



Summit News

What's happening in your neighborhood

April 2009

In this Summit News

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Coming Events

Wednesday May 13th at 6PM
SNA Spring Wine Tasting
at Chez Pascal

Sunday June 28th
2nd Annual SNA Summer
Park Party

*Details on the events above will be
announced on www.SummitNeighbors.org and the ListServ*

Board Meetings

May 18th at 7PM
at Summit Commons

June 15 at 7PM
at Rochambeau Library

Annual Meeting Elects New Board Members

At our annual meeting on February 23, about 60 neighbors met at Summit Commons on Hillside Avenue. Several Special guests attended including Senator Rhoda Perry and City Councilman Kevin Jackson (who led one of the breakout sessions). Monica Anderson from Miriam Hospital and Tom Lavallee of Radius Management attended. Lt. David Schiavulli from the District 8 community police station with a local detective provided an update and fielded questions. Nanda Head and Dixie Carroll of the newly revitalized and energetic Hope St. Merchants Association presented the many plans for Hope St. Other presenters included

(continued inside)

New Sewers Coming to Summit

...and with them repaved streets



Just when the permanent patches are being installed due to the waterpipe replacements, we have learned that another infrastructure improvement project is coming to Summit.

For this project, many streets in the Summit area will be torn-up and then re-paved "curb to curb". However, we need to be patient as this won't happen until 2011.

This time, its not the water coming in; but the water (and everything with it) going out. Our sewers include stormwater run-off; the existing structure handles both sewer and stormwater, allowing normal rainfall to flow into the Seekonk and Moshassuck rivers. But when there is heavy rainfall, sewer and stormwater combine and flow into the bay.

This project will construct seperate storm sewers on most Summit streets (the chart above is a partial display. Full charts are available from the Narragansett Bay Commission's Public Affairs Office at 461-8848 x377 or email NBCPR@NARRABAY.COM).

On March 23, representatives from the NBC presented the project to Summit neighbors at the Rochambeau Library. Joe Pratt of the Louis Berger Group (the CSO program manager) presented the details. There will be two phases affecting Summit. Area 037 shown above will occur Feb 2011--2013. A smaller section along Hope Street, and streets 9-12 from Summit to Hope will occur 2012-2014.

More improvements

...with associated disruptions

In a February 17, 2009 proposal filed with the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission, National Grid listed specific projects related to its Accelerated [natural gas] Pipe Replacement program. This proposal is for fiscal year beginning April 1, 2009 (FY 2010).

This is important for Summit for two reasons: prior gas company pipe replacements several years ago resulted in poor pavement. Also, as a result of National Grid relocating meters to the exterior/front or residences without owner consultation/ permission in the West End, pending state (H-5088 and S-0107) and city legislation offers consumer protections for residents in historical district

Only project #0403 below is in an historical district.

Services		Year of	# of
Project #	Location	Installation	Affected
0399	Woodbine Ivy St	1899	2
0403	Colonial Rd #18 Summit	1923	3
0400	Larch Ivy St	1899	2
0454	10th and Highland from N. Main to Ninth	1896	21
0389	Lincoln Blackstone to Butler Hospital	1877	4



Trees

Trees seem to be sprouting all over the neighborhood; but, there's room for more. Groups of neighbors who will agree to plant and care for street trees may qualify for free trees. The Providence Neighborhood Planting Program, run by Summit neighbors Groundwork Providence, provides a variety of species at no cost to property owners. Check www.pnpp.org for more information.

Other Tree News

The executive director of Groundwork Providence, Clint Lank recently and suddenly passed away. He will be greatly missed.

In his honor, the Friends of the Mohassuck planted a White Pine during their recent, annual tree planting effort at Collyer Park.

Annual Meeting and New Board Members Con't

Board Member Jesse Polhemus who leads the save the Henry Boen Anthony Fountain project, Board member Tom Schmeling who provided an update regarding Nathan Bishop Middle School, and SNA Events Coordinator Stephanie Lambert French. Jonathan Howard, the former President of SNA presented an update on the North Main Street project, of which he is project leader. Jon is leaving the board and he will be greatly missed although he promised to keep contributing.

Other departing board members include Amy Harrington, Lucy Ann Lepreau, and Meredith Costa.

Joining the Board are Melisa Grisi of 10th St., Sheila Perlow, and George Schietinger of 4th St. George is a returning board member and was President of SNA several years ago. Welcome!

Henry Bowen Anthony Fountain

The Save the Fountain Committee met on March 9 with other East Side organizations and had a very productive discussion about this shared treasure.

Superintendent of Parks, Bob McMahon presented an excellent comprehensive (and encouraging) update at the April 20 SNA Board Meeting.

More information is available at <http://savethefountain.blogspot.com>

Other Lippitt Park News

The Hope St. Farmers' Market is moving to Lippitt Park

The market will be open June 6 to November 28, 2009 on Saturdays 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

The Hope St. Farmers Market is organized by Farm Fresh RI

Community Garden Survey

Marie-Laure Couët of the Center for Environmental Studies at Brown University sent 250 questionnaires to residents within 1 mile of Lippitt Park. 45 questionnaires were returned completed. Of those, 80% of respondents support a Parks Department-built community garden in Lippitt Park Those that do not support it felt Lippitt Park already has enough activities. Alternate suggested locations: Summit & 9th Street Park, Butler Hospital Swan Point Area, and high-density neighborhoods like University Heights.

North Main Street News

also: www.northmain.wordpress.com.

Smithfield Avenue Update

Francisco Lovera of the state Department of Transportation has informed Jon Howard, project leader of the North Main Street Committee that the DOT engineer has completed feasibility study of making the Smithfield Ave intersection two-way and that the finding is favorable. It was anticipated that the DOT brought this favorable recommendation to the State Traffic Commission hearing held on April 7. A peculiar twist has emerged, however. DOT now tells us that the city, not the state, owns the portion of Smithfield between No. Main and Nashua (that is, the block between Blockbuster and Brooks). In other words, DOT can change the traffic light and reconfigure the turn lanes on North Main, but they can't actually designate this stretch of Smithfield two way or make other physical changes. (Even though they have included a multi-million reconstruction of Smithfield from Rt 95 to Nashua St in their stimulus package). After two years of inquiry and reported research by DOT, this is the first time this has come to light. Councilman Kevin Jackson researched this and found that this was never raised as an issue in all the discussion of this change (dating back since at least 2002).

Rep. Fox's staff conveyed our request to DOT and Councilman Jackson is pursuing the necessary city action to pursue the inclusion of this change in the city's budgeting and planning for highway projects.

Consultant Needed

The Summit Neighborhood Association, in collaboration with the Mt. Hope Neighborhood Association, and others is seeking professional project management for our North Main Street Project

The consultant will try to develop plans to stimulate investments for areas of interest such as the underutilized and vacant buildings, on North Main street and the 'Tar Hill' site at the corner of Ninth street and North Main street

This is an important collaborative project and we are looking forward to continued momentum. Additional information about the project and RFP details may be found at www.northmain.wordpress.com.

Grand Opening on North Main Street

Please join the North Main Street Project for an advance tour of the newly renovated Home & Hospice Care of Rhode Island facility at 1085 North Main Street on Tuesday, May 26 at 7:00 pm. Our preview will provide an inside look at one of Rhode Island's few and perhaps only LEED-certified building rehabs, with the architect, builder and client all on hand to share their experiences. Our thanks to Executive Director Diana Franchitto for this great opportunity.

Home & Hospice Care provides compassionate end-of-life care for more Than 400 terminally ill people and their families at any one time. HHCRI nurses visit more than 200 of these families at their homes and a slightly smaller number at nursing homes around our state. They currently can care for up to 10 patients at their current home on George Street in Pawtucket.

The new center will provide peaceful private rooms for 24 patients as well as showers, dining areas, quiet spaces and rest areas, so that families will be comfortable spending extended time at the facility.

This project fulfills three key goals of the North Main Street Project. First, it adds an important new service to our area and strengthen's the Summit neighborhood's claim to be a neighborhood for every stage of life. It restores and re-activates what has been dead space for many years. And, by recycling an old building into a LEED- certified facility, it models the neighborhood's environmentally progressive vision for North Main

There will also be a general grandopening on May 31 from 2-4.

The Summit Listserv

Do you wonder what your neighbors are talking about? Are you looking for some advice about a mechanic/electrician/plumber/dentist from someone down the street (who you don't have an opportunity to talk to)? Join the Summit Listserv where these and other bits of neighborhood information and opinion are shared! It's very simple:

1. go to <http://www.summitneighbors.org/>
2. Click on "mailing list".
3. Sign-up and share information with nearly 200 Summit neighbors!

Yes! I want to belong to the Summit Neighborhood Association in 2009!

I enclose my 2009 member contribution of: ___\$15 ___\$25 ___\$50 ___Other: \$_____

Name (please print): _____ E-mail: _____

Name 2: (in same household) _____ E-mail: _____

Street address: _____

Daytime Telephone: _____ Evening phone: _____

I can help: deliver newsletters make phone calls canvas my street help in other ways

I am most concerned about: _____

Please enclose a check made out to: Summit Neighborhood Association

Mail to: SNA, PO Box 41092, Providence, RI 02940

The Summit Neighborhood Association's 18th Annual

YARD SALE

Saturday, May 9 at 9:00AM-2:00PM

Rain Date - Saturday, May 16th

Church of the Redeemer, 655 Hope Street

Donations Needed

Household Goods and Knick Knacks • Furniture • Clothing • Working Appliances Electronics Books, CD, Tapes and DVDs Sports & Exercise Equipment • Bicycles

Due to new consumer protection laws, we cannot accept painted items used by children under the age of 12 or children's books before 1985 or metal jewelry.

No computer equipment, please

**Drop off donations the church at front door
Thursday & Friday, May 7th & 8th, 6pm to 8pm
On Friday a truck crew can pick up larger items from
5:30 to 8:00 pm--helpers needed
Call George at 941-3388**

It will help if you mark a price on items with stickers or tape. Thanks!

Volunteers Needed

Thursday & Friday, May 7th & 8th, 6pm to 8pm
to help sort and price items at the church

Friday May
Pick up items 5:30-8:00 (Call George at 941-3388)

Saturday May 9
Set-up 7:00 AM
Sales: hours between 9AM-2PM
Clean-up: 2-3:30

**For more information or to volunteer,
call Connie at 726-7123**

Summit News

Summit News is the newsletter of the Summit Neighborhood Association. Summit News is published three times each year and distributed free of charge to households in the Summit area.

Contributors: All the hard working volunteers in various organizations that share information affecting the Summit Neighborhood. Editor: James Kelley

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SNA Board of Directors 2009

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