

Fact vs. Fiction

Did you know that Glen Cove contains a natural, historic treasure of 15 unspoiled acres along the Carquinez shoreline? This land is owned by the City of Vallejo and managed by the Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD). Have you been confused by things you may have heard or read about this site?

GVRD plans to develop this land as a park.

FICTION

For years this land was planned to be developed as an elaborate park, with concession stands, swimming piers, and manicured lawns. The fact is that our community worked together with GVRD to make sure this land would not be developed, but rather preserved and restored to its natural condition.



Graffiti has plagued the site recently

The land cannot be left as it is.

FACT

Sadly, for many years this land has been neglected, allowing invasive plants to choke out native species, causing a jungle-like atmosphere that has encouraged a variety of nefarious activities and significant fire hazard during the dry season. Safety issues have to be addressed, such as improper grading and drainage issues, standing water (with mosquito infestation), sewer system remnants (human waste seepage), protruding rebar, "trip and fall" hazards, abandoned structures, and other safety and liability concerns. The re-grading will allow homeowners to see areas of the site that are currently hidden where nefarious activity currently takes place. This will make the entire area safer and eliminate liability issues for which the City would be responsible.

The land will be desecrated and bodies will be dug up.

FICTION

This is simply untrue. GVRD's plan is designed to protect and preserve the site, not desecrate it. Extra steps have been taken to protect the culturally sensitive area, including covering it with additional soil. There will be no digging in this portion of the site. Significant time and expense have gone into careful research, including core sampling and consultation with experts in the field to ensure there will be no disturbance of any archaeologically significant areas. This beautiful area has been desecrated, however, by vandals who have defaced the site with extensive graffiti declaring "sacred burial ground" (often misspelled) and other similar phrases.

The city is bankrupt and can't afford it.

FICTION

The funding for the necessary safety improvements has been provided by grant money that is not related to the City of Vallejo. The notion that the city is broke and this grant money can be spent elsewhere is not an option. It cannot be allocated elsewhere. If it is not spent on the preservation of this site, it will be forfeited.

Bathrooms and parking lots are being built over a sacred burial ground.

FICTION

The additional parking and restrooms that are planned have purposely been kept as small and unobtrusive as possible, and are not located on the area of the site that has been identified as culturally sensitive. GVRD has an obligation to all citizens of Vallejo and cannot ignore that people who wish to visit this site to pay their respects need a place to park and a place to relieve themselves.

There will be no money to maintain the new bathrooms.

FICTION



GVRD maintains 35 separate recreational facilities, nature areas, and parks, many of which have bathroom facilities. The additional maintenance of one bathroom facility can readily be supported within existing operational resources with minimal additional effort considering there is one such facility that is currently being maintained a short distance from this site. GVRD will add this site to the daily park maintenance route at minimal expense to the District. It should be noted that GVRD has worked within its budget over the past few years, despite significant funding decreases, continuing to maintain and refurbish existing the restrooms and facilities in existing parks. Their track record of allocating their resources wisely is praiseworthy and remarkable, especially in these difficult economic times.

GVRD's plan is supported by Native Americans.

FACT

The Native American representative designated by the California Native American Heritage Society supports GVRD's plan. The Most Likely Descendant (based on archaeological records) who is of the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians, supports the current plans for this land and resents those who have interfered with the progress of GVRD's plan. The tribe has approved and is supportive of the project. Their Designated Cultural Resources Coordinator has been actively involved in monitoring the site testing, and will be present for future work.

GVRD's plan recommend as a model for the protection of other culturally sensitive sites.



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FACT

GVRD's plan has been hailed by an expert on North American anthropology as "a model for site protection that should be applied across the greater San Francisco Bay Area." This expert, a professor of anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley, and interim Director of the Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology, was selected by the Vallejo Intertribal Council as an expert to examine GVRD's plan. All of his suggestions were followed and placed into the preservation plan. You can read his entire letter praising GVRD's efforts and plan visiting www.GVRD.org. On the homepage, click on "Master Plans – Updated" in the blue box under "What's New in GVRD." Then click on "Glen Cove Master Plan." Seven categories are listed under the photo, each of which are links. This letter can be found on page 31 of the Final Environmental Impact Report.

Check the facts for yourself. Of particular interest is the Final Master Plan (59 pages) and the Final Environmental Impact Report (144 pages).

A Message from the Board President

The Glen Cove Community Association held its final meeting for 2010 on October 14th at the Glen Cove elementary school auditorium. We had a great turnout with lots of community feedback. We also had several guest speakers.

Our first speaker was Officer Tweedy from the Vallejo Fire Department who addressed the closing of the Glen Cove Fire Station. Vallejo's Fire Chief, Doug Robertson, was also present and addressed the audience briefly.

The decision to close the Glen Cove Fire Station was based on the number of emergency calls that originate from Glen Cove vs. the number of calls that originate from elsewhere within the city. Glen Cove generates a smaller number of emergency calls compared to other parts of Vallejo. The Fire Department moved staff and equipment to other stations in an effort to better utilize a decreased amount of resources. The Chief believes that emergency response times to calls emanating from Glen Cove will not be adversely affected. The Fire Department will continue to monitor the situation.



Also present at the community meeting was Mr. Dan Glazer, a founding member of "Better Vallejo." Better Vallejo is a new organization that is attempting to bring civility to Vallejo politics and community relations. Vallejo is a culturally and racially diverse city that faces serious challenges. It's essential that Vallejo's communities work together to achieve the common good regardless of social, cultural, religious, or political differences. Better Vallejo was initiated about a year ago by a group of twelve concerned citizens who signed a pledge to promote and achieve a more civil society. At last count, about a thousand Vallejo residents have signed the "Better Vallejo Pledge." Check out the Better Vallejo Face-Book page for more information.

Glen Cove residents also expressed serious concerns about personal security. Please refer to the "Crime Alert" article included this newsletter.

Glen Cove Board President Miguel Castillo reported on the Glen Cove Assessment Fund (a pool of money generated from Glen Cove tax assessments) which is earmarked for capital improvement projects within Glen Cove. While the city's finance department has the final say on which projects are funded, the Glen Cove board is working with the city to prioritize projects that Glen Cove residents consider essential.

Please contact your neighborhood representative if you have any questions or suggestions. You may also contact me at 707 643-3916 (all telephone calls subject to caller I.D) or at email address migueldonald@yahoo.com

Thank You

Miguel Castillo, Board President

January/March 2011

Driving up to the Snow this Winter? By Frank Overton, California View Representative

Every winter tens of thousands of sea level dwellers head for the Sierra Nevada Mountains to enjoy the snow. They engage in winter sports like skiing, cross country skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, ice skating, sledding, snowmobiling as well as horse sleigh rides and dog sledding. Snow ball fights between friends, family and siblings are common but sometimes just sitting by a warm fire while watching the snow outside is a simple pleasure.

Wherever your Snow destination might be, besides planning your winter activities and lodging, you also need to prepare for your transportation. Most groups from the Bay Area drive up for the weekend, but winter driving conditions can be tricky and dangerous if you are unprepared for driving in the snow/ice.

The winter driving tips you are about to read are not meant to scare you or discourage you from driving up to the snow. Quite the opposite, they are suggestions you can follow and be better prepared for the icy conditions ahead.



- If possible, drive up in a four wheel drive vehicle. This type of vehicle will give you much better handling in the ice and snow. Should there be chain requirements, you would be exempt if you have mud and snow tires on this type of vehicle.
- Check that your vehicle has mud and snow tires (the M+S sign will be stamped on the sidewall) that have plenty of thread left and are inflated to the mfg. specifications.
- If you do not have a 4WD vehicle, carry chains or cables. Practice putting them on and off in your driveway. Echo Summit, while buried in 3 feet of snow and having your hands so cold that it hurts to make a fist, is no place to learn how to put chains on.
- If you do not care to learn how to put chains on, there will be someone at the check point that will install them for you for a fee.
- Make sure your radiator has anti freeze in it and also fill up your windshield washer fluid reservoir with the blue winter mix. This mix will not freeze so you will be able to keep your windshield clean. A couple bucks will save you from having to pull off to the side of the road and have to manually clean your windshield.
- Fuel up before you head up the mountains (Sacramento is a good place). I have been stranded in the summit for several hours while Cal Trans conducts avalanche control and have been forced to keep the engine running to keep warm. The last thing you need to worry about is running out of gas, so have plenty of it in your tank.
- Try to plan your trip up and down the mountain between storms. Watch the weather forecast and call Cal Trans for the latest road conditions, 800-427-7623 or go to their website at www.dot.ca.gov/cqi-bin/roads.cqi
- SLOW DOWN! Snow/ice and speed are a bad combination, even for the experienced driver. So you have some idiot on your tail , do not get pressured into driving any faster than you feel comfortable. Let the Bozo pass and you will probably see them again in a couple of miles spun out on the side of the road.

We hope you get to enjoy some of this winter and have a safe trip!

Are you safe?

Chances are if you are reading this in the office, you are 11 times safer than once you set foot outside, according to the National Safety Council.

Safety off the job is more important now than ever.

Across the United States, preventable injuries and deaths are on the rise in homes and communities. To make a difference, everyone needs to be aware of hazards and change his behavior.

Share the following guidelines about safety in your home with your family, friends, and neighbors. By performing these simple steps shown below, you can make a big difference:

- Do not use your cell phone or text while driving. Encourage those around you to do the same.
- Take first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and automated external defibrillator (AED) training. Become first aid, CPR, and AED certified.
- Obtain a flu shot and make sure everyone in your family receives flu shots this year too.
- Identify fall hazards in your home and correct the situation so that no one falls.
- Perform a quick personal risk assessment prior to performing task at home. Ask yourself these questions. Do I Have the proper tools to safely perform the task? Do I have the knowledge and skills to perform the task?
- Do not forget to engage your family. Children can help with safety too.
- Conduct emergency evacuation drills with your children. Use the National Fire Protection Association's kid-friendly evacuation plan at this link: http://www.sparky.org/downloads/escape_plan.pdf.



Identify safety hazards around your home such as electrical cords that someone could trip over, rugs that slip, etc. Use this link to locate your home's safety hazards:

<http://www.sparky.org/downloads/SparkyChecklist.pdf>

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Grab Bag - Questions & Answers

Does the Glen Cove Board Provide legal representation to settle disputes between neighbors?

Answer: Absolutely not! The board will address violations of C.C. & R.'s or report violations of the Vallejo Municipal Code(s) to the appropriate city department, but cannot represent residents in disputes. Information regarding the applicability of C.C. & R.'s is provided to both parties in an effort to resolve disputes, but the board's involvement is limited.



I remember an article in a past newsletter regarding an issue that was important to me. Could you reprint the article (information) in a future newsletter?

Answer: Maybe, but better yet, save the newsletters. They contain important information that is meant to keep you informed. For starters, tear out the back page list of important telephone numbers and post it on your refrigerator door. Reprinting old articles comes at the expense of new articles that are crowded out of future newsletters.

Who should I contact if my neighborhood does not have a representative?

Answer: If your neighborhood does not currently have a representative, you may contact Miguel Castillo, Board President, or better yet, consider becoming the representative for your neighborhood.

I left a message for my neighborhood representative to report graffiti in my neighborhood. I never heard back from anyone. What should I do?

Answer: Instead of calling your neighborhood representative, first check the telephone list that appears on the second to the last page of the newsletter. In the case of graffiti, there's a graffiti hot-line number that you can call. Reminder, Glen Cove does not have a paid staff. We depend on residents to help themselves by making use of the information that we provide in the newsletter. If you're unable to reach the appropriate city department or resolve an issue, check with your representative or ask the board president for assistance.

Interested in working on the Newsletter or website? If you have experience with Microsoft Publisher and/or website design and maintenance, please contact Stacey Kennington at 643-3585.

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CRIME WATCH/ALERT

At our last Community meeting held on October 14, 2010, many of you asked about the Neighborhood Watch program. The Glen Cove Board provided information about security and Neighborhood Watch programs in a previous newsletter but apparently some of you missed it or didn't save the information. Some people at the meeting were under the impression that it was up to the Glen Cove Board to initiate the organization of a neighborhood watch for their/your neighborhood.

There are twenty-two developments within Glen Cove and literally hundreds of neighborhoods. The board couldn't setup watches for every neighborhood even if they wanted to. It's up to you and your neighbors to get organized. To that end we're repeating some of the information provided in the previous newsletter.

Crime is up everywhere including Glen Cove. The increase in crime may be due to the poor economy, fewer police on patrol, the city's financial situation, or other factors. Regardless of the reasons, residents of Glen Cove and elsewhere will need to rely on each other more than ever before to keep our neighborhoods safe and secure. Most of the crime statistics for Glen Cove involve daytime break-ins. However, that doesn't mean that crime doesn't occur outside the daytime core hours and we need to be vigilant at all hours of the day. Break-ins are costly and can be dangerous if a resident is surprised at home by burglars.

The best way to fight crime is to become more watchful. You can start by getting to know your neighbors and by organizing a "crime watch" or "neighborhood watch" program. For starters, neighbors should exchange telephone numbers and email addresses and create a contact list or "phone tree." The more information that you are comfortable releasing to a neighbor, the greater the chances are that a neighbor can alert you or the police to suspicious activity. While we all value our privacy, we can increase our security by exchanging at least a minimum amount of "key contact" information.

Most of Glen Cove is made up of working families with some stay-at-home mothers or fathers, and retired residents. Become familiar with cars that belong to your neighbors or their friends or family so that you know when a car or other vehicle is new to the area or seems out-of-place. When in doubt, jot down license plate numbers and retain them for a couple of days. If someone knocks on your door, never open your door without first assuring yourself that it is safe to do so. Break-ins are often preceded by someone knocking (ringing doorbells) on front doors.

You can initiate a neighborhood watch program by first reviewing the information that appears on the City of Vallejo Police Department Home Page. You'll see a link to "**neighborhood watch**" and to "Fighting Back Partnership." The site contains valuable information about Neighborhood Watch programs with useful suggestions for setting up a program of your own. *(continued on next page)*



Check out **reported** crimes in your area at
www.CrimeReports.com.
The Glen Cove area is coded as 301.

GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

(from previous page)

The first basic steps to set up a neighborhood watch include;

1. Meet and Recruit your neighbors

Provide a letter or flyer to each of your neighbors detailing your intention to create a neighborhood watch program. Urge neighbors to review the information that is contained on the city website and in this newsletter

2. Implement a Phone Tree.

Encourage neighbors to share telephone numbers with the understanding that phone numbers should not be shared or distributed beyond the neighborhood watch group.

Get in touch with "Fighting Back Partnership." They may be able to send a staff person to attend your first neighborhood watch meeting. Some neighborhoods have organized extensive neighborhood watches to include participation in the national night out in which neighbors hold block party potlucks once a year as a networking effort to promote neighborhood security. The bottom line is that we all need to better organized and more watchful in order to ensure our own personal safety as well as that of our neighbors.

The Glen Cove Board sponsors community wide meetings several times a year at the local grammar school. The time and dates for these meetings is posted in the Glen Cove newsletter and on the sign located at the main entrance to Glen Cove. We hope to provide updates on neighborhood watch programs and share helpful hints and suggestions.

Best wishes for a successful neighborhood watch program.

Miguel Castillo/Board President

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GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Yes, I/We would like to become a member or renew our membership (please circle)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

One year GCCA membership \$20. Out-of-area GCCA membership \$25.

Please donate \$_____ (optional) to the Glen Cove Elementary School Gift Fund

Please mail this form with your payment to:
GCCA 164 Robles Drive #254, Vallejo, CA 94591 Attn: Membership

Questions? Call Shana Jones @ 552-3060 or email GlenCoveVallejo@gmail.com 1/11

NEW MEMBERS

Anchondo, Karen
Corsun, Robert & Jackie
Francis, Candy
Lipps, Douglas & Jan
Myslik, Mico Adel & JoEllen
Viles, D.

RENEWALS

Hasan, Taalia
McBride, Ellen
Scarlett, Judie & Brian
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Vallejo and Benicia Events

January

- 03 S.F. Chamber Orchestra's "Bottoms Ups", Empress Theatre, Free
- 08 Vallejo Symphony Concert, Hogan High Auditorium
- 08 Step Up Music, JFK Library, Treasure Island Room
- 12 Vallejo Sister City General Meeting, JFK Library, Joseph Room
- 13 Mayoral Prayer Breakfast, Dan Foley Cultural Center
- 14 136th Vallejo Chamber of Commerce Installation Dinner
- 14 Hiddenbrooke Golf Club Crab Feed, 1095 Hiddenbrooke Prkwy
- 15 Second Saturday Access Day. Mare Island Preserve
- 15 PAL-HFC Crab Feed, Dan Foley Cultural Center
- 23 Stone Hall Lecture Series-Dr. Tom Snyder, Benicia Historical Museum
- 28 5th Annual Polar Bear Classic Golf Tournament, Hiddenbrooke
- 28 Main Street - The Cornerstone for Sustainable Communities, 1302 Springs
- 29 Men of Worth Concert, Benicia Historical Museum

February

- 11-13 15th Annual Northern San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival
- 12-13 Code of the West Gun Show, Solano County Fairgrounds
- 12 SWEET Theater Presents "The Stolen Aroma", JFK Library
- 21 San Francisco Chamber Orchestra - "Now or Never", Empress Theatre, Free
- 24 Hiddenbrooke Bridal Show, 1095 Hiddenbrooke Parkway
- 26 Stone Hall Comedy Series-Jeff Applebaum, Benicia Historical Museum
- 27 15th Annual Evening at the Academy Awards, Zio Fraedo's of Vallejo
- 27 Academy Awards Night, Empress Theatre

March

- 06-12 North Bay Opera presents "Falstaff", Fairfield Center for Creative Arts
- 11-20 MIRA Theatre Guild presents "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof", 51 Daniels Ave
- 16 Solano County Fair Youth Ag Day, Solano County Fairgrounds
- 19 Six Flags' Discovery Kingdom Opening Season
- 19 VOENA-A Benefit for VOENA's Scholarship Fund, Empress Theatre
- 24-27 San Mateo Kennel Club Dog Show, Solano County Fairgrounds
- 26 Stone Hall Comedy Series-Mike Pace and Maggie Newcomb, Benicia Msm

April

- 02 Vallejo Symphony Concert, Hogan High Auditorium
- 04 S. F. Chamber Orchestra - "The Incredible Shrinking Orchestra!" Empress
- 16-17 Fishing in the City/ GVRD Fishing Derby, Dan Foley Boat Ramp

For details of the above and more upcoming events,
please go to www.VisitVallejo.com



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HOURS

M-F: 8:00am—7:00pm
Sat: 9:00am—6:00pm

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GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Vice-President, Stacey Kennington..... 643-3585
Treasurer, Bobbi Kahn..... 645-0991
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The Ridge..... Rina Prellwitz 552-3610
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The Shores..... Bobbi Kahn 645-0991
Vista del Mar..... Ruth O. Fisher 649-2246
Barbara Sizelove 557-6030
Waterview Russ Turnbull 649-0401
Westpointe REP NEEDED

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C.C & R Advisory..... Russ Turnbull 649-0401
Garage Sales..... Stacey Kennington 643-3585
Glen Cove Graffiti Abatement.. Miguel Castillo 643-3916
Glen Cove Park Stacey Kennington 643-3585
Glen Cove Nature Area Willis Kirk 557-2126
Landscape Maintenance Miguel Castillo 643-3916
Membership (GCCA)..... Shana Jones 552-3060
Newsletter Stacey Kennington 643-3585
Treasury Audit Ward Stewart 644-9031
Website Stacey Kennington 643-3585
& Frank Overton 643-0753

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY & CITY NUMBERS

Abandoned Vehicles..... 648-4682
Abandoned Safeway Carts..... 554-4467
Animal Control..... 645-7906
Dead Animal Removal 552-3110
After Hours 552-0221
Dead Animal Removal, Cal-Trans 428-2031
Glen Cove School..... 556-8491
G.V.R.D 648-4600
Hazardous Waste (Amer. Cyn.)..... 1-800-984-9661
Paint Disposal (recycled) 552-3110
Post Office Cluster Box Repair 642-9582
Recycling (curbside)..... 644-2413
Recycling (disposal) Recology Vallejo 552-3174
Solano County. Assessor-Rec. Office 784-6265
(property owner Name/Address Info.)
U.S. Coast Guard 643-2975
V.F.D., Weed and Debris Abatement 648-4565
Narcotics Tip Line..... 784-1351

VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cell Phone Emergency552-3285
V.P.D., (non-emergency)648-4321
VFOG Graffiti Hotline648-4397

CITY OF VALLEJO

Building Permit Dept..... 648-4387
City Clerk 648-4527
City Council Members..... 648-4575
City Manager (Phil Batchelor)..... 648-4576
Code Enforcement (Nimat Shakoor-Granthm).... 648-4522
Landscape Inspector (Don Burton)..... 648-5279
Mayor (Osby Davis) 648-4377
Planning Division 648-4326
Public Works (Traffic Signals)..... 648-4300
After Hours 648-4313
Public Works Maintenance..... 648-4556
Street Lights (burned out)..... 649-5413
Illegal Garbage Dumping 648-4556

On Line Reporting
Vallejo PD at www.VallejoPD.com
Code Enforcement at
www.ci.vallejo.ca.us/uploads/53/334.html



Vallejo Piecemakers Quilt Club's "Roseville" quilt was won by Mary MacDonald of Benicia at the club's annual Holiday Party on December 4th.

The Club made and donated 300 blankets to local hospitals and charity groups and recently made over 300 pillowcases for Foster –A-Dream, The Christian Help Center and Travis Air Force Base families.

The Club wishes to thank Glen Cove & everyone who supported the raffle drawing.

Glen Cove Community Assn.
164 Robles Way, #254
Vallejo, CA 94591



Publishing Information

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"Neighbor to Neighbor"
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Community Association

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS
March 15, 2010

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