



# Glen Park News

## BART Station Headed to Landmark Status

**W**idely recognized as “one of the most architecturally significant” stations in the BART system, the regional rail hub in our very own Glen Park neighborhood is headed to likely placement on the National Register of Historic Places.

The anticipated milestone was pushed forward on Aug. 1 when California’s State Historical Resources Commission nominated the station for national recognition. Approval is expected by the end of the year.

The state commission described the Glen Park BART station as “an idiosyncratic blend of the Brutalist and Bay Region Tradition styles” that “is widely recognized as one of the most architecturally significant stations in the system.”

The station, designed by Bay Area architect Ernest Born, is mainly constructed of poured-in-place concrete left in its natural, unfinished state. Born, who died in 1992, also designed the Balboa Park station.

“At first glance, the Glen Park BART station appears to be a Brutalist building, with its rough-textured exterior walls with exposed board form impressions and muscular appearance. On the other hand, the delicate butterfly roof supported by lightweight metal purlins betrays the influence of the Bay Region Tradition,” according to the state report recommending inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

It continues, “The light-filled concourse departs from conventionally dark Brutalism with its multi-colored murals made of several different kinds of marble. A stair and two escalators provide access to the platform level underground, which appears to have been carved out of the surrounding stone strata.

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### GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING

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

#### Agenda:

- Update on Fairmont Plaza
- Potential garden on BART parcel



The light-filled interior captures the notice of architectural historians.

Photo by Rachel Gordon

## Police Arrest Burglary Suspect

It’s not the first time it’s happened, and surely won’t be the last, but the burglary of four businesses in one July week in Glen Park has the neighborhood rattled, even though a suspect has been charged.

In the early morning hours of Monday, July 22, Destination Bakery was broken into. The glass entry door was kicked in. The cash register was stolen; it had only around \$8, said Indy, a bakery employee.

In the same time frame, Higher Grounds coffee shop was also hit. Again, the cash register—containing about \$20 in change—was taken. In the process, the coffee grinder was knocked over and damaged.

Manhal Jweinat, owner of Higher Grounds, said he got a call from his niece at 6 a.m. She told him that the door to the café was open, and Jweinat

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A workman removes the broken door glass at Gialina.

Photo by Gail Bensinger



# GLEN PARK NEWS

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## ♦ GLEN PARK ASSOCIATION ♦

The first online edition of the *Glen Park News*, glenparkassociation.org, appeared in August 2009. The website staff is marking the occasion with a special trip down the memory lane of our archives. We're digging out a couple of posts each week to republish. Look for the 10th anniversary graphic on our home page.

We strive for up-to-the-minute coverage of all things Glen Park. It might be a fallen tree, a leaky water main on a local street, a brazen burglary or groundbreaking on a neighborhood improvement.

Or a gorgeous sunrise or sunset.

Ten years of web postings reveal a changing neighborhood. During that time, Glen Park has developed a community plan; the Recreation Center has been remodeled and trails have been improved; the Greenway connecting the village to the park is now a work in progress. Home prices have continued to skyrocket. The farmers' market has come and gone (sigh).

Problems in Glen Park reflect those of the larger city, and we've covered them—transit, crime, housing, homelessness, street conditions. More locally, we've done stories on the BART parking lot, Kern alley, tech buses and

street-tree planting. There have been many updates on the drama of the Diamond and Bosworth intersection.

Our community has a police captain, Jack Hart, who is accessible and responsive to our needs. We are getting used to him, but since 2009, as reflected in our web posts, we also got to know captains David Lazar, Louis Cassanego, Daniel Mahoney and Joseph McFadden.

Newcomers to Glen Park will recognize the many shops and eateries we've written about. But they might be unaware of some bygone names—China House, Continental Savings bank, Tataki Canyon, Kiki-Yo, Sel & Vin, Red & White, Osha Thai, Chenery Park. Those and others had their day in the sunlight when they opened—and when they closed.

The rhythm of life in Glen Park is punctuated by its annual events, such as the Glen Park Festival, Halloween and the Laidley Street July 4th parade, as well as one-off celebrations like the Giants' World Series victory. Read about it all on our website.

We've done many long-form stories and little items about quirky Glen Park ephemera and its equally "interesting" residents.

The website owes its existence to our founder and editor, Beth Weise. Beth

shares her wisdom and experience as a professional reporter in real life. She helps us navigate our hyperlocal journalistic world. Beth still edits pieces and writes stories on occasion when that pesky day job allows.

Publishing the website is a team effort of a group of volunteers. Currently the regulars are Beth Weise (editor), Heather World (reporter/website producer), Bonnee Waldstein (reporter/website producer), Murray Schneider (reporter) and Mary Szczepanik (webmaster).

We publish stories by others who submit them, and we also scour other local and City agency newsletters and repost items we think will be of interest to Glen Park.

As an official publication of the Glen Park Association, we are grateful for the support of President Scott Stawicki and the GPA board members.

A website is a worthless effort without readers. Thank you for taking the time to read about the neighborhood we all love. To find stories on a particular topic, use our Search box. We also invite submissions and suggestions. You can reach us at news@glenparkassociation.org. ♦

*Bonnee Waldstein is communications secretary of the Glen Park Association.*

## ♦ NEWS FROM CITY HALL ♦

We were all troubled to hear about the recent string of burglaries at some of the most beloved businesses in our neighborhood. On two separate days in late July, thieves kicked in doors and stole cash registers at businesses along Chenery and Diamond Streets. Thanks to coordination between the Rafael Mandelman Taraval and Ingleside SFPD stations, a suspect was identified and apprehended, but I know that in Glen Park and elsewhere, serious concerns around public safety remain.

My office shares these concerns and is working closely with the San Francisco Police Department on crime prevention and safety. Starting in June, SFPD brought on Jessica Closson to serve as community liaison for District 8. Her role is to facilitate communication and collaboration among residents, businesses, the Police Department and the District 8 Supervisor's office. You can reach Closson directly at jessica.closson@sfgov.org.

**Glen Park Greenway:** Since 2012, the Glen Park Greenway project has brought together dozens of volunteers to create a safe pedestrian pathway linking the streets of Glen Park to the heart of the neighborhood. As a member of the Budget Committee, I was able to secure funds for trail improvements on the Glen Park Greenway as part of my District 8 priorities. This money will support improvement of part of the "volunteer" trail, helping to prevent erosion and ensuring a safe and permeable surface that will protect both pedestrians and the surrounding vegetation. Thank you to the Friends of the Glen Park Greenway and the many tireless volunteers who bring the Glen Park Greenway to life!

**Muni Task Force:** Since taking office just over one year ago, I have heard nearly every day from constituents sharing harrowing tales of their experiences on Muni. It's been 20 years since Proposition E established the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA), and

with a change of leadership on the way we have an opportunity and obligation to evaluate this agency's track record and current performance—and offer its new leadership a road map to fix Muni and deliver San Franciscans the world-class transit system they deserve.

That's why I worked with Mayor London Breed to form the Transit Improvement Working Group, which brings together an impressive roster of local government and public transportation leaders with decades of combined experience to help us finally get Muni on track. On July 26, we had a productive initial conversation at our first meeting, discussing the current challenges and opportunities facing our transit system.

The goal of the working group is to issue a series of recommendations and proposals early this coming year. Stay tuned! ♦

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



## ❖ FROM THE EDITORS ❖

We are writing this as San Francisco is experiencing an autumn heat wave, watching neighbors lining up at Cuppa to buy frozen yogurt, kids running through the cooling spray from garage hoses, dogs panting extra hard as they chase balls down Poppy Lane, neighbors sitting on their front steps sipping a cold drink. T-shirts, shorts, flip flops become the post-work uniform.

The high temperatures serve as a community-builder, bringing people together in our shared common spaces and highlighting Glen Park's village atmosphere.

All too often we walk down the sidewalk staring at our phones or lost in the music or words coming through our earbuds. If you can, even when the temperature dips and the fog rolls in, take a moment to absorb the neighborhood surroundings, from the good

of colorful flower boxes, live jazz and chirping birds to the bad of traffic jams and bus-stop litter. This, good and bad, is our community. And if you're reading this, you are part of it.

Things you don't like? Get involved in changing them. The Glen Park Association, which meets quarterly, Ingleside Station, whose officers protect our neighborhood, and our District 8 supervisor's office are among the places you can begin. Things you do like? Find out how you can help support, nurture and/or replicate them.

Twice a year, we have big events in Glen Park that intentionally bring us together. The annual Glen Park Festival in April draws local residents as well as friends and visitors from nearby neighborhoods and beyond. And then there's Halloween on Chenery Street, which has become an annual street party that grows each year in popularity.

These are wonderful reminders of what makes Glen Park a special neighborhood.

Between quarterly print editions of the *Glen Park News*, local news is continually added and updated at the GPA website: [news@glenparkassociation.org](mailto:news@glenparkassociation.org) tells you what's happening in our community, and provides links that let you get involved. ❖



Halloween celebrants on Chenery Street.

## ❖ CHECK IT OUT AT THE LIBRARY ❖

Hello from your friendly neighborhood library.

SummerStride is over. We had 628 people sign up for the reading program, and 258 of you finished! The

Glen Park library staff thanks everyone for participating. by Michelle Waddy

September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. The library encourages patrons to explore our neighborhood branch, and make sure you have a current card.

Hometown heroes the San Francisco Giants are partnering with San Francisco Public Library to launch a brand-new library card design that captures the childhood charm and love of America's favorite pastime. Designed by the SF Giants organization, this card boasts the distinctive, bold orange and black team colors, and features a festive print of bats, balls, players, mitts, diamonds and the widely recognizable Giants logo.

The SF Giants card, like all San Francisco Public Library cards, opens up a world of possibilities. and is free. If you have misplaced your card or just want a fresh look, please come and get one. They are super-cute.

On Sept. 4, the Glen Park library hosted local poet Stephen Labovsky, who read from his recent book, *When You Run Out of America*. You've Arrived in San Francisco. His poems are about familiar places like Alcatraz, Pier 39, Chinatown, the Castro and the Golden Gate Bridge, and also lesser-known destinations, like a shad-

owy saloon in the Mission, life in the Tenderloin and our beguiling Glen Canyon, a rustic park right in the heart of the city.

On Monday, Sept. 23, from 1:30–2:15 p.m., Juan Sanchez will present *Fiesta en Familia* (Family Fiesta), a celebration of diversity and family through song, games and dance. This multilingual, interactive show honoring Latin families will make young and old sing, clap, dance and laugh to the sound of traditional and original songs. Sanchez is a lecturer at the Service Learning and Music and Performing Arts Institutes at CSU Monterey Bay.

On Saturday, Nov. 2, from 3–4 p.m., a docent from the Asian Art Museum's

Community Speakers Program will deliver an educational and entertaining multimedia talk about Ghosts, Witches and Mythical Creatures. The program will include fascinating topics from the special exhibition, and will highlight regional, cultural and academic themes.

The San Francisco Public Library's 15th Annual One City One Book selection is *There There*, by Tommy Orange. Set in Oakland, *There There* was one of the *New York Times Book Review*'s 10 best books of the year, won the PEN/Hemingway Award for Best First Novel and the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize, and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Orange is a recent graduate of the MFA program at the Institute of American Indian Arts, and is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. He was born and raised in Oakland.

Come meet your neighbors and enjoy the company of others to discuss this important novel on Wednesday, Nov. 6, between 6–7 p.m. at the Glen Park Library. And please join us as we celebrate and honor the voices of indigenous and native peoples all during the month of November.

Please pick up a Glen Park monthly calendar to keep up with what is going on at your local neighborhood library, and the At the Library newsletter to discover what exciting programs are happening citywide. ❖

*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:  
Oct. 14, Indigenous People's Day  
Nov. 11 for Veteran's Day

All Library facilities will close at 5 p.m. on the eve of Thanksgiving, Nov. 27  
All Libraries will be closed on Nov. 27-29

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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.



# Scooters Wheel into Downtown Glen Park

**T**he new millennium didn't usher in the long-promised flying cars. Instead, we've been taken back in time. In 2019, we're on scooters. Scooters with cheerful four-letter names like Jump, Spin, Bird, Lime, Lyft and Skip.

In San Francisco, and increasingly in Glen Park, we've graduated to five letters, as Scoot is quickly taking over our streets. In a walk around the village, you can see many of these cute electric two-wheelers, known as Scoot Kicks, locked and tethered to parking meters and the heretofore underused bicycle racks.

The arrival of rental scooters in San Francisco in early 2018 was unregulated and chaotic, characterized by sidewalk riding and dumped scooters on sidewalks, among other outrages. After a barrage of complaints, the City banned them in June 2018 while it searched for alternatives.

In October the Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) initiated a 12-month pilot program, the Powered Scooter Share Pilot, to create a more useful, accountable and safer citywide program of using a limited number of scooters in short trips around the city. Permits to operate up to 2,500 scooters were issued to Scoot and another company, Skip. Skip was later bought out by Scoot, which has been bought out by Bird, which is allowing the acquired company to keep its own brand name.

Scoot touts its vehicles as the perfect solution "when the 'last mile' is the only mile." (This refers partly to scooters being combined with public transit as the means to reach a destination.) Their scooters do have a range of 20 miles, however.

The first step in renting one is—what else?—downloading an app, creating an account and getting certified. Next, users locate, reserve and turn on a scooter with a phone. Scooters can be picked up and dropped off all over the city.

Scooters are initially parked at 75 locations, such as City garages, curbside on specific streets, in residential garages or at office buildings. They can be dropped off at similar places, or anywhere designated as a Blue Zone on the app.

The app displays the estimated cost of the ride. The scooter costs \$1 to unlock, and 29 cents a minute after that. Improper riding or park-



Scooters park at the bike racks in front of fitGLENfit in downtown Glen Park.

Photos by Bonnee Waldstein

ing can be reported several ways, listed on their website ([www.scoot.co](http://www.scoot.co)). The FAQ on the site addresses many questions about how scooter-sharing works, rules, cost, availability and so on.

In the trial year, Scoot has had to address a number of problems. Theft of scooters was rampant, and they were pulled off the streets until the company figured out a locking mechanism.

Scoot was criticized for lack of accessibility, in effect redlining the Tenderloin and Chinatown. Tenderloin groups haven't definitively weighed in on the issue. However, Chinatown neighborhood groups actually wanted to be excluded, saying their pedestrian-heavy sidewalks and narrow streets made scooter-riding too hazardous, especially for its many elderly residents.

In addition, the demographic of scooter users, revealed in a City survey, was 63 percent white, 68 percent with annual incomes over \$100,000, and 82 percent male, leading to accusations of elitism. In response to the charge, SFMTA has allowed Scoot to increase its fleet, contingent upon signing up more low-income riders.

Success of the scooter program depends on having a large enough fleet so that scooters are readily available and therefore a reliable form of transportation.

The SFMTA announced on Sept.

25 that, as of Oct. 15, four companies will be authorized to operate the shared electric scooters in San Francisco: Scoot, Jump, Lime and Spin. While the pilot involved 2,000 scooters, the next permit phase will allow for a collective 4,000 to 10,000. This will allow

for a larger part of the city to be covered, including underserved areas. The permits will be effective for one year.

The scooter program, which has had its share of controversy from the start, will continue to face critics, as well as draw supporters. ♦



A scooter parked in front of Cuppa on Diamond Street.



# 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

## 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:** sf-fire.org/neighborhood-emergency-response-team-nert  
**Meetings:** See website for training schedules.

## Sunnyside Neighborhood Association:

**Contact:** info@sunnysideassociation.org; voice mail: 415-937-1305  
**Website:** Sunnysideassociation.org  
**Address:** P.O. Box 27615, SF CA 94127  
**Meetings:** Quarterly. See website for details.

# Renée Gonsalves

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As a Glen Park resident, real estate specialist and enthusiast, I enjoy promoting all the special benefits of Glen Park every chance I get. I am raising my family here and we love the Glen Park Village community.

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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 clients have to say on Yelp & Zillow! Here are a couple:

*I hired Renée to list my house and she performed flawlessly. She was meticulous in her management to get the home ready on schedule. Her pricing strategy netted me over asking! If you're looking for a phenomenal Realtor, drop everything and call Renée!"—Stuart W.*

*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 ✿

The Greenway project is moving ahead at full speed. Trees, shrubs and perennials are flourishing, and the tiny acorns planted by volunteers are slowly and determinedly growing into what one day will be mighty oaks.

by Kay Hamilton Estey

Glen Park Garden Club members are jumping into the fray by taking over a triangular piece of the Greenway along Bosworth above Chilton, to clear, plant, propagate, nurture, weed and water. It's a small area, about 600 square feet, but with the amount of creative satisfaction we have had from clearing the site and selecting the plants, I suspect it may quietly expand in the future.

We will be using plants native to California. In fact, about 30 plants are currently surviving in those ubiquitous black plastic pots in our backyards, being babied along until we are ready to get started in the fall, just before the rainy season. That is the perfect time to plant in our area. In the meantime, members are keeping the site clean, dumping mulch on the ground and praying for rain.

How did we make the plant choices? What was the method? There are thousands of fantastic California native plants to choose from. Perhaps our strategy will be useful for anyone planning a garden.

First we got to know the site—mainly by clearing ivy, agapanthus and all kinds of weeds. There are trees shading most of the area, giving our project its name: the Greenway Woodland. We identified plants that could remain. We roughly measured our space. It became clear that although there are trees overhead and the slope is north-facing, there are often surprising amounts of light and sun. There is a watering system available nearby, but most watering will be by hand. I drew up a plan and noted the locations of the trees, the paths, the watering systems and the shadiest and sunniest parts of the garden.

Then the criteria for plant choices became more clear. Plants must be drought- and shade-tolerant, with space for some sun lovers. Plants requiring more water could be at or near the bottom of the slope. They must be tough, not prone to disease or pests. They should attract birds and insects. They must look good, and either flower or have interesting foliage and form. Rather than plant one of many, we will repeat plants for a massed effect.

In the strictest sense we could have



*Ribes sanguineum*, (pink flowers).

Creative Commons/Matanya

selected native plants that naturally grow together in our part of the world. But for variety and interest, we included a wider group of native plants. We essentially crowd-sourced information from among our experienced members, many of whom have worked in nurseries or botanical gardens with native plant varieties. We ended up with hundreds of plants and a final list of 25 varieties to start with, and more on a backup plan.

Here's the first round of choices:

•*Carpenteria californica*, Bush Anemone, large shrub, white flowers, needs some water, tolerates sun to shade.

•*Ceanothus 'Blue Jeans'*, large spectacular shrub with blue flowers, little or no summer water.

•*Dicentra formosa*, Bleeding Heart, part-shade, low perennial, spreads easily with moisture, dies back in summer.

•*Fragaria californica*, Wood Strawberry, ground cover, understory, regular water.

•*Holodiscus discolor*, Cream Bush, large rangy shrub for shade, white flowers.

•*Philadelphus lewisii*, Mock Orange, large shrub, flowers prolifically, sweet-smelling.

•*Polemonium carneum*, Jacob's Ladder, ground cover, lobed leaves, pale green, spreads easily.

•*Rhamnus californica* 'Eve Case', Coffee Berry, compact shrub, clean and green, tough.

•*Ribes malvaceum*, Chaparral Currant. Tall shrub, some water, pink flowers.

•*Ribes sanguineum*, Pink Currant, tall, deciduous shrub, light shade, some water.

•*Ribes viburnifolium*, Catalina Currant, ground cover, shade,

drought-tolerant, scented leaves.

The list will change with experience on the site and input from Mother Nature herself.

So, the basic steps for planning are: first, understand your site. Measure it, learn its orientation and roughly map where it is mostly sunny and mostly shady. Then face up to how much water you are willing to provide through our dry season. New plants need water no matter what, but the goal is to plant a garden that becomes drought-tolerant with age. Then, armed with this knowledge, you can start buying plants.

Our plant suggestions mainly came from members. If you have a native plant question, please email me and I will source it to the group. I used online resources such as the California Native Plant Society (cnps.org) and Calflora (calflora.org), a website that allows you to select plants based on location and environmental factors. I always like the plant information from Las Pilitas Nursery (laspilitas.com). The California Flora Nursery in Fulton is super—great plants and a huge selection. I always check out San Francisco Botanical Garden (sfbg.org) for their information on line, and visit the California native plant garden in the spring. ♦

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](mailto:kay.estey@gmail.com).



*Philadelphus lewisii*, (shrub with white flowers).

Creative Commons/Thaynet



## ❖ (HI)STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORHOODS ❖

One thing our district has a lot of is trees. The sylvan beauty of our aboreal slopes is just one of the many key features that sets the by special character of our Evelyn district apart from many Rose district apart from many other San Francisco neighborhoods.

However, until the second half of the 19th century, trees were few and far between in and around Glen Park. The region was a desolate but fertile landscape consisting mostly of native grasses and coastal scrub, with willow along the banks of Islais Creek and possibly a smattering of oak woodland and California buckeye. So just how did our neighborhood become so wooded?

We can trace our forested heritage back to the post-Gold Rush days of San Francisco when the first milch ranchers (dairy farmers) homesteaded the acreage that would one day be known as Glen Park and Glen Canyon. One of our earliest settlers was Henry Wilson, who in 1854 surveyed the land that today comprises the area south of Surrey Street and west of Diamond Street.

In that time of rapid development, and with a paucity of local timber



Looking east along Islais Creek between today's Chenery and Bosworth streets, with the gum tree grove planted by milch rancher Henry Wilson in the distance, ca. 1891.

Photo courtesy of the California Historical Society.

available for construction, nurserymen in the early 1850s thought it would be a good idea to introduce Australia's blue gum eucalyptus, because of its rapid growth. Yet, they soon found that the wood splintered when cut. So, the primary use of eucalyptus evolved into planting for windbreaks and property lines. The grove of eucalyptus planted by Wilson would remain standing well into the 20th century and is responsible for Glen Park becoming known as the "Gum Tree District," as well as

the moniker for the "Gum Tree Girls," three neighborhood women who saved wooded Glen Canyon Park from a planned freeway in the 1960s.

The real push to plant trees in San Francisco, however, would not begin for another 30 years. In 1886, Oakland poet Joaquin Miller urged California to adopt the celebration of Arbor Day, originally conceived in 1872 by agriculturist J. Sterling Morton in treeless Nebraska. In addition to the planting of eucalyptus and Monterey pine by the U.S. Army in the Presidio, philanthropist Adolph Sutro would financially enable the planting of thousands of trees in San Francisco over the next few years. School children planted and cared for many trees in and around their schools, but a majority of Sutro's trees would be planted in a swath extending from Mt. Parnassus (today's Mt. Sutro) as far south as the Industrial School (site of today's City College of San Francisco).

Glen Park's neighborhood lore has long claimed it was Adolph Sutro who planted the eucalyptus trees of Glen Canyon. Yet, no evidence has been found to substantiate this assertion. What the evidence does support, however, is that Sutro's trees advanced no farther east than the tree line that is visible today on the eastern slope of Mt. Davidson. That tree line represents the border of Sutro's lands with those of industrialist Leland Stanford, who at that time owned the acreage that today includes Twin Peaks, Diamond

Heights, Miraloma Park, Glen Canyon, Glen Park and Sunnyside. Apparently not a bona fide tree hugger, Stanford made no documented effort to plant trees in our district.

Which leaves us with the question of how Glen Park became so sylvan. The first major enabler of tree planting was Archibald S. Baldwin, of the real estate agency Baldwin & Howell. Owner of the Gum Tree Ranch, along today's Diamond Street between Sussex and Surrey Streets and Poppy Lane, Baldwin was selling home lots West of Castro Street in the mid-1890s. Then, in 1897, he conceived a grand plan to start the 145-acre Glen Park and Mission Zoo (Glen Park

News, Summer 2016) as an enticement to bring potential home buyers to view his new Glen Park Terrace. Newspaper reports in 1898 noted that Baldwin had planted thousands of trees in and around Glen Canyon in preparation for the new pleasuring grounds.

Then, when the population of Glen Park boomed after the 1906 Earthquake, the suffragists of the Glen Park Outdoor Art League took to planting hundreds of trees to help beautify their new suburban district. The San Francisco Woman's Club, another suffrage group founded by Glen Park's Johanna Pinther, celebrated Arbor Day at Glen Park School in 1909 and 1910. Invited guests included Mrs. Lovell (Laura Lyon) White of Mill Valley, a suffragist and early leader of California conservation efforts, as well as Lillian Harris Coffin, also of Mill Valley, who in the previous year had helped co-lead the first suffrage march in the United States in Oakland with Pinther (*Glen Park News*, Spring 2018). The arboreal essence of Glen Park was born. ❖

*Evelyn Rose, project director and founder of the Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project, is documenting the histories of Glen Park and nearby neighborhoods. To learn more, visit [www.GlenParkHistory.org](http://www.GlenParkHistory.org). The Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project meets five times a year and offers a range of themed history walks several times annually. Join the mailing list: [GlenParkHistory@gmail.com](mailto:GlenParkHistory@gmail.com)*



The Sutro-Stanford property boundary is designated by the tree line on the eastern slope of Mt. Davidson in a 1938 aerial view.

Photo courtesy of David Rumsey Map Collection.



# Born and Raised Glen Park Native, Neighbor, and Real Estate Resource

Having grown up on Chenery Street, I know how just special this neighborhood and community is. My wife and I attended Glenridge Nursery School and are now raising our two young children here.

One of my recent contributions to our community was working with Evelyn Rose and my Parlor at the Native Sons of the Golden West to raise 100% of the funds needed to purchase and install the plaque dedicated to the historic dynamite factory in Glen Park. Other local memberships include The Glen Park Neighborhood Association, SPUR, The Small Properties Owners Institute, The Residential Builders Association, and The Olympic Club.

As a real estate agent at Compass, my business specializes in buying and selling a mix of residential, commercial, multifamily and new construction properties. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any needs, questions, or just want to chat regarding real estate.

## Client Testimonial

"Kevin was our agent for our rental property that we purchased in San Francisco. We interviewed 4 agents and we quickly realized that Kevin had much more knowledge of the SF market compared to the others. This is the 7th real estate transaction that my husband and I have done and Kevin is by far the best agent we have encountered. He was professional, patient, courteous, and extremely knowledgeable. He was extremely organized and ensured that we found a place within 90 days of working with him in order to avoid paying massive fees through our 1031 Exchange."

—Glen Park Neighbor, Vidya B.

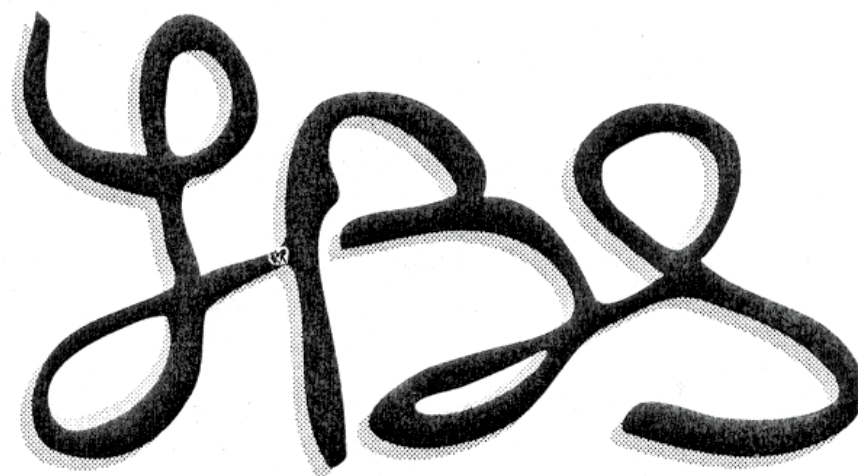


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# Glen Park Association Tackles Hot Topics

There seemed to be a lot of new faces at the quarterly Glen Park Association meeting at the Rec Center in Glen Canyon Park on July 25. Maybe they wanted to hear and speak

to District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, or to find out the latest in the Kern Street saga, or to broaden their vision of the future with the meeting's presentation on autonomous vehicles in San Francisco.

**Mandelman:** Glen Park's representative on the Board of Supervisors introduced Jessica Closson, who will be District 8's public liaison with the SFPD. She'll be working on property crime and safety, encampments and other homeless issues. Email her at [jessica.closson@sfgov.org](mailto:jessica.closson@sfgov.org).

SB-1045 will finally be implemented in San Francisco. It's a pilot program that modestly expands public conservatorship as a tool to help the mentally ill and drug-addicted get the treatment they need, when other means have failed. Currently, San Francisco has one-quarter the rate of public conservatorships compared with other counties, because of the lack of necessary placement options.

With Mayor London Breed, Mandelman is co-chair of the Crystal Methamphetamine Task Force. They planned to make recommendations in September on how to move toward implementation of long-needed programs, such as treatment on demand. It's been difficult to have successful treatment, because now 44 percent of addicts are released to shelters or the streets, he said.

The supervisor is on the Budget Committee. The City has a budget of

\$12.4 billion. In a victory for the environment, and thanks to public outcry, \$3 million has been allocated for tree planting, both to increase the canopy and to replace failing trees that have been removed.

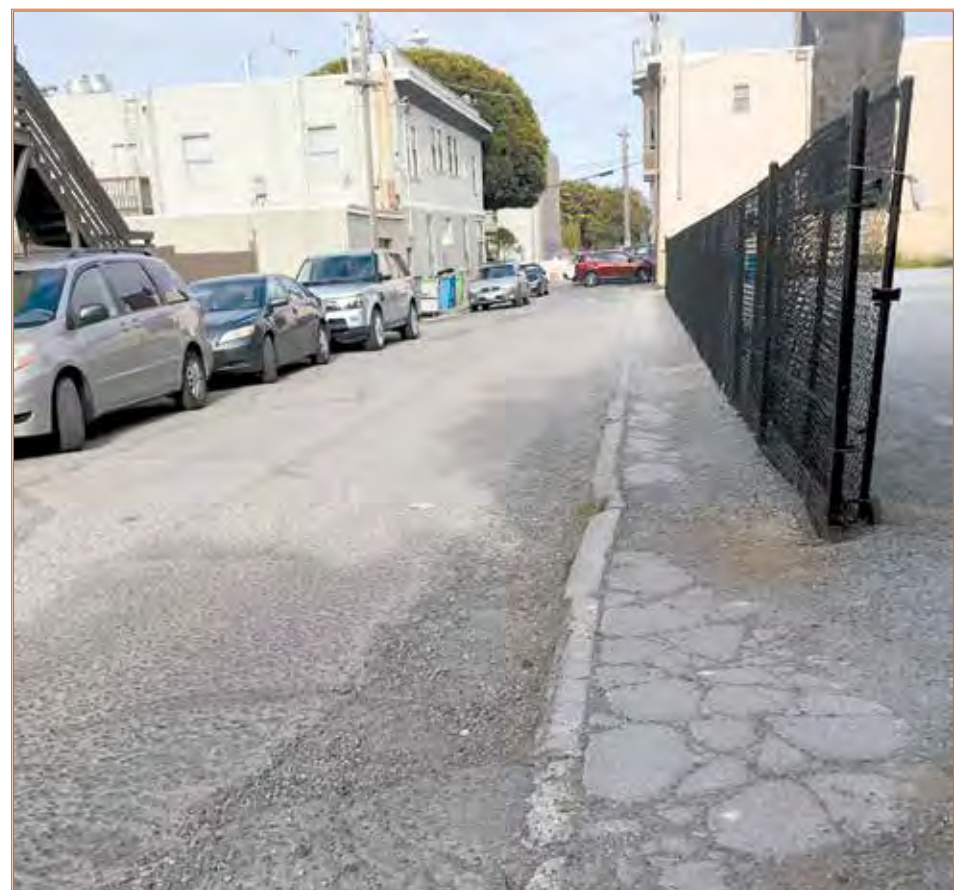
In District 8, \$32,000 is budgeted for Greenway trail improvements, \$40,000 for a College Hill improvement project (possibly a mural on one of the nearby bridges across San Jose Avenue), \$140,000 for play structures and fencing at Christopher Playground, and \$90,000 for sidewalk gardens.

More no-fault evictions and displacements are occurring throughout the city because of rising property values—\$42,000 will go to the District 8 housing affordability plan. Our district doesn't get a lot of funding because there's a lack of available land on which to build affordable housing. Other alternatives will be explored, such as converting other types of real estate into housing.

**Kern Street:** Tom Folkes of the Metropolitan Transportation Agency and John Thomas of Public Works were there to get feedback from the community on improvements needed and pedestrian and vehicular safety.

A big complaint is the condition of the sidewalks on Kern Street, the alley north of Bosworth Street that links Diamond Street, next to Pebble's, with Brompton Avenue. The south side is a cracked mess; the north is crowded with trash bins from the nearby businesses, which have different rules on obstructing sidewalks.

The meeting audience learned a relevant new term: Unaccepted Street. It's a street that is not maintained by the City because it doesn't conform to the standards for a City street. In the case



This cracked Kern Street sidewalk garners attention.

Photos by Bonnee Waldstein

of Kern, for example, the sidewalks are narrower than the four-foot-wide requirement.

Public funds cannot be spent on maintaining unaccepted streets. The City can inspect and notify adjacent property owners about problems, and relies on their cooperation. The City will, however, remediate outright unsafe conditions. If property owners apply for a permit to make improvements, they must then meet applicable City standards.

There was discussion about making Kern a one-way street, exiting on Brompton. This would require a petition from nearby property owners, for a start.

You can find a recent article about unaccepted streets in San Francisco at: [sfchronicle.com/bayarea/heatherknight/article/SF-property-owners-maintain-streets-that-city-13991425.php](https://sfchronicle.com/bayarea/heatherknight/article/SF-property-owners-maintain-streets-that-city-13991425.php)

**Autonomous Vehicles:** AVs will have a profound impact on cities. They have the potential to transform land use, curb space, traffic lanes, modes of transit, public rights of way and how we move about generally.

While the City grapples with traffic gridlock and pedestrian safety issues, it is also preparing for the day when AVs will be the norm on San Francisco streets. Mike Tan, project manager in the SF County Transportation

Authority, and a consultant, Samantha Soules, described a three-month automated shuttle pilot study under the Treasure Island Mobility Management Agency.

The study will evaluate the safety, reliability and accessibility of AV shuttles, and their long-term cost and feasibility within Treasure Island. The shuttle will provide intra-island transport and connect different modes of travel, such as buses, bikes and ferries. An operator—"concierge"—will be on board each shuttle for safety and assistance. The project will be in planning and shuttle procurement stages through late 2020. Testing and evaluation will happen in 2021.

Meanwhile, on mainland San Francisco, an AV program that will be deployed as a ride-share service will be rolled out by Cruise, a GM subsidiary. Mason Smith and Eric Young of the SF County Transportation Authority said electric Chevrolet Bolts will be used in mapping and testing. The vehicle can convert from autonomous to manual operation. In AV mode, the operator will have hands on the wheel and the operator and a passenger will be taking notes.

No schedule has been set for roll-out of the program, and no number of vehicles has been determined. Those features will be dictated by safety considerations, they said. ♦



Supervisor Rafael Mandelman speaks at the Glen Park Association July meeting.



# Taking a Dip into San Francisco History

San Francisco is constantly reinventing itself. Gold Rush seekers give way to Comstock silver barons. Merchantman brigs surrender to coal-powered steamships, then complemented by coal-powered railroads. Which got me thinking about how the outer Sunset District, where I grew up, morphed from sand dunes to modest housing for post-World War II families such as mine.

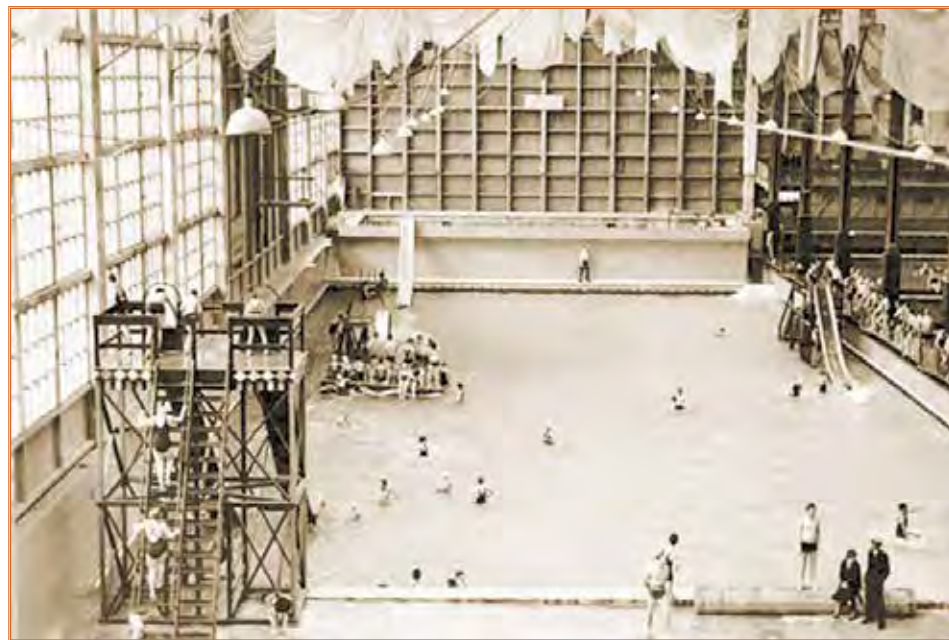
Got me thinking, too, about the early in-comers who transformed San Francisco. Take Adolph Sutro, a German-Jewish immigrant who made both his reputation and fortune in 1869, engineering what became known as the Sutro Tunnel in Nevada. His hydraulics and ventilation facilitated the drainage of water and then the removal of silver from flooded mine shafts.

Sutro served as San Francisco's 24th mayor for two years, beginning in 1895. He thought of his seven pools, built above the Pacific coast in 1896, as "health giving amusements that would equip working men and women for the struggles of life."

Situated just north of the Cliff House, which Sutro owned, the 2.5-acre aquatic spa stood in the lee of the Point Lobos headlands at Seal Rock Cove. The six concrete salt-water pools and one spring-water cement tank—his munificent gift to the city's working-class families—were at the core of an engineering feat that boasted hundreds of panes of glass and pumped in millions of gallons of seawater.

## Wool Bathing Suits

I started swimming at Sutro Baths



Swimmers enjoy one of the pools at Sutro Baths in 1935.

Photos courtesy San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

in 1953, when I was 10. Riding my bike from my home at Lawton Street and 32nd Avenue, I'd fish 25 cents from my jeans and descend three stories to the locker room. Before heading to the pools, I'd grab a brass locker tag that I'd either safety-pin to my trunks or wrap around my neck. I'd already been handed two towels and a wool bathing suit that itched and became so water-logged after an initial foray into the briny water that I'd sink to my neck.

As I walked the grand staircase from the entrance at street level down to the second level, on my right were photographs of men and women who, 60 years earlier, thought that it was their present, not their past, being recorded. The Sutro Baths were a Victorian epiphany. Dwelling upon those photographs of Gilded Age women delicately lifting their hems to avoid lapping water and of men comically juggling picnic bas-

kets and blankets, I first caught, then nurtured, a lifetime love of history.

John Martini, who served as a Golden Gate National Recreation Area park ranger from 1974 to 1999 and is the author of "Sutro's Glass Palace," recently told me these photographs were taken by William Billington and Martin Behrman. They remain on permanent display at the Main Library.

When I became a history teacher, I wish I could have entertained my students with stories of how I'd swum with kids from the Fillmore and Chinatown, even when segregation was the norm at public swimming pools elsewhere throughout the United States. But in 1953, a year before *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, I simply didn't register the racial or ethnic compositions of the Baths.

Martini has surveyed troves of photographs dealing with the Baths and he added perspective: "I have never seen a photo taken of minorities [at the Baths] before 1950," he told me.

He did, however, unearth one 1952 photo that shows African-Americans in one of the pools. San Francisco, always a work-in-progress, was embarking on a seismic shift.

## From Palace to Ruins

Ten years before the Progressive Movement, Adolph Sutro ushered in a moment-in-time that provided blue-collar

residents wholesome recreational activity. The Sutro Baths were a bit of a white elephant. Housed at the farthest reaches of San Francisco, the complex rarely turned a profit.

In addition to the pools, with their diving boards, flying rings and slides, the complex featured a side-show-like museum that boasted exotic oddities such as Egyptian mummies, Polynesian spears and an Amazonian 18-foot anaconda wrapped around a rainforest tree. Plus midway promenades, tropical plants, stuffed apes, bears, jaguars and what today would be a politically incorrect cigar-store Indian.

The grounds endured micro-transformations during their 60-year career. To attract more users, in 1937 Sutro's heirs closed two pools in favor of new volleyball and basketball courts. Eventually another pool was drained and converted to an ice-skating rink.

In October 1952, the aquatic palace that had survived the 1906 earthquake was sold by Sutro's grandson to George Whitney, owner of Playland-by-the-Beach, the amusement park down the hill on the Great Highway. Whitney attempted to shore up the Baths with curiosities such as Tom Thumb circus look-alikes.

In 1954, a year after I took my first plunge, the pools were shuttered. While ice-skating continued, carnies spent the next several years hauling away memorabilia. The two Egyptian mummies found their way to San Francisco State, where I earned two history degrees and a teaching credential.

The Whitney family schemed to



Kids receive swimming lessons at Sutro Baths in 1937.



Palm trees beautify the Sutro Baths in 1952.



# by Reflecting on a Pair of Public Pools

unload the land to the same developer who afflicted Aquatic Park with the view-blocking Fontana apartment buildings (think Soviet-era architecture). But thankfully that didn't happen. In June 1966, a mysterious fire razed Sutro's glass palace. The land it sits on today was secured in 1980 as part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

From where former park ranger John Martini led his tours, only yards from the GGNRA Visitor Center, one can see the pools' remnants below. There's even an outdoor staircase that leads to what remains of the concrete Sutro pools.

"Don't ruin the ruins," Martini told me he's been saying since the 1970s. "I'd paraphrase visitors who voiced fears at public meetings," Martini said, "that any rehabilitation efforts would ruin the ambience of the site."

## Balboa Pool, Updated

The Sutro pools are long-closed, but I've never stopped swimming, sometimes as often as five times a week. So it was a no-brainer when the Balboa Pool reopened and Fernando Aguilar, a PG&E project manager and School of the Arts beekeeper, suggested we give it a go. Aguilar, a football and baseball letterman at McAteer High School, has made it his mission to swim in each one of Recreation and Park's nine pools.

Balboa Pool is a downhill walk from my house, which sits atop O'Shaughnessy Hollow in the shadow of Mount Davidson. The hollow is named for another civil engineer, Michael O'Shaughnessy, an Irish immi-

grant responsible for Yosemite's Hetch Hetchy Dam.

It took 28 months and \$9 million to put the Balboa Pool to rights, a victim of rotted windows and a faulty electrical system. The wait—it reopened in February of this year—was worth it.

On Feb. 23, District 11 Supervisor Ahsha Safai stated, "Balboa Pool is the final piece of the major renovation we have led for Balboa Park in the last decade. It will be the crown jewel of pools for generations of San Franciscans for years to come."

Expansive new glass windows look out over a Mission Terrace panorama and beyond. Now ADA accessible, the six-lane, 25-meter lap pool has a movable divider, providing Recreation and Park Department swim instructors flexibility in offering swimming lessons.

Two bleachers, each with three sets of bench rows, look over a pool that is 8 feet at the deep end and 4.5 feet at the shallow end. The refurbished facility boasts new men's and women's locker rooms with three showers and bring-your-own-lock lockers.

Suna Mullins lives on Flood Avenue, four blocks from the pool. Brought up in the Sunnyside house where she and her husband now raise their two children, Leyla, 8, and Patrick, 6, she's been swimming at Balboa her entire life.

"I swam there as a child and it was spacious," emailed Mullins. "The lifeguards were kind and the building felt like a cement box. To enter and exit the pool, there were a number of showers spraying in all directions that got you on your way back and forth from the



Leyla and Patrick Mullins ride their two-wheelers to Balboa Pool.

Photo courtesy of Suna Mullins

dressing room. I appreciate a separate section now in the women's dressing room, and I love the spacious windows that allow swimmers to look onto a green field."

The day Aguilar and I showed up, not long after the pool reopened, we each paid \$6. Unlike at the Sutro Baths, I brought my own swimsuit and my own towel. A lock, too. (When I revisited the pool in July, I found the entry fee had jumped to \$7 a swim. But I can take advantage of senior swim at a senior rate.)

Gracing the wall opposite the locker rooms is a colorful 13-by-37-foot mural, financed with public art funds. Painted by Jason Jagel, it depicts swimmers representing Glen Park and the Sunnyside and adjoining neighborhoods.

When Aguilar and I entered the shallow end, we had the entire pool to ourselves. We each took a lane. While we adjusted our goggles, a woman joined us. Aguilar knew her from a previous outing at another public pool.

She staked out her own lane. Each of us kicked off. I swam 32 laps in all, with rests. By the time we climbed the ladder, each lane was occupied.

## 'Be Home by Dinner'

Suna Mullins and I recently chatted at Higher Grounds. I sat across from her, sipping a cup of coffee, thinking about my own mother who on those long-gone San Francisco summer days would shoo me off to the Sutro Baths. She'd ensure that I tucked a house key and some coins in my jeans and carried a lunch pail on my Schwinn handlebars. Then I'd peddle off. I can still hear her reminding me: "Be home by dinner."

I asked Suna if her kids bicycled by themselves to the Balboa Pool. It is only four blocks, after all. She looked at me for a long moment, then smiled.

That smile tells yet another tale of how San Francisco has transformed itself in the last half-century and counting. ♦



The newly remodeled Balboa Pool.

Photo by Murray Schneider



# Rent Party Held for Deb From Destination

**"D**ollars for Deb," Eric Whittington billed the fund-raiser.

Whittington, proprietor of Bird & Beckett, has thrown rent parties with live jazz before, to help keep his independent bookstore open for another month. But over the summer, he held a rent party for Destination Bakery's Deb Lunsford, a neighborhood favorite who's recovering from surgery.

Bakery regulars know Deb as the doler-out of coffee and baked goodies for the human customers, and dog treats for the four-legged ones.

"Deb hosted awesome pancake breakfasts for me back in 2002 when the bookstore was located where Manzoni is now," Whittington told the *Glen Park News*. "Those benefits paid the rent and much more."

"We haven't missed a Friday night of jazz in all that time," continued Whittington, "and this was an opportunity to pay a little back to Deb."

Kind of karmic—it's that kind of bookstore.

Joe Schuver, the owner of Destination Bakery who prepared the Diamond Street pancake batter 17 years ago, like Deb, has been MIA for some time. Deb underwent a knee replacement, while Joe is recuperating from recent heart surgery. Both plan to come back to work when they're healthy enough, but in the meantime the bakery is closed on Sundays and Mondays, and has temporarily dropped some specialties.



Eric Whittington and Deb Lunsford at the rent party.

Photo courtesy of Marilee Hearn

While she recuperates, Deb needed a little financial help from her fans. So the neighborhood pitched in, both online and on July 26 at the bookstore, when the 230 Jones Street Band and special guest pianist Eric Shifrin kicked off the first set with a rendition

of "Travelin' Light."

Whittington's efforts paid dollar dividends. "Like \$4,500," Deb told the *Glen Park News*.

"It was crowded early, crazy crowded," a jazz lover and a Deb supporter said about the crush of Deb fans. Meanwhile, the guest of honor reigned from a seat that Whittington reserved for her.

At a break between numbers, Deb called out over the crowd's buzz: "Hello Eric. You haven't aged a bit.... have I?"

The shout-out was directed not at Whittington, but at Shifrin, who provided the vocals for "Travelin' Light."

He and Deb go back to the early 1990s, when the Malibu-born Shifrin performed at clubs throughout North Beach, including fabled Enrique's on Broadway. Deb was the manager there.

At the set break, Shifrin wasn't shy about singing the praises of the other Eric.

"I love Eric and Bird & Beckett," said Shifrin, who minutes later fittingly sang "Please Send Me Someone To Love," the Percy Mayfield standard. "It's the best place in town to listen to jazz. Never noisy. Other places—people just won't shut up!"

Florence Hitchcock, 88, sat a couple of rows in front of Deb, close to the stage. A retired elementary teacher who taught at Commodore Sloat, Brett Harte and San Francisco Community School, Hitchcock lives in Noe Valley, but is no stranger to Bird & Beckett or Destination Bakery.

"I sit at Joe's over a cup of coffee and work on the *New York Times* crossword puzzle," she said, waiting for saxophonist Jerry Logas to begin another tune from the American songbook, "You'd Be So Nice To Come Home To."

"And the bookstore?" she mused. "San Francisco is changing so much. I cherish the kind of people who come here to browse and to listen to music."

Pausing, she added, "They're not faceless."

Deb, who since her summer surgery has been recuperating in her Bernal Heights digs, found herself surrounded by a legion of friends, including Marilee Hearn, a long-time bakery customer. Hearn assisted Whittington in pulling off the fund-raiser.

"Marilee is a dear friend," volunteered Deb. "She made this happen."

Heather World, who lives on Chenery Street, sat only seats from Deb.

"Deb's a wonderful, friendly person, really one of a kind," World emailed the *Glen Park News* after the rent party. "I really miss seeing her at the bakery. I was so happy to see the neighborhood rally around her."

She added. "It's these local shops and local people that make Glen Park the neighborhood it is. I'm so grateful to live here where we all know and help one another. And, of course, the fund-raiser was at Bird & Beckett. Eric is one of the most generous people I know, and his bookstore is an anchor for good will and good happenings."

"I'm getting stronger every day, everything is getting back to normal, and I'm in great spirits back at home." Deb told the *Glen Park News* by phone on Aug. 13. "I'm doing my PT, take 'knee' classes at Kaiser and walk my bicycle around the neighborhood."

She said she plans to be back behind the bakery counter by late September. "And Joe," she added, "he's doing great, getting stronger every day."

In fact, on Aug. 27 Joe paid a social call to the bakery, thanking the employees for keeping the ovens on.

"It's such a great neighborhood," said Deb. "Can you believe it? All that generosity, I'm still writing thank-you notes to the beautiful people in Glen Park. I owe everyone so much." ♦



Kathrine Kain, Deb Lunsford, Heather World and Angelia Bennett enjoy themselves at the rent party.

Photo by Murray Schneider



# BART Station Headed to Landmark Status

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Streams of sunlight pierce its dark recesses, playing off the rough-textured stone cladding and board-formed concrete walls.”

Built by contractor Peter Kiewit & Sons and opened in November 1973, the station has undergone few changes during the nearly five decades it has been serving BART passengers, “retaining all seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association,” the state report noted.

*San Francisco Chronicle* design critic John King called the station a “subterranean temple of transportation.”

The BART Board approved the plans for the station in 1963. Construction began in 1968 and took more than four years. Many neighbors fought the station on many fronts, including

the unpopular decision by officials to demolish existing properties through eminent domain to make space for the station, and the fear that drivers from the Peninsula would overrun the neighborhood by parking their cars in Glen Park so they could commute by BART to and from downtown San Francisco.

The fears were not unfounded. Not only did commuters come from the Peninsula, but also from other parts of San Francisco, including the burgeoning Diamond Heights neighborhood up the hill. Implementation of the City’s Residential Parking Permit program

helped solve that problem, as streets near the BART station were designated part of the initial Area D permit area.

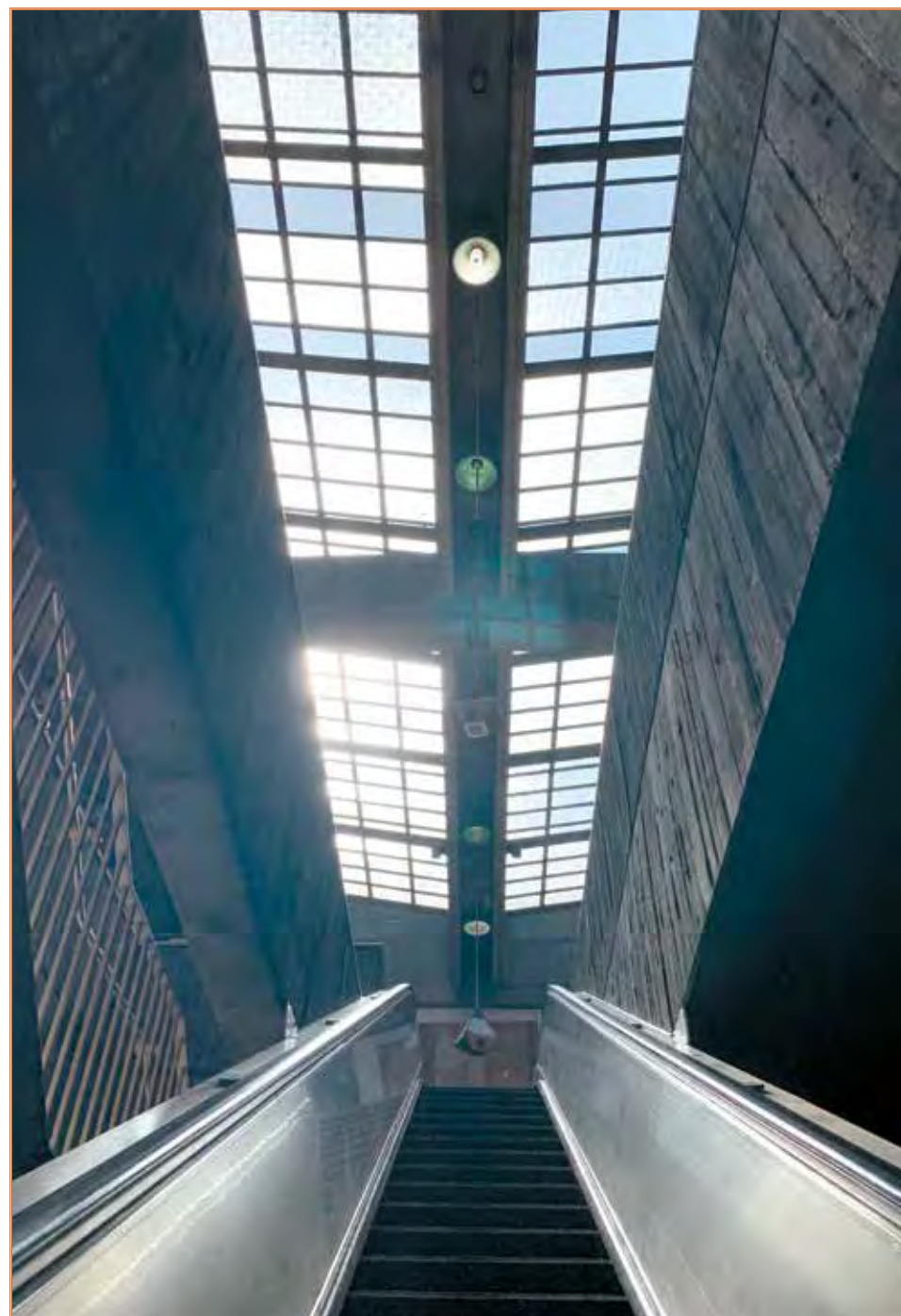
But the Glen Park station, with more than 8,000 patrons entering the station every weekday, also brings foot traffic and vitality to the neighborhood, benefiting local shops, food and beverage establishments, and our popular book store-cum-entertainment venue, Bird & Beckett. And it provides neighborhood residents with a quick trip by rail to Civic Center, downtown and the East Bay, as well as the airport to the south.

According to federal law, the listing of a property on the National Register places no restrictions on what a non-federal owner may do with their property up to and including destruction, unless the property is involved in a project that receives federal assistance, such as

funding, licensing or permitting.

Peg Murphy, who lives a 10-minute walk from the Glen Park BART station and uses it most weekdays for her commute to the Financial District, was surprised to learn of the building’s architectural stature, but was delighted that it may get national recognition. “It’s another fun fact I can tell my out-of-town friends when I take them around the neighborhood,” she said.

Jason Lee, another Glen Park BART station regular, also got a kick out of the prospect. “To tell you the truth, I’ve always thought the station was kind of ugly, especially the outside. All that concrete,” he said. “I guess I’ll have to look at it differently now. Apparently it’s an architectural treasure, eh?” ♦



The skylight inside the Glen Park Bart Station.

Photo by Rachel Gordon

## CHRONICLE DESIGN CRITIC

JOHN KING CALLS

THE STATION A

“SUBTERRANEAN TEMPLE OF  
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**Wednesday Communion** at 6:00 pm

### Morning Prayer

Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 7:30 am

### Contemplative Prayer

Tuesday, Thursday at 9:00 am

### Blessing of the Animals

At the church:

Sunday, October 6 at 8:00 am & 10:00 am

And at Upper Douglass Dog Park

Sunday, October 6, 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

### Interfaith Memorial Service for Companion Animals

Sunday, October 6 at 2:30 pm



All Are Welcome, Including Companion Animals



### Saint Aidan's Episcopal Church

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(@ Diamond Hts. Blvd., Across from Safeway)

Phone: 415.285.9540

[www.staidansf.org](http://www.staidansf.org)



# Christopher Playground Gets a Makeover

Love it or hate it for its sandy substrate and risky play features, the original playground in Christopher Park has served Diamond Heights and the surrounding communities since it opened 48 years ago in 1971.

But this fall, we bid farewell to the playground at Christopher Park as it undergoes a 12-month renovation. Thanks to community efforts, the preservation of three playground structures will pay homage to the modernist design of this mid-century masterpiece tucked between Glen Canyon and the Diamond Heights Shopping Center. The playground was designed in 1961 by one of California's foremost modernist landscape architects, Robert Royston. The playground design and its play features demonstrate influences of modernism that reflect the broader historic and architectural context of Diamond Heights.

The playground is being replaced by the San Francisco Department of Recreation and Parks as part of the 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks bond issue, and has a total budget of \$2.8 million. As an environmental impact review proceeded, the San Francisco Planning Department took interest in preserving design aspects of this playground.

The playground features play sculptures designed by influential modern-era fine artists Jim Miller-Melberg and David Aaron, recognized as contributors to the creative play design movement of the 1950s and '60s. The movement sought to provide environments for imaginative game-playing for children, and shaped playground design of that era across America. Abstract art in the form of playground structures not only made modern art more accessible, but helped foster creative play.

As part of the exhibit "Jim Miller-Melberg: The Art of Play" at the Lawrence Technological University Center for Design & Technology in Southfield, Mich., the designer described his designs: "I think kids love to swing and slide, but the emphasis is on individual activity. What I was trying to get across was to provide an environment to play together."

Teachers at the Noe Valley Cooperative Nursery School, located inside the Christopher Park Clubhouse, say that the play sculptures are most often the busiest part of the playground, an active spot for creative



Peach, Jyllian and Olive pose for a photo amid David Aaron's Pleasure Dome play sculpture in Christopher Park.

Photo courtesy of Josh Aberant

play. Assistant director Johana Baraona said that the saddle slide play sculpture has been, among other things, "a rocket ship, an elephant, a bustling soup kitchen."

Thus the idea was born to try and save these structures. Through Friends of Christopher Park, a park advocacy group organized by preschool community members, they requested a safety inspection of the play sculptures and a copy of the SF Planning Department's Historic Resource Evaluation Report prepared for the playground replacement project.

They were fascinated to learn about the origins of these play sculptures and that they were among the few remaining modern-era play structures in San Francisco. Some internet surfing led to discovery of Detroit-based artist Scott Hocking's photographic essay "Mid Century Modern Playground Sculptures." Hocking's work seeks to educate people about the vanishing work of Miller-Melberg, Aaron and other mid-century playscape art-

ists before their concrete and metal sculptures are entirely replaced by mass-produced, modular plastic equipment.

While schedule delays and some unanticipated design requirements had resulted from the Planning Department's historical resource evaluation work, the timing also laid the groundwork for community advocacy to save the historic playground features.

Friends of Christopher Park reached out to the Glen Park Neighborhood Histories Project, the Northern California chapter of the international nonprofit organization Docomomo (Documentation and Conservation of the Modern Movement), the San Francisco Parks Alliance and the Diamond Heights Community Association. The preservation dream team was born, and through advocacy efforts and help from District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman and Rec and Park, three play sculptures will be preserved in a sculpture garden adjacent to the playground.

Mandelman's office worked to secure \$105,000 in City Ad-Back funding, and urged Rec and Park to match those funds. All parties realized the opportunity to showcase these original art works and continue their legacy of engaging the children and broader public with abstract art and the creative play it inspires.

"These historic play sculptures are community assets that will continue to delight visitors to Christopher Playground for generations to come," Mandelman said. "The neighborhood made clear that preserving these historic features was important, and I was glad to work with community leaders and Rec and Park to ensure that they remain."

To find out more about the play sculptures, upcoming renovation plans, and Friends of Christopher Park's last-ditch attempt to preserve the large bell-shaped swing set named the city's best in an Aug. 20 *San Francisco Chronicle* article by Heather Knight, please visit [friendsofchristopherpark.org](http://friendsofchristopherpark.org). ♦



# Police Arrest Glen Park Burglary Suspect

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

rushed over immediately from his home nearby. A glass pane in the window of the door was broken. With no cash register, the café was closed for the day.

Jweinat managed to repair the coffee grinder, and filled in the broken glass pane in the door, but it cost him \$275 to replace the cash register—with one that doesn't work as well as the old one, he said. This was the fourth time he has been burglarized in the nearly four decades he's owned the coffee house, he said.

Next door, early on Friday morning, July 26, Glen Park Hardware was burglarized in much the same way. A passerby noticed keys strewn about on the sidewalk. By 7 a.m. the fire department had covered the window. A police officer was parked in front of the store, waiting for the owner to arrive. Again, a nearly empty cash drawer was taken.

Around the same time, Gialina's Pizzeria was burglarized after the glass panel on the front door was bashed in. According to owner Sharon Ardiana, the cash drawer was later recovered after it had been tossed into the middle of the 200 block of Joost Avenue. She said there was no money inside, just some blank Gialina gift cards.

When Gialina opened in 2007,

Ardiana said, customers generally paid in cash, but now the situation is different and there is little cash on hand, even after a busy night. "It's mostly a credit card business," she said.

Four burglaries, four exterior windows damaged, four cash registers stolen, but little money gone. And four hard-working small business owners with the expense and hassle of arranging repairs and replacing cash drawers.

Ingleside Police Station Capt. Jack Hart wrote on Nextdoor that Gialina's register was being processed by the Crime Scene Investigations Unit. Police scoured the neighborhood for witnesses and evidence and coordinated with the citywide burglary detail to determine patterns and likely suspects across police district boundaries. All the Ingleside's night shift officers were briefed about this hotspot location.

At the regular community meeting of the Ingleside Station on Aug. 20, Hart announced that a suspect was in custody and has confessed to all four crimes. He described how it unfolded.

The Ingleside Station got a tip that there had been a burglary of a laundromat-dry cleaner at Carl and Cole streets in the Park Station district. Again the front door had been kicked in, and a tip jar was stolen. The thief jumped into a car and fled. Police

found the car, pulled it over, saw the tip jar, took the suspect into custody, and booked him for burglary.

Ingleside officers then went looking for possible surveillance footage in Glen Park. From a security camera at a residence adjoining one of the burgled businesses, they found a picture of a similar car, which was now in police impound. They searched the car and found a stack of Gialina gift cards and a phone from the hardware store. "We call that a clue," deadpanned Hart.

The 21-year-old suspect, Isaiah Johnson, had been released without being required to post bail on July 26 after the dry cleaner burglary. He showed up at the Park Station on Aug. 7, wanting his car back. He was placed under arrest there, and Ingleside officers picked him up and brought him back to the Ingleside Station, where he reportedly confessed to all four Glen Park crimes. He was charged with five burglaries and other offenses.

Johnson pleaded not guilty at his arraignment and was released on his own recognizance, without bail. At our press time a preliminary hearing date had yet to be set, as late as Oct. 15 or beyond, according to Sgt. Conroy Tam of Ingleside Station.

At the Aug. 20 Ingleside Station meeting, Adam Cuadra of SFSAFE (Safety Awareness For Everyone), said that he would be meeting with owners of these businesses to advise about security best practices, including lights, cameras, burglar alarms—anything that will help dissuade, prevent and/or rapidly detect criminal activity involving these and other businesses in Glen Park.

SAFE can do a business security assessment on a fee-for-service basis and make individual recommendations on how to reduce enticements for thieves to enter. Unlike residential burglaries, which usually happen during the day, commercial burglaries tend to occur in the middle of the night. Thieves look for storefronts that aren't well lit and/or have large windows that reveal what's inside.

In-store cameras play a big part in crime deterrence and prosecution, even when there's been a confession. It's particularly helpful when a suspect is captured on video either driving or walking to or from the scene of the burglary, Cuadra noted.

The Glen Park Merchants Association met on Sept. 5 to discuss the incidents and learn what they and

the City can do to mitigate business burglaries. Hart told the group that the two-person patrols in Glen Park, which were cut due to budgetary constraints, have been partially restored with one officer, four days a week, during the day.

Aaron Esquivel, president of the GPMA, expressed interest in patrol special police—civilians who provide security for private clients under the regulation of the San Francisco Police Commission. Such police are currently used by the Castro merchants.

The City has a limited program to distribute 400 motion-activated interior lights to merchants on a first-come-first-served basis. But installing surveillance cameras in the public right of way is a non-starter, due to the prohibitive cost, about \$100,000 apiece, and privacy concerns.

In the meantime, Hart advised at the Aug. 20 meeting, "All in-progress suspicious behavior should be reported to 911 so that dispatchers can prioritize and coordinate a rapid response to suspects casing or attempting to break into our businesses." ♦



The window at Glen Park Hardware awaits repair,

Photo by Bonnee Waldstein



## ❖ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS ❖

**G**reetings from Glen Park Elementary School. We are happy to be back and settling into the 2019–2020 school year, and are excited for what

the coming year holds in store at Big Blue! The Glen Park School Parent Teacher Organization welcomed families to the new school year with our annual Back to School Barbecue and Ice Cream Social on Friday, Aug. 23. A big crowd of students, families, faculty and staff

turned out to enjoy hot dogs, veggie burgers, ice cream, and other tasty treats while reconnecting with familiar folks and making new friends on the Lower Yard.

A dedicated group of families got things going a little early at this year's Maintenance Day on Aug. 10. Maintenance Day gives us a chance to really make Big Blue shine by sprucing up some of the common areas of the school. Thank you to everyone who attended for your hard work.

This year we are welcoming new staff

and faculty to the Glen Park family: Jasmine Algervue is the garden educator; Nathan Bryant is the physical education specialist; Annette Olinger is the fifth-grade mathematics and science teacher; and Karina Vela is the dance teacher. Also, a Big Blue welcome back to Jessica Garcia, academic intervention teacher, and Sounyi Stamper, bilit-eracy teacher for second grade, who are both returning from sabbatical.

Additionally, a few familiar faces will be taking on new roles: Charyl Dalapit is now the school's instructional reform facilitator; Patty Sheiring is teaching third grade; and Sheila Tenney teaches fourth grade.

Also, new this year, our fifth-grade classes will get to experience an exciting class structure for the first time. Fifth graders will move between two classrooms and be taught by a team of three teachers. Christine Leishman will teach English language arts and social studies, Rebecca Sandford-Smith

will focus on Spanish language arts, and Annette Olinger will teach math and science. Not only does this new arrangement help prepare students for middle school, where they will have multiple teachers and classrooms, but it also allows our teachers to specialize and delve more deeply with their curricula.

And finally, we are inviting the entire Glen Park community to come and check out what Big Blue has to offer at the annual Glen Park School Fall Fair on Saturday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. There'll be games, prizes, food and more, in the Brompton Avenue yard. Admission is free and open to the public. Come join the fun! ❖

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

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## Glen Park Elementary Has Rising Test Scores

Hoodline San Francisco, using data from Niche.com, reported that Glen Park Elementary School's overall rating showed the highest improvement among similar schools in San Francisco, rising from a C+ to a B. Academically, 37 percent of Glen Park School's students scored as proficient or above in math, and 27 percent did so in reading, compared with overall city averages of 46 percent in math and 46 percent in reading. The school's improved overall rating is notable in that it serves a diverse, less-affluent population, the Hoodline report said. ❖

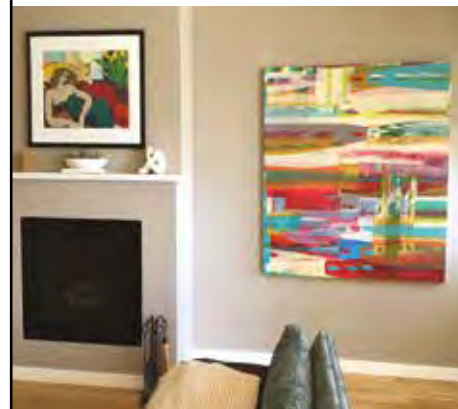
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# Bringing New Life To O'Shaughnessy



Raymone Reed, with a San Francisco Public Works Bureau of Urban Forestry crew, spent a recent Sunday morning beautifying the medians along O'Shaughnessy Boulevard with wood chips and drought-tolerant plants.

Photos by Rachel Gordon

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## COMPASS

### Upcoming Open Houses in the Neighborhood



129 Joost Avenue, Sunnyside

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Open houses starting at the end of September.

37 Chenery Street, Glen Park

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# MARC DICKOW

Broker, Realtor, Partner



2018 Board of Directors, San Francisco Association of Realtors

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

## "Marc did a phenomenal job selling our home!"

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

## "Marc is extremely professional..."

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

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



## ❖ NEWS FROM DIAMOND HEIGHTS ❖

Thanks to the volunteers of the Diamond Heights Boulevard Median Project and our summer intern, Josh Fanning, the median islands between Duncan Street and Diamond Street continue to be well maintained. During his internship, Josh, a senior at The Academy-San Francisco @ McAteer, pulled weeds, picked up trash and led a volunteer workday to spread wood chips.

Planting of drought-tolerant plants had been delayed while a water source to the median was repaired. Planning for the landscape installation is now underway in coordination with SF Public Works. Please contact project lead Paul Matalucci, at paul@wordwc.com, if you are interested in volunteering for planting or would like more information.

Theater in Diamond Heights: St. Aidan's Church will present *The Elves of Presley*, its 16th original musical comedy with familiar tunes, on Nov. 8, 9 and 10 at the church, 101 Gold Mine Drive. The popular shows are written, directed and performed by St. Aidan's parishioners and friends. John Wilk, a theater professor at City College of San Francisco, wrote and is directing the current show, his eighth Dymphna Production. Scrumbly Koldewyn, the legendary Cockettes star, has served as music director and show accompanist since 2006. Deborah Shaw, director and choreographer of City College's spring

musicals for many years, will stage the dancing.

The setting of the shows is the fictitious St. Dymphna's Church. From the first show, St. Dymphna's staff has found themselves in various predicaments. Usually trying to raise funds for St. Dymphna's, the characters have competed in *Dymphna Idol*, thought they all killed Dr. Who in *Murder in the Snickerage*, celebrated marriage equality in *Tony and Tony's Wedding*, and rescued parishioners from heaven and hell in *The Divine Dymphna*. Last year, the *Summer of Love*, *Luv* characters traveled back in time to 1967 singing all the Summer of Love favorites.

Bebe Sweetbriar did her first performance in drag in *Dymphna Idol*. Leah Garchik attended our production, *Waiting for Garchik*, after approving that the play be named after her.

In addition to entertainment, the productions raise funds for St. Aidan's community programs and build community among the many volunteers required to create the shows.

For a complete history of Dymphna Productions, visit St. Aidan's website ([www.staidansf.org](http://www.staidansf.org)) and select Dymphna Productions under Join a Group. I have been inspired by the talents of all involved from the very first show, and have been honored to serve as the producer. Contact me at [betsy.eddy@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.eddy@gmail.com) for more information ❖.

*Betsy Eddy is president of the Diamond Heights Community Association. Contact her at [dhcasf@gmail.com](mailto:dhcasf@gmail.com).*



The cast of St. Aidan's 2018 Dymphna Productions' show, *Summer of Love, Luv*.

Photo courtesy of Michael Sabin



❖ GLEN PARK REAL ESTATE ❖

Let's talk about some easy and less costly ways to spruce up your home this fall. But first, here's your real estate market snapshot.

It was a pretty lively summer as far as real estate sales go. Between March 25 and Aug. 23, a total of 25 properties sold in Glen Park. Of those, 22 were single-family homes—the exact same number as the previous quarter. One condominium and two multi-unit buildings were in the mix as well.

The median sale price for a single-family home in Glen Park increased to \$1,807,500, a 4.75 percent increase from the previous quarter. That price actually puts us right about where we were for all of 2018.

The median list price was \$1,496,500 for the quarter, which is actually down about 8 percent. The average overbid was about 19 percent over asking, which is a considerable increase from the past year. Average days on market went way down, to 13 days. We were looking at 30-some days on average for the last couple quarters, but there was a short, odd blip in the market when it looked as if things were slowing. That is certainly not the case now.

Inventory is painfully low as I write, although by the time you are read this, the fall selling season will be in full swing. August is historically one of the lower inventory months of the year. At the time of writing, there were just 621 active listings in the city, only three of which were in Glen Park. It will be interesting to see where we end up for the year.

Let's take a look at how Glen Park compares with San Francisco as a whole for the same time period:

- Total number of single-family homes sold in San Francisco: 555
- Median list price: \$1,395,000 (down 2 percent from last quarter)
- Median sale price: \$1,640,000 (up 2 percent from last quarter)
- Average days on market: 22
- Average price per square foot: \$1,036 (about the same as last quarter)

If you would like a full copy of the stats for Glen Park, or any other district in San Francisco, email your request to me at the address below and I'll email you a copy of the report.

Budget-Friendly Upgrades

In preparing listings to come on the market, clients often ask me to recommend some easy, relatively inexpensive upgrades that can get to their homes

Single-Family Homes					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
246 Stillings Ave.	6/3/19	14	\$1,685,000	\$1,860,000	110.39%
26 Whitney St.	6/5/19	13	\$1,995,000	\$2,526,000	126.62%
86 Monterey Blvd.	6/5/19	0	\$1,175,000	\$1,175,000	100.00%
400 Sussex St.	6/11/19	14	\$1,795,000	\$2,500,000	139.28%
30 Conrad St.	6/18/19	7	\$3,295,000	\$3,488,000	105.86%
129 Laidley St.	6/18/19	13	\$1,650,000	\$2,350,000	142.42%
325 Laidley St.	6/24/19	11	\$1,995,000	\$2,625,000	131.58%
50 Whitney St.	7/3/19	13	\$1,398,000	\$1,700,000	121.60%
139 Charles St.	7/5/19	11	\$1,195,000	\$1,900,000	159.00%
147 Stillings Ave.	7/8/19	12	\$1,498,000	\$1,668,000	111.35%
556 Chenery St.	7/8/19	18	\$2,495,000	\$2,770,000	111.02%
3040 Castro St.	7/11/19	10	\$999,000	\$1,340,000	134.13%
55 Elk St.	7/17/19	0	\$1,495,000	\$1,900,000	127.09%
50 Surrey St.	7/30/19	19	\$1,899,000	\$2,000,000	105.32%
2775 Diamond St.	7/30/19	13	\$1,249,000	\$1,600,000	128.10%
51 Mizpah St.	7/30/19	14	\$1,495,000	\$1,700,500	113.75%
25 Elk St.	8/9/19	19	\$1,495,000	\$1,712,500	114.55%
1760 Dolores St.	8/13/19	5	\$1,795,000	\$2,125,000	118.38%
80 Melrose Ave.	8/15/19	14	\$899,000	\$1,265,000	140.71%
847 San Jose Ave.	8/16/19	46	\$1,299,000	\$1,280,000	98.54%
276 Bemis St.	8/16/19	14	\$995,000	\$1,265,000	127.14%
2608 Diamond St.	8/19/19	0	\$1,755,000	\$1,755,000	100.00%
Condominiums/Multi Unit Buildings					
ADDRESS	SALE DATE	DOM	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	SP/LP
63 Randall St. - 3-Unit Building	6/4/19	28	\$1,995,000	\$2,200,000	110.28%
1774 Sanchez St. - Condominium	7/5/19	13	\$1,095,000	\$1,325,000	121.00%
246 Bemis St. - 3-Unit Property	8/11/19	2	\$1,998,000	\$1,920,000	96.10%
DOM - Days on market		SP/LP - % over or under list price			

sale-ready. But these suggestions apply to all of us who own a home and want to keep things looking updated, fresh and well maintained.

**Paint It:** A fresh coat of paint can completely transform the facade of your home or any room. With thousands of shades to choose from, it can be overwhelming trying to find one that fits the space and your personality. Why not narrow it down to colors that not only look great, but can increase your home's value?

A recent industry paint color analysis examined over 32,000 photos of homes all over the country and found that two specific colors increased the home's value: light blue and pale gray.

Of course, in San Francisco houses are really the most colorful in the country, but if you are preparing a home for sale, you want to stick with neutral colors—off-whites and grays.

If you're painting for yourself, let your flag fly free! Don't forget about painting things like kitchen cabinets, bathroom cabinets and drawers. You don't have to install new cabinets, just paint or refinish them. We recently painted the drawers and cabinet doors of a vanity, and it made the whole bathroom look like it had a facelift.

**Enhance the Lighting:** New light fixtures can transform any room in

your home. You can also install dimmer switches to have more control over the ambiance, and you can set a different tone for each room. Energy-efficient lightbulbs tend to last longer and save money on your electricity bill.

**Update Your Hardware:** Replace outdated cabinet handles, door knobs, pulls and curtain rods. This is an inexpensive improvement that requires minimal effort and a small budget.

**Install a Smart Thermostat:** Smart thermostats help control energy consumption, lower your utility bills and give your home a "techie" vibe. With a Wi-Fi signal, smart thermostats can be controlled from anywhere via your smart phone. This simple upgrade can make your life more comfortable and convenient.

**Streetscape:** Enhancing curb appeal adds a great deal of value to your home and can be addressed at any price point. First impressions are everything! Buyers want a home exterior that screams "Wow," especially when 63 percent of homebuyers will stop by a house if they like what they see online. Plant some flowers, add a splash of color to your front door, change out your address numbers on the house, or install a new light fixture at the door.

**Maintenance:** Fall is a great time for roof maintenance and repairs, before the rain starts (fingers crossed). Roof inspections should be performed regularly by trained roofing professionals, at least once a year. Early problem detection makes repairs manageable before they become serious.

And just because I'm such an advocate, this is a good time to consider adding solar panels to your roof, especially if you are doing re-roofing. The more we do it, the better off our planet is. The system on my home, now in its third year, has provided all of our electrical needs without having to pay any additional money on our bill. And the cost of that electricity does not go up when PG&E raises its rates.

I'm pleased that this is an interactive column, answering your questions and writing about topics that are of interest to you as a reader. You can send any questions or topic requests to me at [marc@opni.com](mailto:marc@opni.com). ❖

*Marc Dickow, a Glen Park resident, is the Broker/Owner at Core7 Real Estate. He is also the president-elect for the San Francisco Association of Realtors. He can be reached at [marc@opni.com](mailto:marc@opni.com), or by phone at 415-722-4018. His website is [www.altrockrealtor.com](http://www.altrockrealtor.com).*



## ♦ COMMUNITY CALENDAR FALL 2019 ♦

**Mondays****Always Active Senior Program**

Every week, 9:30-10:30 a.m., St. Finn Barr Hall,  
415 Edna Street

Free senior exercise class: cardio, strength training, flexibility, and balance; Stay for coffee and snacks, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Toddler Tales and Playtime**

Every week, 10:15-11:45 a.m., Glen Park Library  
Books, rhymes, music, movement and more. For toddlers 16 months through age 2 and their caregivers.

**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.

**Jazz Jam - RJAM!**

Second Monday of the month, 6-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

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

**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 (except September)

Ingleside Station's commanding officer, Capt. Jack 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.

**Glen Park School Prospective Family Tours**

Every week, 9 a.m., Glen Park School  
(except November 26)

Interested in joining the Glen Park School community for the 2020-2021 school year? Attend one of our weekly Prospective Family Tours, which last about an hour and include a Q&A session with Principal Liz Zarr. Reservations not needed, but please check-in at the school office when you arrive on campus. See www.glenparkschool.org/tours for more information.

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

Every week, 9 a.m.- 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's Natural Areas Program staff. To join Friends of Glen Canyon Park, or for more information about the park 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.

**Always Active Senior Program**

Every week, 9:30-10:30 a.m., St. Finn Barr Hall,  
415 Edna Street

Free senior exercise class: cardio, strength training, flexibility, and balance; Stay for coffee and snacks, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Diamond Diners****Free Lunch and Social Hour**

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

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

**Bird & Beckett Book Club**

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

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

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

Every week, 10-11:30 a.m., Glen Park Library  
Fun 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.

**Drop-In Rock Climbing**

Tuesdays: 6-7pm

Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays: 4-5 pm, 5-6 pm, & 6-7 pm

Saturday AM: 10-11am & 11-noon

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 & 40-300 lbs

**Fall Open Gym Basketball Schedule**

Tuesdays: 11am to 5 pm

Wednesdays: 3:30 pm to 8:45 pm

Thursdays: 12:15 pm to 8:45 pm

Friday: 12 pm to 5 pm

Saturday: 9 am to 4:45 pm

**GLEN PARK REC CENTER**

70 Elk St – (415) 239-4007

**T(w)een Time**

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

**Resilient Diamond Heights**

Fourth Thursday of the month, 6-8 p.m.,  
(No meetings in November/December)

St. Aidan's Church

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

**Fridays****Food Pantry**

Every week, 1-2 p.m., (Closed Nov. 28)

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. Visit www.staidansf.org or call 415-285-9540 ext. 3.

**Jazz in the Bookshop**

Every week, 5:30-8 p.m., Bird & Beckett

A neighborhood party every week, with live jazz. \$10-\$20 donation; kids free! See birdbeckett.com..

**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; wine and beer available. See birdbeckett.com.

**Habitat Restoration Work Parties**

Third Saturday of the month, 9-noon; meet at the  
Rec Center off Elk Street, Glen Canyon Park

Join the Friends of Glen Canyon and SFRPD gardeners for a monthly volunteer work party of weeding, pruning and planting. 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 robots, castles and more.

**Diamond Diapers**

Fourth Sunday of the month  
1-2 p.m. St. Aidan's Church

Free baby diaper distribution. For information, call 415-285-9540 ext. 3.

**Walker Talks!**

Fourth Sunday of the month  
2:30-4 p.m., Bird & Beckett

No charge; donations appreciated.

**Wednesday, October 2**

Bird & Beckett Cultural Literacy  
Project Board Meeting

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Sunday, October 6****"Disruptive Play: The Trickster in Politics and Culture"**

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

See birdbeckett.com for more information.

**Button Making**

2-4 p.m., Glen Park Library

Make your own buttons using colorful magazines, art supplies and your imagination! Ages 7 and up.

**Thursday, October 10****Paper Flowers**

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

Flores de papel, or tissue paper flowers, are a time-honored Latin American tradition at parties and celebrations. Learn how to craft these beautiful flowers from tissue paper. Supplies provided by the library.

**Steve Dalachinsky & Yuko Otomo**

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Saturday, October 12****"Cowbells in the Spring": History of Fairmount Heights**

10: a.m.-1 p.m.; meet at Walter Haas

Playground, Addison Street

Two-mile moderately strenuously walk ending at Chenery and Castro streets. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.

**Film Screening**

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

MAID IN AMERICA is an intimate, eye-opening look at the lives of las domésticas, as seen through the eyes of three Latina immigrants, each with a different story, who are nannies and housekeepers in L.A.

**Sunday, October 13****Sunnyside: The Early Years**

11 a.m.-1 p.m., Cup Café, 6 Monterey Blvd.

Join local historian Amy O'Hair on this neighborhood walk to find out what life was like at the turn of the century. Easy, 1.5 mile walk that ends at Joost and Baden Avenues. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: SunnysideHistory@gmail.com.

**Giant Jenga**

2-4 p.m., Glen Park Library

All are welcome to join us in a fun day!

**Wednesday, October 16****Litquake event**

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Friday, October 18****Saxophonist Phillip Greenlief & Friends**

9-11 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Saturday, October 19****Glen Park Neighborhoods History Project**

3:30-5 p.m.; see www.GlenParkHistory.org/  
Events for meeting place

Guest Speaker Elizabeth Creely will explore the tangled history of the Mission's "Old Main Line" in her talk, "The Saga of Parcel 36: The Mission's Last Railroad Right-of-Way." Free.

**Sunday, October 20****Phillip Greenlief & Friends**

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

**Tuesday, October 22****Emboldened Women: The Suffragists of San Francisco's Glen Park and Their Role in America's First Suffrage March**

Doors open 5:30 p.m.; seating at 6:15 p.m., Fior d'Italia, 2237 Mason Street

Join Glen Park historian Evelyn Rose as she explores the lives of some of Glen Park's earliest suffragists and civic activists. RSVP to vanausten@att.net: \$43 includes valet parking and 3-course meal at the oldest Italian restaurant in America.

**Sunday, October 27****Halloween Crafts**

2-4 p.m., Glen Park Library

All are welcome to join us making easy, paper jack-o'-lanterns for Halloween.

**Saturday, November 2****The Northern Boundaries of Sunnyside: Dairy Cows, Early Speculators and Activists, and the Steepest Parks in the City**

11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Meet at Railroad Espresso Café,  
750 Monterey

Join local historian Amy O'Hair and hear about how our two parks were built, two massive landslide disasters, dairy farming on the edge of civilization, and more. Two miles, strenuous with hills. Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: SunnysideHistory@gmail.com

**Asian Art Museum Speaker Program**

3-4 p.m., Glen Park Library

Multimedia talk about Ghosts, Witches and Mythical Creatures.

**Sunday, November 3****El Rondin: A Narrative of 1912 Orozco Uprising**

2-4 p.m., Bird & Beckett

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

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

**Friday, November 8****The Elves of Presley, A New Musical Comedy**

7:30 p.m., St. Aidan's Church

St. Aidan's Church presents its 16th original musical comedy with familiar tunes. The popular shows are written, directed and performed by St. Aidan's parishioners and friends. Fun for kids and adults.

**Saturday, November 9****The Elves of Presley, A New Musical Comedy**

(See November 8)

**Never Built Diamond Heights**

10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; meet at Christopher  
Playground, 5210 Diamond Heights Blvd.

Join architectural historian Hannah Simonson to discover the unbuilt history of Diamond Heights and imagine what could have been. Moderately strenuous 1.5 mile hike Suggested donation: \$10. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com

**Sunday, November 10****The Elves of Presley, A New Musical Comedy**

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

**Poets Laureates on Social Justice, with Ron Rickki**

2-4 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Thursday, November 14****Jesse Levit Quartet**

7-9 p.m., Bird & Beckett

**Sunday, November 17****Sunnyside: The Early Years**

11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Meet at Cup Cafe  
(See October 13)

**Saturday, November 23****"Plants and Birds and Rocks and Things": A Walk Through the Natural Histories of Glen Canyon**

9 a.m.-12 noon;

meet at Elk St. entrance to Glen Canyon Park  
Join historian Evelyn Rose to explore Glen Canyon, Easy to moderately strenuous 1.3 mile. RSVP: GlenParkHistory@gmail.com.