Neighborhood restaurateur optimistic about the summer business and beyond

By Dan Murphy

Neighborhood restaurateur Babak Bina is looking forward to the summer, which, he expects, to bring an uptick in business for his and other restaurants throughout the city as more people are getting vaccinated.

“There’s a lot of optimism out there,” said Bina, who with his sister, Azita Bina-Seibel, owns and operates Bin 26 Enoteca on Charles Street, as well as jm Curley and its sister steakhouse, Bogie’s Place, in Downtown Crossing. About 90 percent of our staff has been vaccinated with one shot at least."

Management and staff are getting vaccinated at all of his locations, said Bina, to ensure that they, along with the restaurants’ patrons, remain safe.

“We feel within the next few weeks virtually every member of our staff, both in back and in front of house, will be vaccinated,” he said.

Despite all this progress, however, Bina said he and other restaurateurs are still eagerly awaiting the state and city would lift the restrictions on them.

“We’re expecting a good summer,” he said, “and we were hoping the city and state to lift further restrictions on them. Moreover, Bina applauds the city and state to lift the restrictions on them. Despite all this progress, however, Bina said he and other restaurateurs are still eagerly awaiting the state and city would lift the distance between tables, but that hasn’t occurred yet. But with the patio, especially at Bin 26, we are definitely predicting a much better summer than last year.”

Babak Bina is looking forward to about the summer business and beyond and beyond.

BHCA board asks city to look at affordable housing for 45 Temple Street

By Dan Murphy

The Beacon Hill Civic Association board of directors voted unanimously at its virtual May 10 meeting to send a letter to the city regarding how the developer of The Archer Residences, a luxury-condo complex at 45 Temple St., is fulfilling its affordable obligation for the project.

Rob Whitney, board chair, said a group of Hancock Street residents had recently sent a “petition” to Acting Mayor Kim Janey and City Councilors Kenzie Bok and Ed Flynn, as well as all of the at-large city councilors, regarding how developer, JDMD, LLC, is satisfying its Article 80 housing obligation with the city for large-scale development projects for The Archer, which was built in 2019 and comprises 64 one-, two-, and three-bedrooms and penthouse units.

Since the Archer development contains 126,663 square feet of residential space, JDMD is obligated to provide around 19,000 to small business.

In addition, attendees will include Stacy Sheehan, President of the Beacon Hill Business Association, Patricia Tully Executive Director of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, Frank Meade of the Beacon Village and representatives from The Advent School and Park Street School. All will be on hand for a great day at 6pm via Zoom. Call the thank you for your support.

Charles Street Supply to host Spring Eternal kick off event

Special to the Times

Beacon Hill's first annual neighborhood Spring Eternal event schedule to start on Saturday May 22 and designed to support small business is pleased to announce that Darrell Byers, CEO of Interise will be joining Boston City Councilor, Kenzie Bok and State Representative Jay Livingstone to help kick off the neighborhood's salute to small business.

In addition, attendees will include Stacy Sheehan, President of the Beacon Hill Business Association, Patricia Tully Executive Director of the Beacon Hill Civic Association, Frank Meade of the Beacon Village and representatives from The Advent School and Park Street School. All will be on hand for a great day at 6pm via Zoom. Call the thank you for your support.

GRONK IS BACK, WITH GIFTS

Return to "We're Expecting a Good Summer," he said, "and we were hoping the state and city would lift the distance between tables, but that hasn't occurred yet. But with the patio, especially at Bin 26, we are definitely predicting a much better summer than last year."

Moreover, Bina applauds the city's Temporary Outdoor Dining Program, which has allowed Boston restaurants, like Bin 26, to use public sidewalks and parking spaces for additional outdoor dining space during the pandemic.

"I'm ecstatic that we can now all see that patios create life in beautiful or quaint neighborhoods and operate Bin 26 Enoteca on Charles Street.

The outdoor dining area at Bin 26 Enoteca on Charles Street.

COURTESY OF BINA FAMILY HOSPITALITY

GRONK IS BACK, WITH GIFTS

RON GRONKOWSKI DONNING AN ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION POLO SHIRT, AS HE WAS BACK IN BOSTON ON FRIDAY, MAY 7, TO ANNOUNCE HIS $1.2 MILLION GIFT ON BEHALF OF THE GRONK NATION YOUTH FOUNDATION TO THE ESPLANADE ASSOCIATION FOR A COMPLETE RENOVATION OF THE CHARLESBANK PLAYGROUND. SEE PAGES 6 AND 7 FOR STORY AND MORE PHOTOS.

BEACON HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY CORNER

Reminder: Beacon Hill Civic Association Annual Meeting - Monday, May 17th

Our annual meeting for members will take place next Monday at 6pm via Zoom. Call the office at 627-227-1922 for more information. We will be emailing the joining instructions to those members who have responded on Friday, May 14th.

Joseph Bagley, City Archaeologist for the City of Boston, will be our keynote speaker. You won’t want to miss his fascinating presentation!

Celebrate Earth Day every day - Getting Started with Composting!

Years ago it would have been crazy to think about adding a recycling bin next to your trash, now it’s second nature! It’s time to add a new bin to your kitchen - the composting bin. Compost bins are for all of your organic waste - food scraps, coffee grounds, and more.

(BHCA Pg. 2)
GET THAT SHOT!

The idea of “vaccine hesitancy” is a relatively new phenomenon in our country. For those of the Baby Boom generation, there never was any question about getting shots for all kinds of childhood and adult communicable diseases.

Vaccines, along with antibiotics, were universally accepted as wonders of modern medicine that chiefly were responsible for the increase in longevity and decrease in misery both in the U.S. and in populations around the globe.

However, the rise of baseless conspiracy theories and adherence to senseless political conformity, all of which have been amplified by unscrupulous voices on social media (including Russian disinformation), have combined to increase vaccine hesitancy to record levels during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Polls show that vaccine hesitancy spans all ages, educational backgrounds, social strata, political affiliations, and employment status. In addition, the success of vaccines in bringing about the dramatic reduction in deaths from COVID-19 over the past two months has bred its own sense of complacency. With the pandemic on the decline and hospitalizations near zero in some places, the need to get vaccinated may seem less urgent than when the pandemic was at its peak.

However, there are three basic facts that make vaccine hesitancy a dangerous mindset both for individuals and for society at large. First and foremost, the coronavirus still is infecting thousands and killing hundreds of Americans each and every day. Though the numbers in the U.S. are far below the peak from January, they still are unacceptably high.

In addition, across the globe, the virus is wreaking havoc from India to Brazil, where a lack of vaccines is ensuring that record numbers of people are dying every day. Vaccination is the only means by which transmission of this dread disease can be halted.

Second, all of the coronavirus vaccines being administered in the U.S. are both incredibly effective and incredibly safe. Any suggestions otherwise are being spread by self-serving groups who have no concern for the health of Americans, individually and collectively.

Finally, if enough Americans fail to get the vaccine and the virus continues to spread and mutate, the new variants may evade the protection of the vaccines, thereby establishing a vicious cycle in which we always will be a step behind and which ultimately will affect the economy.

Too many of our fellow Americans have died, too many lives have been upended, and too many of our front-line workers have made incredible sacrifices, to allow the progress we have made in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic to take a step backwards because of baseless claims that underpin “vaccine hesitancy.”

The simple reality is this: Mass vaccination is the only means by which we can defeat the virus and return to a semblance of normalcy. Both the public and private sectors need to do whatever is necessary to ensure that each and every American receives a shot — and we urge all of our readers to do what they need to do in order to get the vaccine.

By Dr. Glenn Mollotte

Have something to look forward to every day. Work a job. Work in your apartment or house. Have an exercise or health outing of some kind. Clean out a closet. Read a book. Your goal may be to sit on the porch and watch nature or the traffic go by. We all need leisure days. If you have an idle day then plan to enjoy your time.

Work on your health, mental and physical. Occasionally do a mind check. Clean out any garbage between your ears. Your mind is where you spend your life. Do away with negativity. Get rid of any bad or resentful feelings. Forgive and love yourself and forgive others. God has forgiven you and it’s time you forgive yourself. Give peace and happiness every chance possible to exist in your head. Take care of yourself physically. A good friend who will be 100 soon says vegetables and fruit are her main dishes and every day she is physically active.

Put a few dollars aside as you can. You can’t take it with you when you die but you can enjoy it while you are alive. You also might be able to help others. You can build wealth if you will work and save a little every week or month. Get rich schemes and winning the lottery are like being hit by lightning, they seldom happen. Invest in your local bank’s Individual Retirement Account, a 401K and buy safe stock as you can. Also, pay into Social Security. You’ll need it eventually.

Work on your network of relationships. If you don’t have any friends then at least try to be a friend. If you go looking for friends you probably won’t find any. If you will be a friend then you’ll build some long-lasting relationships. Don’t give up on your family. Stay close to your relatives if you possibly can. Church and civic groups are good places to build relationships. We all need personal time but don’t spend your life totally alone.

Continue to work on you. You aren’t finished yet. You are still a work in progress. Too often we point to an accomplishment or the past as the summation of our lives. What we did yesterday may have been wonderful or not so wonderful but it’s in the past. Who are you today? Keep becoming a better person. We all are still growing and have room for growth.

Make your own decisions and make good ones. You and God can figure it out. Stay independent as long as possible. A friend of mine recently gave up her home and moved to a place where “others” thought she should be. I don’t think she is too happy with her new surroundings. Before you do what other people think you should do, make sure it’s what you want to do.

Glenn Mollotte is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

BhCA (from pg. 1)

Monday, May 17th at 6pm via Zoom
Topic: “Wells, Privies, and Diverse Histories: The Archaeology of Beacon Hill”.

* Email us at info@bhcivic.org or call the office (617-227-1922) for joining instructions or additional information on any of these meetings and events.

SEND US YOUR NEWS
The Times encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403: We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to deb@reverejournal.com.

THE BEACON HILL TIMES

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Please Recycle
West End cannabis dispensary now open for business

By John Lynds

After a soft opening a few weeks ago Boston’s latest adult use and medicinal cannabis dispensary, Ascend, officially cut the ribbon on its Friend Street location.

Located at 272 Friend St. Ascend aims to serve customers from the West End, Beacon Hill, the North End and Downtown.

Headed by former Suffolk County Sheriff Andrea Cabral, the Ascend team purchased the Friend Street building a few years back and transformed the aging vacant structure into the retail marijuana shop as well as Ascend’s corporate headquarters. The 15,000 sq. ft. building boasts multiple floors for its retail marijuana operation that gives customers ample space and reduces the number of people that have to wait outside. The Ascend team also spent millions of dollars renovating not only the inside but also the building’s facade. Like many other cannabis dispensaries there’s limited signage and opaque windows to shield interior activity from neighbors and pedestrians walking by.

“At Ascend, we believe in best-in-class digital tools that allow our customers to easily browse our menus, order online and conveniently pick-up their products in-store,” said Ascend in a statement. “All of our products are locally grown and meticulously tested so you can trust that you’re buying the cleanest and highest-quality cannabis.”

The Ascend company is a multi-state cannabis operation serving both medical patients and adult-use customers.

“We believe in offering a wide selection of products at the best prices with a consistent and convenient shopping experience,” the statement continues. “Our team of passionate associates are knowledgeable and can help guide you to the best products to suit your needs.”

Ascend is currently operating in Massachusetts, Illinois and New Jersey.

The dispensaries in Massachusetts include the flagship Friend Street location, which is now the largest dispensary on the East Coast. The group is planning a second location in Newton and a third store in New Bedford.

Ascend will also take part in the Last Prisoner Project and teamed up with the nonprofit through a donation match.

“While we understand and appreciate how fortunate we are to be in a position to help build and guide the future of modern cannabis, we are also acutely aware of the lives that have been destroyed, especially in minority communities, through decades of unjust laws and inequitable enforcement,” the statement continued. “There are currently over 40,000 nonviolent criminals sitting in prison for cannabis offenses. This costs taxpayers billions of dollars per year and has done immeasurable damage to the families of the incarcerated. We think this is unacceptable, which is why we have teamed up with the Last Prisoner Project.”

Ascend received Boston Zoning Board of Appeals approval back in 2019.

An adult-use marijuana facility proposed for Friend Street in Boston’s West End was approved by the (ZBA) and later its license from the state’s Cannabis Control Commission. The shop gained community and political support due to its location away from main thoroughfares like Causeway Street.

TEMPLE ST. (from pg. 1)

square feet of affordable housing per the city’s affordable housing policy, so the developer bought a former rooming house at 27-29 Hancock St., which comprises more than 12,000 square feet, to convert into affordable housing to satisfy this requirement. JMDM also has agreed to make a minimum contribution of $680,000 in three installments to the city’s affordable housing fund to compensate for the remaining 6,663 square feet of residential space.

Like the petition sent by some Hancock Street residents to city officials, the Civic Association board’s letter would request that JMDM not fulfill its affordable housing obligation at 27-29 Hancock St., adding, said Whitney, who was a member of the Civic Association’s Ad Hoc Committee on 45 Temple St., as well as a member of the city’s Impact Advisory Group for the project.

Additionally, the Civic Association board is requesting that the $195,000 JMDM has already donated to the city’s affordable housing fund, as well as the developer’s remaining balance of $485,000, be earmarked for the suggested renovations to the Hancock Street property, said Whitney.

In early April, Councilor Flynn also sponsored a meeting at the request of Hancock Street residents to discuss this matter.
City unveils ‘test fits’ for modernized West End Branch Library

By Dan Murphy

The city unveiled several “test fits” that envision a revitalized West End Branch of the Boston Public Library with a new affordable housing component during a virtual meeting on Tuesday, May 11.

The city’s Public Facilities Department, working in concert with the Boston Public Library and Boston-based Ann Beha Architects, is now wrapping up an approximately 12-month study to evaluate the existing conditions of the library branch that opened in the 1960s, and to plan for its future over the next half-century. The latest meeting was the second of several that the city intends to hold on the proposal, with the first taking place in January when the planning team solicited input from the public on programming for the site.

“This is really going to be a library for all ages,” said Philip Chen, principal and president of Ann Beha Architects, who, besides pointing to the current need for both a senior center and a youth center in the West End, added that space should continue to provide for the food pantry that currently operates out of the library in the new facility.

The library takes up one-third of the site, which, said Steve Gerrard, architect, is obscured by trees and “a bit hidden from the street.”

Regarding the existing building, Gerrard described its hexagonal reading room as “desirable” and said it’s something that could be incorporated into the new building design.

Besides updating and expanding the adult, teen and children’s reading areas, a new library would also include ample new community space, said Gerrard, including a new community room that could accommodate as many as 100 guests; a dedicated classroom for up to 20 people with space for the storage of food pantry supplies; and two small meeting rooms for four to six people each.

Outside the library, room for reading areas and teaching spaces for children would be incorporated into the landscape design, said Gerrard, and outdoor furniture (not shown in the drawings) would be placed throughout to encourage guests to spend time there.

Taylor Cain, director of the city’s Housing Innovation Lab, said the building design for the new library is still a ways off, and that the planning team is now exploring different options for the site regarding building heights and other variables.

Options the planning team is now exploring include: said Cain, to have separate entrances for it and the residences. Several neighbors expressed their concerns about potential impact of undertaking this project at a time when other major development projects are already proposed for the area, including Mass General Hospital’s expansion plans and the redevelopment of the Charles F. Hurley Building, as well as the long-awaited MBTA Red-Blue line connector project.

City Councilor Kenzie Bok said she and Rep. Jay Livingstone had made MGH aware of the “overlapping” proposed projects, but assured those in attendance that the Hurley Building redevelopment (as well as the Red-Blue line connector) is still “a bit off.” Additionally, Councilor Bok commended the planning team on working so effectively to balance the “needs and desires” of what she described as “the only public owned building in Beacon Hill.”

But she cautioned, “There are only so many uses we can look at on this site and have it really work, and have financing for it really work.”

Carissa Demore of Historic New England said she’s concerned that items in the collection of the nearby Otis House Museum could be damaged during construction and asked whether the project could get underway before 2023.

Maureen Anderson, a project manager with the city’s Public Facilities Department, said while none of timelines for the project “were set in stone,” it would likely be a two- to three-year process before construction could even begin, and that process is expected to take between 20 to 36 months to complete.

Meanwhile, the planning team is scheduled to submit its Final Report for the project next month, she said.

To learn more, visit https://www.bpl.org/west-end-project/.

Beacon Hill COVID update listed

By John Lyons

Last week Beacon Hill’s weekly COVID-19 positive test rate decreased for a third week in a row and fell to 1 percent after posting a 5.8 percent increase towards the end of April.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) last Friday, 1,878 residents were tested and 1 percent were positive—this was a 66 percent decrease from the 3 percent reported by the BPHC two Fridays ago.

Overall since the pandemic started 51,097 Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown residents have been tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 6.9 percent of those tested were COVID positive. This was the same percentage reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

Citywide, the weekly positive test rate decreased once again.

According to the BPHC, 20,721 residents were tested and 2.4 percent were COVID positive—this was a 31 percent decrease from the 3.5 percent positive test rate reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

The BPHC data released last Friday showed Beacon Hill, Back Bay, North End, West End and Downtown had an infection rate of 62.5 cases per 10,000 residents, 0.7 from the 62.1 cases per 10,000 residents reported two weeks ago.

An additional 25 residents became infected with the virus by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased less than one percent last week and went from 69,441 cases to 69,998 confirmed cases in a week. Four additional Boston residents died from the virus last week and there are now 1,374 total deaths in the city from COVID.
Boston Harbor
Fort Point

Boston

Ready for More

SEE BOSTON WITH NEW EYES AT ALLINCLUSIVEBOS.COM
Former New England Patriot Ron Gronkowski was back in Boston on Friday, May 7, to announce his $1.2 million gift on behalf of the Gronk Nation Youth Foundation to the Esplanade Association for a complete renovation of the Charlesbank Playground.

Gronkowski made the announcement flanked by Gov. Charlie Baker; Rep. Jay Livingstone; Sen. Sal DiDomenico; City Councilor Kenzie Bok; Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Kathleen Theoharides; Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Jim Montgomery; and Michael Nichols, executive director of the Esplanade Association, as well as Gordie Gronkowski, older brother of the tight end, now with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, among others.

Besides paying for the playground renovations, the Gronk

The City of Boston can help you access your veteran benefits.

You've served us. Now it's our turn to serve you. For more information about resources you may qualify for, visit www.boston.gov/benefits or call 311.

City of Boston #BOSCanHelp BOS:311
Gronk (from pg. 6)

Nation Youth Foundation’s gift to the Esplanade Association will also create a 10-year maintenance fund for the facility.

Gov. Baker called Ron Gronkowski “a big man with a big heart” and described his gift to the Esplanade Association “a more public example of the things he does all the time on behalf of children.”

Gov. Baker added, “It’s great to see you back in Boston again and maybe we’ll see you again in February [at the Super Bowl].”

Nichols said Gronkowski had reached out to the Esplanade Association via Sarah Hurley, whom he described as a “mutual friend,” and added that Gronkowski would also be involved in the design phase of the project, which is set to begin this week.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico and Rep. Jay Livingstone have also filed legislation to rename the playground “Gronk Playground” upon completion of the project, which is expected some time in 2022.


Michael Nichols, executive director of the Esplanade Association.
Mayor Janey celebrates opening of 2021 Boston Swan Boats season

Saturday, May 8, 2021 - Mayor Kim Janey and her family today joined the Paget family -- owners and operators of the Swan Boats -- and local residents today to open the popular Boston Swan Boats for the 2021 season at the Boston Public Garden lagoon. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Swans Boats were not open for the 2020 season.

“As warmer weather comes to Boston, the reopening of the Boston swan boats is a great way to celebrate our recovery from the pandemic, especially after being closed last season,” Mayor Janey noted. “We welcome Bostonians and visitors back to our historic park to enjoy this joyful attraction in keeping with current health guidelines for a safe ride with family and friends.”

Launched in 1877 by Irish immigrant and shipbuilder Robert Paget, the Swan Boats continue to be owned and operated by the Paget family. Mr. Paget designed the Swan Boats after attending the opera Lohengrin in New York City. At the end of the opera, the hero crosses a river in a boat drawn by a swan.

2021 marks the 144th season for the Swan Boats. The oldest and smallest boat in the fleet just celebrated its 111th season, while the newest was launched in 1993. The swan on today’s boats is made from either copper or fiberglass, depending on the age of the boat. Fully loaded, each Swan Boat weighs three tons and is powered by the driver using a foot-propelled paddle wheel. The Swan Boats are built on oak framed pontoons sheathed in copper just as they were initially constructed in 1877. After being stored in a safe place for the winter, the boats are returned to the Public Garden Lagoon in the spring.

Masks are currently required and passengers will be safely spaced both in line and on the Swan Boats. For more information on hours of operations, ticketing and pricing, please visit the Swan Boats of Boston online at www.swanboats.com, call (617) 522-1966, or email info@swanboats.com.
VIRTUAL PROGRAM EXPLORES ENGLAND’S BELVOIR CASTLE

Historic New England presents a virtual program called “Belvoir Castle and Capability Brown: Discovering a Lost Landscape” on Thursday, June 3, at noon.

From its high hill, brooding over immense tracts of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, Belvoir Castle is one of England’s great treasure houses. Since taking charge of the estate, its chatelaine for the new millennium, Emma 11th Duchess of Rutland, has shaken off the dust-sheets and brought back to life a castle which had slept for most of the 20th century.

In this virtual program, join the Duchess as she tells the story of her discoveries, including long-forgotten landscape plans drawn up in 1780 by the great landscape designer Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown, a likely influence on the Great Wrest Park. Brown’s plans for Belvoir were shelved and left forgotten until now, over 200 years later, Emma is working to bring them to completion.

Tickets are free; donations are encouraged; become a member today by visiting https://www.historicnewengland.org/get-involved/memberships to help us continue to offer free programs for all to enjoy.

Call 617-994-6678 for more information. The link for the webinar will be included in the order confirmation for this program.

ONLINE PROGRAM ON LITHUANIAN, ISRAELI, AMERICAN AND JEWISH CULINARY HISTORIES

The Vilna Shul, in partnership with Lithuania Culture Institute, General Consulate of Lithuania in New York and Embassy of Lithuania in Israel, presents a free online program called “Lithuanian, Israeli, American, Jewish: Which Food Are You?” on Sunday, May 23, at noon.

To register, visit https://vilnashul.org/events/event/lithuanian-israeli-american-jewish-which-food-are-you.

HIDDEN GARDEN OF BEACON HILL TOUR RETURNS VIRTUALLY BEGINNING JUNE 30

The Beacon Hill Garden Club’s Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill Tour will be held virtually this year and launches June 30.

Advance tickets are now available at the Beacon Hill Garden Club’s website at beaconhillgardencoclub.org for $25 each, or you can buy a ticket and one of the Garden Club’s books for $45.

HILL HOUSE 2021 SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Hill House, Inc. located at 127 Mount Vernon S., has officially opened up Summer Camp registration for 2021 campers.

Now in its 22nd year, Hill House Camps (Kiddie Kamp for 3-5 year olds and Day Camp for 5- to 12-year-olds) feature: weekly Day Camp field trips; Kiddie Kamp onsite adventures; expanded enrichment opportunities; sailing, theatre, sports and film camp options; weekly themes; expanded day options for Day Campers; and expanded LIT program for 13- to 15-year-olds.

Visit Hill House’s Summer Camp website (www.hillhouseboston.org/Camps.htm) to learn more about all the fun. For more information on registering, contact Chelsea Evered at 617-227-5838 or covered@hillhouseboston.org.

IMAGINE VAN GOGH COMING DEC. 21 TO SOWA POWER STATION

“Imagine Van Gogh,” more than 200 of the Dutch artist’s paintings, is making its debut in Boston on Dec. 21 at the SoWa Power Station.

The exhibition is a contactless event experience spanning over 24,000 square feet, with a limited number of guests allowed in on a timed-entry basis, and it will adhere to all safety guidelines established by the Commonwealth.

Tickets start at $33.99 (plus service charges and fees) and are on sale now. For more information, visit www.imagine-vangogh.com.

VIRTUAL DISCUSSION ON THE EVOLUTION OF PRESERVATION

The House Museum Alliance of Downtown Boston will host a virtual discussion on “The Evolution of Preservation: from Elitism to Equity” on Thursday, May 27, from 6 to 7 p.m.

At this time, Alison Frazier, assistant director of the Boston Preservation Alliance, will consider how historic sites continue to change their practices to be more inclusive, accessible, and intentional so that they can tell the story of everyone’s history through preservation.

Visit https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/thebhownhouse/items/301563/calendar/2021/05/?flow=468779&full-items=yes to register for the online event.

OBITUARIES

Effective Jan. 1, 2021

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of $150.00 per paper. Includes photo. No word Limit.

Please send to obits@reverejournal.com or call 781-485-0588
The Beacon Hill Architectural Commission will hold a public hearing on May 20, at 5 p.m. via ZOOM.

Subject of the hearing will be applications for Certificates of Design Approval on the agenda below, reviews of architectural violations, and such businesses as may come before the commission, in accordance with Chapter 616 of the Acts of 1955 of the Massachusetts General Law as amended.

Applications are available for review during business hours at the office of the Environment Department. Applicants or their representatives are required to attend, unless indicated otherwise below. Sign language interpreters are available upon request.

ATTENTION: This hearing will only be held virtually and NOT in person. You can participate in this hearing by going to: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83037268060 or calling 1 (929) 205-6099 and entering meeting id # 850 3726 8060. You can also submit written comments or questions to BeaconHillAC@boston.gov.

I. Design Review Hearing
App # 21.0816 BB 46 W. Cedar Street
Applicant: David McMahon
Proposed Work: At rear of property, demolish ell and existing roof deck to reconstruct roof deck and ell. Replace front dormer window, approve shoe scraper that are currently violations.
App # 21.0949 BH intersection of beacon & park street (Sidewalks)
Applicant: Zachary Wasmouth; Boston Public Works

Proposed Work: Replace metal downspout brackets and supports with painted copper supports.
App # 21.0939 BH 42 Irving Street
Applicant: Nathaniel Walton
Proposed Work: Rebuild dormer sides to within 12” of existing width to ensure structural integrity, rebuild front wood paneling, clad rebuilt dormer sides with slate shingles, replace existing gutters and hardware (where necessary) with replacements in kind, new door entry light. (See Additional Work Items Under Administrative Review).
App # 21.0951 BH 58 Temple Street
Applicant: Michael Maler
Proposed Work: Replace non-historic glazed glass with historically appropriate etched glass.
App # 21.0838 BH 34 Irving Street
Applicant: Tim Burke
Proposed Work: Remove roof deck. To replace rubber roof. Replace roof deck in exact same location.
App # 21.0952 BH 68 Chestnut Street
Applicant: Sean Crypts; Historic Windows and Doors
Proposed Work: Replace two garden casement windows.
App # 21.0953 BH 28 Pinckney Street
Applicant: Jeffrey Cohen
Proposed Work: Install small fixed panel above garage door, reduce height of garage door (as installed).
App # 21.0954 BH 23 Brimmer Street
Applicant: Carol Krupa
Proposed Work: At rear level four, replace rear door and transom light.
App # 21.0955 BH 97 mount vernon street
Applicant: Kristin Jenkins
Proposed Work: New store sign, paint door and surround black.
The iron gate in the last clue is on 14 Byron Street designed by architect Benjamin S. Fishstein. It was built as a stable circa 1865 and its historic name is Burke’s Hack and Livery Stable. Over the years it has been used as a livery, outbuilding, servant housing, office and, a single-family home.

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

The iron gate in the last clue is on 14 Byron Street designed by architect Benjamin S. Fishstein. It was built as a stable circa 1865 and its historic name is Burke’s Hack and Livery Stable. Over the years it has been used as a livery, outbuilding, servant housing, office and, a single-family home.

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.
Renovation to get underway soon on Fiedler Footbridge

By Dan Murphy

The Department of Conservation and Recreation is scheduled to close the Arthur Fiedler Footbridge on May 10 for renovations, and when construction wraps on the project up in August, the color of the footbridge will be restored to the historic gray first used in its 1954 construction.

Work is expected to take place during daytime hours of approximately 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, and nighttime hours of approximately 8 p.m. to 5 a.m., Sunday through Thursday. Daytime work will be limited to improvements that don’t require vehicle traffic impacts along Storrow Drive (inbound) under the bridge. Nighttime work is expected to require various lane closures and roadway detours. Notably, Storrow Drive impacts will be limited to hours outside of commuter rush-hour.

The footbridge will be closed for the duration of work and pedestrian detour routes will be clearly marked directing pedestrians and cyclists to the Dartmouth Street Footbridge and the Frances “Fanny” Appleton Pedestrian Bridge to alternatively access the Esplanade.

Prior to construction, DCR is expected to distribute a Recreational and Traffic Advisory to inform the public of the imminent project.

The Owl’s Nest, the beer garden that Everett’s Night Shift Brewing operates on the Charles River Esplanade, had a soft opening on Thursday, May 6, in anticipation of its official opening last weekend.

The beer garden will again offer a selection of craft beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages in a self-contained area at Storrow Memorial Embankment Park (Fiedler Field), and its hours will eventually be Wednesday and Thursday from 4 to 10 p.m.; Friday from 2 to 10 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday noon to 8 p.m., although these hours will likely be scaled back to start. In accordance with state guidelines, all patrons must be seated with no more than six at a table, which can be reserved for up to 90 minutes, and food must be ordered along with beverages. (Brato Brewhouse and Kitchen will operate a food truck on the premises.) Visit https://nightshiftbrewing.com/locations/owls-nest/ for more information.