



Glen Park News



Whoo Hoo Hoo!

A barn owl peeks out at the world from a specially made house. See story on Page 9.
Photo courtesy of Richard Craib.

New District Police Captain Is Homegrown

SFPD Capt. John Hart, the new commanding officer of Ingleside Station, has returned to his roots.

A fourth-generation San Franciscan, Hart has replaced Capt. Joseph McFadden at the station, which has jurisdiction over Glen Park and adjacent neighborhoods. Station captains play a critical role in San Francisco as the

primary conduit between neighbors and police headquarters, and they largely set the policing priorities for their districts.

Hart has deep ties to Glen Park and the Ingleside district. He grew up in Diamond Heights and went to school at St. Philips and St. Ignatius College Preparatory. His brother attended Glen Park Elementary School, where his mother volunteered and later worked as a teacher for 27 years, and his aunts and uncles lived in the neighborhood.

Today, Hart lives in Sunnyside.

"I have a connection to the neighborhood. I know what people are talking about," He told the *Glen Park News*. He knows the neighborhoods from his childhood, and has seen them grow and develop over the years. He said the first email he received after taking over in the district was from a resident who lives five houses from his uncle. He said he knew exactly the area she was referring to, which allowed him to better understand her concerns.

He said he's "personally—not just professionally—interested" in what's going on, and that "people feel that I mean it."

Hart, who began his new assignment in October as part of a reshuffling of Police Department captains, spent much of his first couple of weeks at Ingleside going to community meetings, chatting up residents and merchants and

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Local Businesses Bring Holiday Cheer

Tis almost the season, and **Glen Park Hardware** is Christmas Central in our neighborhood.

The newly remodeled store, at 685 Chenery, stocks tree ornaments and hooks to hang them with, tree stands, tree lights and even artificial trees, indoor and outdoor lights, and fasteners and curlicues to attach lights to things.

There are bright red stockings to hang from mantels, Santa hats and giant candy canes. Also, ornamental bags, wrapping paper, tape and stickers for gift-giving. You can even rent a ladder to reach all the decorating spots, indoors or out, as part of the store's new tool-rental service.

As for gifts, browse the tool kits and drill kits and non-kit gizmos of all types for do-it-yourselfers, and lots of little stuff for filling those plush stockings, including all manner of handy

gadgets or packets of seeds. Or you can buy a Glen Park Hardware gift certificate for any denomination and put that in a stocking, too.

Especially for children, a Stanley Jr. toolkit (ages 5 and up) contains a



Phoebe, Critter Fritters' rescue kitty, entertains passersby.

Photo courtesy of Critter Fritters.

small hammer, a tape measure, pliers and kid-size safety goggles. That will be handy for the build-it kits—model vehicles of all sorts, a birdhouse, maybe even the balsa-wood airplanes. There are materials for art projects, including giant boxes of sidewalk chalk.

And, notes owner Aaron Esquivel, there's a whole rack of products for cleaning up the holiday mess.

What item in his shop would Esquivel most like to have? A belt knife sharpener that he describes as "truly awesome." It would be great for other tools as well as knives, such as axes, scissors and machetes. Those are available, too: "We sell more machetes than you would think."

Perch, 654 Chenery, has a few trees, too—fully decorated three-foot ones made by the same artisan who designs the wreaths the gift shop offers every holiday season. To decorate your house

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GLEN PARK NEWS

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♦ GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION ♦

Most of us have a list of neighborhood improvements or changes we'd like to see. Complaints come easily, but we must also recognize the times when the San Francisco government approaches old problems in new ways. The Fix-It program is one such effort. It provides a more effective, efficient way for neighborhoods to engage with multiple City agencies—that is, the people who can actually fix things.

In September 2017, Glen Park became part of the Fix-It Team program, joining the Excelsior and Ingleside neighborhoods, as well as the 2016 pilot neighborhoods of Chinatown, Mission/Geneva, the Castro/Upper Market, Civic Center and Inner Richmond.

Here's how this new program works, and how to engage with it:

Mayor Ed Lee established the Fix-It Team in 2016 to address neglected areas and tasks. It is a coordinated effort of seven city agencies: the Police Department, Public Works, Muni, Public Health, Homeless Services, the Public Utilities Commission and Recreation & Park. Its purpose is to create a better-maintained, cleaner physical environment. Team workers address traffic, crosswalks, pedestrian safety, bus stops, traffic, dim or broken lights, news racks, trash cans, overgrown or unsafe trees, graffiti, litter and much more.

They also incorporate data analysis, including reviews of 311 call data, to understand and prioritize crime and quality-of-life issues. In a survey of 500 San Francisco residents from five different neighborhoods, for example, Fix-It Team analysis found that residents' top three concerns are sidewalk cleanliness, property crime and violent crime.

The Fix-It process is ongoing, not a one-time effort in which City workers descend on a neighborhood for a brief period of time. The program doesn't specify an end date: Once a neighborhood is part of the Fix-It program, there are no plans to drop it.

The Fix-It program has a five-step process:

(1) Identify: The Fix-It Team gathers three months of 311 and police data in advance of a 90-minute neighborhood meeting. At the meeting, team members hear and record concerns from residents. Next, residents break into groups to prioritize issues, which can also be submitted to the Fix-It Team via email at FixItTeam@sfgov.org.

In Glen Park, the Fix-It Team and the Glen Park Association had an initial meeting, followed by a community meeting on Sept. 26 at St. John School. Residents provided feedback on quality-of-life issues and prioritized concerns.

(2) Evaluate: Within seven days of the neighborhood meeting, the Fix-It Team categorizes concerns. They create a map of issues to see location patterns and visualize concerns. Safety is the top priority during this evaluation stage, as are problems that impact the greatest number of people. Two weeks later, a community walk-through is held so everyone can see issues in context and prioritize accordingly.

The Glen Park Fix-It Team walk took place on Oct. 10, and participants used a map and notes from the prior community meeting as a guide.

(3) Validate:

Following the community walk, City agencies continue to validate issues in multiple ways. They investigate in person, during busy and off times. Night walks and police ride-alongs take place, essential to evaluating lighting conditions and other nighttime problems.

(4) Execute: The Fix-It Team creates an action plan. They address quick fixes to get things going and allocate resources where needed. Some interventions work and some do not. When they do not, the Fix-It Teams tries other approaches. Trying to control human behavior and folks refusing services is, of course, a challenge.

At the GPA quarterly meeting on Oct. 24, director Sandra Zuniga provided a three-page document of issues that the Fix-It Team is working on, and some updates. If you'd like a copy of this document, request one by email at FixItTeam@sfgov.org.

(5) Report: As things get fixed,

GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION

QUARTERLY MEETING

Visit glenparkassociation.org for day, time and location.

the Fix-It Team reports back to the community. They send email blasts, use Twitter (@FixItTeamSF), and send post-intervention surveys.

The Fix-It Team is working on too many Glen Park issues to enumerate here, but the following are some popular items.

Traffic is a big issue in several areas of Glen Park, exacerbated by mapping apps that route people onto side streets they may not otherwise have taken. Unsurprisingly, traffic on Bosworth and left-turn issues at Diamond and Bosworth continue to be a challenge. Traffic on Bosworth also causes backup on Lippard Street. The Municipal Transportation Agency has worked on these before, but the Fix-It Team has requested additional review. Drivers speeding and running stop signs on both Diamond Street and Arlington Street is another problem, one that new Ingleside Station Capt. John Hart heard about at our Oct. 24 quarterly meeting. If you have anything to add, please call the Ingleside tip line number at 415 552-4558 and let the Fix-It Team know.

The planter boxes beside the Glen Park BART station have mostly contained dead plants and garbage. The Fix-It Team followed up with Public Works and learned that the contract with the organization that provided planter box irrigation expired in May. New plants were ordered as of Oct. 25, and we should all see better looking planters in the future. Fix-It is also working with BART on painting the wood flower stand at the station.

It is never too late to participate and be engaged. Follow Fix-It SF on Twitter @FixItTeamSF. Email FixItTeam@sfgov.org and ask to be included on updates about Glen Park. And, if you feel a Nextdoor comment coming on, consider whether the Fix-It Team might be more helpful. Improvements may not be instantaneous or perfect, but that doesn't mean they are not worth making. The least we can do is try. ♦

Stephany Wilkes is vice president and Bonnee Waldstein is communications secretary of the Glen Park Association.



❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

The past year, the first of the Trump presidency, has been stressful for many of us. Whether you support or oppose the president, no one can argue that the country remains divided and on edge as 2017 comes to a close. Yes, the stock market is booming, but the chasm of the economic divide deepens.

Even in our own charming neighborhood, a newly constructed single-family house on Laidley Street went on the market this fall for a stunning (staggering? jaw-dropping?) \$10 million; consider that the median home price in our neighborhood is closing in on \$1.5 million.

At the same time, we are seeing more homeless people sleeping in our doorways and more panhandlers hanging out on Glen Park street corners.

Our neighborhood is at once familiar and transforming. That's nothing new. After all, Glen Park was once home to farms and a dynamite factory.

This winter issue of the *Glen Park News* gives us a chance to reflect

on what's happened during the past year. There has been a lot to celebrate—new businesses and/or business owners coming into the village to keep our neighborhood commercial corridor humming; the volunteer workdays to spruce up the greenway between downtown Glen Park and Glen Canyon Park; and, of course, the wonderfully renovated and expanded Glen Park Recreation Center with its new climbing wall, improved restrooms, beautiful gymnasiums and creative public art.

It also was nice to see Chenery Street closed to vehicular traffic on Halloween so the costumed trick-or-treaters could go from house to house in a much safer environment. Thank you, Ingleside Station police officers, for your help in making this happen!

Looking forward, we will elect a district supervisor in 2018. The incumbent, Jeff Sheehy, who lives in Glen Park, was appointed to the Board of Supervisors by Mayor Ed Lee (another

Glen Park resident) in January 2017 to fill out the remainder of the current term when Scott Wiener moved on to the state Senate.

Sheehy will face District 8 voters for the first time in June. He's being challenged by Community College Trustee Rafael Mandelman, who ran for the seat before but lost to Wiener. Wiener is backing Sheehy; Mandelman got the endorsement of Mark Leno, who served as District 8 rep before heading off to Sacramento and is now running for mayor. Both candidates are liberal Democrats. Sheehy usually is part of the Board of Supervisors' moderate bloc, which holds a 6–5 majority; Mandelman is expected to be aligned more with the progressive faction.

We'll have full coverage of the race in our spring edition.

Until then, the editors of the *Glen Park News* wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy New Year! And may it be less stressful for everybody than the past one. ❖

❖ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ❖

I hope you and your family had a festive Thanksgiving. On top of being a father and husband, I am thankful for the opportunity to serve you and our city as your supervisor.

My office and I are working every day to brighten and improve our neighborhood and ensure that it remains a welcoming place for families. In October, Sandra Zuniga of the City's Fix-It team and I joined neighbors to walk the community to identify areas of improvement. Several "fixes," based on residents' feedback, have already been implemented, such as increasing the efficiency of street cleaning routes, graffiti abatement, litter removal, replacing burned-out streetlights, and cutting back overgrown vegetation. (See the Glen Park Association report on Page 2.)

I am also happy to report progress on the Glen Park Greenway. With the leadership and support of the Glen Park Association and Friends of the Urban Forest, we worked with San Francisco Public Works to get the dead trees removed in anticipation of the planting on Dec. 9. I look forward to continue working with neighbors to enhance and green this part of our neighborhood.

Expect further improvements in the neighborhood through Participatory

Budgeting, a program I allocated \$300,000 for, which funds enhancements brought forth and voted on by the community. My office held a kickoff meeting on Nov. 12, at which many great projects were proposed. If you would like to learn more or submit a proposal, please visit <http://bit.ly/d8pb2018>. All submissions are due by Dec. 13.

To promote local businesses, Mayor Ed Lee and I conducted a merchant walk on Nov. 30, as part of Shop and Dine in the 49, which is a City-funded campaign to promote our small merchant corridors. Local businesses are crucial to the health of our community, and I encourage all neighbors to buy at our local Glen Park shops when possible.

Finally, our neighborhood has a new police captain, John Hart, who has assured me that the Glen Park foot patrols will continue. We are in constant contact regarding community issues, and I look forward to working together to increase safety in our neighborhood. I want to thank Capt. Joe McFadden for his years of service at Ingleside Station, and wish him the



District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy speaks at the Christopher Park Festival. Photo by Brynna McNulty.

best in his new role in the department.

If you have a concern or if I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. My office and I are here to serve you with ongoing projects as well as new ideas or concerns. Please feel free to email me directly at jeff.sheehy@sfgov.org or contact my office at 415-554-6968.

I look forward to seeing you in the neighborhood and hope you have safe and joyous holidays. ❖

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

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

HALLOWEEN

GLEN PARK STYLE



Throngs of costumed trick or treaters visited Chenery Street on Halloween. Police closed off the roadway to vehicles, making the evening safer and more fun.

Photos by Liz Mangelsdorf



❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

Your neighborhood library is technically known as a repository of information to be maintained for the use of local residents. This sounds like quite a mouthful, and it really is.

The Glen Park Library is a place where you can get a vast wealth of information from various sources—primarily from books, the wonderful medium that allows you to home in on special and specific information. Libraries also feature all the modern modes of recorded information, such as eBooks, eAudiobooks and subscription-based databases for every subject imaginable.

I'd like to spotlight the San Francisco Public Library system's newly acquired resource, known as Kanopy, which live-streams features, documentaries and independent films. To learn more, you'll just have to come into the library to see what awaits all those who walk through our front doors.

Our local library is also a culture center, both for the holidays and year-round.

On the first and third Tuesdays of every month, we feature a program entitled Knitting Circle. This program is designed for knitting and crocheting enthusiasts to congregate in the Library Community Room. If you love knitting or would like to learn by example, all in good company, this is the place to go—and yes, it is free.

In keeping with the season, GoGo Craft: DIY Holiday Cards on Saturday, Dec. 16 at 3 p.m., is a special program for people interested in making their own holiday cards.

We are delighted to welcome back Louise Nayer, a local Glen Park author, on Jan. 13 at noon. We will also be hosting a program called Healthy Feet Over 50...Or Before, with Susan Lorica, an RN and certified foot care specialist in San Francisco, on Jan 27, 1 p.m.

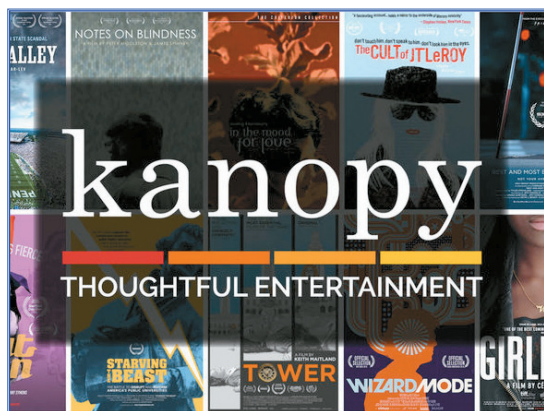
In February, teens from the Museum Ambassador Program will lead an interactive art activity inspired by the Teotihuacan: City of Water, City of Fire exhibition at the de Young Museum. This program is designed for children ages 6–12. And in honor of Black History month, we've invited Jarrel Phillips for his Capoeira Workshop for Kids/Families on Feb. 12 at 11 a.m.

Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian martial art that combines dance, acrobatics and music.

The library is a welcoming center eager to serve the Glen Park community. Please pop in

and pick up our monthly schedule or subscribe to our eNewsletter to keep up with your friendly local neighborhood library.

All San Francisco public libraries will be closed on Christmas day; New Year's Day; Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day; and Feb. 19, Presidents' Day. All libraries will close at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. ❖



GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

Monday/Tuesday 10-6

Wednesday 12-8

Thursday 10-7

Friday 1-6

Saturday 10-6

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✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

Do you have a devoted gardener in your life? Someone just starting out who considers herself a novice, or an experienced old hand who would rather die than admit garden tasks are a bit beyond him?

by Kay
Hamilton
Estey

Here is a list of great gifts for gardeners—and plenty of local places to pick up last-minute items. These suggestions come from the Glen Park Garden Club's most experienced members, who have either owned these items, used these services or would like to.

Tools: Don't save money on tools—spend as much as you can afford. Precision-engineered tools last a long time and work better, faster and more safely. I have the same pair of size 6 Felco Bypass Pruners that I was given 20 years ago. I also have a light, well-crafted, long-handed lopper-pruner with a pistol grip from Hida Tool. Then there's the ancient shovel I will never give up—it is just the right size.

So on our list for a great beginning are a good pair of 6-inch bypass prun-

ers, a 5-foot pole-pruner or lopper for extra reach, a Hori-Hori knife (a Japanese knife with sharp edges for weeding), a shovel and a small pick hoe for digging in our clay soil. You could also add a sharpening tool for the pruners and loppers.

Such tools can range from \$40 to \$100 for good, long-lasting quality and ease of use.

Other Items:

- Atlas Garden Gloves. A packet of four online is about \$15. Vital.

- A 2-inch-thick kneeling pad and/or knee pads. Every gardener should have knee protection, which saves later on pain.

- A kneeling/seating stool. These stools, available online from \$15 to \$30, can be flipped from a seating position to a kneeling position. The sides help the gardener get up and down.

- Trugs. Incredibly useful, wide, brightly colored plastic tubs for filling with weeds, plant sets or tools, bathing the puppy, whatever. I like the way they stay open but are flexible enough to carry with one hand. Usually about \$20 each.

Books: There are many wonderful garden books out there. But for the beginning gardener, *The Sunset Western Garden Book* is the bible. Packed with information and advice and suggestions (\$20–25).

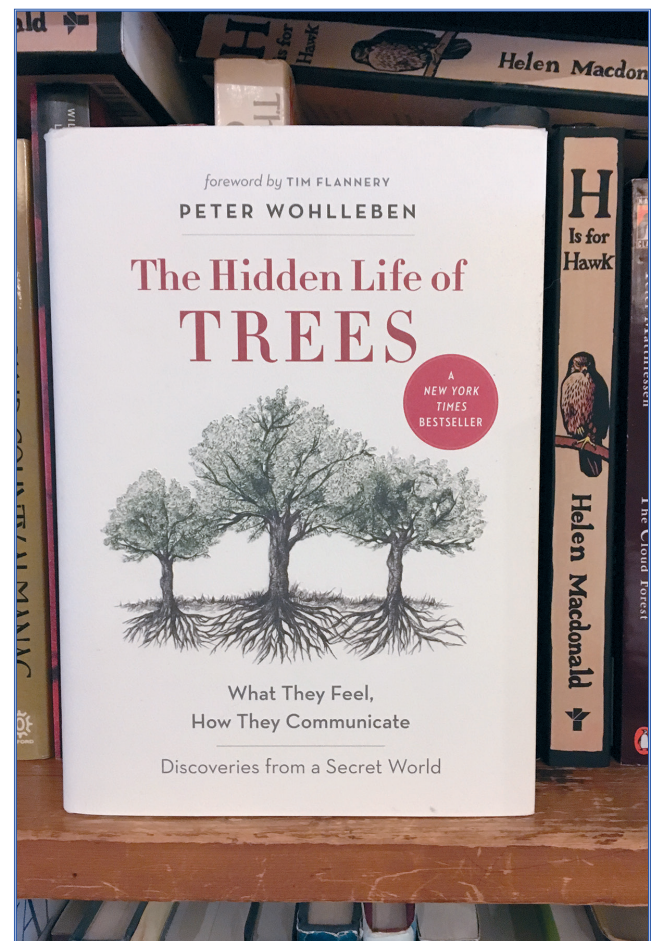
Bird & Beckett has a small, well-chosen selection of garden books including the intriguing *The Hidden Life of Trees*, by Peter Wohlleben, and the ever-useful *Wildly Successful Plants*, by Pam Peirce.

Winter Blooming

Bulbs: I generally don't like giving gifts that involve work on the part of the recipient, but amaryllis bulbs are so straightforward. Easily grown in a small containers, bulbs are planted about 50 percent above the soil, watered and placed in filtered light indoors, and presto—huge, long-lasting trumpet-like flowers in brilliant colors. Indoor narcissus bulbs can be grown on pebbles in water in a ceramic bowl. Amaryllis and narcissus bulbs are available online or a local nurseries.

Help: This is the gift I need—a gift certificate for services, not things. In every garden, some tasks are left undone: the trees need trimming, the weeds suddenly take over, all the containers need repotting and I need some help! Several club members recommended a gift certificate for a tree-trimming service or a few hours of a professional gardener's time. Or perhaps a session with a garden designer for planting suggestions. Professional gardeners usually charge between \$35 and \$50 per hour. Tree-trimming services will quote per job, as will designers. For recommendations for tree-trimmers or gardeners, contact me at kay.estey@gmail.com.

Upscale Gift of Adventure: The true gardener loves to look at other gardens. I recommend booking a tour to the Chelsea Garden Show in London, or to the Cotswolds to see Hidcote Manor and then to East Sussex to see my personal favorite, Great Dixter. Then to Dumfries, Scotland, to see The Garden of Cosmic Speculation



Bird & Beckett has a good selection of garden books for your holiday needs. Photo by Kay Hamilton Estey.



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by Charles Jencks. Or to Australia to see the stunning new Australian native Botanical Garden in Cranbourne. Or to South Africa to travel on the Garden Route, or to Spain to the Alhambra Gardens in Granada. Then to Japan, India, China and on... Google the gardens mentioned above for more information.

Resources: Shop locally! Glen Park Hardware has a nice selection of garden tools, with some good pruners, shovels, spades and rakes, plus seeds for stocking-stuffers. Bird & Beckett carries garden and ecology books. Canyon Market carries bulbs, and Perch, our gift store, has garden-themed cards and lovely vases.

Close by are FlowerCraft, 550 Bayshore Blvd., for bulbs, plants and expert assistance, and Flora Grubb Gardens, 1634 Jerrold Ave., for thriving tillandias, vases, objets-d'art, and French Fermob garden furniture—durable, well-designed and brightly colored. Across the Bay is Hida Tool at 1333 San Pablo Ave. in Berkeley, for high-end garden tools. ❖

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

We're Jazzed: Celebrating 15 Years of Music

Chuck Peterson, Bird & Beckett's legendary saxophone player, is proof that you can come home again.

On Oct. 27, 2017, Peterson, who resided on Arlington Street until February 2017, rejoined by his former bandmates—Murray the 230 Jones Street, Schneider Local 6 Literary Jazz Band—and celebrated 15 years of jazz at Bird & Beckett Books and Records in the heart of Glen Park.

For the occasion, Peterson, 86, downsized from his alto sax to his flute.

"It was delightful having Chuck return and play with his former bandmates," bookseller Eric Whittington said three days later. "Chuck fell right back into the band, as if he'd never left."

Surrounded by Ray Leockle and Jerry Logas on woodwinds, backed by Glen Deardoff on guitar, Dean Reilly on bass and Tony Johnson on drums, Peterson's notes glided above the standing-room-only bookstore audience.

"Chuck's flute sounded sweet," said Whittington. "Chuck played two remarkable sets."

At the set break Whittington moved to the stage's apron: "Chuck got us into this mess, this weekly music thing," he said. "There's not been a Friday for 15 years without a band."

It started in 2002, when the bookstore was on Diamond Street, in the space now occupied by Manzoni restaurant. Since then, Whittington has been rounding up top-notch Bay Area professional musicians and giving them a place to jam each week.

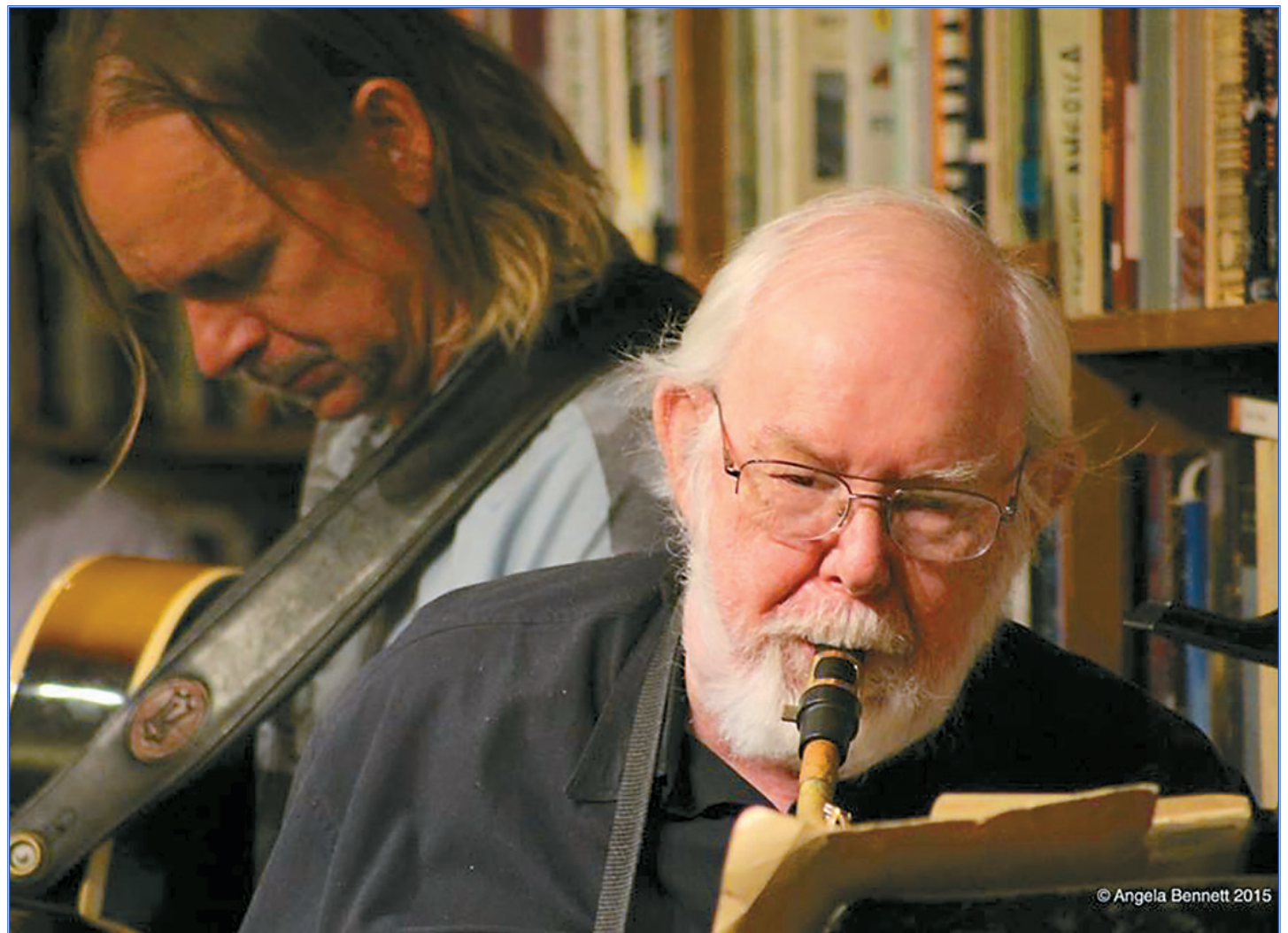
"Chuck's the founder," Whittington told the Glen Park News in 2014. "Chuck gave us the opportunity to get this all started."

Peterson lived in Glen Park from 1979 until he moved to Santa Rosa to be nearer to his daughter.

Over the past 15 years, there have been personnel changes in the resident band.

"Jimmy Ryan and Howie Dudune have passed," said Whittington. "But we've transitioned over the last several years, honoring the Bird & Beckett Cultural Legacy Project, which continues to build something that's not going to disappear."

"We've archived hours of live bookstore jazz performances," he continued. "These recordings document what we're doing here, and will become part of our legacy."



Chuck Peterson plays the saxophone at Bird & Beckett, as Scott Foster plays guitar in the background.

Photo courtesy of Angela Bennett.

Jazz at Bird & Beckett has already been culled into one CD, "Going Small," featuring the bebop of the Scott Foster Trio. Foster, a music teacher at Urban High School, performs once a month at the bookstore.

"Scott totally underwrote the production of the CD," said Whittington, about the disc on sale at his front counter. "One hundred percent of the proceeds go to our nonprofit."

Whittington has recently embarked on a relationship with the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and its new program, "Roots, Jazz and American Music."

"With Jimmy, Howie and Henry Irvin leaving us," said Whittington, "we're inducting younger players, reserving each fourth Monday evening for students enrolled in the four-year conservatory program begun by Glen Park resident Simon Rowe."

A bridge to the generational transformation is Foster, a neophyte in 2002 when he joined Peterson's band for the inaugural year of Bird & Beckett jazz.

At the 15th anniversary show, Foster took a seat. Peterson had stepped from the stage for a while, joining his daughter and son-in-law, who'd accompanied him from his home in Santa Rosa.

Eventually he stood to resume playing. He's older now, a little unsteady on his feet. Foster trailed, offering an arm, towering over his mentor. He whispered, but loud enough for those in the first few rows to hear:

"This is the closest I've come to greatness," he said. "You're my hero."

Chuck Peterson would be the first to tell you he'd never been anything more than an everyday musician. He attended San Francisco State College, earning a BA and MA in music. He landed a job as a 1950s South San Francisco middle school band teacher.

Soon he swapped his baton for musical instruments. He supported his family for 30 years, picking up gigs playing sax, flute and piccolo at the Curran, Geary, Golden Gate and Orpheum theaters. While Rex Harrison and Carol Channing belted out show stoppers above him, he sat in the orchestra pit, performing music from "My Fair Lady" and "Hello Dolly."

During the Bird & Beckett set break, Peterson leaned back and surveyed the milling crowd. People sipped water, browsed books, thumbed vinyl, caught up with their friends.

"I moved to Santa Rosa to be closer

to my daughter," he said. "I live in the center of town, so the smoke from the recent fires was overwhelming. My rental is a two-bedroom house. The landlady's a tap dancer, and she owns a grand piano, so I think she thought I take good care of it."

"You know, it's a small world," he continued. "I'm practicing one day, and there's a knock on the door. It's an African American couple. They liked the sound. The following week they invited me over for potluck. They'd come from Palo Alto. But here's the thing—for a year they lived on Chenery Street, and they'd come into the bookstore on Friday nights."

On a roll now, he continued his riff.

"There's no better place than Northern California if you like music, and there's no better place in San Francisco to listen to jazz than right here," he said, tapping the familiar stage.

"For a journeyman player such as I was, it was always simple," he said. "Practice and be on time."

Those who marveled at Peterson in his earliest bookstore sessions would beg to differ.

Chuck Peterson smiled at them: "If I ever come back, it'll be to Glen Park." ❖

❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

Concerns of possible adverse influence by Russian operatives on our media streams and democratic process seem to be escalating suspicion and paranoia to levels not seen since the Cold War, when a small spy drama played out in quiet Diamond

Heights.

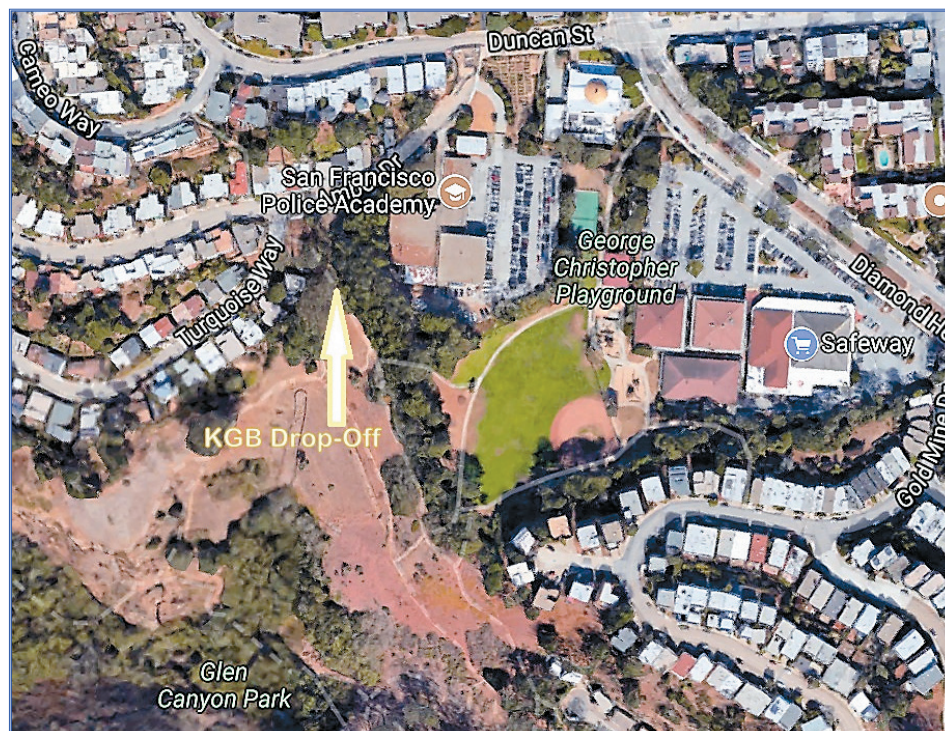
by Evelyn Rose
Despite nearly three-quarters of a century of mutual angst between the two superpowers, San Francisco has been visited by more Russian leaders than Catholic popes, the most recent Dmitry Medvedev in 2010, and Mikhail Gorbachev in 1990.

The first was Nikita Khrushchev. As described by reporter Carl Nolte in the San Francisco Chronicle in 2010, “In 1959, ... the hard-headed old Communist, was in a bad mood when he came to San Francisco after an unpleasant visit to Los Angeles. Khrushchev and his wife were welcomed by Mayor George Christopher and cheered by crowds on Nob Hill. Khrushchev smiled and laughed at the mayor’s corny jokes.”

It was during Christopher’s tenure as mayor that the Diamond Heights redevelopment project began to reshape the hills of our district: Gold Mine, Red Rock and Fairmount. Christopher Playground, named for the mayor, is located just west of the Diamond Heights Shopping Center on the brink of Glen Canyon, where his Christopher Dairy cows had roamed and ruminated until just before World War II. A path leading from Christopher Park to the canyon connects our district to the secretive history of U.S. and Russian espionage in the United States.

After earning a Ph.D. in history in the USSR, Boris Yuzhin was recruited as a captain in the spy agency Komitet Gosudarstvennoy Bezopasnosti, or KGB. Arriving in July 1975 and posing as a visiting professor at the University of California at Berkeley, his job was to find KGB recruits. Instead, he became enamored of literature that was freely available in the United States but banned in the Soviet Union—in particular, *The Gulag Archipelago* by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. Yuzhin soon realized his home country had deceived him.

Concurrently, the Federal Bureau of Investigation had become aware of Yuzhin, who later claimed the FBI was making obvious and clumsy efforts to ensnare him. Disillusioned with his native country, Yuzhin soon began sharing information with the FBI about his KGB comrades in San Francisco and their methods of communication. He continued to do so for the next 10



Approximate site of the KGB drop-off point in Diamond Heights, along the asphalt trail that slopes down from Christopher Playground in a northerly direction to Turquoise Way. Google Maps, 2017.

months before being called back to the USSR. Reassigned to San Francisco in 1978 to work undercover as a reporter for the Tass News Agency, he resumed his double-agent activities.

As if taking a plot-line right out of Ian Fleming’s James Bond novels, the FBI issued a camera to Yuzhin hidden in a Zippo cigarette lighter. Within hours, he had lost the device in the Soviet Consulate building. As the story goes, a handyman found it and tried to light his cigarette, without success. When the KGB became aware of the lighter, they desperately searched for the mole in their midst. By sheer luck, Yuzhin escaped detection.

Later, the FBI issued another miniature camera to Yuzhin. While taking photographs inside the KGB office, he took an unintended “selfie” when a mirror with his reflection appeared in the image. If the KGB were to gain access to the image, Yuzhin would be discovered. Moreover, very few at the FBI knew of his identity as an American double-agent. In the end, this image would ultimately lead to his exposure.

Over the next four years, Yuzhin continued to prove a major asset to the FBI, providing it with a copy of the KGB Annual Report and helping to uncover a treasonous government official in Norway. A KGB colonel in 1982, he was again called back to the Soviet Union as a matter of routine. The Central Intelligence Agency hoped to establish a channel of communication with him there but he refused, thinking it was too risky.

Aldrich Ames was an American CIA

agent who spied on U.S. activities for the Russians. Ames came across Yuzhin’s selfie image in June 1985 and reported it to his Russian counterparts. With suspicions raised, the KGB began monitoring Yuzhin’s communications and most intimate moments in his family home. FBI Agent Robert Phillip Hanssen, also a Russian operative, confirmed Ames’ observations to the KGB just a few months later.

In December 1986, Yuzhin’s double life came to an end when he was suddenly confronted by his Russian colleagues and charged with treason. He complained he had been a victim of FBI exploitation, a claim the KGB appeared to accept. Yuzhin was sentenced to 15 years in a Siberian labor camp, while two other KGB double agents revealed by Hanssen were executed.

In 1992, then-President Boris Yeltsin released Yuzhin as part of a general amnesty for political prisoners. Yuzhin returned to the United States and worked for several years at a human rights organization. Since retiring, he has lived quietly in Marin and Sonoma counties.

And that Diamond Heights connection? As described in an interview with the New York Times on July 17, 1994, Yuzhin “piloted his Dodge van up the steep curves of the Diamond Heights section here. Recognizing a small shopping center, he veered off, parked the van outside a pizzeria and circled on foot through Christopher Park to a secluded pathway among cedars and pines [today, the asphalt path leading from Christopher Playground to

Turquoise Way]. There, on his knees, he pried at the planks of a wooden staircase, searching for holes.” He and other officers of the KGB had “scouted this ‘drop’ and others like it in the Bay Area as places to hide microfilm for pickup by other Soviet spies. Then, as a double agent, he disclosed those locations, and much other information, to the F.B.I.”

Glen Canyon icon Richard Craib, past president of the Friends of Glen Canyon Park, has been a resident of Diamond Heights for more than 55 years; his home overlooks the northeast corner of the canyon. Around 1980, Craib and his wife decided their 18-year-old son and 13-year-old daughter were old enough to stay at home alone while they took a two-week vacation to Canada.

Upon their return, their daughter approached Craib on the driveway. Asking that he not be upset, she told him the FBI had approached her while they were gone and asked if they could rent the garage for two weeks at \$100 per week, to which she had agreed.

Likely based on information provided by Yuzhin, the FBI had set up a camera with a 650-mm lens in Craib’s garage to monitor a bench at the base of the wooden stairs leading down from Christopher Playground, apparently to spy on KGB visitors to the “secret” drop-off. When the two weeks was up, the FBI packed up and left, never to return.

In recent years, Craib has searched for evidence of the encounter from both the FBI and through the Freedom of Information Act, but to no avail. Today, the bench is gone. The wooden stairs later rotted out due to trickling ground-water runoff. The City replaced the stairs with an asphalt walkway.

In September 2017, the San Francisco Russian Consulate was ordered closed after 165 years of operation. Any remaining evidence in the consulate related to the Diamond Heights KGB drop-off likely went up in smoke in its fireplace during the “big burn,” when smoke rose from a consulate chimney on one of the hottest days in San Francisco history.

Today, when strolling along the path between Christopher Playground and Turquoise Way, you might want to look over your shoulder. Someone might still be watching—but not from the Craibs’ garage! ❖

Evelyn Rose, project director 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.

Home Sweet Home for Area Barn Owls

The backyard of Richard Craib's house on Turquoise Way abuts the slopes of Glen Canyon. Craib and his wife Sandi built their home there in 1962, but it was only in 2010 that he decided to build a barn owl house on his property.

Craib hasn't been burdened by mice, gophers and voles. But as a founding father of Friends of Glen Canyon Park, he's concerned with the collateral damage heaped upon canyon raptors—hunters such as red-tailed hawks and great horned owls—that annually fall victim to second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides.

"Owls eat rodents," Craib told the Glen Park News, "and when they swallow rats or mice that have consumed poisons used by exterminators, they become victims as well."

It's become increasingly common to find casualties. Owls unknowingly dine upon rodents that stumble from tamper-proof bait boxes, making easy targets for circling birds of prey. The raptors hemorrhage out, an unintended consequence of a resident's campaign against rats.

The irony of endangering animals consigned to making mortal, if modest, dents on the rodent population was not lost upon Craib, so he went on a mission.

He placed a 23-by-15-inch barn owl box on a cypress tree in his backyard. He put three additional 17-inch-deep boxes in Glen Canyon—one within a few yards of Berkeley Way, one at the foot of stairs leading to the Craggs Court Community Garden, and another farther north where steps lead to Christopher Playground.

For seven years, nothing happened.

"In all this time, I haven't seen any evidence of an owl," Craib said. "Then on Aug. 6, a nesting female appeared in my backyard box."

Barn owls are small compared to great horned owls, one of which was found dead in Glen Canyon in March 2016, killed by lethal doses of a rodenticide called brodifacoum. Then in February 2017, at Douglass Playground, a female coyote became another fatality, evidence that rat poisons are deadly to mammals, as well. A confirming necropsy determined that the coyote's liver tested positive for four different toxic poisons.

Barn owls, about 18 inches from head to tail, with a wing span of four to five feet, have a voracious appetite for rodents. Until she departed on Sept. 1, Craib observed the nesting female, whose mate brought her mice to devour.

"The castings, made of pellets composed of the fur and bone of mice," said Craib, "filled a half-gallon plastic bag. My backyard looked like a cemetery."

Barn owls hunt tirelessly. While Craib didn't witness any progeny during his summer vigil, it's not uncommon for a male owl each night to bring six mice to its brood of five owlets. The male still supplies the female with three mice per day, consuming four a day himself. A family of owls can consume thousands rodents per year.

Barn owls are cavity dwellers, often holing up in trees—Craib's female's mate lived in a redwood. Barn owls are nonterritorial, so owl houses can attract as many barn owls as there is prey to eat.

But neighborhoods around Glen Park can be dangerous to these low-flying predators, ensnaring them in utility wires or becoming fodder for motorists. Moreover, barn owls in turn can become prey to raccoons, coyotes, larger great horned owls, even an anomalous mountain lion like the one that was tranquilized on Nov. 10 a few blocks from Craib's Diamond Heights home.

So why did it take seven years for two owls to show up in Craib's backyard?

The answer may be location.

"I think I put the boxes in the wrong place," he said. "You drive along Interstate 5 and you can see barn owl boxes adjacent to cropland, pasture and orchards of fruit trees."

The same was true for Napa and Sonoma counties before the catastrophic October fires wreaked havoc



Richard Craib and his owl box.

Photo by Murray Schneider

upon their vineyards. A year after Craib put his boxes in Glen Canyon, North Bay wine growers installed similar owl boxes among their Chardonnay and Zinfandel vines, to push back against gophers without rodenticides. Marin County has installed hundreds of boxes, and one can now find owl boxes in Golden Gate Park.

"My boxes might have been

better placed on a pole outside the tree line," Craib said.

Grassland, such as Glen Canyon's eastern hillside below Diamond

Heights, might prove suitable habitat, positioned where owls have an unrestricted visual and auditory panorama.

"Owls are nocturnal, and they hunt in the dark," he added. "They have keen hearing, but how'd you like dodge trees at night?"

Craib set about correcting what may have been the problem.

"I removed a backyard tree," said Craib. "I have lots of wood now, and the owls have one less obstacle to negotiate."

Craib hopes the owls will return, as their visits pay ecological dividends. He acknowledges that licensed pest control companies are not going away soon, but he's also happy to share that, by California law, harmful anti-coagulants are no longer sold in box stores or neighborhood hardware stores.

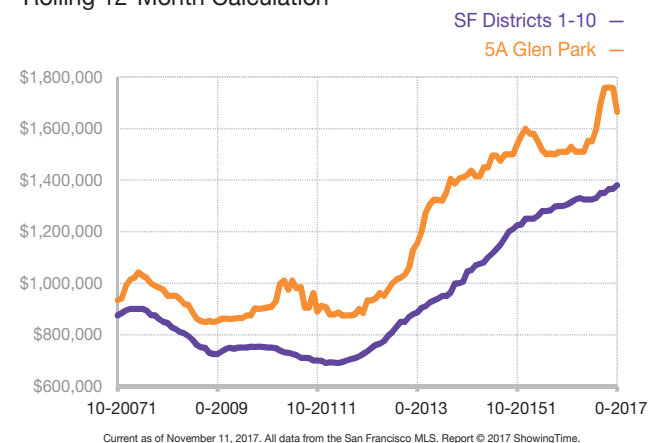
Barn owl boxes, though, offer a different approach.

"Owl houses are a natural way to protect the environment," said Craib. "If residents hire professional exterminators, I hope they retain companies that use snap traps." ♦

Glen Park Real Estate HOLIDAY EDITION:

I want to take this time to thank all my clients who repeatedly make my real estate career the success it is. We all have the good fortune of living in such a wonderful community as Glen Park. This chart illustrates how desirable Glen Park remains in the eyes of buyers!

Median Sales Price – Single Family
Rolling 12-Month Calculation



Wishing You a Healthy & Prosperous 2018

I encourage you to contact me for a no obligation consultation and market analysis.

RECENT SALES

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.



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KW SAN FRANCISCO
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Glen Park Shops and Restaurants Get into

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

or put under that tree are “tons of cookbooks,” fragrance candles that include such flavors as hot cocoa and simmered cider, ornaments and “unexpected indulgences,” says co-owner Zoel Fages.

In addition to gifts of jewelry, housewares or unusual accessories (a color-changing umbrella, anyone?), the shop sells holiday cards, gift bags and wrapping paper.

Kids’ gifts include art kits, such as Arts and Crafts Library, Studio in a Box, a pinhole camera, friendship-bracelet kits and watercolor sets. There’s even a bug-capturing kit, maybe not artistic but definitely kid-friendly. That’s in addition to colorful onesies and a line of Jellicats, “the softest animals in the world,” Fages says.

Gifts for that Very Important Pet, or its owner, are available at **Critter Fritters**, 670 Chenery. It stocks a line of 18-inch pet toys, such as a gingerbread boy with a red bowtie, a monkey, a Christmas tree and a Santa. Tony, the shop’s one-named manager, points out the Santa treats, canned Christmas Day dinners and New Year’s Eve “Paw-ty” food, plus sweaters for dogs and pet-odor-neutralizing candles for their humans.

Critter Fritters’ holiday party will be held in the store on Thursday, Dec. 7, starting at 4 p.m. The annual event features discounts on merchandise, people food and Tony’s “famous” brandy-and-rum sangria.

Bird & Beckett Books and Records, 653 Chenery, Glen Park’s top-notch bookstore and jazz site, will be open on Christmas Eve, but will skip its usual

Sunday afternoon concert that day. On New Year’s Eve, there will be an afternoon concert at 1 p.m., but not an evening one. The store will be closed on Christmas and New Year’s Day.

The music will go on as usual on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, promised owner Eric Whittington. He especially recommends the concert at the weekly Jazz Club on Saturday, Dec. 30, with New York drummer Sylvia Cuenca and bassist Essiet Essiet.

As far as gifts of jazz are concerned, you can pick up the latest B&B CD, recorded live in the bookstore, of the Jinx Jones Trio, which played at last spring’s Glen Park Festival. There are plenty of used and new vinyl records and CDs. And, of course, books on jazz.

And books not on jazz—both fiction and non-fiction, for adults, kids, travelers, cooks, history buffs, mystery buffs, art lovers, science fiction fans and everyone else on your list. The shop has graphic novels, puzzles and a line of Classics Illustrated novels, for those who want their classic tomes in easy-to-read form.

For stockings in need of stuffing, Whittington suggests the chance to “own a little piece of Hollywood,” bookmarks that include a few frames of genuine film clips from classic movies. Or, of course, gift certificates in any denomination. The shop will order anything they don’t have in stock if you give them a little warning—“Think ahead,” Whittington says.

Asked what book especially appealed to him, Whittington picked up a volume of fairy tales illustrated by Walt Kelly. Those of a certain age will remember

the Pogo comic strip: “We have met the enemy and he is us.”

Canyon Market, 2815 Diamond, has been in holiday mode since before Thanksgiving, and will offer its holiday catering menu through New Year’s Eve. The store will be closed on Christmas and New Year’s Day to give its 100-plus employees a well-deserved break. Some items on the special catering menu must be ordered in advance, but some of the sides and sweets can be found in the regular food cases. Stop in and pick up a copy of the special menu.

In the non-food aisles, the market offers gifts and home décor items, including decorative Hanukkah menorahs and candles (and gift-wrapped chocolate gelt, of course), plus metal or pine-cone wreaths, advent calendars with organic chocolates behind each flap, mugs, dishtowels, cookie tins and block-print seasonal cards.

Good gifts include balsamic vinegars and olive oils, champagne—including single-glass bottles—and wines, jams, cookies and hot chocolate mix that comes in little milk bottles.

Once you’re shopped for all your out-of-town friends and relatives, head to **Glen Park Mail Depot**, 2912 Diamond, for shipping supplies—boxes ranging from very small to extra-large, padded and manila envelopes, bubble wrap, packing materials and tape. The store also sells wrapping paper and colored ribbon, gift bags, stickers, markers and holiday cards, as well as small office items that can make great stocking stuffers. The Mail Depot will be closed on Dec. 24–25 and Dec. 31–Jan. 1.

For last-minute necessities, **Glen Park Market**, across Diamond Street from the BART station, will be open, although it will close at 8 p.m. instead of 10 p.m. on Christmas and New Year’s Day. **Buddies Market**, at Diamond and



Perch offers shoppers a variety of holiday gifts.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf.

Chenery, will be open on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve, 8:30 a.m.–10 p.m.; Christmas, 2–9 p.m., and New Year’s Day 9 a.m.–9 p.m.

Food to Go

Get your special orders in early for **Destination Bakery**’s holiday treats: “Our famous” fruitcakes, panettone, Christmas and Hanukkah cookies and freshly candied tangerines. The bakery, at 598 Chenery, will close at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and reopen Jan. 2, so plan ahead. What treat would owner Joe Schuver most like to see at his Christmas dinner? Quince and apricot galettes, he reports. “Quince is my favorite fruit.”

At **Cheese Boutique**, 660 Chenery, you can order cheese platters and Middle East platters with their home-made spreads and stuffed grape leaves to serve your holiday guests. There are also imported panettone and German stollen and cookies, and a holiday sandwich special—turkey and brie with cranberry sauce—in addition to regular merchandise that would make great gifts, too. Gift certificates are available. The shop will be open 10 a.m.–5 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve, but closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Dining Out

Le P’tit Laurent, 699 Chenery, our local French bistro, will be open as



Many of your holiday necessities are available at Glen Park Hardware.

Photo by Rachel Gordon.

the Holiday Spirit with Gifts and Good Cheer

usual on Christmas Eve, and will have a special Christmas menu available for dinner on the 25th. It will be closed New Year's Eve and Day. Owner Laurent Legendre's Noe Valley restaurant, **Chez Marius**, 4063 24th St., will be open until midnight on New Year's Eve, and he promises the champagne will be flowing.

Manhal Jweinat, the owner of **Manzoni**, the Italian restaurant at 2788 Diamond, and **Higher Grounds** coffee house around the corner at 691 Chenery, at press time was still figuring out menu specials for the holidays. Manzoni is always closed on Mondays, but will be open on Christmas Eve (a Sunday), as usual. On New Year's Eve, it will stay open later than its regular 10 p.m. closing. Higher Grounds will be closed on Christmas and open only until 3 p.m., rather than 5 p.m., on New Year's Eve. Manzoni offers gift certificates.

Pebbles Café, 2852 Diamond, with new(ish) Brazilian owners, is usually closed on Sundays, but it will be open 8 a.m.–3 p.m. on New Year's Eve, serving Brazilian and all-American brunch specials. It will be closed on both Christmas and New Year's Day. They will have a special Brazilian treat for sale: small boxes of special chocolate truffles called brigadeiros.

Since Marcello Waqued and his family took over the café last spring, they have been adding Brazilian specialties to the menu and have added online ordering through GrubHub and DoorDash. And now that cold weather is upon us, they've added soups to the menu.

Cuppa, 2810 Diamond, our local frozen yogurt-bubble tea emporium, is one of several eateries that will feature special holiday concoctions. Theirs is

pumpkin spice black tea latte.

Bello Coffee and Tea, 2885 Diamond, adds some seasonal fare to its regular drinks-and-light-eats fare: eggnog lattes, hot apple cider and pumpkin pastries. It will be open both holiday weekends.

Win Garden, 2794 Diamond, our neighborhood Chinese restaurant, will be open on its regular schedule, with its regular menu, through the Christmas-New Year's week.

Other places are observing holiday hours for one or both holidays.

Gialina pizzeria, 2824 Diamond, will observe its usual holiday time-out, closing from Dec. 24 through Jan. 2.

La Corneta taqueria will be closed Christmas Eve and Day and New Year's Day, but will be open New Year's Eve from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Tyger's** coffee shop, 2798 Diamond, will be closed Christmas Day but open New Year's Day. **Viking** sub shop, 2906 Diamond, will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day. **Cup** coffee bar at 6 Monterey will be closed on Christmas and New Year's Day, but open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, 7 a.m.–2 p.m.

Tekka House, 678 Chenery, our local sushi bar, will be closed Dec. 24–25 and Dec. 31–Jan. 1. **One Waan**, the Thai restaurant across Diamond from the BART station, will be closed Dec. 24–26, and open Dec. 27–31, with some special dishes. It will be open for dinner only on Jan. 1, then resumes regular hours Jan. 2.

Pampering and Health

Pono, 2860 Diamond, Glen Park's newest spa, is the perfect place to give yourself a gift when you're tired of all that shopping—or for anyone on your list in need of a little pampering.



Specialty holiday desserts can be found at the Cheese Boutique.



Some of the many holiday books at Bird & Beckett.

Photos by Rachel Gordon.

For Tuesday through Friday of Christmas week, the spa will be open later than usual, 11 a.m.–8 p.m. And although it's usually closed on Sundays, it will be open Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., on the 31st by appointment only.

In addition to gift certificates, Pono sells a selection of jewelry and cosmetics, body-treatment creams, scents and soaps. And during December, new aesthetician Micaela Rios-O'Leary will offer 15 percent off all her services.

Pono is throwing a holiday party on Friday, Dec. 15, 6–8 p.m., with wine and light refreshments, as well as a to-be-announced "holiday special."

Are you tired of looking at the duct tape on your significant other's eyeglasses, or in the market for a pair of chic sunglasses for your mother? Does someone on your list need an eye exam, or maybe contact lenses? **Eyedentity**, the optometry and vision center at 2786 Diamond, offers gift certificates for any product or service they provide, says owner Carrie Lee.

FitGLENfit, the gym at 666 Chenery, offers gift certificates for membership or any of the classes or services it provides, including personal training and small-group classes. The latter come in packages of three, five or 10 classes, starting at \$30 for three classes. Along with the printed gift certificate, they include a workout towel.

Sol Gym, 2838 Diamond, offers gift certificates for any package of sessions. A single personal training fitness session costs \$100, and prices go down per session as you buy additional ses-

sions.

In need of some repair yourself, or for someone you love? The neighborhood venue for alternative therapies, **East-West Integrative Medicine Clinic**, 605 Chenery, and **Centered Body Pilates**, 652 Chenery, both sell gift certificates for their services. At Centered Body Pilates, you can buy a dual class for yourself and a friend new to the studio for a special Christmas price of \$75, rather than \$100. See their website for details.

To give the gift of pampering, all the neighborhood hair and nail salons offer gift certificates: **Urban Soul Salon**, 630 Chenery, **Park Salon**, 669 Chenery, **Sassy Salon**, 704 Chenery, **Dior's Hair Salon**, 2964 Diamond, **Glen Park Nails**, 74 Wilder, **Five Star Nails**, 2920 Diamond, **Sunshine Nails**, 2966 Diamond.

New Year's Eve

Wine and dine at **Manzoni** to celebrate Vigilia de Cappodanno (New Year's Eve). Or at **Chez Marius** on 24th Street for Laurent Legendre's version of Reveillon de Nouvel An (ditto).

You can skip the dining and head to **Glen Park Station**, 2816 Diamond, to bid farewell to 2017 and welcome in 2018. The bar will have some food on offer Christmas Day and New Year's Eve. There will be various celebratory drinks to go with the party, among them hot apple brandy, peppermint mocha White Russians, cranberry mules and chocolate vodka. And the champagne will be flowing, as well.

Happy holidays to one and all. ❖

Festival Showcases Christopher Park

On a warm September Saturday, the first-ever Christopher Park Festival brought together about 700 community members for live music, a children's story time with puppets, a doggie fashion show, a historical walking tour, interactive tables presented by community organizations, a scavenger hunt, a pet photo contest and more.

The festival was intended to raise awareness of this hidden park and build community as final design plans for an upcoming playground renovation are underway.

The Friends of Christopher Park, which organized the event with the help of grants by the San Francisco Parks Alliance and Glen Park Festival, is working with the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department to provide input on playground design. It is also raising funds for additional park improvements, including pathway repaving, bathroom renovation, a butterfly garden, and additional benches and shade.

Festival highlights included performances for children by Charlie's Corner and Little Folkies. Critter Fritters pet store presented a doggie fashion show, with State Sen. Scott Wiener, who enlisted help from children in what appeared to be a rigorous judging process. Little Artistas presented chalk painting. Supervisor Jeff Sheehy handed out awards for a pet photography contest, also presented by Critter Fritters.

A historical tour was presented by the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project, designed for families as a scavenger hunt. Folks were going bananas for bananas donated by Canyon Market. Live music spanned children's folk music, jazz, rock and blues, with Johana Barahona, a teacher at Noe Valley Nursery School, singing the festival to a close over techno house music. And a bald man won the free haircut door prize donated by Sassy Salon!

The festival paused to remember slain UPS driver Mike Lefiti with a touching presentation by festival MC Ned Buskirk and community organizer Betsy Eddy, who presented his daughter Mercedes Lefiti with a "Heart of Diamond Heights" plaque.

A community meeting will be hosted by the Friends group to consider plans for the second Where in the World is

Christopher Park? Festival in 2018, as well as the potential for other park activities and improvement projects. Please plan to join in the park amphitheater on Saturday, Jan. 20, starting at 10 a.m. For additional information, contact friendsofchristopherpark@gmail.com or visit friendsofchristopherpark.org. ❖



Visitors of all ages packed the first annual Where in the World is Christopher Park? Festival in Diamond Heights.

Photos by Brynna McNulty

New District Police Captain is Home Grown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

responding to emails and phone calls.

He will continue the monthly community meetings on the third Tuesday of each month (the December meeting, however, will be on the second Tuesday, Dec. 12, 7-8 p.m. at the Crocker-Amazon Clubhouse). The meetings will continue to rotate between the Ingleside Station and a community location.

One area that Hart intends to focus on is safety in Glen Canyon Park. As a boy, he attended Silver Tree Day Camp and used to walk from Christopher Park in Diamond Heights through the canyon. He said he wants to ensure that there are no encampments in the park and that the new rec center and other improvements, including new pathways and stairs, are not vandalized.

Another focus is on residential and auto burglaries, which have plagued not just Glen Park but neighborhoods across the city.

Hart, himself, was a recent victim, as his police car was broken into while parked on the corner of Edna Street and Flood Avenue in Sunnyside. He urges everyone who is a victim of a residential or auto burglary to file a report, saying that criminals can't be arrested or convicted without a crime report; the data also helps drive resources and staffing decisions.

One common tactic for thieves is to loiter in a neighborhood while in a car with paper license plates, making it much harder to identify the vehicle later, he said. Residents who see suspicious activity should report it—911 for emergencies and 415-553-0123 for non-emergencies.

Hart said that the best way to catch criminals is either through informants or with cameras. He said it's helpful that so many people have cameras on their houses. If the police have a criminal's photograph, they can distribute it throughout the other police districts and in other jurisdictions. Getting everyone activated and involved in watching out for their neighbors is also important. For example, neighbors who agree to bring in each others' delivered packages, rather than leaving them on the doorstep, is one way to reduce opportunistic theft.

Hart and the 103 officers assigned to Ingleside Station also are concerned with non-typical police issues. For example, the Police Department has a crisis-intervention partnership with the Department of Public Health to work with people with mental health problems. Officers also are committed

to working with other organizations on issues that affect the community as a whole.

Hart comes from a policing family: His great grandfather, a San Francisco police officer for 25 years, was killed in the line of duty after being struck by a drunk driver on Alemany Boulevard in 1931.

Hart has worked at Southern, Tenderloin, Mission and Bayview stations—all among the busiest in the city. A graduate of the University of San Francisco law school, he has spent most of his career in the department's Legal Division, and in Bayview when he was a sergeant and a lieutenant. At Bayview, he was in charge of Candlestick Park.

His last assignment was in the Homeland Security Unit, where he was the deputy of the Operations Center and in charge of emergency preparation. He was responsible for the department's mutual aid response during the October North Bay fires, which he said was very rewarding.

Capt. McFadden is now in charge of citywide criminal investigations.

The Ingleside District includes Glen Park-Sunnyside, Diamond Heights, Bernal Heights, Holly Park, Upper Noe, Mission Corridor, the Excelsior, St. Francis Wood, New Mission Terrace, Crocker Amazon, St. Mary's Park, Silver Terrace, Portola, Sunnysdale, Visitacion Valley, Precita Park, Cayuga, Outer Mission, Sherwood Forest, Mt. Davidson, Westwood Park and Miraloma Park.

You can email Capt. Hart with concerns, questions and suggestions at jack.hart@sfgov.org. ❖



SFPD Capt. John Hart is the new commanding officer of Ingleside Police Station.

Photo courtesy of the SFPD.

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Garrett and Elaine Lim Hurley, happy clients with their one-year-old daughter in their new forever home.



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❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

We have much to be thankful for this holiday season in Diamond Heights—a smooth ride on newly paved Diamond Heights Boulevard; new sidewalks where none existed; a new crosswalk mid-block to the Diamond Heights Shopping Center, and an ever-growing spirit of community among residents.

by Betsy Eddy We thank all the City departments responsible for work on our neighborhood infrastructure. We are grateful for our neighborhood residents, businesses and organizations that care for and contribute to making our community an ideal place to live and work.

The hawks, owls, coyotes and other wildlife add splendor to our environment, even the mountain lion that sought refuge adjacent to Diamond Heights Village on Nov. 10. Game wardens tranquilized it and turned it over to the Santa Cruz Puma Project, which gave it a tracking collar and released it in the Crystal Springs watershed.

The members of the Historic Preservation Commission voted on Nov. 1 to initiate the process to make the Diamond Heights Safety Wall-Redwood Sculpture an Article 10 San Francisco Landmark. The artwork, located at Portola and Diamond Heights Boulevard, has served as the gateway to Diamond Heights for 50 years. The sculpture serves dual purposes as an immense work of art and as a barrier to stop speeding cars from crashing down the hill to homes below.

There are three more steps in the landmark designation process: next a

second hearing at the HPC on Dec. 20, then on to the Board of Supervisors Land Use and Transportation Committee, and finally a vote at the full board. We are grateful that Supervisor Jeff Sheehy supports the landmark designation.

The San Francisco Art Commission has hired a consultant to assess the Safety Wall. The sculpture is definitely in need of conservation and tree trimming around it. The landmark designation will facilitate obtaining funding for restoration, nighttime lighting and a commemorative plaque honoring the artist, Stefan Novak, and for instituting the sculpture's place in San Francisco history.

The Recreation and Park Department announced it will install ecofriendly synthetic turf and irrigation lines in the existing Dog Play Area at Walter Haas Playground in the spring of 2018. Sheehy and former Supervisor, now State Sen., Scott Wiener secured the funding for the work. The renovations will help to decrease odor, dust and erosion caused by the current surface material of decomposed granite.

The public is invited to our Diamond Heights Holiday Party on Saturday, Dec. 16, 3–6 p.m., at St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr. Scrumby Koldewyn, the legendary Cockettes star, will provide musical entertainment and will lead caroling. Holiday crafts suitable for all age levels, tasty food and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus will create an enjoyable gathering with friends and neighbors. ❖

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



Diamond Heights Boulevard gets a much-needed facelift with fresh paving.

Photo by Rachel Gordon.

Neighborhood Organizations

Diamond Heights Community Association

Contact: Betsy Eddy, 415-8675774

Address: P.O. Box 31529, SF, CA 94131 **Website:** www.dhcasf.org

Meetings: First Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Call for location

Friends of Glen Canyon Park

Contact: Richard Craib, 415-648-

0862, or Jean Connor, 415-584-8576 **Address:** 140 Turquoise Way, SF, CA 94131

Meetings: Call for details.

Friends of 30th Street Senior Center

Contact: Marianne Hampton, 415-601-7845

Address: 225 30th St., SF, CA 94131

Meetings: Call for details.

Glen Park Association

Contact: Info@glenparkassociation.org

Website: glenparkassociation.org

Address: P.O. Box 31292, SF, CA 94131

Meetings: Quarterly. See website for details.

Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project

(Glen Park, Glen Canyon, Sunnyside, Fairmount Heights and Diamond Heights)

Contact: Glenparkhistory@gmail.com

Website: Glenparkhistory.wixsite.com

Meetings: See website for details.

San Francisco NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team)

Contact: Glen Park coordinator Susanna Russo, sgrdvm1@me.com

Website: http://sf-fire.org/neighborhood-emergency-response-team-nert

Meetings: See website for training schedules.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association:

Contact: info@sunnysideassociation.org; voice mail: 415-937-1305

Website: Sunnysideassociation.org

Address: P.O. Box 27615, SF CA 94127

Meetings: Quarterly. See website for details.



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❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

Glen Park Elementary School

Fall is always a busy season for our community, and this year was no different. Our Fall Carnival was a great success and our Halloween dance and haunted house was a spookily good time that raised money for school families in need. Our first STEAM night—science, tech engineering, art and math—brought families out to conduct experiments with circuits, create color-changing slime and invent toothbrush robots.

September brought us Latino Heritage Month, which is a big deal at Glen Park School—approximately 50 percent of our students identify as Hispanic—and we celebrated in style. Alejandro Ledesma from Ensembles Ballet Folklórico de San Francisco worked with our students to prepare an incredible assembly for the culmination of Latino Heritage Month: telling the story of Latin American culture through



Glen Park Elementary students perform during Latino Heritage Month.

Photos by Katie Ripley.

dance. Classes from each grade level presented the dances they learned before a large audience of family, friends and teachers. Gracias, Señor Ledesma!

Anna Calonje of Little Artistas art studio on Chenery Street worked with students to develop a beautiful new

mural called Nuestra Cultura es Bonita (Our Culture is Beautiful) in the school entryway. Each student created a small design celebrating their cultural heri-

tage and its importance, and painted it on the wall. The result is a vibrant welcome to the school from our Latino community. Thank you, Srta. Calonje!

We wish you a happy and safe holiday season and all the best in 2018!

Are you considering Glen Park School for your little scholar? Sign in and meet at the office at 9 a.m. every Thursday, or come early to be a part of our 8:40 a.m. morning welcome with principal Jean Robertson in the schoolyard. No reservation is needed. We're looking forward to seeing you at the Big Blue School!!❖

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

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Updates on Hot Topics at GPA Meeting

Several timely topics were discussed at the Oct. 25 meeting of the Glen Park Association. These are the highlights:

The 4-1-1 on 9-1-1

It's been headline news that San Francisco's 9-1-1 system has fallen short in responding to emergency calls. The national standard is to answer 90 percent of calls in 10 seconds or less. In April, San Francisco was below 70 percent but by November that had risen to 80 percent.

The 9-1-1 system is meant to be used when there is a crime in progress or potential danger to life, property or the environment.

Deputy Director of the Department of Emergency Management Robert Smuts is responsible for emergency communications in San Francisco. He explained the challenges to the system and how they are working to make improvements.

The scope of responsibility is huge. Together, the 9-1-1 emergency call center and the Police Department's non-emergency 415-553-0123 line receive more than 1.2 million calls a year.

Each call must be answered; triaged for police, fire or medical response, and dispatched. Half the staff answers the calls, while the other half communicates by radio with the first-responders.

Several factors contributed to the decline in response times: Hiring was slowed by budget cuts during the recession and staffing was depleted by a wave of retirements. On top of that, 40 percent more calls have been coming into the 9-1-1 system, due to population growth in the city and more actual incidents.

A lot of the increase involves quality-of-life issues, such as incidents related to homelessness. There are also many more inappropriate (non-emergency) calls, as well as accidental calls on smartphones.

Smuts noted that 9-1-1 can be called by any old, working cell phone. He also warned that phones should be locked to prevent accidental dials to 9-1-1.

Non-emergency calls for police assistance should use 415-553-0123. This number is for situations such as noise complaints, loitering persons, wellness checks and the like.

To file a report for crimes that are not in progress, or need for City services—such as graffiti, an overflowing street trash can, faded crosswalk mark-

ings or a broken street light, call 3-1-1. You can add the handy SF311 app to your smartphone.

To address the shortfall in the emergency response system, Smuts reported a significant increase in hiring—43 new personnel during the past fiscal year—bringing the level to 145.

More information about using the emergency and non-emergency numbers is at <http://www.maketherightcallssf.org>.

Neighborhood Update

District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy summarized recent legislation he has sponsored or co-sponsored, including these:

A ban on bicycle chop shops. Under the law, which was approved by the Board of Supervisors, San Francisco Public Works will clear chop shops. The bicycles will be stored, and returned to their rightful owners if proof of ownership is provided.

A bill requiring labeling of meat raised with the use of antibiotics. This affects companies with 25 or more stores. Sheehy noted that the use of the drugs is not an animal health issue; rather, antibiotics promote rapid growth of the animal, which serves the interests of the meat industry. Use of drugs in animals also has downstream environmental impacts.

An inclusionary housing bill, which requires developers to set aside 10 percent of rental units for low-income residents, and 10 percent for middle-income residents.

Rec Center Renovation

Rec and Park's Brett Desmarais updated the group about what remains to be completed on the newly restored Glen Canyon Park Recreation Center.

The interior is done except for some miscellaneous items. The boilers were replaced when the playground was renovated, so there are functional systems for heat, as well as ventilation. However, there is no air conditioning.

Security systems are in place and working, including alarms, motion detectors and cameras.

Landscape work continues, and lawn installation is underway. Renovation of the ballfield was not part of this project, although a lot of work is being done on the irrigation system. Grants would be needed to fund a redo of the entire area.

Someone asked about providing shaded areas in the playground, a big problem with the recent heat waves. There is no funding for that.

Fencing will be installed to enclose the

trash bins and the metal storage containers.

Good news: Funding has come through to redo the Sussex Street stairs—a project long awaited. When construction begins, it should take about two months.

Desmarais observed that every project has a small contingency cushion. Perhaps if there are some funds left over from the Sussex stair project, work can be done on some of the other, smaller items.

Glen Park Greenway

GPA Vice President and Greenway Taskmaster Stephany Wilkes told everyone to mark their calendars for the Dec. 9 tree planting, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, rain or shine. The Public Works Clean and Green Team and Friends of the Urban Forest will be there to help.

The Greenway is the open area along the north side of Bosworth Street.

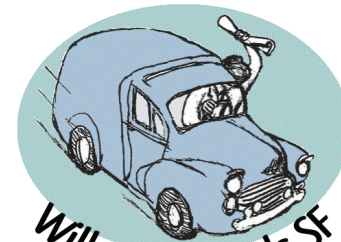
Public Works removed 20 failing trees in

advance of the planting. Small work groups will do some clearing and cleanup before this. As usual, the volunteers will hold a celebratory potluck.

This part of the Greenway project, Phase One, is funded by a \$70,000 Community Challenge Grant. Twenty-four coast live oaks will be planted along the Brompton, Chilton and Burnside stretch. Some will be saplings; many will be acorns, which give the trees a better chance to thrive. The grant also includes two water meters from the City.

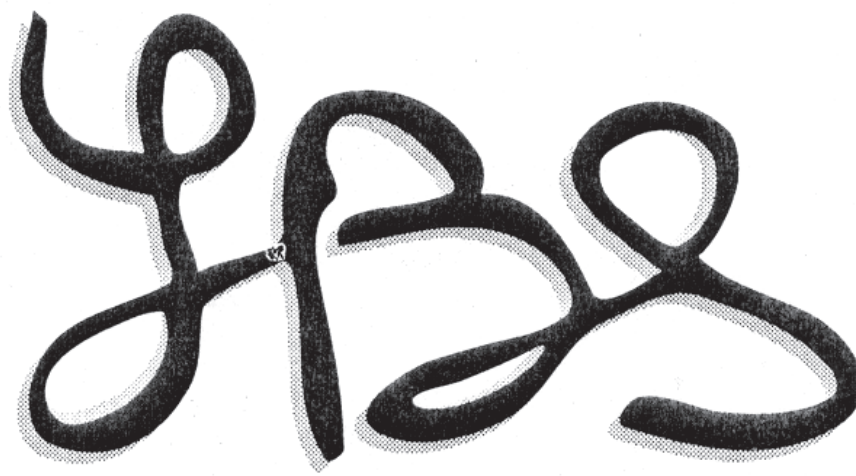
To get on the email list for updates, write to vicepresident@glenparkassociation.org. There is also a Greenway tab on the GPA website, glenparkassociation.org. ❖

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“Marc is extremely professional...”

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

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



What Goes Where? Recology Sorts It Out

Big changes are on the way for our Recology bins.

At the October quarterly meeting of the Glen Park Association, Paul Giusti, the company's community outreach manager, explained that the size of the bins will be changing due to new patterns in residential waste disposal.

by **Bonnee Waldstein** Whereas now the standard residential bins are 32 gallons, under the new system the black will be 16 gallons, the green will be 32 gallons and the blue will be 64 gallons.

Glen Park will be part of Phase 4 of the rollout. We can expect our new bins in May 2018.

The new black bins will have less capacity because less waste is going into landfill, due to the diligence of residents and consistent with the City's goal of having zero waste go into landfill by 2020.

The new blue bins will have increased capacity because more items can be recycled, and because of what Giusti calls the “Amazon effect,” which has seen a surge in cardboard from the delivery boxes.

The new bins are designed to have much the same footprint as the old bins, though the blue bins will be a couple of inches larger. The smaller black bin will have a raised floor inside for the reduced capacity, but outwardly will be the same size.

There won't be any change in charges because, after three years, new rates

were already approved and raised in July. The increase was necessitated by a new five-year labor contract, a new landfill contract, and new infrastructure including recycling center upgrades and transfer station modernization, and a normal increase in business costs.

It's still a good deal, said Giusti, because—for the \$40.04 monthly charge (vs. a low in Alameda of \$39.60 and a high in Piedmont of \$55.12)—residents are getting 16 gallons more overall capacity. Also, with the enlarged blue bins, breaking down cardboard boxes won't be quite as necessary, as long as everything fits inside.

The changes do not affect commercial businesses; they apply only to residential units of five units or fewer.

Many new items have now been deemed recyclable, such as soy/rice/almond milk and similar boxes, empty paper coffee cups and plastic lids, and soup and juice boxes. The rule of thumb for these and similar items is that they be empty and clean.

Also on the list are worn textiles placed inside a clear plastic bag. Plastic bags and film can also go in the blue bin but should be squashed down inside another bag, no larger than approximately basketball size.

Recology's helpful webpage might answer more questions about what goes where: www.recology.com/recology-san-francisco/what-bin/

And remember the 4 R's of Recology: **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot.** ❖

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❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

People are always asking me what new smartphone apps I'm using. If I had two or three pages of the paper to fill, I could tell you what I've been testing and playing with, but here are a few that I consider particularly good and helpful. This review started as apps for use around your house, but became just apps for everything.

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

There were 21 sales between Aug. 18 and Nov. 7, 2017, comprising 18 single-family homes, one condominium and two multi-unit homes. The average sale price for single-family homes during for this period was \$1,566,079. The average list price for this period was \$1,408,053—that puts the sale prices at 11.2 percent over the asking price, which is up a bit from the previous quarter and last year as well.

The average sale price in Glen Park was up about 8.6 percent in 2017. The average time on market for this period was down to 24 days, which is well below the average for all of 2016 (35 days) and below last quarter (29 days). The average price per square foot was \$1,072, which is higher than it's been this year.

Interest rates still remain low, hovering at just over 4 percent. There may or may not be one more increase before the end of the year. While these numbers are interesting, the best ones will be in the next issue, when I recap 2017 and do my predictions for 2018. Our housing market remains really strong, and with reports of a couple more tech firms opening large offices downtown, we'll see demand remain high for homes in our wonderful Glen Park.

Now back to the smartphone apps. Do you know where the closest gas station or movie theater is? What about restaurants? Take the guesswork out of learning about the neighborhood with AroundMe (aroundmeapp.com). Whether you're home or traveling, this app is pretty cool. I like it better than Yelp. If you're planning on fixing up the house, roOomy (rooomy.com) will be quite handy. Let your dreams dictate how you want your house to look, then recreate those dreams with 3D rooms. You can even furnish the digital rooms. Save the image and refer to it when shopping. You can also browse

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
199 Burnside Ave.	8/25/17	10	\$1,299,000	\$1,415,500	108.97%
139 Stillings Ave.	8/29/17	0	\$1,400,000	\$1,500,000	107.14%
2555 Diamond St.	8/30/17	42	\$1,095,000	\$1,025,000	93.61%
131 Laidley St.	8/31/17	110	\$3,295,000	\$3,000,000	91.05%
221 Surrey St.	9/8/17	7	\$1,195,000	\$1,450,000	121.34%
146 Stillings Ave.	9/11/17	50	\$1,588,000	\$1,480,000	93.20%
218 Miguel St.	9/18/17	8	\$1,795,000	\$2,400,000	133.70%
86 Joost Ave.	9/26/17	34	\$849,000	\$925,000	108.95%
162 Farnum St.	10/6/17	14	\$1,595,000	\$1,166,126	73.11%
224 Roanoke St.	10/13/17	5	\$1,349,000	\$1,500,000	111.19%
11 Mizpah St.	10/18/17	15	\$995,000	\$1,450,000	145.73%
569 Congo St.	10/19/17	38	\$1,050,000	\$1,100,000	104.76%
1 Miguel St.	10/20/17	2	\$1,675,000	\$2,600,000	155.22%
372 Laidley St.	10/26/17	37	\$1,399,000	\$1,545,876	110.50%
58 Surrey St.	10/26/17	12	\$1,595,000	\$1,950,000	122.26%
221 Arbor St.	10/30/17	20	\$1,595,000	\$1,680,000	105.33%
435 Laidley St.	10/30/17	26	\$990,000	\$900,000	90.91%
24 Thor Ave.	11/2/17	20	\$1,295,000	\$1,700,000	131.27%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
41-43 Miguel St. - 2 unit building	8/29/17	14	\$1,800,000	\$2,150,000	119.44%
133 Charles St.	8/31/17	56	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	100.00%
17-21 Van Buren St. - 2 unit building	10/16/17	12	\$699,000	\$968,000	138.48%
DOM - Days on market		SP/LP - % over or under list price			

through other people's room ideas for inspiration. If you're traveling overseas, consider Mobile Passport (mobilepassport.us). The last thing you want after a long international flight is to get stuck in an hours-long customs line. But here's a travel hack for you: Download the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Mobile Passport app before your next trip. On your way back, pop it open and answer a few questions about your trip. (They're the same questions you'd be asked anyway.) Then, when you land at one of 24 select airports (including San Francisco, San Jose and Sacramento) you'll find a special Mobile Passport lane that's almost always far shorter than the regular customs line. Always know what's happening on the road with Waze (waze.com). Even if you know the way, Waze tells you about traffic, construction, police, crashes and more in real-time. If traffic is bad on your route, Waze will change

it to save you time. It's all powered by a community of 100 million real drivers sharing road information with each other. This is a must if you drive in the Bay Area. I use it instead of other mapping programs. Hopper (hopper.com) predicts the future of airfare. Watch your next flight in the app and get a notification as soon as the price drops to its lowest point. Never miss a deal! This is pretty cool – and it works. Forget your passwords? 1Password (1password.com) remembers them for you. This site compiles your passwords and lets you log onto sites with a single click. With all of the email and internet hacking going on, it's just a good idea to have really secure passwords. If your password is any less than 12 characters it's just not secure. (Another tip I got from a security expert is: Never actually use real information on authentication systems – don't use your mother's maiden name or the city your were born in; just make them up, but

remember what you made up.) Mint (mint.com). Finally, there's one place to manage all your finances with ease. Mint is a free money manager and financial tracker app from the makers of TurboTax®. It brings together your bank accounts, credit cards, bills and investments so you know where you stand. See what you're spending, figure out where you can save money, and stay on top of bill-paying. You can even keep track of your credit score. The idea behind Forest (forestapp.cc) is to get you to leave your smartphone alone. It does this by having you virtually plant a sapling and set a timer. If you succeed in not using your smartphone until the timer's done, you get to plant what's now a little tree in a virtual forest. If you succumb to temptation, Forest mercilessly kills your tree, leaving a barren little twig. Forest ranks among the best gamified – that is, turning a task into a game – focus aids. Over time, it's rewarding to see your forest grow. Also, it allows you to help buy real trees for communities that need them. For those who still see their movies in theaters, there's RunPee (runpee.com) – yes, you read that right. Depending on who you ask, RunPee is either silly or pure genius. The app keeps a database of movies, and then tells you the best time in the movie to head to the restroom or to the concession stand to refill your popcorn. Its "PeeTime" gives you a window of time for how long you've got to heed nature's call before something good happens, and the app also comes with descriptions of whatever you've missed during your absence. This is a pretty fun app and is an excellent conversation starter. As we head into the holiday season, I wish you all the best of holidays and a very Happy New Year. I'm pleased that this is an interactive column, answering questions that you have and writing about topics that are of interest to you as a reader. You can send any questions or topic requests to news@glenparkassociation.org, marc@opni.com, or The Glen Park News, 2912 Diamond St., #407, San Francisco, CA 94131. ❖ Marc Dickow, a Glen Park resident, is the Broker/Owner at Core7 Real Estate. He can be reached at marc@opni.com, or by phone at 415-722-4018. His website is www.Core7RealEstate.com/Marc.

♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR WINTER 2017 ♦

**Mondays
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 Birdbeckett.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 Birdbeckett.com for details.

Tuesdays**Family Storytime**

Every week, 10:15 a.m.-12:15, Glen Park Library
Books, songs and fun for children of all ages.

Knitting Circle

Every week, 1-2:30 p.m., 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. John Hart, hosts a Community Relations Forum. Keep up to date on neighborhood police issues, get acquainted with the dedicated people who keep our neighborhood safe. For information, visit the website at InglesidePoliceStation.com or call the station at 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-toe shoes, long pants and layers. The event will occur rain or shine. To RSVP, email recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org or call 415-831-6333.

Book a Librarian

Every Week, 2-3 p.m., Glen Park Library,
Computer/technology assistance. Call 415-355-2858 for an appointment.

DIY Kids

Every Week (beginning December 13), 3:30-5:30 p.m., Glen Park Library
Craft program geared for children 7-12.

**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 details.

Thursdays**Decorate the Fridge**

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

Tween Time

Every week, 3:30-5, Glen Park Library
Event moves to Fridays beginning in January.

Randy Odell presents...

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

Resilient Diamond Heights

Fourth Thursday of the month,
6-8 p.m., St. Aidan's Church

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

Fridays**Food Pantry**

Every Week, 1-2 pm,

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 groups. For details, visit 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. . 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 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. Contact the library for times.

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.

**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.

Saturday, December 9

Beating the Bounds: A Walk Around the Original Edges of the Sunnyside
10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; walk begins at Cup Cafe, 6 Monterey Blvd (around the corner from BART)

Take this 4.5-mile history walk with Sunnyside historian Amy O'Hair to touch on the many wonders and stories from the Sunnyside's 125-year history! Level: Strenuous. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: SunnysideHistory@gmail.com.

DIY No Sew Tote Bag

1-2:30 p.m., Glen Park Library

Don't want to pay 10 cents for a bag? Join us in turning old t-shirts into handy tote bags. Bring an old t-shirt and we'll show you how to transform it.

**Sights and Stones Photography
Reception**

5-7 p.m., The Park Salon, 669 Chenery Street
Opening reception of Barbara Mann: Sights and Stones. Photographs in this exhibition express Mann's long-time fascination with historic architecture and include work from England and Portugal.

Sunday, December 10

"Cowbells in the Spring": History of Fairmount Heights

10 a.m.-1 p.m.; meet at Walter Haas Playground
on Addison, east of Diamond Heights Blvd.

This 1.9-mile, hilly stroll with Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose retraces the rural, Civil War-era homesteads and rediscovers the characters and events that led to the 20th century. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

Grant Levin Trio

7:30 -9:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Grant Levin performs two trio dates in a row. Tonight, it's Jaz Sawyer on drums and Giulio Xavier on bass.

Thursday, December 14**DIY Lip Balm**

3-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

Tweens and teens please join us at the Glen Park Library to make your own personal lip balm. Our recipe is all natural-no dyes, petroleum products or preservatives.

Doris Williams, Steve Stein & Friends:
Early music for the Christmas season
7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Saturday, December 16**Glenridge Cooperative Nursery
School Open House**

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Glen Canyon Park
Glenridge Cooperative Nursery School, a parent cooperative preschool located in Glen Canyon, is holding prospective parent meetings for the 2018-2019 school year. For more information and to sign up, visit www.glenridgecoop.org.

CCSF Storytellers

1:30-2:30 p.m., Glen Park Library

Original stories for all ages performed by the City College of San Francisco Storytellers. Students from the Theatre Arts Department present original text in a group storytelling format. Come one, come all!

Foliage Exchange + Wreath Making
1:30-4:30 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory, 236 Monterey Blvd.

Join us for the 10th annual wreath making event at the Conservatory. Greens will be provided, as will wire. Please bring pruning shears, your frame, ribbons, cones, and clippings to share from your yard.

Go Go Craft: DIY Holiday Cards

3-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

Learn how to make a one-of-a-kind pop-up card. Holiday-themed paper, cool patterns and templates, stamps, felt, markers, and other fun materials provided. For all ages. Sign-up required at the information desk or 415-355-2858 to register.

Diamond Heights Holiday Party

3-6 p.m., St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.
Music, caroling, Santa and Mrs. Claus, holiday crafts making and tasty food. For details, see www.staid-ansf.org or call 415-285-9540, ext. 3.

Sunday, December 17**Friends of Old Puppy**

4:30-6:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Steven Strauss, ukulele; Greg Pratt, guitar; Ed Johnson, wash-tub bass; and Cynthia Wilson, drums.

Grant Levin Trio

7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Pianist Grant Levin collaborates with bassist Doug Stuart and drummer Jeff Minnieweather to finish out seven months of duo, trio and quartet work!

Wednesday, December 20**Forum Magazine reading**

7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Friday, December 22**T(w)een Winter Read 2017**

1-1:30 p.m., Glen Park Library

Teens and tweens are encouraged to pick up a reading log at a participating library and fill out one log per 5 hours read. Drop off the completed log at the library; it will be your entry into the raffle.

Wednesday, December 27**Peck Allmond-Keith Saunders-John
Wiitala-Vince Lateano Quartet**

7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Trumpeter Peck Allmond from Brooklyn is featured on drummer Vince Lateano's date tonight. See birdbeckett.org for info.

Thursday, December 28**Eric Shifrin & the In Crowd**

7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Sunday, December 31**Tony Corman - Frank Phipps**

1-3 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Thursday, January 4**Slime!**

3-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

STEM for tweens-make your own slime!

Friday, January 5**Oop Bop Sh'Bam**

8:30-10:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Al Molina, trumpet; Jerry Logas, saxes, flute and vocals; Jeffrey Burr, guitar; Dean Reilly, bass; and Vince Lateano, drums.

Saturday, January 6

Bovines, Dynamite, and High-Flying Shows: The History of Glen Canyon
9 a.m.-12 noon; meet at the Glen Canyon Park
Cow Sign on Elk Street at the auto turnout.

Join Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose on this moderately difficult 1.3-mile stroll through Glen Canyon. Discover the history of Glen Canyon. RSVP at GlenParkHistory@gmail.com. Rain cancels. Suggested \$10 donation, or join the GPNHP.

Sunday, January 7**Your Golden Sun Still Shines: a reading by contributors**

2-4 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Contributors to the new anthology from Manic D Press: *Your Golden Sun Still Shines: San Francisco Personal Histories & Small Fictions*. Contributors include Dee Allen, Peter Case, Patsy Creedy, Michael Koch, Kim Shuck and Denise Sullivan.

Friday, January 12**T(w)een Winter Read 2017**

5:30-6 p.m., Glen Park Library

(see December 22)

Johnst/Frith/Ochs/Miller

9-11 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Darren Johnston, trumpet; Larry Ochs, sax; Fred Frith, guitar; and Allison Miller, drums.

Saturday, January 13**Author Talk: Louise Nayer**

12-1:30 p.m., Glen Park Library

"Poised for Retirement: Moving from Anxiety to Zen" articulates the retirement journey and all the anxieties that surface. The reader learns calming techniques to deal with this huge transition, as well as ways to live a more fulfilling life after retirement.

Sunday, January 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.

Walk up and down the boulevard with Sunnyside historian Amy O'Hair to hear about many of the shops, bars, beauty salons, and five-and-dimes of past years. Level: Easy. Rain cancels. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: SunnysideHistory@gmail.com.

**Benefit for North Bay Poets Who
Lost Their Homes in the Fires**

2-4 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Saturday, January 27**Healthy Feet Over 50 ... Or Before!**

1-3 p.m., Glen Park Library

Susan Loricca, RN, a Certified Foot Care Specialist in San Francisco, will discuss how to manage common foot ailments.

Friday, February 2**Kahil El'Zabar and the Ethnic
Heritage Ensemble 45th Anniversary!**

9-10:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Saturday, February 3**Teotihuacan Family Art with the de
Young Museum**

2-3:30 p.m., Glen Park Library

Sunday, February 4**Nasty Women Poets**

2-4 p.m., Bird and Beckett

Monday, February 5**Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
Quarterly Meeting**

7-8:30 p.m., St. Finn Barr, 415 Edna Street

Wednesday, February 7**All the Women in My Family Sing:
Raising the Voices of Women of Color**

7-9 p.m., Bird and Beckett

A new anthology featuring essays by America Ferrera, Belva Davis, Marian Wright Edelman, Natalie Baszile, Porochista Khakpour, Samina Ali and more.

**Creations with Duct Tape for
T(w)eens**

3-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

Make your own wallets or pouches out of colorful, durable duct tape. All materials are provided. This is a program for tweens/teens 10-18 years old.

Paul Sanwald Quartet

7:30-9:30 p.m., Bird and Beckett