

Fire Evacuation Plan Community Meeting

by Ralph Mariscal

On Wednesday June 22nd, GCCA held our first in-person community meeting in over two years. It was very well attended by over 120 Glen Cove residents and numerous Vallejo Police and Fire personnel. Also in attendance were numerous advertising customers from our newsletter to show their support at the meeting.

The meeting was primarily to present Fire Chief Kyle Long's Glen Cove Evacuation Plan, for Vallejo Police

to present the new Community Policing Plan and to also present a revamped Neighborhood Watch Program covered in another article of this newsletter issue.

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Fire Chief Long’s presentation was on how AlertSolano.com is going to be the method which will notify residents and even visitors on evacuation details.

The system has been enhanced to be able to ping all mobile phones within a designated area. This will tell residents and visitors to evacuate immediately, shelter in place but be prepared, or any important information needed during this type of emergency.

Chief Long’s other topic was the new **Vallejo Fireworks Ordinance** that was rolled out to all residents in the City on June 23rd. The new law defines “fireworks” to include both “dangerous fireworks “ and “safe and sane” fireworks, as defined in the California Health and Safety Code. “Illegal Fireworks Activity” means the possession, distribution, or discharge of fireworks without a permit. Violators will also be responsible for “Response Costs,” which means those reasonable and necessary costs directly incurred by the Vallejo Police and Fire Department in responding to Illegal Fireworks Activity. In this fine there is also the cost for salaries and benefits of personnel.

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Neighborhood Watch

By Ralph Mariscal

An important topic brought up at our recent GCCA Community Meeting on June 22, 2022, was the Neighborhood Watch program.

During the two and a half years of COVID-19, Neighborhood Watch has fallen back. We need to revitalize it!

In each neighborhood (aka development) of Glen Cove, GCCA is asking for volunteers who want to become Block Captains. Volunteer Block Captains would be the coordinator for their neighborhood to engage neighbors in building a more aware neighborhood. Block Captains can also organize National Night Out Block party that takes place in August. The program also entitles each neighborhood to have a dumpster brought in free of charge for the neighbors to discard items.

Training for Neighborhood Watch will be done by the Vallejo Police Department. There will be four meetings a year at Police Headquarters to discuss additional training. Block Captains will become a "VIP" with the police department. They will be given information that may not be public knowledge. Block Captains and their neighbors will be the eyes and ears for the police department.

This is a very important part for the overall safety of Glen Cove. As many know, the City of Vallejo only has ninety sworn Police Officers at this time. A city our size should have close to 150 officers. The City has designated a budget

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Letter from the President

By Joseph A. Hayden

I didn't have a specific focus for my submission this quarter, but I will give you what amounts to mostly a table of contents for this newsletter!

Our Board was excited to have its first in-person **Community Meeting concentrating on Evacuation Planning** since the Covid Era began. It felt great to be in each other's physical presence and to meet so many for the first time in person as opposed to a Zoom box.

Our lead article by GCCA Vice-President Ralph Mariscal has lots of great information that will help keep us safe, particularly during Fire Season, which we realize can be any time of year potentially in this region. We have video from that evening posted to our site, but the article has some demonstrative pictures for you to check out. Updates on Vallejo's **Fireworks** policy is also very timely. Stringent fines will be imposed with the new engagement. Our community's safety is paramount.

Keep in mind that we'll always seek to add important security information for our neighbors on our website. Indeed, as long as it's relevant, we'll leave information like what [AlertSolano](#) is doing in perpetuity. I strongly encourage you to learn about how technology is working to protect us and what VFD is doing with this evacuation planning to ensure that everyone stays safe. Sign up if you haven't yet!

VP Ralph is our Safety Director, so be sure to also check out his **Neighborhood Watch** article. That ties in well to the **National Night Out** article planned for later this summer.

The annual **Garage Sale** was a big hit in May I'm happy to report. We have some exciting items coming down the road with an online survey VP Ralph recommended wherein we really want to get feedback from our neighbors as to what they want GCCA to concentrate on. Your ideas and thoughts will guide us!

Be sure to see the items we were able to give to **Glen Cove Elementary** thanks to the generosity of our members.

Did anyone get to enjoy this year's [Vallejo Garden Tour](#)?

This fundraiser for the Vallejo Naval & Historical Museum included THREE Glen Cove homes this year! Two of them were right on my block, which made getting to every house that much easier for my husband and me. GCCA Board Member Ward Stewart is a master gardener and very involved with this annual event. I was very much



inspired and know that if I ever wanted to get on this short list, I'd really have to kick it up a notch. I can dream at least! Note to self: If I can get permission, I'll do my best to put some of the pictures of the Glen Cove gardens on our website. In any event, I do strongly encourage to buy tickets when they become available next year.

I'm thrilled that along with some of the LMD improvements to the Parkway that the sign is up. As Jim Sotiros mentions in one of his articles, some of the **GCCA members spoke at a recent Vallejo City Council meeting** about how the monument is incomplete. There is more foliage and lighting that is still impending, but at least with some nudging GCCA had the sign put up so that the monument isn't blank as it had been for weeks.

Our altruistic board member and previous Vice President **Lisa Williamson** is featured as our **Person of Interest** in this newsletter. She also wrote an article about the **Food Pantry** she founded and ran during the pandemic, which only recently had to shut down. We're so grateful for what she and all the volunteers she had working with her did for our community. What a story!

We put out a **Help Wanted** ad here in this newsletter as we're looking for photographers, videographers and graphic designers and/or general high-tech folks who can help with publishing this newsletter. Collaborations on these types of endeavors with our neighbors who are looking to volunteer would be

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- Vice President, Ralph Mariscal | ramariscal@glencovevallejo.com | 707-319-5247
- Treasurer, Ron Bowen | rcbowen@ymail.com | 707-246-0753
- Secretary, Pat Tomasello | ggwb12qh@gmail.com

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Glen Cove Landing – Adriana Fuentes adriana@glencovevallejo.com
Glen Cove Landing – Jeremy Davis – 925-324-4037
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The Pointe – Ward Stewart – 707-853-4510
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The Ridge – Dina Morrison – TheRidgeDina@gmail.com
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(Continued from page 3)

to bring the police force up to 130 sworn officers. Until then, Neighborhood Watch is an important part of the overall safety of our community.

Numerous studies have shown that strong neighborhood watch groups have a lower rate of crime.

If you would like to volunteer as a Block Captain or have further questions, please email **Ralph Mariscal** at:

ramariscal@glencovevallejo.com



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fantastic. There's always more work to be done!

We welcome all suggestions for website content that is relevant to Glen Cove here in Vallejo. In particular we are always looking for more submissions for our online albums at GlencoveVallejo.com. We live in a beautiful place, so we should show it off! Thank you for reading!

Joseph A. Hayden
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Little Free Library

by Kristen Hannum Gregory and Jim Sotiros

Right now, do you need a really good book? A nonprofit aptly named Little Free Library (littlefreelibrary.org) guides the establishment of little libraries all around the country where you can just walk up and grab a wonderful book. Free. No paperwork. Don't you wish we had one here in Glen Cove? We DO!



Kathy Craig and Russ Turnbull (and King Charles

Spaniel Gordy) have established a Little Free Library right here in Glen Cove. You can find this

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that's fine too. They currently could use some books for kids of any age, and some books that represent diversity. If you have a book in Spanish, that would also be great. More varieties of book genres would be appreciated too (history, non-fiction, self-help, etc.).

A few of their current titles:

- Romance: books by Nora Roberts, Johanna Lindsey, and Jackie Collins.
- Historical Fiction: *Island of Sea Women*, by Lisa See
- Horror: *Less Dead*, by Denise Mina
- Science Fiction: *Red Thunder* by John Varley
- Smithsonian Magazine
- Sudoku workbook

Several children's books that would work for a variety of ages from baby, toddler to teens.



The official Little Free Library organization (littlefreelibrary.org), is a non-profit which guides Little Free Libraries all over the country. To be certified as a library Steward, there is a donation required. The organization provides a great deal of information if needed for building or purchasing the library itself. They have monthly giveaways as well for new books. Their online newsletters give suggestions for maintenance of the LFL, ideas for promotion of the LFL, and advice on how to advertise and run your LFL.

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		06/02/22	Saybrook Way	3/2	1861	\$630,000		
		05/31/22	Helmsman Ct	3/2	1288	\$710,000		
		05/24/22	Westport Ln	4/2	2070	\$750,000		
		05/20/22	Antigua Way	3/2.5	2419	\$845,000		
		05/19/22	Bluebell Pl	3/2	1468	\$707,500		
		05/04/22	Cliffwalk Dr	3/2.5	1909	\$820,000		
		05/03/22	Flying Dutchman Ct	3/2	1712	\$700,000		
		Condos						
		03/21/22	Glen Cove Pkwy	2/2	1014	\$415,000		
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03/11/22	Stinson St	2/2	1007	\$521,000				

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How do Kathy and Russ do it? As “stewards” or owners of the LFL, they bear all costs associated with the lending library. They check the box periodically and make sure it is clean and that the books are arranged neatly, preferably so that the titles can be read through the little glass door. They also try to make sure that the books are reasonably clean and in good repair. The books are free, can be kept or returned, and a book can be donated anytime. (If you bring a lot of books to donate, let them know, or leave them in a bag on their porch)

Why do they do it? Kathy has always been an avid reader. Now that both she and Russ are retired, they were looking for a project. Russ is very handy so adapting the old cupboard that they found at a salvage place was easy enough. They also thought that with the pandemic and general shut down of so many services, providing free books would be a comfort to people.

Thank you, Kathy and Russ, for doing this!! Do come visit the Little Free Library any time!



Closing of the GCCA/Faith Food Thursday Food Pantry *By Lisa Williamson, Founder of the Faith Food Thursday Pantry*

How do I begin to thank so many people who made our Food Pantry such a success?

Our Pantry opened on January 21, 2021 and ran through May 26, 2022. During this time we served 4,800 families and 16,000 community members. I’d say we made a big difference in the Glen Cove Community! It was heartbreaking to have to close our doors to so many families who relied on us for nourishment. I would like to first and foremost thank the Lapham Corporation who provided us the space rent and utility free for the duration of this community outreach. They were beyond generous and supportive of our efforts.

I’d like to personally thank the following members of our community and beyond for their generous support and outstanding volunteerism: Kirk Williamson (my rock, who has the biggest heart and most generous spirit), Connie Boulware, Jacqueline Clavo, Margaret Shelton, Marsha McGuire, Ward Stewart (my other rock), Diana Dowling, Jackie Corsun, Patrick Porter, Pete Ebright, Kathy McKinney-Tovar, Richard de Alba, Michael de Alba, Don Harte, and Selina Martin (who also recruited her daughter, Erica Martin, and sister, Lydia Alvarez). Without these outstanding people in my life, this would have never become the success it was. We were more than a pantry.... we were family, who I will miss each and every Thursday.

I would be remiss to not mention the founder of Faith Food Friday’s, Benjamin Buggs, who inspired me from the start and believed in me that I too could run a successful food pantry.

Thank you to the GCCA Board who, even when doubtful of my endeavor, supported me in any way they could. This has been one of the most fulfilling, inspiring, and proudest accomplishments of my life. I will miss the



GCCA Memberships

4/1/2022 - 6/30/2022

Many thanks to those who renewed or joined the Glen Cove Community Association

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community members we have served. Giving to those in need has made my heart grow leaps and bounds. I will miss our Pantry Family and all the good times (even at the most stressful moments) we have shared. Thanks to the man above for giving us this wonderful opportunity.



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Poison Control Center	(800) 222-1222
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Courtesy of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce and the Vallejo Times Herald

Person of Interest: Lisa Williamson

By Neal Zimmerman

What is your definition of a hero?

There are all kinds of heroes:

- Many of us might say our parents are our heroes.
- For others, heroes play sports or star in action movies.
- Or have served in our military or helped their community as a police officer or a fireman.
- Maybe your hero was a teacher, a doctor or a nurse that made a difference in your life.

Our Glen Cove neighbor, Lisa Williamson, is another kind of hero. Let me tell you more about this issue's "Person of Interest."

Lisa was born in Berkeley and grew up in El Cerrito, one of five children. Dad was a competitor that dreamed of playing professional baseball with his childhood friend, the fiery Billy Martin, a New York Yankee player and manager. He became a welder to take care of his family. Her mom worked as a switch-board supervisor at the Lawrence Berkeley National Labs. Lisa's heroes were her parents.

She graduated from El Cerrito High School where she was a Gaucho cheerleader. After high school, Lisa worked at a weight loss center, later as a phlebotomist, and joined Chevron in 1977 starting as a stenographer. Companies craved stenographers in those days ... desktop computers were still 12-13 years in the future. Stenographers that were lightning fast at shorthand with accurate, fast typing skills were in demand. And Lisa was lightning fast! She quickly became a "Lead" stenographer and was rapidly promoted to the Word Processing Technology team where she became a supervisor. That led to a series of jobs and ultimate-



ly, the Engineering Technology Group that produced Engineering Design Packages, Process Manuals and Analytical Manuals. The next step was in the Licensing and Marketing Group and then Technology Marketing (TEMA). She traveled the world as a TEMA member visiting China and other countries. Lisa retired after 40 years with Chevron. Not long after retiring, the East Bay Chapter of Chevron Retirees asked Lisa to focus on event coordination ... holiday luncheons, theater, day at the races, etc. And, she's active in all of Chevron's food drives.

Lisa is an original Glen Cove homeowner. She moved here in 1988 and joined the Glen Cove Community Association Board of Directors in 2015. She served as the organization's Vice President in 2020. She and her husband of 17 years, Kirk, enjoy spending quality time with their grandchildren. They focus on community outreach and have both attended the Vallejo Police Citizen's Academy as volunteers.

So why begin this story with comments about heroes? Lisa Williamson meets my criteria as a hero. When the COVID pandemic hit the world, Lisa suggested that the Glen Cove Community Association start a Food Pantry to help folks who were finding themselves with food insecurity due to a loss of jobs, etc. Creating a Food Pantry is no small task. Locating the food, locating a site and negotiating a free lease and free utilities, communicating the hours of operation and building a team of volunteers that showed up every week so that hungry families could be helped. And you ... the Glen Cove Community Association members ... played a role in this undertaking as well by paying for the insurance required by the lease.

The Food Pantry opened with a goal of helping 35 families every Thursday at the site on Glen Cove Marina Road. That rapidly grew to 50 boxes, then 75 boxes, then 100 boxes and at one point, was as high as 125 boxes of food on a Thursday. These boxes included meat, fresh vegetables, dairy products and more. **Distribution every Thursday for over a year!** The Food Pantry distribution had to cease operations at the end of May when the landlord informed Lisa they had a tenant ready to sign a lease.

Lisa is a hero who brought help to hungry neighbors and made us all proud to be members of the Glen Cove Community Association. Thank you, Lisa, our July 2022 "Person of Interest."



**Service
CHANGE**

Updated Service Schedules

*Effective Sunday,
August 7, 2022*



For schedules and more info:
SolTrans.org

The Carquinez Strait

By Ward Stewart

We are fortunate to live in Glen Cove located on the northern shore of the beautiful Carquinez Strait. A major reason our area is so special is the views of the water and the hills, not to mention the quaint town of Crockett across the way. The Strait changes each day due to the tides, wind, fog, and sunshine. It is a major artery on which tankers, barges, tugboats, sailboats, whaleboats, surfboards, and kayaks are often seen. Passenger and freight trains speed by daily along the opposite shore. When planes fly overhead, we enjoy a true transportation mecca.



The Strait is approximately one-half mile wide and eight miles long connecting San Pablo Bay in the west with Suisun Bay toward the east. The Strait is not straight but bends toward the right then curves to the left going from west to east.

The Strait wasn't always as it is today. Some 700,000 years ago the Bay Area was a grassland and the Central Valley was a lake that drained to the ocean from the south through the area where San Jose is located today. Seismic activity probably created a fissure in the coastal range through which water from the lake flowed and gouged out the

pass that became the Carquinez Strait. The Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers drain the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada mountains, merge in the delta, flow through the Carquinez Strait and, eventually, pour into the ocean.

The Strait is strategically located where cool Bay Area/ocean air meets the warmer air of the Central Valley. The temperature differences create wind, especially in the summer, where the heavy, cool ocean air pushes eastward toward the lighter warmer air. Likewise, it is the place where salt water from the Pacific Ocean meets the fresh water draining from the Sierras. Since salt water is denser than fresh water due to its solids content it moves toward the bottom while the lighter, less dense, fresh water is located nearer the surface. Thus, in any given location there is a vertical fresh water/salt water gradient with the densest liquid on the bottom.

The location of the fresh/salt water mixing area moves toward the east during the long rainless days of summer with the influx of salty water from the ocean, then moves west toward San Pablo Bay during the spring, freshwater runoff. The water movement is affected much more by the tides than by the river runoff; however, the wind often makes the water look as if it is moving downwind rather than in the actual direction of the tide.

The mixing of fresh and salt water creates fresh water marshes toward the east along Suisun Bay or in the Delta where saltmarsh plants like cordgrass and pickleweed do not grow. Likewise, freshwater marsh plants

like the common reed and cattails do not grow along San Pablo Bay. The brackish water in the Strait's transition zone is home to sea milkwort and soft bird's beak that do not thrive in the tidal marshes of both the Bay and Delta.

Native people lived on both sides of the Carquinez Strait for many hundreds of years. Although it was relatively easy to cross the strait in their tule reed boats, native inhabitants appear to have been from two linguistic and tribal groups. On the Glen Cove side was the Patwin or southern Wintun language group while on the southern side was the Karkin tribe that belonged to the Ohlone group. The strait got its name from the Spanish version of the Karkins, los Carquines. Glen Cove Waterfront Park has cultural significance to present day native people. There are buried artifacts including a shell mound on the property. The Wintun Tribe is currently funding renovation work that includes historical markers and the installation of native plants.

During bygone days, the water system that includes the Strait was a significant barrier for people wishing to travel from Yerba Buena (San Francisco) up the coast to the north. When the early Spaniards arrived, they did not have boats that were capable of transporting their horses across the water barrier. Crossing the strait remained a challenge until 1848 when an oar-powered, flat-bottomed scow began service between Benicia and Martinez. Over the years, a system of ferries was created to allow inhabitants to move about the Bay Area.

With the completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869, trains became an important form of transportation that linked California with states to the east. How to link San Francisco with the major rail line that went to Sacramento was a problem. A partial solution was a ferry that transported railroad cars across the Carquinez Strait from Port Costa to Benicia. The tracks went down to the end of First Street in Benicia to a terminal jutting into the Strait. Ferries crossed the Strait regularly allowing trains to make it as far as the Oakland Long Wharf. From there passengers and goods were put on ferries to make the trip across the bay to San Francisco.

In 1879 the largest ferry in the world at that time, the Solano, took passengers and freight across the Strait from Benicia to Port Costa (previously known as Big Bull Valley). This crossing allowed the railroad to eliminate 60 miles of travel on tracks that went over the steep Altamont Pass. The Solano was 424 feet long, big enough to carry entire trains of either 32 freight or 24 passenger cars. In its first year of operation the Solano carried more than 3500 trains across the strait.

The heyday of the ferries came to an end in May, 1927 when the first Carquinez Bridge was completed and opened to the public. The new bridge allowed autos and trucks to quickly and easily cross the Strait. The Southern Pacific Railroad Bridge between Martinez and Benicia opened in 1930. The completion of this bridge put the Solano and its successor ferries out of business and facilitated rail





travel across the state. Nearly 10 years after the opening of the Carquinez Bridge, the Bay Bridge, followed the next year by the Golden Gate Bridge, was completed. Now the Bay Area contains a network of bridges and highways that have become congested with traffic. As a result the need for ferries has become clear and they are making a comeback.

The Carquinez Strait is a fascinating waterway with a rich history and technical intricacies. We know that as you look out on the waters of the strait the surface waters are fresher than the waters below. Also, as you look across toward Crockett, the waters to your left are less salty than the waters to your right. We know the mixing area oscillates from east to west and back as the seasons go by.

A major source for this article is ‘Gateway to the Inland Coast: The Story of the Carquinez Strait’ by Andrew Neal Cohen. I found the book to be fascinating, especially since it gives us greater insight into the history and complexity of this body of water we often take for granted. The book can be borrowed from the Solano County Library or purchased from a variety of sources.





**HELP
WANTED**

Interested in volunteering to help your community be the best it can be?

One of the inspiring things about our very recent Community Meeting was that many people expressed the desire to help, but didn't want to be reps or reps already were in place. While we are always on the lookout for new Board members, please keep in mind that we appreciate all volunteers with social media, photography and any creative ideas you have to improve our community and quality of life. Here are some positions that we could really use help with if you have the time and desire:

- **Photographer** — We're looking for volunteers to take pictures at meetings and events. Fancy equipment not necessary, but it's always helpful to have high quality submissions and people capturing the greatest moments.
- **Videographer** — We'd so appreciate someone with a tripod and a memory card that could capture an entire meeting that can later be uploaded and shared on our site. We've had some challenges in getting everything right with this.
- **Digital and newsletter production** — We use Microsoft Publisher to get our quarterly newsletters out. It's a lot of work. Anyone with experience with this program and/or the Microsoft Suite who wants to help us finalize each newsletter would be so helpful. Your poor Board president is currently compiling all the content himself, and the deadline usually comes at the worst time for him. The show must go on though!

Scary April 9 Fires

By Joseph Hayden

Apropos to this newsletter's lead article about our Community Meeting and Evacuation Plans, these pictures were taken from the Glen Cove Landing development of Glen Cove of an April 9 fire, which you can see was right by the Carquinez Bridge.

Our newly re-opened Fire Station 26 and other local fire stations were able to get this fire under control before any injuries or damage to any homes, but it was another close call. Coincidentally there was another fire burning at the same time near the Benicia Bridge on April 9.

In late June, there was yet another vegetation fire in Crockett which caused massive smoke to billow towards Glen Cove and its residents.

Photos courtesy of GCCA Board member John Fox.



National Night Out

by Jim Sotiros

What exactly is National Night Out? Since 1984, National Night Out (NNO) is an annual community-building campaign that promotes neighborhood events, camaraderie and public safety. Many communities incorporate police and fire community partnerships into their events. National Nights Out are get-togethers that are a great way to share food, drink and conversation outdoors with your neighbors. This year NNO is being celebrated on Tuesday, August 2 (although some NNO events may be on slightly different dates).

Last year, the Glen Cove Community as a whole held a NNO, as did the following individual developments: The Estates, The Lodge at Glen Cove, Olde Town II, The Ridge, The Shores east of South Regatta Drive, The Shores west of South Regatta Drive, and Waterview (see photos from 2019).

This August, Glen Cove will hold its National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2 at the Glen Cove Waterfront. There will be a food truck, and a lot of fun. Anyone who would like to help, please contact the coordinator, Elissa Shanks Stewart at eshanksstewart@yahoo.com.

Several individual communities are planning NNO's too. [Contact your GCCA Board representative for your development for more details.](#)

Lets celebrate summer with neighbors at National Night Out!



Photo credit: Neal Zimmerman



On this page we have the front and back of the post-card that GCCA mailed to all addresses in Glen Cove regardless of membership.

This QR code WORKS! Use it to register with AlertSolano.

(Continued from page 2)

The most important part of the new ordinance is “Social Host,” which means that at the location of illegal fireworks is the person who is any of the following:

1. Any owner of private property as listed on the most recent assessment roll.
2. Any person who has the right to use, possess, or occupy public or private property under a lease, rental agreement or contract.
3. Any person who hosts, organizes or sponsors a gathering on public or private property and, if such person is a minor, then that person’s parent or legal guardian is responsible.

Reporting will be done through SeeClickFix.com and reviewed daily. VFD is asking for the location or address of illegal fireworks and any pictures or videos. The amount of an administrative penalty for a violation is \$1,000 for each violation. For additional information, please visit cityofvallejo.net/reportfireworks.

Deputy Chief Jason Ta from Vallejo Police introduced his team, which included Code Enforcement, the new Community Policing Area Commander, Lieutenant Jerome Bautista and Sergeant Kyle Wiley, who is in charge of Neighborhood Watch,

Community Policing will assign a Lieutenant to each of the four areas of Vallejo. This will give us a point of contact within the department of someone who knows what is happening in the area of responsibility.

GCCA worked diligently to put this meeting on with email blasts and postcards that we paid to have sent out to all Glen Cove residents. Our

GLEN COVE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

(Continued from page 23)
flashy postcard seemed to get people's attention based on the attendance!

For the first 25 minutes of the presentation, see the video here: glencovevallejo.com/glen-cove-evacuation-planning

On that same link, you can also find the same step-by-step instructions on how to register with AlertSolano, including screenshots.

Thank you to everyone who attended!



GCCA President and Landscape Committee Address City Council about Glen Cove Landscaping

By Jim Sotiros

Glen Cove Community Association President Joseph Hayden, and GCCA Landscape committee members Kristen Hannum Gregory (Waterview) and Jim Sotiros (The Estates) spoke at the Vallejo City Council meeting on the evening of June 28. They expressed Glen Cove's strong dissatisfaction with the landscaping maintenance in Glen Cove as well as dissatisfaction with the renovation of Glen Cove Parkway landscape and hardscape. The GCCA has also been notified of safety issues such as plants creating a visibility problem at Glen Cove Parkway and Wellfleet.

They made the following points:

- Glen Cove residents pay upwards of \$800,000 per year in property tax bill assessments for landscape services in Glen Cove.
- The GCCA landscape committee has reviewed prior year's landscape contracts, and we commend the City staff for carefully delineating all of the actions needed to create a beautiful and safe landscaped open space.
- However, while the contracts are thorough, the implementation has certainly faltered.
- Many residents of Glen Cove are asking why so many details of the contract (*e.g.*, irrigation, weeding,



trimming, plant replacement and fertilization) rarely happen on time and sustainably.

- The GCCA Landscape committee regularly contacts city staff regarding both chronic as well as urgent issues in response to the complaints that we receive.
- As an example, the new Glen Cove monument was without any signage for months while the sign for the median had been ready for installation for a while. Only after much prodding was it finally mounted.
- Even though the sign is now installed, to this day, there are still none of the planned flowers, no lighting for the monument and the project is many months behind schedule.
- The Glen Cove Community Association welcomes a new contractor to work on our landscaping.
- We look forward to working with LMD and Councilperson Loera-Diaz to ensure that this vendor's contract is, by contrast, appropriately implemented on time and completely.
- Glen Cove residents should be able to expect full value for their tax dollars.
- We are hopeful that we will finally see our tax dollars yield the results that we have been paying for.



Mayor McConnell, Councilmember Diaz, and the other members of the City Council and staff present thanked the presenters, explained challenges the landscape contractor faced during the pandemic, and promised better performance. The Council then went on to approve a new contract with a different landscaping contractor, New Image. The contract is for one year and renewable for up to three years.

The GCCA Landscape Committee hopes to report soon to homeowners how our tax dollars are being used and we are looking forward to beautiful and safe landscaping in Glen Cove!

Another Successful Glen Cove Neighborhood-Wide Garage Sale

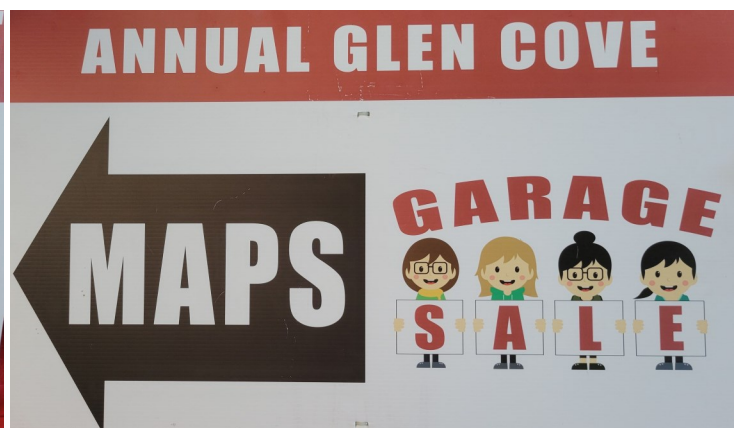
By Maya Ramsey and Joseph Hayden

On May 7th, the GCCA held the annual Glen Cove Community Garage Sale. This year, there were once again over sixty homes that signed up to participate. This garage sale is not only a good time to rehome some of your unused items, but also an excellent opportunity to get to know your neighbors and community members.

The GCCA was committed to advertising on various platforms to draw big crowds and participation. Volunteers helped us to pass out maps at the Glen Cove Center. A volunteer advised us that the first map she handed out was from a family as far away as Tracy!

The creation of the map each year is a bit of a tedious process. While it was suggested that we let people just use GPS to find their way around the neighborhood, we believe that visually seeing the proximity of each participating household is the best way to plot an efficient course to get to as many garage sales as possible.

The garage sale has been going on for approximately thirty years, and will continue in the years to come. In previous years it had been bi-annual, but now that it is annual it works with the proverbial Spring cleaning season. To participate in next year's garage sale, make sure you sign up for the GCCA membership at GlenCoveVallejo.com and look out for the "Save the Date" for next year's garage sale! Also make sure you are subscribed on our website for email updates!



Glen Cove Elementary Gift from GCCA

By Joseph Hayden

As featured in the *Times-Herald*, GCCA President Joseph Hayden and Board member John Fox, who is also a Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD) Board member, presented Principal Christine Lucero with a gift from the Glen Cove Community Association.

As many of you may have noticed, when you [subscribe to become members of GCCA](#), we request that you consider an additional donation to the only school in Glen Cove. These funds are used to contribute supplies to the school to help the teachers and students. We hope this gives the children who attend a better education.

This time around GCCA's gifts included these colorful laptop trays (below) for the kids to comfortably sit on the floor and use their computers, a sound system with microphone (featured on the right) and a donation in the form of a check!

We're honored to contribute to the school regularly thanks to the generosity of our membership! Thank you!





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communication options at
ci.vallejo.ca.us/cms/one.aspx?objectId=26266



**Glen Cove Community
Association
164 Robles Way, #254
Vallejo, California 94591
707-563-1226**



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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT DIGITAL ISSUE: Sep 15, 2022

**News/Articles Submission & information:
info@GlenCoveVallejo.com**

Ad Submissions & Information:

Contact Neal or Monica Zimmerman at **707-556-3467** or email:
mazimmerman51@gmail.com