



Glen Park News

Local Businesses: Help Wanted

On a recent Friday, Destination Bakery's Joe Schuver hustled alone from mixer to counter, head cocked to the phone as he took an order while boxing up a pie.

"I can't hire anybody," Schuver said as he hung up, tucking cash into the register. "Five years ago, I would put out an ad and get 12 to 15 responses. Now I get three, and two of those don't get back to me when I reach out."

Good help is hard to find, especially for a small business in sleepy Glen Park, but the reasons are as varied as the businesses themselves.

At Destination, it's not for lack of budget, because business is pretty good these days, Schuver said. It's that finding a baker with just enough skill—fresh out of culinary school, say—who wants to work in Glen Park is the problem.

"They want to go downtown to a restaurant or a hotel with a big name," he said. It's a shame, too, because there they'll be defrosting pre-made croissants instead of folding in the butter themselves, he added.

San Francisco's exceptionally low unemployment rate of just above 2 percent—about half the average unemployment rate in the state and the country—also hovers in the background of challenges faced by businesses in Glen Park.



Destination Bakery's Joe Schuver has trouble finding skilled bakers who want to work in Glen Park. Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf.

The butchers, the bakers, even the sign makers—Canyon Market also needs skilled workers.

"They're as rare as hen's teeth," said Janet Tarlov, who owns the grocery with her husband, Richard.

"When you find a good one, you do whatever you can to make them happy," she said, listing benefits that include healthcare, vacation, staff discounts and a friendly work environment.

Those perks extend across the market's mostly full-time staff of 100, which also includes a crew of cashiers, stockers and deli counter staff.

"Being so close to City College, SFSU and a number of other schools, we are fortunate to attract students who are happy with a retail schedule," said Tarlov. "But that kind of worker, they graduate."

That's what will happen soon to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Battle Brews Over Name Of School

When the wagons that rolled up San Jose Road (as the avenue was then called) came to a halt, children jumped down or were helped down by parents and older siblings, as the bell rang to announce the first day of school—ever—at Fairmount School in 1867.

A few years earlier, in 1864, the school was located somewhere else, but that location is lost to time. On this day, the children were eager, the parents were proud, and the teachers were prepared.

Fairmount School, at 65 Chenery St., "has a significant historic legacy," according to Evelyn Rose, project director and founder of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project. "The Fairmount Tract, which later became known as Fairmount Heights, platted during the Civil War, is one of the older neighborhoods in San Francisco."

For more than 150 years, Fairmount School has educated generations of San Francisco children on land once owned by Jose de Jesus Noe, the last Mexican alcalde of Yerba Buena. Now, although the school remains, the name may disappear.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION

Thursday April, 19 at 7 p.m.
Glen Canyon Recreation Center

Housing, parks and rate hikes—the quarterly meeting of the Glen Park Association has it all!

- State Senator Scott Wiener.
- Kimberlee West, SFPUC, talks about water and sewer rate increases.
- SF Rec and Parks Department talks about Glen Canyon Rec Center use.

Supervisor Candidates Talk Glen Park

On June 5, Glen Park voters will cast ballots for the candidate they want to represent them on the Board of Supervisors. And

then they'll get to vote again five months later.

The race for District 8 supervisor pits incumbent Jeff Sheehy against challenger Rafael Mandelman.

The late Mayor Ed Lee appointed

Sheehy, an AIDS activist and Glen Park resident, in January 2017 to the seat that was left vacant when Scott Wiener was elected to the state Senate.

Mandelman, a lawyer who has been elected twice citywide to serve on the Community College Board, lost to Wiener in the 2010 supervisor's race. The winner of the June election will have to run again in November to vie for a full four-year term.

Mandelman, 44, is single and owns a condo in the Mission, and rents to a roommate. Sheehy, 60, lives in Glen Park and owns a single-family house. He lives with his husband and their 13-year-old daughter and 4-year-old cat.

Sheehy started his stint on the Board of Supervisors as a member of the moderate voting bloc, and Mandelman was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

GLEN PARK NEWS

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

Editor-in-Chief Rachel Gordon

Deputy Editor Gail Bensinger

Copy Editor Denis Wade

Art Director Liz Mangelsdorf

Calendar
Editor Caroline Mangelsdorf

Online Editor Elizabeth Weise

Advertising
Manager Nora Dowley

Distribution
Manager Murray Schneider

Reporters

Gail Bensinger
Heather Gately
Rachel Gordon
Murray Schneider
Susan Sutton
Bonnee Waldstein
Elizabeth Weise
Heather World

Columnists

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

Photographers

Liz Mangelsdorf
Murray Schneider
Bonnee Waldstein
Michael Waldstein
Elizabeth Weise

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

♦ GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION ♦

The GPA accomplished a lot in 2017, thanks to a group of 18 thoughtful, committed and increasingly overstretched people. Most everyone who volunteers on the GPA Board and its committees has a full-time job (and then some), a family, caregiving responsibilities and all of the other overwhelming commitments of everyday life.

More seems to happen in Glen Park with each passing week, and we could use some help. I figured I'd take a moment to describe what the GPA does and the issues we tackle, how participation works, and what's involved with getting involved. Spoiler alert: A little bit goes a long way, and your Glen Park neighbors are a diverse bunch of genuinely lovely, engaged people who care about creating change where they can: right here.

First, the basics. The primary mission of the GPA is to facilitate the communication of neighborhood needs, concerns and issues with our local government agencies—our supervisor, Public Works, the Metropolitan Transportation Agency, the police department and all the rest. The GPA is a nonprofit membership organization. It costs \$10 a year to join, and for that members get a vote on board leadership, as well as votes on major issues such as the Greenway design plan.

The GPA has several committees dedicated to specific efforts, city agencies or neighborhood issues: Zoning & Planning, Transportation, Recreation & Parks, the Greenway Executive Committee and Public Safety. These committees meet monthly for two hours, may also periodically (but infrequently) attend meetings with City agencies, and exchange email on work in progress in between monthly meetings. Two to six hours per month add up to a lot of important work.

Throughout the year, these GPA committees obtain and share information on developments in Glen Park. In 2017, these included plans for 683 Chenery St., the former site of Chenery Park restaurant, from Carl Scheidenhelm of SF-Architecture; the Canyon Market use permit from Richard Tarlov, owner of the market; the SF Bike Share Program from Paolo Cosulich-Schwartz; Recology rate increases from Rate Payer Advocate Rosie Dilger, and updates on what the rate increase will support from

Paul Giusti at Recology (notably that we will soon be able to recycle our plastic bags). The SF Fire Department gave a fascinating—and reassuring—update on fire protection plans for Glen Canyon Park (See story, Page 4), and emergency plans in general.

Heather World, recording secretary, tracks and communicates about upcoming planning hearings that affect Glen Park parcels, Board of Supervisors legislation, and other City agency committees. We keep neighbors informed on our blog, Facebook, NextDoor and a GPA member email list; facili-

merchants and retail space usage, not just residential development.

- The Greenway executive committee needs a lot of help. They organize and hold regular clean-ups and work parties, and a very, very small group has been weeding and watering the trees every Sunday to ensure their survival. This committee works with Friends of the Urban Forest, Public Works, St. John School, the Parks Alliance and other groups, and as the Greenway gets even greener, many hands would help make lighter work.

- The Public Safety committee can use folks who like to attend precinct meetings and engage with the police, including Capt. Jack Hart, the new precinct captain at Ingleside, our responding station. Car break-ins, neighborhood watch groups, police relations and traffic enforcement are also hot topics.

- Our Recreation & Park committee deserves more time and attention, too, whether for Canyon work days, engaging with the City's Rec & Park staff on programs and classes, and maintaining Glen Park's multiple, smaller parks sprinkled throughout the neighborhood, such as Dorothy Erskine Park at Martha Avenue and Baden Street. If coyote sightings, owl and hawk health, pet rules and the construction and maintenance of stairs and trails appeal to you, consider the Rec & Park committee.

It would be nice to create a Fix-It Team committee, to work closely with the citywide Fix-It Team, which is a single, powerful point of contact for seven public agencies. The Fix-It Team keeps a running list of Glen Park problems to fix, provides regular updates on progress, and schedules neighborhood walks to check in. Most recently, the Fix-It Team cleaned up and planted new flowers in the planter boxes beside the BART station, painted the flower stand in the BART plaza, worked closely with Arlington neighbors, and much more.

Our GPA volunteers are a great group of people. It is fun to work with people who care about our neighborhood and city, and who have ideas, interests and work collaboratively. And I promise you this: Engaging with City agencies is an enlightening, eye-opening process. The more you know, the more you know you don't know, and that never gets old. ♦

Stephany Wilkes is vice president of the Glen Park Association.

MORE SEEMS TO HAPPEN IN GLEN PARK WITH EACH PASSING WEEK, AND WE COULD USE SOME HELP

tate neighbor meetings over various developments with project architects and developers; plant trees and acorns along the Greenway; address illegal dumping, tree removal and other complaints from neighbors; and advocate for improved traffic management at the intersection of Diamond and Bosworth and elsewhere.

None of this work happens automatically, without requests, communication, organization and follow-up. There is so much more we'd like to do, and could do with more volunteers. Here are some things that could use more help:

- The Transportation Committee could use support in continuing to engage with SFMTA on installing the crosswalk and signal at Elk and Sussex Streets, where the new Sussex Street steps are under construction, to ease and improve access to the Canyon. The committee also engages with BART; works on traffic mitigation, bike lanes and pedestrian safety, and engages with neighbors about things like bus routes. Some folks have also expressed a desire for better use of our BART plaza for public art, cultural events and the like. If you have strong feelings about traffic signals or cars running stop signs on Diamond, Transportation may be the committee for you.

- Zoning & Planning always generates a lot of interest, given all of the development going on in Glen Park. One thing we'd like to work on in 2018 is creating a set of guidelines on how architects and developers can productively, and constructively, engage with neighbors, not just during the planning phase but throughout construction. We'd also like to better support our

❖ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ❖

I hope everyone is having a beautiful spring! The Canyon is gorgeous, and while it seems a stretch as I write this, I hope we can still get enough rain to avoid drought.

It has now been just over a year since I was appointed by Jeff Mayor Ed Lee Sheehy to finish Scott Wiener's term as District 8 supervisor when he moved to the state Senate. It's been quite a year, with the loss of Mayor Lee an unimaginable shock. My heart goes out to his family, and I cannot imagine how much they must miss him. I'll always remember sitting with him in Tyger's talking about raising daughters. His are grown, ours is 13, and I had and have a lot to learn. I deeply miss him and believe that we failed to really appreciate how deeply he cared about the city and how hard he worked.

I never imagined when I took this job that we would suffer this terrible loss or that we'd be dealing with white supremacists and neo-Nazis in the streets of San Francisco. It is a testament to Mayor Lee's leadership that we have stood together against the Trump administration and resisted his attacks on our immigrant and Muslim brothers and sisters and our trans community.

Around Glen Park, I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish together. The Greenway is proceeding, and acorns planted in November are sprouting. The Fix-It Team is still in the neighborhood; thank you Sandra Zuniga! We are planning to work on the Hamerton steps in the coming weeks, among other projects.

Work on the dog park in Walter Haas Park begins this spring. We got funding to replace the dirt with an artificial surface that will be cleaner and also avoid dust blowing over the children's play area.

The new sidewalks and crosswalk at Diamond Street and Diamond Heights Boulevard, along with the new stop signs, have made the intersection less dangerous for pedestrians and for vehicles making turns.

We've made progress with the intersection of Bosworth and Diamond streets, too. I have persuaded SFMTA to place traffic control officers there during evening rush hours. Left turns from southbound Diamond have been particularly dangerous, and this



The late Mayor Ed Lee lived in Glen Park.

Photo courtesy Commonwealth Club.

should help address that problem.

Finally, our Participatory Budget process is headed into the voting phase. We received many outstanding proposals, and we will post them to our Facebook page for voting later this spring. Here is the page: www.facebook.com/events/2005783859635320/

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. ❖

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

Join the Glen Park Association to Support Our Neighborhood

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

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

The Glen Park Association maintains a blog, glenparknews.wordpress.com, a Twitter account, <https://twitter.com/GlenParkNews>, and a bulletin board, groups.yahoo.com/group/glenparkbulletin-board. The association also publishes the *Glen Park News*, an all-volunteer quarterly newspaper that you're reading now, which is hand-delivered to neighborhood homes and businesses.

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

More information can be found at www.glenparkassociation.org. ❖

GPA Board of Directors and Officers for 2018

President

Scott Stawicki
president@glenparkassociation.org

Vice President

Stephany Wilkes
vicepresident@glenparkassociation.org

Membership Secretary

Hilary Schiraldi
membership@glenparkassociation.org

Recording Secretary

Heather World
secretary@glenparkassociation.org

Communications Secretary

Bonnee Waldstein
info@glenparkassociation.org

Treasurer

Dennis Mullen
treasurer@glenparkassociation.org

Glen Park News Editors

Rachel Gordon (print)
Elizabeth Weise (blog)
news@glenparkassociation.org

Glen Park News Advertising Rep.

Nora Dowley
advertising@glenparkassociation.org

Health & Environment Chair

Stephany Wilkes
health@glenparkassociation.org

Neighborhood Improvement Chair

John Walmsley
improvement@glenparkassociation.org

Program Chair

Carolyn Deacy
program@glenparkassociation.org

Public Safety Chairs

Carolyn Deacy, Hilary Schiraldi
safety@glenparkassociation.org

Recreation & Parks Chair

Ashley Hathaway
canyon@glenparkassociation.org

Transportation Chair

Scott Stawicki
transportation@glenparkassociation.org

Zoning Chair

Tania Treis
zoning@glenparkassociation.org

The mission of the Glen Park

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

North Bay Fires Spark Glen Canyon Concerns

The long period of California drought, coupled with the recent wildfires in the north and south, are a reminder to Glen Park neighbors of the fragility of our environment.

Residents—especially those whose homes are adjacent to Glen Canyon Park—have long been concerned about the possibility of a fire in the canyon.

Neighbors worry about areas of dense brush. The volunteer group Friends of Glen Canyon Park has fought the battle against the undergrowth for years, with work gloves and hand tools. Folks have traded stories about teens using the fire pits near the Glenridge Nursery School-Silvertree Day Camp building. Homeless people have been sighted camped out in the park.

At the quarterly meeting of the Glen Park Association in January, people had the chance to discuss all these issues with Battalion Chief Jack Crements.

A little bit about the organization of the San Francisco Fire Department: The city is divided by area into nine battalions. Glen Park is part of Battalion 6, which includes our local fire station, Engine 26, on Digby Street at Addison Street, and four other fire stations. Battalion 6 is based on 26th Street near Church Street.

The department has an incident action plan, shared only internally, which is continually updated. Every year in early summer, engine companies that would be responding to a one- or two-alarm fire assemble in Glen Canyon Park to do a test run of



Houses on Turquoise Way adjoin Glen Canyon Park.

Photo by Bonnee Waldstein.

the plan. Engines and trucks arrive, and the firefighters get into wildland gear. For three days, the companies walk through the canyon and discuss various fire response options.

It's a great refresher course, said Crements. These tours are not announced in advance to the public.

The intensity of a fire in any locality determines the response. Crements noted that there are a large number of engine companies; in our battalion each one, from Ocean Avenue to Folsom Street, has to be familiar with the entire territory. There is plenty of manpower, and response time is quick, he assured the group.

In the park, the new Rec Center has been built to meet stringent fire codes, he said.

There haven't been many fire incidents lately, Crements said. The most common occurrences are students from the two nearby high schools (Ruth Asawa School of the Arts and The Academy at McAteer) hanging out around the fire pits. People walking their dogs have seen young people carrying armloads of firewood and beer, as well as homeless people cooking.

Any fire must have a permit. Anyone who sees any fire should call Engine 26 to make sure the fire is authorized, and for firefighters to check it out.

The fire department is concerned about a number of issues. The main one is evacuation of the nursery school

and day camp. In the event of fire, first responders would go straight to the children. The second or third companies would deal with the fire.

Second, residents of homes along the ridge adjacent to the park need to take precautions. Trash should be disposed of and not be allowed accumulate around homeowners' property.

There should be at least a 30-foot clearance of trees around a property. This is the safety zone established by Cal Fire for wild-urban interface areas.

If residents want brush cleared within that established standard safety zone, especially after a rainy season, they need to work with Rec and Park. "You might not think you're a big group, but you are, Crements emphasized. "The more you stay on it and address them to make them responsible, you will get a response."

In last fall's wine country fires, embers traveled for miles and greatly increased the scope and severity of the fires. Crements said that this was a rarity of a "perfect" situation, with ultra-dry conditions and 80-mph winds. "It can happen anywhere, but the likelihood is not high."

In the event of a fire spreading widely in the park, Crements said that is a possibility, but that the department would be able to stop it. Though not a large concern, eucalyptus trees can explode in flames during a fire.

Another potential problem in the park is the water supply. There is only

one fire hydrant, near Silver Tree; there's another on Bosworth Street and a third on Elk Street. The O'Shaughnessy-Malta area, on the park's western side, is short on water sources. Gold Mine Drive, on the eastern ridge, has plenty.

A fire engine carries 500 gallons of water and 1,200 feet of hose. To get into tight spaces to fight small fires, they use mini-pumpers. Large fires are put out by having other fires meet and extinguish each other. A fire truck is used for manpower and carries the ladders, rescue equipment and emergency tools.

Someone asked about the possibility of using water from Islais Creek, right there in the park. Crements said that the creek isn't a reliable supply and contains rocks and debris.

There are also cisterns with ample water in the Glen Park neighborhood. "We know where our water sources are," said Crements. "Even if the hydrants break down, we have hose tenders throughout the city."

Crements was asked about the drive to "green" Glen Park by adding street trees. Does that goal conflict with the danger of fire? No, he replied—not as long as the trees are kept healthy and trimmed.

While there seems to be no cause for panic, it will take the ongoing efforts of Rec and Park, the fire department and the determination of the people of Glen Park to keep the canyon as safe as possible. ❖

Cheese Boutique



Fresh Sandwiches
Imported Cheeses
Homemade Hummus.
Baba Ganoush. Tabouli

660 Chenery Street
415-333-3390

❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

Hil from your friendly neighborhood library.

For the spring, Glen Park Library is offering some great programs.

AARP Tax-Aide appointments are available at the Glen Park branch every Tuesday, 1–5 p.m., through April 3. AARP offers free tax-preparation help to anyone, especially those 50 and older. AARP asks that you bring with you to the appointment all tax-related materials, plus copies of photo IDs and Social Security cards for everyone who is going to be listed on the tax return.

During tax season, we have temporarily moved the Glen Park Knitting Circle to a new day. The program is being held the first and third Friday of every month until May. This enthusiastic drop-in program is designed for knitters and crocheters of all levels, in our program room. If you love knitting or crocheting, and would like to learn by example and be in great company, this is the place to be—and yes, it is free.

Teens from the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts will perform at our branch. These students are hoping to extend their love of music to the next generation of kids in the community. They will present

classical and other types of music suitable for all ages on two Fridays, March 23 and April 13, 4:30–5 p.m.

On April 21, 1–2:30 p.m., we will offer a workshop to create your own notebook with card stock, waxed thread and paper. Use it as a journal or give it as Mother's Day gift! All supplies provided.

The 20th Annual Glen Park Festival is on Sunday, April 29, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., so stop by and say hello. We can give you lots of information about what is going on at the San Francisco Public Library.

Save the date: Glen Park Library will have an open house on Saturday, June 2, 1–4 p.m. Celebrate with us during

an afternoon of refreshments and family friendly activities. A local historian will describe some of the historical events that highlight the uniqueness of this neighborhood.

The library is a lively space, eager to be a part of the Glen Park community. Please pop in and pick up our monthly schedule or subscribe to our e-newsletter to keep up with what is going on at your local neighborhood library.

All San Francisco Public Library branches will be closed on Monday, May 29, for observance of the Memorial Holiday. ❖

Michelle Reddy is the branch manager of the Glen Park Library.

Our Branch Turns a Page With New Head Librarian

Michelle Reddy, the new head librarian at the Glen Park Library, is a woman of firm views about the role of libraries.

"Our main purpose is to be here for the community in a lot of different ways," she said emphatically.

Readers are connected with books, of course, and can browse the audio-visual collection or consult reference works.

Students do their homework, toddlers listen to adults reading them stories, e-books get downloaded, magazines and newspapers get read. Librarians answer questions and help with searches.

But there's more, Reddy insisted. "What we do here is provide human contact. People are recognized, acknowledged, cared for."

While we chatted on a recent Saturday morning, the activities room was full of people ranging in age from grandchildren on up, busy making fans, fish, lanterns, boxes and other designs out of bright red Chinese New Year's envelopes, staples and gold string. Lots of laughter and oohing accompanied their efforts.

A woman in her 20s stopped by to ask Reddy how she could volunteer to help. She had recently rediscovered the library for the first time since grade school, and she was an instant enthusiast. Reddy encouraged her to talk her friends into joining, too: "Be an evangelist for the library."

A mother of a young space enthusiast wanted to find books on rockets and astronauts. Reddy showed her how to refine a catalog search for juvenile fiction and non-fiction on the topic, then

rushed off to the stacks to pull some samples for the boy to consider.

Just a glimpse of a typical day of human connection in the library.

Reddy took over her Glen Park librarian post on Dec. 30, 2017. She replaced acting director Monica Castillo, who filled in after Katrin Reimuller left Glen Park for an administrative post downtown.

Reddy grew up in Pomona in Southern California and attended Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo. She and her husband have two kids in college.

A lot of librarians come to the field as a second profession, she said. For her, it was more like third or fourth. She worked in a mental hospital, pulled boats across the country, worked at SFMOMA. Along the way, she got a graduate degree at San Jose State University, then worked as a children's librarian—actually a jack-of-all-trades, she said—for the Oakland library system for 15 years. "I thought you had to be a certain type to be a librarian, quiet and studious. Uh-uh." She laughed boisterously.

She had been trying to make the switch from Oakland to San Francisco for five years before the job in Glen Park opened up. "A lot of libraries look to this one for innovation," Reddy said. She likes "the small community feel" of our branch and our neighborhood.

She is not planning any changes in the branch's operations, relying on the existing staff, "a really good team," to continue coming up with programs to help patrons of all ages and interests. "My job," she said, "is to get obstacles out of their way." ❖

GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

Monday/Tuesday 10-6

Wednesday 12-8

Thursday 10-7

Friday 1-6

Saturday 10-6

Sunday 1-5



Bird & Beckett Books and Records

653 Chenery St San Francisco birdbeckett.com (415) 586-3733

✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

Spring is bursting into life in our gardens. It actually started in January with the purple-leaved plum trees bursting into delicious dark pink bloom, then built up steam with the creamy and spectacular magnolias in February, and now the full gorgeous gift of spring bloom is underway.

by Kay
Hamilton
Estey

And the birds are back!

Waking up this morning, I heard a mourning dove cooing, the demanding screech of a blue jay looking for chopped-up almonds, the monotonous ping of the towhees, the whirr and buzz of hummingbirds interspersed with the faint background twittering of tits and chickadees.

It's very good to hear this Glen Park bird chorus! So let's chat about attracting birds, particularly hummingbirds (hereafter referred to as hummers) to your garden.

Two hummers are regular visitors to Glen Park gardens: Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) and Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*).

The male Anna's is the one with the iridescent pink-red head and gorget, with green flanks. Allen's has a green



Allen's hummingbird is a common visitor to Glen Park neighborhood gardens.

Photo courtesy of Dawn Beattie/Wikimedia Commons.

back and forehead, with an orange-red throat. We all love the way sunlight refracts through their faceted and dense feathers, flashing glowing, jewel-like colors.

Hummers make a variety of calls. Mainly I hear them whirring and chittering in the shrubs nearby. Now they are clicking loudly—perhaps another bird is too near the feeders. Sometimes they display in front of

the feeders with a show of high-speed diving, with a loud crack as they dash upward. Often they will dart up to the gardener, clicking madly about a foot away. There's a message there I wish I could translate. Clean that feeder? More food?

These hummers are tough. During cold nights, they have the ability to lower their metabolic rate and sink into a state of torpor, coming back to life once they get warmed up. They easily survive our winters.

Hummers drink nectar from plants and feeders. They catch insects on the fly and eat small spiders. Don't brush away those tiny webs, as the hummers use bits of plants, down, spider web and lichen to weave their intricate, tiny nests, usually placed in the crook of two small hidden branches.

To encourage them in your garden, plant red and pink tubular-shaped flowers such as penstemons, fuchsias, coral bells, butterfly weed, honeysuckle, wallflower and trumpet vines. Salvias are really useful, as they bloom early and last. Try the red and

pink varieties, including a native plant called *Zauschneria californica*.

Hang one or two red hummingbird feeders from a deck or a tree, out of the reach of your darling kitty—cats are fast enough to catch hummers. Make sure your feeder has a "bee guard" to keep away unwanted insects. If the bees find your feeder, just move it a couple of feet away. Coat the top or wire with a little Vaseline or oil to keep away ants.

Fill the feeder with sugar water. Do not use commercial colored hummingbird food. An easy recipe is one part white sugar to four parts water. Boil the mixture, then let it cool. Two feeders are better than one. Hummers are aggressive and territorial and will fight to be the only visitor at your feeder. Keep the feeder clean; that black mold is bad for the birds.

Hummers also appreciate water. They will dash through a fine mister placed over a bowl to clean dust and mites out of their feathers.

These are some of the general rules to attract hummingbirds. In general, they work for other birds as well. Most birds love a source of fresh water in the garden. They like to shelter among thickets of shrubs and trees. Many birds like to perch in high branches to keep an eye out for rivals and for predators. If your garden is messy and overgrown, you have created the perfect habitat for insects and the birds that eat them.

Information about planting to attract birds to your garden is readily available on the web. But my favorite resources are the Sunset Western Garden Book and the online Las Pilitas Nursery site, laspilitas.com. ❖

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

SPRING OPEN | 2018
STUDIOS

HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD SAN FRANCISCO

APRIL SAT 21 + SUN 22 11AM - 6PM

WWW.SHIPYARDARTISTS.COM



A male Anna's hummingbird in flight.

Photo courtesy of Robert McMorran/USFWS/Wikimedia Commons.

❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

In 1910, the San Francisco Call reported that in the new district of Glen Park, “Nowhere else in San Francisco are there so many women’s improvement clubs in existence.”

How did Glen Park become such a hub of female civic activism?

The 1906 San Francisco Earthquake displaced about 225,000 residents from the burned-out regions of the city. Many who found themselves suddenly homeless emigrated to the hills and vales of Glen Park. The future suffragists of Glen Park would soon emerge from this random assembly of evacuees.

Suffragists on the West Coast were developing and executing what would become known as the California Plan. These forward-minded early 20th century Californians discarded Victorian-era practices linking suffrage to other causes (in particular, temperance) that weren’t at all popular with (then all-male) voters.

In another new tactic, wealthy socialites, middle-class women and their working-class sisters all locked arms together rather than continuing to work in silos. That some may have detested commingling wasn’t important. Together, they would pursue one, and only one, cause: the woman’s right to vote!

Before the vote was achieved in 1920, women’s clubs throughout the United States provided the opportunity to apply skills in family caretaking to the public sphere. By participating in “social motherhood” and “municipal housekeeping,” they became adept in the practice of civic activism. Not only were women working to improve their communities, their self-serving goal was to keep striding ever closer to equality.

While many Glen Park women were active in securing the district’s civic improvements (including Ada Parker Stillings, see Glen Park News, Winter 2016), Johanna Pinther of 1006 Bosworth St. appears to have become the beacon of the local movement. Daughter of a California pioneer, Johanna was married to Theodore J. Pinther, president of the first Glen Park Improvement Association; he had been the Los Angeles area spokesman of the Gilded Age labor cause known as the Industrial Army Movement. Johanna stepped out into civic life in 1908 to become vice president of the district’s first woman’s group, the Glen Park Outdoor Art League. She concurrently



Women of the California Equal Suffrage League gathered before the march for transfer of the banner, hand-sewn and embroidered by Johanna Pinther, left of banner. Step-daughter-in-law Jeanette Pinther is right of the banner.

Image courtesy of the California Historical Society. Banner colorization to true colors by Amy O’Hair.

became president of the San Francisco Woman’s Club (which she apparently founded), as well as an active member of the California Equal Suffrage Association (CESA).

As a CESA representative, Johanna Pinther would hand-sew and -embroider a suffrage banner that would proudly be carried in the first suffrage march in the United States, an event that has not been well described in U.S. suffrage history.

On Aug. 27, 1908, the suffragists marched to the convention hall of the California State Republican Convention in Oakland to demand that a woman’s right to vote be added to the Republican platform (in the end, it was not).

With some extra research, the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project (GPNHP) feels confident this event is truly the first march in America for woman’s suffrage. Johanna Pinther co-lead the march of approximately 150 women with her step-daughter-in-law, Jeanette Pinther of Noe Valley, and Mill Valley resident Lillian Harris Coffin.

An iconic image of this march has appeared on the cover of three books about California suffrage. While the three women are correctly identified, the GPNHP is the first to identify Johanna

as a Glen Park resident, and Jeanette of Noe Valley. (For more details, see “Glen Park Resident Johanna Pinther and the First March for Suffrage in the United States” and “The Suffrage Movement in Glen Park: Backstory to the First Suffrage March in America,” both at www.GlenParkHistory.org.)

In contemplation that a segment of California’s El Camino Real may be the possible source of Chenery, Arlington, Diamond and Wilder streets (see Glen Park News, Summer 2017), that Glen Canyon was the site of the first dynamite factory in the United States and was personally licensed by inventor Alfred Nobel (Glen Park News, Winter 2007/2008 and Summer 2017), and now that the first U.S. suffrage march was led by resident Johanna Pinther, our beloved Glen Park has significant histories with state, national and international implications. Kind of mind-blowing, is it not? ❖

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. Join the mailing list: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.



Johanna Pinther, right of banner, Jeanette Pinther, carrying banner, and Lillian Harris Coffin, left of banner, lead the first suffrage march in the U.S.

Image courtesy of the California Historical Society.

Local Businesses Hang the Help Wanted Sign

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Marcello Waqued, who took over Pebbles café nine months ago. Right now he staffs it with the help of his mother, father, brother and one family friend.

But his brother will soon leave to put a newly earned bio-engineering degree to work, and Waqued wants to expand the cafe hours and ease up on his own demanding schedule.

So he'll hire someone. That someone needs to come with experience and be willing to work in Glen Park for around minimum wage, which will be \$15 an hour come July.

It's not simply about making a decent espresso, said Waqued, who bought a pizzeria in Concord at age 18 and knows a thing or two about hiring people with no experience.

"If I wasn't around, things would fall apart," he said. "It's little things—not restocking, not prepping—but those things add up."

Knowing how to open the shop, familiarity with the public health codes, knowing how to close—employees with these skills give the owner a little breathing room.

What's more, Pebbles serves the Brazilian food of Waqued's family her-

itage, and that's complicated to make.

But family is also Waqued's saving grace, and not only because they're helping him staff the shop. His father has long worked in the food industry, which can give him a leg up in finding skilled workers.

The elder Waqued will be opening a coffee roasting company on the corner of Mission and Bosworth soon. Between the two, their network of potential staff is wide, and Waqued is hopeful his father will come across an employee with enough experience to be professional, but not so much as to regard Glen Park as too provincial.

Aaron Esquivel, whose wife owns Glen Park Hardware, has a similarly wider network than meets the eye. Their business is more than a store; they also supply hardware to building contractors.

So as he's squaring away contractors with nuts and bolts, he's getting the scoop on which reliable and experienced people are looking for a regular gig and who might be a good fit for the store. The hardware shop has three full-time and one part-time employee, plus the husband and wife owners.

But some of our local stores just



Sergio Waqued soon will move on from helping his brother Marcello Waqued at Pebbles Cafe.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf.

attract employees by virtue of the business.

Tranquil Bird & Beckett Books & Records employs one part-timer who is augmenting retirement income, and another who just finished an internship and needs a steady, low-stress gig to assess next steps, said proprietor Eric Whittington.

Those who prefer bark to book gravitate to Critter Fritters pet supply store. Unfortunately, the changing way Americans shop has meant fewer staff are needed. In the past five years, sales have dropped dramatically as people turn to Amazon for kitty litter and dog food.

"I get people coming in all the time looking for work," said Tony, who has managed the shop for 12 years and goes by first name only. Tony works with an assistant manager and two part-time employees. "But I just don't have the hours" to offer, he said.

Americans work differently now too, but that can sometimes be a benefit.

Canyon Market's part-time human resources director came on board after leaving the corporate world so she could have more time for her young family. A pair of recruiters contracted to help the store revamp its hiring process formerly worked full-time for Apple retail stores but wanted out of the rat race. They also

happen to be local Canyon shoppers.

Just as this skilled workforce has changed, so has the workplace for people just getting into it.

"Last year we did a lot of soul searching because we felt like we were chasing our tail," Tarlov said. Formerly, she and her husband, Richard, would invest hours in individual interviews and intensive training without realizing that their "new hires" were really only trying the job on for size.

Now anyone responding to an ad to work at Canyon joins a group screening to learn more about the company and the open positions. There is an ice-breaker activity and a store tour.

"We get to learn a little about the people by seeing how they respond to that," Tarlov said. "Then we leave it to them to schedule an interview."

It's not until that call comes in that hiring managers begin to vet a candidate's experience. The model has been very successful, Tarlov said.

For now, Destination Bakery's Schuver has had to cut back on what he can offer. Don't look for coffee cake or mud pies until he finds some new staff.

"I can't kill myself," he says with a chuckle.

"But I have hope, I really do," and he hands over the boxed pie with a smile. ❖



vision wellness & eyewear

Dr. Carrie Lee, O.D.
Optometrist

2786 Diamond Street
San Francisco, CA 94131

(415) 334-2020
www.eyedentityvision.com

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

vsp Vision Service Plan accepted

Battle Brews Over Renaming of Fairmount School

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Principal Luis Rodriguez, who is in his fourth year as principal, would like to rename the school on the hill Dolores Huerta Spanish Immersion School to more accurately reflect the student body and honor a civil rights leader whom students can look to and see in themselves.

According to Rodriguez, Fairmount, which boasts a successful Spanish immersion program, has a student population that is 74 percent Latino.

“The majority of the students are Latino, and they actually provide a service to the larger student population by bringing the target language to make our immersion program possible. The idea of changing the name to that of a Latino person began to form,” Rodriguez said.

He continued, “So we began to think about who embodied qualities that aligned with what we are trying to instill in our students: respect for others, standing up for justice, giving voice to those whose voice has been historically muffled or silenced, defending the right of a human being to exist, working to effect a positive change—all of these qualities came to mind. And Dolores Huerta is someone who embodies these qualities.”

Rodriguez said, “By adopting the name of a strong Latina leader, we also would like to send a message of empowerment to all our female students, and particularly our female students of color.”

Although this idea is still in the proposal stage, Rodriguez feels confident that an agreeable decision is in their future.

“The process involves getting support

from our different parent and staff groups. We are having a community meeting in April to listen to our community, listen to the concerns, and build bridges of communication to reach consensus and present that to the school board, which ultimately has the final approval,” he said.

All voices have not been heard yet, but as with any name-change proposal anywhere, there are sure to be dissenters.

The battle lines seem to be drawn between those who want to preserve history and those who want to honor the present while looking toward the future.

This is nothing new to San Franciscans, who have seen name changes because of racism (China Street became Excelsior Avenue and Japan Street became Avalon Avenue when the Chinese Exclusion Act was in effect) and, yes, to honor a respected human rights leader. Army Street was transformed into Cesar Chavez Street in 1995 after residents and business owners on 24th Street rallied against the change. The latest street to face the possibility of a revised identity is Phelan Avenue, where City College of San Francisco’s main campus is located, to Frida Kahlo Way in honor of the famed Mexican artist. James Phelan served three terms as San Francisco mayor beginning in 1897, then was elected United States senator in 1913.

“As co-founder of the UFW with Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta is inspiring,” said Rose, the neighborhood historian. “To this day, she continues to stand up for social justice with great fortitude. She certainly deserves to have a school in San Francisco named for her. Yet, should it be Fairmount School? To my knowledge, she has no personal connection with Fairmount Heights. In my opinion, Fairmount School should continue to be known as Fairmount School, to help preserve its important history in San Francisco.”

Ericka Shoemaker, a par-



Fairmount School in 1917, with Bernal Heights in the background.

Photo courtesy OpenSFHistory.



Fairmount School today. It was rebuilt in 1977.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf.

ent at Fairmount of a fourth grader and a second grader, who has served on Fairmount’s School Site Council, English Learner Advisory Committee and is currently PTA president, supports the idea.

“I have been an admirer of Dolores Huerta for most of my life. I learned about her work with the UFW as a child and as a college student heard her speak, and met her at Wellesley College speaking about her efforts for civil rights with the LGBTQ community and women’s rights,” Shoemaker said. “I think she is an amazing person that any school would be proud to bear her name.”

Despite her support and that of others, she said, “I think it is a good idea, but I am aware of some concern about a loss of history, as Fairmount is one of the oldest schools and PTAs. There certainly is that, but I think this is a positive thing that people can be proud of. Dolores Huerta embodies many, many values and traits that we can all strive toward embodying ourselves. Still, change is hard and compromise

can always happen.”

Arianne McCarthy, whose son graduated from Fairmount in 2015 and whose daughter is currently enrolled, wants to keep the name as is. Her children, she said, would share this cultural history along with 100 years’ worth of graduates: “For these reasons, I do not agree, no matter how heartfelt the reasons, to change the name of our public school. I do not want to have to say ‘RIP Fairmount.’”

Rodriguez, the principal, remains hopeful that a compromise can be forged.

“I have heard many supportive voices and some concerned ones about completely eliminating the name Fairmount,” he said. “So, I am optimistic that come April, we might be able to find a common agreement to preserve the memories associated with Fairmount and embrace the progressive initiative of having a Spanish immersion school named after a valued and respected community, labor, and social justice defender as is Dolores Huerta.” ❖



Dolores Huerta receives the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama in 2011.

Photo Courtesy of Whitehouse.gov.

Sheehy and Mandelman Square Off in

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seen as a candidate who would reliably vote with the progressive faction. But in recent months, Sheehy has moved further to the left, and Mandelman has inched closer to the center, as they battle for votes in the June race. Keep in mind that in most of the United States, their political differences would need to be differentiated with a microscope.

The *Glen Park News* asked both candidates the same set of questions to get a sense of their positions on matters that affect our neighborhood.

Glen Park News: What are two top problems/challenges facing Glen Park?

Jeff Sheehy: Traffic and public safety are an issue, and after months of work, I have persuaded SFMTA to station traffic control officers at Diamond and Bosworth during evening rush hour. Also, the level of property crime is too high. My mother-in-law's car was broken into at 1 p.m. on a Saturday afternoon when she was here after being evacuated from Sonoma.

Housing and homelessness are top citywide problems, and people who live in Glen Park are affected by those issues, just like everyone else in the city. I spoke with a woman on the 35-Eureka bus just a week ago, who, along with her family, is leaving Glen Park because of a large rent increase. They are hoping to stay in the city.



District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, left, and challenger Rafael Mandelman, right.

I have spoken to more than one person in the neighborhood who feels like any day, their rent could go up or the building they live in could be sold. Plus, there is the dilemma that for all of these families that have come to the neighborhood - will their children (along with mine) be able to live in this city when they grow up?

Rafael Mandelman: Property crime and traffic congestion. I hear time and again from neighbors who have had their cars, and in some cases their homes, broken into. Even more upsetting is that they feel like nothing is being done about it. Sometimes it feels like San Franciscans are expected to pay a crime tax for the privilege of living here, and of course that is not OK. I also think we need to do more to get Glen Park, and the whole city, moving again—the congestion on our streets at rush hour, but not even just at rush hour anymore, is unacceptable.

Glen Park News: What are your plans to address them?

Sheehy: I continue to work with SFMTA to systematically address traffic and congestion in Glen Park and the district. And, I fought last year on the Budget Committee and will fight this year for an increase in the number of police officers so that Ingleside Station will have enough officers to create a Glen Park foot beat. I have worked hard, first with Ingleside Station's Capt. Joe McFadden and now with Capt. Jack Hart, to make sure public safety issues in Glen Park are addressed. Capt. Hart actively monitors NextDoor, and I text him and talk with him constantly.

To systematically address housing and homelessness, I, along with four of my colleagues, have placed on the ballot for this June the "Housing for All" measure. This measure will raise

\$1 billion over the next 10 years by increasing the tax on commercial rent gross receipts from 0.3 percent to 1.9 percent. Small businesses, retail, nonprofits and entertainment will be exempted. Of the \$1 billion, approximately \$45 million a year will go to expanding all rungs of the housing ladder, including navigation centers; supportive housing with medical, mental health and substance use services on site; transitional housing, which prepares people to live on their own; and rental subsidies that can be used in and outside San Francisco that allow people to become independent. And 20 percent will be dedicated to housing and services for young people, who make up 2 percent of the homeless population and of whom almost 50 percent are LGBTQ. This investment will make a difference.

Thirty-five percent, or about \$35 million a year, is targeted to create middle-income housing for teachers, firefighters, nurses and others who make too much to qualify for low-income housing but can't afford market-rate housing. We need to make sure we have teachers for our public schools, and we need to make sure our kids, like my daughter, can afford to live in the city when they grow up.

Mandelman: As supervisor, I will take car break-ins seriously and will fight for a dedicated property crimes police unit to catch smash-and-grab

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

VALUE YOUR BUILDING.

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

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

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

Race for District 8 Supervisor Seat

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

thieves. I am going to push and keep pushing until we have property crimes investigators in every police station and give this problem the attention that it deserves.

If that means we have to increase the Police Department budget to fund an adequate and timely police response to property crime, then I will champion that increase. Glen Park also needs dedicated police foot patrols with officers who know local residents and businesses and will focus on protecting the neighborhood.

We have to tame the congestion that delays our buses and makes driving a nightmare. A critical element of that will be expanding our public transportation system to serve both current riders and the tens of thousands of people we know will be moving to San Francisco over the next decade. Other West Coast cities, from Seattle down to Los Angeles, have committed the resources to build significant new transit infrastructure, and San Francisco should not be left behind.

We need to make Muni a priority in our local budget, and we need to have shovel-ready projects ready to take off the shelf and implement the moment we have a transit-friendly administration in the White House, and we need to hold the MTA accountable to make sure they are improving our transportation system and using resources efficiently.

Glen Park News: What most surprises you most about Glen Park?

Sheehy: I am pleasantly surprised by the increasing number of families in Glen Park. I am unpleasantly surprised by the obstacles our public schools place in the way of families staying in the city, including a difficult-to-navigate assignment system; low teacher pay relative to the cost of living in the city, which threatens our entire public school system (please support the bond measure to raise teacher pay), and the changes in middle school math (my daughter is a public school middle schooler), which leads to diminished opportunity for kids good at math.

Mandelman: I have spent a fair bit of time in Glen Park over the years, so it's not a surprise to me that downtown Glen Park is one of San Francisco's most charming commercial corridors. From Bird & Beckett Bookstore to Perch to Canyon Market to Tyger's to Le P'tit Laurent to Destination Bakery

(and the list could go on and on and on), the concentration of one-of-a-kind, only-in-San Francisco local small businesses is extraordinary and helps make the area such a wonderful place to live and visit. And then there's the park. And what a park! Glen Canyon remains one of our best kept secrets, though the brand-new rec center is doing its part to bring new people into this gorgeous green space.

I look forward to Glen Park being even greener as we build the Glen Park Greenway, a project that I have long supported and will fight for funding to build and maintain as supervisor.

Glen Park News: Please describe the neighborhood in five words.

Sheehy: This was a family effort, and my daughter offers loving and safe, my husband offers diverse and accessible, and I add family, meaning our family and our extended family of friends in the neighborhood.

Mandelman: Charming, friendly, welcoming neighborhood village

Glen Park News: Glen Park has seen an increase in panhandlers in the commercial area. Should we be concerned? If yes, how should the issue be addressed?

Sheehy: We have always had "regular" panhandlers, at least since I have lived here. However, I do think there are more visibly homeless people in Glen Park. Part of this is due to increased homeless populations on the West Coast, along with the opioid epidemic, and part is due to incomplete efforts to address homelessness in other neighborhoods, i.e., taking down tents on Cesar Chavez or in the Mission, which inevitably drives homeless people into other neighborhoods. I discussed above what I am doing to address homelessness across the city.

Mandelman: The increase in panhandlers in commercial corridors in Glen Park and around District 8 is indeed concerning. The tragedy of homelessness we see playing out every day on our sidewalks and other public spaces is the result of housing and health policy failures at the local, state and federal levels. We need an independent voice in City Hall who is laser-focused on finding the resources to get our homeless population off the streets and into care, and ensuring that we spend those resources wisely and effectively.

We need to expand our navigation centers; work aggressively to keep vulnerable people housed and get the

recently homeless back into housing as quickly as possible, build new supportive housing and free up existing supportive housing units by moving those who no longer need supportive housing into less expensive, permanent housing, and we need to dramatically expand our mental health

and drug treatment capacity.

Glen Park residents read about the hundreds of millions of dollars we currently spend on homelessness, and do not understand how we can spend this much money and seemingly have so little to show for it. I know we can do better. ❖

REVIVE YOUR HEALTH!

Schedule an appointment with your
Glen Park Nutritionist Ashley Hathaway

Call 415-823-9333

Mention this ad for \$25 off your first consultation

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

GLEN PARK DENTAL
Beautiful Smiles for Life
415 | 585-1500 GLENPARKDENTAL.COM

NEW PATIENT SPECIAL!

Comprehensive Exam with X-rays for \$189

Call 415 • 585 • 1500

to schedule your appointment today!

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

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

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

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



GLEN PARK DENTAL
590 Bosworth Street • San Francisco

Conveniently located across the street from Glen Park BART!

Tell Me a Riddle: What do a Ph.D. Chemist

This is a story about a house, a neighborhood, and a woman and a man separated by a generation.

Tillie Olsen was born in 1912, Buck Tergis in 1942.

Tillie Olsen went on to become a renowned writer, winning a prestigious

O. Henry Award in 1961 for her short story, "Tell Me a Riddle."

Buck Tergis earned a Ph.D. in chemistry at Hunter College in New York City and spent much of his life in construction trades.

Each sprang from similar immigrant roots. Each called 70 Laidley St. home.

Olsen's parents, Samuel Lerner and Ida Goldberg, Jewish socialists who fled czarist Russia after an aborted 1905 revolution, eventually found refuge in Nebraska in 1912. There Samuel Lerner was a prairie farmer, then a slaughterhouse renderer.

Tergis' grandparents were Esther and Joseph Benezra. Esther, a Sephardic

Jew, emigrated to the United States in 1914, escaping the Ottoman Empire. She found her way to blustery Castro and Duncan streets, where she staked out a farm, raised goats and a reared a family, including Buck's mother, Sarah.

"My mother escorted her goats to what became Billy Goat Hill," said Tergis, "which lay next to the Gray Brothers quarry on 30th Street."

Tergis still lives at 70 Laidley; Olsen and her husband, Jack Olsen, lived there through the 1950s, leaving in the late '60s.

In those days, designer mega-mansions costing sultanate sums would have been unfathomable to families whose breadwinners labored as longshoremen, construction workers, Muni motormen and railroad gandy dancers. But now, the lavishly remodeled house next door is owned by the creator of the tech world application Dropbox.

Buck Tergis seems like a throwback to an era when Tillie Olsen wrote skits and musicals for the Nebraska Young



The home at 70 Laidley, where Tillie Olsen lived and Buck Tergis currently lives.

Photo by Michael Waldstein.



Buck Tergis sitting in his 70 Laidley St. living room, his dog, Monte, by his side.

Photo by Murray Schneider.

Socialist League. During this period, Olsen was determined to read all the fiction in the Omaha Public Library. "Public libraries were my sustenance and my college," she wrote late in her life.

"In the '50s, when Tillie lived here," Tergis said of the neighborhood, "it felt impoverished—the hills barren, without trees."

Tergis, dressed in a buffalo plaid flannel shirt while walking his dog, Monte, around Billy Goat Hill, pointed to a huge house at the corner of Noe and Laidley streets.

"That may be the largest house in the neighborhood," he said.

The juxtaposition between then and now couldn't be more stark.

Olsen's proletarian world was Dickensian in its penury. The prairie clapboard house she'd lived in was only a bit larger than sod houses Willa Cather described in her novels. At age 10, Olsen shelled peanuts after school to help support her family. By the eleventh grade, she had dropped out of school, working as a housemaid, waitress, cook, packinghouse worker, laundress. Poverty and distance meant that Olsen saw her mother only three more times after she moved to San Francisco.

By 1931, as the Depression ground on, Olsen became active in left-wing labor causes, and during this period she was arrested for distributing leaflets to striking packinghouse workers. She spent a year in a Nebraska jail. In 1932, at 19, she gave birth to a daughter whom she and her first husband,

Abe Goldfarb, named Karla, after Karl Marx. (Goldfarb died in 1937.)

Karla was shuttled back and forth to relatives in Minnesota and Stockton, a plot device Olsen later worked into her autobiographical short story, "I Stand Here Ironing."

She moved with Karla to San Francisco, met longshoreman Jack Olsen, a Young Communist League comrade, and began living with him. Both were arrested in the 1934 San Francisco General Strike for activities on "Bloody Thursday."

Tillie and Jack remained lifelong partners (some biographies say they married in 1944) and she took his



A portrait of Tillie Olsen from the late 1920s.

Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

and a Socialist Author Have in Common?

name. With Jack, Tillie had three more daughters: Julie was born in 1938, Kathie in 1943 and Laurie in 1947.

A decade later, Tergis and Olsen first crossed paths. Tergis was 10; Olsen was 40.

Buck's mother, Sarah, showed a talent for real estate. Using wood she'd secreted from a Glen Canyon horse stable, she began building, in 1934, the house at 245 Beacon St., where Buck and his brother, Jerry, were born and raised.

By the 1950s, Tergis was old enough to explore the Harry Street steps, and he'd cut a swath along a dirt path down to Laidley Street, where he befriended Olsen's daughters.

"One played the guitar and favored the folksongs of Pete Seeger," Tergis recalled. "One time I came by while she practiced 'Kisses Sweeter Than Wine,' which was popularized by the Weavers."

While she was living on Laidley Street, Olsen—never prolific—wrote her stories and continued working on a novel, "Yonnondio," which was finally published in 1974. She enrolled at San Francisco State College, made an impression on its English faculty and applied for a Wallace Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University. At first turned down, her application came to the attention of Stegner, who'd come from similar hard-scrabble roots.

Stegner arranged for Olsen to become a fellow, where for months in Palo Alto, unencumbered by laundry, she found freedom to write.

Olsen's oeuvre is replete with working-class angst, how toiling mothers struggle to earn a living through numbing drudgery while simultaneously raising families.

It was on Laidley Street, too, that one can imagine a scene such as this, which Olsen created in "I Stand Here Ironing."

"I would start running as soon as I got off the street-car," a character revealed about her need to race home from work, tie on an apron and begin putting together the evening meal.

Not a stretch, then, to imagine Olsen stepping off the J-Church at 30th Street, then hustling up the hill to Laidley Street to prepare dinner, to scrub pots, to ensure that her children completed their homework.

Another Olsen fictional creation is described doing exactly this in another of her stories, "Hey Sailor, What Ship?"

The Olsens sold 70 Laidley to Sarah Tergis in 1968. Sarah, her husband Turk, Buck and Jerry Tergis continued living on Beacon Street while Sarah Tergis rented the Laidley house. Eventually Buck, his wife, Judy, and their four children moved to 70 Laidley in 1983.

Buck Tergis raised his four children in the same house as Tillie Olsen had raised hers.

It looks pretty much the same as it did when the Olsens resided there. Built around 1900, it boasts three bedrooms up and one down. It has a comfortable sitting room and dining room, and the backyard abuts Fairmont hill.

Tillie Olsen had become a literary celebrity by the time she died in 2007. At one point, she'd returned to 70 Laidley for a nostalgic visit, accompanied by a daughter.

"There was a crawl space in a bedroom wall I'd Sheetrocked," said Tergis. "They wanted to see it, to relive memories, but it'd vanished behind the dry-wall."

After she left Glen Park, Tillie Olsen moved into an International



A portrait of Tillie Olsen in her 60s.

Photo Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.



Buck Tergis in his backyard garden at 70 Laidley, on Fairmont Hill.

Photo By Murray Schneider.

Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union apartment in the Western Addition. The ILWU housing is "dedicated to the belief that people of all races and walks of life can live together in harmony."

Fitting for an activist and a feminist, a woman who while at 70 Laidley organized for better parks and playgrounds, founded the city's first parent cooperative nursery, believed the Cold War duck-and-cover drills were folly, pushed back against Joseph McCarthy's witch hunts, and became a PTA leader at Kate Kennedy Elementary School.

Fitting for a woman who believed, but whose own life belied, the notion that "where you're born often determines where you work and whether or not you write."

Buck Tergis is not unmindful of the changes to his neighborhood since he roamed there as a boy. Some he embraces. "It's so much more inviting now, especially with the trees and gardens."

As for Olsen, who shared with him a house and a working-class origin story, "A lot of people who grew up during the Depression, who caught the butt end of the stick, wanted to make and did make this a better society, and Tillie Olsen was one of them." ❖

Traffic Control Cops Needed to Tame Intersection

It took nine years of planning, three years of waiting, almost \$2 million to fund, a major design snafu and 16 months of soul-destroying disruption to build the new Diamond and Bosworth intersection in Glen Park. After all that, it reopened with no fanfare or ribbon cutting, the neighborhood simply giving a collective sigh of exhausted relief that the work that had taken so long was finally complete.

That was in August of 2016.

Fast forward a year and a half.

Beginning in January, at the request of District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy, every weekday evening two San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency traffic control officers are in the oft-congested intersection to deal with the potentially dangerous mix of people on foot and behind the wheel.

Sheehy, a Glen Park resident, said he asked for the human aid in the intersection because he's seen so many near-miss pedestrian and vehicle mishaps there.

"Specifically, cars turning left from Diamond onto Bosworth in the south-bound direction frequently nearly hit straggling pedestrians coming out of

BART as the light turns yellow to red. Cars speed up to fly through the intersection in front of oncoming traffic (which is where their eyes are focused), pedestrians dart to get across before the light changes," he told the *Glen Park News*.

"I have seen so many near misses," he said. "I do not want to see someone killed."

Asked about how the City could have spent nearly \$2 million to create an intersection that requires two traffic cops to keep people from getting injured or killed, Sheehy said he wasn't involved in the redesign and so can't comment. His concern now is merely to keep the neighborhood safe.

For those who might not remember



An SFMTA traffic control officer directs traffic at the intersection of Bosworth and Diamond Streets. Photo By Elizabeth Weise

the long history of the intersection, some background:

Back in 2003, then-U.S. Rep. Tom Lantos secured \$3 million in federal money to fix up the gateway to Glen Park. Lantos, whose district included part of Glen Park, passed away in 2008, but the project outlived him. That began a nine-year plan-

ning process, which created the Glen Park Plan.

About a third of the funding was devoted to work on the Diamond and Bosworth intersection, long a bottleneck in an increasingly popular and trafficked part of town.

The traffic-snarling construction at Glen Park's busiest intersection began on Jan. 6, 2015. The goal was to make the intersection safer for pedestrians and speedier for people traveling through it on Muni, with the full knowledge that this would create delays and backups that would be frustrating for those driving private automobiles.

"Ultimately the only way we're going to see improvement is if there are fewer vehicles," a City staffer told the *Glen Park News* in 2016.

The changes included:

- Reducing the number of lanes on Bosworth and Diamond from three to two
 - Widening the sidewalks via "bulb-outs."
 - Removing the bus stop pull-ins on Bosworth in both directions and instead having busses stop in the street.
 - Building new bus shelters near the intersection, in front of Diamond Dental and the Mail Depot.
 - Adding new benches.
 - Adding drought-tolerant landscaping in the median of Bosworth Street.
 - Adding a left-turn lane for drivers traveling north on Diamond Street onto Bosworth Street.
 - Installing the Glen Park gateway sign on the corner of Bosworth and Diamond streets.
 - Repaving and restriping streets.
- The work was almost complete in

the fall of 2015 after nine months of traffic-snarling street closures when it was discovered that SFMTA planners had made the intersection too narrow for buses and large trucks to navigate the turns without going up on the curb or onto the traffic median between the lanes on Bosworth. More than two years earlier, the Glen Park Association warned of the potential problem of the lanes being too narrow for large vehicles to navigate safely, but SFMTA staff responded at the time that the design was adequate.

This major design flaw required SFMTA to go back to the drawing board and re-do the intersection at considerable cost — an estimated \$745,000 according to The Chronicle.

When the fix was finally done in August of 2016, the intersection was still frequently congested and backed up. SFMTA staff acknowledged at the time that the new intersection configuration did little to fix that.

"Truthfully, there was nothing we could do to make this intersection less crowded," said MTA spokesperson Kelly McCoy. "There's really no silver bullet to solving the traffic situation. There are simply a lot of cars."

The hope was that once the driving patterns settled down, the intersection would function more smoothly. That clearly hasn't happened.

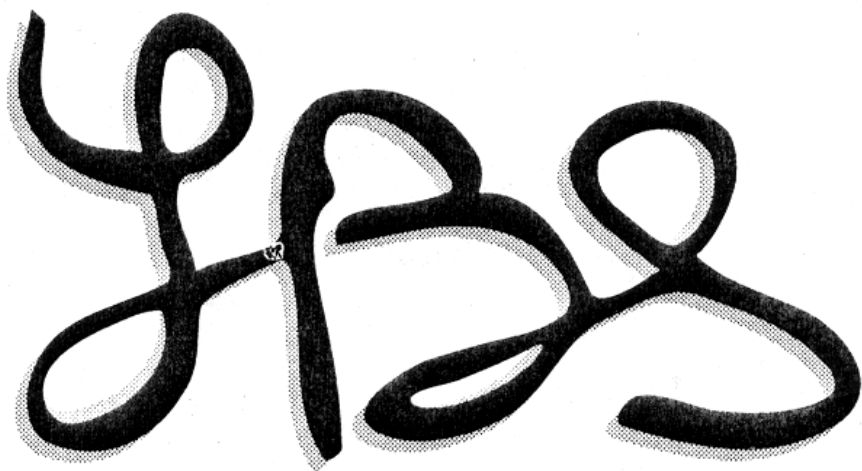
Sheehy, however, said the redesign may not be the culprit. He said the traffic woes may even be worse without the redesign.

"We have all seen the explosive growth in traffic at Bosworth and Diamond. Commuter shuttles, Muni buses (at least five lines) and increased automobile traffic with the two 280 ramps all contribute. With BART unloading tons of pedestrians along with the buses dropping passengers, the pedestrian mix is heavy and complex. Put all of this together, and what signaling array can adjust to all of these variables?" he said.

As for needing traffic cops to keep things moving, that's just the reality in a crowded, bustling city, he said. There are already multiple intersections across downtown that have traffic control officers in place.

"SFMTA needs to recognize that certain intersections in other parts of the city are experiencing high levels of traffic and are also unsafe at rush hour without human help," he said.

SFMTA did not respond to a request for comment. ❖



Lucy B. Stephenson

Certified Public Accountant

(415) 586-5600

FAX **(415) 586-2152**

Individuals • Corporations • Partnerships
964 Chenery Street, San Francisco, CA 94131

By appointment only



An acacia tree in full bloom in Glen Canyon.
Photo By Liz Mangelsdorf.

Glen Park Neighborhood Organizations

Glen Park Association

Contact: Info@glenparkassociation.org
Website: glenparkassociation.org
Address: P.O. Box 31292, SF, 94131
Meetings: Quarterly. See Website.

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 Conner, 415-584-8576
Address: 140 Turquoise Way, SF, CA
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 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.



LOCATION:

30th Street Senior Center

225 30th Street, 3rd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94131

Refreshments will be served starting at 4:30pm

For more information and to **RSVP**, please call **415.550.2223** or **register online** for each session at:
onlokelectures.eventbrite.com

ACTIVE MIND/ HEALTHY BRAIN — S E R I E S —

We are pleased to invite you to the UCSF Memory and Aging Center, through the Global Brain Health Institute and On Lok, for a free lecture series discussing Aging and what you need to know to maintain your physical and cognitive health.

LECTURE 1 | MAY 3 | 5pm – 6pm

Our Aging Brains, What Does it Mean to Age?

LECTURE 2 | MAY 10 | 5pm – 6pm

The Workout and the Brain Workshop

LECTURE 3 | MAY 17 | 5pm – 6pm

Isolation and Social Engagement

LECTURE 4 | MAY 24 | 5pm – 6pm

Nutrition and the Brain

LECTURE 5 | MAY 31 | 5pm – 6pm

Cognitive Stimulation

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



30th Street Senior Center



ON LOK®

The Real Role of Glen Canyon Park Rec

If you build it, they will come,” moviegoers heard a disembodied voice say in the 1989 Kevin Costner film, *Field of Dreams*, which depicts the American pastime amid an Iowa seven-foot corn field.

by **Murray Schneider** That same year Oskar Rosas joined the ranks of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, first employed as a recreation director at playgrounds in the Sunset and Richmond districts, later as a lifeguard at the Rossi and Hamilton public swimming pools.

On a warm morning last October, Rosas sat on a bench outside the restored Glen Canyon Park Recreation Center. He'd been reassigned for several years while the Rec Center was being renovated. Now he'd returned. So had throngs of park users. “Glen Canyon is a destination for folks,” Rosas said.

They built it, and we came.

Two boys walked past him into the gym, the older one dribbling a basketball. The younger wore a Steph Curry jersey. Once inside, they circled a basket, tossing up shots that swished through the net or banked against the backboard and bounced onto the floor. The 8-year-old palmed the ball, faking his older brother, taking a jumper, sinking it.

They were trailed by their mother, who took a seat on an empty bleacher. She was joined by her sister-in-law, who lives on Natick Street. The boys, their mom and dad—the brother of the Glen Park resident—had only days before fled the inferno that was still raging in Sonoma County. The fires ravag-

ing their community had raked their neighborhood, forcing their evacuation from the conflagration and unsure if their home still stood.

None was a stranger to Glen Canyon, having visited often during more sanguine times. (The Glen Park News is omitting their names to respect their privacy during a stressful time.)

“We’re safe now,” said the boys’ mother. She watched her older son, a 12-year-old sixth grader, take a layup. “It’s nice having them do something normal.”

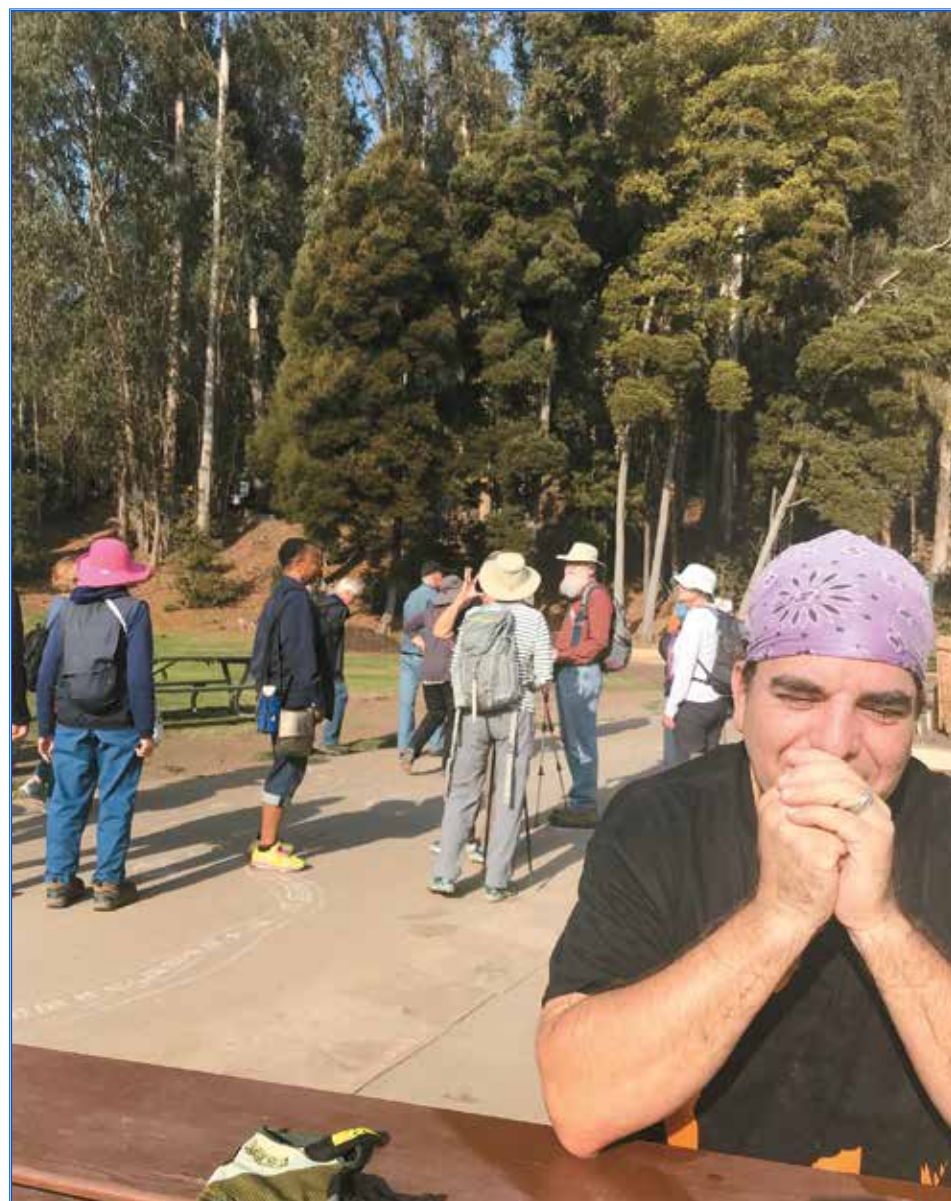
Two men joined the women on the bleachers—the aunt’s husband and the boys’ father. They watched, buffered for the moment from the Tubbs Fire. They sat knee to knee, relaxing in silence. The boys’ mother was especially quiet, savoring the solace.

“We come here often, getting our steps, looking at the birds, watching their forest baths,” the Natick Street resident said of Glen Canyon. “It’s a place to turn off our phones, be one with trees, hear the birds.”

Outside the Rec Center, Oskar Rosas watched an East Bay seniors’ walking group milling about. They awaited the beginning of an excursion that would take them to the upper reaches of Glen Canyon, where they, too, would listen to songbirds.

The walkers headed into the canyon along Alms Road, the access road from Elk Street, enjoying the incongruity of a riparian habitat sequestered amid one of the most densely populated cities in the nation.

“There are 70 acres here, 60 integrated with the gym, the soccer field and the tennis courts,” Rosas said. “I



Glen Park's Rec and Park Director, Oskar Rosas. Behind Rosas, a group of East Bay day hikers waits to begin a walk through Glen Canyon.

Photo by Murray Schneider.



Glen Park Rec Center supervisor Toby Wiley in the new gym.

Photo by Murray Schneider.

want people to get out of the building and enjoy hiking, rock climbing and bird watching.”

Rosas gestured over his shoulder, toward the refurbished building. For years, adventurous park visitors have been climbing the rock outcroppings in the canyon; now they have a professionally designed indoor alternative in the Rec Center.

“Speed climbing is one of the newest, fastest-growing sports,” he said, about a competition headed for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. “Climbers can drop by and, for a \$10 fee, practice their skills or sign their children up for our summer camp, where the climbing wall will be a centerpiece.”

No other park in the city boasts such a rock wall, which complements a multitude of recreational programs.

“We offer classes in Zumba, as well as classes in Qi Gong, another exercise class.”

“Pickleball, too,” he continued, about a paddle sport that combines

elements of badminton, tennis and ping pong.

Toby Wiley is Rosas’ supervisor. A former Daly City police officer, Wiley is the son of Pat Wiley, a legend in San Francisco’s Recreation and Park Department.

Toby Wiley could pass for anyone’s favorite uncle. He’s served as a Silver Tree Summer Camp counselor in the canyon, eventually becoming its director. He’s been involved in a number of park programs such as Tiny Tots, yoga, even tai chi.

“I greet them with a smile,” Wiley said about kids who enter his office. “I ask how they’re doing, if they want a basketball. I ask for a deposit, maybe a key or a photograph.”

“I got bit by the recreation bug early,” he continued. “Being a cop, it’s like putting a Band-Aid on matters. This is a whole different matter. Years later, you run into a kid and he tells you how you impacted him. It’s like

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Center: Fostering a Sense of Community

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

the circle being completed. A word like ‘gratifying’ doesn’t even begin to describe it.”

Way before he became a Rec and Park director, long before he strapped on a service revolver and began patrolling Daly City neighborhoods, Toby Wiley engaged children.

“It was my mom,” he said. “She needed someone to play Santa each year at the McLaren Lodge Christmas tree lighting ceremony. I’ve been doing it for 25 years now. I’ve answered the requests of hundreds of children.”

His favorite entreaty, however, didn’t come from a child.

“It was a single mother a few years ago,” he said. “I asked, ‘What can Santa Claus get you for Christmas?’”

The mother winked. “I want to marry a rich man and be able to afford a house in Noe Valley.”

“I told her,” said Wiley, smiling, “I couldn’t work miracles!”

For Oskar Rosas there’s a take-away, too, less about real estate, more about recreation.

“This facility’s an oasis,” he said. ❖



Glen Park Rec Center Supervisor Toby Wiley, right, dressed as Santa Claus during the Dec. 7 McLaren Lodge light ceremony. Photo courtesy of SF Recreation and Park Department.



The Glen Park Rec Center’s new climbing wall. Photo courtesy of Oskar Rosas.

WHAT IS YOUR HOME REALLY WORTH?

Median Sales Price - Single Family Homes
Rolling 12-Month Calculation

SF Districts 1-10 —
5A Glen Park —

Report provided by the San Francisco Association of Realtors

Prices Have Changed AND YOUR HOME'S VALUE MAY BE HIGHER THAN YOU EXPECT.
I encourage you to contact me for a no obligation consultation and market analysis

RECENT SALES

515 Clayton Street
(Represented Buyer)
1826 Eddy #101
(Represented Buyer)
675 Tennessee Street #4
(Represented Buyer)

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

Judy Marrocco
An Experienced Professional Working For You
Office: 415.870.7373 Cell: 415.407.2572
judymarrocco@gmail.com
www.judymarrocco.com
DRE# 01919006
775 Monterey Blvd, San Francisco, CA 94127

JUDY MARROCCO
REALTOR

kw SAN FRANCISCO
KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

Pickleball Bounces onto the Sports Scene

Smack. Thud. Slap. The sounds of pickleball echoed across the Glen Canyon Park Recreation Center gymnasium floor.

Pickleball reigns supreme in the newly refurbished Rec Center each Wednesday afternoon from 1 to 3 p.m. and each Friday from 5 to 8:45 p.m.

On the last day of January, Wellington Chen, a retired corporate banker who lives in the Portola District, sat courtside atop one of the bleachers and watched a dozen pickleballers play doubles on three courts.

"You can learn the basics in seven minutes," Chen said, as he watched four women rally. "This is one of the fastest-growing sports in the United States."

The United States Pickleball Association, which tracks membership applications, estimates that 3 million Americans participated in the indoor and outdoor sport in 2017.

Played with a paddle and using a perforated Wiffle ball, pickleball takes place on a badminton-sized court. The game is designed for doubles and volleying. It takes 11 points to win a match; duos must win by two points, underhand service is cross court, and the game is governed by rules similar to those of tennis.

And you'd better believe picklers can work up a sweat.

"It gets the heart going," said Chen, who began playing in August 2016. After honing his skills at Palega Recreation Center, at Daly City's War Memorial Building, on the UCSF Parnassus campus and at the Golden Gate Park tennis courts, he's now at the game's top skill level. "It's a better workout than tennis," he said.

Pickleball began in Seattle in 1965. Legend has it that a pickler's dog shagged errant balls when they bounced out of bounds—hence, pickleball.

On the court the foursome took a break. Three players joined Chen. Each was winded. Only one calls Glen Park home.

Pickleball has quickly become a magnet at the Rec Center, attracting players from surrounding neighborhoods.

Janet Hoover lives in Mission Terrace. On court, she'd demonstrated skill with a two-handed backhand. Tightening her wrist, she let the ball hit her paddle's sweet spot, whiplashing it

back across the net.

"I was on vacation last September and saw a few picklers," she said. "I came back to the city and a friend sent me a photo of players in Glen Park. I've been playing here ever since."

Sitting next to her, Carolyn White grinned. "I was on the East Coast and heard about pickleball from friends," said White, who lives on Arlington Street. "I was thrilled when the Rec Center reopened. The game doesn't take long to learn, it increases flexibility, and it's a great way to meet people."

"Very nice people," echoed Hoover.

"We'd be happy to have more days a week here," added White.

Eleanor Gong lives in Forest Hill and whacks a pickleball a couple of days a week.

"I've been playing for eight years," she said. "It's like ping pong on a floor, and anyone can learn it."

While the foursome relaxed, several other women trickled in, jockeying for a court. They jigsawed with earlier twosomes, beginning new quartets.

Competitors gained the net, abandoning the back court. They volleyed, swatting and slapping the ball back and forth.

Chen is a pickleball ambassador who works hard at embedding the game into San Francisco's recreational culture.

"We're very pleased and lucky to be



Glen Park pickleball players enjoy the refurbished Rec Center.

Photo courtesy of May Woon.

here," he said, his arm circling the gym. "Oskar Rosas, the recreation supervisor here, has been very supportive, scheduling us two days a week."

Chen watched players bending and cutting, angling top spins. Participants mirrored a 2015 statistic, indicating that 68 percent of picketballers are over 60. "At this point the sport isn't glamorous for youngsters," he said.

Chen is attempting to broaden this demographic.

"Most recently we've made presentations to five physical education classes on the McAteer campus when PE looked for a rainy-day gym activity," he said. "And we've demonstrated the game to 14 school district physical education

teachers citywide. We've had a presence at both Mission and Phillip Burton high schools. Even Urban High School is participating with an intramural program."

On a roll now, Chen singled out the city's Golden Gate Pickleball Club.

"The club sent a team of women players to the 2017 Rec and Park Girls in Sports Extravaganza at Kezar Pavilion, where they demonstrated skills to beginners."

Chen believes it is vital to get his "paddle in the door" at these venues, particularly as the Golden Gate Park tennis courts anticipate an imminent remodel that could take as long as 18 months to complete. "We're more than willing to work with Rec and Park and share this space with other programs."

The Glen Canyon Rec Center welcomes pickleball's burgeoning popularity, although gymnasium hours will need to be adjusted to accommodate 2018 summer camp activities.

Finished with another round of doubles, Carolyn White sat on a bleacher. "Pickleball is a welcome bit of relief and renewal," she said. "I do some life coaching, but I always schedule it around pickleball."

"And you know, it's wonderful exercise—and without dieting!" ♦



Pickleball players Eleanor Gong, Wellington Chen, Carolyn White and Janet Hoover.

Photo by Murray Schneider.

❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

Diamond Heights will not be the same now that Jeanette Oliver has retired as the manager of the Diamond Heights Shopping Center.

On Feb. 3, residents from Diamond Heights and Glen Park and representatives of neighborhood organizations gathered at St. Aidan's Church to thank Oliver for her 31 years of service in the community.

The stories told by presenters, staff and tenants at the shopping center and friends described how she did far more for the neighborhood than just perform an excellent job as manager.

At the party, St. Aidan's rector, the Rev. Cameron Partridge, told his own story of gratitude for Oliver's work and introduced the presenters and storytellers. State Sen. Scott Wiener presented a state proclamation to Oliver, and District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy handed her a City certificate of honor.

Bob Dockendorff, a board member and past president of the Diamond Heights Community Association, presented a certificate of gratitude created by Bob Pullum that displayed an early photo of the shopping center. Paul Matalucci, head of the Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project,

presented a gardening apron embroidered with flowers and the message "With love and gratitude from the residents of Diamond Heights."

Lt. Mark Hardeman, of the Diamond Heights Fire Station, described Oliver's efforts to create a peace-and-meditation garden at his station to honor the firefighters who have died in the line of duty in the neighborhood.

Nelson Barry, who has a law office at the shopping center, described how Oliver helped the neighborhood after the tragic shooting death of UPS Driver Mike Lefiti in June 2017. Oliver arranged for grief counselors for shopping center tenants and customers who had developed friendships with Lefiti, who often ate lunch at the center. Oliver arranged for two memorial benches in his honor at the center and helped arrange a public celebration of his life at St. Aidan's Church.

Oliver served as a longtime board member of the Diamond Heights Community Association, served as treasurer for several years and led many advocacy efforts, including requests to the City for the midblock crosswalk to the center and other safety measures along Diamond Heights Boulevard. She was one of the founders of Resilient Diamond Heights, the neighborhood emergency planning organization.

She planned and managed three health and safety fairs for the Diamond Heights community. She also helped with the creation of the Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project and served as the shopping center liaison and fundraising lead. When she learned that volunteers did not have kneeling pads for weeding, Oliver provided them within a week.

Serving as an informal social worker for anyone in need, Oliver helped numer-

ous people who stopped by her office. She referred many to services and provided a listening ear.

Oliver has made a huge impact on community building and quality of life issues far beyond her work as the manager of the Shopping Center. We wish Jeanette Oliver the best in her retirement.

Her last day as manager was Jan. 11, when the sale to the new owner, Donahue Schriber, a privately held real



State Senator Scott Wiener presents Jeanette Oliver with a resolution recognizing her 31 years of community service.

Photo courtesy of John Kabala

estate investment trust, was final. Taran Stokes, the new manager, is in charge of 12 centers in central California, and will manage from offsite.

Stokes and other members of the management staff attended the DHCA meeting on Feb. 6 to describe their operations and answer questions. They pledged to be involved in the Diamond Heights community and said there are no plans for major changes at this time at the shopping center. ❖

St. Aidan's Episcopal Church Holy Week & Easter



All are welcome!

Palm Sunday, March 25

Holy Communion, 8am & 10am

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
in Holy Week March 26, 27, 28**

Holy Communion, 7pm

Maundy Thursday, March 29

Holy Communion, 7pm

Good Friday, March 30

Prayer & Meditation, noon – 3pm

Stay as little or as long as you'd like

Good Friday Liturgy, 7pm

Saturday, March 31

Holy Saturday Worship, 9am

The Great Vigil of Easter, 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 1

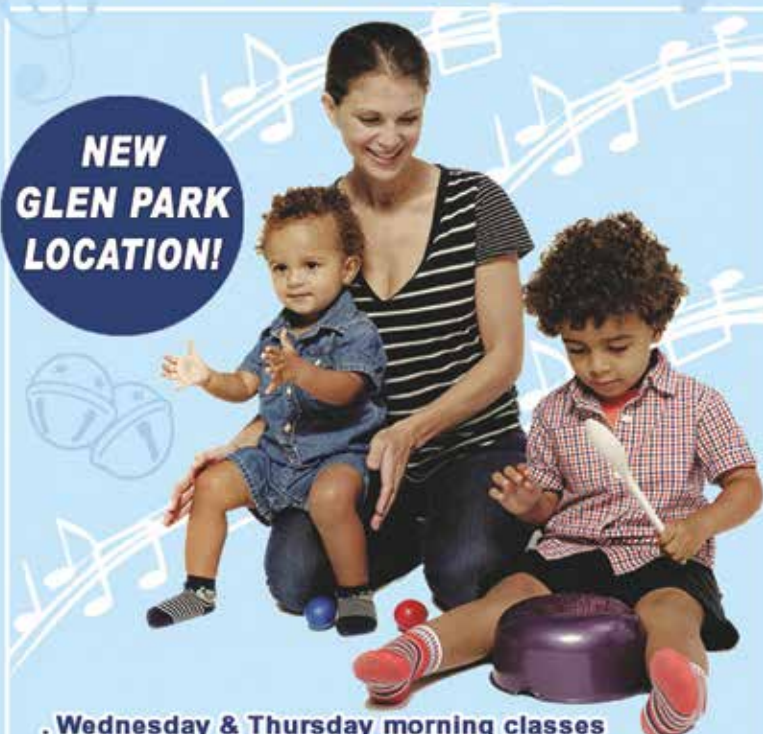
Holy Communion, 8am & 10am

101 Gold Mine Drive (at Diamond Heights Blvd.)

www.staidansf.org 415.285.9540

MUSIC TOGETHER® OF SAN FRANCISCO

**NEW
GLEN PARK
LOCATION!**



• **Wednesday & Thursday morning classes**
• **@ Sunporch Yoga: 666 Chenery Street, SF**
• **For kids (newborn to 5) & the adults who love them**
• **Register or try a free class @ musictogethersf.com**

❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

Glen Park Elementary School

Transition and strength are the words that defined our late winter and early spring at Glen Park. Our beloved principal, Jean Robertson, was chosen by the San Francisco Unified School District to take over as chief of Special Education. Robertson built a strong community of families and staff at Glen Park during her six years here, which makes us uniquely suited to transition smoothly. We found an extremely capable and dedicated interim principal in Liz Zarr, formerly one of our fourth grade teachers.

A team of committed teachers, parents and staff will convene in the coming months to choose our new principal for the 2018–19 school year. That person will have big shoes to fill, but we are confident that we will find the right fit and continue to develop into one of the city's best elementary schools for our vibrant community.

Thanks to Liz Zarr for her continu-

ing commitment to Glen Park, and congratulations to Jean Robertson her important new role. We at Big Blue are cheering for both of you!

Something else to cheer about is our largest and most entertaining fundraiser. The Glen Park School PTO Auction will be held on Saturday, April 21, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Chez Poulet on Cesar Chavez Street. This event is open to the public, and we encourage our neighbors to come see our community in action. Dinner, dancing and our famous auction margaritas should not be missed. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased online. A link to purchase tickets will be posted on our website and local social-networking services.

Auction items are flowing in and they are fabulous this year. Need a getaway? Bid on a trip to Las Vegas, Sonoma or Disneyland. Try to outbid the other revelers on two domestic airline tickets and hotel lodging anywhere in the United States. Participate in our popular wine raffle. A variety of fantastic items

are available. Many thanks to Canyon Market and Cuppa for supporting our neighborhood school by donating prizes.

Coming up: Look for our Rainbow Runathon, on the afternoon of Friday, March 23. You'll see our amazing students running around the Big Blue School to raise money for chickens, the garden teacher, our fresh snack program—which provides all students with an organic fruit or vegetable snack every day—and much more.

Katie Ripley is the communications chair of the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization. For updates on school events, go to glenparkschool.org.



Liana Ramirez's class cheers Principal Jean Robertson on her last day at Glen Park School.
Photo courtesy of Liana Ramirez

ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL (K-8)

where community matters



offering traditional
faith-based education
while incorporating
cutting edge technology

925 CHENERY STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131
www.stjohnseagles.com 415.584.8383

Spring is in the air at Sunnyside Elementary. Parents are excitedly awaiting our list of new families from the district, and students and teachers are continuing to work hard in the classroom.

Cultural awareness is a topic that has been on our minds a lot this school year. We want to make all students and families at Sunnyside feel welcome. In February, the Sunnyside PTA, in partnership with Sunnyside's newly formed African American Affinity Group, hosted a school community night celebrating both Black

History Month and Chinese New Year.

Parents and teachers read topical stories and then families made cool crafts. Students created and took home Chinese dragon crafts and also collaborated on large-scale art pieces for Black History Month.

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

As we near the end of the school year, we have some exciting events planned. Sunnyside will again have a booth at the Glen Park Festival on Sunday, April 29. This is one of our most anticipated neighborhood events. We hope you will stop by to do a craft with us.

The following weekend is our annual SpringFest, which features entertainment, games, food and an art show. Be sure to join us for a great time. SpringFest will be held in our schoolyard on May 6, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

We are so excited to meet our new batch of Sunnysiders. If you receive a Sunnyside assignment, please check our website (www.sunnysidek5.org) for our spring tour dates, our Welcome Coffee Hour and summer playdates. We look forward to meeting you soon! ❖

Jessica Wallack-Cohen is president of the Sunnyside Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association.

Synergy School



Grades K-8
Progressive Education
Social Emotional Learning
Experiential Learning

1387 Valencia Street - San Francisco
www.synergyschool.org

Safety, Traffic, Growth and Cleanliness Top To-Do List

The weather gods doused the city with rain as the Glen Park Association held its quarterly meeting at the Rec Center on Jan. 24. The members who gathered there looked back on the challenges and achievements during 2017, and gazed ahead toward tackling problems in 2018.

It was also time for the annual election of officers of the association. The current office holders all were reelected: Scott Stawicki, president; Stephany Wilkes, vice president; Dennis Mullen, treasurer; Hilary Schiraldi, membership secretary; Heather World, recording secretary; and Bonnee Waldstein, corresponding secretary.

2017 Board Review

GPA President Stawicki outlined three major areas of focus in 2017. First was the Glen Park Greenway, a feature of the Glen Park Community Plan adopted in 2012. The Greenway is the green space along Bosworth Street from Brompton Avenue to Burnside Avenue, which provides a green connection for pedestrians that links the Village with Glen Canyon Park.

The Association built upon a \$40,000 initial grant received in 2015 for planning the contours of the Greenway. In 2017, it secured a \$70,000 Community Challenge Grant for tree care and replacement, and a \$42,000 Community Garden Grant from the SF Public Utilities Commission for water meters.

Throughout the year, several parties of Glen Park neighbors and the DPW Green Team worked on site preparation and planting, culminating in the first tree planting on Dec. 9, in which more than 50 volunteers participated. They planted 17 saplings, including island oak, coastal redwood, California buckeye, and silk tassel, plus 33 plots for local coastal oak acorns.

The Greenway is a long-term project that will require community commitment and additional grants and funding far into the future.

The second goal for 2017 was to increase association membership. Due largely to a drive at the Glen Park Festival, membership rose by 74 percent, from 137 to 239.

Third, the association wanted to maintain a conservative financial plan of fiscal discipline, equivalent to 2016 spending. The GPA limited its grant program to two projects and funded one: \$2,000 was committed for a grant



The Glen Park Association is committed to getting landmark status for the Glen Park BART station.
Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf.

application to award landmark status to the Glen Park BART station. As the station approaches 50 years old, it will need upgrades and improvements. Landmark status will ensure that changes will respect the architectural integrity of the station.

Stawicki observed that District 8 Supervisor Jeff Sheehy has been very supportive of Glen Park over the year. Among other things, he drove the Greenway project so that planting could commence before year's end. He helped secure funds for the replacement of the Sussex Street stairs into the park. Sheehy, a Glen Park resident, is responsible for the ongoing assignment of traffic control officers at the Bosworth and Diamond Street intersection.

During the past year, the Glen Park Association addressed numerous projects and issues through its various committees. Among them:

- The Transportation Committee worked on community outreach for a new Bosworth bike lane, sought new signage on Bosworth to improve pedestrian safety, advocated for improvements at the BART station, and reviewed Phase II plans for the Bosworth-Diamond intersection.

- The Rec and Park Committee worked on the new rec center and advocated for the Sussex Street stair replacement.

- The Zoning and Planning Committee worked to obtain additional grants for a historical survey of the Glen Park BART station, and a strategy for completing a historic survey of remaining areas of Glen Park. This involves evaluating properties that are approaching or over 50 years old, to

determine which are potential architectural resources.

2018 Ideas, Concerns, Solutions

Attendees weighed in on what they'd like the Glen Park Association to focus on this year, and to offer potential solutions.

The ongoing issues of safety, transportation, growth and cleanliness continue to be the major concerns in Glen Park.

A major focus was the seemingly intractable problem of traffic patterns in the Village. Rush-hour clogging along Bosworth Street causes collateral jams on Chenery Street. Mapping applications have exacerbated the problem by routing drivers onto side streets.

Speeding on Bosworth continues at a dangerous level, and calming measures are needed. Flashing lights at Chilton and Bosworth might help, as well as more rigorous enforcement of the speed limit. Chenery Street also has a speeding problem, as does the Arlington-Bosworth-Interstate 280 onramp maze.

The congested Diamond-Bosworth intersection still causes frustration for motorists and pedestrians. The work that has been done to try to improve the situation—sidewalk bulb-outs, signal changes, lane adjustments—have not solved the problems and, some feel, have made things worse. For example, someone said, the bulb-outs interfere with the traffic flow at the BART

station and should be removed. One potential solution: The BART plaza is "wasted space that could be restructured to alleviate traffic congestion."

Stawicki said that transportation issues get the least results. "The reality is that the problems are very difficult, and SFMTA has its hands full. We work in constant communication with them and chip away," he said.

Regarding crime and safety, Glen Park has not been spared from the epidemic of car break-ins that is plaguing the city. Beacon and Miguel streets have been recent particular targets.

Alarming reports roll in about muggings on neighborhood streets and at the BART station, as well as home burglaries.

The most popular solution is increased police foot patrols in Glen Park. For now, SFPD staffing shortages prevent the desired level of police visibility. However, there is hope, as Capt. Jack Hart works on staffing patterns at the Ingleside Station. In the meantime, residents need to report every crime, to ensure getting the attention of the police.

Dumping is another thorny issue—for example, along the Greenway and by Glen Park Elementary School. Public Works schedules workdays to collect the discards, but better coordination is needed. When residents observe dumping, they should report it to 311 and/or go on Twitter. Also, more receptacles are needed for street trash.

Another trouble spot is along the Arlington Street path adjoining San Jose Avenue. Homeless campers there create trash. People hanging out and being rowdy disturb the peace. The City's Fix-It Team is currently working on coordinating a number of remedial activities.

There was also discussion about developers coming into Glen Park and building "bulky, monstrous, McMansion homes," in the words of one of the group. These houses meet codes but are out of scale with their surroundings.

There is no shortage of issues for the GPA to address during 2018. ❖

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



P.O. Box 720125
San Francisco, CA 94172

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

MARC DICKOW

Broker, Realtor, Partner



2018 Board of Directors, San Francisco Association of Realtors



P 415-722-4018 BRE #01870650

E marc@opni.com W core7realestate.com/marc

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

“Marc did a phenomenal job selling our home!”

“Marc and his team did everything to ensure we received top dollar for our home and that it was as painless as possible. He was patient and thorough in all the details. His team responded at all hours of the day and no question was too small or silly. He is incredibly professional, responsive, caring, and it’s clear he loves what he does. Thank you Marc, we truly felt supported throughout this whole process.” —J.C., Seller

“Marc is extremely professional...”

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

A portion of each of Marc’s commissions go to fund projects for his Core Concern:
LOCAL SCHOOL MUSIC AND ART PROGRAMS



Glen Park Festival On Tap for April 29

The Glen Park Festival has become a perennial favorite and notable annual fundraiser for local children’s programs. Over the past two decades festival attendees, sponsors and donors have generously funded new equipment, field trips and educational programs for schools and community organizations in and around Glen Park.

“The impact this festival has had each year on the kids in this community really shows you how Glen Park shows up for kids and the neighborhood,” said Glen Park Festival Association organizer Stephanie Alston.

This year’s festival, which marks the 20th anniversary of the neighborhood fete, will take place on Sunday, April 29, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. It’s located on Diamond Street between Bosworth and Chenery streets, and on Wilder Street from Diamond to Carrie streets. Festival streets will be closed to vehicle traffic, so plan ahead for parking and navigation that morning.

Live music kicks off at 10 a.m. with popular children’s musician, Gayle Schmitt and the Toodala Ramblers, followed by the Mission District’s Original 24 at 11a.m. Fog Swamp comes on at 12:15 p.m., steeped in genres ranging from rock, New Orleans-style funk and blues to bluegrass and jazz.

Jinx Jones returns once again to the stage at 1:30 p.m. Jinx is a festival favorite and a versatile guitarist with roots in jazz, pop and rockabilly, known for his part in En Vogue’s mega-hit, “Free Your Mind.”

The Bautista Band goes on at 3 p.m. Known for its San Francisco chops, the band’s sound consists of creative musical arrangements,

including funk, percussive rhythms and classic musical influences from Santana, Tower of Power and the Doobie Brothers.

Chuck Polling is back to emcee the event. The festival also features wares from local artists and craftspeople; beer, wine and other beverages; food trucks; and kids’ activities. Community groups and local schools will also staff booths.

Visitors can expect even more family fun this year. Kids’ activities include bouncy houses, arts and crafts and live entertainment in the Children’s Area, organized by our own Lil’ Artistas.

All proceeds from the Glen Park Festival go toward local children’s programs. Entries for prize drawings and T-shirts will be on sale at the Glen Park Festival Booth. T-shirts are also available for pre-purchase at glenparkfestival.com/shirts.shtml. Donations are encouraged at the gate and are tax deductible.

In addition to money raised at the festival itself, we also encourage residents to explore any matching programs through their employers to have the greatest benefit. To see where our past donations have gone or to apply this year for a grant, visit our website: glenparkfestival.com/beneficiaries.shtml.

Public transportation is highly encouraged, as the festival is located one block from the Glen Park BART station. The J-Church stops two blocks away at Diamond and Monterey Boulevard, and Muni’s 44 O’Shaughnessy, 36 Teresita and 52 Excelsior buses stops at the entrance to the festival.

For more information visit www.glenparkfestival.com, please call 415-729-4059 or email the festival at inquiries@glenparkfestival.com. ❖



Crowded Wilder Street during the 2017 Festival.

Glen Park News file photo.

❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

Recently a group of longtime Glen Park residents and I were discussing why we call Glen Park a village. There were no definitive answers, but my suggestion was that Glen Park has often been referred to as “Little Switzerland” and in my travels to Switzerland, everyplace we went was called a village—that’s my story and I’m sticking to it.

This is the time of year that I do the wrap-up of what happened in the real estate market last year, so I will dive into that in a moment. But first, I know that many of you have questions about the recently passed tax reform law and how it will affect you with regard to real estate. The best thing to do would be to discuss this with your CPA or tax preparer. But here are the top changes that relate to real estate.

Before we launch into all this, I want to remind you that owning a home, particularly in our market, is still the best way to build wealth and achieve financial stability. That has been true for decades, and will remain so. Home ownership allows people to invest in a long-term asset that pads their retirement savings, provides a safety net for unforeseen circumstances, and builds equity to back investment in education or small business.

Cap on mortgage interest deduction: The law reduces the limit for mortgage interest-rate deduction for new loans, starting Dec. 15, 2017, to \$750,000. Most people didn’t know that there was already a cap of \$1 million. Loans that were taken out before that date are grandfathered into the previous tax policy of \$1 million cap on the deduction. Homeowners can refinance their existing mortgage balance up to \$1 million while still being able to deduct the interest. The new loan cannot exceed the amount of debt being refinanced.

What does it really mean? If you already had a mortgage prior to Dec. 15, nothing changes for you regarding the mortgage deduction. If you buy a new place and get a new mortgage, you will be able to deduct the interest only on the first \$750,000.

New SALT deduction limit: Taxpayers can itemize deductions up to \$10,000 for their total state and local property taxes and income or sales taxes. The cap is the same for both individual and married filers. Households that pay more than \$10,000 in combined state and local taxes each year will be impacted by the new SALT limits.

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
1871 Church St.	11/15/17	12	\$2,649,000	\$2,850,000	107.59%
714 Chenery St.	12/01/17	13	\$1,895,000	\$2,228,000	117.57%
39 Melrose Ave.	12/05/17	17	\$1,195,000	\$1,520,000	127.20%
31 Sussex St.	12/08/17	15	\$1,649,000	\$1,800,000	109.16%
197 Moreland St.	12/12/17	4	\$775,000	\$835,000	107.74%
253 Sussex St.	12/27/17	11	\$899,000	\$1,300,000	144.61%
2479 Diamond St.	01/18/18	122	\$1,799,000	\$2,025,000	112.56%
143 Laidley St.	02/06/18	0	\$10,000,000	\$9,700,000	97.00%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
319-321 Arlington St. - 2 unit building	12/29/17	32	\$1,750,000	\$1,695,000	96.86%
84 Malta Dr.	12/29/17	50	\$1,899,000	\$1,840,000	96.89%
325 Arlington St.	02/13/18	28	\$1,295,000	\$1,425,000	110.04%
DOM - Days on market		SP/LP - % over or under list price			

Taxpayers who itemize deductions and whose total state and local tax liability exceeds \$10,000 will get a smaller tax break. For other households, the continued availability of those deductions, even if they are capped, may be the deciding factor between whether or not they itemize deductions.

Under the previous law, the SALT deduction was unlimited.

Preserved exclusion of capital gains: This tax policy remains unchanged from the previous law, which stated that homeowners must have lived in their home for two out of the past five years in order to qualify for the exclusion. About 10 percent of home sellers last year sold their home after living in it between two and five years. Keeping the status quo means these sellers can list their home on a more flexible schedule without fear of a potentially hefty tax hit. The exemption is still on the first \$250,000 of gain (or \$500,000 for married persons) on the sale of your primary residence.

Deductibility on home-equity loans: The new law states that taxpayers will no longer be able to deduct interest paid on home-equity loans, beginning in 2018, unless the funds are being used to significantly improve the residence. This provision expires in 2026, when it reverts to the previous cap of \$100,000 of home equity debt, unless Congress extends the prohibition.

There are, of course, other provisions to the bill that may affect you, but these are the ones that are most relevant to real estate. Again, please consult with your tax preparer about how these changes might affect you.

Here’s what’s happened in the

Glen Park real estate market recently. Between Nov. 8, 2017, and Feb. 13, 2018, eight single-family homes, two condominiums and one multi-unit building were sold. It was a pretty slow quarter, which isn’t that unusual during the holidays.

The average sale price for single-family homes in Glen Park for this period was \$1,794,000, while the average list price was \$1,552,000. That puts the sales prices at about 15 percent over asking, which is up a bit from the last quarter and last year as well. The average days on market for this period was 28 days.

The average price per square foot was \$1,154. These numbers do not include the sale of 143 Laidley, which was \$9.7 million! I think that would really skew the stats.

Interest rates took a bit of a jump recently and are hovering around 4.25 percent for a 30-year fixed mortgage. We’ll have to see what the new Federal Reserve chief does in the coming months, but I expect to see at least three rate increases this year.

Inventory remains pretty low in our village, but I did just see four new listings in Glen Park on a recent broker tour so, as of this writing, things are already looking good!

Here’s a recap of 2017:

- Single-family homes in Glen Park:
- Total number of homes sold in Glen Park: 59
 - Average list price: \$1,650,000
 - Average sale price: \$1,822,000 (nice!)
 - Average days on market: 25
 - Average price per square foot: \$1,051

How does this compare to 2016?

Total number of homes sold in Glen Park: 67

- Average list price: \$1,657,000
- Average sale price: \$1,800,000
- Average days on market: 35
- Average price per square foot: \$974

So, comparing year to year, the number of homes sold was down a bit—no surprise, as inventory was and still is extremely low. The average list price was just about the same. Interestingly the average sale price was up 1.2 percent.

We’ve been saying all along that the crazy yearly increases of the past five years couldn’t continue, and here’s the proof. That could be a sign that prices are leveling out. Also of interest is that the average price per square foot was up 7.9 percent. Average days on market was down by 28 percent, which is no surprise as there was less to buy and still a lot of buyers.

How do Glen Park’s numbers compare to the rest of the city as a whole? Here are the numbers for 2017 for all of San Francisco:

Total number of single-family homes sold in San Francisco:

- 2,256 (almost the exact same number as 2016)
- Average list price: \$1,608,000
- Average sale price: \$1,778,000
- Average days on market: 27
- Average price per square foot: \$967

If you would like a full copy of the stats for San Francisco, which also includes condos and breakdowns by district, to email me with your request at marc@opni.com.

My predictions for 2018 are that we’ll see conservative appreciation in home prices—in the 2–4 percent range would be my guess. Interest rates will continue to rise, and I’d predict they will end up between 4.5 and 4.75 percent later this year.

One more thing: Don’t forget to say “hello” to your neighbors and passersby as you go through the village. It’s too easy to focus on your smart phone, but let’s remember we all live together.

I’m pleased that this is an interactive column, answering your questions and writing about topics that are of interest to you. 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 SPRING 2018 ♦

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.

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 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.

Pickleball

Every week, 1-3 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center

Book a Librarian

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

Kid Zone

Every Week 3:30-5:30 p.m., Glen Park Library
A time and place for kids to hang out together, read, build with LEGOs, create, and other fun stuff.

Diamond Diners Lunch and Social Hour

First Wednesday of the month,
Noon-1 p.m.

St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Drive

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 Refridgerator**

Every Week, 10-11:30 a.m., Glen Park Library
Fun and age-appropriate crafts as an introduction to the world of preschool crafts. Dress in your oldest pre-stained clothing. Ages 18 months to 4 years.

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**Knitting Circle**

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

Tween Time

First and Third Friday of the month, 1-2:30 p.m.,
Glen Park Library

On Fridays through April. Beginning in May, program returns to the first and third Tuesday of the month.

Pickleball

Every week, 5-8:45 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center

Food Pantry

Every Week, 1-2 pm,

St. Aidan's Church, 101 Gold Mine Dr.

Volunteers run this free food pantry for low-income and disabled clients who live in the 94131 area code. This is just one of the many activities St. Aidan's hosts. Others include yoga, AA, Al-Anon, Overeaters Anonymous, and other community groups. For details, visit www.staidansf.org or call 415-285-9540, ext 3.

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**Family Playtime**

Every week, 10 a.m.-noon, Glen Park Library

Jazz Club

Every Week, 7:30-10 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Jazz concert series. \$10-\$20 cover charge. Free food at the break; wine and beer available. See birdbeckett.com for performers.

Habitat Restoration Work Parties

Third Saturday of the month, 9-11:30 a.m. Meet
at the Glen Canyon Rec Center off Elk Street

Join the the Friends of Glen Canyon Park and SFRPD gardeners for a monthly volunteer work party of weeding, pruning and occasional planting. For more information, email recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org or call 415-831-6333. Registration required.

Sundays**DIY Kids**

First, second and fourth Sunday of the month,
times vary, 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 series offering jazz, acoustic Americana, world, and classical music. \$10 per suggested donation; children free. No one turned away for lack of funds! See birdbeckett.com for performers..

The Seducers - Classic, Outlaw & Honky Tonk Country Music

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

LEGO Free Play

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

Walker Talks!

Last Sunday of each month, 2:30-4 p.m.,
Bird & Beckett

Walker Brents III discusses his investigations into topics literary, mythological and otherwise.

Friday, March 16**Poets and Composers Salon**

9-10 p.m., Bird & Beckett

COPUS (Creation Of Peace Under Stars), comprising Royal Kent (poet/spoken word artist), Wendy Loomis (composer/pianist), Melissa Finder (singer), Ann Souren (singer), Patrick Mahon (bassist) and Levon Washington (drummer). See BirdBeckett.com for more information.

Saturday, March 17**Diamond Heights Blvd. Median Project Work Day**

9 a.m.-noon; meet at St. Aidan's Church Parish Hall (lower level)

We will serve a hot lunch afterward to say thank you. Only heavy rain and/or thick fog will cancel. Recommended for 12 years and older; no gardening experience required, but there will be bending and kneeling (pads and gloves will be provided) and some light hoeing.

Sunday, March 18**Susan Dambroff Reading**

2-3 p.m., Bird & Beckett

She reads from her new poetry chapbook, "Conversations with Trees."

Tuesday, March 20**AARP Tax-Aide**

1-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

Appointments are available every Tuesday through April 3. AARP offers free tax-preparation help to anyone, especially those 50 and older. Bring with you to the appointment all tax-related materials, plus copies of photo IDs and Social Security cards for everyone who is going to be listed on the tax return.

Wednesday, March 21**Coffee with a (Ingleside Station) Cop**

7:30-9:30 a.m., Sweet Chinito, 3100 Mission at
Cesar Chavez

Join your Ingleside District police officers for coffee and conversation. It's a casual environment that promotes better community policing by bringing officers together with the public they serve. So, stop by on your way to work for a few minutes or hang out awhile

Thursday, March 22**I'll Never Tell: Odyssey of a Rock and Roll Priest**

5:30-6:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett

The Rock & Roll Priest, Harry Schlitt, presents his memoir, I'll Never Tell.

Neeli Cherkovski - Elegy for My Beat Generation Book Release

7:30-10 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Friday, March 23**SOTA Community Music Outreach**

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

Teens from the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts will present classical and other types of music suitable for all ages. These students are hoping to extend their love of music to the next generation of kids in the community.

Saturday, March 24**Glen Canyon and Glen Park Hike**

8:30-11 a.m.; meet at Higher Grounds, 691
Chenery Street

This event is sponsored by Meet Up. To sign up, go to meetup.com and join the Stairs & Trails Urban Hiking Club. Loop Hike through Glen Park and Glen Canyon starts promptly at 9 a.m. and ends back at Higher Grounds. The 2-hour, 4-mile hike is rated 3 out of 5 for difficulty. Dogs are not permitted.

Diamond Heights Blvd. Median Project Work Day

(See March 17)

Sunday, March 25**West of Castro Street and the Upper Reaches of Glen Park**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Meet at Christopher Playground,
just west of Diamond Heights Shopping Center

Explore the upper reaches of Glen Park that contained the last vestiges of the district's rural history through the 1950s with Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose. Learn more about communists in Diamond Heights, a forgotten Moorish castle, and Glen Park's connection to a significant boxing event. Moderately strenuous. Rain cancels. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

Tuesday, March 27**AARP Tax-Aide**

1-5 p.m., Glen Park Library
(See March 20)

Thursday, March 29**Treyf Pesach Reading with Hilton Obenzinger & Friends**

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Blasphemy is holy -- and exciting, outrageous literature in TREYF PESACH (Unkosher Passover), a new book of poems from Hilton Obenzinger. Come out to Bird & Beckett for a half hour of mingling with the poet and his jazz buddies, stay for a reading, and hang out 'til it's time to go home and get ready for Passover. See BirdBeckett.com for more details.

Tuesday, April 3**AARP Tax-Aide**

1-5 p.m., Glen Park Library
(See March 20)

Saturday, April 7**"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.

Thursday, April 19**Glen Park Association Quarterly Meeting**

7 p.m., Glen Canyon Recreation Center

Join us for an evening of neighborhood news.

Friday, April 20**SAKURA Cello Quintet**

6:30-8:45 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory

SAKURA is built on the artistry and virtuosity of its members, with a repertoire that spans eight centuries. This season, they play here, in Los Angeles, and New Orleans. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and music begins at 7. There will be an intermission with light refreshments.

Saturday, April 21**Plaque Dedication, The First Dynamite Factory in America**

1-3 p.m.,

Glen Canyon Recreation Center, 70 Elk St.

Join us as we celebrate the placement of the plaque for this California State Historical Landmark commemorating the first dynamite factory in the United States, personally licensed by inventor Alfred Nobel. The Native Sons of the Golden West, who supported the purchase, production, and shipment of the plaque, will perform their time-honored dedication ceremony that is over a century old. We will hear guest speakers, and afterwards enjoy cake and refreshments. Don't miss it!

Glen Park School PTO Auction

7-10 p.m., Chez Poulet on Cesar Chavez Street

This event is open to the public, and we encourage our neighbors to come see our community in action. Dinner, dancing, and our famous auction margaritas should not be missed. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased online at our website glenparkschool.org and local social-networking services.

Street Tree Planting

Time and location TBD

Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) street tree planting in Glen Park. Planting requests were due on March 14. See FUF.net for more information.

Create Your Own Notebook

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

Join us for a workshop to create your own notebook with card stock, waxed thread and paper. Use it as a journal or give it as Mother's Day gift! All supplies provided.

Sunday, April 29**Glen Park Festival**

10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Diamond and Wilder Streets

Come enjoy of day of fun, music, art, food, and festivities as at the 20th anniversary of the neighborhood fete. It takes place on Diamond between Bosworth and Chenery and on Wilder from Diamond to Carrie. Learn more at GlenParkFestival.com.

Sunday, May 6**SpringFest**

11 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunnyside School

Our annual SpringFest features entertainment, games, food and an art show. Be sure to join us for a great time.

Modern Diamond Heights: The Redevelopment of Red Rock and Gold Mine Hills

10 a.m.-12 noon; meet at Christopher
Playground amphitheater, just west of Diamond
Heights Shopping Center

Explore the early history of Red Rock and Gold Mine Hills on a 1.5-mile walk with architectural historian Hannah Simonson and hear how declaration of "blight" would lead to unrealized skyscrapers and Modernist architecture. Suggested donation \$10. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

Friday, May 11**Temescal String Quartet**

6 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory

The Temescal String Quartet returns for another evening of music. The gates are scheduled to open at 6, with music beginning at 6:30. We will have light refreshments. See sunnysideconservatory.org for more information.

Saturday, May 12**Glen Park Greenway Work Day**

9 a.m.-noon, meet at the Chilton cul de sac
We will weed and water the areas around the newly planted trees and acorns. Yes, this is Mother's Day weekend, but weeding, watering and fennel stopping are a nice alternative to brunch, right? If mom brings a mimosa in a sippy mug, we won't breathe a word. We'll have gloves and other necessary tools. See the GPNA website for more information.

Jerry's Backyard Party

1-5 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Jerry Ferraz's annual birthday party and Bird & Beckett benefit.