



THE neighborhood news

www.glenbrookassn.com

Winter 2021 • Issue 18

A Special Welcome to New Glenbrook Residents!

GNA brings 06906 neighbors together to make Glenbrook better. Become a member! Visit www.glenbrookassn.com



Giving Day

Thursday, February 25

GNA joins hundreds of nonprofits in Fairfield County in this annual 24-hour fundraising blitz.

VISIT: FCGIVES.ORG

GNA'S SPRING QUARTERLY MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 16

7 PM on zoom

GNA members will receive Zoom link via email.

GNA'S ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP

SATURDAY, MAY 15

9 AM – NOON

Glenbrook Train Station

Dumpster & Shredders Provided

Visit our website, www.glenbrookassn.com for more information and a link to our Facebook page

Forging Ahead Despite Covid!

Glenbrook Neighborhood Association Rebounds from Shutdown



GNA Volunteers Planting a Pollinator Garden at the Glenbrook Train Station

We're still here! After an initial pandemic pause, the GNA Board found ways to stay on top of some regularly scheduled events. The Fall and Winter quarterly membership meetings were held via Zoom, and we'll present the Spring meeting on Tuesday, March 16, with a guest speaker from Aquarion Water Company. GNA Members will receive an email blast with the Zoom link.

Our popular Annual Fall Cleanup (with free dumpster and shredding bins) took place with Covid-conscious precautions in October at Glenbrook train station. That's when our train station

became part of the new Pollinator Pathway Stamford! Luckily for us, GNA counts among our members the founders of the new Pollinator Pathway Stamford, part of a growing movement across CT and surrounding states. The photo above shows them planting a demonstration pollinator garden of native plants to attract and protect CT's pollinators. The expanding, contiguous pesticide-free corridors on the pathway will provide habitats and food sources for birds, bees, butterflies, and other

pollinators under threat. Stop by to see the progress of GNA's pollinator garden and to get ideas for your own.

Your home too can join the Pollinator Pathway – even a window box qualifies. Find out more online at www.pollinator-pathway.org/stamford.

Curious to know more about GNA? Read the annual newsletters on our website to see what we care about and what we've accomplished over 20 years. You'll also find Glenbrook history and much more.

*****ECRWSS *****

Local
Postal Customer

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Please Support GNA's Business Members

JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021

- Advanced Procurement Center, LLC
- Associated Water Industries ·Atlas Metals
- Carmody, Torrance, Sandak, Hennessey, LLP
- Clambake Connection
- Controlled Temperatures, Inc.
- Crescent Cleaners
- Dom's Service Station
- Donut Delight

- ELM (Eastern Land Management)
- Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County
- Gigi Barrett Fine Art
- Glen Haven Condo Association
- Grace Evangelical Free Church
- Grade A Shoprite
- Gutter Guys, LLC
- Helen's Luncheonette
- Homework Helper
- Hope Pizza Restaurant

- Italian Deli
- JB Orthodontics
- La Hacienda Restaurant
- Lock City Brewing, LLC
- M & P Service Auto Repair
- Magic Touch Cleaners
- Mark Sank & Associates, LLC
- Mr. Maquina Barber Shop, LLC
- Nature's Palette Landscaping
- Property Group
- Real Deal Estate

- Saint Maurice Church
- Stained Glass Apple
- Stamford Junk Pros
- Tawa Tangra Indian Cuisine
- Timber Ridge Associates, LLC
- Trips' Restaurant
- UM Media, LLC
- Union Lodge No. 5
- Verizon Wireless Zone
- View Entertainment

We Have to Stop Meeting Like This!



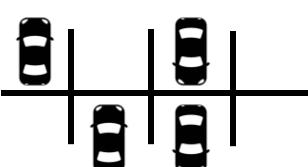
A socially-distanced GNA Board Meeting from Summer 2020



Village Commercial District

Glenbrook's Village Commercial District (VCD) is a work in progress. It's the area around the train station that was rezoned VC in 2009 to allow development encouraging use of the train. GNA's vision was a transit-oriented, pedestrian-friendly, 21st century version of the village Glenbrook was in its prime. The City and State began investing in Glenbrook, starting with the train station and Crescent Street. The first new apartments arrived in 2014 at 467 Glenbrook Road, replacing an auto junkyard. GNA members with professional knowledge about the VCD design guidelines monitored the developer's application process. They formed a Design Review Committee that continues to comment on each new application in the VCD. Its members speak at public hearings as individuals, not claiming to represent the opinion of GNA's membership.

Parking STUDY



Glenbrook residents have a chance to add their two cents worth to a city-wide parking study, even if they missed the Zoom meeting with consultants on Monday, February 15. The point is that the same parking policy shouldn't apply to the entire city. You can be specific about trouble spots and the needs of different streets and even blocks.

Email egordon@stamfordct.gov.

Why Did I Get This GNA Newsletter?

We used to send our annual newsletter only to our members. Now we mail it to every 06906 address. Why? Because every Glenbrook resident and business should know about us. **We can't afford to do this more than once a year, so why not consider joining GNA today?**

Safer Streets in Glenbrook

Stamford's Transportation, Traffic & Parking Bureau (TT&P) introduced more "Complete Streets" design changes to Hope Street during the shutdown, planning for cyclists, walkers, and runners as well as drivers. Hope Street's new striping south of Church Street narrows the lanes to intentionally slow traffic. Further down Hope Street at Glenbrook Road, TT&P removed a traffic island, redesigned lanes, and bumped out curbs to slow down vehicles entering the neighborhood and make it safer for walkers to cross there. Learn more about safe streets from People Friendly Stamford, a local advocacy group, at www.peoplestamford.org.



Membership Form

GNA's fiscal year is from July through June. If you have not already paid this year's dues, please download the membership form from our website (www.glenbrookassn.com) or send in this form with payment to:
GNA, PO Box 2352, Stamford, CT 06906

\$10 per Person Additional Donation \$ _____
 \$25 per Business (Please specify amount)

Make checks payable to GNA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Your GNA membership is valid through June 2021

THUMBS UP / THUMBS DOWN

- Have you seen the shiny new covered bike rack at the train station?
- Tropical Storm Isaias snapped our flagpole in two at the train station...
- ...but FEMA funding will pay for a new one!
- Our last monthly meetup was exactly a year ago.
- GNA members held top positions in Stamford Census 2020!
- We had to cancel our popular free tag sale at the fall cleanup.
- A GNA member who has moved to another town says her family will be back to volunteer at the cleanups!



New covered bike rack at the Glenbrook Train Station



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?

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

Zara DeLuca
Corresponding Secretary

Melanie Soper
Recording Secretary

Board Members:

Michael Feighan
Christie Fountain
MaryAnn Mara
Zdenka Zeman

Visit our website
www.glenbrookassn.com



DID YOU KNOW?

There's a Glenbrook Neighborhood Association!

We've been around for 20 years—you should know us by now! GNA is run by volunteers and is funded primarily by dues and contributions from our members. People sometimes tell us they don't join the GNA because they can't be at our meetings. That's not a good reason! Join to support our mission and to stay informed.



Follow us!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR facebook

ADMINISTRATOR



Q: I follow GNA on Facebook but I never see your posts.

A: We post often, but due to the Facebook algorithm, our posts may not make it to your newsfeed. **Do this:** Make us a “favorite” in your settings. The method differs depending on the device you’re using, but you can start by going to the Glenbrook Neighborhood Association page, clicking on the three dots in the gray box, then updating your “follow settings”. Remember to update your settings!

Glenbrook Q&A

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

Q: Is it true that GNA gives away free trees?

A: Yes, and people have been known to join GNA for the free tree! GNA offers members in good standing a free tree planted between the sidewalk and the curb. An email will be sent to members announcing the next program and deadline.

Q: I'm confused about Connecticut food banks. How can I be certain I'm supporting the one located in Glenbrook?

A: The Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County has been located at 461 Glenbrook Road for 18 years and is a business member of GNA. You have probably donated to food drives that benefit this Stamford-based organization serving local agencies and food pantries. The Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County is sometimes confused with larger food banks based in other parts of Connecticut.

Q: Why is there an election on Tuesday, March 2?

A: It's a run-off election to replace State Senator Carlo Leone, who has resigned his seat representing Connecticut State Senate District 27 (includes all of Glenbrook) to be special adviser to CT DOT Commissioner Joseph Giulietti. The two candidates are Democrat Patricia Billie Miller and Republican Joshua Esses.

Q: 45 Church Street is transformed and looks fabulous. What is it?

A: During the pandemic the owner of this former office building completed its conversion from commercial space to 30 apartments and dubbed it Glenluxe.

Q: Are more new apartments on the drawing board?

A: Yes, the new owners of 492 Glenbrook Road (where La Hacienda is) plan to create 12 residential units on that property. They'll add a third story to the existing building and create six apartments above the retail businesses, and six more behind it in a new three-story building.

Q: What about the gas station on Glenbrook Road that's been closed for over a year?

A: The gas tanks have been replaced but at press time there's nothing else to report.

The Glenbrook Community Center is for Sale

The Glenbrook Community Center building at 35 Crescent Street is for sale. Originally opened as an elementary school in 1898, it had a second life as a community center when it reopened after a 1968 fire. GNA met there for 20 years, from our founding in 1999 through our last pre-pandemic quarterly meeting a year ago in January 2020. Unfortunately, the City was not successful in finding a new building operator after Jerry Pia retired and it cannot afford to keep the



building open. Moreover, the pandemic has put pressure on the City budget to sell unused property. The Board of Finance and Board of Representatives are in the process of approving specific terms and conditions of sale of the property, which is situated a half block from the train station in Glenbrook's Village Commercial District.