



SUMMIT NEWSLETTER

COUNCILOR INTRODUCTIONS, NEW OUTDOOR SPACES, & MORE

SAVE THE DATE!

SAVE THE DATE! SNA IN-PERSON ANNUAL MEETING MONDAY, 4/24 AT 7 PM AT MIRIAM HOSPITAL

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO STAY INFORMED ABOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD, MEET LOCAL POLITICIANS, AND GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY! SNACKS PROVIDED BY THE SANDWICH HUT.

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, & TWITTER @SNAPROV

Ward 3 City Councilor Sue Anderbois



A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW WARD 3 CITY COUNCILOR

By Sue Anderbois

Hello Summit Neighbors! I just wanted to introduce myself. I am Sue AnderBois, and I recently was sworn in as the new City Councilor for Ward 3. The new Providence City Council is just getting underway – and is the most diverse Council the city has seen. We are majority woman, majority-minority, span generations from Z to Boomer, and generally reflect the diversity of this great City. I am proud to serve on several committees including the Finance Committee, as Vice Chair of the City Property Committee, serve as a Parks Commissioner, and I recently sponsored the creation of a Special Committee on the Environment and Resiliency. I will be focused on many issues, including our housing crisis, economic inequality, supporting our local businesses, climate resiliency, improving our schools, improving North Main Street, and our city's finances – among many others!

The largest chunk of my work happening this spring is on the Finance Committee. Finance vets all of the Mayor's appointees to high-level positions, as well as to city boards and commissions. Starting in April, the Finance Committee will also thoroughly review and provide oversight on the City's next fiscal year budget (which goes into effect on July 1). Transparency and accessibility are important – the Finance Committee meets every Tuesday at 5:30, and meetings are available in person on the 3rd floor of City Hall and also via Zoom.

I will also be kicking off the Special Committee on Environment and Resiliency. Early on, the committee aims to codify elements of the City's Climate Justice Plan and will be partnering closely with other Councilors, the City's Sustainability Commission, the Racial and Environmental Justice Committee, and other members of our community to get a positive policy enacted to increase our resilience as a city.

I strongly believe that a good City Councilor is accessible to residents. We held our first community meeting in February and plan to schedule a series of additional ones throughout the year to provide plenty of opportunities for two-way communication.

You can find out when these are occurring by subscribing to my newsletter (sign up at SueAnderBois.com) or by following me on social media (<https://www.facebook.com/SueAnderBois> or <https://www.instagram.com/sueforward3pvd/>). In the meantime, please reach out to me anytime via email at AnderBois.Ward3@gmail.com.

NEW OUTDOOR MEETING SPACE COMING TO ROCHAMBEAU LIBRARY

By Aimee Fontaine, Library Systems Coordinator

The Rochambeau Library, with financial support from SNA and the Friends of Rochambeau, is actively developing the outdoor space behind the library building for programming and community use. As of March 2023, the space has been landscaped and the majority of outdoor furniture has been purchased. Additionally, we have added a Harvest Cycle compost bin at the library on Langham Road. We are thrilled to join the local compost community and encourage everyone to do the same! Sign-up to Compost at Rochambeau by following the link (<https://groundworkri.org/harvest-cycle-compost/>)

This outdoor space is a great addition to the community that allows for an expansion of library programming. We are excited to have such a beautiful addition to our library grounds and are hoping to replicate the space at each of the Community Libraries of Providence.

Community Libraries of Providence (CLPVD) is so grateful to SNA and the Friends of Rochambeau for their generous support of this outdoor classroom which, in addition to providing a welcoming gathering space for Rochambeau patrons, is also serving as a system-wide pilot program!

Future uses of the space will include children's gardening and family composting programs, and outdoor storytimes. The space will also be available to the community as a quiet place to read, play chess, or even meditate.

Once the spring weather arrives, work will begin to install five wooden benches, a beautiful entrance archway, and fun elements like raised garden benches and birdhouses. In April, local artist Nilton Cardenas will begin work on a 9' x 9.75' wall mural within the space and we anticipate a grand opening celebration in May 2023.

New space opening soon at the Rochambeau Library



JOIN THE SNA BOARD!

By Sharon Lee Waldman

Are you new to Summit and looking to meet people and get more involved in the community? Are you a long-time Summit resident with a great idea for improving the neighborhood? Do you have a passion project in mind that you'd like help and support bringing to life? Are you looking to connect with others to work on grass-roots projects?

If any of these sparks your interest, come join us on the Summit Neighborhood Association Board! Joining the Board is a great way to get to know the neighborhood and your neighbors, while volunteering on excellent projects like the Hope Street Mural, food pantry deliveries, tree planting, street improvements, park development, and so much more.

The first SNA annual meeting was held on October 24, 1985 at St Raymond's Church, where Officers and a Board of Directors were elected. The SNA began in response to Miriam Hospital's expansion in the 1980's, which included buying the Summit Avenue School and other houses to create new buildings and parking. Concerned about the changing nature of the area and Miriam Hospital's long-term plans, neighbors decided they would be able to better cooperatively voice their concerns as an organized group. Since then, SNA has worked with Miriam Hospital, as well as other corporations and city departments, to make sure resident interests are considered for developments and projects.

The SNA scope has expanded over the years to include: creating and distributing this free local newsletter, attending city zoning discussions, sponsoring nonpartisan electoral forums, commissioning murals, improving the Lippitt and Kerry Koehring Parks, including installing the new drinking fountain, planting trees and installing planter boxes on North Main Street, helping to create and supporting the community garden at Kerry Koehring Park, engaging in cooperative discussions with other Providence neighborhood associations, providing volunteer snow shoveling for our elderly and disabled neighbors, and running community events such as music festivals and fall Cook-Offs, just to name a few!

Board members commit to attending one meeting a month on the third Monday, helping deliver newsletters, and assisting with a project or event. We will be voting in officers and Board members at our Annual Meeting at Miriam Hospital on April 24th. For more information, contact us at snaprov@gmail.com. We would love to have you join us!

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD PANTRY SET TO OPEN

By Sharon Lee Waldman

When the Covid 19 pandemic started in Spring 2020, more of our neighbors, especially the elderly and health-compromised, needed extra food assistance. In order to help those who were unable to get to the market or couldn't afford market delivery, the Mount Hope Community Center partnered with Donver and Jackie Gardiner, who managed the Camp Street Community Ministries Food Pantry across the street, to deliver free groceries to those in need. SNA has been honored to help gather volunteers to assist with these deliveries.

Now Donver and Jackie are setting up their own new non-profit food pantry at 533 Branch Avenue in Providence. Named *Your Neighborhood Food Pantry*, it expects to open this March.

"Our original plan was to be located in Downtown Providence, but that did not work out. However, after further discussion and researching other pantries throughout Rhode Island, we found there to be some gaps where we could fill a need." Donver and Jackie said, "We have started a new pantry to fill in the gap. We want to do our part in making food accessible to our community. We are hoping our efforts will chip away at food insecurities which so many families in Rhode Island face. Our hope is to ease some of the difficult choices individuals and families have to make between purchasing food or paying for other household necessities such as rent, heating, medicine, etc."

According to the couple, "Currently we have a board of seven members, which raised our first \$10,000 by word of mouth to our friends and family in about a two-month period. We are in the process of applying for membership with The Rhode Island Community Food Bank. We will also seek funding through grants, donation, and fundraising events."

Donver says, "Our team is quite a diverse group. I ran a food pantry for over twenty-five years, and the rest of the team has also volunteered in a food pantry setting, serving in various positions. We are confident that, with our experience and all involved, we will serve our community professionally, providing our neighbors with a dignified experience, while they are seeking assistance."

For more information, to volunteer, or to donate non-perishable goods or financial support, contact them at ynfp22@gmail.com or via [facebook.com/yourneighborhoodfoodpantry](https://www.facebook.com/yourneighborhoodfoodpantry).



Community members are working together to launch the new community food bank on Branch Avenue

INTRODUCTION AND OUTREACH FOR THE PPD

By Lt. William Brown

I appreciate the Summit Neighborhood Association being welcoming and allowing me a chance to reach out to the neighborhood. I was moved to this District Lieutenant position in the fall of 2022. It took some time to meet the community stakeholders, but it's been fun and a different role than what I was used to in earlier positions.

For 2023, I would like to get some of my officers at future events and give you all a chance to meet the folks that serve your neighborhood. It's a big goal of mine to find a way to post foot and post bicycle officers across the neighborhood and the greater East Side. It's been an exciting time getting to work with your new Councilor Sue Anderbois.

In February, Providence Mayor Brett Smiley announced new leadership for the Police Department and appointed Oscar Perez as Providence Police Chief. Some community members may have interacted with him in the past, but he has been driven by respect for community policing and building partnerships in our communities.

I would encourage anyone that has even minor complaints and concerns to reach out to me; I try to be quite responsive even if it is something the police department cannot resolve. I have connections with other City agencies that may be able to help. Email is the best way to reach me: wbrown@providenceri.gov. The Police Department's East Side office is currently at 172 Cushing St. (corner of Cushing/Brook) and also across from the Brown Athletic complex.



SNA BOARD

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SUMMIT NEWSLETTER

Do you know a local unsung hero? Let us know

Named for the late Sheila Perlow (pictured on right), a long-time Summit Neighborhood Association board member and dedicated community volunteer, the Sheila B. Perlow Award recognizes someone in the neighborhood who has contributed behind the scenes in a significant way to the quality of life in our neighborhood.

*We are currently seeking nominations for the 2023 award, which will be presented at SNA's Annual Meeting this April. Please **e-mail** nominations to **SNAProv@gmail.com** by March 18th. Include the nominee's name and a few words about why you think they should be celebrated. Thank you!*



KEEP UP WITH YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

@SNAPROV



WWW.SNA.WILDAPRICOT.ORG

JOIN THE SNA TODAY!

Your membership makes you a voting member of the Summit Neighborhood Association for the coming year. Your contribution makes possible this newsletter and the other projects we undertake to help improve the quality of life in our neighborhood.

If you prefer, you may set up an account and pay electronically at <https://sna.wildapricot.org/>

Name (Please print) _____

Street Address _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

**We will not share your information with any other organization without your permission.*

YES! Sign me up for the new SNA e-newsletters.

Membership Type: Individual Household

I enclose my annual membership contribution of \$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$
Individual membership \$15 (or more). Family memberships \$25 (or more).

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

Other adult household members:

Name (print) _____ Email _____

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Name (print) _____ Email _____