



Glen Park News



Sherman, the store cat, sits near the front window, top, and Michael Parsons/Ulf Bjorkbaum Quartet visit Bird & Beckett during a brief visit from Paris.

Photos courtesy Angela Bennett

Bird & Beckett Celebrates 20 Years

There's a lot of history packed into 20 years. It was in the spring of 1999 that Pat Cull and Jill Grabowski turned over the keys to their little bookshop at 2788 Diamond St. to me, the next proprietor. Four years earlier they had brought it to life, inviting the neighbors in to meet their baby, Glen Park Books.

I lived up the way in the Sunnyside and stopped in on occasion, scoring a book on a Latino labor activist on one visit, a book on Cecilia Bartoli on another. Pat & Jill were

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Burglars Target Businesses in Pre-dawn Heists

Thieves hit three local businesses in downtown Glen Park this year, stealing cash and other goods in brazen nighttime burglaries that have put neighborhood merchants on alert.

"That's an unusual amount of crime" for the business district, acknowledged San Francisco Police Department Capt. Jack Hart, commanding officer of Ingleside Station.

Typical neighborhood break-ins involve residential and car burglaries—not usually businesses, he added.

All three crimes occurred near the Diamond-Chenery intersection in the heart of the business district.

Tekka House, the sushi-ramen restaurant at 678 Chenery St., was hit on Friday, Feb. 8 at about 1 a.m., according to co-owner Andrew Chen. Of the three incidents, this one caused the greatest loss.

The burglar picked the lockbox on the front door and tried to break into the restaurant's locked office, but failed. On the way out, the intruder stole a case of alcoholic beverages, plus a case of Coke and another of Sprite, then returned and broke into the office through the back of the building, stealing "a couple of thousand dollars" and Chen's personal computer.

There was a camera on the premises, and Chen said he gave the tapes to the police officer who came to take the report. He said the officer did not take any other kind of evidence, such as fingerprints.

Le P'tit Laurent, the French restaurant at 699 Chenery St., across from Tekka House, was burglar-

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GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday April 25, 7 p.m.
Glen Park Recreation Center

AGENDA

- Capt. Jack Hart, Ingleside Station Update on crime in Glen Park
- Glen Park Greenway update
- Chenery St. Halloween closure

Glen Park Greenway Takes Root

The Glen Park Greenway is coming into its own, thanks to volunteers who have logged 1,800 hours

in the past 16 months. They have planted more than 50 trees and more than 100 shrubs, cleared weeds and brush, and kept the new plantings along the popu-

lar path watered when the rains aren't in town.

Neighbors, many with their canine companions in tow, joined partners from nonprofit organizations and the City on Saturday, March 23 at a community celebration to dedicate the new Glen Park Greenway sign and to recognize the hard work that has gone into the early phases of the project.

"In the grand scheme of trails, we

have to be honest with each other," Bob Siegel of the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council told the crowd. "The Glen Park Greenway is in the micro-category. But we should not underestimate this little guy."

He noted that the greenway, which runs parallel to Bosworth Street between Brompton and Burnside streets, serves as an important connector. The

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GLEN PARK NEWS

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♦ GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION ♦

"If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants."

—Sir Isaac Newton, 1675

Our GPA giant is longtime Glen Park neighbor Michael Rice, who, with his wife Jane, will soon decamp from the corner of Elk and Sussex streets to join their children and grandchildren in Portland, Ore.

Michael has left many admirable, honorable marks on Glen Park, and I want to point them out in order to help more people see and appreciate them, and him.

Michael Rice served as Glen Park Association president for 12 years and as a board member for much longer, but that's too vague a statement. What does that really mean? What did Michael do during that time?

For starters, he has worked tirelessly on the Glen Park Community Plan, the Glen Park Greenway, and improvements in Glen Canyon Park, while also working to ameliorate the ongoing challenges of transportation, housing and parking in our neighborhood. (If you're not familiar with the Glen Park Community Plan, Google it.)

What is a community plan, and why does it matter? Community plans describe what can and cannot be built in certain areas, and how. They guide growth and development, describe land-use and transportation improvements, support vital business districts and preserve the unique character of older and historic neighborhoods like Glen Park. Community plans help guide planners, City agencies and residents as they address neighborhood needs together.

A lot of work goes into creating them, and it's important to honor them after the fact. Some people, however, remember and enforce agreed-upon community plans more often than others. Fortunately for all of us, Michael is one of them: Once Glen Park neighbors helped design our plan, Michael held City agencies and employees to it at every opportunity. And there were many such opportunities.

One of these is the Diamond-Bosworth intersection. For years (and years, and years), Michael and the GPA Transportation Committee met with the Glen Park Merchants Association, supervisors and staff from the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and Planning Department.



Former Glen Park neighbor and longtime Glen Park Association President Michael Rice, who is moving to Portland, Ore.
Photo by Bonnee Waldstein

Michael kept the City focused on how intersection changes aligned with the larger Community Plan, how input

drivers to turn left onto Bosworth from Diamond Street and commemorate it as the Honorary Michael Rice Turn Signal.

(Come to think of it, several bits of neighborhood infrastructure ought to be prefaced with "the Honorary Michael Rice.") Though turn signals were present and accounted for in the Community Plan, that one green arrow took many years of meetings and often painful conversations, the pushing,

prodding, hidden work that most people never see, and that Michael did voluntarily. However much he may have wanted to, Michael did not give up.

He also told the SFMTA that the initial sidewalk bump-outs installed on Bosworth, with the best pedestrian-friendly intent, would be too large for the turning radius required by buses and trucks. If they'd listened, hundreds of thousands of dollars might have been saved on tearing out and reducing new bulb-outs after buses and trucks

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WE WILL MISS YOU TERRIBLY, MICHAEL.

WE HOPE WE CAN ACCOMPLISH EVEN A
FRACTION OF WHAT YOU HAVE FOR
THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

about the intersection was considered, and what the next steps would be after construction and restriping were finished. Over and over, across countless City department personnel changes, Michael summarized points from the Glen Park Community Plan, contract documents for the Diamond-Bosworth construction and other reports. He pushed SFMTA to listen to and communicate with neighbors about their plans.

Reader, if I could, I would hang a plaque from the turn signal that enables

❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

As we sit down to write this, we have a hint of spring in the air after a long winter of rain and cold. Daffodils and tulips are popping up in the backyards, ladybugs are making an appearance and the days are growing longer. The streets are coming alive again, with neighbors taking more time for chitchat in front of Glen Park's

homes and businesses, and you can feel the antsy energy of students who see an end of the school year.

Spring also means the annual Glen Park Festival, which will be held this year on Sunday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in the heart of downtown

Glen Park, centered near Diamond and Wilder streets.

As usual, there will be music and dancing, food and drink, crafts for

**THE GLEN PARK FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD ON
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 10 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. IN
DOWNTOWN GLEN PARK.**

sale and fun activities for kids. Schools and community groups will set up information booths, some accompanied by bake sales. The festival also is a fundraiser for local youth and education programs. Every year, festival organizers hand out grants for everything

from schoolyard planter boxes to art supplies for nursery schools.

The Glen Park Festival also relies on volunteers to make it a success. People are needed to help set up and take down barricades, staff the T-shirt booth, keep an eye on the garbage bins to make sure they don't overflow, and much more. The Glen Park Festival is about neighborhood pride and fostering community spirit.

If you'd like more information about the Glen Park Festival—or better yet, to sign up to volunteer—please visit the website: <https://glenparkfestival.com>.

We hope to see you at the festival! ❖

❖ GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION ❖

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ran up the curb.

Michael has worked for years to bring a forthcoming pedestrian crosswalk and blinking signal to Sussex and Elk, to lead people to and from the stairs into the canyon more safely. (Speaking of those stairs, Michael helped ensure they were actually completed, even when Rec & Park experienced delays and implied funds might no longer be available.) It is sad that Michael will move before living next to that improved crosswalk. When you press a button to alert uphill cars to your presence in the crosswalk, and walk down level stairs with solid railings, glance at the square brick house on the corner and give a nod of thanks to Michael Rice.

We have better public art (the redwood solar logs) in front of the Glen Canyon Recreation Center than we otherwise might have. During the 2014–15 period of Rec Center renovation, we came precariously close to having either an installation of LED lights along Islais Creek, or a massive, pointy metal sculpture that resembled Sputnik on the lawn behind the Rec Center, where dogs and children run. Many of the greatest things Michael has left behind are things he has prevented, like potentially lethal public art.

Today, with the beautiful Rec Center, playground, solar logs and trails we enjoy, it is difficult to believe these same renovations were chock full of appeals and emotional discussion. But with long-term outcomes and benefits always in mind, Michael rallied Glen Park in 2012 to support Proposition B, which created the funds to actually finish the renovation

of the Rec Center. Prop. B, the Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond measure, provided support for park improvements across San Francisco. That included money for the completion of the Glen Canyon Park Improvement Plan, as well as the rebuilding of Christopher Playground in Diamond Heights. At the time, Prop. B complemented \$6 million already committed to the Glen Park Rec Center upgrade.

Though San Francisco voters have historically approved such bond measures, Michael did not take its passage for granted: The measure needed a 67 percent majority to pass. Michael himself recruited and organized volunteers to set up outreach “ironing boards” in Glen Park village, hand out flyers at the Glen Park BART station, work with the “Yes on B” committee, and e-mail friends and families across San Francisco about the importance of voting for Prop. B. When you enjoy a yoga class or basketball game at the Rec Center, or see your kids having fun on the playground, send another grateful thought for Michael's work out into the universe.

Community consensus on the design of the Glen Park Greenway is another marvel of community engagement and diplomacy to which Michael and Nicholas Dewar, in particular, have contributed. The Greenway plan required two years of community design meetings; the identification and writing of many grant applications to fund its design and implementation; hiring landscape architects to create site and planting plans; and ultimately a vote of the GPA membership. The

City agencies that own the Greenway land wanted proof of neighborhood support before they would approve any plan to improve it. Thanks to Michael's diplomatic, transparent style, the vote to approve the Greenway plan was unanimous. Who knew that in this city, in this day and age, unanimous agreement on neighborhood change was still possible? In the years since that vote, Michael has showed up for many a Greenway work day, garden gloves and sun hat on, shovel and fennel trimmers at the ready.

There is a lot more I could say: about the years of meetings about the future of the BART parking lot; about the fraught and contentious Natural Areas plan that drove more 100 people to meetings; about arborists and tree additions and removals; about coyotes, McMansions, bus routes, historic preservation, farmers markets, construction permit violations, off-leash dogs, parking, bike racks, community gardens, crime and the health of our business district. No matter the topic, Michael leads by example and has showed us newer GPA board members how to handle it all. He always focuses on the ultimate public benefit over being right.

We at the GPA, and the whole of this Glen Park landscape, will miss you terribly, Michael. We hope we can accomplish even a fraction of what you have for this neighborhood. Thank you for all your work. You've done what you could, and that is more than most of us will ever do. ❖

Stephany Wilkes is vice president of the Glen Park Association.

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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.

Bird & Beckett Marks 20th Anniversary

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nice folks, and Pat's little dog was a charmer. They were pained to give up the shop, but worked with me to find a way to keep a bookshop in Glen Park.

With the help of my wife and kids, I moved some of their stock around, filled out the cases with some of my own books and records, augmenting those with books I scared up from library sales. Then, one day in late May, I opened the doors to my shop, Bird & Beckett Books.

And the neighbors flooded in. That was 20 years ago. We'll celebrate nonstop this year, from May 16–20, with poets, prose writers, musicians and you—readers, live music aficionados, neighbors.

That spot we started in was a vibrant little shop built out from Manhal Jweinat's raw space by Pat and Jill and friends. On one memorable day noted by the *Bay Area Reporter*, 25 women were in there sawing and sanding, getting the bookcases ready. In the spring of '99, we filled that storefront with our own idea of a bookshop and it grew like Topsy.

We did it ourselves with the readers and patrons of the neighborhood—no

bankroll, no investors, no federal Small Business Association loan, no divine intervention, though we did max out more than a few credit cards and are paying them off still.

In the summer of '08, with the help of dozens of neighbors, we transported the books around the corner and up

Chenery Street, filling out another beautiful little shop in a building constructed by the Tietz family in 1978 as a home to Glen Park's branch of the public library.

And here we are today at 653 Chenery St., me and a great little staff, looking forward to another 20

years. Help us celebrate!

There will be a calendar of events in the shop window and online at www.birdbeckett.com. You've made it work. Thanks! ♦

Editor's note: Eric Whittington is the proprietor of Bird & Beckett Books.



The Smith Dobson Quartet performs at Bird & Beckett in 2016. Band members are Smith Dobson, tenor sax, Jack Tone Riordan, guitar, Miles Wick, bass, and Timothy Angulo, drums, top. Books on display in Bird & Beckett's window, above.

Photos courtesy of Angela Bennett

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◆ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ◆

Spring greetings, Glen Park neighbors! My office has been busy in the New Year, introducing legislation and making sure District 8's neighborhoods have a strong voice at City Hall.

Allocating ERAF funds: In November, we learned that San Francisco was to unexpectedly receive back excess funding paid to the state's Education Revenue Augmentation Fund. With so many worthy priorities competing for the newly available \$185 million, I worked with my colleagues to come up with a funding package that reflects many of these priorities, including \$111.5 million to fund affordable housing projects, \$46 million for homelessness and behavioral health services, \$19 million for new Muni light rail trains, and \$10 million for early child care and education. At the same time we were able to find \$13.5 million to help the San Francisco Unified School District sustain recent raises, and establish a \$52 million Teacher/Early Educator Emergency Reserve for use in the event of future shortfalls.

Taking action on Amber Drive: Even before I took office, neighbors in Diamond Heights had contacted me about a dilapidated property on Amber Drive that appeared to have been abandoned mid-construction. There were a host of code violations—construction without permits, long periods without any activity, and other issues that created blight on the block. Neighbors organized and we encouraged the Department of Building Inspection to take action.

Now, the property owners are getting proper permits, and the property appears to be coming into compliance with legal requirements and neighborhood standards. Thanks to the dedicated Amber Drive residents for keeping tabs and taking care of their neighborhood!

If there is a property in your neighborhood that's causing a nuisance or blight, don't hesitate to reach out to my office (mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org) and we can connect you with the right people.

Securing behavioral health services and treatment for jail populations: In late January, I called for a hearing on the availability of mental health services and drug treatment for San Francisco's jail population. Across California, in the absence of



Rafael Mandelman

a community-based care system that is adequately funded, resourced and scaled to meet the need, our jails and our city streets have taken the place of long-term institutionalization. To help us better understand these issues, I called for this hearing to evaluate the need for mental health and drug treatment resources for participants in the Behavioral Health and Drug Courts, as well as the broader jail and justice-involved populations.

If you'd like to learn more about this hearing, scheduled for early April, please contact our office at the above email address.

Declaring a climate change emergency: The time to take action on climate change is now, and on Feb. 26 I introduced a resolution to declare a state of climate emergency. As part of the measure, the San Francisco Department of the Environment, in collaboration with the mayor's office and all other relevant City agencies, will develop and deliver a report within 100 days, and the Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to identify the highest priority actions the City must take to achieve deep emission reductions and carbon neutrality.

Upcoming office hours: Our bimonthly neighborhood office hours bring City Hall directly to District 8 neighborhoods. On Sunday, March 10, 10 a.m.–noon, we were at Destination Baking Company, 598 Chenery St. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at 415-554-6968, or send an email to mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org.◆

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

Renée Gonsalves

Local. Experienced. Committed.

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Renée will donate \$700 for each Glen Park home sale to the Glen Park School PTO or charity of choice by sellers or buyers.

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.

See what my clients have to say on Yelp and Zillow!

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"I don't have enough superlative adjectives in my vocabulary to describe why you should work with Renée for either buying or selling. She is kind, has integrity and will be your advocate in the home buying or selling process. Thanks, so much!" —Marjorie G.

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✿ DIGGING THE DIRT ✿

It's not all about blue gums, those Australian eucalyptus trees growing around here that some people love to hate! There are so many more antipodean plants to experience.

This year I was fortunate to spend some time in Australia and New Zealand looking at the incredibly diverse native plants, many of which are suitable for home gardens. In particular, the two Melbourne Botanical Gardens were a rich source of beauty, packed with ideas for the gardener. Parts of west and southeast Australia have a Mediterranean climate similar to San Francisco's, and therefore we can grow many of these delightful southern natives.

Indeed, each year the staff at the Arboretum at UC Santa Cruz works with growers in Australia and California to introduce new plants through a program called Koala Blooms. Australian plants are evaluated for their beauty, durability, potential for invasiveness and sturdiness in regard to weather and soil conditions. Suitable plants then become available in local wholesale and resale nurseries.

Many of these plants are drought-

tolerant when established and do not require a lot of care. Just avoid fertilizers containing phosphorus, as many Australian plants originated in low phosphorus soils. Most of the plants I have listed below are shrubs or vines.

Australian Fuchsia or Correa:

These little darlings need good drainage, but are tolerant of many soils. They are low, somewhat prostrate woody evergreen shrubs with small dark-green leaves. They can be lightly pruned. The dense tubular white, pink or orange flowers are about an inch long. Part-shade.

•Correa 'Dusky Bells.' Compact, dense, salmon-red flowers.

•Correa Alba var. pannosa "Western



A dense tubular pink flower of the Australian Fuchsia.

Peter Kneish 2010/Flickr

Pink Star.' Delicate, spreading, pretty.

•Correa pulchella. Reliable, bright pink blooms.

•Correa 'Ray's Tangerine.' Compact to 2 feet, with vibrant orange flowers.

Banksia: There are numerous Banksia shrubs with spiky, cheeky, in-your-face flowers that are long-lasting in full sun.

•Banksia ericifolia 'Fireworks.' Striking, huge orange flowers; large 8x6-foot shrubs, need lots of room, blooms

winter-summer. Great cut flowers.

Boronia: This plant wins the competition for sweetest and most complex perfume in the world, loved by perfume makers and producers of Boronia essential oils. The species Boronia megastigma, with brown flowers, is known to have the strongest perfume, although the more colorful plants also smell very good. Check the species name before you purchase this somewhat fussy but adorable plant. Boronia can be grown in containers in dappled shade. The soil should be slightly acid, never completely dry but also never soggy. Touchy, but the glorious scent is worth the trouble.

•Boronia megastigma 'Jack Maguire's Red' is a small (4x4-foot) shrub thickly covered in orange-red flowers.

Grevillia: Grevillias are generous, wide shrubs that love the sun. The flowers are spacy collections of spidery, layered long fingers in a variety of colors. Very exotic looking and easy to grow.

•Grevillea petrophiloides 'Big Bird.' This one has violet-pink fingers topped with blue pollen. Stunning.

Mint bush or Prostanthera: These tall evergreen shrubs have large, (4-6-inch) bell-shaped flowers in the spring.

•Prostanthera cuneata: The flowers on this variety are pale white and lavender with yellow throats. This shrub has gained the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit.

Calothamus gracilis 'SpringTorch': An evergreen, grassy-looking dwarf shrub thick with long brushy red flow-

ers. Sun or part-shade.

Chamelaucium ciliatum 'Scaddan': Another small delight, this shrub is covered in small white flowers most of the year, with the heaviest bloom in the winter.

Kennedia beckxiana 'Flamboyant': Wow! This evergreen vine in the pea family has huge brick-red and green flowers. Spectacular. Having grown this myself, I noted its "vigorous" habit, not exactly a house-eater, but definitely needs space, and flowers best in full sun.

Most of these plants should be readily available in local nurseries. However, the Arboretum at UCSC has regular sales and while there you can visit Sierra Azul Nursery and Gardens in Watsonville. Enjoy exploring this new world of Gondwanaland plants!

Resources:

UCSC arboretum: arboretum.ucsc.edu. Check out this site for plant sales.

Koala Blooms: <https://arboretum.ucsc.edu/koala-blooms>

Local nurseries can obtain these plants from the above resources.

San Francisco Botanical Garden sales: <https://www.sfbg.org/plant-sales/index.html>

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria: <https://www.rbv.vic.gov.au>.

Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne: rbg.vic.gov.au/rbg_cranbourne Iconic native plant garden. ♦

Kay Hamilton Estey is the Glen Park Garden Club columnist. For more information about the garden club, including its activities and lecture series, contact her at kay.estey@gmail.com.



The large bell-shaped flowers of the Prostanthera Cuneata.

Photo courtesy of MomentsForZen/Flickr

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❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

In the Winter 2018 issue of the *Glen Park News*, the mystery of Mizpah Street was revealed. In the process of that rediscovery, we uncovered the story of a former resident, a young man who died tragically during the attack at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. It's time for his story to be retold as another one of the significant legacies of our district.

George Sylvester Dunn, Jr., was born in San Francisco on July 1, 1917. His father, George S. Dunn, a native of Canada, worked as a streetcar motor-man; his mother, Louise (née Perkins), was a native of Arizona. The Dunn family, including George Jr. and his siblings—William, Anna and Edwin—were listed as residents of Mizpah Street first in 1924, perhaps drawn by the prospect of having a significant amount of green space only one block away.

The Glen Park Playground (today's Glen Canyon Park Recreation Area) was purchased as a public park by the City and County of San Francisco after three annual installments of \$10,000 were paid to the Crocker Estate between 1919 and 1921. Improvements were completed in 1922, and the playground opened to the public.

It had taken 10 years of ongoing community activism to wrest the privately held land from the Crocker Estate, primarily spearheaded by the Glen Park

Improvement Association and, from 1908 through 1917, the women's Glen Park Outdoor Art League. Of note, Mizpah Street resident Carrie Bauer, the last president of the Glen Park Outdoor Art League, is said by her descendants to have been such a forceful advocate for the Crocker Estate transfer that upon her death in 1932, her funeral cortège circled the Glen Park Playground before departing for Olivet Memorial Park in Colma.

The vastness of Glen Canyon and the surrounding, yet-to-be-developed hill-tops must have been a marvel to young George and his siblings. His mother was active for many years in the Glen Park School Parent Teacher Organization and held various offices. As the PTO's Recreation Officer in charge of games and races, she likely encouraged her children to participate in athletic



U.S. Navy Seaman Second Class George S. Dunn, Jr. of Glen Park. Image from the *San Francisco Examiner*, October 11, 1947.

activities, with no better place than Glen Park Playground to do so.

George graduated from Balboa High School in 1935, and played first base for the Mission Reds and several other local baseball teams. According to an article in the *San Francisco Examiner* on Dec. 7, 1936, "This boy wins most of his games and does what most chuckers are not expected to do, pummel that horsehide."

Eventually, he began playing semi-professional baseball, most notably with the San Francisco Seals AA team. He would be fortunate in his Seals career to associate with Joe DiMaggio, also a Seals veteran, as Joltin' Joe waited to be called up for his second year with the New York Yankees.

In 1939, Dunn tried out for pitcher as a Seals regular in front of manager Frank "Lefty" O'Doul and two Yankee scouts. Off-season in 1940, he was appointed as coach for the Glen Park Athletic Club, which was expected to take on "big name" clubs around the city, and which boasted "a playing field that is a credit to that community as well as a club house (today's Glen Park Recreation Center, completed in 1938) whose appointments meet with every requirement."

Yet just a few months later, on Nov. 18, 1940, Dunn put his burgeoning

baseball career on hold and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After training as a radioman and becoming seaman second class, he shipped out to Pearl Harbor, where he was assigned to the battleship USS West Virginia.

We don't know the exact whereabouts of Dunn aboard ship on that beautiful Hawaiian Sunday morning on Dec. 7, 1941. When the Japanese air assault began just before 8 a.m., he was likely still below deck where the sailors' berths and galley were located. The first bomb to hit the USS West Virginia caused the superstructure to collapse into the galley area. The ship suffered direct hits by seven aircraft torpedoes and two bombs, with additional damage from explosions on the USS Tennessee and USS Arizona moored nearby.

Seaman 2nd class George S. Dunn, Jr. of Glen Park's Mizpah Street would become one of the first American service members to die in World War II, a young man of 24 years who was "a good pitcher, well liked, and will be remembered as a gallant gentleman." In his memory, the Northern California Baseball Manager's Association placed a plaque on the wall of its clubhouse in Seals Stadium.

Dunn returned home on Oct. 10, 1947, aboard the US Army Transport Honda Knot with 2,966 other fallen service members. The ship anchored within view of 5,000 mourners who attended a memorial service at the Marina Green. The aspiring baseball pitcher of Glen Park who had once played with the San Francisco Seals was buried with military honors at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno on Oct. 25, 1947. ❖

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.



Taps is played at a memorial at Marina Green in 1947, above. In the distance is the US Army Transport Honda Knot, carrying fallen service members from the Pacific theater. Image from the *San Francisco Examiner*, October 11, 1947. At right, the USS West Virginia in San Francisco Bay in 1934. Image from Wikipedia.



Glen Park Greenway Takes Root

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

celebration was held on the greenway, near Brompton Street.

"With its creation, residents of Glen Park can bathe in nature on their way to the Glen Park [Recreation] Center, or to schools, shops or transit, and others can hop off of BART and, a minute later, be on a wonderful greenway that connects to Glen Canyon, the Ridge Trail, Twin Peaks, Mt. Sutro, Golden Gate Park and beyond," Sigel said. "Urban hikes can't get much better."

He added that some very wise people of Glen Park "gave birth to this tiny treasure upon which we now stand."

San Francisco Public Works owns 75 percent of the greenway parcels, with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and the Archdiocese of San Francisco owning the remainder. These parcels are remainders of private property that was acquired from owners for the proposed Crosstown Freeway, a project stopped by the freeway revolt led by the famed Gum Tree Girls in the 1960s.

The paths and landscaping are not officially maintained by the property owners, although Public Works stepped up to remove dead and dying trees and installed some plumbing equipment for irrigation to help the greenway project move forward.



Nicholas Dewar, the Glen Park Greenway project facilitator, at the community celebration. Photo by Rachel Gordon

"I love the fact that decades ago neighbors beat back a plan to build a freeway through here and now we are coming together to create a beautiful and environmentally important landscaped path," said Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru, who spoke at the gathering. "It is projects like the Glen Park Greenway that are particularly meaningful to us at Public Works because at the end of the day, building

and nurturing community partnerships is key to what we're about."

The Glen Park Association, publisher of the *Glen Park News*, was instrumental in getting the Glen Park Greenway project off the ground. The organization helped secure a patchwork of funding from the Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund, the City's Community Challenge Grant program, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission,

the District 8 supervisor's office, the association itself and private donations. The San Francisco Parks Alliance and Public Works have added the greenway to the Street Parks Program. The Parks Alliance, for example, provides the needed liability insurance; Public Works provides tools for volunteer workdays and hauls away the green debris.

Drew Becher, the Parks Alliance CEO, said it takes neighborhood champions to make projects successful. "We're here to help with operating difficulties," he added.

Nicholas Dewar, the greenway project facilitator for the Glen Park Greenway, said in an understatement, "It has taken a lot of people to make this happen."

Dewar has been instrumental in bringing the greenway to life and helping to keep it growing — organizing volunteers, cajoling City agencies, hunting for funding. At the March 23 event, he looked intently at the map on the new Glen Park Greenway marker sign and pointed to the next areas where he hopes to focus trail improvements, between Chilton and Brompton.

The concept, Dewar said, "is that people use the greenway to travel, move along, with little maintenance needed. The greenway is a way to keep moving through it." ♦



Jan Cornish and his dog, Gracie, enjoy the greenway, left, and Adam King and Stephany Wilkes, along with their dogs, socialize on the greenway, right.

Photos by Rachel Gordon and Bonnee Waldstein

❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

Hello from your friendly neighborhood library.

Have you ever wondered what our neighborhood looked like in the 1930s, or how you can help to reimagine where you live today? A rediscovered scale model of San Francisco from 1938 by Michelle Waddy is an amazing starting point for community discussion. This model had largely been in storage for decades.

The model is a detailed wooden replica of San Francisco at a scale of 1 inch: 100 feet. Built by the Works Progress Administration, it was first displayed during the Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island in 1939, and then at City Hall in 1940.

It went on display this year on Jan. 25 and remained on view through March 25. Sections of the model are being publicly exhibited throughout the branches of the San Francisco Public Library. Glen Park Library had two sections of the model on display.

On Thursday Feb. 21, before a crowd of 70 attendees, Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose, Sunnyside historian Amy O'Hair, Diamond Heights architectural historian Hannah Simonson and Mt. Davidson historian Jacquie Proctor used the pieces of the city model and 1938 aerial views of San Francisco to help describe the history of development in our part of the city.

Coming Events

The library is a lively community center ready to serve the Glen Park community. Here are some other exciting events that are coming up:

A Filipino dance performance by

the San Bruno-based Parangal Dance Company, will take place on Saturday, May 11, at 2 p.m.

An Asian Art Museum docent lecture entitled "The Japanese Aesthetic: Exploring Japan's Artistic Sensibilities," takes place on April 13, 2-3:30 p.m. Another Museum docent lecture, "Timeless Traditions: Expressions of the Divine in Indian Art," is scheduled for , May 11, 3- 4:30 p.m.

Want to learn how to knit or crochet? Please bring your own yarn and needles or hooks. All levels welcome. Future meetings are on April 4, April 18, May 2, May 16, June 6 and June 20.

Please pick up *Glen Park News* calendar to keep up with what is going on at your local neighborhood library branch, or sign up for the online AT THE LIBRARY newsletter at sfpl.org, 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.

GLEN PARK LIBRARY HOURS

Monday/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, May 27,
Memorial Day



San Francisco WPA wood model on display in the Redwood Empire Building, Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island, February 1939. Expo historians think this publicity photo may be doctored.

Photo courtesy San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

Neighborhood Organizations

Diamond Heights Community Association

Contact: Betsy Eddy, 415-8675774

Address: P.O. Box 31529, SF, CA 94131

Website: www.dhcasf.org

Meetings: First Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Call for location

Friends of Glen Canyon Park

Contact: Richard Craib, 415-648-

0862, or Jean Connor, 415-584-8576

Address: 140 Turquoise Way, SF, CA 94131

Meetings: Call for details.

Friends of 30th Street Senior Center

Contact: Marianne Hampton,

415-601-7845

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

Meetings: Call for details.

Glen Park Association

Contact: Info@glenparkassociation.org

Website: glenparkassociation.org

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

Meetings: Quarterly. See website for details.

Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project

(Glen Park, Glen Canyon,

Sunnyside, Fairmount Heights and

Diamond Heights)

Contact: Glenparkhistory@gmail.com

Website: Glenparkhistory.wixsite.com

Meetings: See website for details.

San Francisco NERT (Neighborhood Emergency Response Team)

Contact: Glen Park coordinator

Susanna Russo, sgrdvm1@me.com

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

Meetings: See website for training

schedules.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association:

Contact: info@sunnysideassociation.org

org; voice mail: 415-937-1305

Website: Sunnysideassociation.org

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

Meetings: Quarterly. See website for details.

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Glen Park Author Bewitches Children

We've gotten used to the Realtor-inspired descriptions of Glen Park as a cross between a Swiss village and the town of Mayberry: that hilly, cozy corner of the city where you smile and wave hi to all the neighbors every day.

by **Mark Shoffner** is a Glen Park resident and children's book author who imagines a house in this neighborhood that harbors some dark secrets behind its benign facade—secrets that would fire the imagination of kids ages 7 to 10.

Miriam: The Witch of Glen Park is Shoffner's third book and first chapter book. Fittingly, it's a best seller at Bird and Beckett Books.

His previous books, *Sneezes, The Sneeziest Cat in San Francisco* and the Spanish version, *Estornudos, El Gato de San Francisco*, are picture books for younger children.

The back cover of *Miriam* bears a gold seal for the "Wiccan Gardener" prize, which Shoffner admitted was a made-up award, apparently something that children's book authors often concoct as a tease.

Growing up, Shoffner moved a lot due to his father's job in international business, and his books are filled with outcast characters, trying to find a safe space and to fit in. Shoffner studied art at Queens College in New York City and illustrates his own books. Now 47, he has taught English as a second language, which explains the Spanish version of his earlier book. "There are a lot of Spanish-speaking kids in San Francisco, and it's hard to get children's books in Spanish," he says.

He began to write and illustrate children's books five or six years ago, when the strands of teaching, art and having a daughter came together. He started Shenania Press with the intention of publishing other authors' books as well as his own.

His daughter attends Glen Park Elementary School, and Shoffner has been doing readings there for the past five years as part of the Read for America program. The younger kids come in their pajamas with their stuffies, and sit listening to Shoffner read.

Miriam is about a single, older woman who becomes homeless after being evicted from her apartment in the Tenderloin. She seeks shelter with family members who live in Glen Park: the Hoogablasteds—parents Harry and Hattie, and daughters Ruth and Lucy. They are a fairly typi-



Mark Shoffner reads from his book to Glen Park Elementary students.

Photo courtesy of Mark Shoffner

cal Glen Park family, if there is such a thing. Harry and Hattie have stressful jobs and can get overwhelmed by the scheduling and logistics of daily life, and by maintaining a vegetarian household including children who are intrigued by meat.

Ruth and Lucy, two years apart, are opposites. Ruth (named after Ruth Bader Ginsburg) is the older, serious sister who prefers dark colors. Lucy is blond and loves pink and unicorns. They fight constantly, exasperating their harried parents.

When *Miriam* shows up with her two cats, Frankie and Johnny, and inserts herself into their lives and their cramped Victorian house, strange stuff starts to happen. *Miriam* is loud and irritating and abrasive, but also very tall, deft and unusually strong.

Hattie cautions the sisters to be kind. "It's never easy to have guests in your home ... But you should try to make any guest feel welcome," she tells them.

Ultimately, the girls, especially Ruth, grow attached to *Miriam* at the same time they experience weird things happening at home. The house becomes a character in its own right, a "Dark House," and its mysterious history is unmasked in due course as the story unfolds in twists and turns.

It's not a spoiler to reveal that *Miriam*

is a witch. She has two accomplices, Sally Snipwick and Biddy Entwistle ("characters you might see in downtown San Francisco," says Shoffner), and the threesome cause the girls to enter other dimensions and times. Along the way there are disgusting, slimy, creepy, dangerous things. There's also the overriding warmth of a loving family.

Local readers of *Miriam* will come across familiar names—Chenery Street, Glen Park Elementary School and Toast, the brunch spot in Noe Valley. They may be touched to come across the name Mike Lefiti, to whom the book is dedicated and who is in a couple of scenes. "Big Mike" was the Diamond Heights UPS driver who was killed in a mass shooting at a United Parcel Service facility in June 2017.

In writing the book, Shoffner first came up with the title character.

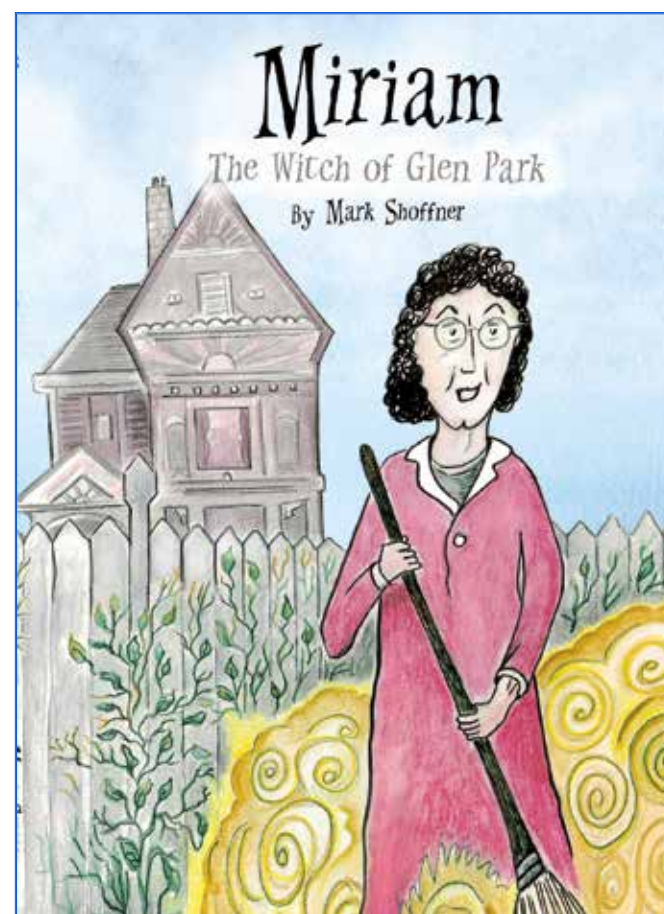
He imagined how an older woman might fare in the high-income, high-tech world of today's San Francisco. "She's a composite of some people I've known ... She doesn't fit into the regular mold of a sweet auntie or nice grandma."

The stories he writes often derive from dreams that he records in his journal. "I have pretty strange dreams, and I take them several steps further" to develop fantastical stories. At one point in the book, Lucy says, "I had a weird dream that *Miriam* was living in the walls. And she had friends with her, too. They were ALL living in there, all of these crazy old ladies."

He set the story in Glen Park because *Miriam* needed a place to find refuge. He wanted to show a neighborhood where people are very important to one another. It needed to be one with some history and houses that have a rich past, "somewhere to set some mysterious events."

Many of the author's vivid images are inspired by the natural world around him. His house overlooks Glen Canyon Park, where he's lived for the past five years with his wife and daughter, and where he observes hawks and coyotes. The garden in the book grows wildly and teems with life.

Miriam will be the first book in the Dark House trilogy, featuring the same characters: "I'm pretty excited to do the next one." ♦



The cover of Mark Shoffner's new book, *Miriam*.

Burglars Target Businesses in Pre-dawn Heists

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ized on Thursday, Feb. 14, at about 5 a.m., according to owner Laurent Legendre. The thief broke a pane of glass in the front door, climbed in, grabbed cognac and Armagnac, as well as a small amount of cash and Legendre's computer. It was the third time he has been burglarized, Legendre said, taking the latest incident in stride.

He said he called the police at 8 a.m., but the officer taking the report showed up five hours later. Meanwhile, Legendre got the front door replaced.

Hart noted that the restaurant had no camera on the premises.

The details of this robbery more closely matched the early February break-in at Glen Park Cleaners on the same corner, at 701 Chenery St. According to owner Tommy Baik, the thief broke in through a side window and got away with only "\$60 to \$70" in cash.

"No customers' clothes, thank God," Baik added.

He said it was the first time the shop had been robbed; previous incidents had involved only broken windows.

He, too, said the police officer who took the report arrived several hours after he called.

Hart, the Ingleside police captain, acknowledged the slow response time, but said officers must prioritize, and a burglary not in progress takes lower

"THE THIEF BROKE IN THROUGH A SIDE WINDOW AND GOT AWAY WITH ONLY "\$60 TO \$70" IN CASH."

priority. He granted that business owners and residents find this frustrating, but cited a staffing shortage that afflicts the entire district.

He has raised the issue with District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, Glen Park's representative on the Board of Supervisors. "We in the Police Department need more resources," Hart stated. This would allow officers to gather more information for their investigations, including scouring nearby buildings for video cameras. Business owners and residents can help by installing surveillance cameras, which Hart calls "a definite deterrent."

Regarding the three burglaries, Hart said the investigation was "ongoing" when he spoke to the *Glen Park News* in March; it was not known whether the same perpetrator committed the crimes.

Late last year, Ingleside Station experimented briefly with a regular two-officer foot patrol for Glen Park, but abandoned the effort because, again, of staffing issues, he said. "We would love to have a foot patrol in every neighborhood in the district," Hart said. But without proper staffing, the results of the foot-patrol program were ineffectual. "We're spread super-thin," he said.

Instead, those officers have been assigned to mentoring new recruits.

Occasionally, the neighborhood familiarity pays off in surprising ways, Hart said. Canyon Market had been having problems with a thief who stole bunches of flowers from their sidewalk display, then went to a different neighborhood to peddle them.

Not long ago, two patrol officers walking on Mission Street spotted the man—still holding the flowers in their Canyon Market wrappings—trying to

sell them to passers-by. Rather than arrest him for a petty crime, one of the officers approached him and offered him a deal.

The officer offered to buy the bunch for \$20, on the condition that the man promised to stop the thefts. The deal was struck, and the theft problem stopped. Hart commended "the creativity of the officer." ♦

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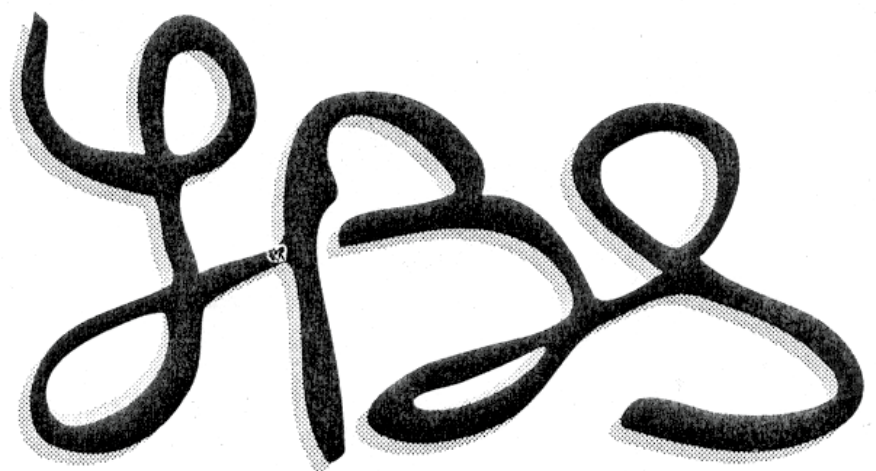
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Destination Bakery's Deb Lunsford Delights

Deb has a destination. For 16 years Deb Lunsford has mounted her Raleigh bicycle and peddled to Destination Bakery from her Bernal Heights home.

She crosses Mission Street, picks up by Arlington Street, takes a right on Natick, then a left on Chenery and arrives at Destination five days a week before the sun comes up.

"I work rain or shine, Mondays through Fridays beginning at 6 a.m. and continuing until 12:30," Deb told the *Glen Park News*.

She's as much a fixture at baker Joe Schuver's confectionary as are Joe's signature sticky buns.

Paul Hamilton, a retired National Weather Service meteorologist who lives on Laidley Street, has frequented Destination for seven years.

"I begin my mornings each day at the bakery," he said. "Deb's become a special person to me and the morning customers. She has known many of the children since they were born, as well as their parents."

"I'm a counter girl," said Deb. "I've seen kids grow up and each one is close to my heart."

"It's that kind neighborhood," she continued, "Warm and friendly, where people say hello when they go by."

After stints in Oregon, Washington and Hawaii, Deb came to the city to rejoin her mother, a native San Franciscan who once lived on Potrero Hill, but now resides in Healdsburg.

Deb, whose favorite book growing up was *Pippi Longstocking*, greets children in the bakery with her patented good morning salutation: "Hi honey bun," and as each child leaves, pastry in hand, "All right sweet pea, enjoy!"

One little girl is Sadie, a 9-year-old who lives on Chenery Street. She drops by with her mother on the way to Glen Park Elementary most days.

"The first thing Sadie ate here was a cheese and onion scone," Sadie's mom volunteered on a February morning before school began.

Glen Park, early on, knew they had a keeper with Deb. A few years after she helped staff Schuver's counter she parlayed a love of green-thumbing into a botanical garden certificate. She enrolled in a 10-week course at the San Francisco Botanical Garden, later earning a teaching certificate at Big Sur's Esalen.

Schuver's regulars put on a benefit for



Deb Lunsford and her Raleigh bicycle, ready to return to Bernal Heights.

Deb in the building that now houses Cuppa on Diamond Street. The fundraiser brought in \$1,200. "Send Deb back to school," Deb recalls the event being pitched.

Glen Park's generosity paid dividends. A short walk up Chenery, at the corner of Mateo Street, sits a street garden. It stretches several yards down the hill.

"I started 'Living Sidewalks,'" said Deb, about the hobby she began a few years after coming to the bakery in 2003. "I design sustainable landscapes for urban environments."

Several of Deb's creations dot out city streets. One of her favorites is on the corner of Washington and Franklin streets.

Deb's woven herself into the fabric of Glen Park during the time she's been making one of the meanest espressos in town. "She's like a bartender," emailed Hamilton, "people will tell her their good and bad moments."

Among her other jobs has been managing one of San Francisco's storied jazz venues. Born in Hollywood and schooled in South Lake Tahoe, Deb spent eight years managing Enrico

And if she's acquired a soft spot for Joe Schuver's lemon tartlets, she has an even softer spot for critters, the four-legged kind and the airborne sort.

"Dogs whimper as they come by the bakery," Hamilton said. "Deb has greeted them so many times with treats that they look for her."

Deb obtains doggy biscuits from Critter Fritters, and canines are so habituated to her offerings that when she's not there, like on weekends, dogs have been known to act, well, undoglike.

Deb spins a canine tale of one such misadventure, a story worthy of "Comedy Day in the Park" where she once enjoyed Robin Williams closing the annual Golden Gate Park gala.

"One weekend Gerty, a Bernese mountain dog, pulled her owner across the street," Deb recalled. "Gerty's owner explained to her that I wasn't working, so what does Gerty do? She flops down, tummy-first, in the middle of the crosswalk with her paws flailing like a 2-year-old toddler."

"I can't count the number of times dogs get out and find their way here," Deb continued. "We have to call their owners to come and get them."

In January, around 1 p.m., as Deb maneuvered her Raleigh one-speed from Schuver's garage, an SUV parked nearby, fresh from an Oscar-romp around Bernal Hill. While the driver entered the bakery, his golden retriever stared, glum-faced, from a rear window.

"That's 10-year old Oscar," explained Dan McSweeney, who lives

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Deb Lunsford with Dan McSweeney and his dog Oscar outside the bakery on corner of Chenery & Castro Streets.

Photos by Murray Schneider



Deb Lunsford and Sadie in Destination Bakery.

Photo by Murray Schneider

Destination Bakery's Deb Lunsford Delights

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

on Mangels Avenue. "Oscar knows Deb gives him goodies. We stop by on the way home."

Deb parked her bike, dismounted, reached into a pocket, then sat on the Subaru's tailgate. Oscar nuzzled her, his lugubrious expression expunged. She wrapped an arm around Oscar and watched him make fast work of a biscuit.

Only days before, a familiar dog owner had dropped by, concerned her pet hadn't eaten for two days. Deb bagged two pumpkin walnut muffins and sent the woman home, only to learn the pooch died days later.

"It was the last thing the doggy ate," said Deb.

Deb's generosity extends to two-legged creatures, the sort that fly and have feathers. She rescues parakeets.

"A while ago on Arlington Street, I found a green parakeet lying near a sewer drain," she said, about extending a safe place for the homeless bird. "I walked down to Critter Fritters and bought a cage. I named him Pie. He's 7 years old now."

Parakeets are social birds, Deb learned. She next saved two females, naming one Dixie, the other Pixie. Then atop O'Shaughnessy Hollow she came to the aid of another.

"I named him Sky," said Deb, whose favorite childhood memory is roller skating in Golden Gate Park with her

sister and her sibling's parrot, Billie Holiday. "I have two huge cages now and I feed them healthy wheat grass, alfalfa sprouts and apples."

"But I keep the girls and boys separated because they flirt," she continued. "When Pie and Sky get together, though, I joke 'Pie-in-the-Sky!'"

Arriving in the neighborhood less than a decade ago, Hamilton has a newcomer's take on it all.

"Destination Bakery is like an anchor in the neighborhood, just one of many," he said. "If it weren't here, the community would be thinking we need something like it."

Hamilton begins each week day by checking the weather, then walking to the bakery. Then he heads off to the American Red Cross on Market Street, where he volunteers several days a week.

"I chat with Deb every morning. She knows what I confront at the Red Cross. People displaced because of house fires, sometimes worse," said Hamilton, who assisted the dozens of people made homeless after the Cole Hardware Mission Street fire in June 2016. "Deb tells me, 'I know it will be tough for you, but those people need you.'"

It works both way, Deb believes.

The morning Sadie and her mom walked through the bakery door, Deb placed a plate topped with a pumpkin walnut muffin in front of Hamilton. "I never have to order," he said. "Deb knows what I need." ♦

◆ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ◆

The process of building community rises and falls as those who love and care about a neighborhood come and go. Diamond Heights lost two people recently who made a difference in our community.

by Christopher Hanna,
Betsy a long-time resident of
Eddy Diamond Heights, died
in November. In 2011,

Christopher was responsible for bringing attention to the need for a crosswalk midblock in front of the Diamond Heights Shopping Center. Chris served on the Diamond Heights Community Association and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency committee to explore the potential for a crosswalk. It took five years of advocacy until then-District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener made funding for the crosswalk possible.

Sadly, Vincent Buchanan, our Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project summer intern, died in December. Part of Vincent's legacy will be how beautifully he maintained the median island in front of his home, Vista Del Monte Apartments, from Gold Mine Drive to Diamond Street last summer. Vincent had a bright future in ecology and horticulture ahead of him. Vincent and Christopher will be missed by many people in the neighborhood.

Diamond Diapers made its first free distribution of baby diapers in February to families who live in the 94131 ZIP code. The program was funded by a grant from the Glen Park Festival and the Episcopal Church San Francisco deanery. Ten families attended and received diapers. Several families said the diaper giveaway was needed to help them get by. Even more families are expected to attend the next diaper distribution scheduled for Sunday, March 31, 1–2 p.m. at St. Aidan's Church.

Performance Showcase returns to St. Aidan's Church on March 29 and 30 at 8 p.m. with its show, "Press Play—The Human Jukebox." This will be the ninth Performance Showcase production, featuring spoken word, song, music and dance. Performers Ron Jones, Beth McLaughlin, Gary Turchin, Linda Hope, Angela Newsham, Maia Scott and Madeline Abel-Kerns will explore stories about our bodies, bullying, modeling, growing up Catholic in San Francisco, and more. The show is recommended for adults only. For more information, contact producer-artistic director Doug Baird at dbaird@lmi.net or go to www.performanceshowcase.com. ♦

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

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Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, April 14

Holy Communion, 8 am & 10 am

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in Holy Week, April 15, 16, & 17

Holy Communion, 7 pm

Maundy Thursday, April 18

Holy Communion, 7 pm

Good Friday, April 19

Prayer & Meditation, noon – 3 pm

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Good Friday Liturgy, 7 pm

Saturday, April 20

Holy Saturday Worship, 9 am

The Great Vigil of Easter, 7 pm



Easter Sunday, April 21

Holy Communion, 8 am & 10 am

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Glen Park's Natural Areas Influence Artist

Christopher Campbell pulls weeds and paints willows.

As chief natural resources specialist for San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's Natural Resources Division, Campbell, 55, has been familiar with Glen Canyon for 20 years. There he's removed geriatric eucalyptus and intrusive Himalayan blackberry, replacing them with habitat-friendly dogwood, elderberry and sticky monkey flower.

And for the past six years, influenced by Glen Park's 60-acre natural area, he has covered canvas and linen with his landscapes. Self-taught, he paints in oils.

Some of his paintings were displayed recently at City Art Cooperative Gallery at 828 Valencia St. They are scheduled to return to the gallery in June.

"I'm a plein air painter," Campbell told the *Glen Park News*. "I begin painting in the field, and often I complete a work indoors."

His passion has taken him throughout Sonoma, Marin and San Mateo counties; his work has graced canvases as small as 5x7 inches and as large as 40x60 inches.

"I prefer long and narrow canvases, such as 12x36 inches," he said. "They help convey the diversity of our landscapes and portray the environment where we live."

Campbell, who lives in Westwood Park, first visited San Francisco in 1986. He moved here permanently in 1993. He was born in the small town of Granville, N.Y., on the Vermont border, which has been called the "Colored Slate Capital of the World."

"Quarries in the town mine slate that comes in colors such as gray, black, mottled green, red and purple," said Campbell, who earned a BA in geography and geology from SUNY Albany. "It's very close to the home of painter Maxfield Parrish and near the summer vacation area enjoyed by Georgia O'Keeffe and her husband, photographer Alfred Stieglitz."

"The natural beauty of the land and the diversity of the landscape throughout the United States," said Campbell, channeling an environmentalist passion he's fostered with his Natural Resources Division stewards. "I have always loved shadows and textures in nature and this appreciation helps me capture a landscape."

Glen Canyon has its own panoramas, of course, dotted with grasslands and slopes, rife with red-tailed hawks and great horned owls, and



Christopher Campbell with his landscape paintings at the City Art Cooperative Gallery earlier this year.
Photo by Murray Schneider

home to the seasonal creek that slices through arroyo willow. Campbell's Glen Canyon assignment encompasses open meadows, Franciscan chert outcroppings, and a pastiche of wildlife such as gophers, snakes, skunks, raccoons, even coyotes, sparrows and warblers.

Campbell acknowledges the synergy between his art and his day job, which calls for the management and maintenance of 31 San Francisco natural areas.

"My work with Rec & Parks' NRD has been helpful," said Campbell. He began at Civic Center Complex, moved to Lang Field in the Western Addition and eventually to his own beat at Raymond Kimball Playground. "I understand scale and structural diversity, having worked with the land and developed a keen knowledge of it. I apply it to my paintings, although it's taken me some time and much practice."

Campbell's body of work boasts an airy ambience, and envisions subjects in three sections—foreground, midground and background. He has been influenced by the California tonalist painters of the 1920s. "Claude Monet's Tulip Fields was the first painting I fell in love with."

Rec and Park's Natural Resources Division began in 1998, and the City

to helping children and young adults develop writing skills.

One chilly day this January, Campbell circled through the gallery. Dressed in vintage clothing, he directed a buyer to the sale counter. Later he appraised his own collection, mounted in the center of the showroom. "I display approximately twice a year," he said. "Artists take shifts during the month they are showing, and we also cover other ongoing maintenance duties."

His Glen Canyon duties—making waste of invasive radish, thistle and mustard so that native wax myrtle, coffeeberry and coyote bush flourish—find him working with a lopper rather than a paintbrush.

Campbell and his partner, Chris Conlisk, occasionally take a gardener's holiday, walking the Islais Creek loop. "On my days off, I enjoy the park with our two small dogs, Bean, a French bulldog and Henri, our rescue Jack Russell terrier mix," he said. "The improved trails and stairs make it easy for the little pups to navigate the canyon."

Twenty years ago Campbell first wrestled with carpets of Cape ivy, working with California Native Plant Society volunteers Jake Sigg, Richard Craib, Greg Garr and Margo Boors. "We removed poison hemlock from Islais Creek, just south of Silver Tree," he said. "We are continuing to enhance wildlife habitat in this very area, removing weeds, some of the same ones we were removing 20 years ago."

Nature lovers who venture into the park to experience the canyon's riparian and hillside ecology can see some of Campbell's restoration efforts firsthand. And they will be able to view some of those same natural scenes at City Art on in June. ♦



Chris Conlisk, Christopher Campbell and Mary Huizinga walk their dogs at Silver Tree Day Camp in Glen Canyon Park.
Photo by Murray Schneider.

Glen Park Association Tackles Local Issues

District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman presented a legislative update at the Glen Park Association's winter meeting in January, and engaged in a question-and-answer session. While declaring that this is the best job he's ever had, he also noted that as supervisor, "Every single problem in the district becomes your problem."

by
Bonnee
Waldstein

His priorities remain mental health, drug addiction and homelessness. "Parts of our district and the city are in pretty bad shape," he said.

Mandelman noted that SB 1045 has been passed, expanding the conditions under which gravely disabled individuals can be placed under conservatorship. This legal tool will address the situation of a limited number of cases, he said.

The number of involuntary holds at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital due to meth abuse and addiction now totals more than 5,000, and is increasing, the supervisor reported; he has asked the mayor to reconvene the long-dormant meth task force. (Online references to the task force are from 2005!) The looming problem is the lack of a range of treatment facilities and infrastructure to meet the needs of the growing needy population. There also needs to be better communication and coordination among the various social and care agencies.

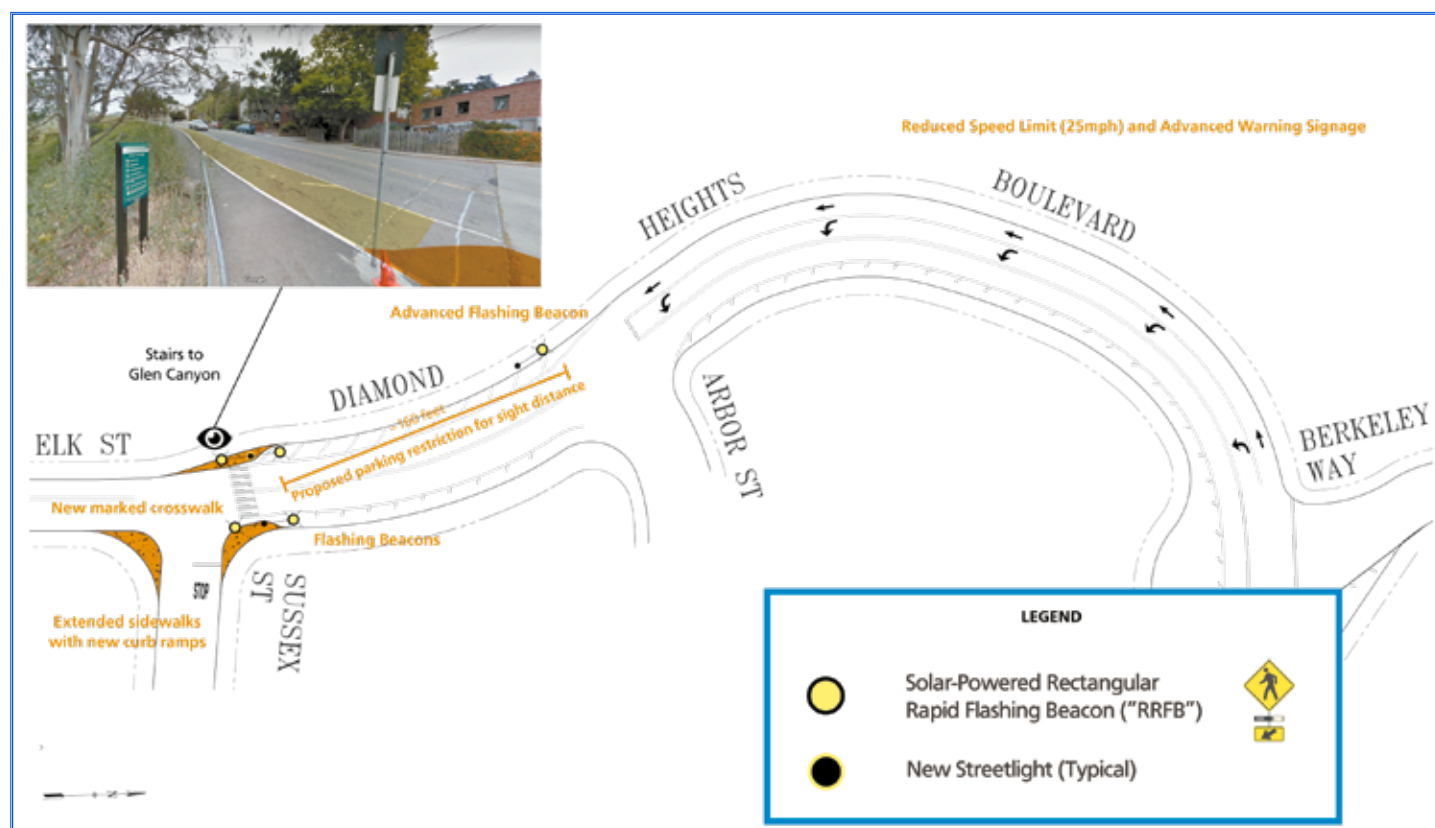
Incredible traffic congestion continues to plague the city. Mandelman is working with SFMTA to improve the public transit system.

The StreetTreeSF program, under which the City has reassumed responsibility for street tree maintenance, has been having a slow rollout. There's no funding for planting and caring for new trees to expand and replace the tree stock. Mandelman said he will work on this through the regular budget process.

Some of the issues covered in the Mandelman Q&A:

School Funds: There was a lot of group discussion about the \$500 million windfall from the state to the City of San Francisco. The City had been overpaying into education funding under Prop 98 for two years. After set-asides for other public services, \$185 million will remain as discretionary funds for the City, while \$35 million will go to the schools. Some said all the money was meant for education and should go to schools.

Mandelman wants to make sure that Proposition G, the teacher salary



SFMTA's preliminary engineering plan for Elk and Sussex streets pedestrian safety improvements.

increases funded through a parcel tax, survives. It was approved by a simple majority and is currently in litigation over the issue of whether it required a two-thirds vote to pass.

Homelessness Spending: He cited the need for funding his priority of homelessness relief, especially shelter beds, and brick-and-mortar facilities such as the homeless veterans' housing on Treasure Island. Proposition C, the \$300 million Gross Receipts Tax for Homelessness Services Initiative that was passed last November, is in litigation over whether the measure really needed a two-thirds majority.

Housing Approval: The approvals process for residential and business property, including affordable housing, needs to be streamlined. Mandelman agrees that the system is too slow—small businesses have trouble getting permits to move into vacant properties. Conditional use permits can take up to 10 months to work their way through the approvals process. He is looking for ways to move approvals along, especially for projects that are unopposed.

On the other hand, he cites abuses where houses get demolished without approval, and he's cosponsoring a bill to stop demolitions. He favors having a size limit on building one-family houses in favor of two or three units within the envelope. He would like to see fewer discretionary decisions and more objective standards.

To contact the supervisor, email

his legislative aide at Erin.Mundy@sfgov.org, or the supervisor at Rafael.Mandelman@sfgov.org.

Elk/Sussex Crosswalk: Gabriel Ho and Casey Hildreth of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency explained the proposal to provide a safe crosswalk at the stairs into Glen Canyon Park, at the corner of Elk and Sussex streets. It's been in the works since 2015, when many ideas were bandied about.

The solution preferred by SFMTA (see graphic) would feature flashing beacons, speed reduction and curb ramps. The most controversial element is the removal of the equivalent of six parking spaces between Arbor and Sussex along the canyon side. There, parked cars are a visual obstruction between the driver's line of sight and pedestrians. The Elk/Sussex intersection is challenging because Elk Street both curves to the right and undulates as it descends along the park.

The key factor in the plan is to make sure the crossing is safe. Fortunately, no collisions have been reported at the location. Even though more people are using the renovated park facilities, SFMTA contends that there is adequate parking on nearby streets to absorb the additional demand. For example, Sussex has substantial curb space with few driveways.

Overall, after the extended explanation by Ho and Hildreth, people seemed to agree with the plan. It will go through engineering approvals and a

public comment period. Construction could begin later this year, with completion by the end of 2019.

Greenway Update: Last year was productive for the Greenway project, which extends along the north side of Bosworth Street between Brompton and Elk streets. Volunteers planted 17 trees and 36 acorn plots, as well as two demonstration beds. Throughout the year, they were watered and nursed along; only one tree was lost. Water supply continues to be a challenge, but the Greenway is close to getting meters in its three major segments.

This year, volunteers will focus on improving the trail between Brompton and Chilton. Greenway chair Nicholas Dewar says that, if funding is secured, it will be a permeable trail with a surface that resists erosion and provides a suitable surface for pedestrians. A boundary survey of the Greenway is also planned.

New Officers: With the exception of one replacement, all current GPA officers were reelected. The right-hand column on Page 3 lists the officers. The new member is Adrienne Lacau, who was elected Membership Secretary as Hilary Schiraldi stepped down. The previous post of Corresponding Secretary is now called Communications Secretary.

Bylaws: An ad hoc committee of the board worked throughout 2018 to review and revise the GPA bylaws. The current version is posted on the Association website. ♦

Building bridges between buyers and sellers



Judy Marrocco has lived in Glen Park for over two decades; she has raised her family here and is a Glen Park homeowner.

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Contact Judy if you want to be a sponsor.

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COMPASS

◆ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ◆

Greetings from Glen Park Elementary School! As always, there's a lot happening at Big Blue, and we're excited to share.

Our students got to show what a talented group they are at the annual Variety Show on Feb. 6. Twenty-two acts sang, danced, acted, played musical instruments and even performed karate for the entire school at the daytime premiere. Parents, families and friends were treated to an encore performance the following evening.

We celebrated the cultural diversity of our community, beginning with a Lunar New Year parade on Feb. 21. In honor of Black History Month, students prepared artwork and presentations on notable black history topics and presented them at a school-wide assembly on March 8.

March 15 saw the school grounds turned into a race track for our Rainbow Run. The run is always a student favorite and one of the larger fundraisers for the school's Parent Teacher Organization.

Even with everything else going on, we are preparing for the next school year. For prospective students and families, the school district announced initial school assignments for the 2019-20 school year on March 15; letters with place-

ments were mailed during the week of March 18.

It's also budget season. The school site budgeting process, led by Principal Liz Zarr, is a multi-part endeavor. Zarr and the School Site Council have been reviewing student performance data, San Francisco Unified School District's goals and targets, PTO and English Language Advisory Council priorities and broader school community input, in order to develop the school's Balanced Scorecard and to set priorities budget priorities for the year ahead. Site budgets and Balanced Scorecards were submitted to the district by March 22 this year.

With all of this activity, many of us are looking forward to Spring Break, coming up the week of March 25.

If anyone needs a reason to return from Spring Break, we have the Glen Park School PTO Auction on April 13. The auction is always an exciting opportunity for parents to get out and socialize with each other while benefiting the PTO and the programs it helps support. In addition to live and silent auctions, there will food, drink and music. The auction is open to the public, so stop by and check it out!

And the Glen Park School PTO will be at the Glen Park Festival on Saturday, April 28. Stop by to say hello and learn a little more about what's going on at Big Blue. We'll see you there! ◆

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Eric Kammerud is the communications co-chair of the Glen Park Parent Teacher Organization. For updates on school events, go to glen-parkschool.org. Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/glenparkschool](https://www.facebook.com/glenparkschool).

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Photographer Finds Beauty in the Everyday

Photographer J. John Priola, who lives on Surrey Street just blocks from Glen Canyon Park, was born on a five-acre farm in Colorado where his parents put up field corn for silage and grew sweet corn for their table.

by Murray Schneider

“My mother sold the corn from a stand,” Priola told the *Glen Park News*, “but she also cultivated a tree farm. She’d buy blue spruce and ash-leaved maple seedlings, plant and prune each and then sell them to landscape designers.”

Priola spoke soon after the Feb. 7 opening of his Dogpatch show *Natural Light*, a photography exhibit mounted at Anglim Gilbert Gallery on Minnesota Street. The exhibit closed March 9.

Priola’s rural childhood was surrounded by mountains and prairies and they inform his art: “I was raised around growing things and I’ve always been conscious of nature,” he explained. His photos of plants have abounded in Dogpatch, the trendy urban neighborhood between Potrero Hill and the Bay. Once teeming with meatpacking plants and shipyards, Dogpatch now boasts an up-and-coming arts scene.

“I borrowed house plants from friends or obtained them from estate sales,” said Priola. He then photographed numbers of them beneath his Glen Park studio skylight.

His images and arrangements of synthetic flowers, subtly anthropomorphic, are imbued with human characteristics and offer opportunities to discover people through the objects they cared for.

Priola’s previous body of work has

consisted of streetscapes of objects cast aside on front lawns or set out as charitable donations.

These photographs refer to individuals who place them there.

Natural Light, his sixth solo gallery exhibition, did nothing less.

Anglim Gilbert curated Priola’s photographs around themes: “Grow,” “Posies,” “Foliage,” “Parasite.”

The photos were mounted individually or in a grid.

“Foliage” was such a grid, taking up an entire gallery wall.

Each of the 20 or so different images is tempered with pathos, consisting of a delicate wreath of branches, leaves or flowers set against a deep black background that grabs the observer from outside to inside, Priola said.

“The 20 photographs are born out of beauty and have a sense of deeper feeling of loss and projection,” emailed Priola, who has lived on Surrey Street for 18 years.

His earlier works, on a variety of subjects, were shown at the Fraenkel Gallery downtown. His photography has also been shown at the University Art Gallery in Berkeley and at the Schirn Kunsthalle in Frankfurt, Germany. His work is held in numerous museum collections including the Metropolitan



“Posies - Teal Vase” by J. John Priola.

Museum of Art in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago and SF MOMA.

All are haunting in their own peculiar ways, softly lit with deep shadows, entreating the viewer forward, beckoning inward.

“I lived through the AIDS crisis and it informs my work,” said Priola, whose

influences are Irving Penn, Richard Avedon and Lisette Model. “I lost friends to AIDS, and when you look at each photo in the grid it’s the black space, the void, that is meaningful.”

“Posies” and “Grow” take matters to another place—playful, even whimsical: “The synthetic flowers in ‘Posies’ are kitch and funny,” said Priola, who used a digital camera to capture their essence. “Each is a mix of humor, trickery, beauty.”

“Grow” is composed of numbers of subjects culled from friends and neighbors.

“The plants can be seen as a portrait of the person through something he or she cared for,” said Priola. “Each is evocative of the habits of people and how things affect people.”

Priola’s largest photograph is a stand-alone. “Parasite” takes him to his own backyard, Glen Canyon and, arguably, back to his mile-high roots where nature morphs Scaramouche-like, entertaining yet edgy, friendly yet fierce in its vagaries.

North of the Glen Park Recreation Center, several yards beyond the owl tree that has intrigued neighborhood parents and children, then halfway along Alms Road, one can find a lifeless willow limb immersed in quilts of California blackberry. The willow branch is contorted, coated with scabrous lichen, the crust-like fungus gnawing at the dormant limb.

Priola passes it each morning with his dog, Harold, a 14-year old Chihuahua-mix. “The parasite is killing the willow in order to survive,” he offered. “It is just what nature does, what nature is.” ♦



J. John Priola at his Anglim Gilbert Gallery exhibit.

Photo by Murray Schneider

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



The flowing Islais Creek.

Photo by Murray Schneider

Relentless Rains Bolster The Flow of Islais Creek

Islais Creek is the second-longest creek running through San Francisco.

Because of drought, recently it has trickled rather than raced. The creek is also inhibited because Cape ivy and Himalayan blackberry along its banks mitigate its flow.

by
Murray
Schneider

Recent rains have energized the creek. Friends of Glen Canyon Park volunteers have also contributed to the creek's recent restoration. Supervised by the Recreation and Parks Department's Natural Resource Division, the Friends have worked on the west side of the Canyon boardwalk, clearing thickets of invasive growth.

There they encountered unrecognizable poison oak, as well. The plant is often found intertwining with blackberry bushes. Poison oak, devoid of glossy leaves at this time of year, still generates oils that can cause rashes and itching. Disguised, it is always a challenge to avoid, and several of the volunteers succumbed to its irritants over the past several months.

The Himalayan thorns are stout and prickly and can penetrate skin. It vigorously re-roots, blanketing small trees and shrubs, effectively usurping them. Its bounty is a food source for birds and animals, which help spread seeds.

For two months, volunteers wielded loppers, pickaxes and mattocks, unearthing stems, then prying up root crowns. Rains had saturated the earth, making the task easier.

Once blackberry was removed, volunteers turned their attention to ivy. Cape ivy, native to South Africa, has the ability to form a dense ground cover, climbing fences, buildings, trees.

The City's Natural Resource Division depends on the volunteer hours it obtains from Friends of Glen Canyon Park, whose membership includes neighbors from Laidley, Chenery, Sussex and Stillings streets, from atop O'Shaughnessy Hollow and Bernal Heights, even from as far away as Plainville, Kansas, the home of a vacationing Sunflower State grandfather visiting his Bemis Street family.

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❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

As always in the spring issue, I like to give you a wrap-up of the real estate market for last year. But first, let's look at the current numbers.

While the market remains very strong, the shift I described in the last column continues. Inventory is way down again. As of this writing, there were about 700 properties for sale in all of San Francisco. In the last column there were 1,400 properties for sale. In Glen Park, there are currently 14 homes for sale, which is consistent with my last column. Between Nov. 14 and Feb. 17, 19 properties sold in Glen Park: 15 were single-family homes, two were condominiums and two were multi-unit buildings. That's about the same number as the last two quarters.

The median sale price for a single-family home in Glen Park was \$1,650,000. The median list price was \$1,599,000 for this quarter. The average overbid was around 6 percent over asking, which is down from 10 percent for the past couple of quarters. The average days on market was 29, which has increased by about 50 percent in the last year.

While looking at these numbers, consider that they cover the holiday season and January, which are generally slower months. You can see as you read on that these numbers are lower than the whole of last year, so we will have to see how the rest of the year shakes out. It's becoming much more important for sellers to carefully consider their list prices, and perhaps price their homes more closely to what the market will bear and what they really feel they can sell it for. Good Realtors will be on top of the shift and advise their clients accordingly.

This may also be an excellent opportunity for buyers who have been thinking that they can't compete with all the overbidding to enter the market. I've been seeing many more homes sell much closer to list price than in the past couple of years.

Here is a recap of 2018:

- Total number of single-family homes sold in Glen Park: 63
- Average list price: \$2,118,873
- Average sale price: \$2,295,735 (wow!)
- Average days on market: 21
- Average price per square foot: \$1,226

Here's how this compares to 2017:

- 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

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
50 Circular Ave.	11/16/18	21	\$899,000	\$975,000	108.45%
590 Chenery St.	11/21/18	7	\$1,995,000	\$2,160,590	108.30%
367 Chenery St.	11/29/18	21	\$1,599,000	\$1,600,000	100.06%
619 Bosworth St.	11/30/18	50	\$1,599,000	\$1,670,000	104.44%
2335 Diamond St.	12/3/18	76	\$3,888,000	\$3,800,000	97.74%
94 Joost Ave.	12/3/18	12	\$959,000	\$1,325,000	138.16%
64 Nordhoff St.	12/4/18	12	\$1,995,000	\$2,400,000	120.30%
122 Sussex St.	12/4/18	16	\$995,000	\$1,165,000	117.09%
35 Hiliritas Ave.	12/14/18	14	\$1,800,000	\$1,650,000	91.67%
258 Sussex St.	12/14/18	14	\$1,295,000	\$1,400,000	108.11%
210 Beacon	12/20/18	0	\$3,800,000	\$3,800,000	100.00%
140 Hamerton Ave.	1/3/19	54	\$1,495,000	\$1,700,000	113.71%
246 Sussex St.	1/4/19	15	\$1,259,000	\$1,475,000	117.16%
87 Melrose Ave.	1/28/19	74	\$1,695,000	\$1,590,000	93.81%
44 Nordhoff St.	2/12/19	13	\$1,495,000	\$1,711,000	114.45%
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
2932 Diamond St. - 3-unit Building	11/21/18	50	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	100.00%
200 Randall St. - Condominium	11/30/18	12	\$995,000	\$1,422,000	142.91%
71 Surrey St. - 2-unit Building	12/12/18	14	\$899,000	\$1,025,000	114.02%
1874 Church St. - Condominium	12/14/18	41	\$1,495,000	\$1,495,000	100.00%
DOM - Days on market		SP/LP - % over or under list price			

So, comparing year to year, the number of homes sold was up a bit. The average list price was up a whopping 28 percent, making the average sale price up by 26 percent from last year. But to be fair, there was one sale on Laidley Street for \$9,700,000, which throws things off a bit. If we adjust for that, the average list price was \$1,991,758 and the average sale price was \$2,180,376.

Using those numbers, the average list price was still up by almost 21 percent and the average sale price was up almost 20 percent—still amazing numbers, no matter how you slice them. If you are a numbers person, you might also want to know that the median sale price for 2018 was \$1,857,500. Also of interest is that the average price per square foot was up by more than 16 percent.

Here are the numbers for 2018 for all of San Francisco:

- Total number of single family homes sold in San Francisco: 2,219 (almost the exact same number as in 2017)
- Average list price: \$1,771,377 (up more than 10 percent from 2017)
- Average sale price: \$1,967,431 (also up more than 10 percent from 2017)
- Average days on market: 23
- Average price per square foot: \$1,018

One last comparison is with our neighbors in Sunnyside, which is of interest to many of our readers.

Here are Sunnyside numbers for 2018:

- Total number of single family homes sold in Sunnyside: 50
- Average list price: \$1,268,000 (up 17 percent from 2017)
- Average sale price: \$1,513,000 (up 18 percent from 2017)
- Average days on market: 17
- Average price per square foot: \$945

Clearly, Sunnyside home appreciation has accelerated over the past year or two. While the prices still remain lower than in Glen Park in general, the appreciation percentage is almost the same. If the indicated shifts in the market do pan out, it will be interesting to see how Sunnyside does.

If you would like a full copy of the stats for San Francisco, which also includes condos and breakdowns by district, feel free to contact me at marc@opni.com, and I'll e-mail you a copy of the report.

My predictions for 2019 are that we'll see much more conservative appreciation in home prices. My guess would be in the 2–4 percent range, although that is what I said last year and looked what happened.

Have prices trended downward in the last three months? They have. Will that continue for the year? That's difficult to say. Our market is unique and doesn't necessarily jibe with the rest of

the Bay Area, the state—or the nation, for that matter. If inventory stays as tight as it is, logic would suggest that prices will not fall much, if any. But as Mr. Spock was fond of saying, "Logic is the beginning of wisdom, not the end." Interest rates continue to remain around the 4.25–4.75 percent range, with fluctuation. The Federal Reserve has stated that they intend to hold rates steady through the remainder of 2019.

Finally, as of this writing, legislation is being proposed by several members of the Board of Supervisors that would seriously impact home owners, and is summarized as follows:

Planning, Building Codes: Controls on Residential Demolition, Merger, Conversion and Alteration

Sponsors: Supervisors Peskin, Mandelman, Yee, Ronen, Fewer

Summary: The legislation dramatically changes the process for residential demolitions, expansions, mergers and conversions by expanding the definitions for those actions, intensifying the permitting process required and increasing punishments for violations. In my opinion, the legislation will cause broad negative impacts, making it difficult for homeowners to do simple renovations and causing serious delays at the Planning Department on projects across the board.

In my experience it's difficult enough to get things through Planning. Imposing additional restrictions on homeowners, further slowing down a planning system in need of serious improvement, is ill-fated. If this legislation is still in consideration when you read this, I highly encourage you to reach out to your supervisor and express your concerns. My hope is that our supervisor will decide this is not in the best interests of homeowners in Glen Park and in District 8 as a whole. If you would like a more in-depth summary of this proposed legislation, please email me.

I'm pleased that this is an interactive column answering questions that you have and writing about topics that are of interest to you as a reader. You can send any questions or topic requests to news@glenparkassociation.org, marc@opni.com, or The *Glen Park News*, 2912 Diamond Street #407, San Francisco, CA 94131. ❖

Marc Dickow, a Glen Park resident, is the Broker/Owner at Core7 Real Estate. He can be reached at marc@opni.com, or by phone at 415-722-4018. His website is www.altrockrealtor.com.

♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR SPRING 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.

Tuesdays**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.

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.

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.

Book a Librarian

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

Diamond Diners Lunch and Social Hour

First Wednesday of the month,
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.

Bounce, Bounce Revolution

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Glen Park Rec Center, 70 Elk St;

Drop In. Call (415) 239-4007 for information.

Pickleball

12:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Glen Park Rec Center, 70 Elk St;

Drop In. No fee. Call (415) 239-4007 for information.

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.

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

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.

Drop-In Rock Climbing

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:

4:00-5:00pm, 5:00-6:00pm & 6:00-7:00pm

Wednesday: 6:00p-7:00pm

Saturday AM: 10:00-11:00am & 11:00am-12:00pm

Saturday PM: 1:30-2:30pm, 2:30-3:30pm & 3:30-4:30pm

6 Climbers MAX per 1 hour Session

\$10 Drop-In fee per 1 hour Session (Card payments only)

Climbers must be at least 6 years old & 40 pounds

Closed-toe shoes required.

Harnesses/Helmets will be provided.

GLEN PARK REC CENTER

70 Elk St; (415) 239-4007

Food Pantry

Every week, 1-2 p.m.,

St. Aidan's Church

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.

Bounce, Bounce Revolution

10:00a.m - 12 noon

Glen Park Rec Center, 70 Elk St;

Drop In. Call (415) 239-4007 for information.

Pickleball

5 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Glen Park Rec Center, 70 Elk St;

Drop In. No fee. Call 415 239-4007 for information.

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**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, 9-12 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.

Lego Play

Third Sunday of the month, 2-4 p.m.,

Glen Park Library

Get creative building with LEGO. We provide all the pieces you'll need to create vehicles, robots, castles, and more

Walker Talks!

Last Sunday of the month, 2:30-4 p.m.,

Bird & Beckett

Friday, March 29**AARP Foundation Tax-Aide**

1-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

(See March 15)

Press Play -- The Human Jukebox

8 p.m., St. Aidan's Church

A performance of spoken word, song, music and dance. Recommended for adults only. For more information, see www.performanceshowcase.com.

Saturday, March 30**Southern Boundaries of Sunnyside: The Wild 1890s, the Jail Next Door, & the Making of City College**

11 a.m.-1 p.m., meet at Cup Cafe

Historian Amy O'Hair talks about the neighborhood's rough beginnings. Two miles, strenuous with hills. Rain cancels walk. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: SunnysideHistory@gmail.com.

Press Play -- The Human Jukebox

8 p.m., St. Aidan's Church

(See March 29)

Sunday, March 31**Diamond Diapers**

1-2 p.m., St. Aidan's Church

Free baby diaper distribution for families in zip code 94131. For information, call 415-285-9540 ext. 3.

Tuesday, April 2**Glen Park Garden Club**

7 p.m.

This meeting's topic is Native Plants for Glen Park Gardens. Visitors welcome. Contact terriecampbell@hotmail.com for more information.

Aloha Uke Squad Play-along**Bookstore Benefit**

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Thursday, April 4**Poetry Reading**

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

Marina Lazzara, Ava Koobor & Patrick James Dunagan

Saturday, April 6**"Cowbells in the Spring": History of Fairmount Heights**

9-11:30 a.m., meet at Walter Haas playground, Addison Street; ends at Chenery and Castro Streets.

Join historian Evelyn Rose to learn the history of Fairmount Heights. Two miles, moderately strenuous, mostly downhill. Rain cancels. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

Sunday, April 7**Random Poetics**

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

What is poetry? What is the poet's role? Is there a future for this ancient art? Does poetry constitute an ideology? Poet Neeli Cherkovski will talk on these and other issues in a provocative event in Glen Park.

Friday, April 12**AARP Foundation Tax-Aide**

1-5 p.m., Glen Park Library

(See March 15)

Knucklebean: The Music of Eddie Marshall

8:45-11 p.m., Bird & Beckett

The late, great drummer Eddie Marshall, a Bay Area jazz icon with an international reach, would have turned 81 years old this weekend. Each year since his death in 2011, Eddie Marshall's working band has reunited to play his compositions, with his son, Alcide, in the drum chair.

Saturday, April 13**Asian Art Museum Docent Lecture**

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

"The Japanese Aesthetic: Exploring Japan's Artistic Sensibilities"

Sunday, April 14**College Admissions 101**

2-4 p.m., Glen Park Library

This course will introduce the fundamentals of the college application process so that students and families will have resources to help them effectively apply to and matriculate at the college of their choice. Register at: StudySmart.us/sfpl

Poetry Reading

2-4 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Publisher Lucille Lang Day and poet Joan Gelfand join Bay Area colleagues who are contributors to "Fire & Rain: Ecopoetry of California."

The Seducers! Outlaw, Classic & Honky Tonk Country Music

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

Thursday, April 18**Harlem River Noise**

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

Saturday, April 20**Monumental, Inspiring, and Rooted in History: The Public Art of City College of San Francisco**

10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., meet at the foot of the Science Hall steps, 50 Frida Kahlo Way

This 1-mile history walk with local historian Amy O'Hair will take you to all the major public artworks at City College, works that reveal its unique and inspiring history. Moderate with several stairs. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: SunnysideHistory@gmail.com.

Sunday, April 21**"Plants and Birds and Rocks and Things:" A Walk Through the Natural History of Glen Canyon**

9 a.m.-12 noon, meet at Elk Street entrance to the park, near the Glen Park cow sign.

Join local historian Evelyn Rose to explore this 60-acre "Grand Canyon of San Francisco" – designated as a Significant Natural Resource Area Walk is 1.3 miles, easy to moderately strenuous, mostly flat. Rain cancels. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

Thursday, April 25**Glen Park Association Quarterly Meeting**

7 p.m., Glen Canyon Rec Center

Saturday, April 27**Duct Tape crafts for T(w)eens**

2-4 p.m., Glen Park Library

Come make duct tape slippers or a pouch to carry your pencils, or whatever creative thing you can think of. Materials are provided, but space is limited. Call (415) 355-2858 to register.

Sunday, April 28**21st Annual Glen Park Festival**

10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Downtown Glen Park

The Festival brings residents, neighbors and friends together for a day of entertainment, music, dancing, and good food. The day promotes neighborhood restaurants, artists and craftspeople from Glen Park and well beyond. See glenparkfestival.com for more information.

Sunday, May 5**Book Reading**

2-3:45 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Todd Melicker and Joseph Noble read from their new books, is this the body/if hovers, and Within Hearing.

Monday, May 6**Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Quarterly Membership Meeting**

7-8:30 p.m., Sunnyside Conservatory

Friday, May 10**Sylvia Cuenca and Paul Bollenbeck Trio**

9-11 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Saturday, May 11**Filipino Dance Performance**

2 p.m., Glen Park Library

Parangal Dance Company

Asian Art Museum Docent Lecture

3-4:30 p.m., Glen Park Library

"Timeless Traditions: Expressions of the Divine in Indian Art"

Sunday, May 12**The Seducers! Outlaw, Classic & Honky Tonk Country Music**

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

Thursday, May 16**Poets Mike Boughn and Sunnylyn Thibodeaux**

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Saturday, May 18**Jerry's Backyard Fundraiser**

2-6:45 p.m., Bird & Beckett

Bird & Beckett's 20th Anniversary!