



Summit News

What's happening in your neighborhood

September 2011

New Summit Bus Shelters

By Asher Schofield

Two years ago, the Hope Street Merchants Association (HSMA) applied for two new bus shelters for the street (the first already sits in front of the Baptist church). With the help of RIPTA and the Department of Arts Culture and Tourism, we created a Request For Proposal and sought funding. The Baptist church shelter was funded 80% by federal stimulus and 20% by community block grant (this secured by city councilman Kevin Jackson). The second shelter was funded 80% by federal stimulus and 20% by Miriam Hospital.

The HSMA evaluated and selected the design proposals; the first by Jonathan Harris, the second installed this month by Wright Deter. There is still a second phase on the new shelter's installation wherein two planters of wisteria will be bolted to each side of the shelter. It is a self-watering design, where rain water will cascade from the roof down the sides and into the planters.

This is a great example of federal stimulus funds in action. A lot of good people were put to work in the project; it supports mass/green transportation and bolsters our community by increasing commerce and raising property values.



It also shows the effectiveness of bringing grant money directly to the troops on the ground, rather than to bureaucratic offices.

We are so proud of how much this and the other developments have transformed and strengthened the community on and around Hope Street and look forward to many new challenges!

**SUMMIT
FOR SALE**
Saturday, Sept. 17
9 am - 2 pm
Rain Date Sept. 24

Stock up for Fall at the Summit Neighborhood Association's annual Community-wide Yard Sale on Saturday, September 17, 0 am - 2 pm. Over 20 of your neighbors will be offering all kinds of stuff they don't want anymore, but you just might need, at the locations shown above (addresses listed at right). It's a great opportunity to socialize and find new treasures. Rain date is Saturday, Sept. 24.

Sale Locations on Next Page

SUMMIT FOR SALE

Saturday, Sept. 17, 9 am - 2 pm

Rain Date Sept. 24

LOCATIONS

124 Hillside Avenue

182 Tenth Street

181 Tenth Street

167 Tenth Street

143 Tenth Street

91 Tenth Street

37 Sixth Street

153 Fourth Street

45 Lauriston Street

25 Lauriston Street

24 Creston Way

103 Dexterdales Road

117 Colonial Road

54 Colonial Road

136 Rochambeau Avenue

92 Dana Street

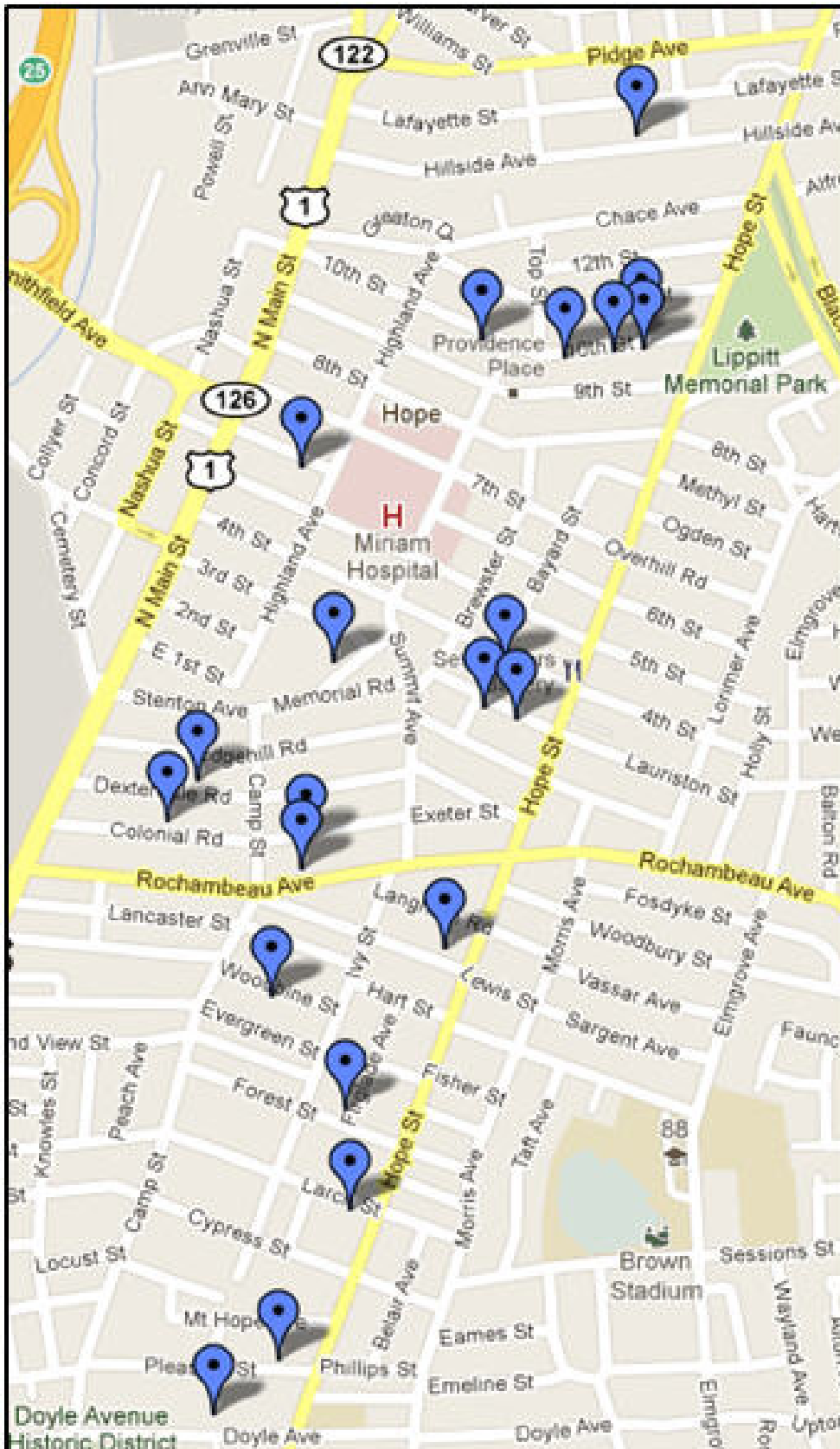
115 Woodbine Street

62 Forest Street

91 Larch Street

236 Pleasant Street

166 Doyle Avenue
(Paper Connection)



Ben's Business Spotlight:

Frog and Toad

By Ben Goulet

Over the last decade, Hope Street gift shop Frog and Toad has become a beloved spot for locals and tourists alike. Asher and Erin Schofield opened the store in 2001, highlighting a wild and wacky mix of selections, including animal-shaped bottle openers, journals, clothing, artwork, local music CD's, and more. The store expanded in 2010, taking over the space of an old realtor's office, and their shop grew to 1,200 square feet.

"My wife and I wanted to be doing our own thing," Asher says, recalling Frog and Toad's early days. "We wanted to create a special place for people to shop that would also provide us with a little more of an independent lifestyle."

Frog and Toad's décor brings joy to those who miss the classic, sprawling flea markets of the past. Hundreds, if not thousands, of items line the walls and tables. Choosing products for the store is Erin's specialty and her sharp eye for cool, one-of-a-kind pieces keep regulars coming back in search of the next great find. Again, Asher Schofield:

"We have a very unscientific method [of choosing items]," he says. "If we see a thing that makes us go 'Oh, cool' then [we know] that it belongs in the store. Erin is amazing at making all the disparate objects work together as a whole."



The shop's layout demands that one pay special attention and that, if scanned too quickly, must-have finds can be easily missed. The place has a magical vibe where time itself seems to slow to a comforting pace, where a half an hour can vanish in an instant. This unique quality is not insignificant, as the embrace of local business has begun to create a viable alternative to the multinational, big-box store. At Frog and Toad, the customer matters, because they could be a neighbor, a friend, or a visitor creating their first impression of Providence and the Summit neighborhood.

With his background in design, Asher and his team have created the store's own line of fun and creative Rhode Island-influenced clothes and posters. T-shirts that read "Cranston 4 Life" in spray paint and posters that say: "You Can Go to Hell, I'm Going to Pawtucket". His work pokes gentle fun at Rhode Island's idiosyncrasies. The store carries items from outside artists as well, such as Hilary Treadwell, who created the now-legendary "Don't Mess with Texas (Don't Mess with Rhode Island Either)" t-shirt.

Asher is very involved in the local community, both in the Summit neighborhood and around Providence as a whole. As the president of the Hope Street Merchant's Association, he has spearheaded a number of quality-of-life and beautification projects, such as the recent plantings on North Main Street and the new bus stop outside of CVS.

Make sure to visit and explore Frog and Toad soon. Your next perfect gift (for a friend, a family member or yourself) lies somewhere inside.

Enjoy the Hope Street Market Saturday, and Wednesday!

Hope Street Market season is well underway in Lippitt Park. It was a slightly wild opening - the usual rainstorms followed by blistering heat - mixed in with deciding to open a Wednesday market, the re-opening of that beautiful fountain, plus a wee bit of grass seeding to work around!

At this writing the heirloom tomatoes are ripening, the corn has arrived and we are all in love with cooking again now that we have such fresh provender to work with. There's a very full house on Saturday mornings with live music and The Bicycle Valets and the juice truck



and that Poor Man Sharpening all those knives and the Wednesday market is evolving into another fresh food fest and a lovely community event to boot.

On Saturdays folks are often shopping for the week ahead and perhaps a sustainable feast for Saturday night entertainment, but on Wednesdays, something slightly

different happens. The market is staying open until 7 p.m. so that you are able to shop after the work day ends (that will change to 6 p.m. once the days start getting shorter in September).

continued on back

Market Days at Lippitt Park

Continued from p. 3

Hewtin's Cart, the street child of Chez Pascal, has joined the Wednesday event, offering a dog or lively sandwich



featuring a local meat at a very affordable price. Immediate neighbors from India have set-up a splendid table of delicacies for omnivores and veggies both.

Here's an idea; bring a blanket, a cooler for your veggies and beverages and find a spot on the lawn to eat your supper and listen to members of the Extraordinary Rendition Band. They are arriving as soon as humanly possible (around 6) on Wednesdays and inviting any of you who care to join them to jump in and play, while we listen, eat and applaud.

Summit Crime Watch Needs YOU!

The Crime Watch of Summit Neighborhood needs volunteers to serve as Block Captains. Block Captains are friendly ambassadors willing to hold a meeting or two and help get their street organized. The role requires a little work up front, but the shared concern of neighbors looking out for one another on a regular basis eases the overall requirement of the position.

The CRWSN provides support to Block Captains by helping create fliers for meetings, providing educational materials, and by placing a notice on the CRWSN website. We can even provide you with the names of people on your block who have expressed interest in helping.

If you are interested in being a Block Captain and need assistance in setting up your first block meeting, please contact Monica Anderson by calling (401) 793 4040. The Block Captain program is the critical next step to help make Summit a safer place to live.

Ten Reasons to Join (or renew) your SNA Membership!

Check out what we did last year -- and let us know what you'd like to help us do this year:

1. We sponsored two election campaign debates.
2. We worked on Miriam's Master Plan so that the interests of the neighbors would be heard.
3. We supported the formation of the new North Main Street Merchant Association.
4. We successfully negotiated with the City and State to have the one-way block of Smithfield Avenue restored to a two-way street.
5. We collaborated with Parents For Lippitt Park in constructing a new children's play-scape.
6. We sponsored a neighborhood-wide yard sale.
7. We held the first annual Summit Music Festival in Lippitt Park, enjoyed by hundreds of local residents.
8. This spring, water will flow again in the Lippitt Park fountain thanks to several years of work and advocacy by SNA board members.
9. Let's not forget the listserv that so many of you use on a daily basis, which is moderated and funded by the SNA: Summit@sna.providence.ri.us
10. We put out four newsletters each year, and this year we created a new web site and blog to keep you all apprised of the SNA's activities:

www.SummitNeighbors.org

I enclose my 2011 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