

March 2025



# CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

## Please, Say It Ain't So...!

Well... it's not an unfamiliar story.

Once again, a respected local business is being forced out due to ridiculously greedy landlords who have little to no attachment to our neighborhood. This time, it's one of our most beloved and cherished shop and shopkeeper, Glenn Harrell's Say Cheese.

He's leaving not due to a national recession, inflation, pandemic or natural disaster. Glenn is being forced out due to an astronomical increase to his rent. It's a wonder how any small business survives in Silver Lake, let alone this city. It's appalling. We don't know what kind of business will be taking over the space. Whatever or whoever it is, it'll be impossible to fill the shoes, wonderful shelves, or big loving heart of Glenn Harrell and Say Cheese.

Glenn will be closing his doors on March 31st. Please take the time to drop by, and say "hello" and "good bye" to one of the most beloved proprietors in Silver Lake.

From the editorial staff of Silver Lake Together, we send a heartfelt "Thank You" to Glenn Harrell.

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## A Heartfelt Thank You to My Beloved Silver Lake Community

Dear Silver Lake Community, Family, and Friends,

With a heart full of gratitude and a spirit overflowing with love, I write to thank you for the incredible support you've shown me and my business, Say Cheese, over the past 26 years.

First and foremost, I give thanks to the Lord above, for guiding me and blessing me with the opportunity to serve you all. I also want to thank my family, friends, and each of you in the Silver Lake community who have made this journey so fulfilling. It has been an absolute honor to share my passion for culinary artistry, fine cheeses, and the joy of bringing people together through food. Your support has allowed me to live out my calling and to share what I believe are truly God-given gifts.

Over the years, I've learned so much—not only about the intricate world of cheese and food—but about myself, my staff, my ventures, and the people around me. I feel incredibly blessed to have had the privilege of holding the torch for 26 years, sharing my taste and my palate with all of you.

While this is not the moment I had planned, I believe I am being elevated to a higher ground. This chapter is closing not because of failure, but due to circumstances beyond my control, including a 300% rent increase that unfortunately, forced the closure of my brick-and-mortar location. Despite the challenges—whether through recessions, elections, tariffs on cheese, wars, strikes, fires, or the pandemic—God has kept Say Cheese standing strong! This community has stood with me through it all, and for that, I will be forever grateful.

As many of you know, I was raised in Silver Lake and proudly attended Lockwood Elementary, King Junior High, and John Marshall High School. I also still live in the very neighborhood that I hold so dear. Over the years, I've had the honor of serving you as a member of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, elected by more than 700 of you to represent our community. This neighborhood is home to me in every sense of the word.

I've had the privilege of seeing your children grow up, graduate, marry, and start families of their own. Many of you have welcomed me into your lives, and I've been able to share in your celebrations and milestones. I have witnessed the power of community and how food—whether cheese, wine, or something simple—can bring people together in the most meaningful ways.

It has been my joy to serve you, to be part of your lives, and to see your faces light up as you discovered new tastes and flavors. I have enjoyed watching friendships form in the aisle of my store, and I will forever cherish those moments.

To my fellow community members, I urge you: Support your local businesses. Small businesses are the heartbeat of a neighborhood, and when we lose them, we lose a part of our community's soul. Please continue to support those who are serving you with passion and dedication. Remember, when you shop local, you help keep your community rich, vibrant, and alive.

In closing, as Dolly Parton so beautifully sang, "And I will always love you." The love I feel for this community will never fade, and though this chapter may be ending, the bonds we've formed will last a lifetime. Thank you all for 26 wonderful years. You will always be in my heart.

With love and deepest gratitude,  
Glenn Harrell  
a.k.a. The Cheesemonger  
a.k.a. The Cheese Dude  
a.k.a. The Big Cheese  
a.k.a. The Grand Fromage  
a.k.a. The Cheese Guy  
a.k.a. The Owner of Say Cheese

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**Betsy Isroelit**  
1942-2024  
SLT Co-Founder and Editor

We miss you.



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## Let Us Know!

[www.silverlaketgether.com](http://www.silverlaketgether.com)

Need help with an issue in Silver Lake? Do you have ideas that will help our neighborhood or want to share community news?

**Email Us**

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