

YARD SALE Sat. Sept. 21!

Now is the time to get rid of all your unwanted stuff and make some money in the process. And if you're a musician, it's an opportunity to show your stuff.

Join the SNA annual yard sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21 (rain date Sept. 28) on the lawn of the Church of the Redeemer, 655 Hope St.

Last year there were about 30 tables and enough buyers looking for items they didn't know they needed to make many mutually satisfactory deals.

It's not just an opportunity to exchange goods and cash, it's also a fun community event.

New this year: we're seeking musical entertainment to help create a convivial atmosphere. We can't pay you more than our gratitude, so come to market yourself or try out new material in front of a friendly audience. If you're interested, email sna.yardsale@gmail.com with a brief description, the length of set you'd like and the time you're available to play. BYOA(mplification).

Sellers pay \$15 for spots for their own tables, or \$20 for SNA-provided ones, and keep all sale proceeds.

Reserve a table by using the form below or go to <http://www.sna.providence.ri.us> and click on "Upcoming Events." Read down to the yard sale item and click on "RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW."

Please indicate on either form if you want to reserve an SNA table and be sure to provide an email address so we can let you know if one is available.

Whichever form you use, mail a \$15 check to the Summit Neighborhood Association, Box 41092, Providence, RI 02940 by Sept. 14. If you are renting an SNA table, the additional \$5 will be collected at the yard sale.

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 : I want a space at the 2013 SNA yard sale :
 : Name _____ :
 : Address _____ :
 : Phone _____ :
 : Email _____ :
 : Please enclose check for \$15. :
 : Do you want a table? Yes___ No___ :
 : Mail to Summit Neighborhood Association, :
 : Box 41092, Providence, RI 02940 :
 : :



Summit News

SEPTEMBER 2013

www.SummitNeighbors.org



Summit Music Festival: Dancing, Food & Lots of Fun!

*Written and photographed by
SNA Contributor Anthony Arrigo*

Bright sunshine, mobs of dancing people, faerie and bee costumes, hula hoops, bubbles, graffiti art, rows of vendors, lines at food trucks five people deep, the mayor, a half-century anniversary party, and, oh yeah, six straight hours of great music, all of which marked this year's Summit Music Festival Aug. 24 in Lippitt Park as the best one yet in its four-year tenure.

The Extraordinary Rendition Band officially kicked off the day with an animated "When the Saints Go Marching In" procession from the Hope Street Farmer's Market to the festival's main stage. They would come back later for a

full set on the grass in front of the stage. Local band Roz Raskin and the Rice Cakes then treated the crowd to a preview of the kind of musical day it was going to be with their keyboard-led, hip-shaking alt-rock that had the neighborhood streaming into the park.

Local Singer Captivates

Fifteen-year-old Emeline Easton, of Providence, followed, and although it was just her with an acoustic guitar on the large stage, she captivated the audience with her strong-voiced Joni Mitchell-like original songs and singer-songwriter covers. A mark of things to come for young Easton, she transfixed the outdoor crowd with singing that evoked the intimacy of a Soho coffee

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Hope St. Adds Commercial Recycling

by Kerry Kohring, SNA Contributor

Recycling by businesses is taking hold in Providence and the Hope Street Merchants Association is leading the way.

Although city residents have been separating their trash and reusable material for quite some time for pickup by designated trucks, businesses have had to make their own arrangements. Now, however, that is changing.



Above, Mayor Angel Taveras inaugurates commercial recycling on Hope Street. Below, Hope Street Kreatelier owners Pernilla Frazier, left, and Line Daems roll out a "Big Green Can for Business."



The merchants along Hope Street approached the city's Office of Sustainability – created by Mayor Angel Taveras and run by Director Sheila Dormody – to formulate a system of participation in the recycling program. In a pilot project, the same type of trucks that collect residential recycling sweep along Hope Street on Monday mornings to rescue what would have gone

Survey Shows Strong Support for Summit Ave. Park/Garden Renovation

The SNA is now seeking funds to cover the neighborhood's share of developing garden areas in the "Tot Lot" public park at the corner of Ninth Street and Summit Avenue since a public-opinion survey demonstrated widespread community support.

The poll, which was posted on the SNA web site from June 13 to July 12, was conducted in collaboration with the City of Providence Parks Department and was related to a proposed renovation of the park.

The renovation plan, developed by landscape architect Megan Gardner of Gardner+Gerrish Landscape Architects of Providence, calls for a major overhaul of the dated park with upgrades that include shade sails, benches, tables, trees, additional swings, a trike path, toddler-friendly play structures, and more. However, some neighbors were concerned about the inclusion of a garden in the park, and so the survey was commissioned to gauge the overall community response to such an addition.

The survey shows 80.8 percent of the 177 respondents "in favor of the renovation project as proposed," which includes garden plots. Conversely, 13.0 percent were "in favor of the renovation project but without a community garden," and 6.2 percent were "not in favor of this renovation project" at all.

In addition to the favorable response, 71 people indicated an interest in having a garden plot, which is already more than the number of spaces available.

into business trash cans.

It's part of the contract with Waste Management Inc., said Dormody, to provide pickup service "without further cost to the city." The businesses are already on residential routes, so they started using "The Big Green Can for Business," she said, adding that 200 city merchants can be serviced before the contract could be renegotiated.

Some of the merchants who aren't open on Sundays "partner with their neighbors" to get the big plastic cans out to the street, said Asher Schofield, the owner of gift shop Frog & Toad as well as the president of the business association. He said that the effort has been "99

A final decision on the project will be made by the Parks Department headed by Bob McMahon. He has said that the total cost is estimated at \$60,000 and the neighborhood will be expected to raise about one-quarter of that, or about \$15,000, to demonstrate local commitment.

The SNA already has \$5,000 of its own funds dedicated to the project and is working on a grant application for up to \$12,500 from Miriam Hospital.

At the request of community members, the poll also sought to gauge how many of the respondents use the park and how the renovations might change their future usage. According to the survey report, "74 percent of respondents indicated that they use the park at least occasionally with the highest response being 'frequent' users. However, many respondents who don't currently use the park indicated they would use the park more often after the renovation. In fact, 41.2 percent of all respondents said they would use the park 'much more often,' while only 11.9 percent of respondents indicated they would use the park less often or not at all after the renovation."

The survey in its entirety, including all of the comments and suggested changes from respondents opposed to the plan as well as those in favor of it, are included on the SNA web site <http://www.sna.providence.ri.us> and clicking on SNA Tot Lot Survey Results [PDF] in the story about the park renovations..

percent successful for a pilot program" but that they're "still getting some of the kinks out."

Schofield said that about 20 of the 40 to 45 businesses on the commercial section of the street are participating, as are the Jewish Alliance, Highland Court and the YMCA. He cited the effect of being in a "vital neighborhood" and added, "We're truckin' right along," pointing out that the East Side has about 40 percent participation in residential recycling whereas the city as a whole has only about 15 percent.

Schofield said much of the credit is due to a "progressive mayor" who formed

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Music Festival (continued from p. 1)

shop. In a tender moment at the conclusion of her first tune, the resounding roar that leapt from the crowd took Easton aback and left her giggling humbly as she soaked in the cheers.

Nationally known, Brooklyn-based, Marco Benevento soon got the listen-



ers back on their feet. Identifiable by his melding of samples, real-time loops and ragtime-sounding upright piano, Benevento's stage setup spans decades of technology with his Mac laptop, guitar pedals and electronic keyboard sitting atop a truncated 1920s Gibbs piano originally made for entertaining on train cars.

A strong contingent of 20- and 30-somethings who came out just to see Benevento's set were quickly up in front, digging every sample and syncopated minor chord. Likely unaware of his signature "TigerFace," however, the stage was swarmed with giddy, cell phone-wielding, middle-aged parents



when Benevento took the giant fuzzy tiger face down off the side of the piano and onto his head during an extended jam in which each member donned the costume piece, eliciting laughs from the crowd and lots of bobbing heads lost in

the music of the funky ensemble. Benevento finished up the set with his catchy "Limbs of a Pine" (the tiger head prop also appears in the music video on YouTube) and a song titled simply "RISD," which was, according to him, written during a sound check at a Rhode Island School of Design gig and "just stuck, because it works."

New Orleans Headliners

The Sugar Honey Iced Tea gave the crowd a short breather with their bluegrass-styled harmonies and instrumentation while the headlining act, The Stooges Brass Band, from New Orleans, was getting set to take the stage. Once again people were up and dancing as the Stooges' brand of traditional New Orleans brass music infused with humor and rock and hip-hop infected grooves moved even the most genteel East Siders in attendance. The Stooges' single "Wind It Up" and a cover of the Jackson 5's "I Want You Back" highlighted an energetic set that continued right up until the city Parks Department literally pulled the plug on the power at 6:25 p.m.

Food, Beer, Body Painting, Too

But music wasn't the only thing happening. In addition to the craft ven-



dors and food trucks that you'll find at nearly every event in Providence, the Trinity Brewhouse ran a beer garden that was shoulder-to-shoulder with happy revelers all day long. There were activity tables for children, as well as a body-painting artist. The Avenue Concept, a nonprofit organization that fosters public art opportunities, set up an art wall for anyone to use, an attraction so popular with kids and parents alike that the paint ran out.

And to top it all off, The Sandwich Hut had a tent set up for their 50th anniversary party. Dean Weinberg, president



of the Summit Neighborhood Association, arranged for a surprise appearance by Mayor Angel Taveras to give the res-

taurant an official commemorative citation in recognition of five decades of business and community service on the East Side.

It was a great day in the park, and the only question left now for the SNA is how they're going to top it next year.

“Hope Street Is D-O-N-E!”

Editor’s note – The Narragansett Bay Commission has been digging up the Summit Neighborhood since 2011 as part of the Combined Sewer Overflow Project to clean up the water in the Bay. Here is an update provided by Jamie Samons of NBC.

Hope Street is D-O-N-E. There will be some minor punch-list items (We will be replacing a tree at 914 Hope in October) but the lion’s share of the work is done.

North Main Street reconstruction (new concrete base, paving and sidewalks) will begin in the next couple of weeks. Just like on Hope Street, that means that sections of NMS will have jersey barriers for a couple of weeks (done in stages) with traffic down to one lane in the barrier areas. Paving is scheduled to be completed by the end of September. We have also petitioned the City and the Department of Transportation to make Smithfield Avenue a two-way street, at the request of the SNA and the NMS Merchants. The Physical Alteration Permit has been approved by DOT, and now the request is with the City. Fingers crossed.

The final two projects in the Summit area are north and south of Miriam Hospital, respectively. Just like on



Hope and the side streets, this means new water lines, gas lines and storm drains. The work from Fifth to Groaton began earlier this year. New pipes have been installed in Groaton, Tenth and Fifth with work currently in Sixth and Ninth. Next up are Seventh and Eighth from NMS to Highland, then construction will likely stop for the winter.

Project Completion Set for 2014

In 2014, we’ll finish with Seventh and Eighth from Highland to Summit, Summit from Fifth to Seventh, Sixth from Summit to Brewster and Brewster from Fifth to Sixth. All of this work, of course, is very closely coordinated with The Miriam.

The project from Colonial to Fourth is just underway. Providence Water is re-

placing water lines and over the next few weeks our contractor will finish the main storm-drain and catch-basin installation in Colonial.

Next up are Stenton and Dexterdale, Second and Third. This project will also halt over the winter and resume in the spring, with completion in the fall of 2014.

And then . . .with any luck . . .we will no longer be disrupting the fine folks of the Summit Neighborhood AND the rivers and bay will be cleaner!

Recycling *(continued)*

the sustainability office “to help create private business to support the city,” calling it “a big-picture” kind of thing.

Hope Street merchants pay a \$50 start-up fee to join the program, unless they are members of the association and then participation is free, Schofield said. He said the group is “extremely proud to be the first in the city” and that the West Broadway Neighborhood Association is developing a similar system.

Dormody cited the local initiative in the Summit neighborhood, saying it’s “really impressive on Hope Street. They wanted it to happen and figured out a way to make it happen and they did.”

Join SNA or renew your Membership!

I enclose my 2013 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