

New, informal Annual Meeting Monday, March 3

Local residents are invited to join their neighbors and their elected representatives in a relaxed social gathering at the annual meeting of the Summit Neighborhood Association.

The event will begin at 7 p.m. Monday, March 3, in the first-floor reception and dining rooms of The Highlands on the East Side, 101 Highland Ave. There is ample parking in the facility's lots.

Personal Exchanges

We have decided to change the format this year from the traditional speeches or situation reports to an informal evening of personal exchanges among friends to discuss matters important to our community – all over wine, beer and snacks.

Our various government representatives have been invited, as well as the candidates for this year's Providence mayoral race. We hope this will provide an opportunity to chat one-on-one or in small groups with these officials and candidates.

The elected officials who have already confirmed their intention to attend are State Rep. Gordon Fox and State Sen. Gayle Goldin. Mayoral candidates who have confirmed include City Council President Michael Solomon, Lorne Adrain, Daniel Harrop and Brett Smiley.

Neighborhood Vision

But besides providing the exchanges with the elected officials, the meeting will be a chance for SNA members and nonmembers alike to get to know each other better and talk about what we envision for our neighborhood.

An important part of the evening will be the informal discussions of what role SNA should play and what kinds of projects should be undertaken. Residents are encouraged to brainstorm ideas and initiatives. It is also a great opportunity to volunteer to lead or assist in the various efforts.

Officer & Board Elections

At some point during the meeting, there will be a vote on a slate of SNA officers and new members of the board of directors.

The nominees for SNA office are: Dean

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Summit News

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Coming Soon: Transit Service Hope St. to Green and Logan

Take public transportation from Summit to T.F. Green or Logan airports? If RIPTA's proposed bus route changes go as planned, that's exactly what you'll be able to do.

As part of the Comprehensive Operational Analysis by the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, bus route 42 (Hope Street) is to be combined with routes 1 (Eddy/Gaspee) and 77 (Benefit/Broadway) to form a continuous ride to the airport in Warwick.

In addition, "we have verbal approval from the federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration" to cross the state line into Massachusetts and extend service to the South Attleboro train station, said Mark Therrien, assistant general manager of planning at RIPTA. That means a rail connection to Boston's South Station with a link to Logan.

Unfortunately, that isn't going to happen right away, according to Therrien. As of now, the Massachusetts extension is scheduled for June, as are changes to route 99 (North Main/Pawtucket), which will be combined with route 11 (Broad Street) and upgraded to RIPTA's first rapid bus line (the R-Line).

According to the COA recommendation, elements of the R-Line will include: High-frequency, fast, limited-stop service at key destinations; traffic signal coordination for improved travel times and schedule reliability; ameni-

ties including real-time information while waiting for buses; and roadway improvements, including clearly designated bus-stop lanes and intersections designed to increase safety and minimize conflicts.



Therrien said state law supersedes city plans for bus stops on some streets and RIPTA is in final negotiations with the Department of Transportation on the design and location of shelters along the R-Line.

Also maybe in June, but probably September, according to Therrien, the combination of route 42 with routes 1 and 77 will be rebranded as route 1 (Hope/Eddy) to better describe how the route actually operates, and designated a "Key Corridor" route.

To make service faster and more direct, the Warwick portion of the route would operate via Post Road and Warwick Avenue, with the southern terminus extended to the airport.

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Kreatelier - An Entrepreneurial Dream Come True

By Margie Butler, Special to SNA

November marked five years for Kreatelier, a store and design studio focusing on fabric creations, at 804 Hope St. and six years since incorporation. Owners Line Deams & Pernilla Frazier took the opportunity to talk about their experience.

Q: What has been most critical to making it as a small business?

L&P: Working hard, being surrounded by positive and inspiring people, having a great business partner, having fun and not always take things too seriously.

Q: What has happened that you never would have anticipated?

L&P: How hard you have to work to make it work; that our initial ideas for fabric organizers could play out into an entire line and a business; and that an entrepreneurial dream could really come true. We once worked in the fields of nursing and law and we have each raised two children during this start-up.

Q: At some point along the way you decided to focus only on fabric items and services. Could you talk about this?

L&P: When we started, we carried items from all sorts of local artists, that we loved. We had a wide range of vendors constantly approaching us. Yet we came to realize that we did not want to be a general gift store. In fact, we relate much more to form and function than the notion of gifts. This led us to carry only fabric-related products, provide home decor services and offer sewing workshops. Fabric got us into this business and now that we have specialized around it, the entire concept of Kreatelier is much better understood. By being "all things fabric" we feel that we stand out. Our tagline is "Fabric creations for life and home."

Q: How did you scale up production and what are your thoughts about the notion of an item being "handmade?"

L&P: From the beginning we realized that there was no way that we could design and create products while also taking care of sales and running the business. So we found a wonderful sewing company in Massachusetts and have

now worked with them for 6 years. We still believe we can call our product line "handmade" since we design each item and this company's 30 staff hand sew the products in our local region. We visit our production partner regularly and know the head seamstress person-



Co-owners Pernilla Frazier, left, and Line Deams

ally. This close communication and our respect for how they conduct their business is essential.

Q: What was your approach to setting up your store? What have you come to understand about how people buy?

L&P: We like a clean and organized look in our store and the products we sell. We move items around regularly and always have a sale corner. Our store has ample space so customers feel comfortable and can move around even with strollers. Items that stand out are also important. We also learn from customers — people consistently ask for smaller, less expensive items. Therefore we have expanded these types of products over the years. With an increasing number of customers being very conscious about how they spend their money, our focus on unique, practical, useful and environmentally friendly products is well received.

Q: As you have grown, so has the Hope Street retail community. What has it meant to be a part of this?

L&P: We feel tremendously connected to our neighborhood and merchants. We think Hope Street has more staying

power and less business churn because of its authentic neighborhood fabric. Being nestled in a residential enclave means that we see the same local people walking by day after day, saying "hi" and supporting us. The stores also have the benefit of being in the midst of organizations such as Festival Ballet, the library and anchors such as Seven Stars and the summertime Hope Street Farmers Market. In this way Hope Street is both a neighborhood and a destination. When it comes to our merchant mix, we are also uniquely fortunate. There is an unwritten agreement to not step on each other's toes and to give back and help the street's greater good. Just this year we are stepping into the role of leading the Hope Street Merchants Association. We look forward to furthering the huge momentum spurred by Asher Schofield's fabulous work. (Editor's note — Schofield is owner of the Frog & Toad gift store and former president of the association.)

Q: Your brand, its name and look is very distinctive. How did you land on the colors of red and lime green? What type of style and personality are you interested in projecting?

L&P: We began in an old Mill Building studio and needed to brighten up the space and at the same time create the brand. We both love bright colors and came up with the red and lime green combination. Our first step was to paint our furniture in those colors and immediately we knew it had something. These colors are happy, bold, modern, non-traditional and bright. We like the contrast. This feeling of contrast has gone on to influence lots of what we do. We have no fear of mixing colors and patterns and make this a hallmark of our products and interior design. Perhaps "no fear" is a good note to wrap up these five-year thoughts. Our future goals include expanding online, expanding our retail space, possibly opening a second store and getting our products carried by like-minded retailers in different regions. We'll need a good 5, 10 or 20 years more to figure all this out.

Claude Goldman:

“He did something about it.”

Claude Goldman, a member of the Summit Neighborhood Association’s board of directors and one of the group of residents who founded the organization in 1985, died Nov. 3. He was 71.

He “was always there from the beginning,” said Herman Brewster, the SNA’s first president and who served for 10 years. “Claude looked at problems holistically and came up with reasonable solutions,” Brewster said, adding that he was always “level-headed and thoughtful.”

Diane Goldman, Claude’s



Claude and Diane Goldman

wife of 47 years, and Brewster said the SNA was formed mainly in reaction to Miriam Hospital’s expansion plus the problem of motorists speeding through the neighborhood. Claude talked with residents and “did something about it,” she said. They went to meetings with the hospital and decided they needed an organization, Brewster said.

Claude, who had a doctorate in physics and was a senior programming analyst at Brown University for 36 years, “was our computer person,” Brewster said. He added that they met throughout the summer of 1985 and incorporated that August. They held cookouts and some block parties, “events bringing the neighborhood together,” Brewster said.

After a series of negotiations with the hospital, the relationship moved from adversarial to cooperative, Brewster said, but “it took a number of years.” During this time, Brewster said, “Claude’s door was always open. He was stable, consistent, reliable and dependable.”

By the time of Claude’s death, “he had been my neighbor for 30 years and we had been involved in many tasks together,” Brewster said. “It was just a

given. He was my neighbor.”

Dean Weinberg, current president of the SNA board, said, “I can commend Claude’s remarkable commitment to attending board meetings and events,

even as his health was failing. And he was always in good spirits and quick to volunteer.”

Mr. Goldman, who immigrated from France at age six, was the father of Andrew Goldman, who lives in Stow, Mass., with his wife, Debora, and Rachel Goldman, of Austin, Texas. He is also survived by his sis-

ter, Sylvia Grecco, of Kernersville, N.C. He was the son of the late Abraham and Odette (Neuman) Goldman, the stepson of the late Armin Goldstein and the brother of the late Lillian Goldman.

Claude enjoyed hiking, camping and bicycling despite being legally blind. He was stricken with Parkinson’s disease seven years ago but remained as active as possible. He was also a member of Temple Emanu-El.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Parkinson’s Disease Association of Rhode Island, to Temple Emanu-El or to Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island, Philip Hulitar Inpatient Center.

Bus *(continued from p. 1)*

On weekdays, service would operate with a combination of long and short trips. Short trips would operate between the Pawtucket Transit Center and Shaw’s on Warwick Avenue in Warwick. Long trips will operate the full length of the line between the airport and South Attleboro Station. By alternating long and short trips, service would be provided consistently every 15 minutes between the Pawtucket Transit Center and Warwick Avenue, and every 30 minutes along the outer ends of the route. Combined with route 20 (Elmwood Avenue), which would also be extended to the airport, service would be provided every 15 minutes between the airport and downtown.

As of August, bus route 49 (Camp Street) was changed to operate at the following times: Inbound from Miriam Hospital at 9:10 am, 3:10 pm and 3:56 pm. Outbound from Kennedy Plaza at 8:45 am and 3:31 pm. In the original COA, the Camp Street bus was scheduled to be eliminated because of low ridership, but now will remain in service. Commuters may also use the North Main Street or Hope Street lines.

In addition, route 92 (Rhode Island College/Federal Hill/East Side) has been redesigned, extending the line to the college via Atwells Avenue and Mount Pleasant Avenue. Service will no longer enter the Price Rite Lot but all trips will now serve East Side Marketplace.

Holiday Caroling

More than 50 people turned out on the evening of Dec. 22 to sing Christmas carols to their neighbors in Summit. Various residents came out onto their porches in the unseasonably warm night to join in the choral celebration.



Cranberries & Prizes at Third Annual Cookoff

A beautiful night Oct. 29 brought about 40 participants to SNA's third annual cook-off competition and neighborhood party.

Contrary to the last two years, there was no pouring rain or driving snow at the event, which was held in Stock Culinary Goods on Hope Street.

Cranberries were the unifying ingredient. There were seven entries judged by a panel of local experts, plus a People's Choice and Halloween costume awards voted on by participants. In addition,

there was wine tasting provided by Swan Liquors and olive-oil tasting by Olive del Mondo, also Hope Street merchants.

The judges, Jan Faust Dane of Stock, Salvatore Fuccillo of Olive del Mondo and Denise Kammerer of The Sandwich Hut on North Main Street, awarded three prizes: First, to Sandy Kohring for cranberry rollup cookies, a gift certificate to Stock; Second, to Gailia Rutan for cranberry swirl cake, a certificate to Olive del Mondo; Third, to Lizzi Wein-

berg for cranberry coffee cake, a certificate to Swan.

The People's Choice award, a gift certificate to Sandwich Hut, went to Anisa Raoof and her sons Dylan and Ethan Itkin for cranberry granola with yogurt. The best-costume award, a certificate to Seven Stars bakery, went to three-year-old Bonnie Arrigo, dressed as an owl.

SNA President Dean Weinberg thanked members Sarah and Anthony Arrigo for organizing the event. The evening ended with people lingering to finish off the competition offerings, sip wine or cider and browse the store's wares.

Plans are already afoot to determine next year's ingredient.



SNA Annual Meeting

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Weinberg, president; Kerry Kohring, vice president; Anneliese Greenier, treasurer; and Thomas Schmeling, secretary.

The proposed new members of the board are Vishal Jain, Michael McGlynn, Lee Pichette and Sharon Lee Waldman. There will be information sheets at the meeting with personal information about the candidates and their qualifications.

Please join us in sharing the commitment to improving the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Join SNA or renew your Membership!

I enclose my 2014 membership contribution of \$15 \$25 \$50 Other \$ _____

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Name 2 _____ email _____

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

My biggest neighborhood concerns are: _____

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