

# July / September 2013

Volume 25, No. 3

# The Stunning Beauty of Glen Cove



The natural beauty of Glen Cove is unmatched in every aspect of the word: views of water, the bridges, the mountains, tree-covered hills & ridges...

This is especially true during the spring and early summer months. Here are some photos for your visual enjoyment!

Additional photos are presented on Page 8.

Glen Cove Park by Eric Dugan - April 2013

Super Moon illuminating the clouds over Glen Cove by Eric Dugan—May 2013





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# What's Next for Participatory Budgeting Vallejo?

### By Ginny Browne of the PB Vallejo Budget Group

PROJEC Last month, in front of a packed council chamber, the Vallejo City Council voted 6-1 to accept the results of the PB vote. In May, nearly 4,000 Vallejo residents voted on a ballot of 33 projects related to Economic Development, Streets & Transportation, Public Safety, Parks & Recreation,

Education, and Community & Culture. The 12 winning projects, to be funded with \$3.2 million of Measure B sales tax funds, are listed in the table.

#### Implementation of Year 1 Projects

In their vote to approve the results of the PB vote, the Council directed City staff to develop implementation plans for the 12 winning projects in consultation with the PB Steering Committee. These draft plans will be brought back to the Council for approval at their July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. PB Steering Committee mem-

Project Name	Cost	Votes
1. Potholes and Street Repair	\$550,000	2,298
2. Light Up Vallejo! A Lighting Improvement Project	\$170,000	1,620
3. Parks and Recreation Improvements	\$621,500	1,323
4. Support School Libraries & STEAM Program	\$270,000	1,163
5. Street Cleaning & City Cleanup	\$120,000	1,153
6. College Bound Vallejo	\$320,000	1,101
7. Community Gardens and Nutrition Education	\$146,500	954
8. Small Business Grants for Mare Island & Downtown	\$300,000	889
9. The Spay Neuter Project	\$165,000	861
10. Florence Douglas & Conversations Senior Centers	\$109,150	860
11. Omega Boys & Girls Club Gym Renovation	\$60,000	830
12. 150 Camera Pilot with Intelligent Archives	\$450,000	802

bers and budget delegates who were involved in crafting project proposals will serve on a Monitoring Committee to oversee implementation over the next fiscal year.

#### It's Official: There will be a PB Year 2

After months of tense discussions, the City Council approved a budget on June 25<sup>th</sup> that includes a \$2.1 million funding for PB projects and has established a new Community Engagement Coordinator position at the City who is responsible for implementing the process. The PB Steering Committee has begun plans for revising the PB Rulebook and planning outreach for the next round of PB assemblies set to begin in early October. For more info on how to get involved, visit www.pbvallejo.org or follow PB Vallejo on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ParticipatoryBudgetingVallejo!



#### A Message from the Board President

I've been asked to issue a last "Message from the Board President" and would like to take the opportunity to say thank you and offer my best wishes to the Glen Cove Board and to the residents.

In a message to Glen Cove residents announcing that I was stepping down due to health reasons, I listed some of what I believe to be the Board's accomplishments over the last four years. I would now like to share some of my concerns for the future.

It is obvious that Glen Cove has experienced a decline in its overall appearance over the past few years. Although the LMD areas have never looked better, an increasing number of individual properties have been allowed to decay. The number of dry lawns, overgrown vegetation, and houses with deferred maintenance has increased. Non-operable vehicles clutter many driveways and/or unpaved portions of the front yard(s).

Much of the decline can be attributed to the real estate market meltdown and the high rate of unemployment. While property values, in general, are now improving, many properties are still in need of upgrade. Enforcing the GCCA's Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&R's) and Vallejo's Municipal Codes (VMC) have been inhibited both by lack of City resources and by Community Board's lack of citation authority.

While property values have been rising, there has also been an rise in investor/speculator acquisition of the properties, which are often converted to rentals. Some investors fail to properly screen renters, which often results in a whole host of problems not only for the owner, but also for the Glen Cove Community and the City. Most investors hire a management company to oversee the property, but many do not. Please note that it is not the responsibility of the Glen Cove Board to manage rental property. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that tenants abide by Glen Cove's C.C.&R.s and the City's codes. Most renters make good residents if properly screened.

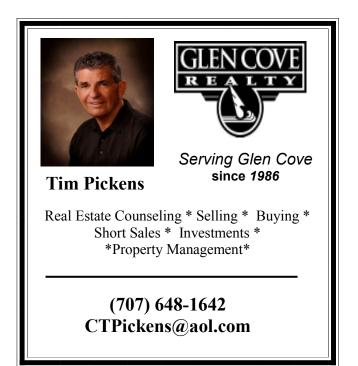
Perhaps the most disturbing concern is the lack of participation by Glen Cove residents in the community affairs. At the present, only about 12% of the residents has joined the Glen Cove Community Association. And only 700 out of 3,000 households have signed up to receive the G.C.C.A. newsletter, which is made available to residents regardless of membership status. As in any community, the residents need to step up and assist in utilizing the resources that are available to help keep our neighborhoods safe and in compliance.

Despite the above concerns, there are some hopeful signs, however. The Neighborhood Law Program (NLP), funded by Measure B (1% sales tax increase), will put attorneys on the streets of Vallejo to tackle the blight and nuisance conditions. (Please refer to Dennis Albright's article on Neighborhood Law Program, on Page 4 of this issue, for more details about NLP).

Additionally, the City's Code Enforcement Division has added staff resources, and we should expect to see more progress in code enforcement activities. The current Board of GCCA is making every effort to expand membership, in general, and participation on the Board and Committees, in particular. I remain hopeful that residents will get involved, increasingly, to keep Glen Cove community a wonderful place in which to live and raise a family.

Regards,

Miguel Castillo Former Board President



#### Neighborhood Law Program—By Dennis Albright

The City of Vallejo Attorney's Office established the Neighborhood Law Program (NLP) approximately six months ago with the purpose of implementing a truly effective process to address the burgeoning property maintenance problems -- especially with so many foreclosed properties that the lenders/owners have been ignoring. We are talking about junk and garbage in yards, automobiles with missing wheels and windows and no current registration and sitting up on blocks on lawns and driveways, while leaking oil.

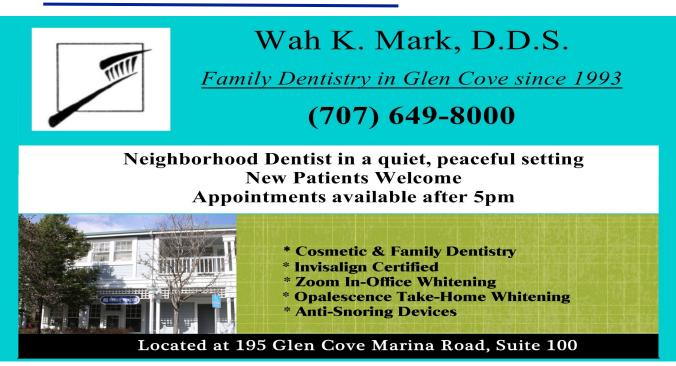
Not only has this led to major deterioration, eyesores, and adverse impact on property values, it has created health, sanitation, and safety problems brought about by squatters moving into some of the vacant dwellings. Current code enforcement processes had proven to be less than effective considering the long notice periods associated with the various enforcement steps and the prolonged delays getting into court. The NLP process supersedes these arduous steps. The City has hired two NLP attorneys to work specifically on these problems. Their legal training enables them to issue legal enforcement documents, file motions in courts, lien the properties, and sue irresponsible property owners when necessary to achieve abatements. Most of the cases are resolved fairly promptly because the owners feel the immediate financial impact and often evict problem tenants. At the conclusion of the enforcement action, the owners are required to sign an agreement that they

will maintain their property in good order. If they fail to do so, the process resumes where it left off, with ever-increasing penalties. While the NLP may not be a panacea, it certainly has been effective in numerous cases -- thirty plus cases, which are tracked on the NLP website. You can copy and place the following address into your browser to visit their website:

http://www.ci.vallejo.ca.us/cms/one.aspx?objectId=39379

You can also download the NLP intake form and start the ball rolling for nuisance properties in your neighborhood. It's easy and self-explanatory. The most egregious problems will, of course, have the highest priority for attention. A long festering local property in Wellfleet area was recently abated through NLP process. It appears to be working!





# Gardening Tips: Control of Garden Pests

There are bad garden insects (aphids, thrips, white flies, ...) that eat the foliage and other parts of our plants; there are also good garden insects (lady beetle, damsel flies, dragon flies, ...) that prey on bad insects. Nature usually maintains a balance among them. This balance can be upset when pesticides are used that kill both good and bad insects.



There are better ways to deal with pests than going straight to chemical pesticides. Integrated pest management (IPM) uses all suitable pest control methods in order to minimize adverse effects on the environment.

IPM includes controls in the following categories: cultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical. An example of a cultural control is sanitary practices in which crop residues and weeds are removed, thereby eliminating food for many pests. Mechanical controls include traps or hand-picking or washing pests off plants. Biological control can be any activity of one species that reduces the negative effects of another such as the predators mentioned above.

There are a wide variety of chemical controls, some more toxic than others. Insecticidal soaps are very effective on some pests and are much less toxic than poisons. The goal is to solve the problem using the least toxic approach. In some cases, being patient and allowing a small amount of damage to a plant can lead to the problem going away. To learn more about IPM go to: <u>http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/</u>.

Contributed by: Ward Stewart UC Master Gardener-Solano



Check out **reported** crimes in your area at www.CrimeReports.com.

The Glen Cove area is coded as 301

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# GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

#### Glen Cove Needs You... By: GCCA Board

The Glen Cove Community Association has need of more board members. There are several neighborhood representative positions available. We also have "member at large" positions available for

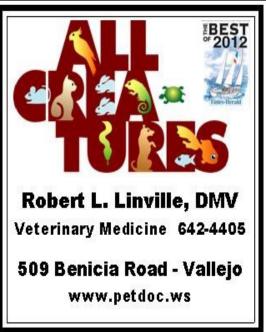
more task orientated members — especially those with strong computer skills. Representatives are also needed to interact with the City's Landscape Management Department (LMD) and to assist in organizing the annual garage sale.

Additionally, the Board members regular responsibilities are outlined below:

- Maintain, in good standing, membership in the Glen Cove Community Association, which is open to all Glen Cove residents and costs only \$20 per year.
- Attend monthly Board meetings and the General Meetings of the Association that are scheduled three times a year.
- Represent the development on issues that come before the Board. Issues may involve landscape areas, code enforcement problems, criminal activity, or responding to residents' complaints or inquiries.
- At least quarterly, conduct a visual inspection of the development (neighborhood) for compliance with Vallejo Municipal Codes (VMC), and/or the Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs) of the Glen Cove Community Association.
- Act as the Architectural Review person when residents propose changes to their homes, especially if the changes will require a city issued building permit. No technical skills are required for this function.
- Assist residents in resolutions of minor issues within the community or between neighbors whenever possible or practical. It should be clearly understood that Glen Cove Board representatives are not mediators and do not represent individual residents on serious issues.
- Study and maintain the Reference Guide notebook provided by the Glen Cove Community Association. The Reference Guide contains a lot of important information that helps the representatives perform their duties.

Please contract Ron Bowen, President of GCCA Board, by calling (415) 797-2476 or email: <u>GlenCoveVallejo@gmail.com</u>







# What is Happening to Our Pets in Glen Cove?

There is a growing concern amongst residents about pets that have suddenly gone missing. Most of the complaints have been about cats, especially the cats that enjoyed wandering throughout the neighborhoods.

We suspect that the coyotes are becoming braver and coming over the hills and into neighborhoods. Residents are urged to not to leave food or water in front of your house, facing the road. Keep your pet inside at night, if possible. If your pet is missing, call The Humane Society and/or post a picture or description of your pet on GCCA Facebook page: www.facebook.com/GlenCoveVallejo

There is also is a website called **Petharbor.com** that allows people to post photos and descriptions of their missing pets.

We hope this information is helpful to anyone missing a pet.

Contributed by: Lucy SaFranko Resident of Glen Cove Hills





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#### GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



GLEN COVE WATERFRONT PARK

RECREATION DISTRI



Carquinez Bridge - a day view from Glen Cove Artist: Unknown



Lenticular Clouds Approaching Glen Cove by Eric Dugan—May 2013

Glen Cove Waterfront Park Summer 2012 Artist: N. Danielsen Carquinez Bridge a night view from Glen Cove Artist: Unknown





Full moon over Glen Cove by Eric Dugan—May 2013

#### GCCA MEMBERSHIP — by Shana Jones, GCCA Membership Committee

#### RENEWALS

Abrera, Lydia Allen, Leon & Irma Alton, Byron & Susan Anchondo, Karen Andserson, Sally Arie-Donch, Tom Baccay, Raul Bernauer, Kyle Saefong & Wayne Besta, Mark & Agnes Birdsong, Cathy & Kary Blackmon, David & Diane Bohanon, Tanya Castillo, Elizabeth & Julio Cercone, Mary Ellen Chalmers, Thomas & Tina Chavoya, Magi Raible & Cabrini Costas, Rosy & Cesar Cross, Nancy Davis, Mary Davis, Sheila & Caldwell Day, Carol Denay, Maryanne Dey, Karen & Les Dhawan, Prem Dumas, Catherine & Leonard Ebright, John & Mary Eckerson, Dean & Karen Embree, Bill English, Valerie Farmer, Michelle & John III Finley, Jon Kiszla & James Foley, Peggy & Ernest Franco, Charito & Noel Fuerst, Craig Slutz & Valerie Galan, Nito & Victoria Gavino, Marilyn & Romeo Halligan, Bill & Ruth Anne Haskett, Linda Heppe, Karol Hodge, Whit & Rosemarie Hogdon, Kate Holbrook, April Holland-Lewis, Dorris Hooker, Ernest & Barbara Huey, Jasmin & James Ilejay, Monina & Audie Ilog, Ted & Lourdes

Jackson, Aggie Jamias, Juanito & Milagros Jensen, Richard & Carol Johnson, Curtis & Deborah Johnson, Sargent & Dolores Johnson, Vic & Nancy Kaduk, Debra & Jason Kahn, Lance Sandvik & Bobbi Kam. Shiu Kennington, Scott Lane & Stacey Kern, Jeffrey & Teresa Kilbourne, Dale & Charlie Krannawitter, Cheri & Arthur Krenzke, David & Mary LaBelle, Carson & Marianne Landrio, Grace M. Lasky, Lloyd Lee, Annie & Ernest Lee, Theresa & Stevens Levitt, Elaine Lindberg, David Loera, Juana Lopez, Kat & Ray Lyman, Sandy & Ginny Maccarone, Rob & Terri Mack. Elizabeth & Roscoe Magabo, Racquel & Jose Manley, David & Joan McGriff, Claudia Abernathy-McGriff & Arthur Medina, Rene & Mila Miller, Teena & J.D. Miniano, Danny & Trini Moffatt, Angela & Walt Mohr, Ken & Cathy Moore, Darlene Boone & April Moore, Donna Mora, Jaime & Marilyn Ocampo, Manuel & Isabelita Ochoa, Jesus & Lita O'Leary, Kelly & Michael Overton, Linda Pawloski, Julie & Jim Perkins, Linda Peters, Tim & Maritza

Pickens, Tim Prellwitz, Russel & Rina Price, Helen Rivera, Gerry & Alice SaFranko, James Shane, Mike & Susan Shelhorn, George & Leah Signor, Tracy Smith, Chas & Rebecca Smith, Rodney & Elizabeth Soop, Pauline & Allen Sosa, Rodolfo & Elizabeth Sotiros, James Souza, Rosanna & Kenneth Spelbos, Barbara Stanley, Michael Suico, Bernardita Sunga, Hermie Mila Tabilin, Jesus & Christina Talbot, Kay Tallyn, Lois & Edwin Tennessen, Gary The Genesis House Thomas. Jett & Mildred Thomas, Kim Trillana, Ester & Amando Tubbs, Mike & Ruth Turley, Norma & Milda Ty, Douglas & Ethel van der Bruggen, Joanne Wagner, Laura Lovitt & Cindee Warner, Rosemary Watkins, David & Gretchen Widemann, Danielle Wright, Dianne Zimmermann, Marshall

#### **NEW MEMBERS**

Aquirre, Otilia Cohen, Roberta D'Lorey, Laurie Parish & Daniel Etter, Steve & Izola Fontanoz, Jason

**MEMBERSHIP** ...... Continued to next page

#### GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### GCCA MEMBERSHIP - Continued from Page 9

#### **Glen Cove Elementary School Donations**

Albright, Dennis & Tanya Castillo, Miguel Dumas, Catherine & Leonard Franco, Charito & Noel Hogdon, Kate Hooker, Ernest & Barbara Kaduk, Debra & Jason Kahn, Lance Sandvik & Bobbi Krenzke, David & Mary Lee, Annie & Ernest Mack, Elizabeth & Roscoe

Miller, Teena & J.D. Moore, Donna Pawloski, Julie & Jim Price, Helen Rivera, Gerry & Alice Soop, Pauline & Allen Sotiros, James Souza, Rosanna & Kenneth Spelbos, Barbara Stanley, Michael Watkins, David & Gretchen

#### **NEW MEMBERS** - Continued from Page 8

Garton, Timothy Gonzales, Gina Herring, Peggy Johnson, Nicole Kennedy, Lydia Massaro, John Perez, Jeannette



"PEOPLE TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE ... "

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#### Community Service Corner: Vallejo Library Literacy Program — By Naimat Khan

Being new to the community of Vallejo, in April 2011, Monique Allen challenged herself to meet new people and to get involved in a project to help others. She started spending time at the JFK Library in Vallejo reading and meeting others. It was there that she learned about the Literacy Program.



At that time, the Literacy Program had a wait-list of students

due to the lack of literacy tutors. Monique thought this would be the perfect way to get involved in her community and give back to others. She completed a two-day training course to become a Literacy Tutor. She was paired with a student whose goal was to learn writing and speaking English. They meet twice a week and work on lessons pertaining to writing and/or speaking English. Each session is 1.5 hours long.

The students in this program range from children to adults, sometimes consisting of an entire family. Some are there because English is a second language to them; others, because somehow they slipped through the system and just never really learned how to read and write well enough to communicate with doctors, dentists and even their children's teachers.

Monique has been working with her student for over two years. They began with a trial period of 3-6 months after which they decided they were a good fit for each other. Every six months, they have a goal setting session to set goals and a related plan to ensure the achievement of those goals. An important thing out of this program for Monique is not only the fact that she is giving back to her community, but that her student has come a long way in two years. The student's confidence level is way up when talking with her children's teachers or attending appointments. She can even sit down with her children and help them with their homework! This in turn helps the kids achieve their goals. The process makes both Monique and her student feel really great about their efforts working together.

Community service programs such as this are sought after by employers as well. Many companies match the employees' cash and/or service contribution by a tax-deductible cash donation to the subject organization. In Monique's case, her employer is making continuous cash contributions to the Vallejo Library's Literacy Program. If you, or someone you know, are interested in participating in the Literacy Program, contact: Lori

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

#### **Publishing Information**

The Glen Cove "Neighbor to Neighbor" Newsletter is a publication of the Glen Cove Community Association

#### **DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT DIGITAL ISSUE:** September 15, 2013

*News/Articles Submission & information:* GlenCoveVallejo.com/Newsletter Or call Naimat Khan at 925-899-7164

**Ad Submissions & Information:** GlenCoveVallejo@gmail.com /Newsletter Or call Neal Zimmerman at 707 556-3467 Fetters at 707.784.1526 or literacy@snap.lib.ca.us. Also, check with your employer for their participation in a community program of your interest.





Interested in contributing a story of interest to GC Newsletter?

*Contact: Naimat Khan at* (925) 899-7164

#### www.GlenCoveVallejo.com

# **NEIGHBOR & COMMUNITY DIRECTORY**

#### **GCCA Officers**

President, Ron Bowen	415-797-2476
Treasurer, Bobbi Kahn	645-0991
Secretary, Maryanne Denay	557-7480

#### **Board of Directors (Development Reps.)**

Doura of Directors	<i>Development</i> Reps.
	Naimat Khan 925-899-7164
California Lighthouse	Alt. Rep Needed
California View	Frank Overton 742-3006
The Crest	Phillip Johnson 563-5301
The Estates	REP NEEDED
Glen Cove Hills	Lucy SaFranko 554-6713
	REP NEEDED
Harbor Homes	Craig Petersen 774-3577
	Shana Jones 552-3060
Harbour Towne	Neal Zimmerman 556-3467
Headlands	Ron Bowen 415-797-2476
	Clynton Dunbar 642-1277
Marina Estates	REP NEEDED
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Quiet Harbor	Maryanne Denay 557-7480
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	Pedro Mendez 554-2162
The Shores	Bobbi Kahn 645-0991
Vista del Mar	
	Barbara Sizelove 557-6030
Waterview	REP NEEDED
Westpointe	REP NEEDED

### **GCCA Steering Committees**

Commercial Development	Ruth O. Fisher - 649-2246
Garage Sales	Stacey Kennington 643-3585
GC Playground / Park	.Stacey Kennington - 643-3585
Glen Cove Nature Area	Willis Kirk 557-2126
Landscape Maintenance	Chairperson needed
Membership (GCCA)	Shana Jones 552-3060
Newsletter	Naimat Khan 925-899-7164
Treasury Audit	
Website	Ron Bowen 415-797-2476
	& Frank Overton 643-0753

#### **IMPORTANT COMMUNITY & CITY NUMBERS**

Abandoned Vehicles	
Abandoned Safeway Carts	554-4467
Animal Control	
Dead Animal Removal	
After Hours	
Dead Animal Removal, Cal-Trans	
Glen Cove School	556-8491
G.V.R.D	
Hazardous Waste (Amer. Cyn.)	. 1-800-984-9661
Paint Disposal (recycled)	
Post Office Cluster Box Repair	
Recycling (curbside)	
Recycling (disposal) Recology Vallejo	
Solano County. Assessor-Rec. Office	
(property owner Name/Address Info	.)
U.S. Coast Guard	
V.F.D., Weed and Debris Abatement	
Narcotics Tip Line	

#### VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Cell Phone Emergency	
V.P.D. (non-emergency)	
VFOG Graffiti Hotline	

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Building Permit Dept	. 648-4387
City Clerk	. 648-4527
City Council Members	. 648-4575
City Manager (Daniel Keen)	. 648-4576
Code Enforcement (Nimat Shakoor-Grantham).	. 648-4522
Landscape Inspector (Linda Lljuba)	. 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

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We welcome your comments, suggestions, or articles/stories of interest for publication into the Newsletter. Please contact Naimat Khan at (925) 899-7164 or post your comments at: <u>GlenCoveVallejo@gmail.com</u>

