

SNA Yard Sale: good for the neighborhood and the planet

By Kathy Rourke

The SNA Annual Yard Sale is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 23, from 10AM to 2PM. We are hoping to replicate previous yard sale successes!

Sellers can set up on your own yard (with inclusion on our yard sale walking map), or centrally in the Citizens Bank parking lot. Merchants from the Hope Street Merchants Association may join us with sidewalk sales, and the Indie-Recycle truck may make an appearance on Hope Street.

We hope you will join us for this fun event! Check the SNA web site or Facebook page for further details as we get closer to the event.

And if you've got some stuff around the house that you're prepared to part with, sign up to be a seller, using the form below.

SNA Yard Sale Seller Registration

please print clearly

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I will sell from:

☐ Citizens Bank parking lot

OR

☐ My yard (shown on walking map)

Address _____

Please mail this form and check for \$10 to SNA, PO Box 41092, Providence, RI 02940

Thank you!



Summit News

SUMMER 2018

See upcoming events at www.SummitNeighbors.org

Meet candidates for State Rep. and Mayor

SNA plans to co-host summer candidate forums for the state representative and mayoral Democratic primary races. Dates are July 26th and August 9th, from 6:00-8:30 pm each evening at MLK Elementary, School, 35 Camp Street. Childcare will be provided. Save the dates and stay tuned at www.summitneighbors.org or the Summit Neighborhood Association Facebook page for more information.

Rebecca Kislak and Mark Tracy, the only announced candidates in House District 4, have provided profiles (see below).

District 3 State Senator Gayle Goldin and Ward 3 City Councilor Nirva Lafortune are also up for reelection, but are unopposed as of this writing.

Mayor Jorge Elorza will seek a second term, and Kobe Dennis and Robert DeRobbio plan to challenge him in the Democratic primary. Rep. John Lombardi is also considering a run. -- *Ethan Gyles*

Rebecca Kislak



I have spent my life advocating for progressive change. As a mother, a public service lawyer and a healthcare advocate, I have fought to advance economic, racial and reproductive justice in our state.

I am running for State Representative so I can bring my experience fighting for what matters to the State House. I will work for strong public schools, health care for all, including reproductive rights, and a local economy that works for everyone.

I first came to Providence to attend Brown University and I immediately felt at home. I returned to Providence, after attending law school at Georgetown, and helped start a medical-legal advocacy program for low-income residents of Worcester, Massachusetts and then used those same skills at Rhode Island Legal Services. Later, I worked for the Rhode Island Health Center Association, where I fought for accessible health care for all.

I've spent a lot of time working to make our community better. I am an active

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Mark Tracy



I'm Mark Tracy and I'm running to be your state representative because I believe in open, honest public service. I'm a progressive who has worked at the intersection of government and business for many years.

As your state rep, I will fight for social justice and economic security. I will stand up for Providence taxpayers and a budget that works for all of us. I will advocate for a full-time legislature because we have full-time problems. I will bring bold, innovative leadership to the State House.

I support:

- Protecting a woman's right to choose
- Universal health coverage
- Fixing our public schools and investing in universal pre-K
- Investing in green energy infrastructure
- Common sense gun safety
- Affordable housing + rent stabilization bill

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Hope St. Spring Block Party attracts 9,000

By Anna Highsmith

On June 2nd, for the tenth year, Hope Street was home to the Hope St Merchants' Spring Block Party. This family-friendly event saw an estimated 9000 visitors and neighbors enjoying sixteen food trucks, forty vendors and eleven performing acts, including the always-popular Extraordinary Rendition Band and the more-than-life-size puppets of Big Nazo. The street was closed to traffic for several blocks, allowing neighbors and visitors to stroll, eat, be entertained, and get to know each other and our local merchants and restaurants.



The event is put on by the Hope Street Merchants' Association and is made possible by sponsors including The Providence Tourism Council, Wingate, Washington Trust, The Croft School, Orange Theory Fitness, and East Side Monthly.

Local elected officials, including Mayor Jorge Elorza, city council member Nirva LaFortune and State Representative

Aaron Regunberg took the opportunity to visit with neighbors and constituents.

The Summit Neighborhood Association was there too, signing up new members and discussing the perennial question, "What exactly are the geographic boundaries of the Summit Neighborhood?" One answer, agreed on by at least several people, is that the neighborhood definitely includes the area of the Hope Street Block Party, but beyond that, if you feel like you live in Summit, you do.

The Hope Street Merchants Association, a group of 30 local businesses, puts on two popular and well-attended events per year, with the goal of "keeping Hope Street a vibrant community that continues to enjoy a close relationship with our neighbors," according to Susan Benzuly of Evolve Apothecary, current president of the HSMA. Their next event will be the Holiday Stroll, tentatively scheduled for early December.

Jane's Walk in North Burial Ground

By Erik Christiansen

To honor the work of urban activist Jane Jacobs, local residents participated in more than a dozen "Jane's Walks" around Providence during the weekend of May 5-6. For the fourth year in a row, one of these walks meandered through the North Burial Ground.

Rhode Island College professors Francis Leazes and Erik Christiansen, who is also an SNA Board member, led about 30 people on a tour that focused on the "creative capital" -- the centuries-long history of Providence as a hub of artistic activity. Along the way the group talked about how the cemetery landscape interacts with its urban surroundings.



Got bucks for da bubblah?

Translation for those new to our area:

SNA continues to seek community donations for a public drinking water fountain in Lippitt Park!

The park and adjacent Blackstone Boulevard path are among the most enjoyable and frequently used green spaces in the city.

Visit www.summitneighbors.org/ donate or mail a check made out to "Summit Neighborhood Association" with the note "bubbler" to Box 41092, Providence, RI 02940.



Thanks to all who participated in SMA's Annual Meeting this spring, and welcome to new board members Read Porter, Kathleen Rourke and Anna Highsmith! Thanks to departing board members Anne Holland, Lee Clasper-Torch and Emily Spitzman for your time and energy.

Continuing board members include Erik Christiansen (secretary), Anneliese

Greenier, Ethan Gyles (president), Sandra Lee, Britt Page (treasurer), John Pettinelli, Laura Ramsey, Tom Schmeling (vice president), Sharon Lee Waldman, and Dean Weinberg.

As always, we would love to have your participation as we work to do good things for the neighborhood. All are welcome at our monthly meetings, the third Monday of each month at 7pm at Summit Commons, 99 Hillside Avenue.

Help rebuild the Howell St. Playground

Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School PTO is excited to announce its campaign to rebuild the Howell Street playground! This playground is used by the students in our Kindergarten and pre-K classes as well as families in the neighborhood. Rebuilding the playground will be a wonderful investment in our community.

Our vision is to create an innovative play-space appropriate for our youngest community members that integrates nature, art, and music-based elements. Councilwoman Nirva LaFortune has helped us kick-off the campaign by generously allocating her Community Development Block Grant funds toward the playground rebuild—but we need more community support to make the playground a reality.

For more information and ways to help please contact Erica Lambert from the PTO (mlkpto@gmail.com)

Let's get better connected

If this printed newsletter is your only connection to our Summit Neighborhood Association, you could be missing out on more timely news -- and the ability to see our photos in color.

There are several ways you can get better connected with SNA:

- **www.SummitNeighbors.org**
SNA's website offers lots of neighborhood information and links to citywide resources.
- **<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SummitNeighborhood/>**
Join us on Facebook for news, pictures and a chance to put in your (always polite) comments
- **<http://www.sna.providence.ri.us/get-involved/join-the-email-list/>**
Meet your neighbors, stay informed, share views and resources on the Summit Email list
- **Join SNA!**
<http://www.sna.providence.ri.us/get-involved/become-a-member/>



Kids enjoy Kerry Kohring Park

by Ethan Gyles

SNA is very happy to announce that the Board of Park Commissioners has voted unanimously in favor of our proposal to rename the park at the corner of Summit Avenue and Ninth Street after the late Kerry Kohring. A new sign welcoming visitors to Kerry Kohring Park was installed in June, along with a new playhouse and fresh grass, all completed just in time for a celebration of Kerry's life.

For those who didn't know Kerry, a vice-president of SNA, more on his life can be found at www.summitneighbors.org/our-friend-kerry-kohring.

Kislak -- cont. from p.1

member of Temple Emanu-El, and I recently served as President of Rhode Island's chapter of the National Organization for Women. Last year, RI NOW helped pass legislation to take guns away from domestic violence offenders, and I was part of the team that won earned sick days for Rhode Island working families.

I look forward to talking this summer, and hope to earn your vote in the Democratic primary on Wednesday, September 12. You can learn more about me and my campaign at www.RebeccaKislak.com or call me at 401-400-2338.

Mark Tracy -- cont. from p.1

- Laws that support small, local business
- Pay For Success contracting

Addressing Providence's \$1 billion pension shortfall

I will make being your voice at the State House my full-time priority. I understand that it takes bringing people together from all different backgrounds to solve our problems. I'm not a typical politician and I think it's time to do things differently—which is what my campaign is all about. New ideas. Fresh approaches. Financial responsibility. Real solutions.

I'll be knocking on doors to hear your ideas and understand your concerns. Please feel free to contact me on my cell phone at 401-368-2636 or email me at mark@marktracy.com. I look forward to earning your vote on September 12!



Movie Nights Return to Lippitt Park

Last October, the Providence Children's Film Festival and the Summit Neighborhood Association presented a "Fright Night Lite" movie night in Lippitt Park, complete with free popcorn. Over 300 neighbors brought blankets and chairs to enjoy a series of short films that ranged from funny to spooky to heart-warming. Reeling (pun intended) from that success, movie nights return to Lippitt Park this summer!

Mark your calendars for two Wednesdays in late summer – August 1st and 22nd. The movie screen will be set up in Lippitt Park following the Farmer's Market, and then the film program will begin at sunset. The theme for the August 1 movie reel is "Magic Carpet Ride," with short films showcasing the world through animation and live-action, fiction and documentary. On August 22, the theme will be "Passionate Pursuits," featuring short films that demonstrate someone chasing their dreams, or training to win, or practicing to excel. Both nights feature films that are suitable for all ages, with the caveat that some subtitles may be included on the second night.

Join us under the stars at Lippitt Park to watch these unforgettable, family-friendly short films from around the world. The popcorn will be free and delicious, the neighbors friendly and jovial, and (hopefully) the weather warm and permitting!

Celebrating Earth Day at Summit Ave. Park

The Summit Neighborhood Association, Summit Neighborhood Community Garden, and Friends of Summit Avenue Park came together to host an Earth Day celebration and cleanup at Kerry Kohring Park on Saturday, April 28 as part of Mayor Elorza's 6th Annual Providence Earth Day Spring Cleaning.

The Earth Day event was made possible in part through a grant from the Partnership for Providence Parks and featured a combination of work and play for neighbors of all ages in our community. Summit Community Garden member Margie Smith held a storytime with booklets she created to educate young children about the life cycle of plants and how to grow and care for plants. (The booklets can be downloaded from the garden website at www.summitcommunitygarden.org).

Children also had the opportunity to paint plant pots, plant seeds and learn about the parts of a seed. In addition, neighbors and community garden members worked together to help clean up the park, distribute free seeds and spread compost among the garden beds. -- *Sophie O'Connell*

Yes, I'm joining Summit Neighborhood Association today!

Enclosed is my member contribution of: ☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other: \$_____

Name: (please print clearly) _____

Street Address: (required) _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ (day) (_____) _____ - _____ (evening)

Email: _____ ☐ Yes, I can distribute newsletters

Family Membership - list information about other adults in your household who wish to be members:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____ Email: _____

Please enclose a check made out to: **Summit Neighborhood Association**

MAIL TO: **SNA, P.O. Box 41092, Providence, RI 02940**

TODAY'S DATE ____ / ____ / ____