigzags, chevrons, rays, stepped arches and stylized floral or natural forms—hence, the elk and griffons—were incorporated on the exterior, and simple moldings and other features helped expose the building's underlying geometry. The federal government covered 45 percent of the \$320,760 cost (\$5.7 million today). Completed in 1935, dedicated in 1937, and with grounds and retaining walls beautified in 1939, Glen Park School stands today as a prominent icon of our district. ❖

Evelyn Rose, chair and founder of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project (GPNHP), is documenting the histories of Glen Park and nearby neigh-

borhoods. To learn more, visit www.GlenParkHistory.org. The GPNHP meets every other (even) month and offers history walks. Join the mailing list: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com



Glen Park Elementary School as it looks today.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf



Mrs. Celina R. Pechin, the first principal of Glen Park Grammar School. Image from the San Francisco Call, April 10, 1909.

Sinkhole Unearths Glen Canyon Park History

Northern California has welcomed the drought-relieving rains, but the deluge we've experienced this winter caught many off guard.

Heavy rain means lots of water, and lots of water rushing through old underground pipes can present serious problems. Recently caught by surprise was the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, when in mid-January a large sinkhole formed in a section of the ballfields off of Elk Street in Glen Canyon Park.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which is responsible for the City's water and sewer systems, was immediately notified by the Recreation and Park Department. The area was temporarily fenced off.

After they investigated, and unearthed the soil surrounding the sink hole, SFPUC crews discovered that portions of a century-old Islais Creek culvert had broken away as it was battered by the overwhelming rush of creek water.

Repairs were made and the field restored, but the episode brought to light a piece of our past: the creek and the culvert have a long and rich history.

Islais Creek, one of the last two "daylighted" creeks in San Francisco, runs underground into a 5-foot-diameter storm drain just north of the Glen Canyon Park Recreation Center. It then continues into a combined sewer pipe that lies beneath the Glen Park Greenway along the north side of Bosworth Street, then under Alemany Boulevard toward San Francisco Bay. It is part of the San Francisco Water Department's combined sewer system, first conceived in the 1850s.

As seen in an 1898 image of what would become today's Glen Canyon Park Recreation Center, Islais Creek



Work crews address sink hole damage.

Photos by Brett Desmarais

was quite impressive, estimated to be as much as 8 feet deep in some locations. Today, Islais Creek is a mere trickle of its former self, primarily because of development around its sources on the lower slopes of Twin Peaks and Mt. Davidson.

After the 1906 Earthquake, thousands of displaced residents relocated

to the new district of Glen Park. Needing to rebuild downtown, the City could not swiftly respond to requests for local utilities. Low water pressure required daily water wagon deliveries, and without sewers, waste flowed into Islais Creek. The Glen Park Improvement Association and Glen Park Outdoor Art League consistently

Crocker Estate Company in 1922. By 1924, the City had constructed the new recreation area's first playground, basketball court and tennis court. But before these could be built, the creek had to be rerouted into the culvert and then covered.

At this same time, the culvert carrying Islais Creek water was being continued under Alemany Boulevard. In January 1923, a notice appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle stating that due to "urgent necessity," funds to build a sewer in Glen Park had been approved. While the exact age of the culvert under the baseball fields in Glen Canyon is not readily available, it is likely that the storm drain culvert running under the recreation area was constructed between the time the City purchased the area in 1922 and when the new playground was completed in 1924—perhaps when the Glen Park sewer was laid in 1923.

The compromised integrity of a very old pipe buried underground is a serious problem; the ballfield sinkhole is a prime example. Several feet below the top layers of soil, SFPUC crews began working quickly on the aging culvert to repair a top section of the damaged pipe. A special camera was then used to scope surrounding interior areas of the pipe and no additional damage was seen according to the SFPUC. It took just over a week to complete the repairs.

In the long term, SFPUC's Sewer System Improvement project will upgrade this aging infrastructure city-wide. ❖

Historical information provided by Evelyn Rose, chair and founder, Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project.



Islais Creek was quite impressive as seen in this 1898 photo..

Photo courtesy of The San Francisco Public Library

✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

Bored with your life? Bored with the garden? Tired of the onslaught of bad news?

Resist ennui and despair by planting some colorful, even dangerous, spikey plants in your garden. Bring your garden to life with something grand, architectural and dramatic. Then throw a party to celebrate our gardens and our lives!

I am grateful for the edgy, amusing plants that I have put in my garden. Resilient, tough, usually drought tolerant, they wave their long strappy leaves at me as I pass and, in the case of some agaves and yuccas, poke the gardener hard if encroached upon. Their colors are contemporary, subtle and rich.

Here's a list of some fun plants and a few resources:



Agave Parryi

Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons

First are the cordylines. *Cordyline australis* is the large, palm-like, multi-trunked tree seen in many GP backyards. But recently several new, small

varieties have been introduced. Ask for them at the nursery where you will find midsize cordylines in brilliant colors with thin sweeping leaves. Excellent container plants, usually about 3 feet tall.

Cordyline "Electric Flash." Striped burgundy, cream and green leaves. Dazzling with muted blues and limes such as *Euphorbia characias* and *Salvia elegans* "Golden Delicious."

Cordyline "Design-a-Line." I know, weird name. But the profuse, rapier-thin leaves are the deepest, richest burgundy. A lovely accent plant.

Cordyline "Burgundy Spires." Very upright, deep burgundy leaves. Definitely from another planet. A group of three would look amazing as a feature.

Second, I like agaves and yuccas. I grow agaves in containers, tilting the pots for drainage in the rainy season. It's a treat to have a blooming agave in the garden—first a huge asparagus-like column slowly emerges, then odd yellow blooms appear on the stalk. Then the whole plant dies. Now there's drama for you.

Agave "Blue Flame." All agaves grow in beautiful rosettes, but this one is a pale, elegant blue-green plant and only about 2 feet tall.

Agave parryi. A lovely blue rosette of thick blue leaves with sharp spines. Tolerates shade. About 3 feet tall. Will not bloom for 20 years.

Yucca gloriosa "Variegata." Tough,

fleshy sword-shaped leaves. Bright green striped with yellow. It's known as "Spanish sword," but you can clip the small sharp points on each leaf if the plant protrudes on a pathway. Large and dramatic.

Yucca filamentosa "Color Guard." Bright canary-yellow leaves with a green strip down the center. Slow growing to three feet. Showy and tough.

Third, the phormiums, or New Zealand flax. Slender leaves, upright or arching. Colors range from pink and burgundy to green and yellow. Look for the smaller, lower-growing varieties. The paler pink and yellow phormiums burn in bright sun, so give them some shade, and they all look better with moderate water.

Phormium "Rainbow Sunrise." Stiff, upright, narrow strappy leaves, to 2 feet. Pink with bronze edges.

Phormium "Yellow Wave." Green and white striped leaves, 3-4 feet tall with 2-inch-wide leaves. A bright accent for the garden.

A word about reducing the size of existing large phormiums: Cut the leaf clusters out from the base. Don't cut across the leaves to shorten them—the leaves will keep growing with ugly brown square tips.

The plants mentioned above go well with succulents, euphorbias, grasses and blue and yellow flowering perennials. I like to plant the yellow grass *Hakonechloa macra* "All Gold," and the small red upright grasses such as *Uncinia rubra* and *Libertia peregrinans*.

All the plants mentioned tolerate sun and part shade. They will enjoy the rainy season if you have good drainage, but need some summer water.

Resources: San Marcos Growers, at smgrowers.com, is useful for plant research and cultivation information. Try the Las Pilitas Nursery, at laspilitas.com, for native plants. Review your Sunset Western Garden book and then visit local nurseries: FlowerCraft at 550 Bayshore Blvd., or Flora Grubb Gardens at 1634 Jerrold Ave. ❖

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



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Revise Ordered for Proposed Little Lot House

One controversial Glen Park project seems to embody the citywide tension between the need for housing and anxiety about a changing landscape.

Architect Troy Kashanipour has been planning to build a home for himself and his family since he bought the triangle-shaped sliver of land at 2783 Diamond St. in 2015. Until he purchased it, the 914-square-foot lot—which seemed unsuitable as a building site—contained a public garden maintained by the Glen Park Garden Club.

Kashanipour's proposed 1,740-square-foot home, plus garage, was approved by the Planning Department before Jeff Cerf, the owner of an adjacent property, requested "Discretionary Review" (known as DR). When DR is requested, the project application is brought before the Planning Commission, which has the power to accept, reject or require modifications to it.

After a hearing on March 9, the Planning Commission accepted DR, meaning it approved the project—but with significant modifications.

The required modifications include a redesign of the façade, elimination of the fourth floor and an exterior staircase, addition of light wells and a reduction of the roof deck on what is now the third floor. The commission also required a review by Public Works for potential safety issues surrounding the curb cut in front of the property.

Commissioner Myrna Melgar said the project is "as extraordinary as I've seen in this commission."

The commission's decision is at odds with the Planning Department's recommendation to "not take DR and approve the project as proposed."

A department staffer said during the hearing that the project is consistent with the City's residential design guidelines compatible with the residential character and surrounding neighborhood and fully compliant with the planning code, and that its overall mass, form and scale were appropriate.

The project was not seeking any variances or other entitlements.

The Planning Department staffer said the project inspired an "unusually high level of public comments." The department received a total of 15 letters of support and 14 letters of opposition.



Original plans for little lot house, as seen above, did not fly with the Planning Commission.

Cerf, whose 2-flat rental building abuts Kashanipour's lot, describes the proposed home as a "monster house," also called for a three-foot reduction of the third floor and a two-foot setback on the building's north side, but the commission voted against those requests.

Beyond the building's design, Cerf says he's concerned about the loss of the only open garden space on the block and the project's impact on native plants, butterflies, roosting birds and bats.

At the hearing, 18 people spoke in opposition, while five spoke in support.

Several of the project's opponents argued the roof deck should be removed because it poses privacy issues for immediate neighbors. And because there are no other roof decks in the area, it would be out of character with the neighborhood, they alleged.

Another speaker was concerned about the accessibility of the public walkway on the north side of the property.

One speaker suggested the property might be the habitat of the San Francisco garter snake, an endangered species with various legal protections.

Several speakers, including Cerf, also said they were organizing to convince the City to buy the land through eminent domain. It's unclear whether eminent domain is feasible,

but the concerns of many neighbors clearly extended beyond design details.

"It is my belief, and many stated at the hearing, that they really want nothing on-site, period, under any circumstance," Kashanipour said. "It does strike me as curious that the neighbors think that they own the property, on which they do not pay taxes and do not hold a deed."

In the DR application, the filers accused Kashanipour of failing to address the concerns expressed at a previous meeting in December 2015, at the Glen Park Library. "Mediation has not taken place," it states.

But Kashanipour says the DR filers ignored his multiple attempts to meet and to discuss the project with them.

"I was very willing to make reasonable compromises in advance of the hearing," Kashanipour said. "His (Cerf's) approach was to get enough restrictions on the height and reductions in buildable area in all dimensions such that the lot would become de-facto not buildable."

Cerf did not respond to a request for comment.

At the hearing, supporters of the project commended the building's architecture, sustainable features and creative use of an unorthodox space.

"He is making an excellent and efficient use of this piece of land, and he's building a home for himself and not

displacing anybody," one speaker said. He went on to accuse the project's opponents of NIMBYism ("not in my back yard").

Another said: "We live in a city where we have to share, and there's a dearth of housing, and people need to act as a community and cooperate."

But cooperation seems unlikely. As the DR filers pursue eminent domain, Kashanipour will modify the building's design.

"I plan to continue with the process," he said. ♦

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Volunteers and City Crews Make

As we walk through our neighborhood, the inordinate amount of work necessary to keep our streets and bits of greenery as lovely as they are isn't always apparent.

Take, for example, the Greenway that runs parallel to Bosworth Street. Casual strollers don't see the many hours of work—physical labor, grant writing, committee-sitting and government dealing-with—that make it an inviting swath of green less than 20 feet from a busy thoroughfare.

Here's a look into some of that behind-the-scenes work.



Stephany Wilkes

The Physical Challenge

Stephany Wilkes shears sheep from January through July, traveling as far as Nevada, Oregon and Washington to harvest up to eight pounds of wool in 10 minutes from a single animal.

But on Jan. 14, closer to her Arbor Street home, she turned her attention to weeding hundreds of pounds of English ivy in three hours. Her morning's work took place between Lippard and Chilton avenues, along a one-block stretch of the proposed Glen Park Greenway.

She wasn't without assistance.

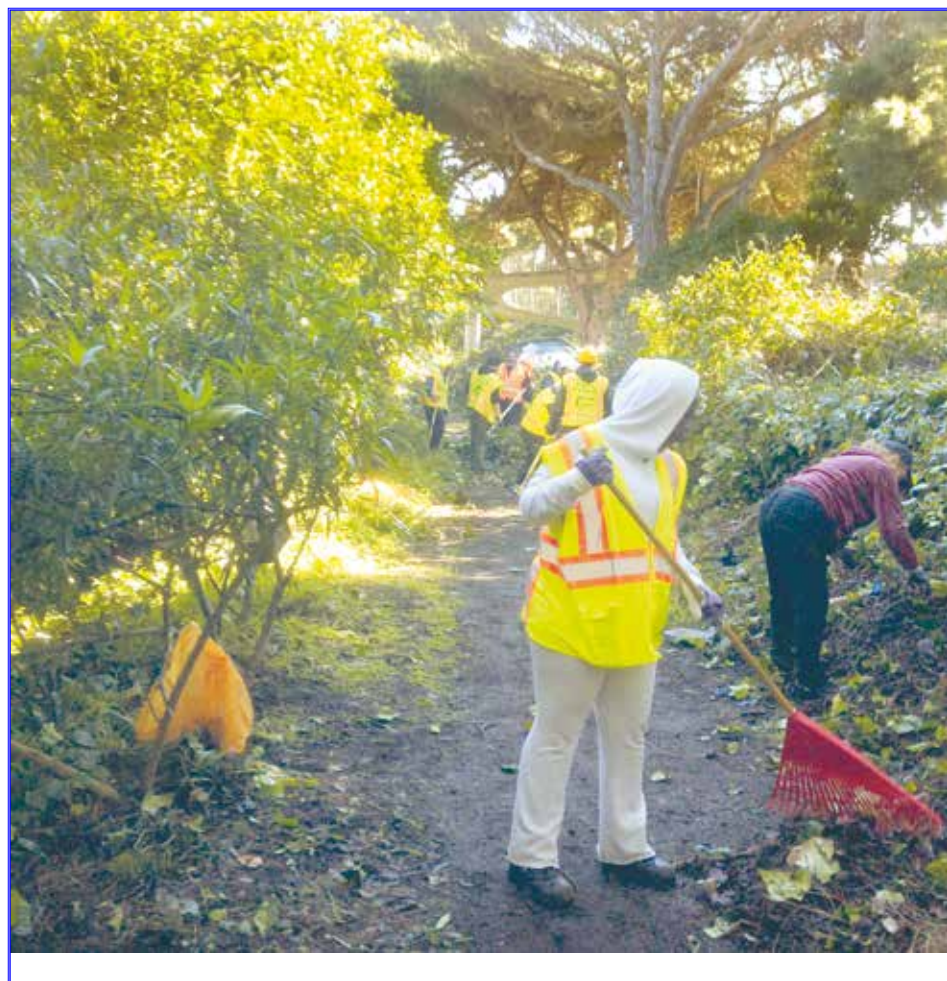
"Twenty-four people came out," said Wilkes, sipping a cup of herb tea two weeks later at Destination Bakery. She'd come to the Chenery Street bakery to collect two cakes for a scheduled quarterly Glen Park Association meeting that would honor long-serving GPA president Michael Rice, who was retiring from that post. "Public Works sent help from its Clean and Green Crew, as well as loaning us tools."

The January work party was a collaborative effort. It included Glen Park Association volunteers, supported by the Street Park Program begun by San Francisco Public Works and the San Francisco Parks Alliance that empowers city residents to oversee unused neighborhood land, often owned by Public Works or on Caltrain, Public Utilities Commission or Caltrans property.

"A week before I did a walk-through with a City arborist," said Wilkes, who chairs the GPA's Health and Environmental Committee. "I obtained guidance about which species were safe to prune or remove."

Wilkes was tapped to organize the January morning event. Her Mini Cooper had brimmed with loaned Public Works loppers, rakes, shovels, burlap bags, gloves and vests. Volunteers selected equipment, scattered along the path, and set about pulling weeds.

"Herding and shearing sheep takes much, much, more energy, skill and



Public Works Clean and Green Crew working along the Greenway pathway.

Photos by Murray Schneider

resources than organizing volunteers," volunteered Wilkes. "Organizing a clean-up is literally nothing compared to a managing a flock."

As Wilkes walked along the pathway, her neighbors pitched in. Nicholas Dewar and Michael Rice topped the incline, tackling tendrils woven into the soil. Thickets of ivy cloaked the slope up to the Bosworth sidewalk's edge. After a while, they unfurled a burlap bag, fashioned a hammock of uprooted ivy and descended to the path. Later, Dewar and John Walmsley carried filled bags to Lippard Avenue.

Adam King attacked the hummock. At Lippard's crest, Killian Murphy worked, his cuffs grazed with thistle, while Susanna Russo immersed herself ankle-deep in ivy while jousting with a horizontal tree limb. Ann Edwards and Bonnee Waldstein remained below, filling their own bags.

Wilkes had to overcome some logistic hurdles pulling off the morning's exercise. "Coordinating this with Public Works and Recology, particularly the date, wasn't easy." She smiled when the Recology vehicle braked on schedule. "I plan around the truck's availability."

"Lippard to Chilton is a particularly gnarly stretch of the Greenway,"

explained Wilkes, formerly the GPA's recording secretary. "It's more densely overgrown."

She's done this before. Last June, 15 neighbors cleared ivy and trash, filling 90 bags with compostable material from Brompton Avenue to Lippard Avenue. When you consider that the average weekend gardener fills only four or five bags, it's a whole lot of weeding going on.

Doing this sort of public clean-up isn't the same as just getting up on a Sunday morning, seeing the sky is clear and thinking, "Maybe I'll tackle that front flower bed this morning." The day's activities involved long-term planning.

"First, we require that residents identify the space and lead the 'visioning' process," Marissa Alexander, Parks Alliance's Streets Parks Program Manager, told the Glen Park News. "This ensures that the project reflects the needs and wants of the neighbors."

The Glen Park Greenway project was first envisioned in the Glen Park Community Plan, a process begun in 2003 and adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2012. With an objective of sustaining and improving an informal greenway and pedestrian path on land owned by the City and



Michael Rice and Nicholas Dewar amidst Cape ivy above path between Lippard and Chilton Avenues.

Headway on Glen Park Greenway

the Archdiocese of San Francisco, its vision is to connect downtown Glen Park with Glen Canyon Park. Numerous community meetings were held. With various stakeholders on board, the Greenway Project was seeded with a \$40,000 grant from a private foundation. Former District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener arranged to provide an additional \$10,000 in funds from the City, while the GPA contributed \$5,000.

A lion's share of the money went to retain Surfacedesign, Inc, a landscape architecture firm engaged to conceptualize a project that would thread its way from Brompton to Burnside Avenue. The vision was tweaked and massaged with community input, particularly from residents whose property abuts the Greenway between them and Bosworth Street.

Sunny meadows and wooded areas, bookended by Brompton and Lippard avenues, will have paths paved with decomposed granite, a sturdy and porous material. Interpretive signage, complemented by low-wattage over-

head-lighting, will be added, and refuse and waste bags will punctuate the walk. Between Lippard and Chilton avenues, a wooded area will be added.

St. John School came on-board, and between Chilton and Burnside avenues there will be more of the same. West of Burnside, the Greenway path continues on Paradise Avenue to Elk Street, ending at Glen Canyon Park.

"I care about the Greenway," said Wilkes, a native of Detroit. She's lived in San Francisco for 10 years and in Glen Park for four of those years. "It's a resource to be stewarded. We want to plant that thought with City agencies. The GPA can go to City agencies now and be able to say, 'See, we're working together as a community to establish a relationship with you.'"

"It was wonderful to see such a strong neighborhood presence that Saturday morning," said Alexander, who was on site Jan. 14 to see for herself. "The volunteers and the Clean and Green Crew cleared out massive amounts of invasive and overgrown plants to help make the pathway more

accessible for neighbors and ensure the health of the flora."

The Meetings

After 12 years of meetings, minutes, poring over documents, liaison with City officials and generally shepherding improvements to our neighborhood, Michael Rice handed the GPA presidency over to Scott Stawicki at the January GPA meeting. Wilkes was elected the association's vice president.

Rice engineered one final task before he departed, still paying it forward.

"Jim Edwards, Nicholas Dewar and Adam King are writing a Community Challenge Grant," Rice told the Glen Park News. "The grant can reach up to \$100,000. If we receive it, we'll use monies to plant trees and shrubs and provide irrigation along the Greenway."

The Challenge Grant is a program administered through the City Administrator's office. The program

provides grants to communities to fund beautification projects, mostly centered on greening and art. The Diamond Heights median project is a recent recipient.

"The goals of the CCG are to promote vibrant physical improvements and greening of public spaces, engaging residents and businesses in creating welcoming places for community building," explained Marissa Alexander.

All CCG projects require that the community commit a certain amount of volunteer hours to ensure the project's success. Thankfully, Glen Park does not lack for residents willing to do such work.

"Community clean-up days like the one on Jan. 14 help to demonstrate that neighbors are invested in the project and will volunteer their time to steward the land during and after the grant period," Alexander said. ♦

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Hank Greenwald, Voice of the Giants

Hank Greenwald sat at Destination Bakery on Chenery Street, nursing a cup of hot chocolate, reminiscing about a broadcast career in which he announced 2,798 consecutive San Francisco Giants games before he retired in 1996.

“I was 10 years old in 1945 when I saw Hank Greenberg play his first game after returning from the Second World War,” said Greenwald, a Detroit native who has lived in Diamond Heights since 1978. “My parents named me Howard and it became ‘Howie,’ which I never liked. So I changed it to Hank.”

Earlier that afternoon, Greenwald had been driven down Elk Street by his son Doug who, following in his father’s footsteps, announces minor league Fresno Grizzlies baseball games. They pulled into the Glen Canyon Park turnout and Hank Greenwald alighted.

With the help of a cane fashioned after a Louisville Slugger bat, Greenwald took halting steps toward the baseball diamond’s pitcher’s mound. Hobbled by recent medical conditions, the 81-year-old cautiously avoided divots in the outfield turf.

Greenwald may have slowed down a bit, but his mind remains sharp as a tack, his wit even sharper. “I burned ‘Hank Greenwald’ onto the bat,” he said, waving his cane, “in case I forget my name.”

Standing a few feet from where a shortstop and a second baseman make routine double plays at the keystone



Glen Park resident Hank Greenwald visits the baseball diamond at Glen Canyon Park.

Photo by Murray Schneider

corner, Greenwald remembered Glen Park from nearly 40 years ago.

“Doug played ball on this field, and my wife and I sent him to Silver Tree summer camp,” he said. “On Diamond Street, on the way to Candlestick, I’d stop and buy doughnuts. Charlie and Judy Creighton (one-time owners of the namesake bakery in the space

Destination now occupies) were part of our baby sitting co-op.”

Backtracking to Elk Street, he continued. “I buy and sell books at Bird & Beckett, and enjoy its Friday night jams,” he said. “My wife is happy anytime I can clear out my nest of books.”

Later, at Destination Bakery, he elaborated: “As a baseball announcer on the road, there’s a lot of down time and I’d haunt bookstores. Cincinnati and New York had especially good ones, and they’d help me get through the season. You have to keep your mind fresh. Sometimes before a series, I’d hop a train and go as far as I could. Get away from it. Come back ready to get behind the mic.”

Greenwald’s favorite baseball book remains Lawrence Ritter’s “The Glory of Their Times,” published in 1966.

“It perfectly captured baseball in the 1920s,” he said. “The ballplayers reminisced about their days on the diamond.”

“I received a nice letter from Ritter,” he continued, “I once had an opportunity to interview The New Yorker’s [legendary baseball writer] Roger Angell for City Arts and Lectures.”

Three years after retirement, Greenwald turned his attention to the written word himself, producing a 1999

memoir entitled “The Copyrighted Broadcast.”

In his long radio career, Hank Greenwald sat behind the KNBR microphone from 1979 to 1985, before taking a two-year hiatus to broadcast New York Yankees games. In 1989, a memorable year for our hometown nine, he returned to Candlestick Park from the Bronx, remaining in the Giants’ announcer’s booth until 1996.

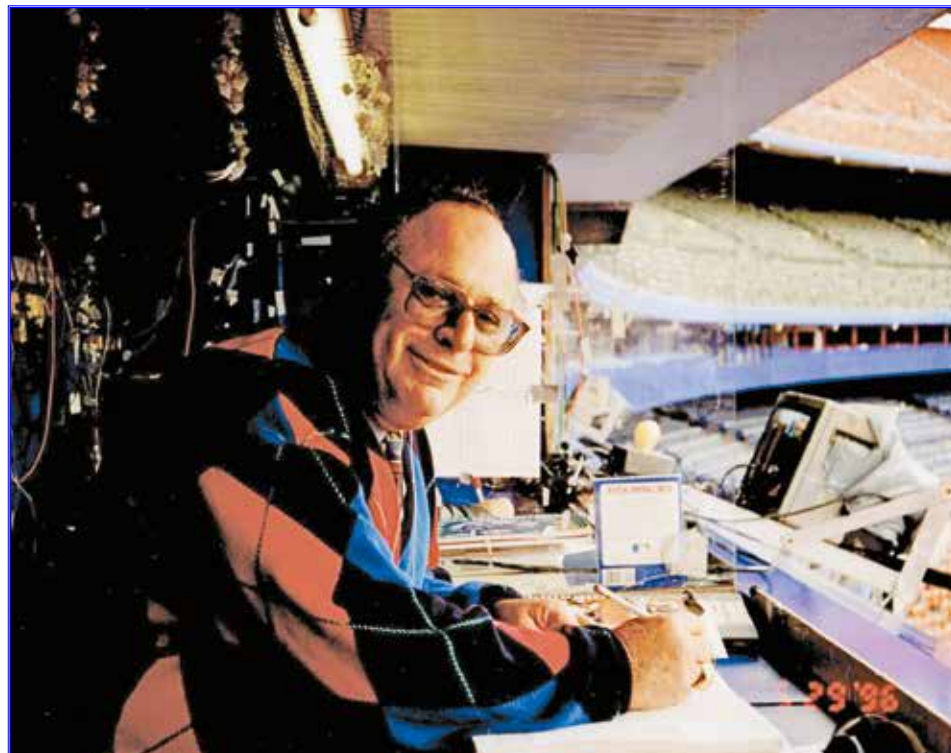
“I returned to the Giants just in time for the earthquake and their first World Series since they arrived in the city in 1958,” he said. “Ron Fairly was doing the pre-game that October night, and I was standing in the press box with Duane Kuiper. Things began to shake back and forth. The press box seemed to be heading for home plate.”

He paused for effect, toying with a 1989 World Series ring that adorns one ring finger.

“Ninety-five percent of the fans were from the Bay Area. They didn’t panic. Ninety-five percent of the press weren’t from here, and they jumped over each other for the closest exit.”

Candlestick Park was something special, Greenwald believes. Especially for celebrated free agents in the hunt for salary hikes.

“San Franciscans didn’t grow up with



Hank Greenwald announcing a Giants game at Shea Stadium in 1996.

Photo courtesy of Hank Greenwald

And Glen Park Resident Talks Baseball

warm summers,” Greenwald said. “To them the weather didn’t matter. But I think it hurt the Giants. Other ballplayers didn’t want to be traded or sign here. The wind played havoc with fly balls and blew papers into their eyes.”

Greenwald grew up on major league baseball. His father worked as an executive for Neisner Brothers, an East Coast Woolworth-type five and dime. Howie was his only child.

“My dad was transferred to Detroit, where he remained until I was 10 years old. Then he returned to Rochester, N.Y. For me, it was like going from the major to the minor leagues.

“In the sixth grade, the school district obtained tickets for kids to attend Rochester Redwings games. We were called the Knot Hole Gang. This was the year I saw Jackie Robinson play, making history with the Montreal Royals.”

Greenwald played organized baseball in high school. “Playing” might be gilding the lily, he’d be the first to concede.

“I rode the bench,” he said. “There was no need for a 5-foot-6-inch first baseman. I announced school basketball games instead, and the principal let me do a five-minute Friday morning sport broadcast over the PA system.”

Graduating from high school in 1953, Greenwald enrolled at Syracuse University, where he bundled his love of baseball and basketball with broadcasting, a passion that has never abandoned him.

“Syracuse had a wonderful broadcasting program, and I majored in radio and television,” he said. “Cleveland Browns great Jim Brown was a classmate and, working for the university radio station, I did baseball and basketball.”

Upon graduation in 1957, he landed a job at WWBZ, a 5,000-watt AM station in Vineland, N.J. “I was the morning guy, working the 6-to-9 drive-time slot,” he said, “I’d return at 12 and stay on the air until 3 p.m.

“At noon I read the egg prices,”

he said, enjoying himself. “For this the station paid me \$65. “It paid the rent, if eating wasn’t a high priority.” Greenwald laughed at the recollection.

The job had perks, though. The Philadelphia Phillies sent him tickets. Big Five basketball hoops, too. In the fall of 1959, a Syracuse AM station hired him to do news and sports.

“From 1960 to 1964, I did play-by-play for Syracuse football,” he said. “These were the years of Ernie Davis, John Mackey, Floyd Little and Larry Csonka.”

Throughout these early years, Greenwald never strayed far from the lessons he learned at Syracuse. “Larry Meyers, my university professor, told us, ‘Root with your heart, not with your mouth’ and, ‘The great play is not dependent on the team who makes it.’ It’s more important that broadcasters create baseball fans, not Giants or Warriors fans.”

Not just professors had good advice. “Lindsey Nelson, my broadcast partner, told me, ‘Don’t ever get caught up with wins and losses. If you do, and you’re announcing a bad team, you’ll sound like they play.’

“Always prepare yourself every day for the worst game,” he added, sealing his case.

Greenwald was known for both his professional objectivity and preparation, hefting briefcases full of statistics and anecdotes into the broadcast booth to enrich his hours on the air.

“People invite us into their homes when they turn on their radios, and radio calls on our skills as broadcasters,” he said. “Radio is unique, it becomes part of our family, it’s all the listener has, and we use it to create descriptive word pictures.”

Hank Greenwald arrived in San Francisco in 1964, working courtside with Bill King, a 2016 Cooperstown inductee, announcing Warriors basketball games. He made a stop in Hawaii to call Pacific Coast League Hawaii Islanders games, even detouring for a few years to Australia, where his son Doug was born. In 1976, KNBR hired



Hank Greenwald with his wife Carla and son Doug.

Photo by Murray Schneider

him to do the program Sports Phone 68, and from there he segued into a Giants broadcaster, sharing the mic with Lindsey Nelson, David Glass, Phil Stone, Ted Robinson, Gary Park, Duane Kuiper, Mike Krukow and Ron Fairly.

“Fairly, a former Los Angeles Dodger first baseman, would get emotional about baseball and its significance,” said Greenwald. “Ron knew it was a generational game.”

Asked to name his favorite baseball film, Greenwald doesn’t hesitate. Field of Dreams, he said, thinking of the last scene in that Kevin Costner movie. “I occasionally played catch with my dad, but it was my parents’ interest in the game that got me going to Detroit’s Briggs Stadium.”

And now?

“I’m given a seat,” he quipped, “in the assisted living section of the AT&T Stadium press box.”

Finished with his hot chocolate, he headed out to Bird & Beckett. “I loved what I was doing,” he said. “I was the luckiest guy in the world.”

Baseball is a game of reflection as well as continuity.

“As you make your way to the major leagues, you meet lots of people along the way,” he said. “Those relationships are special because when you finally make it to the majors, you know how far they’ve come, and they know the same for you. It’s a special bond: the road buses together, spent hours talking baseball and shared dreams of better days to come.”

The afternoon weather had turned colder. Hank Greenwald balanced himself on his Louisville Slugger and waited for his lift back to Amethyst Way. ❖



Hank Greenwald at the mic. .

Photo courtesy of Hank Greenwald



Glen Park Elementary School as seen from Brompton Avenue.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

One Classroom: 13 Different Teachers in One Year

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

they were hit with some scary news: Their teacher, Kathleen Roper, was leaving.

According to Gentle Blythe, chief communications officer in the San Francisco Unified School District, “Per our legal requirements to keep personal employee information confidential, I cannot share confidential personnel matters.”

She did, however, share information concerning the events that transpired, and the reasons for various decisions that ensued.

“A vacancy arose at Glen Park Elementary School because the classroom teacher of record went on leave unexpectedly in mid-October,” Blythe said. “After a couple of weeks of day-to-day subs (that can mean a different sub each day), a staff member who had previously been working in the after-school program was placed as a substitute on a long-term assignment, which, per state law means they can only be in the same classroom for up to 30 days.”

This staff member was Tess Robinson, whom students and parents affectionately call “Miss Tess.” Miss Tess had recently received her teacher’s credential.

Parent Elyse Napolitano said this was a brilliant solution. “We all said, ‘Get Miss Tess in there!’ And immediately, everything stabilized. There were no more tears, no more stomachaches. Students were [well] behaved and they were learning.”

Before the arrival of Miss Tess, Napolitano said, “It was scary for them not to know who their leader was. They didn’t know who was going to be in front of them or what the rules were.”

Children would feign illness to avoid going into the classroom. Some would kick and scream, or hide under a desk.

The situation prompted Napolitano’s daughter to write an essay titled, “The Class With No Teacher,” which she later

changed to “The Class with 13 Teachers.”

“And Ms. Tess, who was our best one, but she couldn’t stay. We had more substitutes, but I don’t remember all their names. But they don’t remember my name, either.”

But, she ended with a positive note, writing, “With 13 different teachers, we are the luckiest kids at Glen Park Elementary School. We’ll probably end up being the smartest first-grade class ever!”

The number 13 seems outrageous to parents and quite unlucky for students.

Blythe offered an explanation: “When a teacher is absent for an extended period of time and that time period is defined, such as maternity leave, our school can seek to hire a teacher to be in the classroom during the duration of the teacher of record’s absence. However, when this is undefined, we bring in a substitute. Per state law, one may not substitute for any teacher more than 30 continuous days during the school year.”

Napolitano said that until Miss Tess arrived in December, her child did not bring home any work, and she was becoming concerned that her child’s academic future was at risk.

“No spelling, no math, not one single piece of work. There were no conferences, and reading levels were not assessed,” she said.

The students loved Miss Tess, Napolitano said. They would run up to her on the playground and hug her.

This, however, was only a temporary solution, students and parents would soon learn.

According to Blythe: “The day-to-day sub met all of the legal requirements of her role and was also the principal’s daughter. In early January, the district and school administration agreed to move a literacy specialist already working at the school into the role of permanent teacher in that classroom.”

There was the rub. Miss Tess is the daughter of Principal Jean Robinson, and per district guidelines, a teacher is not allowed to work at the same school as a relative who is her supervisor.

“We were so glad when we had Miss Tess,” Napolitano said. “She was a wonder.”

When they lost her, Napolitano said she and others were “outraged.” The news was relayed to them by Principal Robinson, she said.

Parent-Teacher Organization President Kerri Terk said, “It was an easy problem at first, not without complications, but they allowed it to become complicated.”

Apparently, the elected Board of Education can choose to allow an employee to remain at the school in which his or her relative is a supervisor, but the board members opted not to let Miss Tess stay. Parents believe this was a mistake to take away a teacher whom they and their children had come to love and respect and trust after a long period of uncertainty.

Parents and students wrote letters to the school board and attended meetings.

“We expected them to respond in some fashion, but they never did at all. It was extremely disheartening,” Napolitano said.

She added that after many Glen Park parents spoke at the board meeting, they did not receive any response from the board. “We simply saw in a Chronicle article that the board was not going to reverse their decision to pull Miss Tess,” Napolitano said.

“Everyone’s voice needs to be heard,” Terk said. “The ones who said the least were probably affected the most.”

Board of Education President Shamann Walton responded to the Glen Park News’ request for an interview by saying he would be available

in “mid- to late-April”—well over a month past the publication deadline.

Charyl Redding, the school’s literacy specialist, was named the new first-grade teacher for Room 6 for the remainder of the year.

While parents are pleased to have some return to normalcy, Napolitano and others are concerned about those students who no longer get extra help with reading, due to Redding’s new assignment.

“This is a disservice to those kids. This is a social justice issue,” she said.

In fact, other teachers have stepped in to help those kids; however, that’s not the same as having a consistent relationship with a dedicated reading specialist, Napolitano said. And of course, it further stresses already overworked teachers.

She is also concerned that this is a disservice to Redding, who, she said, did not exactly sign up for this, but has been nothing but helpful and professional.

“I know she wouldn’t abandon these kids,” Napolitano said, “but this is a real struggle for her.”

While her child is not falling behind in her academics, Napolitano worries about the other children, particularly those whose parents cannot take time off from work and attend a meeting on Tuesday night, when the Board of Education meets.

Terk added that another concern is that families from all backgrounds and ethnicities were not heard, and noted that at the same meeting, parents from E.R. Taylor School brought their own interpreters.

“Given the current leadership in the country, we need to know that those in charge have our back, and I do not feel like they do,” Terk said. “We have no power. That was one of the things that was most upsetting.”

Napolitano agreed ❖

Heavy Winter Rains Cause Neighborhood Rockslides

This winter's unrelenting rains caused several small rockslides on the rocky slope west of O'Shaughnessy Boulevard, forcing temporary closures of the busy roadway below as City crews and contractors hustled to make the area safe for passing motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

by Rachel Gordon and Murray Schneider
Three large rocks came crashing down onto the pavement between Malta Drive and Del Vale Avenue on Tuesday evening, Jan. 10. No one was injured, but southbound O'Shaughnessy Boulevard was closed so Public Works could remove the rocks. Concrete barricades were placed at the bottom of the undeveloped hillside to keep additional rocks from falling onto the street.

Two days later, a consulting geologist assessed the stability of the hillside and discovered fresh cracks that suggested more slides could occur in the next rainstorm. Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru ordered the closure of O'Shaughnessy between Malta and Del Vale as a new storm loomed on Jan. 18, so that specialized crews could safely knock away loose rock in a controlled manner. Trained in mountain climbing, the workers rappelled down the hillside and dislodged loose rocks.

More concrete barricades and a metal fence—still in place today—were installed to catch any more falling rocks. The work completed, O'Shaughnessy was reopened a day later.

Another small slide occurred north of the original location in late February, but the rocks did not make it onto the

roadway. Public Works placed more concrete barricades along the west side of O'Shaughnessy. Engineers and geologists will evaluate the site conditions to develop longer-term solutions.

In Glen Canyon Park, rains may have loosened a huge chunk of Franciscan chert rock the size of a stove that plummeted from the eastern slope of Glen Canyon onto Alms Road sometime between Feb. 15 and Feb. 22. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

"Any natural area can be dangerous, especially rock canyons," said Rob Oreglia, who has volunteered with Rec and Park's Natural Resources Division for 15 years. "Chert fractures."

The torrent of rain also caused a small mudslide in the park, blocking a trail—dubbed "Banana Slug Way" by children from the nearby Glenridge nursery school—that parallels Alms Road.

"Natural areas are always changing," Oreglia said. "Nature has a way of shaping such a space." ❖



Workers help stabilize the slope above O'Shaughnessy Blvd., top. Below, passersby check out the large boulder that tumbled onto Alms Road in Glen Canyon Park.



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Comaraderie Blossoms Among Botanical

The botanical artists of the Glen Park Garden Club extended the camaraderie they built around their love of gardening into the realm of art.

The five women recently sat down for a conversation to talk about their experience.

Adrienne Lacau, an immigration attorney by trade and a charter member of the Glen Park Garden Club, recalled that the club was founded in 1996 by Judy Creighton, whose family bakery preceded Destination Bakery in the space at Chenery and Castro streets.

A number of customers mentioned that a garden club would be a good idea—and so the new club's first meetings were held there, and the club has been going strong ever since.

Mary Betlach recounted that years ago, fellow club member and Glen Park News' "Digging the Dirt" columnist Kay Hamilton Estey had enjoyed a botanical art workshop taught by Mary Harden and recommended that she try a class. Betlach did and loved it.

When the class needed to relocate and add students, the Glen Park Garden Club notified members, recruited six new students and found the perfect venue, the Miraloma Park Improvement Club's clubhouse.

Originally from Australia, and a 30-year resident of Glen Park, Hamilton Estey recalls that it was her husband who suggested botanical painting as a way to "stay sane when I had a very intense job as the producer of the San



Garden club members Darlene Shadel, Mary Betlach, Connie Freeman, Kay Hamilton Estey, Barbara Lawson, and Adrienne Lacau gather for their 2013 art exhibit at the Glen Park Library. Photos courtesy of Gary Ashley

Francisco Flower and Garden Show."

Though always an art lover, Hamilton Estey had no previous training. Starting the sequential courses a year ahead of her garden club pals, she eventually decided to drop back to be with them in a less competitive environment. "It turned out to be a fabulous class with all my buddies."

When asked if she had an art background, Betlach laughingly replied, "No, I'm a scientist! But I've always sketched and doodled." Heading toward retirement when she joined

the class in 2010, she was "all science, science, science," though once she got going, she said, "I never looked back!"

Darlene Shadel actually moved to Glen Park to join the Garden Club. "I was so impressed. The people are friendly and have such knowledge and do such good things."

Connie Freeman, another member, explained that the club "started volunteering in the Village Garden, which we tended for many years until the lot was recently sold for development. It used to be a dump and a weed patch."

The small community garden occupied a diminutive triangular plot at 2783 Diamond Street, just up the hill from Chenery Street.

As its new project, the club may help advise on suitable native plants for The Glen Park Greenway Project, which aims to improve the informal greenway and pedestrian pathway on the undeveloped ribbon of land

that parallels Bosworth Street between Brompton and Burnside streets.

Shadel spent her entire working life running a successful family business started together with her husband (and Glen Park Garden Club member), Bob, the inventor of a much-in-demand scientific instrument. She had no art background except a one-day college watercolor workshop, which so intimidated her that it was her last art class ever—until the botanical art sessions. Being with her friends, and the eight weeks of classes, made her feel, "I can do that." And so she did.

Asked what drew her to these classes, Lacau laughingly exclaimed, "Intimidation!" She, too, had no previous art experience, but liked the idea of something different and of sharing a beginning class with friends. She recalled they started with pencils, then colored pencils, then pen and ink and ultimately water colors. Along the way they also carved their own quill pens and tried silverpoint, an ancient drawing technique using silver wire.

Unlike her pals, Freeman had previously studied botanical art in Paris, "but didn't have the time to devote a long period of concentrated study" until these classes she offered. "I was in various businesses for decades and eventually trained as a garden designer."

While no longer in business—and adamant that she likes it that way—she still designs gardens for friends. "I don't



Glen Park Garden Club members' artwork displayed next to the natural inspiration for their work during the 2013 art exhibit.

Artists of the Glen Park Garden Club

do it for money. For the last design I said, 'How about a case of Prosecco!'"

All agree that Harden, their teacher, has been an inspiration and, as Betlach put it, "She's a treasure and a force of nature."

One of the first things they learned was how to see. "My first experience of being in her class was that I could scarcely get down the street without stopping and looking at the seeds on the ground and the shapes of the leaves and the different colors," Hamilton Estey said. "My eyes had opened to the incredible detail of the botanical world that I'd always loved." The classes, she continued, "taught me the truth that anybody can draw. Human beings can draw."

Their teacher would bring garden cuttings to class and have students pick up, touch, smell, notice colors, then draw exactly what was observed and then—most importantly—they were instructed, "Don't judge it!"

Not judging was tough, but all agree that they have mostly mastered the skill after displaying their works in numerous galleries, starting with their popular debut exhibit at the Glen Park Library in 2013.

Over the years, Harden—originally a math and science teacher—led extra-curricular outings to augment learning of both art and science. In the fall of 2013 she took a group of students to France, where they enjoyed the ambiance, the art and of course each other. All agree these experiences

have enriched their lives in innumerable ways.

Their current show, *Deceptively Dangerous Plants*, at UCSF Faculty-Alumni House at 745 Parnassus Ave., runs through June 7. (It can be viewed by appointment: 415-476-4723). Some proceeds from the sale of artwork from this and all of their shows are donated to the sponsoring organization.

There are two gorgeous volumes that include their botanical art. The most recent is *Buzz—Plants & Bee Pollinators*. (maryhardendesigns.com/publications) With these achievements they each feel more comfortable with, and can even embrace, the label of artist.

The group of botanical artists of Glen Park demonstrate importance of the deep connections these neighbors and friends have developed over the years, supporting each other through hard times and making a huge difference in each other's lives.

They also are living testaments that we each have the seeds of creativity within us, and with the right teacher, support and much perseverance, we can all become artists. To quote human rights activist and artist Ai Wei Wei, "Creativity is part of human nature. It can only be untaught." ❖



Garden club member Mary Harden next to her art in the Glen Park library exhibit.

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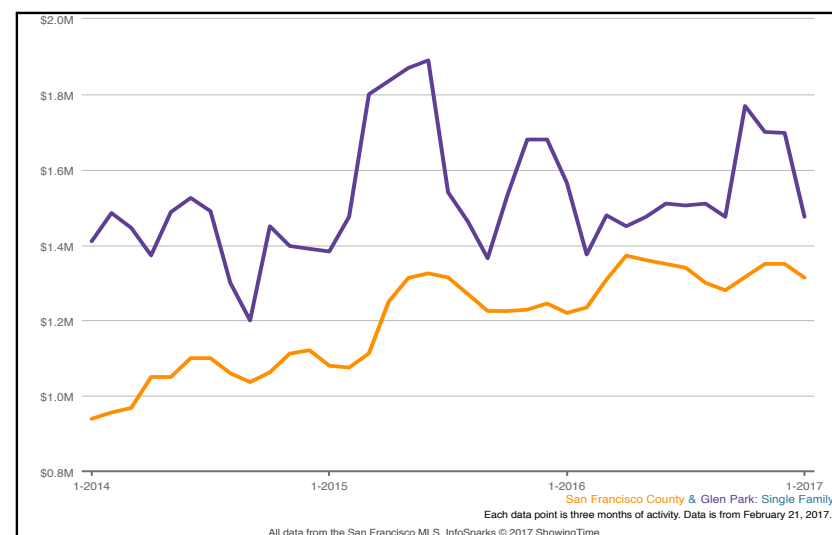
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Uptick in Vehicular Crime in Glen Park

With an uptick in vehicular crime in Glen Park, particularly smash-and-grab break-ins, many concerned residents are gathering together to brainstorm the issues and solutions.

San Francisco Police Department Capt. Bonnee Joseph McFadden, Waldstein commanding officer of Ingleside Station, holds regular monthly community meetings that alternate between the station near Balboa Park and neighborhoods within its jurisdiction.

The Fairmount Heights Association invited McFadden to its Feb. 15 meeting at the Police Academy in Diamond Heights. Fairmount Heights is an area within Glen Park that comprises the historic boundaries of the Fairmount tract. It's like an inverted triangle, so it's difficult to characterize: roughly, 30th Street on the north, Dolores Street on the east, Arlington and Miguel Streets on the



A Glen Park neighbor caught a suspected car thief scoping out vehicles

south, and Beacon Street on the west.

McFadden provided statistics: From 2015 to 2016, reported thefts from vehicles in Fairmount Heights increased from 35 to 44 incidents; burglary decreased from 17 to 16; auto theft decreased from 28 to 22; and other larceny crimes decreased from 12 to eight. There was one rob-

bery incident during this period.

The captain cited Proposition 47 as a possible contributing cause of vehicular crime. The state law, passed by voters in 2014, reclassified some felonies as misdemeanors, reducing the time some offenders spend behind bars.

McFadden explained that perpetrators can work in teams, each person

committing part of the crime. For example, one smashes a car window, another steals contents and a third might drive from the scene. Each component is treated as a misdemeanor rather than a single felony crime.

The most popular stolen cars are older Toyotas, other Japanese cars, Chevys, and GMC trucks. European cars are less prone to break-ins because their keys are hard to duplicate and there's not much of a market for chopped-down models.

When suspects are apprehended, it's up to the district attorney whether to prosecute and the judge to decide on a sentence, which may involve jail, restitution, classes or some other punishment. Victims have the right to request that the thief be prosecuted. They may change their mind about proceeding when they learn that a young offender faces jail time.

In advocating for prosecution, McFadden said, it's helpful if victims join together as a group to push for action. Write to the judge on the case and speak as a victim in court. If a victim is willing to talk, the case gets more priority.

Residents can take steps to deter vehicular and other crime. Install security cameras. In the garage, add a lockable latch, remove the emergency release rope attached to the gear lock and don't leave the garage door opener in the car.

Meanwhile, police patrol the neighborhoods both in uniform and plain-clothes.

Helpful phone numbers: To report suspicious activity and people, call the SFPD non-emergency line, 415-553-0123. And Instead of calling 911 from a cell phone, call 415-553-8090.

Other tips: Put identifiable engraving on bikes and all personal property, even at home. The police will call if they run a serial number on found property. Note that no bicycle lock is 100 percent effective. Back up all computer files on a separate drive or the cloud.

On the positive side, McFadden said that Glen Park is safer than 99 percent of the city, noting that Bernal Heights has 20 times the crime. Like Glen Park, it has freeway access for get-aways, but Bernal attracts more "com-muter" thieves because they're more familiar with the access points, such as Bayshore Boulevard. On the other hand, once culprits arrive in Glen Park, they face a confusing maze of narrow, twisting streets.

If you have questions or concerns, email McFadden at Joseph.McFadden@sfgov.org ❖

Gearing Up for Local Bike Share

Short-term bike rentals will pop up in at least two Glen Park locations by 2018, as the public-private partnership called Bay Area Bike Share expands beyond downtown San Francisco and across the Bay Area.

As with similar partnerships in urban centers, including New York and Chicago, the sturdy baby-blue bikes live at docking stations that are either off the street, such as at the Glen Park BART station, or on the street. The latter typically take about three parking spaces to fit 20 to 25 bikes, said Paolo Cosulich-Schwartz, a Bay Area Bike Share outreach manager who attended the January quarterly meeting of the Glen Park Association.

The locations for the docking stations in Glen Park have not yet been selected.

Under the bike share program, riders pay a membership fee, which entitles them to unlimited rides of 30 minutes or less. However, any bike checked out for longer than 30 minutes incurs overtime fees. Bikes can be borrowed from one docking station and returned to another.

Bay Area Bike Share—a partnership between the City and a bike share company called Motivate—began as a pilot program downtown in 2013 with 350 bikes at 30 stations. The company

hopes to expand to 4,500 bicycles at 300 stations across the Bay Area, said Cosulich-Schwartz.

The expansion began with thousands of suggestions for dock locations logged on the Bay Area Bike Share website. The company vets each suggested site for feasibility. For example, experience has shown that docks should not be put at the top of hills, and locations need to be about a five-minute walk from each other to be useful to riders. To evaluate a site, the company sends representatives to knock on the doors of businesses and residents adjacent to any proposed station.

Final suggestions are evaluated; the latest batch will be put before the public this spring. Cosulich-Schwartz said he would be happy to return to another quarterly meeting of the Glen Park Association to share local suggestions. When sites are chosen, the company applies for permits from the City.

Recognizing that neighborhood riders might have different needs than the mix of office workers and tourists downtown, Bay Area Bike Share is looking at different fee structures and time limits. For now, they anticipate a monthly (\$15) or annual (\$150) membership fee with discounts for residents who qualify. At present, riders choose a 24-hour (\$9), three-day (\$22) or annual (\$88) fee.

The bikes weigh 40 pounds each because they are designed for outdoor urban use, Cosulich-Schwartz said. They have fenders, lights on the front and back for better visibility, and specialized components that can't be easily sold if stolen. Riders who use helmets must bring their own, he said.

The Bay Area program soon will be called Ford Go Bike because the car manufacturer is paying for most of the capital investment of the expansion in exchange for naming rights.

"That is part of what allows Motivate to deliver this system at no cost to cities," Cosulich-Schwartz said. While sponsorship roughly covers capital expenses, membership fees cover ongoing operations, which include keeping the solar-powered stations in working order and balancing available bikes with available docking ports, Cosulich-Schwartz said. The company checks all bikes once every two months and maintains a hotline for reporting any issues with stations or bikes, he said.

Any profit left over will be shared between the City and Motivate, he said. So far, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland and San Jose have joined San Francisco in the bike sharing plan.

For more information, to see dates of upcoming public meetings or to suggest locations for docking stations, visit www.bayareabikeshare.com. ❖

The Hawk Fell to Earth, Then Flew Away

Catherine Symon and her 4-year-old daughter, Natalie, were leaving Glen Canyon's Glenridge Nursery School, after school was dismissed on Jan. 24. They walked along a path paralleling Alms Road, which they've been taking eight times a week for two years.

by
Murray
Schneider
"I heard a rustling of branches high in a tree and had enough time to turn around," said Symon, who lives on Mount Davidson. "Then there was a thud. I thought it might be another great-horned owl, such as the one found dead last March." That owl was a victim of second-generation rodenticide.

Instead, it was a red-tailed hawk, one of the most common birds of prey in North America, a keen-eyed hunter known for its brick-colored tail and its preference for open spaces with mixed forests and grasslands.

"It was a remarkable sight," said Symon, who is a medical writer. "It dropped straight down from a tree top about 20 feet from the creek. I thought for sure it was close to death, as it wasn't moving save for some very slow, shallow breathing."

The bird remained on its back for five minutes, only yards from Islais Creek.

"Natalie still remembers its talons and feathers," said Symon. "I took a photo, but a minute later three unleashed dogs approached the slope."

Sensing the intrusion, the hawk righted itself. "It hopped to its feet, looked at one dog, then flew off," she said. "Hopefully, it wasn't injured; it certainly seemed to fly with no problems."

Hawks are robust and wide-winged; they can live up to 21 years and have few predators. They routinely survive on rodents, squirrels and snakes. Could this one have been playing possum?

Not very likely, according to Allen



Catherine Symon and her daughter, Natalie, standing a few feet from where a hawk landed on the ground near Glenridge Nursery School. Photo by Murray Schneider

Fish, director of the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory.

"I have been seriously watching hawks since 1979, and I have seen only two raptors fall to the ground, and heard of a third observed by a colleague," Fish told the Glen Park News. "The third was two juvenile red-tailed hawks talon-grappling near Woodside. The biologist watched as they locked talons, did some spinning, but, as they fell, seemed unable to disengage. Both birds hit the ground; one righted itself and flew off, the other died."

This is the time of year for such territorial displays, Fish explained. "One of

their routines, territorial or prenuptial, is to fly near each other, grab talons and spin. This is known as cartwheeling."

As if doubling down, Symon experienced a second hawk encounter seven days later.

"It was at Glenridge about 12:30, near the redwood stand," said Symon. "A hawk was standing alone on the ground beneath a tree."

Symon posted herself at the beginning of the Willow Creek Trail, about a dozen feet from the downed raptor, ready to alert dog walkers to bypass what she believed was another stricken bird. Mame Campbell, the school's director, hustled children and several parents inside, then called Animal Control.

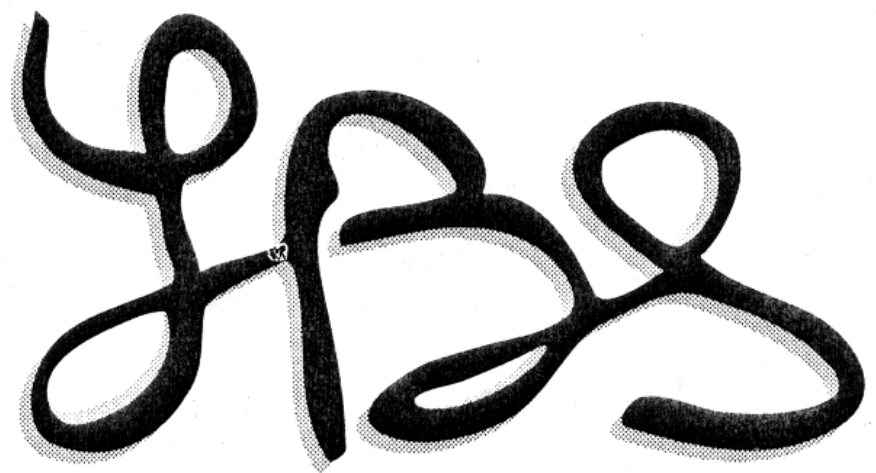
The solitary hawk eventually lifted off, flew to the building's roof, and was soon joined by another.

"I have a much better appreciation now for how powerful and agile and, in the case of what Natalie and I witnessed on Jan. 24, the resilience of these birds," Symon said. "It looked so stunned, yet it flew away."

Allen Fish, who makes a career of studying raptors, had the last word: "I think the woman who stood next to the thud witnessed an extremely rare event." ❖



The hawk as it lay on the ground near Glenridge Nursery School. Photo courtesy of Catherine Symon



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Glen Park Resident Tapped for Supervisor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

firm and former Glen Park News real estate columnist, their 12-year-old daughter, Michelle, and the family cat, Lila Quartermaine.

They live a short walk from the neighborhood shops and restaurants. They're regulars at Tyger's, Destination Bakery, the Cheese Boutique, La Corneta and L'Ptit Laurent. Sheehy said one of Michelle's favorite places in the world is Bird & Beckett Books. They also use the Glen Park branch library, play in Glen Canyon Park and capture Pokémon around the neighborhood.

"What we have here is a real community of neighbors and merchants," said Sheehy, who moved to Glen Park from Noe Valley with Berry in 2002, when they bought their house.

Sheehy takes BART, occasionally rides Muni, and he drives—"You've got to have a car with a kid," he said.

And like others who try to navigate the increasingly congested streets behind the wheel of a car, Sheehy is frustrated. All he has to do is drive a few blocks from home to get tangled in the



Supervisor Sheehy plans to focus on neighborhood issues.

traffic around the Diamond-Bosworth intersection that seems to have gotten worse since the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency changed the design and retimed the signals. The commuter shuttles have added to the problem, he said.

He wants to use the bully pulpit of his office to get the SFMTA to assign a traffic control officer to the intersection during rush hour. "The only

way you can manage the intersection is by having a human being there, someone who can relieve the pressure when it builds up."

Another frustration for the new supervisor is the growing number of homeless encampments, which in the District 8 neighborhoods he represents are largely confined to the Castro. He wants City agencies to do more.

One of his first legislative initiatives was a proposal to give police authority to confiscate bike parts from so-called chop shops that often can be found at encampments. Sheehy said the parts are most likely stolen, and that taking them away from people could make the theft and dismantling of bicycles in order to sell the parts a less lucrative black-market business.

One area where Sheehy would like to have more influence as a supervisor is over the public schools. He tried to save a beloved first-grade teacher at Glen Park Elementary School whom the district wanted out because her mother is the school's principal. (See story, Page 1.) He didn't succeed. "That was very disappointing."

He's also keeping a close eye on the flooding on Cayuga Avenue during heavy rains. He wants to make sure the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which runs the storm water system, puts measures in place to protect people's homes.

As the only representative from the LGBT community on the 11-member Board of Supervisors, Sheehy is expected to continue the role he forged years ago as a gay-rights advocate. He also has joined the mayor and his colleagues on the board in vowing to preserve San Francisco values of inclusion, diversity, immigrant rights and access to health care—all under fire from the Trump administration—"so that our great city remains a beacon of hope across the nation."

Sheehy plans to run to keep his seat in the next municipal election, in June 2018. If he wins, he then would have to run again for a four-year term in the November 2018 election. It's also possible that the Board of Supervisors could set a special election for this November. No matter when the election is held, Sheehy plans to run.

Mayor Lee has seen two of his Board of Supervisors appointments—one in District 5 and the other in District 3—rejected by voters. He picked Sheehy, in part, because he has good political instincts and can do battle.

"Jeff is tested, mature, passionate and pragmatic," the mayor said. ♦

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Glen Park resident Jeff Sheehy with his daughter Michelle at Tygers Restaurant in Glen Park Village.
Photos by Liz Mangelsdorf

SOL Gym: An Exercise in Health and Healing

When curiosity gets the best of them, passersby lean on the bottom half of the Dutch door at SOL Gym to ask, “What goes on in there?”

The short answer is highly customized, one-on-one personal training sessions. But each of those sessions is

by a story that shows why SOL Gym is special. SOL Gym customers use words like “miracle worker” and “healer” to

describe their trainers, and credit them with everything from keeping cerebral palsy manageable, to reducing and correcting tremors, to recovering from cancer-induced leg paralysis.

In the interest of full disclosure, I am a SOL Gym customer. As such, I can hardly be considered impartial. But it's also the only way I could have discovered SOL Gym's hidden community and its owners' expertise.

SOL Gym trainers are not your average fitness gurus. They are not simply personal trainers, but exercise physiologists, kinesiologists and athletic trainers. All SOL Gym trainers either have a master's degree in hand, or are currently working toward a graduate degree. the gym only hires trainers who have one of the two gold-standard certifications, of the many certifications offered.

Owner Lori Chaplin founded SOL Gym 27 years ago. She is an exercise physiologist, former University Division I strength coach, and a college professor who teaches Exercise Science and Adapted Physical Education for people with disabilities. Co-owner Mike Chaplin is an athletic trainer who formerly served as head athletic trainer for the UC Berkeley football team. There probably isn't an injury Mike has not seen. The team is further strengthened through the work of Carlos Narvaez, who holds a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and is a Certified Personal Trainer, and Raymond Chow, kinesiologist and head of SOL Gym's Strength, Health and Fitness after-school enrichment program for kids.

As I attended my training appointments, created to address some natural spinal fusion at my thoracic curve, I noticed people with far greater challenges doing more than I thought possible. Sure, there were plenty of brides-to-be, average Joes and kids getting fit. But I saw a lot of people at SOL Gym I hadn't seen at others.

Carol is 49 and has cerebral palsy, a neurological disorder that affects her



SOL Gym on Diamond Street in Glen Park.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

walking, balance, muscle control, coordination, vision and speech. It also affects Carol's everyday activities, she says, creating “difficulty walking on various surfaces, buttoning buttons, maneuvering around the kitchen and doing household chores.” She experiences muscle spasms and uncontrollable movements.

Getting older with cerebral palsy has brought new symptoms and challenges and, Carol says, “Dealing with all the symptoms and effects of living with CP while still maintaining a full-time job and keeping up with family obligations takes its toll on the body.”

Twelve years ago, Carol's orthopedic doctor, a friend and former colleague of Mike's at UC Berkeley, referred Carol to SOL Gym. “Finding a facility or personal trainer experienced working with neurological conditions or special-needs clients was challenging, and at times frustrating,” Carol says. “Working with Mike, I have been able to manage my CP. This allows me to remain active and productive as an individual (including working full time) living with disability. I don't know where I'd be had I not found SOL Gym.”

Mike doesn't claim to be able to fix anything, nor does he assume that doing so is a goal. “We do what we can with what you've got,” he says.

Silently, and with great affection, I began to refer to the SOL Gym community as the Land of Misfit Toys. We would probably all do better to think of ourselves as “temporarily abled,” anyway. Aging, injuries and illness spare none of us, and no one knows that better than Sharky.

Sharky is 46. Shortly after he started

going to SOL Gym, he was diagnosed with terminal cancer. Doctors gave him one year to live. Sharky says, “Through my own research online, I determined that I had an extremely rare but treatable—and even potentially curable—tumor. My research was later confirmed by the Mayo Clinic. During this time the tumor was wiping out the nerves in my legs and I was unable to walk. I was verging on being completely paralyzed.”

After more accurate diagnosis, Sharky had cancer treatment and determined to do what he could to improve his leg function. One of his goals was to be able to carry his then-2-year-old son to bed at night. “Because I was not mobile I could not get to the gym, but Mike came to my house and worked with me. At first, while lying on my bed, I would simply practice lifting my legs.”

It was a long journey. Seven years later, Sharky still has some disability but it has not slowed him down. “I have learned how to surf, and just weeks ago snowboarded down an advanced slope in Tahoe, racing my 12-year-old to the bottom. I also accompanied my now-8-year-old son as he learned how to ski. SOL Gym has more than changed my life, it might have saved my life.”

SOL Gym also helps athletes maintain peak performance. Susanna, 64, says, “As a serious athlete and tennis player, I need to keep my body healthy enough to play at my highest level. Mike helps me do this with a home program as well as constantly changing the routine to meet my body's needs.”

Susanna was initially referred to Mike by one of her neighbors, an M.D. who called Mike “an expert in rehabilitation

of both chronic and acute conditions.” At the time, Susanna says, she “had a common tennis injury known as adhesive capsulitis (frozen shoulder). After several months of working with Mike, I regained full function in my shoulder. I continued to work with him for several years, rehabbing various conditions including plantar fasciitis and severe osteoarthritis. Ultimately I had a total hip replacement and was back on the court three and a half months later.”

Angela, 40, is a working mom of four kids. “While training for the Portland Marathon, I experienced severe pain in my hip, leg and piriformis,” she says. “Over the course of three weeks, Mike not only helped get me well, he figured out the root cause of my pain: My driver's seat in the car was too far back and I was over extending my leg and foot. I spend hours driving my four young kids around, and this added up and took a toll on me. After one week of moving my seat closer to the wheel, I was fine! I ran the marathon and felt great. I've seen Mike very regularly ever since and am now training for the Boston Marathon in seven weeks.”

Lori says she chose the name SOL Gym because “SOL is an acronym for Sport of Life. As a college strength coach training athletes for their sports, I realized everyone should be training for their sport, even if their sport is life. People need to train for their specific life.”

SOL Gym charges \$100 for a single session, or \$80 or \$90 for pre-paid packages.

No matter your life—age, athletic goals or physical challenges—you can bring them to SOL Gym. Come as you are. You'll fit right in. ❖

❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

Glen Park Elementary School

At Glen Park School this fall, the haGlen Park School kicked off spring with our vibrant celebration of Black History Month. Students at all grade levels learn about important African American leaders and innovators, like pilot Bessie Coleman and civil rights icon and Congressman John Lewis. Students presented what they were learning each day at our morning circle time by reading quotes and teaching about prominent African American figures in our history. Watching these brave students stand up to read their selections to the entire community was inspiring.

Spring is the perfect time to get out into nature, and Glen Park School is doing just that. We received a generous grant again this year for our Visual and Performing Arts programs, and we are partnering with Green Art Workshop to educate our students about a gem here in our own neighborhood: Glen Canyon.

The Green Art series provides three sessions, which include focus on the importance of recycling and reusing materials and how to create art with these repurposed materials. Workshop members will teach children about the ecosystem of Glen Canyon, and students will make masks for various wildlife found in the Canyon. A drama teacher will work with the students in the third session to develop dramatic exercises based on the ecosystem. Many of the classes will also use an ecoliteracy curriculum developed by one of our fourth grade teachers to plan a hiking field trip to the canyon, in order to gain hands-on experience with the ecosystem they learned about at school.

This time of year also saw our largest fund-raising event. The Glen Park School auction was held on Saturday, March 4. Prizes included a Mandalay Bay Hotel & Resort package, dinner for two at Gary Danko restaurant, and two economy-class airline tickets to anywhere in the United States. Parents

pitched in to solicit donations, sell tickets and run the event. It was exciting to see so many members of the school community turn out to dance, dine and donate to support our school's wonderful staff and programs.

One of those programs is Read Across America Day. Schools across the country celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday every March 2 with a festival of reading. Glen Park School honored the beloved children's book author with guest readers in each classroom, a read-a-thon, and a week of reading-themed dress-up days, including dressing as a favorite literary character. A student book swap is planned for the end of March. Each child is encouraged to bring a beloved book from home to trade for a new title from another student.

More exciting projects are in the works, so look for our column in the next edition of the Glen Park News. Enjoy the longer days and the promise of more sunny ones to come! ❖

Katie Ripley is the communications chair of the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization. For updates on school events, go to glenparkschool.org. Follow us on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/glenparkschool>.

Sunnyside Elementary School

Spring is in the air, and with all the rain we had this winter, the Sunnyside yard is starting to bloom with vegetables and flowers. Students are using our amazing garden to study ecosystems and nutrition with the SEEDS education program, as well as using the garden for

writing inspiration with their classroom teachers.

Cultural awareness is a topic that has been on our minds a lot this year. We want to make all students and families at Sunnyside feel welcome. For Black History Month in February, we had two student presentations. Three fourth graders presented biographies on their favorite African Americans, and a kindergarten class reported on an African American inventor. Do you know who invented the traffic light? The kindergarteners taught us that Garrett Morgan was the African American who invented the traffic light.

Next month we will celebrate Sunnyside cultures with our annual international potluck. We hope to have representatives from all of the many countries represented at Sunnyside and learn a little about each.

As we near the end of the school year, we have some exciting events planned. Sunnyside will again have a booth at the Glen Park Festival on April 30. This is one of our most anticipated neighborhood events. We hope you will stop by to do a craft with us.

The following weekend is our Annual Springfest, which features entertainment, games, food and an art show. Be sure to join us for a great time. Springfest will be held in our schoolyard on May 7, 11 a.m.–3p.m.

We also want to welcome all the new families who have received their 2017–18 school assignment. We are so excited to meet our new batch of Sunnysiders. If you received a Sunnyside assignment, please check our website (www.sunnysidek5.org) for our spring tour dates, our “welcome” coffee hour and summer playdates. We look forward to meeting you soon! ❖

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

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❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖



Volunteers are all smiles after a successful day tending to the Diamond Heights Boulevard median.
Photo by Paul Matalucci

Work has started on improvements along Diamond Heights Boulevard that are scheduled throughout 2017. In the short term there will be traffic headaches, but in the end we'll enjoy a smoother automobile ride and additional paved sidewalks for pedestrians.

Dadisi Najib, Public Works information officer for the many project segments, is making sure that the neighborhood is aware of the work schedule every step of the way. She provided timelines, maps and answered many questions at the Diamond Heights Community Association (DHCA) meetings in December and February. Najib will continue to attend DHCA meetings, issue construction updates every two weeks and post updates on the Public Works website.

SF Public Works contracted with Hoseley Corporation to do the multiple projects. In February work started on three segments: replacement of the water main between north Duncan Street and Carnelian Way; replacement of the asphalt sidewalk and guardrails from lower Berkeley Way bordering Glen Park to Arbor Street; and construction of Americans with Disabilities Act-approved curb ramps at Arbor Street.

Between February and June, all ADA curb ramps will be replaced along the boulevard, leading to the repaving of Diamond Heights Boulevard from Clipper Street to Sussex Street, scheduled to start in September 2017. Sidewalks will be constructed where none exist today, making it possible to walk the entire length of the boulevard on sidewalks on both sides, a most welcome improvement.

Construction of a crosswalk mid-block between the two entrances to the Diamond Heights Shopping Center is scheduled for July 2017. Another water main will be replaced between Addison Street and lower Berkeley Way. Many residents and the DHCA are pleased that so many improvements are scheduled for Diamond Heights. Our neighborhood will experience traffic delays (consider them "traffic-calming" measures), but stay patient. The end improvements will be stellar.

Community Challenge Grant: Paul Matalucci, Project Lead, announced that the Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project will receive nearly \$41,000 from the City of San Francisco's Community Challenge Grant Program. The funds will provide a drip irrigation system, minor hardscape such as pavers to protect the end sections of the median islands, and 2,000 plants, which will be planted by volunteers between lower Duncan Street and upper Diamond Street to complete the landscape plan.

Planting workdays will be scheduled as soon as the pipes that provide water to the median islands are fixed by Public Works. The new Canary Island pines planted in September have enjoyed a perfect rainy first winter to get established. The rain, however, has also brought weeds that need to be removed before they set seed.

A volunteer maintenance day is scheduled for Saturday, March 25, 9 a.m.–noon. Assemble at the lower level of St. Aidan's Church. To volunteer or make a donation, please contact Paul at paul@wordwc.com or 415-826-0445. ❖

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

MARC DICKOW

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A portion of each of Marc's commissions go to fund projects for his Core Concern:
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❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

What a year 2016 was in real estate—and in so many other things, to be sure!

Before I give you the full story on last year, let me give you the latest numbers. Between Nov. 2, 2016, and Feb. 2, 2017, there were 27 sales in Glen Park—21 single-family homes, four condominiums, and two two-unit buildings.

The average selling price for single-family homes in Glen Park during this period was \$1,747,000, which is down a bit from the previous quarter. The average list price was \$1,685,000, which puts the sales prices about 3.6 percent above the asking prices. The average days on market was nearly unchanged from the last quarter, at 42.

Inventory overall in the city is up a bit from a year ago at this time, but inventory in Glen Park is extremely low. As I'm writing this, only two homes are for sale in Glen Park, which has around 13,000 households. To contrast, there are currently 14 homes for sale in Bernal Heights and 16 homes for sale in Noe Valley.

Consequently, demand for homes in Glen Park is at an all-time high. People are asking me if it's still a sellers' market, and I think from what I just said you can figure out that it really is—at least here in our neighborhood!

Each year at this time, I offer a wrap-up of what happened in the market in the last year, so here we go.

For 2016 this is the breakdown for single-family homes in Glen Park:

- Total Number of Homes Sold in Glen Park: 67
- Average List Price: \$1,657,123
- Average Sale Price: \$1,800,153 (wow!)
- Average Days on Market: 35
- Average Price per square foot: \$974
- How does this compare to 2015, you might wonder?
- Total Number of Homes Sold in Glen Park: 72
- Average List Price: \$1,483,361
- Average Sale Price: \$1,683,597
- Average Days on Market: 22
- Average Price per square foot: \$931

So, comparing year to year, the number of homes sold was down a bit. No surprise there, as inventory was and still is extremely low. The average list price was up by 11 percent. More important, the average sale price was up by 6.9 percent. This is well above what I and others predicted for 2016. The average price per square foot was up 4.5 percent.

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
140 Hamerton Ave.	11/4/2016	34	\$1,395,000	\$1,400,000	100.36%
90 Melrose Ave.	11/7/2016	27	\$1,089,000	\$1,310,000	120.29%
27 Roanoke St.	11/9/2016	52	\$2,095,000	\$2,095,000	100.00%
167 Stillings Ave.	11/16/2016	23	\$1,495,000	\$1,550,000	103.68%
30 Miguel St.	11/18/2016	163	\$2,100,000	\$2,125,000	101.19%
45 Chilton Ave.	11/18/2016	28	\$1,995,000	\$2,200,000	110.28%
1829 Church St.	11/18/2016	39	\$3,995,000	\$3,750,000	93.87%
278 Randall St.	11/18/2016	13	\$1,699,000	\$1,900,000	111.83%
2598 Diamond St.	11/23/2016	76	\$1,276,000	\$1,280,000	100.31%
155 Arbor St.	11/23/2016	35	\$1,695,000	\$1,695,000	100.00%
21 Brompton Ave.	11/28/2016	55	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	100.00%
53 Stillings Ave.	11/29/2016	12	\$948,000	\$1,258,000	132.70%
1812 Church St.	11/30/2016	6	\$1,595,000	\$1,650,000	103.45%
130 Roanoke St.	12/2/2016	14	\$1,198,000	\$1,350,000	112.69%
64 Sussex St.	12/13/2016	30	\$849,000	\$780,000	91.87%
249 Randall St.	12/14/2016	54	\$3,295,000	\$3,150,000	95.60%
55 Conrad St.	12/14/2016	12	\$1,049,000	\$1,150,000	109.63%
240 Sussex St.	12/16/2016	21	\$850,000	\$1,025,000	120.59%
22 Harper St.	12/20/2016	179	\$3,795,000	\$3,750,000	98.81%
171 Burnside Ave.	1/6/2017	6	\$949,000	\$1,080,000	113.80%
179 Burnside Ave.	1/27/2017	13	\$975,000	\$1,155,000	118.46%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
115 Chenery St. - 2 Unit Building	11/15/2016	151	\$1,195,000	\$1,158,000	96.90%
23-25 Brompton Ave - 2 Unit Building	11/28/2016	55	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	100.00%
106 Everson St. - Condominium	11/30/2016	55	\$899,000	\$850,000	94.55%
192 Laidley St. - Condominium	12/16/2016	9	\$599,000	\$660,000	110.18%
17 Valletta Ct. - TIC	12/28/2016	40	\$998,500	\$1,200,000	120.18%
327 Arlington St. - Condominium	1/20/2017	63	\$695,000	\$825,000	118.71%
DOM - Days on market			SP/LP - % over list price		

Why look at that? Well, buyers consider price per square foot when they are comparing homes. There are mixed opinions on how valuable this metric really is, but since buyers look at it, it's valuable. Average days on market was up a bit, too.

Let's translate these numbers into something understandable. Let's say that in 2011, you bought your house in Glen Park for \$1,031,000. Just looking

at the numbers, and not taking into account what additions and upgrades you've done, or the current condition of your home, you could potentially sell it for \$1,800,000. That is an amazing 54 percent in appreciation in only six years. Remember, these are average numbers, yet they are real, too.

How do Glen Park's numbers compare to the rest of the city as a whole?

Here are the numbers for 2016 for all

of San Francisco:

- Total Number of Single Family Homes Sold in San Francisco: 2260
- Average List Price: \$1,585,312
- Average Sale Price: \$1,706,599
- Average Days on Market: 33
- Average Price per square foot: \$908

That puts Glen Park about 5 percent above the city as a whole as far as sale prices go.

One last comparison is with our neighbors in Sunnyside, which is of interest to many readers. Here's are the numbers for Sunnyside for 2016:

- Total Number of Single Family Homes Sold in Sunnyside: 49
- Average List Price: \$1,014,773
- Average Sale Price: \$1,163,888
- Average Days on Market: 26
- Average Price per square foot: \$842

Interestingly, the average sale price in Sunnyside was down from 2015 by about 7 percent, but if you look at the numbers from 2011, average sale prices have increased by about 60 percent!

I could go on and on with all the statistics, but I think these are the most relevant ones for us. If you would like a full copy of the stats for San Francisco, which also includes condos and breakdowns by district, feel free to email me with your request at marc@opni.com and I'll email you a copy of the report.

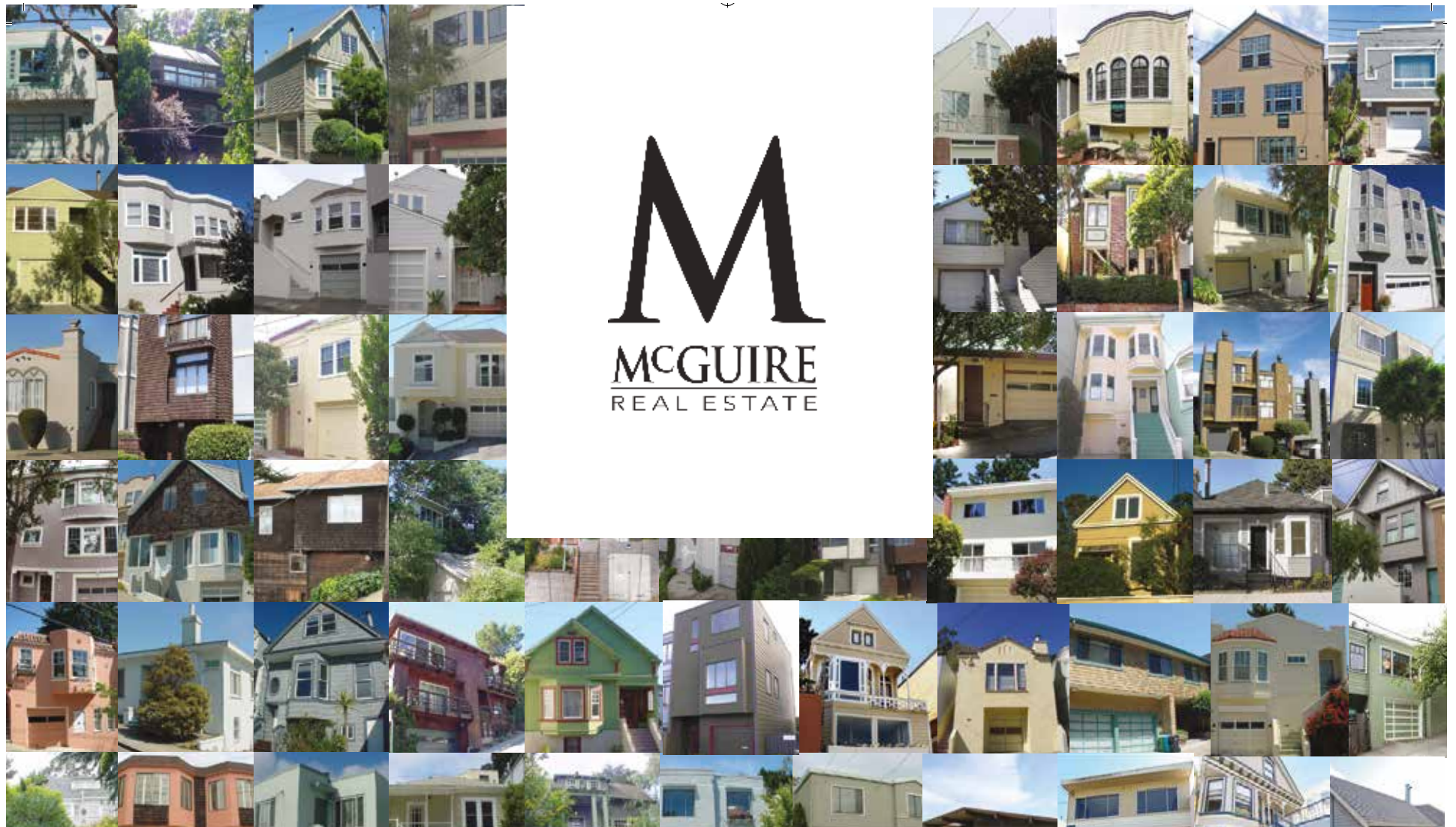
Predictions for 2017? I'll stick to my opinion that we will see more moderate appreciation this year—in the 3–5 percent range would be my guess. Interest rates will tick up slightly. As of this writing rates for a 30-year fixed mortgage are about 4.25 percent, which is up by about 0.75 of a point from last year. I think we'll still see the rates below 5 percent for the rest of this year and into 2018.

With everything going on in our country, we are very fortunate to call Glen Park and San Francisco our home. I am so grateful to know and work with so many of you, and I look forward to seeing you in our neighborhood soon.

I'm pleased that this is an interactive column answering questions that you have and writing about topics that are of interest to you as a reader. You can send any questions or topic requests to news@glenparkassociation.org, marc@opni.com, or The Glen Park News, 2912 Diamond 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 WINTER 2016 ♦

Mondays

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

Poetry with Open Mic
First and Third Monday of the month, 7-9, Bird & Beckett
Poets read, followed by open mic. See Birdbecket.com for more details.

Tuesdays

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

Kid Zone
Every week, 3-5, Glen Park Library

SFPD Community Meetings
Third Tuesday of the month, 7–8 p.m., location varies
March 21 meeting will be held at the SFPD Academy, 350 Amber Drive

Ingleside Station's commanding officer, Capt. Joseph McFadden, hosts a Community Relations Forum. Keep up to date on neighborhood police issues, get acquainted with the dedicated people who keep our neighborhood safe. For information, visit the website at InglesidePoliceStation.com or call the station at 404-4050.

Wednesdays

Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Parties
9–noon. Meet behind the Rec Center. off Elk St.
Volunteers are welcome to work in the canyon with the Recreation and Park Department's Natural Areas Program staff. To join Friends of Glen Canyon Park, or for more information about the park, interpretive walks, and volunteer activities, contact Jean Conner at 415 584-8576

California Native Plant Society Work Parties
Noon–3, Glen Canyon Park
Volunteer activities include weeding, planting and general maintenance. Please wear closed-toed shoes, long pants and layers. The event will occur rain or shine. To RSVP, email recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org or call 415-831-6333.

Book a Librarian
4–5, Glen Park Library,
Do you need personalized help using a computer or the Internet? Do you have questions on a topic not covered in one of our free computer classes or simply need more help with research or a specific computer or internet task? Call 415-355-2858 to book an appointment.

Diamond Diners Lunch and Social Hour
First Wednesday of the month, 12 Noon–1, St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Drive

LEGO Free Play
First Wednesday at the month, 2–4, Glen Park Library

Bird & Beckett Book Club
Second Wednesday of the month, 7–9, Bird & Beckett
A book is discussed each meeting. Participants choose the next month's book. See Birdbeckett.com for more details.

Thursdays

Teen Time
3:30–5, Glen Park Library
Teens do homework, hang out and occasionally play video games

The In Crowd
Last Thursday of the month, 8–10, Bird & Beckett

Fridays

Food Pantry
1–2 pm, St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr. (Closed December 23 and December 30)
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, Weight Watchers and other community groups. For details, visit www.staidan.org or call 415-285-9540.

Jazz in the Bookshop
5:30–8, Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery St.
A neighborhood party every week, with live jazz. \$10 per adult suggested donation; kids welcome and free! See birdbeckett.com for performers.

Saturdays

Jazz Club
7:30–10, Bird & Beckett
A weekly jazz concert series. \$10 cover charge. Free food at the break; wine and beer available. See birdbeckett.com for performers.

Grant Levin Duo
Second and Fourth Saturday of the month, 4–6, Bird & Beckett

Don't miss Grant's twice-monthly duo sessions at Bird & Beckett. One day, they'll go down in the annals of the San Francisco jazz scene as legendary.

Habitat Restoration Work Parties
Third Saturday of the month, 9–11:30. Meet at the Rec Center off Elk Street, Glen Canyon Park
Join the the Friends of Glen Canyon Park and SFRPD gardeners for a monthly volunteer work party of weeding, pruning and occasional planting. For more information, please email recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org or call 415-831-6333. Registration required.

Sundays

Which Way West?
4:30–6:30, Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery St.
A weekly concert offering jazz, acoustic Americana, world and classical music. \$10 per adult suggested donation; children free. No one turned away for lack of funds! See birdbeckett.com for performers.

The Seducers - Classic, Outlaw & Honky Tonk Country Music
Second Sunday of the month, 7:30-9:30, Bird & Beckett

LEGO Free Play
Third Sunday of the month, 1-4, Glen Park Library

Walker Talks!
Fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4, Bird & Beckett

Walker Brents III holds his audience spellbound with his wide-ranging investigations into topics literary, mythological and otherwise — in the past, his subjects have ranged from William Blake to Bob Dylan, Shakespeare to the Shanameh, the Kalevala to the story of Layla and Majnun

Thursday, March 23

Great Teen Book Swap
3:30–5, Glen Park Library
Free book! Just swap us a review. For ages 12-18

Saturday, March 25

Diamond Heights Blvd. Maintenance Day
9-12 noon. Meet at St. Aidan's Church

Sunday, March 26

A Trestle Ran Through It: Early Days in Glen Park Village
9–12 noon; meet on the plaza at the Glen Park BART station, Bosworth and Diamond
Join Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose on this 1.3-mile walk back through time to learn more about the days of Glen Park Village. Tour limited to 15. Reserve now by emailing GlenParkHistory@gmail.com. Severe weather cancels. Suggested Minimum Donation \$5.

Hospice by the Bay Annual Service of Remembrance
Doors open at 3:30; service begins at 4, St. Aidan's Church

Everyone is invited to join an interfaith community gathering to grieve loved ones and honor their memories. Please bring photographs or objects of remembrance for our Altar of Memories. To include a loved one's name in a Memorial Album, send name(s) by Wednesday, March 22, to mwhite@hbtb.org. Contact Marshall White at 415-321-7147 for more information.

Wednesday, March 29

Deadline to Apply for FUF Tree Planting
Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) will hold a tree planting in Glen Park on May 13. Planting costs a minimum of \$135 and includes: free site-inspection; tree species selection; concrete removal; tree and volunteers for tree planting; and 5 years of tree visits. Interested? Contact FUF's community outreach manager, Jasmine Lim, at 415-268-0773 or email fuf@info.net. Order online at www.fuf.net/eform. Deadline to apply is March 29.

Glen Park Ladies
6:30–8, Glen Park Library
In honor of Women's History Month, join Evelyn Rose, Chair and Founder of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project, as we explore the lives of some of Glen Park's earliest civic activists and suffragists, and how these women played important roles in the history of Glen Park, San Francisco, and beyond.

Saturday, April 1

Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project 2nd Annual Meeting
3:30–5:30, Glen Park Library
Join us as local resident historians present topics about the local history of Glen Park, Sunnyside, Fairmount Heights, and Diamond Heights. Free.

Sunday, April 2

Grant Levin Trio featuring Sylvia Cuenca
7:30–9:30, Bird & Beckett
New York-based for the past decade and a half, Sylvia Cuenca was born and raised in San Jose and got her start in jazz in the Bay Area before making her way east, Now, she's making a swing through the Bay Area for a sequence of dates including a quartet this afternoon and this trio date with rising star performer Grant Levin on piano.

Companion Animal Interfaith Service
3:30, St. Aidan's Church
Join together in ritual to honor and acknowledge our relationships with our beloved pets. Anyone who is grieving or has grieved the loss of a pet is welcome. Led by Betty Carmack, author of *Grieving the Death of a Pet*, and Lois Roach, Grief Counselor with the Association for Pet Loss and Bereavement. Feel free to bring a copy of a photo and/or a memento.

Thursday, April 6

Glen Park Association Quarterly Meeting
7 pm, St. John School
Henna Body Art
4–5, Glen Park Library.
Program limited to 20 teens. For ages 12-18. This event requires a signed parent permission form. To register, call 415-355-2858.

Paul Griffiths (Randy Lee Odell presents)
8–10, Bird & Beckett

Saturday, April 8

Feature Film: Dead Poet Society
2–4:30 Glen Park Library
Film rated PG; 128 minutes.

Monday, April 10

Celebration of the life of poet David Meltzer!
7–9:30, Bird & Beckett

Thursday, April 13

Howell Devine - Canyon Moonlight Series
7:30–9:30, Bird & Beckett

Saturday, April 15

Beating the Bounds: A Walk Around the Original Edges of the Sunnyside
10–12:30; walk begins at Cup Cafe, 6 Monterey Blvd. (around the corner from Glen Park BART.)
Join Sunnyside historian Amy O'Hair on this 4.5-mile history walk on the many wonders and stories from the Sunnyside's 125-year history - from Schulz's Saloon to the Park to Wilson's Dairy to the Ingleside Jail. Tour limited to 15. Contact Sunnyside@gmail.com. Suggested Donation \$5.

Thursday, April 20

Great Teen Book Swap
3:30–5:3, Glen Park Library
Free book! Just swap us a review. For Ages 12-18
Jimbo Trout & the Fishpeople
7:30–9:30, Bird & Beckett
Jimbo Trout, Steve Neil and Paul Shelasky.

Sunday, April 23

Bovines, Dynamite, and High-Flying Shows: The Amazing History of Glen Canyon Park
10–1; meet at the Glen Canyon Park Cow Sign on Elk Street at the automobile turnout, just uphill (north) from Chenery St.
Join Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose on this 1.3-mile stroll through Glen Canyon as we discover the natural and cultural history of this Natural Resource Area in the heart of San Francisco. Tour limited to 20. Reserve now by emailing GlenParkHistory@gmail.com. Suggested Minimum Donation \$5.

Magna Books reading - Paul Vangelisti, Art Beck, Neeli Cherkovski
2–4, Bird & Beckett
Thalea String Quartet
7 pm, St. Aidan's Church
Formed in 2014, the Thalea String Quartet has been praised for its "vibrant performance" and "sincere expressivity" (SF Classical Voice). They will perform quartets by Mozart, Cowell and Beethoven. See musiconthehill.org for more information.

Monday, April 24

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Quarterly Meeting
7–8:30 p.m., St. Finn Barr, 415 Edna Street

Tuesday, April 25

Big San Francisco Play Date
10–12, Glen Park Library
The Play Date is back at the Glen Park Library, because playing is learning. For children 0-5 years and their family and caregivers.

Wednesday, April 26

Early Literacy Parent Workshop
6:30–7:30 Glen Park Library
Early Literacy is what a child know before she learns to read or write. Come learn simple ways to support your child's learning so that she will be ready to learn when she enters Kindergarten. Reading goodies for all who attend.

Sunday, April 30

19th Annual Glen Park Festival 2017
10–4:30, Glen Park Village
Enjoy a day of fun, music, art, food, and festivities as Glen Park once again kicks off the neighborhood festival season. Free. For more information, visit glen-parkfestival.com.

Monday, May 1

Finger Paint Session
10:30–11:30, Glen Park Library
Put on your messiest clothes! Let's paint together! This is a drop-in event. Ages: 18 months to Pre-K.

Sunday, May 7

Springfest
11–3, Sunnyside Elementary School
Sunnyside Elementary School's annual Springfest features entertainment, games, food and an art show. Be sure to join us for a great time.

Monday, May 11

Fog Swamp
7:30–9:30, Bird & Beckett

Saturday, May 13

FUF Tree Planting
Time, location TBD
Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) tree planting in Glen Park. Apply by March 29. Planting costs a minimum of \$135 and includes: free site-inspection; tree species selection; concrete removal; tree and volunteers for tree planting; and 5 years of tree visits. Contact FUF's community outreach manager, Jasmine Lim, at 415-268-0773 or email fuf@info.net. Order online at www.fuf.net/eform.

Saturday, May 20

Glen Park Library Open House
2–5, Glen Park Library
With music by the Glen Park Trio, a puppet performance by The Fratello Marionettes, food demonstration, and activities and crafts for kids and families.

Saturday, May 21, 2017

Sunnyside History Walk: A Walk Down Mid-Century Monterey Boulevard
11–1; meet at Monterey Deli, Monterey Blvd. at Edna Street (take MUNI 23, 36, 43)
Tour Leader: Sunnyside Historian Amy O'Hair. All ages 12 and up welcome. Tour limited to 15 people. Well-behaved pets on leash also welcome. Reserve by emailing SunnysideHistory@gmail.com. Severe weather cancels. Suggested Minimum Donation \$5.

Sunday, May 28

Evangenitals
7:30–9:30, Bird & Beckett

Tuesday, May 30

Alexandra Teague reads from her novel
7–8:30, Bird & Beckett
The Principles Behind Flotation (Skyhorse Press, 2017) is the first novel from Alexandra Teague, a former NEA Fellow, Stegner Fellow, and currently a professor at University of Idaho. She has previously published two poetry books—*The Wise and Foolish Builders* (Persea 2015) and *Mortal Geography* (Persea 2010), winner of the 2010 California Book Award.