

**PLEASE ATTEND
GNA'S ANNUAL
MEETING**

**Wednesday
June 21, 2023
7:00-8:30 pm**

To be held at
**Grace Evangelical
Free Church**
241 Courtland
Avenue

(Enter parking lot on
Tremont Avenue)

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OUR PROGRAM:

Guest Presenter

Frank W. Petise, P.E.
Transportation Bureau Chief
will discuss:

**The Realignment of the
Intersection of Glenbrook
Road and Church Street**

Among its many components,
this project includes:

- Improving pedestrian safety
- Intersection traffic flow
- ADA compliance
- New sidewalks...and more!

Join us to learn more
about this important
neighborhood project.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

On Signal Boxes, Art That Stops Traffic

With City Grant, Local Artists Paint Glenbrook Signal Boxes

Last summer, GNA initiated a signal control box beautification project after being awarded a grant as part of Mayor Caroline Simmons' 2022 Community Micro-Grant initiative. Improving the aesthetics and streetscapes of the Glenbrook community is at the forefront of GNA's mission and we envisioned transforming the utilitarian boxes into beautiful works of art that would appeal to both pedestrians and drivers. GNA chose this project because public art helps brighten local streets, showcases the talents of the local artistic community, and has been proven to deter graffiti vandalism. The GNA Board selected five traffic signal boxes in the Glenbrook area in need of artistic makeovers and we were delighted to commission two artists, both Glenbrook residents, to help us bring the project to life.

About the Artists:

Silvia Fernandez-Stein – born in Santiago, Chile, Silvia studied at the School of Fine Arts, University of Chile. A Stamford resident since 1979, she has been the recipient of many awards for her artistry and has also been recognized for her numerous contributions to the Stamford community. Her works have been shown at art exhibitions throughout Connecticut and abroad. In recent years, the theme of Silvia's works is ecologically-minded and focused on our relationship with nature and raising awareness about today's most urgent social concerns and their impact on our planet.



Artist Silvia Fernandez-Stein paints al fresco

Jean Benoit – Born in Haiti, self-taught artist Jean Benoit immigrated to the United States at an early age. He draws inspiration from his Haitian heritage and all aspects of the universe. Jean has showcased his artwork in Stamford and at many exhibitions and galleries. Recently, Jean's works were featured at The Mayor's Gallery at the Stamford Government Center. His works were also featured with other local artists at a show he curated at the Ferguson Library to commemorate Black History Month.

Look for the painted boxes the next time you're out and about in Glenbrook. They can be found at the following locations:

- Pilgrim Walk and Hope Street
- Hope Street and Rock Spring Road
- Courtland and Fairmont Avenues
- Hope Street Park
- Hamilton Ave. and Culloden Road

*****ECRWSS****

Local
Postal Customer

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U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Please Support GNA's Business Members

JULY 2022 – JUNE 2023

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ·482 Glenbrook Road Players | ·First County Bank | ·Italian Deli | ·Rocky's Ace Hardware |
| ·Associated Water Industries | ·Food Bank of Lower | ·JB Orthodontics | ·Savona Plumbing & Heating |
| ·Carmody Torrance, Sandak,
Hennessey, LLP | ·Fairfield County | ·Julia A. Stark Elementary School | ·St. Maurice Church |
| ·Clambake Connection | ·Glen Haven Condo Association | ·La Hacienda Restaurant | ·The Stained Glass Apple |
| ·Controlled Temperatures, Inc. | ·Grace Evangelical Free Church | ·M & P Service Auto Repair | ·Stamford Junk Pros |
| ·Crazy Grapes | ·Grade A Shoprite | ·Magic Touch Cleaners | ·Surwilo Contracting Co. |
| ·Crescent Bottles | ·Gutter Guys, LLC | ·Mr. Maquina Barber Shop, LLC | ·TimberRidge Associates |
| ·Crescent Cleaners | ·Helen's Luncheonette | ·Nick's Pizza/Bacco Pub | ·The Training Floor |
| ·Donut Delight | ·Homeguard Environmental | ·Property Group | ·Trips' Restaurant |
| ·Evergreen Liquor Store | ·Hope Pizza Restaurant | ·Reliable Oil & Heating | ·Union Memorial Church |
| ·Fine Fettle Dispensary | | | ·Verizon Wireless Zone |
| | | | ·Welte Electronic Systems, LLC |

Let Helpsy Help You Recycle/Upcycle Unwanted Clothing

As a community, we recycle many types of materials including plastics, metal, and paper. Until recently Stamford didn't recycle clothing and related material. Up to 85% of those items ended up in landfills. Then Stamford met Helpsy.

Helpsy is a company whose focus is reusing these recycled textiles and other related items. Their mission is to radically change the way people think about clothing recycling with a goal to support upcycling. They are the largest clothing recycler in the Northeast U.S. Last year they collected over 29 million pounds of clothes.

Helpsy makes the environmentally-friendly disposal of clothing, other textiles, and shoes easy and convenient. For more information about Helpsy, what items they accept, and to schedule a home pickup visit www.helpsy.co/stamfordct



#ClothesArentTrash

GNA has scheduled a Helpsy pick up for this year's Spring Cleanup. Any items you would like to have picked up should be clean, dry, odorless, and in closed plastic bags.

Glenbrook Community Center Talks Continue

You may have seen the articles in the papers, noticed the Save Our GCC signs around town, or attended the GNA meeting held in September 2022 at the Union Memorial Church where Mayor Simmons addressed a proposal to sell the city-owned building at 35 Crescent Street, known for years as the Glenbrook Community Center, to a developer with plans to convert it into affordable housing.

In March of 2023, members of Save GCC met with Mayor Simmons and Director of Operations Matthew Quinones, to start a new conversation around this property. No commitments came from that meeting other than to continue the conversation.

The story of the Glenbrook Community Center (GCC) started back in 1968. Back then the building housed Glenbrook School. When a fire damaged the building, the mayor at the time, Bruno E. Giordano, led the effort to renovate and convert the space to a community center. The building operated as the Glenbrook Community Center until March of 2020 when all city-owned buildings were closed due to Covid.

In 2021, Mayor David Martin issued a request for proposal for the sale of 35 Crescent Street to build housing on the site. Over the summer of 2022 the sale process became more public and in response, a group of Glenbrook neighbors (Save GCC) came together in an effort to halt the sale and revive 35 Crescent Street as a community center.

In October of 2022, Mayor Simmons withdrew the proposal before the board of representatives' vote, citing "not enough support for this sale." At that time, the mayor said that the administration does not have any immediate plans for the 35 Crescent Street property.

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Join or Renew Now!

For fiscal year July 2023 through June 2024



☐ \$10 per Person ☐ \$25 per Business ☐ Additional Donation \$ _____

To join or renew your membership to GNA, please mail this form with payment or download the membership form from our website (www.glenbrookassn.com) and mail it to:

GNA, PO Box 2352, Stamford, CT 06906

Make checks payable to GNA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Who Shows Up for the GNA Cleanup?

Twice a year, GNA hosts the Glenbrook Cleanup which meets at the Glenbrook Train Station. Volunteers pick up litter on the sidewalks and in the gardens, rake out the leaves, plant some new plants, and generally spruce up the neighborhood.

Our resident volunteers and board members get the job done, but every year there are a few outstanding businesses who jump in to help us as well. We'd like to formally thank them here.

Donut Delight keeps our volunteers caffeinated and fed by providing coffee and donuts every single year. We turbocharge our weed-pulling thanks to their complimentary breakfast.

In the spring and fall, it can get a bit warm out there in the Glenbrook gardens, but thanks to **First County Bank** we can offer our volunteers water to stay hydrated.

Snacks are always appreciated, and **Grade A Market** provides something for everyone – fruit as well as salty snacks or cookies.

Thanks to **On-Site Shredding** for providing document shredding services at past cleanups. We'll miss them this spring, but we hope they'll be able to offer shredding services again at the Fall 2023 Cleanup!

WIN Waste Innovations drops a large container at the train station parking lot every year, and our residents fill it to the brim (no tires, mattresses, or paint cans please!).

In spring and fall, our volunteers and board members fill planters with gorgeous flowers provided at a discount by **Springdale Florist**.

Splash Car Wash sent three hard-working volunteers to help our cleanup efforts last fall. The guys left our sidewalks and tree wells as clean as Splash leaves your car after a wash!

We are always looking for help from residents and businesses in Glenbrook. Please join us at our twice-yearly cleanups. We provide the tools and the fluorescent vests (admit it, you've always wanted to wear one!) All you have to do is show up, drink some coffee, eat a couple of donut holes, grab a bottle of water, and get to work. It's fun and rewarding!



The best way to request a city service is via computer or mobile device. Go to **FixIt Stamford**

www.stamfordct.gov/fixit

If necessary, you can still call the Citizen's Service Center at 203-977-4140

and listen to a 2-minute message before reaching a Citizen's Service Center representative.

The website comes highly recommended by GNA and everyone who has used it.

Why not try it today?

SPRING CLEANUP



**Saturday
May 20
9 am - Noon**

RAIN OR SHINE

- Discard Bulky Garbage
- Swap Meet
- Complimentary Breakfast

BRING THE FAMILY!

**Help Make
Glenbrook
Look Its Best!**

DID YOU KNOW

There's a Glenbrook
Neighborhood
Association?

We're more than
just newsletters!

We're involved in all
aspects of the 06906
community, from
beautification and
cleanups to keeping
members informed of
neighborhood businesses
and developments.

If you live in the 06906
zip code we're your
neighborhood
association and would
love for you to join us!
Look for the membership
form inside.

**The mission of the GNA
is to enhance the
quality of life in
Glenbrook**

Contact Us:

GlenbrookNeighborhoodAssoc
@gmail.com

Marie Metz

President

Anita Kozminsky

Vice President

Meryl McDaniel

Treasurer

Melanie Soper

Corresponding Secretary

Laurie Doig

Recording Secretary

Board Members:

Lori Constantine
Michael Feighan
Christie Fountain
Miriam Klieve
MaryAnn Mara
Zdenka Zeman



Glenbrook Q&A

Some of the things people have asked us about this year...

Q: How do I find out about CTDOT's plans to reduce congestion on the I-95 corridor between Exits 7 and 9?

A: The study is in its early phase and welcomes your ideas and concerns. Go to www.i95stamford.com to contact them, get on their mailing list, and catch up on notes and videos of meetings you've missed.

Q: How did people know about the study and the meetings?

A: GNA notified our members after the CTDOT study team's presentation at GNA'S January membership meeting.

Q: Is it true that Metro North's New Canaan line will be closed this summer?

A: Yes, service will be suspended temporarily after Memorial Day for track work, but the schedule and timeline are not yet finalized. Substitute buses will be available during that time.

Q: Has anyone else noticed that more homeowners are leaving the trunks of trees in place after removing all the branches?

A: They're called tree snags and arborists consider them to be part of a tree's life cycle. Dead or decaying trees can create homes for birds, bats, and beneficial insects. They should be monitored, but they can play an important environmental role.

Q: Is there a book about Glenbrook history?

A: Not exactly. The best we have is the 15-page illustrated introduction to the *Historical and Architectural Resources Inventory of Glenbrook*, written in 2017 by the historic preservation consultant who surveyed 175 properties. The link is on our Glenbrook Neighborhood Association website (www.glenbrookassn.com), under About Us. A few months ago we sent it to an Oakdale Road resident (since 1976) whose property was once part of the Phillips estate. He read it and wrote back, "What a great document!" The complete survey is available at the Stamford History Center library.

Q: What has changed in Glenbrook since last year's Neighborhood News?

A: A lot, starting with **Hope Street**: Dom's Service Station (now Mobil) has renovated, with narrower curb cuts, grassy areas, canopies, and garage bays that they hope to transform into Rosa's Mini Mart by next fall. Wells Fargo Bank closed. Peoples Bank is now M&T Bank. The Bob's Discount Furniture space is being divided into smaller spaces. United House Wrecking was demolished to make way for Safeguard Self Storage. P. Rogers Floral Design (behind Trips' Restaurant) closed. The Stained Glass Apple is still open, now staffed by volunteers "for the love of Marilyn, a legend in the stained glass world." First County Bank's graceful ash trees succumbed to blight and were removed.

Near Glenbrook Train Station: Union Lodge #5 moved to Darien. Glenbrook Barbers opened on Crescent Street. Glenbrook Community Center remains vacant. SIG Relation Insurance bought 509 Glenbrook Road and opened during the pandemic. The available street-level retail space at Glenbrook Crossing has had "many inquiries". A total of 13 new apartments will open at 492 Glenbrook Road, including one at street level that replaced two retail spaces.

And in Research Park: Lock City Brewing closed and Fine Fettle Cannabis Dispensary opened.

Visit our website at www.glenbrookassn.com for updated information about the GNA