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**HANDRAILS! HANDRAILS! HANDRAILS!**



*A happy path walker uses the new handrail on Middle Glendale Path.*

**Handrails! Handrails! Handrails!**

With many thanks to all of our donors, new handrails were installed in early

January on Middle Glendale Path (connecting Queens Road and Fairlawn Drive), and Upper Halkin Walk (between Hilldale and Euclid avenues).

Berkeley Path Wanderers Association was able to purchase the two sets of handrails, which cost \$43,100 with installation, due to the generosity of our members.

"We consistently hear from path wanderers that handrails are the number one need on Berkeley paths," said Janet Byron, the association's current president. "By purchasing our swag and contributing, you can help us to continuously repair, maintain, and upgrade our beloved paths network."

Last fall the Berkeley Public Works Department installed full handrails on Vincente Walk between The Alameda and Vincente Avenue, using funds from the \$100 million [T1 bond](#) passed overwhelmingly (86.5%\_ by Berkeley voters in 2016.

[READ MORE](#)

***To make a donation for handrails visit our [website](#) or mail your check made out to Berkeley Partners for Parks, with "BPWA" in the memo line, to: BPWA. 1442A Walnut St. #269, Berkeley CA 94709***

## REMEMBERING PAT DEVITO

**Patricia DeVito, co-founder of Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, passes away at age 89**

***Wife, mother, advocate for women and seniors, traveler, and walker***



*By Janet Byron*

Patricia Lee DeVito, one of the four original co-founders of Berkeley Path Wanderers Association, died on November 20, 2022, of Alzheimer's disease at the age of 89 in Portland, Oregon.

Born in Reno, Nevada, and raised in Stockton, Pat settled in Berkeley in the mid-1950s with her husband Michael DeVito, whom she met while they were students at UC Berkeley.

"We lived on Indian Rock Avenue just above Mortar Rock, and we frequently used Indian Rock Path to go down to Solano," Mike recalled. "She would go walking through the hills. That was her favorite form of exercise. She loved to explore the city."

### **Paths booster**

In fall 1997, Pat learned from her friend Jacque Ensign about a notice posted at the North Berkeley Library by Jacque's friend Ruth Armstrong (Moskowitz), soliciting community interest in Berkeley's pathways. The three women met at Jacque's house in late November, and a few week's later they were joined by Eleanor Hall Gibson, a mutual friend of Jacque's and Pat's.

In 2005 Pat documented the founding of the Path Wanderers in an essay, "History of BPWA from 1997 to 2005." In it she reflects on the start: "Thus began a true collaborative effort among four avid path walkers to raise community awareness of



pathway conditions and the need for action after years of neglect, if our hope to restore Berkeley's paths was to be realized."

Berkeley city council member Sophie Hahn will honor Pat DeVito in a short ceremony before the council meeting on Tuesday, February 28. [Donations](#) in her memory can be made to Berkeley Path Wanderers Association: "That would be consistent with Pat's wishes," Mike said.

[READ MORE](#)

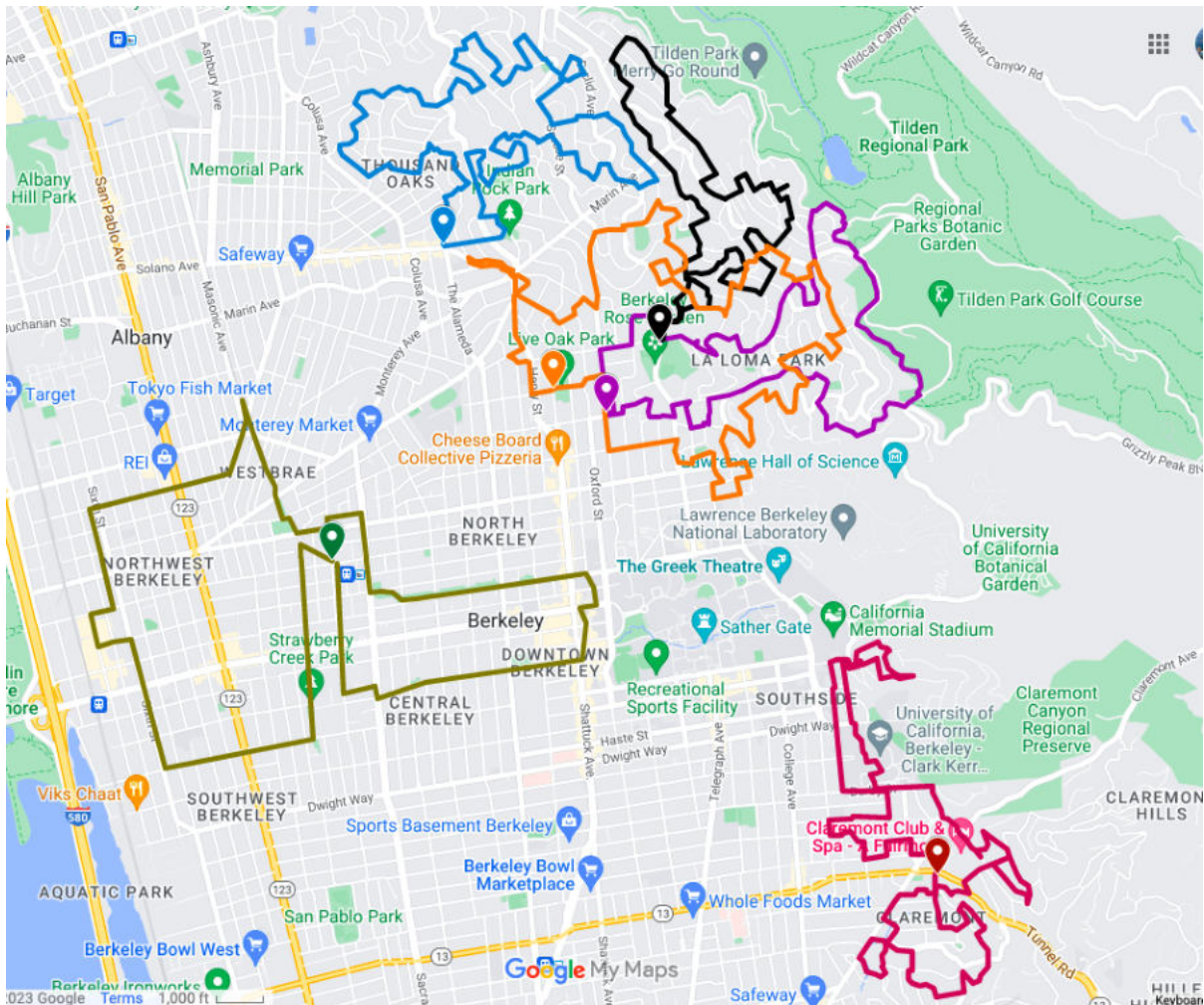
## SAVE THE DATE: PATH SURVEY MAY 21

### SAVE THE DATE: Volunteers needed for our 5-year paths inventory on Sunday, May 21



In July 2018 (left), nearly 80 volunteers fanned out all over Berkeley, clipboards in hand, to walk all the paths in Berkeley and record their condition. Berkeley path Wanderers Association collected the info sheets and compiled the observations into our [Paths Condition Report](#), which guides path improvements. The comprehensive paths inventory is conducted every 5 years. Save the date to volunteer for the next survey on the morning of Sunday, May 21, and watch the newsletter for more information.

## WALK EVERY PATH IN BERKELEY WITH US



## Every Path in Berkeley: Our 25th anniversary celebration walk series

Explore [every built-out path in Berkeley](#) (including, right, Ina Coolbrith Path)! As part of Berkeley Path Wanderers Association's celebration of its 25th anniversary, we will reprise the series of six walks created in 2014 by Jacob Lehmann Duke and Aviva Gerwein and featured in their guidebook, [Step It Up](#) (See "Every Path in Berkeley"). And like we did back then, at the end of the series in August, we'll throw a party to celebrate the achievement and quarter-century of paths love!

We will give a newsletter shout-out to all path lovers who complete the entire series of 6 walks, and they'll receive a small prize, too.



The six walks are:

- Sunday, [March 5, led by Tamara Gurin](#) (rain date March 11); magenta route above
- Saturday, April 1, led by (none other than!) Jacob Lehmann Duke
- Sunday, May 7, led by Alina Constantinescu
- Sunday, June 4, led by John Ford
- July 15 or 16, leader TBD
- Sunday, August 6, led by Janet Byron

**The final walk on Sunday, August 6, will be our annual Path-a-thon, with three walks to choose from, followed by a 25th anniversary celebration at Live Oak Park.**

We hope to see you there!

## UPCOMING WALKS

**NOTE: Walk leaders request that all participants be vaccinated and boosted, or masked. Heavy rain cancels.**



### [Exploring Campus and Panoramic Hill](#)

**When:** Sunday, February 12 (rain date, Feb. 19) 9:30 - 12:00 p.m.

**Leader:** John Ford

**Distance:** 5 miles

**Start/End:** [Pomodoro Sculpture \(a bronze sphere\) at the bottom of campus, just east of the intersection of Oxford and Center](#)

**Accessibility:** Several steep stairways. Well-behaved dogs on leash are welcome.

We will walk up through the campus and through Panoramic Hill to the top of the Derby Canyon Trail and take that down to the Clark Kerr Campus. Expect interesting architecture and expansive views. [READ MORE](#)

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## [Upper Shattuck/Marin Circle Walk](#)

**When:** Saturday, February 25, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

**Leader:** Bob Johnson

**Start/End:** [NW corner of Shattuck Avenue and Eunice Street](#)

**Distance:** 2 miles

**Accessibility:** A moderate hike with some uphill, a 500-foot elevation gain. Well-behaved dogs on leash are permitted.

**Steady rain cancels.**

Rain cut this walk short on December 3, so please join us again in February for the full walk. This area was developed mainly in the first part of the 20th century. The neighborhood features fine historic architecture (including some elegant homes), gardens, street trees, and several paths. [READ MORE](#)



## **Jeronimus Alley Mural and West Berkeley Art Celebration**

**When:** March 4, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. (time is tentative; watch March newsletter for confirmation)

**Location:** [Cedar & 5 1/2 Street](#)

**Leader:** Tamara Gurin

**Accessibility:** Flat, short stroll with no stairs

Join us for an event celebrating the new mural in Jeronimus Alley (5 1/2 Street), funded by [Commotion West Berkeley](#) and sponsored by Berkeley Path Wanderers Association and [Youth Spirit Artworks](#). We will meet lead artist [Pancho Pescador](#) and the young artists (*right, Laurel and Victoria; photo by Pancho Pescador*) affiliated who painted beautiful new murals in the alley. After touring Jeronimus Alley, we will take a stroll to visit other local artists who live and work in the neighborhood. Snacks and light refreshments will be served. [READ MORE](#)

## Every Path in Berkeley: Walk 1

**When:** Sunday, March 5, 8:30 a.m.–11 a.m.

**Leader:** Tamara Gurin

**Distance:** 5 miles

**Start/End:** [Corner of Spruce and Rose streets](#)

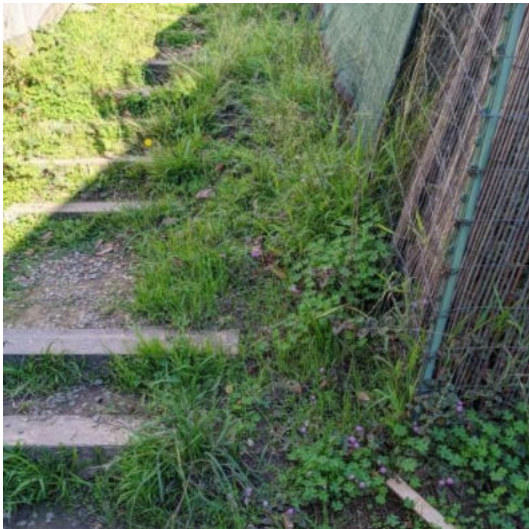
**Accessibility:** No handrails on some of the stairways, some walking on roads without a sidewalk. Children and well-behaving dogs are welcome.

[Join us for the first of 6 walks in celebration of our 25th anniversary.](#) On this walk, the following 14 stairways will be covered: Hawthorne Steps, Vine Lane, Hill Court, La Loma Steps, Greenwood Terrace, Rose Steps, Lower Columbia Path, Wilson Walk, Wildcat Path, Fred Herbert Path, Tilden Path, Shasta Path, Northgate Path, and Tamalpais Path.

[READ MORE](#)



## PATH MAINTENANCE WORK PARTIES



**Join us for a path maintenance work party!**

Saturday, February 4, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Thursday, February 9, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

The work is mostly weeding, sweeping, raking, and clipping. We will have gloves and tools available, but feel free to bring your own. Please bring your own water; we won't be offering water or refreshments. Please RSVP to receive an email with the time, date, and meeting place by writing to Mary Lynch at [path.maintenance@berkeleypaths.org](mailto:path.maintenance@berkeleypaths.org).

## Berkeley Path Wanderers Association



Berkeley Path Wanderers Association is a community organization of people who treasure the public pathways that crisscross our city. Left, a new mural sponsored by BPWA on Jeronimus Alley (5 1/2 Street). [Learn more](#)

The BPWA board generally meets monthly. Our next meeting is Sunday, February 26, at 12:30



p.m. Guests are welcome! Please contact [info@berkeleypaths.com](mailto:info@berkeleypaths.com) for more information.

To support our path-building efforts, you can [donate online](#). All donations go toward building new paths, repairing and clearing paths, purchasing handrails, and advocating for paths.



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