

# Glen Park News

## Glen Park: The Place to Be on New Year's Eve

New Year's Eve in Glen Park's downtown district tends to be a quiet affair, but that doesn't mean you can't celebrate without leaving the 'hood. Begin your evening at Bird & Beckett Books and Records, where Darren Johnston and Friends will be the jazz headliners starting at 7:30 p.m. Johnston, a trumpeter, and his combo will cap what B&B music maestro Eric Whittington calls a season of "festive concerts" through the holidays.

Whittington adds that there will be "food and drink appropriate to the evening," and that the celebration will end well before midnight in case you have party plans for later. If you would rather head home with a good book and some recorded jazz to keep you company until 12 midnight, he can accommodate that as well.

Manzoni, the Italian restaurant at 2788 Diamond, will open at 5:30 p.m., as usual, but will keep the party going until midnight. Owner Manhal Jweinat promises some holiday specials as well as the regular menu and wine list.

Next door, at 2794 Diamond, Win Garden Chinese restaurant will make its regular menu available during regular hours on New Year's Eve and throughout the holidays. One Waan Thai restaurant, at 2922 Diamond, will be open on New Year's Eve until 10 p.m., but will be closed New Year's Day.

Other sit-down dinner places—Le P'tit Laurent, Tekka House, Gialini—will be closed on New Year's Eve.

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Photos courtesy Dalere family

## Dalere's Celebrates 50 Years in Glen Park

Glen Park residents Glory Delare, above center, and her daughter Marian, above left, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their namesake hair salon on Oct. 6, by throwing a neighborhood party attended by friends, neighbors and family. The 660 Chenery Street, location is the third site for their shop. The first location, pictured left, was on Chenery St., the current location of La Corneta. In attendance were Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, state Sen. Scott Wiener and Mayor London Breed, above right, who proclaimed Oct. 6, 2018, as Dalere's Beauty Salon Day in San Francisco.

### GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday January 17, 7 p.m.  
Glen Park Recreation Center

#### AGENDA

Glen Park Association  
Elections

## Mitchell's: 65 Years of Cool Treats

Linda Mitchell has a scoop for the legions of customers who flock each day to her San Jose Avenue ice cream store.

"When my father began the shop in June 1953, he'd sit at the window and look outside at the widened street and the automobiles rushing by, and he'd say, 'If only they'd stop!'"

It was the early '50s. Elmer Robinson was mayor, the City had decided to widen San Jose Avenue, and San Francisco native Larry Mitchell, a firefighter, decided to go into business with his older brother, Jack.

This year is the 65th anniversary of the iconic creamery at San Jose Avenue and 29th Street. These days, the patrons definitely stop.

Larry Mitchell didn't have to wait

long. Customers began trickling in. Mitchell's quickly became the kind of place where a kid could order a strawberry double decker cone topped with chocolate for 15 cents, or a husband could make an after-dinner sundae run and bring his wife a double scoop in a cup, topped with whipped cream, nuts and crowned with a maraschino cherry, all for a quarter.

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# GLEN PARK NEWS

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## ♦ GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION ♦

*Editor's Note: Guest columnist Jodell Scott is a member of the Glen Park Association and has lived for 36 years on Arlington Street.*

I have lived across from the open space on Arlington Street all these years, yet it was only when the Fix-It Team came along that true change happened, helping clear up the mess right

over the fence between by San Jose Avenue and Arlington Street. That space was cleaned more thoroughly than it has

ever been done before.

GPA president Scott Stawicki was a real leader in getting this stretch of Arlington attended to. What was cool about it was the cooperation among different agencies just to see what the problem was, and then put resources, including neighborhood volunteers, to solve it. I'm not sure whether there are other hot spots in Glen Park, but I'm pretty sure the whole stretch of Arlington, down by the community garden, etc., have homeless people, garbage and tent dwellers to deal with.

The Fix-It Team operates out of the mayor's office, and is a coordinated effort among seven City agencies. The point person is Sandra Zuniga, of SF Public Works. Glen Park is only one neighborhood of many that have been chosen so far to get targeted cleanups in problem areas. Somehow Zuniga, with community input, prioritizes the needs of the many neighborhoods targeted by the Fix-It team. Then the appropriate resources are deployed in ongoing efforts at remediation. The problems are long-term and the Fix-It Team likewise makes a long-term commitment to each of the neighborhoods.

In Glen Park, the Arlington Street open space was identified as an area needing attention due to the many problems along its length.

Once when I called 311, before the Fix-It Teams were formed, I was told that in our space three agencies were involved—one for the area near San Jose Avenue, one for the middle area just over the fence, and a third for the open space at street level. No one agency took responsibility, so complaints often led to no action.

I remember when my husband Richard and I ran into Scott on one of our nightly walks and he told us about the Fix-It Team. It sounded too good to be true, as the space for years has been tremendously neglected. Our many phone calls to 311 and even the police were ineffective because of the



Sandra Zuniga of SF Fix-It Team cleans up the Arlington Street open Space.

Photo courtesy SF Public Works

complexity of the space and the various different agencies claiming "not my responsibility." Neighbors peered over the fence, watching garbage piles growing and various campers settling in, and everyone was somewhat afraid and disturbed. The space was becoming a rotting pile of debris as well as a toilet for campers.

After a talk with Scott about the Fix-It Team, one day we looked across the street and there were lots of people with clipboards looking at the space! SF Public Works, the Homeless Outreach Team and other agencies—even the Police Department—were there. In April we had our first Fix-It cleanup, which made the most incredible difference. There have been two more sessions since then, with the next one probably in Spring 2019.

According to Carolyn White, the GPA Neighborhood Improvement chair and an Arlington Street resident, the cleanups were mainly on the path behind the 300 and 400 blocks. There was also a lot of maintenance in the open space opposite the 500 block, site of the most garbage and debris. This remains a challenging and inviting place for encampments even after the cleanup.

SFPW cut down the fennel plants from Roanoke to Mateo, behind the fence, and loaded it into trucks. Beyond that spot, the slope is too sharp and dangerous. The workers will continue cutting fennel after they've received

the proper safety training to be able to work in that area. Two truckloads of wood chips were spread over the 400-block path. There is a nice sitting bench there now, overlooking a very busy street and yet a lovely urban scene.

Having lived in San Francisco for such a long time, I really could see for the first time how the attention of numerous public agencies, and their savvy approach and resources, combined with the power of invested volunteers, made such a positive impact on the streets and open space in our neighborhood. It doesn't hurt that the mayor's office shepherds this program, and that positive results are the result.

Heather World's story on Page 4 describes the volunteer participation.

The Fix-It Team has made good stewards of the neighbors, and more often than not, small problems that arise (garbage and dumping) are solved by the neighbors—outside of the Fix-It Team and their visits. The change has been remarkable. Calls to 311 in the past might have resulted in a garbage pickup, but from my understanding, the Fix-It Team did homeless outreach before the most recent clean-up, which addressed the homeless problem in a humane manner and helped solve the problem on a deeper and more sustainable level.

It was so compelling to watch the cooperation of agencies and volunteers. Inspirational! I'm still happy at how much better things are! ♦



## ❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

**W**e in Glen Park like to believe that our neighborhood is a gem, with great neighbors, a wonderful park, an eclectic mix of architecture and a shopping district where we can fulfill most of our urban needs by patronizing a range of restaurants and shops whose owners work hard to satisfy us.

As if to endorse that assessment, the *Bay Guardian's* 2018 "Best of the Bay" awards singled out two of our shops for special mention. Bird & Beckett Books and Records, at 653 Chenery St., has the "best store staff" in the shopping category. And Glen Park Cleaners was named the city's best dry cleaner in the city living category. (For a complete list of winners, see [48hills.org/bestofthebay/](http://48hills.org/bestofthebay/).)

Eric Whittington, the ringmaster at Bird & Beckett, heads up the bifurcated staff—half to run the bookstore part of the operation and the other half to manage the live jazz and other music programs that make the shop such an appealing neighborhood destination. Sauntering through both halves is Sherman the cat, who since the award was announced has been "full of himself and unfit to live with anymore," Eric reports.

At the intersection of Chenery and Diamond, Tommy Baik presides over Glen Park Cleaners. Endearingly bashful, he declined to boast about his award, but reported he hasn't seen an upswing in business from customers elsewhere in the city. "It's a local kind of thing," he said. But as if to demonstrate just how local, he reported that during the Bay Area's bout of bad air in November, one woman had come into his shop just, she said, to breathe better air than she could take in outside on the street.

Nor are these the only star merchants in our neighborhood. In May, Cheese Boutique, operated by Rick and Nada Malouf, was awarded the Small Business of the Year award in District 8, an honor shepherded by then-Supervisor Jeff Sheehy (See *Glen Park News*, summer 2018). And in October, Glory and Marian Dalere celebrated the 50th anniversary of their hair salon with a party attended by Mayor London Breed, current Supervisor Rafael Mandelman and state Sen. Scott Wiener.

For these and other local business owners, December is the busiest month of the year, just as it is for many of their customers. On Page 1 of this issue, we suggest how you can celebrate New Year's Eve in Glen Park,

but you can provision your holiday get-togethers and check off every entry on your gift list without leaving the neighborhood. Plus, you get to chat with delightful people, and you won't have to worry that packages will be stolen from your front door.

Bird & Beckett has books for kids, for travelers, for readers of best-sellers and esoteric novels, for cooks, for history buffs and mystery buffs, for political junkies and art-book aficionados. It has music for your every taste—as long as your taste runs to jazz. Do you need help deciding? Just ask the best store staff in the city.

Tony, he of a single name, reports that at Critter Fritters this year's Christmas color is purple. The shop, at 670 Chenery, has special pet-pampering toys and outfits for your finicky dog or cat, and plenty of food and other stuff for the easy-to-oblige ones. Up the block at 654 Chenery, Zoel Fages at Perch has hung this year's decorative Christmas wreaths, plus plenty of gifts and cards, including a well-stocked corner for kids. Aaron Esquivel at Glen Park Hardware has Santa hats and stockings, plus tree hardware and cleaning products for the inevitable messes.

Special treats in the food and drinks department are available, too. Marcello

Waqued at Pebbles will have Brazilian chocolate truffles again this year. Nada and Rick at Cheese Boutique can fill your party meat-and-cheese-platter requirements, plus their Lebanese specialties and once-a-year seasonal treats. Destinations bakery has a full range of pies and other holiday specials; owner Joe Schuver advises you to order in advance. Canyon Market, operated by Janet and Richard Tarlov, prepares the makings for holiday meals, and has the wines to match. And you can join the regulars at Glen Park Station to celebrate whatever.

All of the owners and managers of local commercial establishments juggle endless chores to oversee staffs, pay their taxes, keep the shelves stocked and the neighborhood vital.

So spruce up at your favorite hair and nail salon, eat out through the season at our cloth-napkin and informal restaurants, stop in for caffeine at our coffee houses, buy gifts for relatives and friends (and don't forget yourself). Make the Glen Park merchants' holidays as merry as your own.

The volunteers who write, assemble and distribute the *Glen Park News* wish all of you, your families, your friends and your neighbors the happiest possible holidays and a peaceful, fulfilling, prosperous 2019! ❖

## Rafael Mandelman Wins Re-election

**C**ongratulations to District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, the Glen Park representative who sailed to re-election with 91 percent support.

Mandelman, who first won the supervisor's seat in a June special election, won a new four-year term in the Nov. 6 election and is eligible to run for another four-year term in 2022. He beat little-known candidate Lawrence "Starke" Dagesse, who secured just under 9 percent of the vote. A total of 48,049 ballots were cast in the District 8 race.

Mandelman, who previously served on the Community College board of trustees, joined the 11-member Board of Supervisors with a promise to focus his attention on homelessness and affordable housing—San Francisco's two biggest challenges. ❖



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

# City Enforces Short-Term Rental Law

A listing for a short-term rental unit on Miguel Street was removed from Airbnb's site in November after several attempts by the San Francisco Office of Short Term Rentals, for breaking City rules.

The unit had been advertised on Airbnb as a one-bedroom living space with a full kitchen and shared bath that could accommodate up to two guests at a time.

Omar Masry, of the Office of Short-Term Rentals, said he couldn't give details on the exact situation that caused officials to crack down on the space, due to privacy constraints. But he did say the host was ordered to stop renting it out.

"In this instance, we have instructed the host to cease rental activity," said Masry. "We have relayed a request to Airbnb to cancel any pending reservations and remove the listing, in tandem with multiple requests that the property owner has not complied with," Masry said.

The unit was still available for rent on Airbnb on Nov. 15. The *Glen Park News* got no response to attempts to

contact the host, but by Nov. 27 the listing finally had been deleted.

City rules make it illegal to rent out an entire unoccupied apartment as a short-term rental on sites such as HomeAway, VRBO, FlipKey and Airbnb.

The house on Miguel contains two units, and it appeared that one was occupied by tenants but the other was used only as a short-term rental on Airbnb. If that were the case, the short-term rental would not be allowed under San Francisco rules. Those rules require that all short-term rental units be registered and approved by the City.

Under City regulations, short-term rental hosts are allowed to rent out their apartment or home for 90 cumulative nights if they're not there, but only as long as they live in the same unit at least 275 nights per year. A host who is actually living in the unit can rent the whole unit out for 90 cumulative nights per calendar year, and/or rent out a room (in the same apartment/suite in which the landlord lives) for an unlimited number of nights.

The primary goal of the rules is to allow limited short-term rentals, but also avoid having entire residences

taken off the potential rental market for use as short-term rentals. The regulations were adopted as a growing San Francisco population grapples with a serious housing shortage.

Most often, the violations that the office sees include building, planning and fire code complaints in illegal units built without proper permits; the host falsely claiming residency; or the host in a multi-unit dwelling living on site but not in the unit being rented out.

"We can issue a notice of violation because it appears the host has been told to cease and is still operating," said Masry.

Masry noted that if a host applies for a short-term rental permit and the permit is denied, the host has 30 days in which to appeal.

Glen Park has seen relatively few non-compliance issues compared to other areas of the city, Masry said. Generally, the issues in Glen Park tend to include people renting out an apartment or house that they don't live in, or people who live in one unit and rent out another on Airbnb and other sites.

That's nothing compared to some neighborhoods.

"We've had instances where people

had a shed in the backyard, put up wallpaper, put in a composting toilet, ran illegal electricity out to it and were renting it out. People have rented out their garages for people to live in, or put 16 bunk beds in a single home. We've even had people renting out tents they pitched in their backyard."

A recent search of the Airbnb site showed about a half-dozen rentals available in Glen Park.

Violations of the City's short-term rental laws are subject to penalties of at least \$484 per day for each dwelling unit in violation. These daily penalties begin on the day that a Notice of Violation is issued by the Office of Short-Term Rentals, and continue to accrue until the violation is fully abated. Repeat violations may be subject to escalated penalties and referral to the City's Attorney's Office for additional civil and/or criminal penalties.

If neighbors suspect there is an illegal short-term rental on their street, they can file an anonymous complaint on the Office of Short Term Rental website (<https://shorttermrentals.sfgov.org>); send an e-mail to [shorttermrentals@sfgov.org](mailto:shorttermrentals@sfgov.org); or call 415-575-9179 and leave a message. ♦

## Braving the Foul Air To Clean Bernal Cut

Smoke from the northern California wildfires forced the cancellation of November's scheduled Greenway planting, but it did not deter the dozen neighborhood volunteers determined to clean up the Bernal Cut below Arlington Street.

Armed with gloves, trash pickers and bags, the volunteers—mostly Arlington residents—worked in tandem with members of the City's Fix-It Team. They felled fennel and overgrowth from the slope between Roanoke and Mateo streets, exposing the boulders beneath. District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman pitched in, loading the vegetation into a pickup truck to be hauled away. Others filled bags with trash, everything from condoms to clothes.

By noon, two truckloads of chips had been spread along the cleared portion of the Bernal Cut to slow the growth of weeds.

Efforts along the seven-block stretch of Arlington started last Earth Day, when dozens of residents weeded and cleared brushy growth from the southernmost portion of the cut, starting at Natick Street. A second cleanup extended the work up to Roanoke Street.

The Nov. 10 cleanup was the first foray onto the cut as it begins to rise above San Jose Avenue. Given the steep embankment, City crews will need special equipment to safely weed-whack the rest of the fennel, said Fix-It Director Sandra Zuniga.

In addition to cleaning, the City is giving out solar motion-sensor lights to anyone who has property along the path above the cut to better light it at night. And, hoping to keep litter to a minimum, the Glen Park Association's chair of Neighborhood Improvement, Carolyn White, has requested more trash cans along the cut. ♦

For more information about this effort, see Jodell Scott's GPA column on Page 2.



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## ❖ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ❖

**G**reetings, Glen Park! It's been a busy few months in office, and I want to update you on what our office has been doing citywide and in your neighborhood.

**Conservatorships:** In September, thanks to the leadership of State Sen. Scott Wiener, Senate Bill 1045 was passed at the state level, giving cities in California the ability to strengthen conservatorship programs. I have taken the lead on local implementation of this new law, and in October I introduced legislation to allow SB1045 conservatorships in San Francisco. If passed, the local law will give our city an additional tool to deliver care and services for severely mentally ill and drug-addicted individuals who may not qualify for traditional conservatorships and for whom other, less restrictive interventions have failed.

**Street Tree Maintenance:** In 2016, voters approved Proposition E, which transferred the responsibility for the city's 125,000 street trees from property owners to the Bureau of Urban Forestry. It has been a major transition, and many of the calls my office has received since I started in July concerned the maintenance of trees in Glen Park and other District 8 neighborhoods. That's why I called a hearing on Nov. 15 to provide the BUF and Public Works the opportunity to talk about some of the initial successes and challenges of the StreetTreeSF program. To find out when your trees are scheduled for maintenance, visit [www.sfpublishworks.org/trees](http://www.sfpublishworks.org/trees). If you have any tree-related questions, please contact my office at 415-554-6968, or send an email to [mandelman-staff@sfgov.org](mailto:mandelman-staff@sfgov.org).

**Increasing Traffic Police:** At the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services hearing on July 25, we learned a shocking statistic—there are currently fewer than 40 traffic enforcement officers on our streets, down from nearly 100 just a few years ago. To address this issue, I worked with Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer and SFPD Chief Bill Scott to add the SFPD's first new traffic officers' class in three years. This will add as many as 15 new traffic

officers onto the streets in what I see as an essential step toward full staffing and achieving our Vision Zero goals for pedestrian and street safety.

**Rec Center Indoor Play Times:** Glen Park Recreation Center is a wonderful hub for community and recreational activity, but we heard from constituents in Glen Park—including residents Mona Villapiano and Miriam Moss, along with a group of Glen Park parents and neighbors—that what was needed was increased access for young children. I'm happy to report that, with the Recreation and Parks Department on board, the Center has been open since the beginning of November on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to noon for parents, nannies and other caretakers to bring children (infants through 4-year-olds) to play indoors.

**Saving a Second Bathroom at Christopher Park:** We are excited about proposed upgrades at Christopher Park, but we were concerned when we learned that initial plans involved permanently closing one of the two bathrooms. Thanks to the advocacy of Diamond Heights Community Association President Betsy Eddy and neighbors, with an assist from my office, Rec and Park took a second look at the plans and the applicable legal requirements. On Oct. 9 we learned that the planned renovations will not require closing the second restroom. ❖

*Rafael Mandelman represents District 8, which includes Glen Park, on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.*

### Dalere's Beauty Salon

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As a Glen Park resident, real estate specialist and enthusiast, I enjoy promoting all the special benefits of Glen Park to potential buyers every chance I get. I am raising my family here, my son attends Glen Park School, and we love the Glen Park Village community. I have lived in Glen Park for 15 years, sold more than 40 homes here, and over 250 homes in San Francisco.

If you are thinking of buying or selling a home, or know someone who is, please reach out. I am always happy to provide useful market information so you can make the best decisions.

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## ✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

**Y**ear-round color in the garden! Those words used to make me feel inadequate and secretly wish for a snowy winter where I could cover the garden in straw, stay inside and read while enjoying a nice glass of wine. For a month or two. Sounds good, doesn't it?

by Kay Hamilton Estey

However, here in Glen Park we can garden year round. Garden Club members have even been spotted gardening in the rain! I wrote about winter-blooming plants a while ago; now I am concentrating on the autumn months because, frankly, my fall garden this year has been fabulous! The secrets of this success are a low-water drip irrigation system to get the plants through the dry season and reliance on a few easy, sturdy but stunning plants.

The salvias—sages—have long been the stars of the fall garden. There are dozens of varieties that bloom summer through early winter and thrive in Glen Park gardens. It is important to cut them back after blooming (about 2 inches from the ground) to encourage denser growth and more blooms the next year. Salvias attract hummingbirds and insects. Here are three favorites:

- Pineapple sage (*Salvia elegans* “Golden

Delicious”), with striking pale yellow leaves for color contrast in the garden, followed by tall spires of deep pink blooms. Prefers regular water when blooming. A stalwart of the fall garden.

- Friendship sage (*Salvia “Amistad”*), with deep blue-purple petals held in a black calyx. Long bloom period, likes sun and regular water. Gorgeous, tall and vigorous.

- Mexican bush sage (*Salvia leucantha*), frequently seen in Glen Park gardens. Pale green leaves with long spikes of purple flowers. These plants benefit from extra water during a very long bloom period and tolerate some shade.

Asters are also star bloomers in the fall. They are bushy perennials covered in daisy-like flowers ranging from pale lavender, blue, purple and even pink. My personal favorites are:

- Aster (*Aster frikartii* “Monch”). Lavender-blue flowers, rough dark green leaves. A larger hybrid peren-



A hummingbird enjoys friendship sage.  
Photo courtesy of BudOhio/Flickr

nial with a mound-ing habit and a long bloom period.

- California asters (*Symphotrichon chilensis*). Native to this region, with small pale blue flowers. Attracts butterflies, and insects.

Also successful this year are the abutilons, or flowering maples, tall

shrubs with bell-like flowers in yellow, red or orange. Every garden in Glen Park should have one or two. They provide an elegant backdrop to the garden, with their long drooping branches laden with flowers.

In my garden, the bright yellow alstroemerias, or Peruvian lilies, bloomed in November, and the milkweeds (*Asclepias curassavica*) seem to be in perpetual red and yellow bloom.

A large Copper Canyon daisy (*Tagetes lemmonii*) is filling the garden with a golden glow from its brilliant daisy-like flowers and minty, lemony perfume.

Garden Club members also grow grasses, many of which send up great flowering spikes from late summer

into winter. Two favorites are deer grass (*Muhlenbergia*) and silver grass (*Miscanthus*). Try *Miscanthus sinensis* “Graziella” for silvery plumes and coppery foliage or *Muhlenbergia rigens* “Nashville” for deep purple flower plumes in the fall.

Amazingly, our Glen Park climate also favors growing orchids outdoors. The *Masdevallias*, which naturally grow in cloud-forest conditions, thrive here. The exotic and brilliantly colored flowers are held high above the leaves. I grow them in sphagnum moss in containers in light shade. They seem to thrive on neglect, with an occasional watering when dry.

In addition, I think a garden should have a few deciduous shrubs. The wintry bare structures add character to the garden. I particularly like *Cotinus* “Grace” (smoke bush)—it has orange and purple-red fall foliage. Some viburnums and spiraeas also change color.

All the above plants are tough and low maintenance—try them out for a blooming fall experience. ♦

*Kay Hamilton Estey is the Glen Park Garden Club columnist. For more information about the garden club, contact her at [kay.estey@gmail.com](mailto:kay.estey@gmail.com).*

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## ❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

One block east of Elk Street, only a block long and traversing a steep slope, Mizpah Street runs southerly from Sussex Street to a few feet west of the flatiron-like intersection of Surrey and Chenery streets. Many have wondered about the meaning of Mizpah, and some recent rediscoveries may have finally revealed an answer.

According to the Jewish Virtual Library, “mizpah” or “mizpeh” is a Hebrew word for “watchtower” or “lookout point.” It appears several times in the Bible, first in Genesis 31:49. As the biblical story goes, Jacob and Laban disagree, then make a covenant. They build a pile of stones that Laban declares a “Mizpah; for he said, The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another.” In other words, the cairn served as a boundary of their domains and as a symbolic “watchtower” to monitor adherence to their agreement, with God keeping an omnipresent eye over both.

By the Victorian era, the exchange of mizpah jewelry had become an acceptable symbol of affection that respected the strict social mores of the time, serving as an amulet of protection and remembrance. Initially designed as two hearts side-by-side, it was redesigned as a single heart split in two, with each par amour keeping one-half of the mizpah during periods of separation.

Around the turn of the 20th century, many entities in San Francisco were named “Mizpah,” including various fraternal and social lodges, tribes, charity clubs and circles, in addition

to the Mizpah Band of Hope (a temperance society), a Presbyterian church and a schooner. A consultation with the Rev. Mme. Mizpah, “an ordained dead trance medium,” could be had for 50 cents a session.

In Nevada in 1901, the Mizpah Mine (silver) in Tonopah was the “greatest-producing property in the world.” Recently, USA Today dubbed Tonopah’s Mizpah Hotel, built in 1907, America’s Number One Haunted Hotel. In short, “mizpah” was used and understood to a much greater degree near the turn of the 20th century than it is today.

In our district, in October 1898, real estate agent Archibald S. Baldwin opened a “pleasuring ground”—that is, a public park—called Glen Park and the Mission Zoo, his apparent method of enticing prospective buyers to what was then a sparsely populated agricultural district. The sale of lots in his new Glen Park Terrace was slated to begin in 1899. (See Glen Park News, Summer 2016, for more about the first use of “Glen Park.”)

Mizpah Street may be a tangible artifact of Baldwin’s sprawling, 145-acre pleasuring grounds. A survey he commissioned in September 1898 shows paths and promenades that are hardly recognizable today. Yet one feature on Baldwin’s 1898 survey map is unchanged: the flatiron intersection of Surrey Street and Glen Avenue (today’s Chenery Street). Using this intersection as a landmark, we can pinpoint the location of a downsized replica of Havana’s Morro Castle near today’s intersection of Swiss Avenue and Sussex Street. On the survey map, a small path begins immediately west of the Surrey flatiron tip, meandering up the hill to the castle.

When Glen Park and the Mission Zoo opened, America had just won the Spanish-American War, which despite its name was fought almost entirely in Cuba. U.S. involvement had begun in February 1898, when the battleship USS Maine mysteriously exploded in the harbor of Havana near Morro Castle. To “Remember the Maine” and the 266 souls lost had become an American battle cry. Like other examples throughout the United States, Baldwin may have ordered the construction of Glen Park’s Morro Castle



The Morro Castle of Glen Park, 1898. Image courtesy of the San Francisco Public Library.

as a remembrance to the fallen sailors of the battleship.

Today, the Western Neighborhoods Project (WNP) is diligently working to upload 100,000 vintage images of San Francisco provided by an anonymous donor (see OpenSFHistory.org).

Our Sunnyside historian and assistant director of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project (GPNHP), Amy O’Hair, has been helping the WNP identify locations of images that appear to be from our district.

Earlier this year, they came upon some images of Glen Park and the Mission Zoo, c. 1898-1900. One shows a man and woman standing next to the miniature Morro Castle. Another shows the same woman standing next to a pile of rocks at the end of a sidewalk in an otherwise vacant landscape. To the east, over her shoulder, is the Gum Tree Grove that had been planted near today’s Diamond and Chenery Streets, extending to about Lippard Avenue. The sidewalk likely marked the end of Glen Avenue at Surrey, where the main pleasuring grounds were accessed. The path angling up to the right from the left side of the cairn may be today’s Surrey Street in its earliest form. The structure in the upper left may be Morro Castle.

After sharing the image of the rock pile on a recent GPNHP history walk and describing its presumed location near today’s Surrey, Chenery and Mizpah intersection, Mizpah resident Lois Haggerty called out that “mizpah”

referred to a rockpile. While research had revealed the watchtower definition, that mizpah also described a cairn had not yet been realized. It was an exciting moment!

Was the miniature Morro Castle constructed as a watchtower to the lives lost on the USS Maine in Havana Harbor? Could Mizpah Street have been named for the path that meandered to it? Did the rockpile in the image—a mizpah—mark the beginning of the path to the castle and the boundary of the pleasuring grounds? Did it also stand as a symbol of our nation’s shared covenant to “Never Forget” the sailors of the USS Maine, all members of our military, and in these unsettling times, our first responders as well?

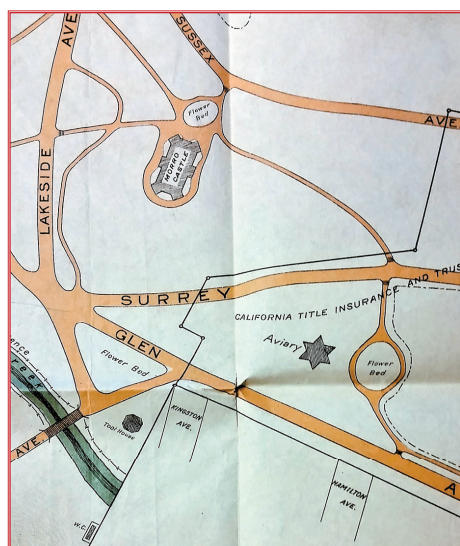
We may never know with certainty the true origins of Mizpah Street. Yet, if the above is correct, this rediscovery seems particularly fitting: Mizpah Street resident George Sylvester Dunn, Seaman 2nd Class, USS West Virginia, was killed in action during the attack on Pearl Harbor, on Dec. 7, 1941. Mizpah: it is our duty to never forget. ❖

*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](http://www.GlenParkHistory.org).*



A couple stands in front of the downsized replica of Morro Castle near today’s Swiss Avenue and Sussex Street, ca. 1898-1900, top. A rock cairn, a “mizpah,” likely located near today’s intersection of Surrey, Chenery, and Mizpah Streets, ca. 1898-1900.

Images courtesy of the Western Neighborhoods Project, OpenSFHistory.org



A portion of the Baldwin survey map of Glen Park and the Mission Zoo, September 1898. The flatiron tip of the intersection of Surrey Street at Glen Avenue (Chenery Street), with a path to Morro Castle, near today’s Swiss Avenue and Sussex Street.



# Mitchell's: 65 Years of Cool Treats

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"As a fireman, my dad worked 24 hours on and had 48 hours off," Mitchell said, "so he had the time. My mom was happy just as long as he was assigned to a safe fire house."

In 1953, city neighborhoods boasted their own ice cream parlors, such as Hoo's on Judah Street at 28th Avenue, where I sampled my first child's cone, or St. Francis Creamery on 24th Street. "My dad liked going to Garrett's, an ice cream shop on Alemany Boulevard at Onondaga Avenue," Linda Mitchell recalled.

The Mitchell family traces its roots in the neighborhood back to 1860s, when Linda's Irish great-grandparents settled in San Francisco and raised dairy cows on the slopes above 30th and Noe streets. Edwin Mitchell and Margaret Mitchell ran the farm until his death in 1913. Then Margaret leased it, and built the apartment house that now houses the ice cream parlor.

Larry Mitchell, who died in 2016, attended St. Paul's School on Church Street, eventually graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1946, then joined the U.S. Army for a three-year hitch. Mustered out, he entered the San Francisco Fire Department in 1950 and retired 30 years later.

In her turn, Linda Mitchell, who with her younger brother, Brian, was raised in the Sunset District, graduated from Lowell High School, took a turn as a banker in Texas, then Florida, before returning to San Francisco in 1991 and entering the family business.

Mitchell's Ice Cream is a storied institution. It's never had to advertise in a traditional manner; generations of word-of-mouth have sufficed.

"We still take out a blurb in the St. Paul's newsletter and hand it out on Bingo Day," she said. "Dad attended, and there's still a connection."

On a warm October afternoon, Mitchell and I sat in her office. Nearby, employees served the public, and only a few feet from there two freezers were stocked with daily inventory.

Mitchell's handcrafted ice cream and sorbet is produced each day on the premises—all 550 gallons of it. Brian Mitchell, who is responsible for production, oversees 38 employees, 12 of whom are ice cream makers. Shouldering their way into the tiny store, customers take numbers and queue up without complaint. Three quarters of what Mitchell's produces is sold retail; the other 25 percent is



Linda Mitchell watches the daily manufacture of ice cream at Mitchell's Ice Cream.

Photos by Murray Schneider

wholesaled to markets such as Mollie Stone's on Portola Drive and coffee shops including Progressive Grounds on Cortland Avenue.

The shop is open every day from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. "We have two shifts," said Linda Mitchell. "The 12 ice cream makers work in teams of two. We hire the right people, and they're a good group of employees."

Three times a week, at 3 a.m., Mitchell's receives from the Central Valley an ice cream mix, loaded in 40-pound bags. "There's a lot of heavy lifting," said Mitchell.

Working in a crowded 11-by-11-foot manufacturing room, bending over a 10-gallon-batch freezer ice cream maker, the teams make a gamut of traditional flavors such as rocky road and vanilla.

"Grasshopper pie is catching on," Mitchell volunteered, about a creamy concoction composed of mint chocolate chip fudge marbled with Oreo cookies.

"We've always tried to engage in careful pricing," said Mitchell, "and my dad was well aware of the changing Mission District demographic."

As Mitchell's picked up steam in the 1960s, Larry Mitchell recognized that more Latinos and Filipinos were standing in the long lines. "My dad worked with a fruit broker named Emerson Clark, who convinced him to import mango. He did, and the tropical fla-

vor has become our most popular ice cream," said Mitchell. "We're told that travelers from the Philippines head straight here from the airport."

Next came macapuno, a Filipino coconut delicacy. Six years ago, the Mitchell siblings complemented it with lucuma, a Peruvian fruit ice cream. "It's become another favorite, and we sometimes can't keep it in stock," said Mitchell, who confesses her favorite flavor remains the less exotic mocha fudge.

Ube, another exotica, is also hot. "It comes from a Philippine root, a purple yam," she said. "It's a favorite with little kids." Smiling, she added, "We're doing our part to make sure children eat their vegetables."

Mitchell's is more than an ice cream parlor, though. It's a third place, like a coffee shop or the corner saloon. It's not home, it's not work, it's a place where strangers can mingle, a place where people eating ice cream cones can

hang out on the sidewalk or sit on the benches on either side of the door.

"I hear people waiting, I hear them laughing and talking to one another," Mitchell said. "Maybe that's our contribution."

I've been going to Mitchell's for 45 years now. I stop whenever I drive by and can find a parking space on the street or in the lot behind the store. If there aren't any spots I make another pass.

One day last June, Linda Mitchell was the only woman, certainly the oldest person, on the far side of the counter. I didn't know her then, but I supposed she must have something to do with the shop.

"Thanks for being here," I said, peering over my single scoop.

She turned and looked. Then she entered her office to work on payroll or confer with long-time assistant managers Wanda and Marlin Payumo.

I didn't see her again until we sat together in her office four months later.

I told her about our millisecond exchange the day I sat on her bench, eating her ice cream, listening to her customers socialize.

It took a moment for it all to register. When it did, her eyes welled. "That means a lot," Linda Mitchell said. "It reminds me of my dad."

In her store, customers continued streaming in, pulling numbers and making a beeline for the counter.

Then they waited for their turn and that moment of choice. ♦





## ❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

**H**ello from your friendly neighborhood library.

In September, which was National Library Card Sign-Up Month, the library encouraged patrons to check out their neighborhood branch. Any patron who registered for a new library card, renewed a card or got a replacement card automatically had a chance to win a pair of JetBlue tickets. A young Glen Park patron named Axyl Wadhwa won the Jet Blue tickets! He is about 6 years old and has a twin brother. Here is Axyl with his family, showing the SFPL's new Warriors' cards.

National Library Card Sign-Up Month is sponsored by the American Library Association. The campaign started in 1987 as a response to then-Secretary of Education William Bennett, who stated, "Let's have a campaign ... Every child should obtain a library card and use it." ALA's theme this year is "The Incredibles," and we think the San Francisco Public Library is pretty incredible.

Our Open House was on Saturday, Dec. 1, and a fun-filled day. At noon, NorCal Bats offered an exciting, informative presentation on bats., and their importance as insect control. NorCal Bats is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of bats throughout Northern California. They are com-



Axyl Wadhwa, with his family, holds up the SFPL's new Warrior SF public library cards. Axyl won a pair of Jet Blue airline tickets. Photo courtesy San Francisco Public Library

## GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

Monday 10-6  
Tuesday 10-6  
Wednesday 12-8  
Thursday 10-7  
Friday 1-6  
Saturday 10-6  
Sunday 1-5

All San Francisco Public  
Libraries will be  
**CLOSED on:**

Tuesday, Dec. 25, Christmas.  
Tuesday, Jan. 1, New Year's Day.  
Monday, Jan. 15,  
Martin Luther King Day

mitted to public education regarding the environmental benefits of bats, and dispelling fears and myths that lead to the death of roosts and colonies.

Historian Evelyn Rose from the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project gave a talk about episodes from Glen Park's forgotten histories. Then the Glen Park Trio performed a selection of classical music.

The Glen Park Branch had to say a fond farewell on Nov. 15 to Kris Smith, one of our children's librarians. Kris started Decorate the Fridge, the toddler and preschool art program at Glen Park, which has been praised by parents and children alike. Kris will now be sharing her lively Storytime spirit, her amazing creativity and her dedicated public service at the Ortega Branch of the San Francisco Public Library. Stop by Ortega and say hello to Kris.

Please pick up the Glen Park monthly calendar to keep up with what is going on at your local neighborhood library, or the At the Library Newsletter to discover what exciting programs are happening citywide. Visit your local branch and see why SFPL was named the 2018 Library of the Year! ❖

*Michelle Waddy is the branch manager of the Glen Park Library.*

*Bird & Beckett Books and Records*  
653 Chenery St San Francisco [birdbeckett.com](http://birdbeckett.com) (415) 586-3733



# Glen Park's Urban Country Music Rose

While Clement Street is a bit of a stretch from Chenery Street, Pauline Scholten has performed music along both.

Her most recent Glen Park gig was at Bird & Beckett Books and Records on Oct. 11.

Scholten, who lives on Arlington Street, fronts a four-member group called the Prairie Rose Band, which two weeks later, on Oct. 28, performed at the Clement Street Farmers Market.

As children dressed in Halloween finery took center row at the corner of Third Avenue, Scholten—decked out in cowboy chaps that looked as if they'd been rendered from a Holstein dairy cow—checked her sound equipment, then fine-tuned a set list that includes American singer-songwriters Merle Haggard, Patsy Cline, Maybelle Carter, Johnny Cash, Hank Williams and Woody Guthrie.

“The band is named after Prairie Rose Henderson, a turn-of-the-20th century cowgirl, bronco rider and Wild West show star,” Scholten told the *Glen Park News* as her Richmond District show approached. “Rose was known for her colorful costumes, which included scandalous Turkish trousers, sequins, feathers and cowboy boots.”

Rose Henderson could dazzle rodeo crowds with her daring buckaroo feats. Pauline Scholten, accompanied by a bass, banjo and dobro, is equally adept at wowing corrals of children with renditions of “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star,” “Itsy Bitsy Spider” and “If You Are Happy and You Know It Clap your Hands.”

“We select what we play strictly by



Paulene Scholten and Steve Rubenstein at Clement Street Farmers Market.

our audience,” Scholten said, watching children attired in bumblebee and superhero costumes.

Growing up in West Portal, attending Herbert Hoover Middle School and Lincoln High School, and then graduating from San Francisco State University in 1976, Scholten honed her musical chops listening to AM radio stations KYA and KEWB, which broadcast the likes of Judy Collins, Joan Baez, Mickey Newbury, the Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead.

“I loved music,” said the 30-year Glen Park resident, “and I wanted to pursue it after I graduated State, even to the point of paying for guitar lessons.”

With a college degree in journalism in the bank and the security that a Silicon Valley tech writer job allowed her, Scholten branched out.

“I’d play at Ocean or Stinson Beaches,” she said, channeling informal hootenannies that were then common place. “When you play with other people, well, it encourages you to get better.”

She got her first paid gig, a Hayward wedding, in the early 1980s.

After meeting George Martin, a banjo player and then-*San Francisco Examiner* copy editor, her eclectic tastes winnowed to a narrower Americana genre.

“George and I would cover a mix of country and western songs along with popular standards,” she said.

About 10 years ago, she and Martin started The Prairie Rose Band, performing a rootsy mix of melodies that one hears daily in the hollows of Appalachia, but only on the first weekend of October in Golden Gate Park’s Hellman Hollow during the annual Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Festival.

“There’s not a lot of opportunity for a cowboy band in San Francisco,” she said.

Consequently, her band has ventured forth to Brisbane, Hayward and Crockett.

“We began picking up dates at farmers markets in Contra Costa County, but also here at Stonestown and the Embarcadero,” she said. “And the non-profit Bread & Roses facilitated entree to public libraries, nursing homes, even prisons.”

Before the first set began on Clement Street, banjo player and *San Francisco Chronicle* reporter Steve Rubenstein, who subbed for Martin, bent over a youngster dressed as a dinosaur and encouraged the boy to finger his banjo.

The band began its set with a rendition of Cole Porter’s “Don’t Fence Me In,” then segued to Woody Guthrie’s “This Land is Your Land,” a number it had performed at Bird & Beckett earlier in the month.

If there is a quintessential American song, it’s possibly this one, the provenance of not just rustic and rural old homesteads, but gritty and urban ones, as well.

Pauline Scholten is aware of this.

“When you play it, peoples’ faces light up,” she said, during a Clement Street set break. “People remember that song. They come up to us afterward and want to talk about the music.”

From Dunsmuir, banjo player Tim Holt certainly did when he attended the band’s Chenery Street bookstore performance on Oct. 11. Like Martin and Rubenstein, Holt is a journalist and publishes a quarterly he calls *The Northwest Review*. Like the two Prairie Rose Band members, he’s also a professional performer. Retained by the San Francisco Public Library, Holt weaves together, as he did on March 19 at the Merced Branch, a narrative featuring tunes from Pete Seeger’s and Woody Guthrie’s folksy repertoires.

At the end of The Prairie Rose Band’s performance at B&B, Holt, who lives in the shadow of Mt. Shasta, wasn’t shy about contacting the *Glen Park News*.

“That Sunday afternoon at Bird & Beckett,” he emailed, “took me back to a time of wide-open prairies, cowgirls who knew how to wahoo and good old-fashioned banjo pickin’.”

And there’s certainly lots that’s inclusive about the vernacular Paulene Scholten now performs, ballads that blanket America’s horizons with canals, riverboats, railroads, peaks, valleys, wagons and, of course, cattle.

Why now?

“We have to keep this music alive,” Scholten said. “They’re classic songs, the peoples’ songs and they belong to us all.” ♦



Prairie Rose Band performs at Bird & Beckett.

Photos by Murray Scheider



# Glen Park: The Place To Be on New Years Eve

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

If you're planning your own party, your first go-to guy should be David Ulias, the Canyon Market authority on sparkling wines, French Champagne and otherwise. He promises, in notable non-wine-speak, "an amazing selection of great stuff." The origins range from Italy, France, Spain, Slovenia and Germany to California. For the latter, he suggests both the white and rosé sparkling wines from Terra Savia.

Elsewhere in the market, of course, there are the makings of party edibles, both prepared and do-it-yourself, and other wines, beers, liquors and liqueurs.

Around the corner at Cheese Boutique on Chenery Street, owner

Rick Malouf says that cheese and meat platters can be ordered to feed any number of guests. But if you're hoping for sweets from Destination, you're out of luck. After the Christmas rush, the local bakery is taking a well-deserved breather until Jan. 2.

At Perch, also on Chenery Street, owner Zoel Fages can't sell you booze, but he recommends a book called *Batched and Bottled*, which gives instructions on preparing large batches of cocktails so you can keep home bartending chores to a minimum while you enjoy your own New Year's Eve party. (If you're inviting Fages, his favorite quaff is a negroni.)

Other books deal with vermouth and aperitifs, and the shop sells special

ice cube trays, cocktail mixers, pitchers and a line of Star Wars cocktail glasses (hint: one has a light-saber), plus cheese boards and knives, platters, bowls, glasses, holiday cards and jewelry for dressing up that evening. Shop early, because Perch is closed on the 31st.

If you want to decorate your house, inside or out, with the full range of New Year's Eve-specific silly stuff, you'll have to go next door to Noe Valley and check out the One Stop Party Shop, at 1600 Church St. Starting in mid-December, they'll stock blowers (those curled-up paper gizmos that shoot out noisily when you blow on them), banners, plates and cups, poppers, paper hats, noisemakers and balloons. Closer to home, Glen Park Hardware has holiday lights and other decorations.

If home parties and sit-down restaurants aren't your idea of a proper bash to bid good riddance to 2018, check out Glen Park Station, 2816 Diamond St., our sole remaining neighborhood watering hole. Manager Catherine Lacore says that six TV sets inside the bar will be tuned in to watch the ball drop in Times Square as imbibers drink

their champagne toasts.

Patrons will be offered special holiday drinks and snacks, plus "a ton of balloons," party hats, noisemakers, blowers, foil hats, gold and silver tiaras and wine bottles filled with confetti. "It should be a lot of fun," Lacore promises.

And that, after all, is what celebrating New Year's Eve is all about. ♦

## Holiday Hours

### Manzoni:

Closed Christmas Day  
Open New Year's Eve,  
5:30–midnight  
Closed New Year's Day

### Le P'tit Laurent:

Open Christmas Day  
Closed New Year's Eve and  
New Year's Day

### Gialina:

Closed Dec. 24–Jan. 1

### One Waan:

Closed Dec. 24–26  
Open New Year's Eve,  
4:30–10 p.m.

### Win Garden:

Open Christmas Eve and  
Christmas Day  
Open New Year's Eve and  
New Year's Day

### La Corneta Taqueria:

Limited hours Dec. 25, Dec.  
31, Jan. 1

### Pebbles:

Open New Year's Eve until  
5 p.m.  
Closed New Year's Day

### Destination Baking:

Closed Dec. 25–Jan. 1

### Tyger's:

Closed  
Christmas Day and  
New Year's Day

### Tekka House:

Closed Christmas Eve and  
Christmas Day  
Closed New Year's Eve  
and New Year's Day

### Cuppa:

Closed Dec. 13–Jan. 3

### Canyon Market:

Closed Christmas Day  
Closed New Year's Day

### Buddies Super Market:

Open Christmas Eve,  
8 a.m.–11 p.m.  
Open Christmas Day,  
9 a.m.–8 p.m.  
Open New Year's Eve,  
8 a.m.–11 p.m.  
Open New Year's Day,  
9 a.m.–8 p.m.

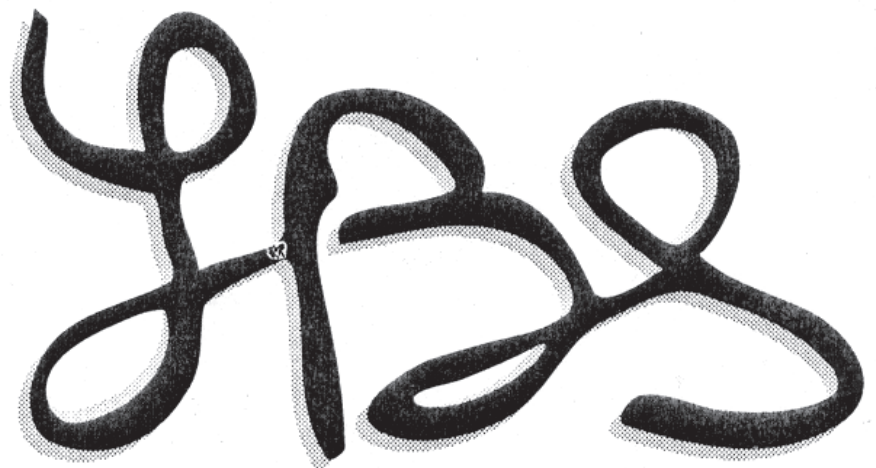
### Glen Park Market:

Open New Year's Eve, until  
midnight  
Open New Year's Day

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## Building bridges between buyers and sellers



Judy Marrocco has lived in Glen Park for over two decades; she has raised her family here, is a Glen Park homeowner, committed sponsor and sponsorship chairperson of the Glen Park Festival.

Judy believes in the heart of Glen Park and knows just how special this neighborhood is.

Now powered by Compass' groundbreaking real estate technology, Judy is the ideal person to help you navigate the purchase or sale of your home.

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## ◆ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ◆

**G**reetings from Glen Park Elementary School. It's been a busy start to the school year, and it's hard to believe that the winter break is nearly upon us.

We welcomed the new year with our annual Glen Park Carnival on Saturday, Sept. 29. Attendees enjoyed carnival games and a raffle, face painting, bouncy houses and delicious Latino food. Proceeds from the Carnival benefited the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization, with a portion of the funds dedicated to supporting our partnership with Mission Graduates, a program designed to help increase engagement with families in our Latino community.

This is the school's second year working with Mission Graduates. Following a successful pilot last year, we are participating in the organization's Parent Partner Program. The program gives parents the tools to ensure that their children are set up to succeed academically and ultimately move on to college. It features workshops to enhance the skill sets parents need to help their children's academic success at home and at school, and to bolster understanding of topics like test scores, parent-teacher conferences and navigating the San Francisco Unified

School District's support programs.

Additionally, Mission Graduates works to enhance the school's English Learners Advisory Council, to promote the voices of all English language learners within the school community as a whole and in the school planning and budgeting processes in particular. For more information on the program, visit [www.missiongraduates.org/programs/parents/](http://www.missiongraduates.org/programs/parents/).

The school celebrated Halloween with its annual parade around the Glen Park village and a Halloween Dance in the auditorium. Unfortunately, our first Science, Technology, Arts, Engineering and Math (STEAM) Night, originally scheduled for Nov. 15, had to be rescheduled to later in December due to air quality concerns.

We have also seated recently elected members to our School Site Council (SSC). The SSC consists of representatives from both the school's staff and from the larger school community. It is tasked with reviewing the school district's strategic plan and the student performance data to develop the school's Balanced Score Card and budget.

Elected members serve two-year terms. The six parent and community members are Sara Hernandez-Tax, Susan Tramontana, Heather Hough, Marcia Silva, Yvette Michaud, and Kerri Terk, with Angelyca Jeffries and Kristy Wang as alternates. The staff members are Michelle Ferraz, Irma Peinado, Kimberly Wong, Sheila Tenney and Liz Zarr, with Rebecca Sandford-Smith and Ilze Castellani sharing one spot for a total of six. Alan Worman and Nicole Majors are the school staff alternates.

Winter break runs from Dec. 24 through Jan. 6. We're looking forward to the rest and excited about what the new year will bring—including our Variety Show on Feb. 7 and another STEAM night later in the year.

And prospective parents, don't forget the registration for the 2019-20 school year is approaching. Applications are due Jan. 11. If you'd like to take a closer look at Glen Park School, we hold Prospective Parent Tours Tuesdays at 9 a.m. Check in with the front office when you arrive. You might also consider arriv-

ing early to attend our lively morning meeting at 8:40 on the Brompton Street yard. We'll see you there! ◆

*Eric Kammerud is the communications co-chair of the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization.*

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## ❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

The second annual Where in the World Is Christopher Park? Festival on Oct. 13 was a grand success enjoyed by more than 1,400 people and 44 dogs. (Volunteers clicked attendance this year, so this is a fairly valid count.)

Many thanks are due to the organizers, including a huge thank you to Brynna McNulty, who coordinated the event and added new dimensions to augment a beautiful day. Eric Beattie expertly organized the entertainment under a large tent, as well as performing with Marymoore Patterson. Kathy Edwards creatively located most of the activities and organization tables on the baseball meadow, providing a colorful site and easy access to everything.

Ned Buskirk, acting as MC, did a stellar job introducing storytellers and musicians, as well as Assessor Carmen Chu, whose office coordinated the scavenger hunt, and Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, who presented the prizes for the photo contests. To top everything off, not one person was seen at the First Aid Station. Thank you to all the volunteers who created a marvelous Festival!

It is uncertain whether there will be a third annual festival next year. In summer 2019, the Recreation and Park Department will start year-long renovations on the park. The play structures will be replaced with creative climbing elements, new swings, a twirl and an imagination garden. Picnic tables, benches and more landscaping will fill the amphitheater area. One bathroom will be updated to ADA standards.

Pathways will be repaired from Diamond Heights Boulevard and Duncan Street to the Rec Center. A slide will be installed on the little hill at the west end of the playground. The three original metal climbing structures will be restored and placed near the playground. Many thanks to the RPD and the Friends of Christopher Park for working together on the plans for renovating the playground and pathways.

Our hearts go out to all who have been impacted by the fires all around California. Resilient Diamond Heights (RDH) has been working to try to reduce the possibility of a fire spreading from one of our five neighborhood parks on a very windy day to Glen Park, Diamond Heights, Miraloma Park and Noe Valley. Supervisor Mandelman lis-

tened to the concerns of the neighborhood. He convened a community meeting, on Fire Mitigation in our Neighborhood Parks and Evacuation Planning, with the Diamond Heights Community Association and RDH on Sept. 8.

A standing-room-only crowd told officials from the City's fire and police departments, Rec & Park and the Department of Emergency Management that more fire prevention

efforts are needed to reduce the risk of fires started by a discarded cigarette, a bonfire or someone lighting a fire to cook a meal or keep warm. We learned from Eric Andersen, superintendent of Parks and Open Spaces, that fires are illegal in parks. The only exception is that the RPD Camp Silver Tree in Glen Canyon Park is permitted to build campfires during the summer. If you see a fire in a park, please call 911 right away. If you see a bonfire in a fire pit, call 311 and request that the S.F. Fire Department respond.



The Little Red Hen Community Garden was represented at the Christopher Park Festival. .

Photo by Guillem Tarres

All are invited to the free Diamond Heights holiday party on Saturday, Dec. 15, 3-5 p.m., at St. Aidan's Church on Diamond Heights Boulevard at Gold Mine Drive. There will be holiday craft making for all ages, tasty food, Santa and Mrs. Claus, caroling, entertainment by Scrumbly Koldewyn, and a free raffle. For more information, please contact Betsy Eddy. ❖

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

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4:30 pm Family Service

Storytelling, Carols and Communion

7:30 pm Candlelight Communion Service

with Festive Music

### Christmas Morning

9:00 am Carols and Communion

### Sunday Services

Holy Communion, 8 am

Holy Communion with Hymns 10 am

Sunday School & Child Care 10 am

### Wednesday Services

Holy Communion, 6 pm

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www.staidansf.org 415.285.9540







## MARC DICKOW

Broker, Realtor, Partner



2018 Board of Directors, San Francisco Association of Realtors

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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

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“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**



# A Surprise Tree Trimming With a Happy Ending

It’s not often that you post a story of general interest on the *Glen Park News* blog and live it out yourself a couple of days later. That’s what happened with my post linking to a *San Francisco Chronicle* story about the City’s tree maintenance program, known as StreetTreeSF.

I came home one recent day, feeling pretty good about getting my flu shot and remembering to take my 20 percent discount coupons into Bed Bath & Beyond. Then I came upon an unexpected sight in front of my house.

The tree between my neighbor’s house and mine was being pruned by San Francisco Public Works. Only a couple of years ago, we shared the cost (\$800) for a professional arborist to trim the tree.

With the mantra “the worst first” playing in my head, I approached Joseph Huelfenhaus, a Public Works arborist, to find out why our tree was chosen for maintenance so soon. As was described in the *Chronicle*, a detailed census has been done of the 125,000 street trees in the city. The trees in the worst condition are given first priority for pruning and care.

Our tree was neither dead nor failing, and it wasn’t encroaching on any power lines—some of the reasons street trees are given priority in the program.

Huelfenhaus explained that the trees are tracked by a grid system. Neighbors

are notified if a tree has been given priority for maintenance or removal. If a crew is on a grid that has priority trees in it, they’ll check their lists to see what other trees on the grid might be listed for tending, since they’re in the area anyway. It’s more efficient than hopping back and forth to different areas to maintain a tree here and there.

This was the situation with our tree. In comparison to many other trees, ours was kind of OK, but many branches were drooping due to their weight. The lower-hanging ones were blocking visibility of stop signs, and trucks were brushing against them as well. I wasn’t aware of these hazards; it took the vigilance of the tree crew to recognize them.

I went online to the Public Works website to see what I could find out about our tree, a New Zealand Christmas, common in San Francisco and one of the street trees recommended by Friends of the Urban Forest.

There’s a navigable grid map where you can find the trimming schedule for your tree. Sure enough, I found our tree, at <https://sfpublicworks.org/streettreesf>.

If residents prefer to maintain their trees privately, they can opt out of the City tree maintenance program through the City’s 311 customer service system.

In our case, we were very pleased with the results of our “surprise” tree trim, and the money it will save us in the future.

Just like the earlier part of my day, things were just falling into place. ♦

## GLEN PARK HALLOWEEN



ET was spotted on Chenery Street during the festive Halloween night.

Photo by Liz Mangelsdorf



❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

I want to share some information regarding additions and/or work done on your homes without permits, and the pros and cons of the various decisions we make in connection with those changes.

But first, let's do the numbers:

It's been a lively and shifting market over the past three months in San Francisco. We currently have more homes for sale than we've seen in the past several years—inventory is way up. As of this writing, there were about 1,400 properties for sale in San Francisco. That is almost double the number a year ago at this time.

In Glen Park, there are currently 13 homes for sale. Many times in the past two years I reported only one or two homes for sale while writing these articles. Between Aug. 24 and Nov. 13, 20 properties sold in Glen Park, including 17 single-family homes, two condominiums and one 2-unit building. That's about the same number as the last quarter.

The median sale price for a single-family home in Glen Park was \$1,775,000. The median list price was \$1,695,000 for the quarter. The average overbid was around 10 percent over asking. The average days on market was 23, which has increased a bit.

The Federal Reserve has raised interest rates again since I wrote last, although rates are still very low. We are now at around 4.7 percent for a 30-year fixed loan and 4.11 percent for a 15-year fixed.

The increased inventory has resulted in a bit of a shift in the market overall. While some properties are still selling over their asking price, we are seeing fewer offers per property. If the sale price does go over asking, it's not by as much as we were seeing before. This is the correction we've been anticipating, in my opinion.

There is still high demand for properties, but sellers need to be a lot more careful about pricing. The strategy of pricing low to attract more buyers has not worked out so well on many properties recently. Realtors and sellers are adjusting to the market, and we will likely see more "transparent pricing," which seems to be the latest buzz phrase. That makes for a more level housing market. This isn't anything new; it's actually normal. I'm not saying that it's not still a seller's market, but there are more opportunities for buyers, so sellers need to adjust their expectations. (My column in the next

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
138 Whitney St.	8/24/18	0	\$1,055,000	\$1,055,000	100.00%
30 Roanoke St.	8/31/18	10	\$1,199,000	\$1,600,000	133.44%
570 Chenery St.	9/6/18	16	\$899,000	\$1,420,000	157.95%
851 Chenery St.	9/6/18	13	\$2,980,000	\$3,300,000	110.74%
149 Farnum St.	9/7/18	8	\$1,195,000	\$1,360,000	113.81%
55 Hiliritas Ave.	9/18/18	52	\$3,395,000	\$3,250,000	95.73%
25 Chenery St.	9/25/18	11	\$1,895,000	\$1,922,720	101.46%
65 Hiliritas Ave.	9/27/18	146	\$3,395,000	\$3,300,000	97.20%
521 Laidley St.	10/11/18	11	\$1,895,000	\$2,005,000	105.80%
90 Joost Ave.	10/15/18	29	\$1,149,000	\$1,180,000	102.70%
15 Hiliritas Ave.	10/15/18	10	\$3,649,000	\$3,635,000	99.62%
11 Surrey St.	10/16/18	12	\$995,000	\$1,375,000	138.19%
224 Miguel St.	10/17/18	9	\$2,995,000	\$3,380,000	112.85%
343 Arlington St.	10/18/18	18	\$1,395,000	\$1,630,000	116.85%
281 Arlington St.	10/19/18	14	\$1,695,000	\$1,775,000	104.72%
291 Sussex St.	10/23/18	25	\$1,749,000	\$1,775,000	101.49%
133 Randall St.	11/8/18	6	\$1,595,000	\$1,800,000	112.85%
Condominiums/Multi-Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
473 Chenery St. - 2 unit building	10/12/18	0	\$3,175,000	\$3,400,000	107.09%
55 Miguel St. #3	10/12/18	12	\$995,000	\$1,180,000	118.59%
10 Lippard Ave.	11/7/18	10	\$1,150,000	\$1,312,500	114.13%
DOM - Days on market      SP/LP - % over or under list price					

issue will have the year's wrap-up and insights for 2019.)

Improvements

Now let's talk about work you are doing or have done on your home. If you are thinking about an addition or some substantial improvement to your home that requires a permit from the City, you should carefully consider your options.

It is not uncommon for homeowners in San Francisco to do work on their homes without permits. There are many reasons why you might not want to get the work "permitted"—perceived cost savings, time savings, reassessment of your property taxes. But there is one huge reason to consider getting the permits and having work done by a licensed contractor: Resale!

When the time comes to sell your home, you will hope to get the highest price you can, obviously. But if you make substantial additions without permits, you will not get the highest return on your investment.

I have seen situations in which sellers added additional square footage to their homes—really nice additions—but when it came time to sell, they could not count the full value of the additional square footage in the list/sale price. That's because most buyers

need to get a mortgage, and when the bank sends an appraiser reviews the property, the appraiser doesn't give the full value of non-permitted additions to the appraised value.

Consider that your home was around 1,200 square feet. Somewhere along the way, you or a previous owner added another 1,000 square feet to the home, without permits. When you go to sell, the appraiser won't give full value to the additional square footage, so you end up selling for around \$1,350,000. If the work had been done with permits, and you figure the average home sells for around \$1,000 per square foot, you would have sold the same home for around \$2,200,000. That's a huge difference!

If you are considering doing significant work on your home, make sure to talk to a licensed contractor and get all the facts before you decide it might save you some money to do it without a permit. Yes, the City can be a challenge to work with when it comes to permits and inspections, but remember that when you sell your home, there will be consequences to your decision.

In-Law Units

What about legalizing existing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), more commonly called in-law units?

They are also called Non-Conforming Additions. There are many such units, and an unknown number are illegal. The City has pushed a program to try and streamline their legalization. But owners who have tried to go this route have encountered many problems. I urge caution and thorough information-gathering before going to the City.

The City believes that legalizing these units will help with our housing shortage. I personally don't believe this to be the case. In addition, the City has stated that they have streamlined the process, but those I know who have gone through the process don't see it that way. Also, once you start the process, you can't stop it. If you try to stop for some reason, the City will fine you every year until you complete the process. It can be a slippery slope.

Again, I strongly urge you to consult a licensed contractor with a solid reputation, with good contacts in the Planning Department. I hope to have more information on this in the coming months, and will share it with you. I'm happy to help you get answers to your questions about this topic if I can. There are many good reasons for legalizing ADUs, but the system needs to be much simpler and less risky for homeowners. For an information sheet from DBI, go to <https://bit.ly/2K5mRH9>.

At the time of this writing, major wildfires continue to burn. My thoughts go out to those who have lost their homes and those who have lost family members to these devastating fires. These cities and residents will need help for months or in some cases years to come. Money can be donated to the American Red Cross, [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), or text the word REDCROSS to 90999 to make a donation. Additionally, the United Way of Northern California is taking donations for its NorCal Fire Relief Fund through its website at [www.norcalunitedway.org](http://www.norcalunitedway.org) or by texting CARRFIRE or BUTTEFIRE to 91999.

I'm pleased that this is an interactive column answering questions that you have and writing about topics that are of interest to you as a reader. You can send any questions or topic requests to [news@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:news@glenparkassociation.org), [marc@opni.com](mailto: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](mailto:marc@opni.com), or by phone at 415-722-4018. His website is [www.altrockrealtor.com](http://www.altrockrealtor.com).



## ♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR WINTER 2018-2019 ♦

**Mondays****Family Storytime and Playtime**

Every week, 4-5:30 p.m., Glen Park Library  
Books, songs, rhymes, 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.

**RJAM Jam Session**

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

2nd year! Students in the SF Conservatory of Music's "Roots, Jazz & American Music" BMUS degree program host their peers from Bay Area colleges and high schools. No cover charge, but donations appreciated.

**Tuesdays****Open Gym Basketball**

Every week, 9 a.m.-8:45 p.m.,  
Glen Canyon Rec Center

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Family Storytime**

Every week, 10:15-10:45 a.m. and 11-11:45 a.m.,  
Glen Park Library

Books, songs, rhymes, and fun for children of all ages.

**Qi Gong for Seniors**

1:30-3:30 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center

No fee. Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Rock Climbing – Drop-In**

Every week, 6-8 p.m. Glen Canyon Rec Center  
Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Knitting and Crochet Circle**

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

**SFPD Community Meetings**

Third Tuesday of the month,  
7-8 p.m., location varies

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 people who keep our neighborhood safe. Visit the website at InglesidePoliceStation.com or call the station at 415-404-4050.

**Wednesdays****Friends of Glen Canyon Park Work Parties**

Every week, 9 a.m.-12 noon. Meet behind the Rec Center off Elk Street, Glen Canyon Park  
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.

**Toddler Playtime**

Every week, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon,  
Glen Canyon Rec Center

Inside playtime for infants through 4-year-olds and their parents, nannies and other caretakers. Free.

**California Native Plant Society Work Parties**

Every week, 12-3 p.m., Glen Canyon Park  
Volunteer activities include weeding, planting, and general maintenance. Please wear closed-toed shoes, long pants and layers. The event will occur rain or shine. To RSVP, email recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org or call 415-831-6333.

**Pickleball – Drop In**

12 noon-3:30 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center  
Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information. No fee.

**Book a Librarian**

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

**Open Gym Basketball**

Every week, 3:30-8:45 p.m.,  
Glen Canyon Rec Center

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Rock Climbing – Drop-In**

Every week, 4-8 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center  
Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Lego Free Play**

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

**Diamond Diners**

Lunch and Social Hour  
First Wednesday of the month,  
12 noon-1 p.m., St. Aidan's Church

**Bird & Beckett Book Club**

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

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

**Thursdays****Decorate the Refrigerator**

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

**Open Gym Basketball**

Every week, 12 noon-8:45 p.m.,  
Glen Canyon Rec Center

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Zumba – Ages 55+**

1-2 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information. No fee.

**T(w)een Time**

Every week, 3-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

**Rock Climbing – Drop-In**

Every week, 6-8 p.m. Glen Canyon Rec Center  
Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Resilient Diamond Heights**

Fourth Thursday of the month, 6-8 p.m., St.  
Aidan's Church (except December 27)

Dinner and disaster resilience planning. For information, call 415-285-9540, ext. 3.

**Fridays****Toddler Playtime**

Every week, 9:30 a.m.-12 noon,  
Glen Canyon Rec Center

For infants through 4-year-olds and their parents, nannies and other caretakers. Free.

**Open Gym Basketball**

Every week, 12 noon-5 p.m.,  
Glen Canyon Rec Center

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Food Pantry**

Every week, 1-2 p.m.,

St. Aidan's Church (closed December 28)  
Volunteers run this free food pantry for low-income and disabled clients who live in the 94131 zip code. This is just one of the community 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.

**Rock Climbing – Drop In**

Every week, 4-8 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center  
Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Pickleball – Drop In**

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

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information. No fee.

**Jazz in the Bookshop**

Every week, 5:30-8 p.m., Bird & Beckett  
A neighborhood party every week, with live jazz. \$10-\$20 per adult suggested donation; kids welcome and free! See birdbeckett.com for performers.

**Saturdays****Open Gym Basketball**

Every week, 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m.,  
Glen Canyon Rec Center

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**Family Playtime**

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

**Rock Climbing – Drop-In**

Every week, 10 a.m.-12 noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center

Schedule subject to change. Contact Rec Center for more information.

**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, 9-12 noon; meet at the Rec Center off Elk Street, Glen Canyon Park  
Join the the Friends of Glen Canyon Park and SFRPD gardeners for a monthly volunteer work party of weeding, pruning and occasional planting. For more information, please email recparkvolunteer@sfgov.org or call 415-831-6333. Registration required.

**Sundays****Which Way West?**

Every week, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett  
A weekly concert series offering jazz, acoustic Americana, world, and classical music. \$10 per adult suggested; children free. No one turned away for lack of funds! See birdbeckett.com for performers.

**Walker Talks!**

Last Sunday of the month, 2:30-4 p.m.,  
Bird & Beckett (except December)

**Wednesday, December 5****Poetry Reading**

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett  
Mia Ayumi Malhotra (Isako Isako) and Julia Bouwsma (Midden) read their new work.

**Thursday, December 6****City Jazz! CCSF Jazz Club concert**

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

City Jazz has 3 vocalists, 2 pianists, 5 horns, a small string section, and a rhythm section. They'll play a collection of their favorite tunes including several original arrangements and some beloved standards.

**Saturday, December 8****Gardening Day**

9 a.m.-noon, Sunnyside Conservatory  
Help clean up the conservatory gardens. If it rains, we will adjourn, have some refreshments, and call it good. Simple refreshments will be provided. Please bring your preferred gardening tools.

**GNHP's Holiday Meeting and Social**

3-6 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory  
This year's Glen Park Neighborhood History Project's annual holiday meeting includes a history show-and-tell, followed by a social hour. See glenparkhistory.org for more information and to sign up.

**Sunday, December 9****Talk by Ananta Giri**

2-3 p.m., Bird & Beckett  
Traveling scholar, philosopher, sociologist, & humanist Ananta Kumar will share insights & writings.

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

7:30-10:00 p.m., Bird & Beckett  
\$10-\$20 suggested donation. \$5 for students/musicians/fixed income.

**Tuesday, December 11****Glen Park School Prospective Family Tours**

9 a.m., Glen Park School

Interested in joining the Glen Park School community for the 2019-2020 school year? Attend one of our weekly Prospective Family Tours. Reservations are not needed, and we encourage prospective parents to attend our lively morning welcome in the Brompton Street yard at 8:40 a.m. It is an excellent time to see our school in action. Please check-in at the school office when you arrive on campus. See www.glenparkschool.org for more information.

**Thursday, December 13****T(w)eens make Duct Tape**

Pencil Cases

3:30-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

**Critter Fritters Yappy Hour**

4:30-7:30 p.m., Critter Fritters, 670 Chenery St.

**Saturday, December 15****Diamond Heights Holiday Party**

3-5 p.m., St. Aidan's Church

Musical entertainment, caroling, Santa and Mrs. Claus, holiday crafts making and tasty food. For more information, see www.staidansf.org or call 415-285-9540, ext. 3.

**Gun Buy Back**

8 a.m.-12 noon, United Playaz,  
1038 Howard St.

SFPD is holding a no-questions-asked gun buy back event. Call 415-573-6219 for more information.

**Sunday, December 16****The Northern Boundaries of Sunnyside: Dairy Cows, Early Speculators and Activists, and the Steepest Parks in the City**

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Meet at Railroad Espresso Café, 750 Monterey  
Join local historian Amy O'Hair and hear about how our two parks were built, two massive landslide disasters, dairy farming on the edge of civilization, and the fight to make the streets safe from speeding steam trains. Ages 12 and up welcome. Well-behaved pets on leash also welcome. Rain or air quality count above 149 cancels walk. Donation requested. RSVP at SunnysideHistory@gmail.com

**Tuesday, December 18****Glen Park School Prospective Family Tours**

9 a.m., Glen Park School  
(See December 11)

**Saturday, December 22****Wreath Making**

10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory

We will have lots of holly, juniper, and other cuttings, but few cotoneaster berries. Items to share – ribbons, pine cones, etc. – are welcome. Please bring your frame(s) and pruners to use. Free. call 415-585-4721 or visit sunnysideconservatory.org for more information.

**Wednesday, December 26****Peck Allmond Quartet**

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

A Jazz in the Neighborhood Fair Wage Fund event. Keith Saunders, piano; John Wiitala, bass; Vince Lateano, drums. \$20 cover charge: \$10 for students/musicians/low income

**Saturday, December 29****Castles, Cows, Communists, & Champions: The Unusual Histories of West of Castro Street & Upper Reaches of Glen Park**

10 a.m.-1 p.m., Meet at Christopher Playground,  
5210 Diamond Heights Blvd.

All ages and well-behaved pets on leash welcome. Bring adequate water and wear shoes for walking on uneven dirt paths and downhill grades on asphalt/sidewalks. Moderate rain/high winds cancel. Donation requested. RSVP to GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

**Movie, "Black Panther/San Francisco State: On Strike"**

3-4 p.m., Glen Park Library

**Monday, December 31****Rockin' New Year's Eve with Darren Johnston & Friends**

7:30-8:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Saturday, January 5****Lion Dancers**

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

**Sunday, January 6****Dan Richman - Myth Mess**

2-3:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Tuesday, January 8****Glen Park School Prospective Family Tours**

9 a.m., Glen Park School  
(See December 11)

**Wednesday, January 10****Tweens Make slime**

3:30-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

**Sunday, January 13****Kyle Thomas Smith book event**

2-3:30 p.m., Bird & Beckett  
Kyle Thomas Smith discusses his book, "Cockloft: Scenes from a gay marriage"

**Sunday, January 31****The Seducers! Outlaw, Classic & Honky Tonk Country Music**

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

**Saturday, January 19****Cello concert by Frederic Rosselet**

Sunnyside Conservatory  
See sunnysideconservatory.org for more information.

**Monday, February 4****Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Quarterly Membership Meeting**

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

**Thursday, February 8****AARP Tax-Aide for Seniors**

Time TBD, Glen Park Library  
See sfpl.org or call the library at 415-355-2858.

**Sunday, February 24****Harpsichord Concert by Arthur Omura**

Sunnyside Conservatory  
See Sunnysideconservatory.org for more information.