



# Glen Park News



Contractor crews smooth new sidewalk flags on Diamond Street in Glen Park.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

## StreetTreeSF Takes Root

This past July, the City took over maintenance responsibility for San Francisco's nearly 125,000 street trees under the new StreetTreeSF program—a game-changer for private property owners and the local urban forest. Bonnee Waldstein StreetTreeSF was made possible by passage of Proposition E on the November 2016 ballot, which set aside \$19 million a year for the City to care for all the street trees and to repair tree-related sidewalk damage, relieving adjacent property owners of the financial burden.

The shift was recommended in the San Francisco Urban Forest Plan, a fact-filled document developed by the Planning Department and Public Works, in partnership with the Urban Forestry Council and Friends of the Urban Forest. The plan, adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2015, painted a bleak picture of the current state of the local urban forest and laid out a vision for how to grow it and provide proper maintenance.

Planning's Jon Swae and Carla Short, superintendent of the Bureau of Urban Forestry for Public Works, offered an

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

## Smoothing Out Sidewalk Hazards

"It's ugly, but it's OK," said Jun Viray, as he pointed to a sidewalk square with a jagged crack across it.

Viray is a street inspector for San Francisco Public Works. Part of his job is to check out sidewalks and determine which flags, as squares are called, need replacing.

On this day, he was making a second run on the 200 block of Chenery Street, confirming which individual flags with white dots had not yet been repaired.

Like many Glen Park property owners, I arrived home one day to find a bunch of green X's spray-painted on the sidewalk in front of my house. My next-door neighbor had both green X's and white dots (a few barely distinguishable from bird droppings) on his sidewalk.

We learned that the green markings

are the City's responsibility, while the white ones require the property owner to make repairs. An occasional orange paint job, usually around a utility access cover, means the work is the responsibility of a utility company, usually PG&E or the phone company. Since the Water Department, an arm of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, is a City agency, the flags affected by its pipes or meter covers get green paint.

Viray, an affable father of five wearing a bright yellow Public Works safety vest, agreed to show me what he looks for when he's out doing his inspections.

The crack he classified as merely ugly didn't need fixing, he explained, because the "lift," or unevenness, didn't exceed half an inch—a standard by which acceptable and unacceptable sidewalk defects are measured.

The same goes for holes and chipped or worn-away openings between

squares, which also must be at least one-half-inch wide to earn a paint mark.

When he deems a flag unsafe, he takes a careful look at the ones immediately around it. If they're fragile, his practiced eye tells him whether they can survive the replacement of the adjacent square. Breaking up and removing old concrete is a rough-and-tumble enterprise, so a series of innocuous-looking fractures can be a giveaway that a flag will crumble when work proceeds nearby. That merits a green X or a white dot.

Thanks to a voter-passed initiative called StreetTreeSF that went into effect on July 1, the damage to sidewalks caused by the roots of street trees is now the City's responsibility. With older trees, especially, the sidewalk can buckle dramatically. In other places, it just shifts the level of individual flags

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

### GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION

#### QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday October 25  
7 p.m.

Glen Park Recreation Center

- 911- How it works and when to call.
- Recology -What goes where.
- Rec+Park-update on rec center construction.
- Glen Park Greenway update.
- Supervisor Jeff Sheehy will attend.



# GLEN PARK NEWS

The *Glen Park News* is published quarterly by the Glen Park Association. Signed articles are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the Glen Park Association.

Editor-in-Chief Rachel Gordon  
Deputy Editor Gail Bensinger  
Copy Editor Denis Wade  
Art Director Liz Mangelsdorf  
Calendar Editor C.B. Mangelsdorf  
Online Editor Elizabeth Weise  
Advertising Nora Dowley  
Distribution Manager Murray Schneider

## Reporters

Gail Bensinger  
Bryna McNulty  
Eileen Morris  
Michael Rice  
Murray Schneider  
Bonnie Waldstein

## Columnists

Monica Castillo  
Marc Dickow  
Betsy Eddy  
Kay Hamilton Estey  
Katie Ripley  
Evelyn Rose  
Jeff Sheehy  
Jessica Wallack-Cohen  
Stephany Wilkes

## Photographers

Gail Bensinger  
Harry Breaux  
Rachel Gordon  
Liz Mangelsdorf  
Murray Schneider

2912 Diamond St. #407  
San Francisco, CA 94131  
news@glenparkassociation.org-

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR  
ADVERTISERS;  
THEY SUPPORT US!

## ♦ GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION ♦

It is difficult to follow the daily chaos in the world. It is harder still to determine how best to respond to it, to find ways to create refuge while, hopefully, setting things to rights. I am but a lowly vice president of the Glen Park Association and have no good answers, but I do feel a little better when I can restore some wild things in the world.

The Glen Park Greenway offers ample opportunity for solace and action. It reminds us that we can be in service to beautiful things like strangers, neighbors, trees and bees. A great deal has happened with the Greenway in the past two years and much more lies ahead, so I figured this would be a good time to recap, look forward to a very busy winter, and share some really terrific, exciting news.

First, a quick recap of the past two years. The Greenway is the social trail beside Bosworth Street, west of the Diamond Street intersection. It begins beyond the unpaved parking lot at the intersection of Kern and Brompton streets and extends west for three blocks, widening behind St. John School and ending at Burnside Avenue, one block from Glen Canyon Park. Greenway parcels are variously owned by Public Works (SFPW), the Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), and the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Glen Park neighbors have long sought to landscape and maintain the Greenway, and a few even took it upon themselves

to do so, picking up trash and pruning cape ivy over the years. In 2015, the GPA obtained grant funds to support landscape planning efforts for the Greenway. That same year, we held a series of three community design meetings, as well as more focused meetings with neighbors who live on or near the Greenway.

Workshop participants discussed, brainstormed, annotated sketches and worked with landscape architects. After three revisions, a Greenway Concept Plan was brought to a vote and unanimously approved by the GPA membership in January 2016.

Shortly thereafter, the GPA began to work with City agencies and the San Francisco Parks Alliance. We sought funds to implement elements of the concept plan, and met with arborists from SFPW. We organize quarterly work days and potlucks. (Email me if you'd like to participate in these at stephany.wilkes@gmail.com. I'll be sure to invite you.) To date, hardworking neighbors and the SFPW Clean & Green crew have tackled every Greenway section at least once, removing dozens of bags of trash and 90-plus bags of green waste each time.

But that's not all. I've saved the best for last.

First, we recently won a \$70,000 Community Challenge Grant to fund implementation of the Greenway Concept Plan. Nicholas Dewar, GPA board member, did most of this grant-writing and fund-raising work, and to him we are forever grateful. Our grant

period kicked off on Sept. 1, 2017.

As many folks have rightly pointed out, however, there is no point in planting new things if there is not also a way to water them, regularly. We are happy to report that SFPUC has agreed to install two water meters along the Greenway. The specific locations will be determined after a few more meetings.

That brings us, at long last, to tree planting. We have continued to do Greenway walkthroughs with SFPW arborists to identify dying and dead trees to be removed, so that we can plant new trees on the Greenway. Leon Hordijk, our landscape architect, will prepare a tree-planting plan to guide our efforts for the months and years ahead. We will also work with Friends of the Urban Forest on this Greenway planting project. I am thrilled to report that future Greenway work days will include tree planting, not just trash and fennel removal.

Trees need to be planted early in the rainy season and in advance of spring, so we hope to hold our first tree planting day on Saturday, Dec. 9. Other work days, potlucks and planting days will be held in November, December, and January. I hope you'll bring a dish to pass, and be ready, willing and able to put some carbon-sequestering acorns and saplings in the soil and, in so doing, take some small comfort in taking the long view. ♦

*Stephany Wilkes is vice president of the Glen Park Association.*



The bright and airy redesigned gym is now open in the Glen Park Recreation Center.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf



## ❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

This news shouldn't come as a surprise to Glen Park residents: Car break-ins have spiked 28 percent during the past year in San Francisco, with an average of 85 reported every day. All you need to do is follow the crime logs from Ingleside Station, which patrols Glen Park, and the point is driven home. In one recent week, thieves smashed car windows to pilfer goods on Brompton, Chilton, Chenery, Arbor, Beacon, Kern, Diamond and several other streets in our neighborhood.

There are several theories on why the increase is occurring. Among them: a relaxed sentencing law in the state has kept serial criminals out of prison; a local prosecutor and judiciary are not prone to prioritizing property crimes, and a growing number of injection drug users need quick money for their next fix.

San Francisco Police Chief Bill Scott

announced this summer that he was disbanding a specialized auto burglary task force that tried and failed to get a handle on the crime. Instead, he wants to see what happens by assigning more cops to walk neighborhood beats. It's certainly worth a try. The officers will get to know the rhythms and regulars of their assigned areas in a way that can't occur as effectively from a moving patrol car. Maybe the new SFPD approach, coupled with the proliferation of private surveillance cameras that can capture culprits in action, will yield results and deter the costly nuisance of car break-ins. We can hope.

OK, we don't want our Editors' Note to focus just on the bothersome. There's a lot of good happening in the neighborhood. For example, scores of families came out to Glen Canyon Park on the night of Sept. 9 for a free showing of the

feature film, "Sing." People spread out on the ballfield, enjoyed their picnic dinners and met up with neighbors. It was a fun, festive gathering. Thank you California Pacific Medical Center for hosting.

And finally, if you're reading the print copy of the *Glen Park News*, it got to you because one of our volunteers hand-delivered the paper to your home, our neighborhood library branch or a local business.

Our dedicated delivery crew, which ranges from school kids to seniors, needs a few new volunteers. Distribution Manager Murray Schneider will give you a bundle of papers, and you'll walk a short route and drop them off at neighbors' houses. It usually takes an hour at most. If you're interested, email [news@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:news@glenparkassociation.org). We're an all-volunteer publication and we'd love your help! ❖

## Bruce Bonacker: A Life Remembered

Bruce Bonacker—architect, community activist, historic preservation advocate and longtime Glen Park resident—passed away on Aug. 3. He was 69 years old.

Bruce had been in treatment for more than a year for a rare form of cancer, but he was engaged in Glen Park Association work, in his usual insightful and vigorous way, until early July, when I last spoke with him.

Bruce grew up in the Albany, N.Y. area, completed an architecture degree at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and then served in the VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) anti-poverty program, aiding migrant agricultural workers in upstate New York to develop their own homes. He moved to San Francisco in the late 1970s and came to Glen Park in 1980, buying a home on Van Buren Street.

I had the pleasure of working with Bruce on many Glen Park planning, housing and historic resource issues. Bruce, in fact, was one of the main reasons I became active in the Glen Park Association, about 15 years ago, when we debated different sides of a local issue. We served together on the GPA



Architect and Glen Park resident Bruce Bonacker.

board all the way up to 2017.

I wrote in my interview with Bruce in the December 2016 *Glen Park News*: "Bruce and I have sometimes disagreed on issues and strategies, but his opinions and counsel have been a big contribution to the Glen Park Association for many years. He twice served as GPA

president, and is currently on the GPA Zoning and Planning Committee, and the Glen Park Greenway committee."

I am the keeper of about six file boxes of GPA archives, and I decided to look and see what was on the record of Bruce's contributions. The first folder I opened had the list of GPA officers for 1995. Bruce was listed as "Chief Noodle." This is exactly who Bruce was, never needing a formal role to cajole, assert, remind or shake a finger, to take on City agencies, to push back on bad development, and to stand up for Glen Park.

Bruce was a longtime board member, with a stint as president, of San Francisco Heritage, the architectural preservation organization. He was known as the heart of that board, and its institutional memory. Bruce's memorial service will be at the Haas-Lilienthal House, Heritage's beautiful head-

quarters at 2007 Franklin St., on Saturday, Oct. 14. (RSVPs are requested at <http://bit.do/Bruce-Bonacker>.) Donations in his memory can be made to San Francisco Heritage. ❖

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

## GPA Board of Directors and Officers for 2017

### President

Scott Stawicki  
[president@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:president@glenparkassociation.org)

### Vice President

Stephany Wilkes  
[vicepresident@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:vicepresident@glenparkassociation.org)

### Membership Secretary

Hilary Schiraldi  
[membership@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:membership@glenparkassociation.org)

### Recording Secretary

Heather World  
[secretary@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:secretary@glenparkassociation.org)

### Communications Secretary

Bonnee Waldstein  
[info@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:info@glenparkassociation.org)

### Treasurer

Dennis Mullen  
[treasurer@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:treasurer@glenparkassociation.org)

### Glen Park News Editors

Rachel Gordon (print)  
Elizabeth Weise (blog)  
[news@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:news@glenparkassociation.org)

### Glen Park News Advertising Rep.

Nora Dowley  
[advertising@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:advertising@glenparkassociation.org)

### Health & Environment Chair

Stephany Wilkes  
[health@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:health@glenparkassociation.org)

### Neighborhood Improvement Chair

John Walmsley  
[improvement@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:improvement@glenparkassociation.org)

### Program Chair

Carolyn Deacy  
[program@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:program@glenparkassociation.org)

### Public Safety Chairs

Carolyn Deacy, Hilary Schiraldi  
[safety@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:safety@glenparkassociation.org)

### Recreation & Parks Chair

Ashley Hathaway  
[canyon@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:canyon@glenparkassociation.org)

### Transportation Chair

Scott Stawicki  
[transportation@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:transportation@glenparkassociation.org)

### Zoning Chairs

Tania Treis  
[zoning@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:zoning@glenparkassociation.org)

The mission of the Glen Park Association is to promote the collective interests of all persons living in Glen Park, to inform and educate about neighborhood and citywide issues, to promote sociability and friendships and to support beneficial neighborhood projects.

## ❖ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ❖

**A**s summer comes to an end and we head into fall, I want to provide an update on the Glen Park items and issues my office is working on.

From community meetings to talking with neighbors on the street, the most pressing issues I hear revolve around public safety, and I take your concerns very seriously. Capt. Joseph McFadden of the Ingleside Station and I have been working very closely together, and I thank him for attending the last Glen Park Association meeting to hear from neighbors directly. Our collaboration has resulted in a greater police presence in Glen Park and an ongoing discussion on the best strategies to ensure the safety and security of our neighborhood.

I also want to encourage neighbors to work together to improve public safety on their block by joining or forming an SF SAFE group. Capt. McFadden and I recently met with dozens of neighbors at the Sussex Street group and had a very productive discussion. To find out if there is an SF SAFE block group on

your block, please contact SF SAFE at 415-553-1984.

As neighborhood safety extends beyond policing, I've been working with the SFMTA to evaluate the Diamond and Bosworth intersection for traffic efficiency and pedestrian safety. One improvement that has already been implemented involves changing signal timing to improve traffic flow. We continue to push other options to improve the intersection as well. In addition, we have been successful in getting additional stop signs on Diamond Heights Boulevard.

In the coming weeks, the City's Fix-It Team will be coming to Glen Park to work in our neighborhood and improve local quality-of-life problems. By

coordinating City agencies, we've had tremendous success in other neighborhoods, and we look forward to bringing this interagency approach to our local community.

The City identifies neighborhood "hot spots" based on 311 call data, so please always be sure to call in and report issues. For example, thanks to neighborhood feedback and involvement, we were able to secure funding for the Rec & Park department to complete the Dog Play Area at Walter Haas Park.

We know many neighbors are concerned with local land use and zoning matters, and specifically, a project at 43 Everson St. that includes the addition of an indoor basketball court. The Planning

Commission has approved the project, but the project's environmental review has been appealed to the Board of Supervisors. The appeal was scheduled for the Sept. 12 board meeting, but there was a possibility it would be continued to the 19th. I encourage you to share your thoughts during public comment at the board meeting, because we make sure to listen to all sides before reaching a decision.

The end of summer is bittersweet as our kids head back to school, but I thoroughly enjoy seeing and speaking with neighbors on my way to dropping off my daughter, Michelle, every morning. I hope your kids are enjoying their first few weeks back, and I wish them success this school year.

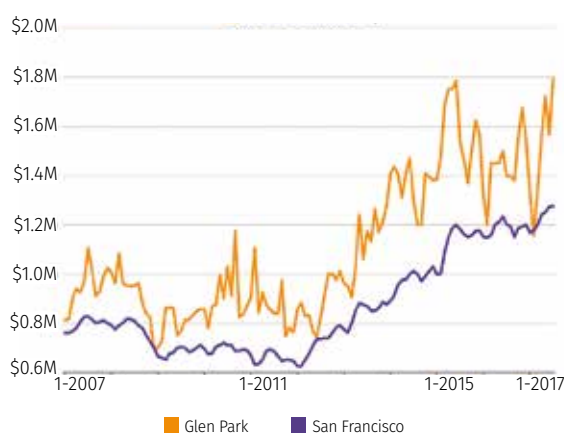
If you ever need anything in the neighborhood, I encourage you to reach out to my office at 415-554-6968, or please email me directly at [jeff.sheehy@sfgov.org](mailto:jeff.sheehy@sfgov.org). See you in the neighborhood. ❖

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



## Glen Park Real Estate Market Snapshot

Glen Park Median Sales Price Over Last Ten Years



In July of this year, 21 single family homes and four condos & lofts were sold in Glen Park. That ratio is pretty consistent with what we see each month. The median price for a Glen Park home in July was \$1,792,500, up 28.5 percent over July 2016. The median number of days a Glen Park property spent on the market in July was 15.

If you have questions about the market, or want to know about the value of your home, please contact us.



**Beth Kershaw**  
415.260.2321  
[bkershaw@hill-co.com](mailto:bkershaw@hill-co.com)  
BRE License # 00876376



**Donald Gable**  
415.350.3854  
[donaldcgable@gmail.com](mailto:donaldcgable@gmail.com)  
BRE License # 01724961



*Bird & Beckett Books and Records*

653 Chenery St San Francisco [birdbeckett.com](http://birdbeckett.com) (415) 586-3733



# New Acting Head Librarian Branches Out in Glen Park

**M**onica Castillo is a native San Franciscan. She grew up and still lives in the Oceanview neighborhood, and graduated from Immaculate Conception High School and San Francisco State University. She did venture south for a master's degree in library and information science from San Jose State.

Now she's located at the Glen Park branch library, as acting director, replacing Katrin Reimuller, who has moved on to an administrative job in the library system.

The present-day library is much more than a collection of books, periodicals, CDs and DVDs, Castillo says, referring to the tech-oriented "they." Librarians are tackling the misperception that "with digitalization, they think we're obsolete; that is so not true," she emphasized.

Castillo has worked as a "floater" librarian all over the city since 2012, at all 27 locations, and hopes to be considered when the library administration picks a permanent head librarian for Glen Park. She has been in our neighborhood since May 2016, as a part-time specialist in "adult services"—a loosely defined age bracket that stretches from recent graduates looking for jobs to senior citizens looking to get out of the house.

The programs include computer training for all levels of users, and crafts classes such as jewelry-making, stone-painting and making terrariums. For job-seekers, there are such services as templates for resumes and cover letters.

Reimuller has become the library system's manager for the northeast district—"the classic San Francisco that you see on postcards." Her new post is challenging, she says, but she admits to



Acting branch chief of the Glen Park Library Monica Castillo.

missing Glen Park, with all its moving parts. "It was like show time, like hosting a party every day, but everyone was coming to a different party."

She especially misses the story-time sessions, which attracted as many as 100 kids and caregivers at a time, Reimuller said.

Castillo plans to continue the broader relationships that Reimuller set in motion during her 2½ years as head librarian, such as partnerships with Canyon Market, Destination bakery and local schools. There are know-your-rights meetings for immigrants, and special programs for the growing number of families with small children.

Unlike many library branches these days, Glen Park does not have much of a homeless population, but the branch does maintain a list of local food, lodging and shower programs.

Castillo says the library is open to all suggestions for additional programs, while not neglecting the patrons who come by to get books to take home, help with homework, access to computers, or just to sit and read for a while.

"Libraries are a vital resource," Castillo said. "As our sign says, all are welcome." ❖

## ❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

**T**he Glen Park Branch Library has recently gone through some changes in staffing. Our former branch manager has been promoted to district manager in the northeast division of the San Francisco Public Library System. The staff at the Glen Park Branch Library wish Katrin Reimuller nothing but the best in all her future endeavors and appreciate the wonderful work she has done not only at the Glen Park branch but with the Glen Park community. We have strong ties with local merchants, schools and community stakeholders in large part due to Katrin's excellent customer services skills.

As newly appointed acting branch manager, I wish to continue this legacy by marshalling our efforts in offering a wide variety of library programs that spark the interest and imagination of our patrons. This fall sees two major heritage months, Latino/Hispanic Heritage and Middle Eastern Heritage. As a result, we have tailored our upcoming programs to highlight the rich cultures these two communities offer.

Please visit the branch to pick up the SFPL Newsletter, along with our monthly schedule to check out these worthwhile and diverse offerings. You can always visit our website, [www.sfpl.org/glenpark](http://www.sfpl.org/glenpark), to check in on your friendly neighborhood library.

In honor of Latino/Hispanic Heritage

Month, the branch will be offering a salsa-making demonstration for tweens and teens on Thursday, Oct. 12. For adults, we will be making sugar skulls, an Aztec ritual dedicated to the commemoration of a dearly departed loved one, on Friday, Oct. 13. In honor of Middle Eastern Heritage Month, we held a hummus-making demonstration in mid-September.

In addition, we will be hosting a Write Your Own Resume workshop, and are one of 11 San Francisco Public Library locations to offer free college prep workshops (advance registration required).

In November, we've invited Future Perfect Machine, an innovative team of professionals interested in raising awareness of virtual reality through social interaction as a platform for creative arts, education, eSports and a host of other applications.

And finally, I'd like to highlight the fact that the library is wonderful place full of information and knowledge. We make a conscious effort to satisfy the needs of our community, and hope to see you walk through our doors as satisfied patrons happy to visit your friendly local neighborhood library.

Don't forget to sign up on our webpage for our monthly eNewsletter to keep up with all our events. ❖

*Monica Castillo is the acting branch manager of the Glen Park Library.*

## GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

Monday/Tuesday 10-6

Wednesday 12-8

Thursday 12-7

Friday/Saturday 1-6

Sunday 1-5

# VALUE YOUR BUILDING.

**Gavin Coombs Sells  
2-4 Unit  
And 5+ Unit  
Apartment Buildings**

**Don't Be Shy.  
Good Relationships In Life Are Important.**

**Gavin Coombs, Vice President  
Paragon Commercial Brokerage  
15 Year SF Market Veteran  
Email Gavin [GCoombs@Paragon-re.com](mailto:GCoombs@Paragon-re.com)  
Broker #01351580**

# Plans Revealed for Old Restaurant Site

The site of the now-shuttered Chenery Park restaurant, vacant since 2014, has been the subject of questions and speculation over its fate for the past three years.

by  
Bonnee  
Waldstein

The owner of the

property, Mary Painter, has engaged local architect Carl Scheidenhelm of SF-ARC, to draw up plans for renovating the building at 683 Chenery St. Scheidenhelm has shared preliminary drawings, emphasizing that they were subject to change after

review by the Planning Department.

The proposal calls for redeveloping the property for use as a high-quality restaurant on the Chenery Street side, and modernizing the building and bringing it up to code. On the Wilder Street side, there

would be two studio apartments on the lower level and two one-bedroom apartments on the upper level.

There would not be garage space for the units, as the Planning Department doesn't generally approve of indoor parking for this type of property, which is zoned as NCT (Neighborhood Commercial Transit-Oriented).

No zoning variance would be required for the proposed project, since the footprint of the property would not change. The requirement for outdoor space would be satisfied with a roof deck.

The design conforms to the City's policy of promoting housing and businesses in high-density areas and transit hubs, such as downtown Glen Park.

After the Planning Department completes an initial review of the proposal, there would be a 30-day notification period to inform neighbors of the intent.

It would take six to nine months for final approval, so construction wouldn't begin anytime soon. ❖



Architectural rendering of the renovated restaurant site, as seen from Chenery Street (top) and the proposed apartments, as viewed from Wilder Street (below).

Drawings courtesy of SF-ARC



✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

It's that time of year again, the perfect time for planting. Fall is cool and sunny and followed by our rainy season, which will water your new plants in and save you lots of time and effort. Also, it's a great time to rethink your garden and put in some striking new plants.

My garden is typical—some treasured favorites just don't look good anymore. A fierce wind blew down a fence and destroyed about 20 feet of planting beds. A huge grass just gracefully aged out of existence—digging it out was an effort.

Some plants just get tiresome. Recently I pulled out a bed of large, floppy crocosmia—they look great for a month, then terrible for the rest of the year. I'm sick of tidying up after them.

Now I have to rethink the design of

the garden, and I want to fill all those empty spaces with low-maintenance but interesting, colorful plants.

Shrubs will solve many of these issues. Well chosen, they will add strong design elements and can provide striking contrast to perennials, succu-

lents and grasses. Place them carefully so they don't block the light, and think hard about their sun-shade-soil-water requirements.

Here are some suggestions for favorites that have always thrived in Glen Park gardens. Don't forget the large grasses and the stately spikey agaves and yuccas—but the following recommended plants are all broad-leaf shrubs:

*Abutilon hybrids*. Flowering maple, bellflower, Chinese lanterns. Evergreen. Delicate-looking, airy, arching shrubs. Tough and easy to grow. Beloved by hummingbirds. Pendulous, bell-like flowers in delicate colors ranging from white through yellow, pink and red. Continuous bloom (can't beat that!) Many varieties in different sizes, but in general do not plant in direct sun and provide some water in the dry season.

*Loropetalum*. Evergreen, drought-tolerant. Reliable, low maintenance, tolerant of clay soil. The most popular varieties have deep purple leaves with tinges of green. Small scented pink flowers.

*Pittosporum tobira Variegatum*. Evergreen. 10-15 feet. Low water. Sun or part shade. A tough shrub with small sweet-smelling white flowers. Mainly grown for the foliage, which looks good year round. Can be pruned to shape. The pittosporums are tough and useful "clean and green" plants, this one enlivened by green and white foliage.

*Rhododendron occidentale*, Western azalea. 5–15 feet. Deciduous. Slow growing. Large, luscious, fragrant pink and white flowers tinged with yellow.

Regular moisture in the dry season and a protected cool spot under high shade - e.g., a large tree or high deck. Note that many rhododendrons and azaleas thrive in Glen Park conditions.

*Sambucus nigra 'Eva'* (black lace elderberry). 6–8 feet. Deciduous. This gorgeous elderberry has finely divided black (yes, black) leaves. It has a sprawling airy form and will be covered in large panicles of dark maroon flowers in summer. Regular water. Tolerates clay soil. Indeed, there are many choice elderberries we can grow here.

*Spiraea vanhouttei* (bridal wreath spirea). Deciduous. Sun. 10 feet by 15 feet. Aptly named, this arching shrub is covered in plumes of white flowers spring-summer. Drought-tolerant once established. An accent plant that needs a lot of room.

*Spiraea 'Anthony Waterer'*. 3–5 feet. Bright foliage, pink flowers. Takes sun. Neat, compact plant.

*Spiraea bumalda 'Neon Flash'*. Deciduous. Part sun. Water in dry season. Bright green and burgundy foliage, reddish-pink flowers spring and summer. There are many spireas for sale in local nurseries. Just note their requirements when you purchase one.

There are so many other choices, for instance Annabelle hydrangeas, with their huge white flowers; sweet-smelling, reliable summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*); Ribes, our California lilac; viburnums, and on.

The best way to choose the right shrub is to understand where the sun and shade are in your garden and your soil type, and how much water you are prepared to provide the plant in the dry season. Check the plant out at the Botanical Garden in Golden Gate Park, then go to a few nurseries and browse the shrub selection!

Resource: *Sunset Western Garden Book*, particularly the Plant Selection Guide pages.

Rainfall predictions: [www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/hafoo/hb/csm/summaries.cfm](http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/hafoo/hb/csm/summaries.cfm). Every month a new report includes cautious predictions for the next rainy season. ❖

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



Annabelle hydgrangea

Photo courtesy Wikimedia Commons/Giligone

DESIGN · BUILD · MAINTAIN



EST: 1990

**JANET MOYER**

*Landscaping*

Specialists in Residential

# Urban Landscaping

Janet Moyer Landscaping specializes in the creation of custom residential landscapes that address the unique challenges posed by San Francisco's climate, terrain and architectural constraints.

Irrigation Association Certification  
Certified Irrigation Contractor, Certified Irrigation  
Designer, Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor

Award winning design  
"Outstanding Achievement Award"  
California Landscape Contractors Association,  
2007 - 2009, 2012 & 2013

415-821-3760 · 1031 Valencia St., San Francisco · [jmoyerlandscaping.com](http://jmoyerlandscaping.com)  
Landscape Contractor License 853919 · Pest Control License 36389



## ❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

Unbeknownst to nearly all of us, Fairmount Heights and Glen Park have a significant link to aviation history through former resident Daniel J. Maloney. In 1900, Dan Maloney was living in a boarding house near Randall and Whitney streets.

His stated occupation? Aeronaut.

While working as a groundskeeper for Glen Park and the

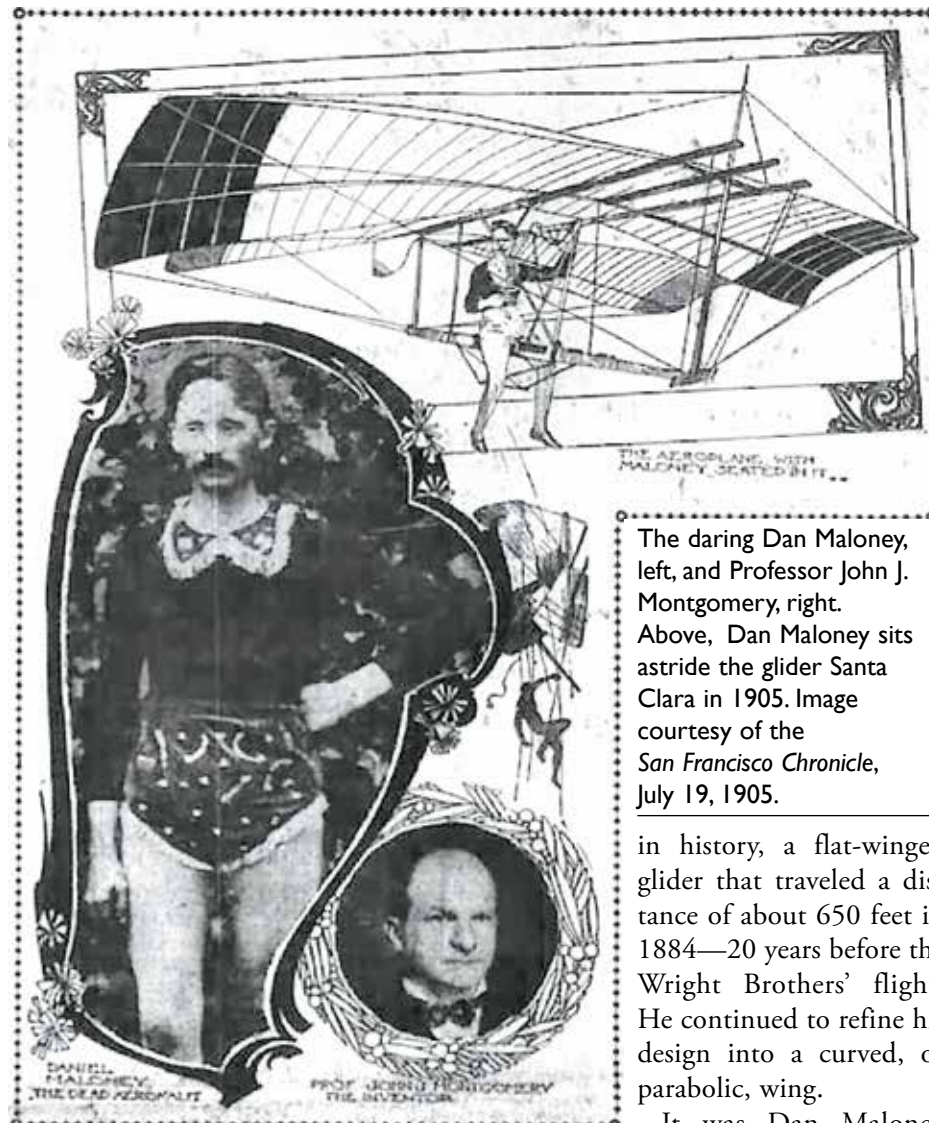
Mission Zoo in today's Glen Canyon Park (see *Glen Park News*, Summer 2016), Maloney saw the thousands of pleasure-seekers visiting the resort weekly to watch aeronauts ascend in high-flying balloons, risking their lives while performing trapeze stunts hundreds of feet up, then dropping back to earth using a primitive parachute.

Maloney's "sky traveling" profession began when one of the scheduled aeronauts failed to show and he volunteered as a substitute.

Early rides were bumpy: on his fourth flight at Glen Park, he lost his grip on the parachute bar 40 feet up and fell to the ground, breaking a rib and lacerating his thigh. The previous week, Maloney's balloon had caught fire, but he was able to parachute back to safety.

After Glen Park became a private picnic grounds under the Crocker Estate about 1901, he next set his sights on those new-fangled flying machines.

By 1904, Maloney was a test pilot for inventor Professor John J.



The daring Dan Maloney, left, and Professor John J. Montgomery, right. Above, Dan Maloney sits astride the glider Santa Clara in 1905. Image courtesy of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, July 19, 1905.

in history, a flat-winged glider that traveled a distance of about 650 feet in 1884—20 years before the Wright Brothers' flight. He continued to refine his design into a curved, or parabolic, wing.

It was Dan Maloney who suggested to Montgomery that his latest craft, named the Santa Clara, could be sent aloft via balloon and cut loose at 4,000 feet rather than be launched from a high hill. Maloney described his 20-minute experience as

the first man to fly a fixed-wing craft at such an altitude: "... as I looked at the ground so far below me and realized I was sailing on a machine that weighed only 42 pounds ... I was able to steer and turn and go up and down and I think I felt just about like a bird feels ..."

On July 18, 1905, as Maloney sat astride the Santa Clara, Montgomery noticed a balloon handling line had become entangled around one of the glider's wings during liftoff. He called out to Maloney to just ride the balloon back down, but Maloney was beyond earshot.

At about 4,000 feet, the suspension rope was cut and the glider was on its own. It soon became uncontrollable, dipping, swerving and overturning several times. The "brave and popular" Dan Maloney worked desperately to maintain control, then clung to the machine as it plunged to the ground in front of 2,000 horrified spectators at Santa Clara College. Tragically, he was killed on impact.

Devastated by Maloney's loss and later delayed by the aftermath of the Great San Francisco Earthquake of 1906, Montgomery pursued experimental flight only infrequently. In 1911, he was piloting his newest glider, the Evergreen. At only 20 feet off the ground, the craft stalled and Montgomery fell to the ground, hitting his head on an exposed bolt; he died soon afterward.

Despite their accomplishments, their premature endings—coupled with the emphasis of flight discovery on the East Coast—have deprived both of these extraordinary aeronauts from receiving the complete recognition they deserve. Fortunately, Montgomery's original 1911 glider, the Evergreen, is on display at the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum of San Diego, and replicas of Montgomery's 1884 glider, in addition to the Evergreen and the Santa Clara—piloted by Maloney—can be viewed at the Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos ([www.hiller.org](http://www.hiller.org)). ❖



In front of the glider Santa Clara in April 1905 are (from left to right): associate justice of the Supreme Court of California W. D. Lorigan; owner of the lift balloon Frank Hamilton; pilot Dan Maloney; Professor John J. Montgomery; and Reverend Jerome Picard.

Courtesy of the Santa Clara University Library, Archives & Special Collections

*Evelyn Rose, chair and founder of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project, is documenting the histories of Glen Park and nearby neighborhoods. To learn more, visit [www.GlenParkHistory.org](http://www.GlenParkHistory.org). The Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project meets every other (even) month, and offers history walks. Join the mailing list: [GlenParkHistory@gmail.com](mailto:GlenParkHistory@gmail.com). The Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project is fiscally sponsored by Independent Arts & Media, a California nonprofit corporation.*



# Glen Park Festival Aids Children's Programs

The 20th annual Glen Park Festival will be held in downtown Glen Park on April 29, 2018. The organizers say that although the 2017 festival was a success, next year's festival may be the last.

by  
Eileen  
Morris

"Most of our festival committee members have been volunteering for years," said Festival Committee Chair Rebecca MurrayMetzger, "and some are getting weary. We certainly have another year in us, but unless some new volunteers come forth from the community, I would expect this next year will be the grand finale."

MurrayMetzger added that residents and business owners from Glen Park and beyond are welcome to join the committee, which meets once a month from November through April. Those interested should contact [inquiries@glenparkfestival.com](mailto:inquiries@glenparkfestival.com) or call 415-729-4059.

All proceeds from the festival are granted to local programs that benefit children and the community. The 2017 festival, held April 30, raised \$12,000 for community programs, supported entirely by T-shirt sales, individual dona-

tions, festival sponsors and vendors.

Grant recipients must be either a nonprofit or public school educational institution serving some children from low-income families and located in or serving children from zip codes associated with the Glen Park neighborhood.

The grants also must be used for discrete projects, programs or capital outlays (grants to fund tuition/scholarships are not applicable). Grantees are given preference if they participate in the festival, either by hosting a vendor booth, donating to the raffle, participating in the organizing committee or volunteering on event day.

This year, 11 organizations submitted grant applications, requesting \$13,700 in total. All applicants received an award; seven grants were fully funded and four were partially funded.

For the first time this year, a grant was provided to support another festival: the Christopher Park Festival on Saturday, Sept. 23, hosted by Diamond Heights residents in collaboration with the Recreation and Park Department.

Awards were granted to three preschools, enabling Glenridge Coop Nursery School to purchase new motor skills cushions and climbers, Noe Valley

Nursery School to publish a children's guide to Glen Canyon, and Centro Las Olas to purchase supplies for a "documentation center," where children can reflect upon their creations.

Several local elementary schools also were among this year's recipients. Thanks in part to festival grants, Glen Park Elementary will continue its Schoolyard Greening Project; Sunnyside students will have access to an online reading software program and personal copies of a children's non-fiction magazine; Commodore Sloat will purchase an audio system; Jose Ortega will improve its Wellness Center; and Fairmount will continue its Education Outside program.

Two community organizations also were awarded grants this year, including Drawbridge, to support their Homeless

Children's Art Program, and Golden Gate Philharmonic to enable student members to visit a music camp.

Donations are welcome and tax-deductible. Interested sponsors and vendors can contact the committee at: [www.glenparkfestival.com/supporters](http://www.glenparkfestival.com/supporters). Community organizations that wish to apply for a grant can do so on the website at [www.glenparkfestival.com/beneficiaries](http://www.glenparkfestival.com/beneficiaries). Applications become available in mid-March, and are usually due in late May. ❖



This year's festival included a dance stage with live music.

Photo by Rachel Gordon



vision wellness & eyewear

Dr. Carrie Lee, O.D.  
Optometrist

2786 Diamond Street  
San Francisco, CA 94131

(415) 334-2020  
[www.eyedentityvision.com](http://www.eyedentityvision.com)

- Comprehensive adult and pediatric eye exams
- Contact lens fittings • Screenings for glaucoma, cataracts, and macular degeneration • Emergency appointments • LASIK surgery evaluation and co-management • Customized eyeglasses and sunglasses
- Eyeglass repairs and adjustments

vsp Vision Service Plan accepted

## LATEST GLEN PARK MARKET STATS

### 5A Glen Park

Single Family	July			Year to Date		
Key Metrics	2016	2017	Percent Change	Thru 7-2016	Thru 7-2017	Percent Change
New Listings	3	9	+200.0%	43	40	-7.0%
Pending Sales	4	6	+50.0%	31	34	+9.7%
Sold Listings	6	8	+33.3%	29	32	+10.3%
Median Sales Price*	\$1,437,500	\$2,052,500	+42.8%	\$1,500,000	\$1,845,000	+23.0%
Average Sales Price*	\$1,628,500	\$2,147,125	+31.8%	\$1,557,577	\$1,977,266	+26.9%
Days on Market	27	28	+3.7%	25	28	+12.0%
Active Listings	10	7	-30.0%	—	—	—
% of Properties Sold Over List Price	66.7%	75.0%	+12.4%	79.3%	71.9%	-9.3%
Percent of List Price Received*	109.6%	112.6%	+2.7%	113.4%	113.3%	-0.1%
Months Supply	1.9	1.2	-36.8%	—	—	—

\* Does not account for sale concessions and/or contingencies. Percent changes are calculated using rounded figures and can sometimes look extreme due to small sample sizes.

### WHAT IS YOUR HOME REALLY WORTH?

Prices Have Changed  
AND YOUR HOME'S VALUE MAY BE HIGHER THAN YOU EXPECT  
GET A FREE HOME VALUE ESTIMATE,

Go To: [JudySellsSanFrancisco.smarthomeprice.com](http://JudySellsSanFrancisco.smarthomeprice.com) and find out for yourself

#### RECENT SALES

734 Clayton Street – Cole Valley  
(Represented Buyer - Off Market)  
620 Baker Street #3 NOPA  
(Represented Seller)  
225 9th Street # B - SOMA  
(Represented Seller)  
3900-3902 22nd Street – Noe Valley  
(Represented Seller)

"Judy did a spectacular job in selling my SoMa TIC, I would absolutely recommend her as a realtor in SF. She was experienced, prepared, strategic, and very communicative." Dione K.



**Judy Marrocco**  
An Experienced Professional Working For You  
Office: 415.870.7373 Cell: 415.407.2572  
[judymarrocco@gmail.com](mailto:judymarrocco@gmail.com)  
[www.judymarrocco.com](http://www.judymarrocco.com)  
CalBRE# 01919006  
775 Monterey Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94127



**KW SAN FRANCISCO**  
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY



# Keeping in Step with First Friday

In 1967, as a freshly minted high school American history teacher only a few years older than my students, I thought briefly about leaving the classroom and becoming a tour guide.

Fifty years later I finally got my wish—I became a guide.

I met Chris Greene while researching a recent *Glen Park News* article about World War II Japanese-American relocation camps. She is a volunteer docent at the Presidio Officers' Club, which has mounted an exhibit called "Exclusion: The Presidio's Role in World War II Japanese American Incarceration." Greene has taught American history, too, and we bonded, as U.S. history teachers have a tendency to do.

How'd you like to be our tour guide?" Greene said. She didn't have to ask twice.

Greene belongs to an informal group who call themselves The First Friday Walkers, which started in 2012. "It's made up of a core group of 10 members who meet once a month and explore San Francisco neighborhoods," she explained in an email. Greene, who lives in the Marina, said the 10 women had been on 40 walks, including Hayes Valley, the Haight Ashbury, Cole Valley, Bernal Heights and the Mission. They meet for coffee before, then lunch after, each walk.

Before the Glen Park tour, Greene had emailed her friends about the highlight of our walk—Glen Canyon Park: "The Rec Center is the entry to the canyon where we will walk about a mile loop on its floor. It's mostly flat and gorgeous—all shady forest, burbling creek and riparian plants, carefully tended by the City parks department and neighborhood volunteers."

So on Aug. 4, nine walkers and I assembled at Tyger's, in the heart of Glen Park's business district.

We began our exploration of Glen Park on Penny Lane. Sandwiched between Surrey and Sussex streets, the rutted easement was once a 19th-century carriage path. Over the last decade, neighbors have spruced it up with an assortment of California native plants.

Entering the pathway that separates Surrey and Sussex backyards, Eleanor Laney took in the habitat-friendly



The First Friday Walkers explore Ohlone Way.

Photos by Murray Schneider

plants lining the route. "This is pollinator heaven," she said. Laney lives in Palo Alto, and takes an interest in Monarch butterfly preservation. "A

emailed later.

We then crossed Diamond Street at Sussex and headed for Ohlone Way, en route to for Elk Street and the

THIS PRISTINE LANDSCAPE ONCE WAS THREATENED BY TRANSPORTATION  
"VISIONARIES" WHO WANTED TO CONSTRUCT A FREEWAY THROUGH IT, AND  
WERE THWARTED BY THREE NEIGHBORHOOD WOMEN.

miracle, the good works of neighbors establishing this lane," she said.

At Diamond Street, I gathered them beneath the Penny Lane street sign for a photograph.

"It seemed so appropriate to have a group of women from the '60s pose on Penny Lane during the Summer of Love's 50th anniversary," Laney

newly refurbished Recreation Center. On Elk Street, beneath the Holstein cow sign at the park entrance, I told them about canyon cows and dynamite factories, about Islais Creek and Franciscan chert rock—the sorts of anecdotes that history teachers hook their students with, the sorts of stories at which Evelyn Rose and Amy O'Hair

of the Glen Park Neighborhood History Project excel.

Oskar Rosas, a Recreation and Park director, met us at the Rec Center. He led the way through the remodeled facility. He showed off the refinished gymnasium and escorted them along the hall, past the rock wall where Silver Tree day campers climbed.

"The Recreation Center is a gem in the Glen Park crown" Laney emailed. "Our group was touched to learn from Mr. Rosas that parents who had been campers at Silver Tree now give the same gift to their children."

Exiting the Rec Center, the women were presented with another gem—nearly 70 acres of significant natural wilderness.

We strolled along Alms Road. Islais Creek trickled at our left, canopied by arroyo willow. Pink flowering currant, wax myrtle and red elderberry blossomed there. Sloped grasslands shadowed us to our right, marbled with coyote brush. California oak dotted the hillside. Chert rock outcrops perforated the ridge, camouflaging Berkeley Way and Craggs Court.

I told the women about the Natural Resources Division's riparian restoration efforts, and its land management and stewardship mission. I told them of the dead great horned owl that Friends of Glen Canyon Park volunteers found in March 2016, victim of second-generation rodenticide. I told them how coyotes still den here, and how a coyote was found this year at Douglass Playground, another victim of rodent poisoning.

Beyond the boardwalk and the seep, where pumpkin spiders preen during Halloween, I told them how this pristine landscape once was threatened by transportation "visionaries" who wanted to construct a freeway through it, and how they were thwarted by three neighborhood women, now honored by the Gum Tree Girls Trail, named for them.

The anti-freeway effort caught the attention of Nancy Slepicka, a retired Illinois small-town newspaper owner and one-time proprietor of an independent bookstore with her late husband Richard. Back in Illinois, she had partnered with the Audubon Society to maintain a sanctuary for birds. "It felt like home



# Walkers as They Explore the City

when I learned of the Rec & Park's volunteer work," she wrote by email after the walk.

Slepicka moved here four years ago from Hillsboro, Ill., a town of 5,000, and now lives in Bernal Heights. "Places such as Glen Park and Bernal Heights feel like home."

We continued along Islais Creek, circling to its west bank. Behind us stood a hollowed-out tree where Glenridge nursery school children had fashioned a make-believe fairy house. Continuing, we came to a bridge. A pile of willow branches blanketed the creek bank, a deterrent placed there by NRD's gardener, Steve Phillips, to curtail erosion.

Back on Alms Road, so named because 19th-century horse carriages took it to Laguna Honda Hospital, we eventually regained Elk Street, then turned on Chenery.

I caught up with Sandy Hunt. She lives in North Beach and emailed two days afterward that she was "pleased the city had invested so much in making Glen Park such a sweet place to live."

"It was a 'trip' to compare the neighborhood with where I live," she wrote. "What a difference. The parking! You are allowed four hours, compared to our two. And I saw no tour buses or tourists. Where I live, I am aware of both, as well as the increasing number of homeless."

"Fortunately," Hunt added, referencing City Lights on Columbus Avenue, "we have a bookstore like yours."

The subject of Bird & Beckett Books and Records had arisen during lunch, once we'd returned to Tyger's.

Slepicka suggested the walking group make a donation to my favorite cause to show its appreciation. "Buy a book at Bird & Beckett," I said.

"I appreciate that Glen Park supports Bird & Beckett and the *Glen Park News*," she continued. "It represents and reinforces the important sense of place that is essential to community."

Lunch done, a few of the women peeled off, but the day wasn't quite over. Fifteen minutes later we arrived at the Craggs Court Community Garden, at the end of the Craggs Court cul-de-sac. "Of course we loved the walk along the willow-wrapped canyon and hearing your stories about the barn owls and other canyon fauna," Laney wrote one day after the

walk, "but the cherry on top of our Glen Canyon day was the visit to the Craggs Court's garden."

The secret garden is nestled on a shelf on the eastern slope of Glen Canyon, and the best way to arrive is by foot.

Laney wrote: "Perched unexpectedly on a steep hill, the well-tended garden is blessed with the perfect climate, sun, water, breeze as evidenced by the robust health of ALL the plants. Raised beds of huge and colorful dahlias, speckled lettuce, cascading clematis were all enhanced by the gently falling summer drizzle."

On a warm summer's day, the women of the First Friday Walkers wrote another chapter in Glen Park history. They personalized it in a signature style. ❖



The tight-knit group of walkers enjoy breakfast at Tyger's (above) and check out Glen Canyon park (below).

Photos by Murray Schneider



# Growing Community in a Garden

**P**erched high above the floor of Glen Canyon, the Crags Court Community Garden is a well-kept secret lodged between Glen Park and Diamond Heights that, for a few yards, runs parallel to the rim of Glen Canyon. “The best way to access us is from the bottom of the canyon,” said Mary Devereaux, a retired City College bilingual teacher and Crags Court gardener. “We’re open to the public during daylight hours.”

The terraced garden boasts 18 garden beds serviced by 25 citizen-gardeners who grow such winter crops as lettuce, kale, spinach, beans, beets, chard, celery, red potatoes and carrots. There are ornamental dahlias, and honeybee hives.

Forgo arriving by automobile, and instead take Glen Canyon’s freshly graded Coyote Crags Trail. A short distance from the renovated Recreation Center, make a dog-leg up the canyon’s eastern slope. Pleasant paths and box steps ease the way.

A sign indicating Crags Court guides you. Search for a barn owl box mounted on a Monterey pine. When you see it you’ll know you’re getting close. A few more steps and you’ll reach your destination. Once there, visitors will experience—as a plaque dedicated to the garden’s founder, the late Loretta Starvus Stack, inscribes—“beauty, joy and relaxation.”

With the imprimatur of the Recreation and Park Department, which supplies water and assisted in construction of state-of-the-art garden

beds, the CCCG was the inspiration of Stack, a Glenridge resident. Today the garden is flanked by 1970s-style houses canopied by pines, some of which are succumbing to pitch canker.

“This ground wasn’t stable enough to build upon,” volunteered Leslie Moxley, who, like Devereaux, is a long-time CCCG gardener.

Devereaux and Moxley reclined on garden chairs one summer afternoon, reminiscing about what they’d accomplished over two decades. They looked across the canyon at a riparian corridor plush with wax myrtle and red alder. To their north, Sutro Tower peeked beneath ballooning clouds. As evidence of the instability of the ground, a chair listed downhill, tilting at a 15-degree angle.

Moxley lives in the neighborhood and Devereaux resides in Noe Valley. The garden, one of 35 under the umbrella of Park and Rec, is available to anyone in the San Francisco. “The City is invested in community gardens,” said Devereaux, who has been raising spinach, garlic, onions, peas and zucchini since 1996. “The City mandates that we provide an organic garden and use no harmful pesticides.”

The garden beds are laid out in rank-and-file order, allowing gardeners to wheelbarrow mulch and remove debris. Beds are raised so that gardeners don’t have to kneel. Three 50-foot hoses are spaced throughout the garden, which hugs the Crags Court cul-de-sac.

While it doesn’t have a locked gate, the garden is surrounded by a wooden fence. Several years ago, a driver plowed into it. “The City came out and repaired it,” said Moxley, who has been gardening since 1999.

Devereaux and Moxley have assumed the mantle of garden leadership, as secretary and coordinator respectively. Devereaux usually is there four days a week, while Moxley is there three—not just in the service of their own plots.

“There are common areas and each needs tending, such as trellises that require trimming,” said Moxley. “The hillside has to be weeded, as do the areas adjacent to the street fence.”

CCCG gardeners are expected to participate in three work days a year, which can include picking up debris, weeding, mulching and pruning in communal space. The common areas boast sunflowers, which play host to pollinating bees, as well as blueberries, apples and Meyer lemons awaiting picking.

“We even grow pumpkin plants,”



Eleanor Laney enjoys Crags Court Community Garden’s fragrant flowers.

Photo by Murray Schneider

said Devereaux. “During each fall harvest, we give pumpkins to children.”

Kids aren’t strangers to the garden.

“Children from Glenridge Nursery School have climbed the trail for years,” said Devereaux, about the Glen Canyon co-op pre-school. “The kids begin to learn how to garden, to love the hoses and enjoy getting muddy.”

“We have a short waiting list of 30 gardeners now,” said Moxley, who oversees the list. “It’s foggy and windy this high, and isn’t optimum for summer crops such as tomatoes, corn and cucumbers.”

“Prospective gardeners can sign up on the Rec and Park website,” she explained.

Candidates eventually are routed to Moxley, and she shows no preference to neighborhood applicants. But tending annual fruits, flowers and vegetables requires commitment, and propinquity is a factor, as applicants are expected to work year round, keeping their plot and surrounding paths free of weeds.

“Each gardener pays \$35 a year, for which they share garden tools, water and access to our shed,” she said. “They sign a contract that commits each to three

days a year of common-area work time, a commitment to compost, remove garbage and plant no invasive species.”

“I’m the oldest gardener,” said Devereaux, who grows poppies, roses and daffodils in addition to vegetables. “With the canyon right here, I love the wildness of this place.”

The garden is prolific, gifting a bounty of fruits and vegetables. “We grow more than we can use,” said Devereaux, “and occasionally donate lettuce, kale and zucchini to the Martin de Porres House of Hospitality,” a Potrero Avenue soup kitchen.

As the sun began descending, Devereaux and Moxley surveyed eucalyptus duff, thistle, radish and lavender embroidered in a quilt of greenery stitching its way down the incline from the canyon’s crest. Above them a red-tailed hawk circled for rodents, possibly gophers that play havoc with the garden beds. Below them the chatter of Silver Tree children mingled with the melodies of songbirds.

“This place gives me such a sense of peace, so far away from the insanity on the other side of the fence,” said Moxley. ❖

## Cheese Boutique



Fresh Sandwiches  
Imported Cheeses  
Homemade Hummus,  
Baba Ganoush, Tabouli

660 Chenery Street  
415-333-3390



# Christopher Park Festival: a Time to Celebrate

**T**ucked away behind the Diamond Heights Shopping Center, with just an inconspicuous pathway connecting it to Diamond Heights Boulevard, George Christopher Playground—named for the city's 34th mayor—is an exceptionally beautiful park with a bit of a cult following, especially among playground enthusiasts and our four-legged community members.

Situated on the western rim of Diamond Heights, it's a perfect gateway for exploring Glen Canyon Park's hiking trails. Yet due to its low visibility, many people in the area are not aware it's even there. The 6.8-acre park features a softball field, a sand-floor playground, tennis and basketball courts, rest rooms and a community clubhouse.

The Friends of Christopher Park (FOCP) thought a festival would be a great way to raise awareness of the park. The San Francisco Parks Alliance and the Glen Park Festival committee agreed—they awarded FOCP grants to fund the first-ever Where in the World is Christopher Park? Festival!

The free festival will take place Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., and will feature live music, crafts and resource tables, as well as plenty of fun for children with bounce houses, scavenger hunt, prizes, reptiles, an SFFD fire engine, a doggie fashion show with MC Senator Scott Wiener, a pet photo contest officiated by Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, and more. Free parking will be available next door at the Police Academy, 350 Amber Drive.

The Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project will provide the history of Diamond Heights' Red Rock Hill on a 1-hour walking tour. Everything

from milk ranches to unrealized skyscrapers to Modernist architecture to a KGB drop site will be explored.

Little Artistas, the Glen Park kids' art center, will organize a community art project. Music will be provided by community members including Eric Beatty and the Party Ants, the Pat Wilder Band, the Canyon Birds Jazz Trio, Jack and Johana Soulful House and, for children, local favorite Little Folkies.

To enter the dog fashion show, please email FOCP in advance of the festival and bring along your animal companion in his/her best doggie duds! To enter the photo contest, email FOCP a photo of your pet enjoying Christopher Park. Photos will be printed and posted for voting during the festival, with awesome prizes awarded!

The email address of the FOCP is [friendsofchristopherpark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofchristopherpark@gmail.com).

The festival will not only be fun and serve to increase visibility for the park, it will call attention to community efforts to help shape the new playground design and bathroom renovation, scheduled to begin in 2018 and funded by the 2012 Park Bond. The FOCP has identified additional funding needs: repaving all the pathways in the park, refreshing the second bathroom (not funded by the Park Bond), installing mesh netting and foul-line extensions for the baseball diamond, and constructing a half-court basketball area.

The FOCP is grateful to the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department for repaving the pathway around the softball field in August so that now it can be walked safely.

To learn more about the festival, view the schedule of events or to get directions,



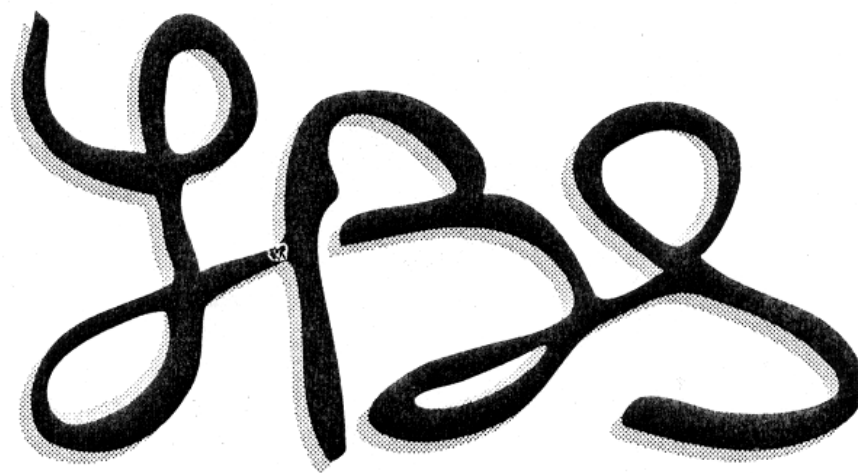
## Join the Glen Park Association To Support Our Neighborhood

Have we got a great gift idea for you: A Glen Park Association membership!

You can join for just \$10 a year. What does that get you? A right to help select association leadership, information on upcoming meetings and, most important, a chance to support an active neighborhood organization that looks out for the interests of Glen Park.

To become a member or to renew your membership, send a \$10 check to: GPA, P.O. Box 31292, San Francisco, CA 94131. Please include your home address and email address for our records.

More information can be found at [www.glenparkassociation.org](http://www.glenparkassociation.org). ❖



**Lucy B. Stephenson**

Certified Public Accountant

**(415) 586•5600**

FAX **(415) 586•2152**

**Individuals • Corporations • Partnerships**

964 Chenery Street, San Francisco, CA 94131

By appointment only



# Smoothing Out Glen Park Sidewalk Hazards

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

so they fall out of alignment more than that crucial half-inch.

The City's concrete contractors provide their own arborists to trim the tree roots so the paving can be replaced without the dangerous bulges and other pedestrian hazards. If Viray notes that the tree basins are too small, he marks new corners to let the contractor know the proper dimensions to enlarge those concrete-free areas.

Slope of the sidewalk from street to lot-line also figures into his calculations, Viray said. Under City codes, owners are responsible for maintaining the sidewalk from the edge of their property to the curb line, and the legal limit of the slope is one-third inch of rise per foot of width. So a sidewalk with no cracks but with an abrupt grade change also may be marked.

The curbs themselves, including disabled-access cuts, are the City's problem, although some also may be marked at the same time so the contractors will fix them along with the neighboring sidewalk flags.

Before Viray and his spray-painting colleagues make their rounds, the owners of the property are notified that inspections will be undertaken. They are given a chance to do the work themselves, subject to City re-inspection, or to get a permit and hire a licensed contractor. Owners, not tenants, are responsible for rental property repairs on sidewalks in front of housing and businesses.

If the owner chooses, the City's contractor will do the work replacing those flags with white markings while on the block, and charge owners for the work.



Jun Viray, a Public Works street inspector, describes the markings on sidewalk squares that need to be replaced on the 200 block of Chenery Street. The green marks mean the City will replace them; the white marks mean replacement is the owner's responsibility. Photo by Gail Bensinger

On this day, Viray was re-inspecting those squares to see whether repairs had been made, and marking the still-broken ones with white X's to signal the contractors to replace them.

According to Michael Lennon, manager of the Public Works Inspection and Enforcement Division, some demands for repairs come from individual complaints by residents. Others, especially those affecting multiple blocks in a neighborhood, are part of the Sidewalk Inspection and Repair Program, which

covers about 200 blocks a year.

The inspection team recently focused on Glen Park, marking sidewalks throughout the neighborhood.

The department has three separate concrete companies under contract. Cost to an owner if the City contractor does repairs is about \$100 or slightly more per flag. Other administrative fees also may be applied, and the bill may be paid directly or as an add-on to property taxes.

"The goal is to improve overall side-

walk conditions and reduce tripping hazards," Lennon told the *Glen Park News*. Repaving is done for compliance with safety requirements and is "not intended to replace full frontages for aesthetic purposes."

Lennon said that "the goal is to inspect each block once every 25 years," which means that if you have marked-up sidewalks today, inspectors with paint cans, or whatever technology replaces paint cans, will be back by 2042. ♦



Concrete is poured for new sidewalk squares on Diamond Street.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf

## REVIVE YOUR HEALTH!

Schedule an appointment with your  
Glen Park Nutritionist Ashley Hathaway

Call 415-823-9333

Mention this ad for \$25 off your first consultation

San Francisco Nutritional Therapy  
ashleycntsf@gmail.com • www.sfnutritionaltherapy.com  
661 Chenery Street, Glen Park



# StreetTreeSF Takes Root to Care for the Urban Forest

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

overview at the Glen Park Association's quarterly meeting in July.

They conveyed a lot of statistics about current conditions and the proposal for the City's street trees. There are 700,000 trees overall in San Francisco, including those in the National Recreation Area and parks. The street trees are those found curbside and along roadway medians.

San Francisco has 13.7 percent tree canopy, which ranks us 20th among urban areas in the United States. As if that weren't enough, the tree population is on the decline, as new plantings are not keeping up with tree removal and mortality.

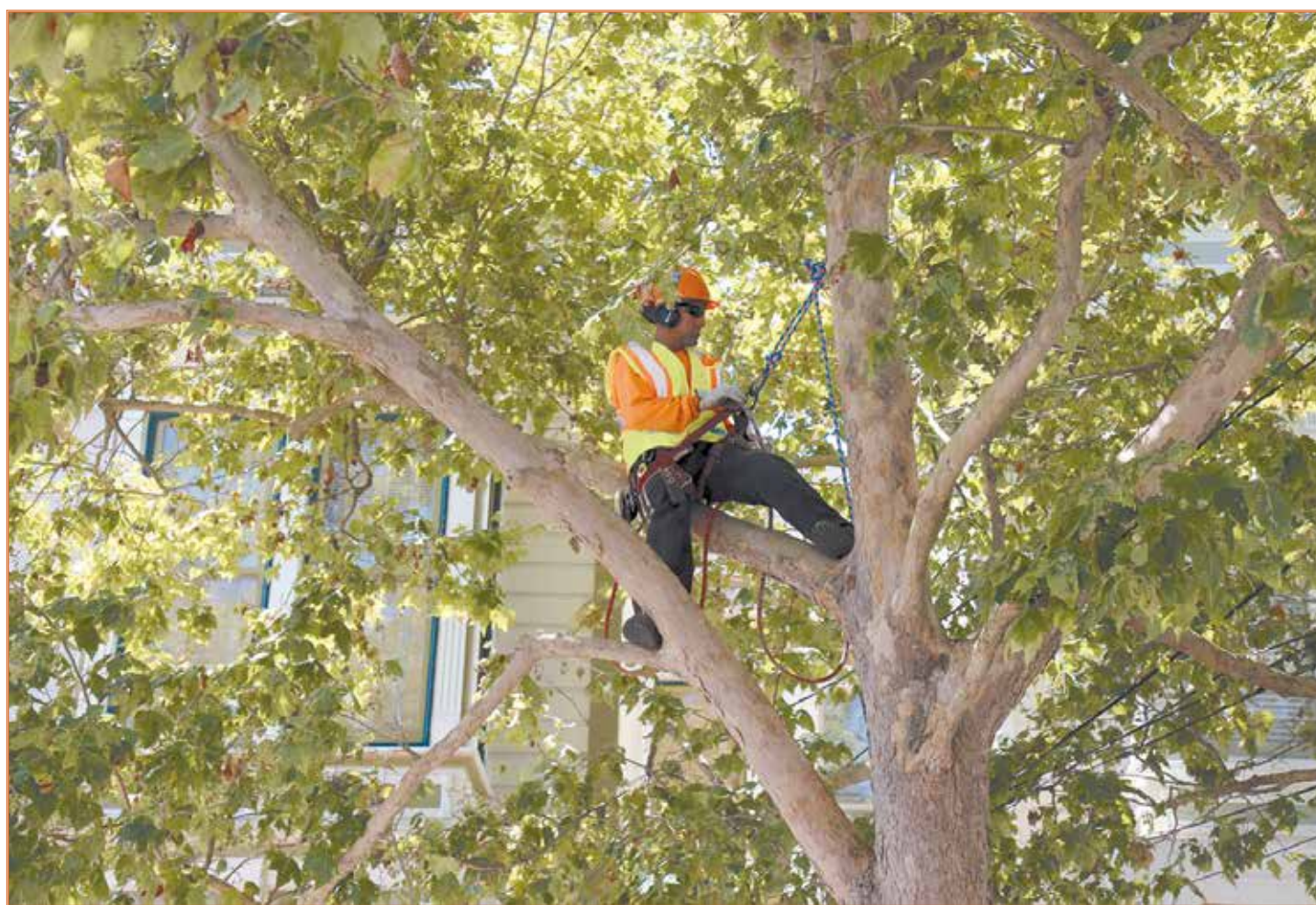
Until approval of Proposition E—with 79 percent of the voters in favor—the budget for street tree maintenance had declined steadily over the past decade, plummeting to \$2 million annually. The average pruning cycle had grown from five years to 12 years, compounding the threat to tree health and safety.

Short explained that the \$19 million annual carveout from the City's General Fund for StreetTreeSF finally will provide the resources that Public Works needs to provide regular, top-quality pruning and other tree care, as well as to keep sidewalks in good repair to reduce tripping hazards. The annual funding, now rooted in the City Charter, will go up with cost-of-living adjustments.

The plan is to focus on the worst first—the trees in the poorest condition.

The City recently conducted a comprehensive street tree census that identifies the location, species and condition of each tree. The findings can be accessed at <http://sf-planning.org/everytreesf>. The information is being used to prioritize the maintenance work.

Top priority is trees that are dead or have a major structural defect or bro-



A Public Works arborist tends to one of San Francisco's nearly 125,000 street trees.

Photo courtesy SF Public Works

ken branches. Next will be those that pose issues of clearance over roadways, or interfere with street lights, power lines, etc. Last, healthy trees will be assigned a pruning cycle of three to five years. To report problems with a tree, contact 311.

Priority for sidewalk repair will be given to areas near hospitals, senior centers, bus stops, schools and neighborhood commercial districts—basically, high-volume pedestrian areas.

People who wish to continue to maintain their street trees and retain responsibility for sidewalk damage caused by their tree can opt out of StreetTreeSF. The legal process for doing that is being crafted by the City Attorney. Property owners still will need to secure permits to plant

or remove a street tree under the new system.

In addition to calling for a sustainable funding source for tree maintenance, which Proposition E accomplished, the Urban Forest Plan also recommended growing the street tree population by 50,000 by 2035.

While StreetTreeSF pays for tree care, it does not fund tree planting. The City currently has some money for that, including gas tax revenue; private

donations also are used. A study will be done to identify potential funding sources to replenish and expand San Francisco's urban forest.

The takeaway from all this change: Be patient!

Summary and links for details of the plan are at <http://sf-planning.org/urban-forest-plan>. More information on StreetTreeSF, along with a Q and A, can be found at [sfpublicworks.org/trees](http://sfpublicworks.org/trees). ♦

**Critter Fritters Pet Food & Supplies**  
**670 Chenery Street off Diamond St.**  
**Serving Glen Park for over 33 years - Open 7 Days**  
**(415) 239-7387**

Find food and supplies for dogs, cats, small animals, caged and wild birds, chickens and fish.  
**Every 1st Saturday of the month SALE!**



Frequent Shopper discounts!  
 5% off seniors 55+  
 10% off pro dog walkers.  
 Grooming services on the premises! Call  
 (415) 412-4019

*Bring this ad to receive \$5 off your purchase.  
 One per customer valid thru 10/31/17*

## HOST AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT!

- Seeking a new and exciting cultural experience?
- Would you like to host a short or long-term international student who is studying English?
- Does your home have wireless internet access?
- Do you live near public transportation and within 45 minutes of downtown San Francisco?

If you answer "Yes" to these questions, and want to discuss our homestay agreement and compensation, please contact **Converse International School of Languages** to learn more.



**Converse**

International School of Languages

605 Market Street, Suite 1400  
 San Francisco, CA 94105  
[www.cisl.edu](http://www.cisl.edu)  
 (415) 971-3227  
[sfhomestay@cisl.edu](mailto:sfhomestay@cisl.edu)



## ❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

**Glen Park Elementary School**

Here we go! The 2017–18 school year is off and running already. We hope everyone had a relaxing summer and came back to school rested and recharged for the new year.

Glen Park welcomed a new crop of kindergarteners who are already settling into the routines of the Big Blue School. Four teachers also joined our skilled staff: Sally Swift, Dulce Baron, Nicole Wicks and Christine Leishman. Welcome!

Our first event of the year was the back to school clean-up day. Dozens of volunteers came on the Saturday before school started to get things ready for the teachers and students to return. Parents and kids painted the benches on the yard, weeded and mulched the garden, and spruced up the chicken run for our feathered friends. A group of incredibly caring parents even cleaned out the teachers' lounge, buying new chairs and blinds, and beautifying the

space with potted plants. The school was shining and clean when everyone came back from summer.

Big thanks go out to the Glen Park Festival committee for the \$1,500 grant that Glen Park School received. We will partner with Friends of the Urban Forest to remove concrete, create 400 feet of sidewalk gardens, and plant nine trees on the terraces of Lippard Avenue and Brompton Street.

This project is an exciting extension of the school's greening projects, which have expanded significantly in the past few years with the support of the PTO and dozens of

student and parent volunteers. Other projects included the creation of the garden and outdoor classroom in 2013;

biannual garden workdays; landscaping around the school yard and along the Lippard Avenue side of the school, and the coop and run for our famous chickens.

Join us for our Fall Carnival on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the schoolyard. We'll have carnival games; maker

crafts; a giant bouncy obstacle course; a raffle; live music, and fantastic Latin food. The Carnival is free and open to all. Come see what the Big Blue School is all about!❖

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

**Sunnyside Elementary School**

We hope all Glen Park families are having a great start to the school year. We at Sunnyside are excited about getting back to

class and about the school year ahead. The energy at school the first day was fantastic as students, parents and teachers alike were reunited for a new school year. We are looking forward to another amazing year.

The first morning circle of the year was filled with extra energy as everyone was excited to learn about and witness the solar eclipse. Our lessons were spearheaded by Joelle Capitan, a former teacher at Sunnyside, who rejoins our team after getting her master's degree in mathematics education and obtaining experience in complex math instruction. She will spend the year supporting our teachers as a math and science teacher coach. We feel very lucky to have her back.

The kids were so impressed with the activities and the view (with ISO-approved glasses, of course!). What a great way to start the year!

As soon as the eclipse was behind us, the PTA got to work collecting all of the glasses to send to Astronomers Without Borders, which will forward them to schools in Asia and South America for a solar eclipse in 2019. If you have any glasses sitting around that you would like to donate, feel free to stop by Sunnyside Elementary and drop them off in the collection bags in the main office.

As usual, the start of the year is busy with lots of organizing, which includes our sports teams. We are getting soccer teams, baseball teams and more set up, which helps our school community intersect with our neighborhood community. For the fourth year in a row, we will have many soccer teams practicing in Glen Canyon Park on Friday afternoons. If you happen to be at the park on Fridays, stop by, say hello and cheer on our student athletes.

While the school year has just begun, we are already all set for our tours for next year's incoming kindergarten families. Tours start in October and will take place every Wednesday through the fall. If you are interested, please check the school website for information and sign-ups.❖

*Jessica Wallack-Cohen is president of the Sunnyside Elementary School Parent-Teachers Association. For more information about the school, see [www.sunnysidek5.org](http://www.sunnysidek5.org).*

**BIG THANKS GO OUT TO THE  
GLEN PARK FESTIVAL  
COMMITTEE FOR THE \$1,500  
GRANT THAT GLEN PARK  
SCHOOL RECEIVED. WE WILL  
PARTNER WITH FRIENDS OF THE  
URBAN FOREST TO REMOVE  
CONCRETE, CREATE 400 FEET  
OF SIDEWALK GARDENS, AND  
PLANT NINE TREES.**

## ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL (K-8)

where community matters



offering traditional  
faith-based education  
while incorporating  
cutting edge technology

925 CHENERY STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131  
[www.stjohnseagles.com](http://www.stjohnseagles.com) 415.584.8383

## ☯ Synergy School



Open House  
Saturday, December 9  
11 AM - 1 PM

K-8 Progressive Education

1387 Valencia Street - San Francisco  
[www.synergyschool.org](http://www.synergyschool.org)



## ❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

**D**iamond Heights has been revitalized by all the improvements in process by Public Works, the Metropolitan Transportation Agency (MTA) and the Public Utilities Commission along our Boulevard. The needed improvements include new sidewalks where none existed, new ADA curb ramps at all intersections, new bus stop pads, and replaced water pipes in the 5100 and 5500 blocks.

The final phase of construction, repaving Diamond Heights Boulevard, was scheduled to begin Sept. 11 at the Clipper Street intersection and wrap up with the stretch between Berkeley Way and Sussex Street about Oct. 20. The new crosswalk midblock at the shopping center, with pedestrian-activated flashing lights, is also to be completed in September.

We are extremely grateful that MTA is planning to install stop signs on Diamond Heights Boulevard at Diamond Street at the intersection up the hill from Noe Valley. The resulting 3-way stop will provide improved safety for pedestrians, drivers and bicyclists.

**Diamond Heights Sidewalk Celebration:** In appreciation for the new sidewalks in the neighborhood, the Diamond Heights Community Association partnered with Public Works to present a ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 23. Speakers praised all the new sidewalks, but particularly singled out the one on the north side of the boulevard above Clipper Street for



Cutting the ribbon during the celebration for the new sidewalk on Diamond Heights Boulevard were Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru, State Sen. Scott Wiener, Betsy Eddy, Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, William Kilburn, Nicole Bohn and Dadisi Najib.

Photo courtesy of Public Works

providing an accessible path of travel for the many users of wheelchairs who live nearby in Casa De Vida. Residents expressed appreciation for the way the new sidewalk has changed their lives.

**Neighborhood Celebration of Life for Mike Lefiti:** More than 100 people gathered at Saint Aidan's Church on

Aug. 19 to honor Mike Lefiti, the UPS driver killed in the horrible shooting at the UPS building in Potrero Hill on June 14. Amid many tears and much laughter, attendees watched a slide show created by his family and heard Diamond Heights residents tell stories about their interactions with Big Mike, or Mikey as he was known in the community.

Each speaker described Mike's genuine and immense impact on the neighborhood, citing examples. Mike called people by name and asked after their family members, also by name. After learning a woman's dog was missing, he soon arrived with the dog in his truck. Mike was described as a strong, big-hearted man, and a role model for us all to take time to lift people's spirits and connect with everyone. After the gathering, two benches were dedicated at the Diamond Heights Shopping Center

in loving memory of Mike. He lunched there daily on his route and was much loved by all the staff and those who frequent the center. The benches were donated by the shopping center.

**Middle Eastern Food Festival:** Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church, 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd., will hold its 22nd Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. The festival will feature live music; craft beer and cocktails; a hookah lounge; Arabic cultural dancing; delicious home-made Middle Eastern food; church tours; henna tattooing; a photo booth; entertainment for kids; and much more. Admission is \$5. Free tickets for community members are available by registering at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com); enter Middle Eastern Food Festival. ❖



Mike Lefiti's children sit on one of the new benches dedicated to him at the Diamond Heights Shopping Center. Photo by Harry Breau

**Law Office of Jonathan McCurdy**  
Legal Services in Your Home  
Since 1977



P.O. Box 720125  
San Francisco, CA 94172

Tel: 415-505-3273  
Fax: 415-826-9177



# MARC DICKOW

Broker, Realtor, Partner



2017 MLS/Technology Chair, San Francisco Association of Realtors



**P** 415-722-4018 **BRE** #01870650  
**E** marc@opni.com **W** core7realestate.com

As a Glen Park resident I really do know how best to market your property. I can help you from preparing your home to put on the market through the close of escrow and everything in between. *Check out my real estate column in this newspaper!* —MARC DICKOW

## “Unhesitatingly recommend Marc!”

“Marc made several recommendations to improve the marketability of our property on Bosworth, coordinating with contractors and stagers to assure everything got done on time. The result was multiple offers and a sales price at a premium over asking. We never felt out of the loop. I recommend Marc to anyone interested in selling or buying a home in San Francisco.” —G.D., Seller

## “Marc is extremely professional...”

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

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



## Movie Night in Glen Canyon Park

A happy crowd came out to Glen Canyon Park on Sept. 9 to watch a free outdoor viewing of the animated musical, “Sing.” Many of the moviegoers enjoyed picnic suppers and a chance to catch up with neighbors.

Photo by Rachel Gordon

## GLEN PARK DENTAL

Beautiful Smiles for Life

415 | 585-1500 GLENPARKDENTAL.COM

### NEW PATIENT SPECIAL!

**Comprehensive Exam with X-rays for \$189**

**Call 415 • 585 • 1500**

**to schedule your appointment today!**

*\* mention the Glen Park News and get a free home whitening kit! \**

*Dr. Longa and Dr. Dickerson Longa are highly skilled in all areas of Family Dentistry, including:*

- pediatric dentistry
- sleep apnea/snoring
- periodontal therapy
- smile makeovers
- neuromuscular dentistry
- Invisalign
- TMJ disorders
- veneers
- whitening
- implants

*Their goal is to provide the highest level of care and advanced technology to their patients, educate all ages to proper and healthy dental care, and to make their expertise accessible to everyone in their community.*



GLEN PARK DENTAL  
 590 Bosworth Street • San Francisco

Conveniently located across the street from Glen Park BART!



❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

As we live in our homes longer and longer, we get used to things the way they are. Still, I want to give you some quick home improvements that don't have to break the bank and that you can do yourselves in a weekend.

But first, here's your Glen Park real estate roundup.

By the Numbers

Inventory between May 10 and Aug. 17, 2017, shot way up. There were a total of 26 sales in this period—20 single-family homes and six condominiums. That is more than double the number of sales from the previous quarter, and a nice bounce-back. The average sales price for single-family houses for this period was \$2,185,575, which is a big jump from last quarter. Two sales skewed the averages a bit—80 Laidley, which sold for \$5.4 million, and 537 Laidley, selling for nearly \$3.8 million. If we factor those out, the average would be \$1,917,583, which is still a whopping 8 percent over the average from the last quarter and up 6.5 percent from the average last year.

The average list price during this period was \$1,769,833, up 15 percent from the beginning of the year (again factoring out the two larger sales). That puts the sales prices at 8 percent over asking price, which is where we were last year. The average days on market this period was 29 days, below last year's average of 35 days on market.

It looks as though we will continue to have a busy year, as we are about to enter a traditionally active period in the calendar year. Interest rates remain very low, hovering just over 4 percent even after the Federal Reserve raised rates by a quarter-point in June. We will likely see at least one more interest rate hike before the end of the year if things continue as they are in the market. The overall real estate market in San Francisco remains strong, and should continue to be so for the foreseeable future.

Home Improvements

Now, back to our regularly scheduled program.

Clients are always looking for things that they can do along the way to keep their homes looking up-to-date without having to remodel this or tear out that. Many things can be done a little at a time and in a day or two,

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
80 Laidley St.	5/18/17	82	\$5,500,000	\$5,400,000	98.18%
76 Lippard Ave.	5/18/17	39	\$1,295,000	\$1,325,000	102.32%
162 Arbor St.	5/22/17	6	\$1,095,000	\$1,300,000	118.72%
1167 Bosworth St.	5/23/17	17	\$1,695,000	\$1,720,000	101.47%
60 Laidley St.	5/23/17	12	\$1,695,000	\$1,862,500	109.88%
140 Fairmount St.	5/23/17	0	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	100.00%
57 Arbor St.	5/26/17	11	\$2,195,000	\$2,400,000	109.34%
1265 Bosworth St.	6/7/17	207	\$2,500,000	\$2,475,000	99.00%
152 Fairmount St.	6/21/17	5	\$1,975,000	\$2,100,000	106.33%
536 Laidley St.	6/28/17	58	\$1,048,000	\$1,250,000	119.27%
41 Martha Ave.	6/30/17	35	\$2,495,000	\$2,350,000	94.19%
11 Harper St.	7/14/17	14	\$998,000	\$1,210,000	121.24%
50 Hiliritas Ave.	7/14/17	12	\$1,795,000	\$2,350,000	130.92%
235 Surrey St.	7/19/17	16	\$1,395,000	\$1,755,000	125.81%
354 Arlington St.	7/19/17	12	\$2,195,000	\$2,275,000	103.64%
293 Surrey St.	7/21/17	36	\$1,249,000	\$1,162,000	93.03%
79 Arbor St.	7/24/17	13	\$2,399,000	\$2,800,000	116.72%
537 Laidley St.	7/28/17	110	\$3,895,000	\$3,795,000	97.43%
161 Randall St.	8/15/17	20	\$1,995,000	\$2,152,000	107.87%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
57 Wilder St. #403	6/2/17	31	\$995,000	\$1,185,000	119.10%
407 Miguel St. #A	6/7/17	12	\$625,000	\$725,000	116.00%
197 Randall St.	6/19/17	21	\$949,000	\$980,000	103.27%
131 Charles St.	7/14/17	49	\$899,000	\$899,000	100.00%
78-80 Malta Dr. #78	7/28/17	32	\$1,095,000	\$1,225,000	111.87%
253 Randall St. #I	8/1/17	15	\$949,000	\$935,000	98.52%
DOM - Days on market			SP/LP - % over list price		

and you can do them yourself. Here are just a few.

Brighten up your front door – it's the first thing people look at. A fresh

coat of bright paint can change the whole feeling of the front of the house. Adding new hardware, such as door handles and locks, can really make a difference. You might think about a keyless entry system. If you have a gate in front of the door, you can give that a fresh coat of paint as well, or even remove it altogether, depending on how you feel about the added security.

ANOTHER EXCELLENT SECURITY MEASURE IS ADDING SPOTLIGHTS WITH MOTION SENSORS ON THE FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE OR FRONT DOOR. THIS CAN DEFINITELY HELP DETER WOULD-BE PROWLERS AND PACKAGE THIEVES.

Speaking of security, home cameras and video doorbells have come a long way. The new systems can look quite attractive and can help you keep an eye on who is at the door and when your family gets home. Many of them incorporate wireless technology, so you can check on things from your smartphone. Ring.com has some excellent systems that might work for you.

Another excellent security measure is adding spotlights with motion sensors on the front of your house or front door. This can definitely help deter would-be prowlers and package thieves.

You can install many of these on your own, but some require professional installation.

In the kitchen, replace your faucet. Like most of you, I'm in the kitchen every day, and having a faucet that is attractive and works well can really change your cooking life. It can be a showpiece in many kitchens.

Install or replace your backsplash. You don't have to go crazy with fancy tiles. There are do-it-yourself solutions, like peel-and-stick tiles or tin tiles. Keep it simple and clean.

In the bathroom, some easy things you can do short of a full remodel will make it look new. A fresh coat of paint on the walls goes a long way. You can also paint your old vanity and make it look new. Replacing the hardware on your cabinets can also change the look, and while you're at, it paint those cabinets, too.

How about changing the light fixture over the mirror, or adding a frame around the mirror, or replacing the mirror altogether if it's not too difficult? Put a new countertop on your vanity. This is not as hard as it might sound, as long as it is measured and cut correctly. Install a new bathroom fan, too—older ones are loud and probably not as effective as the newer models.

Stain your deck. Now is a great time to do it, while we still have our San Francisco autumn to enjoy beautiful weather. Once the rains come again later in the year (keep your fingers crossed), it will be protected from the elements.

Keeping your home looking updated will go a long way when and if it ever comes time to sell. Instead of having to do a lot all at once, you'll have less to do at the last minute. But more than that, do these things for yourself, so that you can enjoy your home even more.

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 questions or topic requests to [news@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:news@glenparkassociation.org), [marc@opni.com](mailto:marc@opni.com), or The *Glen Park News*, 2912 Diamond 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](mailto:marc@opni.com), or by phone at 415-722-4018. His website is [www.Core7RealEstate.com/Marc](http://www.Core7RealEstate.com/Marc).



## ♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR FALL 2017 ♦

**Mondays****Decorate the Fridge**

*Every Week, 10-11:30 a.m., Glen Park Library*  
Craft program geared for children 18 months-4 years. Please dress in your oldest pre-stained clothing.

**Family Storytime**

*Every week, 4-5:30 p.m.,  
Glen Park Library*

Books, songs and fun for children of all ages.

**Poetry with Open Mic**

*First and Third Monday of the month, 7-9 p.m.  
Bird & Beckett*

Poets read, followed by open mic. See Birdbecket.com for more details.

**Roots, Jazz & American Music**

*Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m.  
Bird & Beckett*

Second Mondays, we're hosting a jam session for the incoming class of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music's brand new jazz BMUS (Bachelor of Music) degree program. See Birdbecket.com for more details.

**Tuesdays****Family Storytime**

*Every week, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Glen Park Library*  
Books, songs and fun for children of all ages.

**Knitting Circle**

*Every week, 10:30 a.m.-noon, 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](http://InglesidePoliceStation.com) or call the station at 415-404-4050.

**Wednesdays**

**Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Parties**  
*Every week, 9 a.m.-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**

*Every week, Noon-3 p.m., 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](mailto:recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org) or call 415-831-6333.

**Book a Librarian**

*Every Week, 4-5 p.m., Glen Park Library,*  
Computer/technology assistance. Call 415-355-2858 for an appointment..

**Diamond Diners Lunch and Social Hour**

*First Wednesday of the month,  
Noon-1 p.m.  
St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Drive*

**LEGO Free Play**

*First Wednesday of the month, 2-4, p.m.  
Glen Park Library*

**Bird & Beckett Book Club**

*Second Wednesday of the month,  
7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

A book is discussed each meeting. Participants choose the next month's book. See Birdbeckett.com for more details.

**Thursdays****Tween Time**

*Every week, 3:30-5, Glen Park Library*  
Teens do homework, hang out and occasionally play video games

**Randy Odell presents...**

*First Thursday of the month, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

**Resilient Diamond Heights**

*Fourth Thursday of the month (November meeting will be on fifth Thursday),  
6-8 p.m., St. Aidan's Church*

For information, call 415-285-9540, ext. 3.

**Fridays****Food Pantry**

*Every Week, 1-2 p.m.,  
St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.*  
Free Food Pantry for low-income and disabled clients who live in the 94131 zip code. One of the community activities St. Aidan's hosts. Others include yoga, Overeaters Anonymous and other community groups. For details, visit [www.staidan.org](http://www.staidan.org) or call 415-285-9540.

**Jazz in the Bookshop**

*Every week. 5:30-8 p.m.,  
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**

*Every Week, 7:30-10 p.m., Bird & Beckett*  
A weekly jazz concert series. \$10 cover charge. Free food at the break; wine and beer available. See birdbeckett.com for performers.

**Habitat Restoration Work Parties**

*Third Saturday of the month, 9-11:30 a.m. Meet at the Glen Canyon Rec Center off Elk Street*  
Join the Friends of Glen Canyon Park and SFRPD gardeners for a volunteer work party of weeding, pruning and planting. For more information, email [recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org](mailto:recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org) or call 415-831-6333.

**Sundays****DIY Kids**

*Every week, 1-2:30 p.m., Glen Park Library*  
Craft program geared for children 7-12.

**Which Way West?**

*4:30-6:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett, 653 Chenery St.*  
A weekly concert offering jazz, acoustic Americana, world and classical music. \$10 per adult suggested donation; children free. See birdbeckett.com for performers.

**The Seducers - Classic, Outlaw & Honky Tonk Country Music**

*Second Sunday of the month, 7:30-9:30 p.m.,  
Bird & Beckett*

**Grant Levin**

*Second, third, and fourth Sunday of the month,  
7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

Pianist Grant Levin leads duo, trio, and quartet dates on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of each month,

**LEGO Free Play**

*Third Sunday of the month, 1-4 p.m.,  
Glen Park Library*

**Walker Talks!**

*Fourth Sunday of each month, 2:30-4 p.m.,  
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.

**Thursday, September 21****Greg Abate Quartet**

*7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett*  
Alto jazz saxophonist Greg Abate, on tour out of New York, accompanied by local musicians Keith Saunders, piano; Adam Gay, bass; and Ron Marabuto, drums. Cover charge: \$15.

**Saturday, September 23****Christopher Park Festival**

*10 a.m.-2 p.m., 5290 Diamond Heights Blvd (behind Diamond Heights Shopping Center)*  
Free festival will offer music, children's activities. See [www.friendsofchristopherpark.org](http://www.friendsofchristopherpark.org).

**Tuesday, September 26**

**Fabric Dyeing (Latino Hispanic Heritage)**  
*3-4:30 p.m., Glen Park Library*

With Linda Janklow of Peopleologie

**Yoga in the Sunnyside Conservatory**  
*6:30-8 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory, 236 Monterey Blvd.*

Yoga sessions led by Daniel Gorelick. Please arrive at 6:15 to help set up, sign in, and meet Daniel. Please bring your own mat, the floor is concrete.

**Wednesday, September 27****Greenway Project**

*6:30-8 p.m., St. John School, 925 Chenery Street*  
Join us to plan the Greenway tree-planting, the next phase of the Greenway project. Review and comment on the draft plan. The project's landscape architect, SurfaceDesign, will present the planting plan based on the concept plan our community adopted in 2016.

**Thursday, September 28**

**College Admissions and Essay Writing**  
*5-6:30 p.m., Glen Park Library*

Register in advance at [www.edupath.org/sf](http://www.edupath.org/sf)

**Eric Shifrin & the In Crowd**  
*7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

**Saturday, September 30****Middle Eastern Food Festival**

*12 noon-10 p.m., St. Nicholas Church, 5200 Diamond Heights Blvd.*  
Great food and entertainment. For more information, contact 415-648-5200

**Sunday, October 1****Middle Eastern Food Festival**

*12 noon-8 p.m., St. Nicholas Church*  
**Poetry Reading by Eveline Kanes and MaryLee McNeal**  
*2-3 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

**Wednesday October 4****Greenway Project**

*6:30-8 p.m., St. John School*  
Review and approve the final tree planting plan. SurfaceDesign will present the revised tree planting plan. This is the version that will be presented to SF Public Works for approval.

**Thursday, October 5**

**College Admissions and Essay Writing**  
*5-6:30 p.m., Glen Park Library*

Register in advance at [www.edupath.org/sf](http://www.edupath.org/sf)

**Happy Hour Show - The Lazy Governors**  
*5:30-7 p.m., Bird & Beckett*  
All Strings Gypsy Jazz /Western Swing/Standards.

**Friday, October 6**

**How to Write a Resume**  
*2:30-4 p.m., Glen Park Library*

**Saturday, October 7**

**Glenridge Cooperative Nursery School Open House**

*11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Glen Canyon Park*  
Prospective parent meetings for the 2018-2019 school year. For details, visit [www.glenridgecoop.org](http://www.glenridgecoop.org).

**Ira Kamin vs. PC Munoz: The Rumble in the Jumble!**  
*4-6 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

**Sunday, October 8****Litquake!**

*3-4:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett*  
Translation Issues: Literary translation, focusing on bringing Tamil, a living South Indian classical and contemporary language, into English.

**Tuesday, October 10**

**Yoga in the Sunnyside Conservatory**  
*6:30-8 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory*  
(See September 26)

**Thursday, October 12**

**Making Salsa: A Demonstration (Latino Hispanic Heritage)**  
*3-5 p.m., Glen Park Library*

**Friday, October 13**

**Sugar Skulls Decorating Workshop (Latino Hispanic Heritage)**  
*2-3:30 p.m., Glen Park Library*

**Saturday, October 14**

**Sunnyside History Walk: A Walk Down Mid-Century Monterey Boulevard**  
*11 a.m.-1 p.m.; meet at Monterey Deli, Edna Street and Monterey Blvd.*

Take a walk with Sunnyside historian Amy O'Hair to hear about many of the shops, bars, restaurants, beauty salons, barber shops, and five-and-dimes of those years. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: [SunnysideHistory@gmail.com](mailto:SunnysideHistory@gmail.com).

**Sunday, October 15****Mt. Davidson History Stroll**

*1-2:30 p.m.; meet at Sherwood Avenue and Myra Way (Muni 36 Teresita bus turnaround)*  
Explore the history of San Francisco's highest hill with Mt. Davidson historian Jacquie Proctor. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: [SunnysideHistory@gmail.com](mailto:SunnysideHistory@gmail.com).

**Poets Carolyn Miller and Gerald Fleming**  
*2-4 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

**Monday, October 16**

**Yoga in the Sunnyside Conservatory**  
*6:30-8 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory*  
(See September 26)

**Saturday, October 21**

**Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project Special Meeting**

*3:30-5:30 p.m., Glen Canyon Park Recreation Center Community Meeting Room.(Meeting place tentative Check [www.GlenParkHistory.org/Events](http://www.GlenParkHistory.org/Events).)*  
Join us to celebrate the Glen Park women who, between 1958 and 1970, saved Glen Park and Glen Canyon from freeways. Suggested donation \$10.

**Tuesday, October 24**

**Yoga in the Sunnyside Conservatory**  
*6:30-8 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory*  
(See September 26)

**Wednesday, October 25**

**Glen Park Association Quarterly Meeting**  
*7 p.m., Glen Park Recreation Center,*

Agenda include: Glen Park Greenway project. Supervisor Sheehy will participate

**Thursday, October 26**

**Eric Shifrin**  
*7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett*

**Friday, October 27**

**Day of the Dead Altar (Latino Hispanic Heritage)**  
*3:30-4:30 p.m., Glen Park Library*

**Sunday, October 29**

**A Trestle Ran Through It: Early Days in Glen Park Village**

*9-11:30 a.m.; meet at Glen Park BART station*  
1.8-mile walk with historian Evelyn Rose back through time to learn about the history of Glen Park that set the foundation for its character. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: [GlenParkHistory@gmail.com](mailto:GlenParkHistory@gmail.com).

**Pumpkin Carving**

*1:30-4:30 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory*  
Bring your own pumpkin to carve with other ghouls, goblins, and other Halloween creatures. There will be light refreshments, and child-safe tools for your use. We ask parents supervise their children's carving.

**Monday, October 30**

**Yoga in the Sunnyside Conservatory**  
*6:30-8 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory*  
(See September 26)

**Saturday, November 4**

**Sunnyside History Walk: The Early Years**  
*11 a.m.-1 p.m.; meet at Glen Park BART station*  
On this 1.5-mile walk with Sunnyside historian Amy O'Hair, explore aspects of life in Sunnyside during the first decades. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: [SunnysideHistory@gmail.com](mailto:SunnysideHistory@gmail.com).

**Exploring Virtual Reality**

*11 a.m.-1 p.m., Glen Park Library*  
Registration required. Please call 415-355-2858 or visit the library information desk to register.

**Monday, November 6**

**Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Quarterly Membership Meeting**  
*7-8:30 p.m., St. Finn Barr Community Room, 415 Edna Street*

**Friday, November 10****"Rescue Me"**

*7:30 p.m., St. Aidan's Church*  
A new musical comedy, fun for kids and adults. For more information, see [www.staidans.org](http://www.staidans.org).

**Saturday November 11****"Rescue Me"**

*7:30 p.m., St. Aidan's Church*  
(See November 10)

**Sunday, November 12**

**Sunnyside Conservatory Work Party**  
*9 a.m.-12 noon, Sunnyside Conservatory*  
Come out and show the Conservatory some TLC.

**Modern Diamond Heights**

*10 a.m.-noon; Christopher Playground west of Diamond Heights Shopping Center*  
Explore the history of Red Rock and Gold Mine Hills on a 1.5-mile walk with historian Hannah Simonson. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: [GlenParkHistory@gmail.com](mailto:GlenParkHistory@gmail.com).