



Neighborhood NEWS

Spring 2003

Issue 3

How Did I Get This GNA Newsletter?



This issue comes to you free of charge and is being paid for by GNA. Won't you join your neighbors in making Glenbrook a nicer place to live? A membership application is enclosed. Dues—only \$5 per year! If you can't attend meetings, keep in touch by email.

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GNA MEETINGS

When: *2nd Tuesday every month*

Where: *Glenbrook Community Center, 2nd Floor; Crescent Street*

Time: *7:30 PM - 8:30 PM*

Invited: *All members and potential members.*

Remaining 2003 Meetings:

Tuesday, June 10 (Annual Meeting)

Tuesday, July 8

Tuesday, August 12

Tuesday, September 9

Tuesday, October 14

Tuesday, November 11

Tuesday, December 9

Glenbrook Neighborhood Association Accomplishments

The GNA began in October 1999 after lifelong Glenbrook resident Gloria Battinelli called a Board of Rep member with a complaint about her street. He told her Glenbrook would have more clout if it had an organization like Springdale's. About that time Gloria learned the design consultants for Stamford's Master Plan 2002 wanted input from Glenbrook. A core of Glenbrook residents participated, envisioning how they wanted Glenbrook to evolve. That experience motivated many of them to stick together, create a tax-exempt nonprofit organization, and work to make their vision a reality. Gloria was elected president.

Some of GNA's accomplishments since 1999:

- *neighborhood signs identifying Glenbrook's boundaries;*
 - *revival of the tradition of annual Glenbrook block parties;*
 - *removal of graffiti and litter;*
 - *train station improvements;*
 - *trash cans and planters on sidewalks;*
 - *annual newsletter;*
 - *forming relationships with elected officials and government and nonprofit agencies.*
- *dedicated a Liberty Garden at the train station commemorating Sean Rooney;*
 - *applied for and received City grant money;*
 - *bought and installed 11 attractive heavy duty trash cans;*
 - *purchased aerial photo maps of Glenbrook;*
 - *requested and received a bike rack for the train station;*
 - *received training on handheld computers and created an electronic scan report documenting physical conditions in Glenbrook that need improvement;*
 - *hosted Mayor Malloy on a walk through Glenbrook.*

"GNA has applied for and received City grant money."

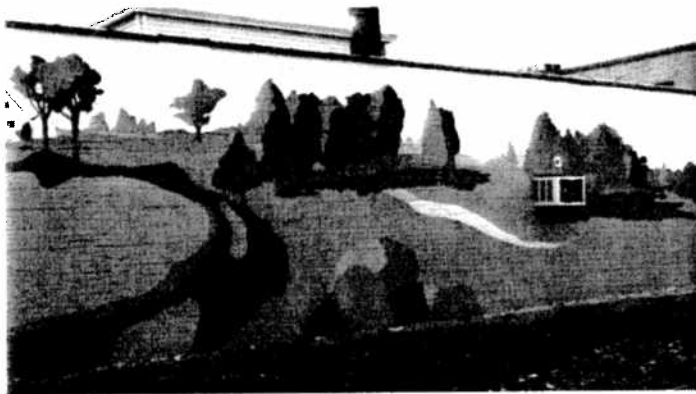
This was in addition to the clean ups and plantings and weeding that are now part of our regular calendar. We invited speakers to our monthly meetings to answer our questions about traffic engineering, zoning changes, and the new concrete batch plant. We continue to monitor legal notices in the Advocate.

The main lesson we have learned is that we are able to do more for Glenbrook together than if we had not joined forces. We wish we could do more. We are all volunteers with busy lives. But as Gloria told a reporter from the Advocate, "We do this to show the community that we are here and we are doing something for Glenbrook."

GNA ELECTION

At GNA's third Annual Meeting on June 10 we will elect officers and steering committee members for the next fiscal year. Coffee and cake will be served afterwards at a "meet and greet" time.

Won't you join us?



A golf scene created last summer by Glenbrook native Jesse Mann graces the rear wall of Happy House along the tracks at the Glenbrook train station. The golf scene mural commemorates Sean Rooney, who died in the 9/11 attack on the WTC, and was commissioned by his widow, Glenbrook resident Beverly Eckert. "That's where he left for New York on September 11. He loved to golf and the scene represents the course in Stamford where he often played. I hope that seeing the rolling green hills and leafy shade trees brings a sense of serenity to Sean's fellow commuters as they wait for the train," said Beverly.

All GNA members know by heart the number to call with any question about City services: 977-4140.

Most unusual litter found during Great American Clean Up on May 3rd: full set of x-rays strewn over three blocks.

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

*Deirdre Virvo
Christie Fountain
Art Layton*

NEW GLENBROOK POLICE SUBSTATION

Lt. Bill Watrous is back in Glenbrook as district commander in charge of a redrawn community policing area that now comprises Glenbrook, Cove, Shippan, and part of Belltown. The new police substation location is 649 Hope Street on the premises of Stamford Self Storage. It moved there last November from a trailer facility in the Glenbrook Shopping Center parking lot. Police use the substation for paperwork and phone calls and to spend more time in the community and less at police headquarters downtown.

AMERICARES MOVES TO GLENBROOK

AmeriCares, a global humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization based in New Canaan since its founding in 1982, will relocate its headquarters and warehouse to 88 Hamilton Avenue on September 1. AmeriCares executives see some irony in its move to a building that once operated as a defense contractor. When Mayor Malloy attended a 2001 GNA meeting, he commented that his father had made torpedoes at the FAG Bearing factory during WWII. AmeriCares' first airlift of supplies to Baghdad landed there on May 11.

MASTER PLAN

Last October the Planning Board adopted Master Plan 2002, a vision of Stamford's physical development over the next twenty years. A separate Neighborhoods Report groups Glenbrook with Springdale and Belltown and takes into account input from GNA members who participated in a Community Design Workshop three years ago when we were emerging as a neighborhood organization.

"...creating a 'village center' at the Glenbrook business district."

In a nutshell, the vision for Glenbrook is to protect neighborhood stability while providing opportunity for redevelopment that upgrades the neighborhood's quality of life. Particular priority is placed on creating a "village center" at the Glenbrook business district. For more information, go to www.ci.stamford.ct.us/planningboard and click first on masterplan2002, then on neighborhood plans, and finally on chapter 5 (Belltown, Glenbrook, Springdale).



TREES OF GLENBROOK

The GNA formed a Tree Committee last fall after high winds destroyed 3 Bradford pear trees in the lovely grove along Courtland Avenue by the bridge. The committee called the attention of the City's Parks Department to trees that need to be replaced in Glenbrook's commercial area. The Parks Department has responded that they will replace trees in the fall.



ZONING AND HOW IT WORKS

Carlo Leone was elected last November to his first term in Connecticut's General Assembly as Glenbrook's Representative from the 148th District, replacing George Jepsen. Having previously served on Stamford's Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA), he attended GNA's February meeting to answer our questions about the workings of the city's Zoning Board (ZB) and Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). He advised GNA to make it clear to the ZB and ZBA that we would like to get involved in guiding the process of land use decisions in Glenbrook.



FLAG DAY CEREMONY

Julia A. Stark Elementary School's Flag Day ceremonies are legendary. This year's will take place on Friday, June 13, at 10 a.m. on the front lawn of the school at 398 Glenbrook Road. There will be war veterans present and seating available for any community members who wish to attend.

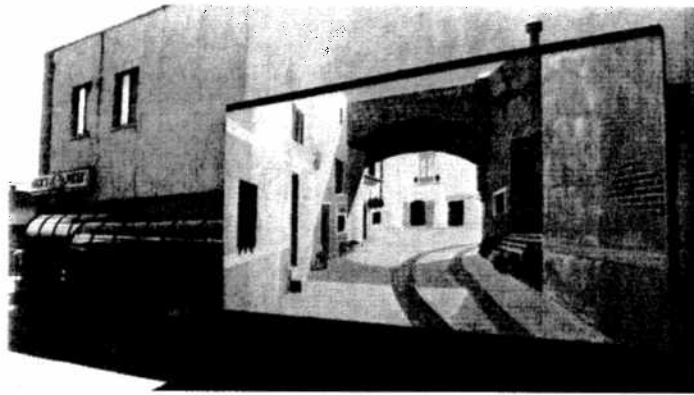
What's New in Glenbrook since this time last year:

Crescent Street:

Crescent Cleaners will soon move to a larger location within the same row of shops. Landmark Baptist Church hopes to resume renovation of its building at #66. The low building next to the train station parking lot has 3 new tenants: Hanrock Group, Lessik Imports, and Performance Outfitters; Stamford Carburetor replaced Stamford Glass & Mirror at #46. R.C. Carnes Realty has left #19.

Hope Street:

Donuts Delight opened a year ago. Sharif's Java Café opened last summer. New Vision Photo Lab moved across Hope Street to a



Nick Criscuolo, the original owner of Nick's Pizza, about 10 years ago commissioned then Glenbrook resident Gary Valasco to paint an exterior mural depicting a typical village in Southern Italy, where the Criscuolo family is from.

former bank building. Northeast Bicycles moved into the space vacated by Photo Lab. Mister Softee opened a retail ice cream store in the former bicycle shop. Classic Nails expanded into the space vacated by Lyn Martial Arts. Harry L. Thomas has closed. Ernst Buggisch sold Atlantic Market to a new owner. A building permit has appeared in the window of the long vacant storefront wedged between CVS and Bagel King.

Glenbrook Road:

Yoga Sensations has opened above Farrara's Bakery at #511. Happy House has a new owner. Mangia Mangia is now Chez Indus. Taranto's has been closed for over a year, and commuters use its parking lot. Food Bank of the Interfaith Council (formerly Council of Churches and Synagogues) has left #461. Rev. Gerald Devore is leaving St. Maurice Church and will be replaced by Rev. Albert Pinciario on June 22. The former Sclafani warehouse is nearing the end of its renovation. Nick's Pizza opened an adjoining pub and restaurant called Bacco. Northeast Utilities has upgraded the appearance of its office building at #626. Several photography studios now rent space at Glenbrook Industrial Park, the site of the old Phillips Milk of Magnesia plant.

Church Street:

The Brazilian Stamford Assembly of God has started meeting on Saturday and Sunday evenings at Union Memorial Church.

Hamilton Avenue:

AmeriCares will move to the former FAG Bearing factory at #88 effective September 1. Hamilton Variety is gone; Greek pizza is on its way.

Along MetroNorth tracks near Courtland Ave bridge:

Paramount Stone's concrete batch plant will be up and running in 3-4 months.

*"Glenbrook Industrial Park,
(was) the site of the old Phillips
Milk of Magnesia plant."*



Glenbrook artist Lynn Mancinelli was commissioned by Sharif's Java Cafe last summer to paint an exterior mural depicting a scene with international flair on the corner of Hope Street and Pilgrim Way.

FACTS ABOUT GLENBROOK

*GNA uses the 06906
zipcode as Glenbrook's
boundaries.*

*GNA has more than
250 resident and
merchant members.*

*2000 Census
total population
in zipcode 06906:
8,208*

*2000 Census
total households
in zipcode 06906:
3,355*

SECOND ANNUAL BLOCK PARTY

A fabulous success! The GNA hosted its second Block Party last August at a new location—the grounds of Union Memorial Church. In addition to raising awareness for GNA, we turned a profit of \$722 to fund our projects.

*The 3rd Annual Glenbrook
Block Party will take place
Saturday, August 2, at
Union Memorial Church.*

The daylong event, headed by the Battinelli and Ezzo families along with many GNA volunteers, featured fire engine rides (compliments of the Glenbrook Fire Department); Moon Walk, donated by Linda Gibson of Bounce Time; cotton candy machine, donated by Bert Pierce; food booths, games, and activities; and musical entertainment by Paul "Puppy" Rotante Memorial Band and the Dixie Dandies.

*Thanks to the following companies for
contributing prizes/ donations/sponsors/volunteers:*

Acme Electric	Inspire Hair Design
Associated Appliance	Jay and Donna Scott
Atlantic Market	J&L Service Center
Bagel King	Karp's True Hardware
Bob's Discount Furniture	Mark's Automotive
Bowlarama	Marle Co.
Camp Avenue Service, Ltd.	Nick's Pizza
Cheryl's Kwik Stop	Northeast Bicycles
City Carting	Paola Hair Designs
Classic Nails	Pappa's Pizza
Cookies by Design	Paramount Stone Co.
Coppola Marble & Granite	Parrots & Co.
Cork N Bottle	Reliable Heat and Oil
Crescent Cleaners	RK Irrigation
CT Glass and Mirror	Roly Poly
De Yulio's Sausage Co.	Salon 2000
Drenckhahn Excavating Inc.	Sclafani Corp.
Gentleman's Quarters	Stamford Tent Rental
Giuliano's Music Center	The New Crescent Beauty Salon
Glenbrook News and Variety	Three-D Service
Grade A Market	Tommy K's Fitness
Helen's Lunch	Union Memorial Church
Hope Pizza	Village Bagels

Thanks for your support!

The purpose of the Glenbrook Neighborhood Association shall be to safeguard the mutual interest and welfare of its members; to preserve and enhance the beauty and tranquility of the area; to promote the safety of its inhabitants; to protect the integrity of the environment; and to enhance the quality of life of Glenbrook residents.

GNA MISSION STATEMENT

Please notify us of any changes in contact information.

*GNA is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization.
For information contact President Gloria
Battinelli at 348-6392.*

A publication of:
Glenbrook Neighborhood Association
81 Cowing Place, Stamford, CT 06906



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