

# SNA Annual Meeting Set for Feb. 27; All Neighbors Are Invited

The SNA Board of Directors invites all residents of the Summit neighborhood to attend the group's annual meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27, at the Summit Commons main dining room, 99 Hillside Ave., Providence. Coffee and cookies will be available before the formal proceedings begin.

The main subject of business will be the election of next year's board, but there also will be updates on various neighborhood projects and reports from area elected officials. Providence Mayor Angel Taveras, Councilman Kevin Jackson, state Sen. Rhoda Perry and Speaker of the House Gordon Fox have all been invited to speak.

A progress report on the revitalization of the North Main Street business district will be presented as well as a review of the crime-watch effort and other SNA programs.

## **New Board Candidates Welcome**

There will be a slate of new board nominees as well as current members seeking reelection, but additional nominations may be made from the floor. There will be a meeting at the Hope Street Pizza restaurant from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan 22, for anyone interested in running, but is not mandatory for prospective candidates. Everyone is welcome.

If there is someone you think would be an asset, email your suggestion to the board at [SNAProv@gmail.com](mailto:SNAProv@gmail.com)

The board encourages residents to actively participate in the organization so that we may continue to have a significant role in maintaining and improving the quality of life in the Summit neighborhood.

**See profiles of current SNA board members on page 3.**



# Summit News

JANUARY 2012

[www.SummitNeighbors.org](http://www.SummitNeighbors.org)



## Hope Street Sewer Upgrade Slows Traffic; Helps Clean Bay

Major construction work slowed traffic along the north end of Hope Street this past summer and fall. The crews were creating an 11,200-foot sewer interceptor to reduce discharges into the Seekonk River. After the federally funded digging is completed, plans call for rebuilding according to a streetscape

that the Hope Street Merchants Association is developing. A similar project is in the works for North Main St., for which the SNA has hired a design consultant (see p.2).





*Neighborhood Business Feature:*

## Three Meals at Three Sisters

By *Howie Gladstone*  
SNA contributing writer

If you're heading north on Hope Street, you'll find a popular –but offbeat – eatery by the name of Three Sisters. It's a café, ice cream parlor and sandwich shop, all in one.

Owner Michael Stern, who lives in the Brown University community, opened the establishment in 2006. He had been involved with the Haagen-Daz Shop franchise, so he was able to capitalize on his customer-relation skills, developing a trained staff to serve you.

The menu is quite varied and offers breakfast (all day), plus wraps and paninis as well as 31 flavors of homemade ice cream or a cup of joe that is locally roasted, then brewed on the premises. Pastries are also homemade, and fresh bagels are brought in each day. They even do catering.

Next time you're in the area, make this unique combo a destination. It's at 1074 Hope St., just across from Lippitt Park, where Blackstone Boulevard and Hope Street meet and the walking path begins – or ends on a hot summer day. And if you have a laptop, bring it, as there is free WiFi. Be sure to ask about seasonal specials.

## Close Votes for Top Apple Tastes



What appeared to be an ordinary apple pie, but hid a kick of jalapeno pepper, was voted the best-tasting apple concoction at an SNA-sponsored competition held Oct. 27 at Seven Stars bakery.

About 40 neighbors—from babies to retirees—gathered in the popular Hope Street eatery to taste and compare 11 offerings brought by people who had been alerted to the event by the SNA blog and posters.

In addition to traditional pies, cakes and muffins, they sampled a purple apple-cab-

## North Main Street design contract to create new streetscape

SNA has hired a consultant to draw up a plan for revitalizing the North Main Street business corridor.

The organization signed a contract for \$3,700 with Transit Matters, a design and construction company operated by Summit resident Jonathan Harris, to create a "streetscape" for the North Main Street commercial district, focusing on the area between First or Second Street and the Pawtucket line.

Harris is on the faculty of the Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology and was an adjunct professor at the Rhode Island School of Design.

The planning firm is to propose an urban landscape for the street after the Narragansett Bay Commission (NBC) finishes improving the area sewer lines under a storm-water diversion project using federal funds.

### **Collaboration with State, City and Neighborhood**

The design development is to take 12 to 14 weeks and will involve collaboration with NBC, RIPTA, RIDOT, the Providence Departments of Planning and Public Works, the North Main Street Merchants Association, SNA and interested neighbors.

The project was funded by a legislative grant to SNA.

bage mixture, an apple-celery gazpacho, a quinoa-apple dish and cider cookie bars. The bakery contributed tasty tidbits and Swan Liquors hosted a beer and wine tasting.

Ballots were distributed and the count produced a four-way tie for most delectable. A second round of voting yielded the jalapeno winner with the quinoa dish and cider bars in a dead-heat for second. All three winners received gift certificates to area businesses.

Thanks to Swan Liquors and Seven Stars from SNA and all who enjoyed the evening!

# Meet Your SNA Board of Directors

The men and women shown here are donating their time and varied talents to the betterment of our Summit neighborhood. If you would like to join in their efforts, please contact any one of them to learn more.



**Dean Weinberg**, president, lives on Lauriston Street, is 36 and has been a Summit resident for 2½ years. He is a certified public accountant and his special interests on the board are social/community events plus the revitalization of North Main Street.



**Jesse Polhemus**, vice president, lives on Langham Road, is 34 and has been a Summit resident for 5 years as well as one of Providence for most of his life. He is a writer and is most concerned with preserving neighborhood cultural treasures such as the Henry Bowen Anthony fountain, increasing quality of life by reviving North Main Street, and strengthening the ties between neighbors at events such as the music festival and the fall cook-off.



**Melissa Grisi**, recording secretary, is 35 and has been a Summit resident for 9 years. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, is most interested in community events and would like to start a voluntary simplicity/urban homesteading neighborhood group.



**Harriet Hemphill**, treasurer, lives on 11th Street, is 63 with two grown daughters and two grandsons and has been a Summit resident for 7 years. She is a certified public accountant and is most interested in special social events.

**Dan Cahill** lives on Hillside Avenue and has lived in Summit for 15 years. He is a consultant and has been on the board for 5 years, worked on the nominating/membership committee and the yard sale committee, written for the newsletter and helped obtain funding for the Henry Bowen Anthony fountain restoration project.



**Grant Dulgarian** lives off Hope Street, is 63 and has been a Summit resident for 59 years. He is a business owner and as an environmental advocate, is concerned about land use and zoning, energy, transportation, air quality, recycling and the wise use of taxpayer funds.



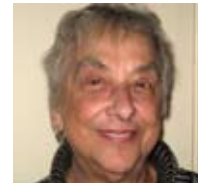
**Claude Goldman** lives on 4th Street, is 69 and has lived in Summit for 37 years. He is a retired senior programming analyst at Brown University and has a doctorate in particle physics. He loves the neighborhood, especially being near Hope Street and has modified his house to make it more senior friendly so he won't have to leave the area.



**Kerry Kohring** lives on Bayard Street, is 67 and has lived in Summit for 36 years. He is a recently retired copy editor from The Providence Journal and heads the newsletter committee.



**Daniel MacLellan** lives on Lafayette Street in Pawtucket, is 70 and is retired from radio and television broadcasting plus being retired as a Bozo The Clown. Currently he is a professional magician and producer. He volunteers at many neighborhood events and his hobbies are flyfishing, cooking, gardening and photography.



**Sheila Perlow** lives on Lafayette Street in Pawtucket and is "ageless," having been born the year the Henry Bowen Anthony fountain was erected. She is retired from The Miriam Hospital's emergency room and is most interested in special events, the newsletter and the North Main Street revitalization but is willing to work on any other committee that needs help because she loves the neighborhood.



**Tag Tanalski** lives on Hillside Avenue, is of "a certain age" and has been a Summit resident for 13 years. He is a teacher and finds all aspects of serving on the board very rewarding.

## Holiday Happenings in the 'hood

### *Strolling along Hope Street*

Neighborhood residents took advantage of the offerings on the Hope Street commercial area Thursday, Dec. 15, during a "stroll" sponsored by the merchants' association.

Many stores offered sale prices and vied with each other for the best-decorated display window. Other features included a petting zoo, food trucks and "the best classic Santa I've ever seen," according to one participant. The Extraordinary Rendition Marching Band played and "strollers" contributed to a hat-and-mitten drive for the needy.

### *Christmas carols in the night*

Adding to the festive spirit of local homes displaying seasonal outdoor lighting, about 25 people roamed the neighborhood Wednesday, Dec. 21, singing carols.

Organized by Anisa Raoof with the cooperation of Miriam Hospital, the choir, including many families with children participating, lighted a Menorah and had Hanukkah snacks at the hospital before heading out to serenade, even asking some lucky homeowners to request their favorite holiday songs.



## Seven Stars — Then and Now

By Mary Ann Rossoni  
SNA contributing writer

Some of the most attractive reasons to live on the East Side are the wonderfully diverse neighbors, convenient shopping, superb dining and the memories you gather along the way.

Living close to Hope Street for 21 years, I have enjoyed all of the above and have been most aware of the changes that occur when businesses come and go. One such change happened right outside my window – a gas station converted to a bakery.

Seven Stars Bakery, opened by Lynn and Jim Williams on Jan. 2, 2001, was a dream come true. As a young couple, new to Providence, they knew they wanted an East Side location. After months of searching, seeing a “for sale” sign in a window on a drive with her

father did it for Lynn. She says, “I slammed on the brakes and my dad said, ‘Who would ever buy a gas station?’” But she could not forget about it. All she saw were four walls, nice parking and the potential for outdoor seating in a nice neighborhood.

### **All the ingredients for success**

She researched the gas station lot and found that the land cleared inspections – the owner had removed the storage tanks and contaminated soil. So they bought the building in May, 2000, and it was reborn as a bakery. Lynn and Jim opened with the help of a very small staff.

Originally, they baked right on the premises and those living close by could wake to the warming smells of fresh bread coming from the brick oven. Breads, pastries and other treats made with non-preservative, all-natu-

ral ingredients is what they offer and Summit neighbors are close enough to sample all.

People new to the area may not know that Seven Stars was once Al’s Citgo, but many long-time neighbors say they will never forget having their cars serviced by owner Al Nardone.

Café chairs now in the left front window of the bakery were once Al’s easy chairs where patrons waited for their cars to be serviced. Neighbor Bob Trudeau recalls that, “In the winter, the big plate glass windows – and the conversation – made that corner the warmest place in our part of the East Side.”

So years later, warm conversations continue in that window, but instead of leaving with a fresh change of oil, patrons may leave with a freshly brewed cup of coffee, a pastry, or one of my favorites, olive loaf.

## Join SNA or renew your Membership!

I enclose my 2012 membership contribution of  \$15  \$25  \$50 Other \$

Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I can help  Deliver Newsletters  Make phone calls  Canvas my street  other

My biggest neighborhood concerns are: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check made out to: Summit Neighborhood Association  
Mail to: SNA, PO Box 41092, Providence, RI, 02940