



Bay State Village NEWS

www.BayStateVillage.org

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Association

BSVA Leadership Transition: A Call for New Ideas and Volunteers

After several years of dedicated service, BSVA President Jeff Dawson and Vice President Regine Spector will both be stepping down in the coming months. We thank them for all of their hard work!

As with past transitions, the leadership change is inspiring the BSVA Board to revisit our role in the neighborhood, and to reassess how we can best serve the community. From forums on important issues such as construction and traffic calming, to social events that bring neighbors together, our ultimate goal is to make Bay State Village an engaged and connected community. But we are always open to new ideas for new initiatives, events, and suggestions. And because these efforts all take time and energy, we hope that some of you will be excited to work to making these events and initiatives a reality!

We invite you to join us for our BSVA meeting on Tuesday, March 27, 6pm, at the Nonotuck Community School, 221 Riverside Drive. We will dedicate the meeting to brainstorming ideas for new events, new leaders and new directions for the BSVA. If you have been thinking for a while about getting involved in any capacity of coming to a meeting, there could not be a better time.

To help us prepare for the meeting, we'd love to hear from all of you, especially if you won't be able to make it on the 27th. We put together a brief survey that will help us get a sense of what you think about the BSVA's current work, what you think would be helpful for the association to do, and your vision for the neighborhood! We will be sending a link out to the Google Group, but you can also access the survey here: <https://goo.gl/forms/HuaFC0auxqGK2KK93>

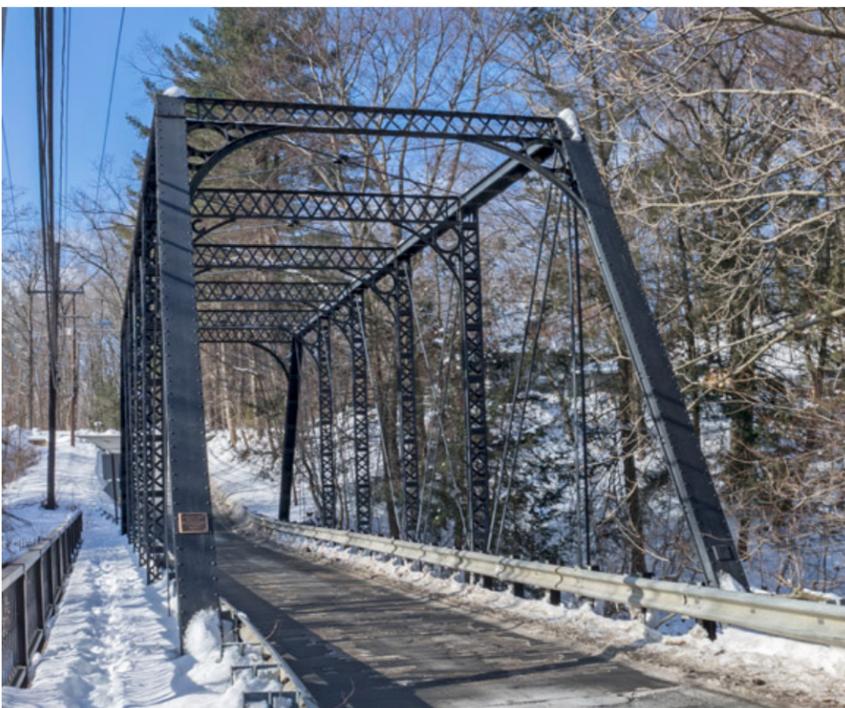
Bamboo Asian Cuisine Adds Flavor to Bay State Village

by Stephen Taranto

Now in its second year of bringing tasty Asian cuisine from Japan, China, Korea and Thailand to Bay State Village, Bamboo Asian Cuisine at 311 Riverside Drive is a flavorful member of our community. Owned and operated by Moreilia Alvarado and Javier Marroquin, since September 2016, the restaurant features a wide variety of a la carte dishes and lunch specials including favorites such as General Tso's chicken and Spring Rolls, a range of soups and appetizers and a couple of vegetarian options. Together with their daughter, Alvarro and Marroquin took the plunge and opened Bamboo after working for more than a decade in Asian restaurant in Amherst. Since then they have built up a local following of clients who stop in for lunch, order take out or come for dinner.

Unfortunately, since the recent Clement St. Bridge closing the restaurant has experienced a decline in patronage of about 50% and the future of the family owned enterprise is uncertain. According to Marroquin. Increased travel time for delivering take-out meals has doubled in many cases and it is no longer cost effective to offer delivery. Likewise the decrease in evening commuters passing by and dropping in has had an impact as well.

Small businesses such as Bamboo depend on local clients to stay afloat during rough periods and we can all lend a hand by patronizing the restaurant and letting our friends know about our "great little neighborhood place" and thereby keeping Bay State Village a vibrant multicultural community. Bamboo is open Monday to Saturday from 11am to 9pm.



Bridge Update by Peter McLean

You have no doubt noticed the Clement Street Bridge is closed.

The city shut the bridge down on December 15 following a Mass DOT inspection which identified deficiency in an I-beam. Department of Public Works Director, Donna Lascaleia reports that 16 steel members below the bridge deck are targeted for replacement. The project is moving forward, on target and aiming for the bridge to be reopened in the summer.

Lascaleia says the repairs are more substantial than what was identified in supplemental reports outlined in the 2016 GPI Bridge Assessment. The repairs will help with maintaining the bridge for the long run.

If you care to review the GPI report, you can view it at clementstreetbridge.org (page 26, 5b for supplemental report info). That website has lots of additional information about the Clement Street Bridge.

The Save the Bridge group continues to look forward to hearing more from the National Register of Historic Places regarding the application to add the Clement Street Bridge to the Register.

We anticipate the bridge, a Pratt Truss design built in 1894, will be included in the National Register of Historic Places. This designation will help to insure a long and useful life for the bridge.

Welcome to Hinckley Trace Neighbors by Robert Boulrice

The last of the eight, Energy Star certified, highly efficient condo units in the Wright Builders' Hinckley Trace condo development was put under contract by Bridget Goggins in late January. All units are expected to be occupied by spring. The initial residents moved in last September. The entire project, from ground breaking to full occupancy took a remarkably brief eighteen months.

Merriam Webster defined a Trace as "a path, trail, or road made by the passage of animals, people or vehicles." <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/trace>. Developer Jonathan Wright used the term to evoke the flow of activity through the property, linking the current energy generated by the new residents with that preceding it during its prior life as a dairy farm.

Design attributes for the development include several innovations. Noteworthy is the manner that water runoff from the roofs and driveway is captured and filtered through stone-lined rain gardens before it is released into the groundwater table at the east end of the property, thereby avoiding the city's sewer system as the water is reclaimed. The creativity and attention to detail that led to the process of moving water along the Trace is evident in the design of the individual units. All units are designed for active and passive solar performance, yielding a "net zero" status, whereby as much or more solar energy is generated by the panels as power is drawn from the meter. The city-rated HERS score for 127 Hinckley is 37, signifying a high degree of energy conservation. (see label). All appliances and fixtures, including toilets, washer/dryer, ceiling fans, stove, lighting system and windows were selected for their category-leading energy efficiency designations.

The residents of Hinckley Trace comprise a rather diverse group, each enthusiastically selecting the Bay State Village to enjoy the next chapter in their lives. One couple came from Chelsea MA to start a new life during retirement. Two residents are physicians practicing in the area. One is a recent retiree from the Five College Consortium. Another is a young pharmacist working in the area. Two are locals who wanted to enjoy the amenities provided at Hinckley Trace. Two are grandparents relocating from Wisconsin to be closer to their children, living close by. Another, from the Boston area came to be close to her family living in Northampton. One is relocating from Connecticut.

We live in unit 127 and moved in October 1. We enjoyed a glorious fall and got to know the environs enjoying many spectacular walks. From the outset, day one, we were welcomed to the neighborhood by all we encountered, human and canine. We feel fully integrated. Friday night dance parties at the Florence community center; haircuts at the barber shop across from the hardware store where the Sienkiewicz's have set a new standard in customer service. Before you even set one step inside the store they ask you how they can help and twenty seconds later what you came for is put in your hand. This sort of care and attention seems common throughout the village's retail community. Hinckley Trace is a wonderful new member of the Bay State Village community. The folks who live at Hinckley Trace are happy to be here and look forward to meeting their neighbors. Take a walk; stop by and say hello!

Hinckley St. Reconstruction Update

by Alex Ghiselin

The reconstruction of Hinckley Street is scheduled to resume March 12, weather permitting. Most of the sewer and storm drains have been installed as well as much of the new waterline. Ludlow Construction has until December 1 to complete the project. DPW engineer Felix Harvey says that so far the work has gone very well.

Construction of the storm water outfall in the old canal bed below Riverside Drive is a priority. The outfall needs to be in place before the drainage on Hinckley can be completed. Trees will be cleared here for a gravel access road and two retaining walls built to stabilize the steep bank. This work will close traffic on Riverside Drive for several days.

The 3.1 million dollar project includes a side walk on the northeast side of the street and a raised crossing at Nonotuck Street. When completed, Hinckley will have been rebuilt from Riverside Drive to South Main Street.

Engineering plans can be viewed online at the DPW site under <northamptonma.gov>. Felix Harvey can be reached at 587-1570 ext. 4313 or at <fharvey@northampton.gov>

Speed Humps to be Calmed

by Alex Ghiselin

Responding to complaints from nearby residents as well as motorists, The Department of Public Works plans to mill down the aggressive speed bumps on Nonotuck Street. The bumps will be replaced with speed tables similar to those on Jackson Street. The work is scheduled for this summer.

A third traffic calming element will be a wider speed table across Nonotuck Street at Hinckley marked for pedestrian use.

The announcement is listed in the Roadway Improvements Memorandum available at the DPW website. under <northampton.gov>



A venerable red oak, the last of a row which stands between the road and the canal.

Bay State Village Association

MEETINGS are held from 6 to 7:30pm, at the Nonotuck/Feiker Community School, on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Usually there are no meetings in July, August or December.

WEBSITE: www.baystatevillage.org

GOOGLE GROUP: is sent to members by email. Add your name or post a message via <http://groups.google.com/group/baystatevillage>. Questions? Email Josh at jbedell2@gmail.com

DUES: \$10 per household; age 65+ free.

And Continuing Thanks to:

- Sue Norton and Ann Burger for tending the lovely garden around our sign.
- Gary Hartwell and his daughter Lila Lu for our amazing event signs.

Bay State Village Contacts

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