Hollywood loves the South End

By Michele D. Maniscalco

A major motion picture and an upcoming Showtime series will aid the picturesque charm of the South End with the rest of the world. Comedian and actress Amy Schumer, who was in the neighborhood shooting scenes on Union Park Street on August 17.

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Residential units proposed for block off Herald Street

By Adam Gaffin

The Davis Companies this week filed detailed plans with the BPDA to gut an existing warehouse building at 112 Shawmut Ave. and turn it into a 13-floor, 143-unit residential building.

In its project notifications form, Davis stated it is in talks with the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New England on a proposal to replace the C-Mart supermarket and parking lot at Herald and Washington with a 14-story building with up to 302 residential units and with the Boston Chinese Evangelical Church on a proposal to replace the church’s current three-story building at 120 Shawmut with an 11-story building with 72 units.

The developer and the two groups would seek BPDA approval to reclassify their three parcels as a “planned development area,” which would let them and the BPDA toss their existing zoning and create new rules just for them.

Davis plans to completely gut the interior of the current building at 112 Shawmut Ave., leaving only the facades along Shawmut Avenue and Herald Street. Rather than renting or selling any of the units as affordable, Davis will hand over money to the BPDA for the development of nearby affordable housing.

A three-level garage, two-story underground, would provide room for 124 vehicles. Space on the ground floor could be turned into a cafe.

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Sara Campbell donates to victims of Harvey

By Kevin Abola

Boston designer and boutique chain owner Sara Campbell partnered with the mayor’s Help for Houston effort to donate new, unworn clothing items to Hurricane Harvey victims. Help for Houston encouraged Bostonians to drop off clothing, diapers, blankets, and non-perishable foods at City Hall and other designated locations in the area.

Sara Campbell is a USA-made apparel line.

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School’s Back in Session

Drive like a “Smahtie”

School Bus Laws: All cars in all lanes of traffic, in both directions, must stop at least 100 feet from the bus when you see the bus’ flashing lights and student sign extended. The ONLY exception: drivers on four-lane roads with at least two lanes of traveling moving in the opposite direction or a divided highway, only motorists going in the same direction as the bus are required to stop.

Driving in a School Zone: The speed limit for all school zones is 20 mph, regardless of what the speed is for the road the school is on between school hours. Motorists are not allowed to pass while in a school zone, and pedestrians have the right-of-way in a school zone crosswalk.

Boston City-Wide Speed Limit: 25 MPH, unless otherwise posted.

Crosswalk Laws: Drivers must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians within a marked crosswalk that is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when a pedestrian is approaching within ten feet of where the vehicle is traveling.
Hollywood
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for her upcoming film, “I Feel Pretty” with Michelle Williams, will return on September 7 for filming in and around Franklin Square. Elsewhere, “SMILF,” a Showtime comedy featuring Brookestone’s Frankie Shaw, came to Thayer Street on Thursday, August 24 for a day time shoot.

Stephen Hartman of IPP Productions met with neighbors on Monday, August 28 near Franklin Square to discuss Schumer’s September 7 filming schedule and logistics with neighbors.

Six residents, including Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association (BSFNA) development committee chairman Vadim Kuklin, at-large board member Andrew Parthum, Friend of Blackstone and Franklin Square chairperson Tito Crothall attended the outdoor meeting. Hartman said that the filming will take place from 12:00 noon until approximately 12:00 midnight, with a "hard finish" by 2:00 AM.

Hartman has been in touch with the Boston Police and Boston Parks and Recreation Department for approval of the logistics, which include a large, fiberglass attachment to Franklin Square’s fountain, parking relocation and the introduction of heavy equipment to the park. Access to the park will be limited during the shoot, and although residents will be able to watch from a sufficient distance, not to interfere with the production, photography will not be permitted when Schumer is in makeup and costume.

While the production will require parking in the immediate vicinity of Franklin Square, Hartman told neighbors that IPP has purchased parking vouchers to provide to shooting residents. Franklin Square will be portrayed as a New York city park in the film, and part of the filming is set in the rain, which will be produced with sprinklers. Regarding the attachment to the historic fountain, Hartman said that Paul McCaffrey of the BPRD visited IPP’s staging site to see the attachment and approved it.

Crothall offered to express the Friends group’s support directly to McCaffrey as well. “We really believe any publicity for this park is helpful,” Crothall said. Hartman also told the group that the production company will make a “small donation” to the Friends group. “I love in Boston and I am happy to be filming here,” Hartman said.

After the meeting, attendees expressed eager anticipation for Franklin Square to receive such widespread, positive exposure.

Crothall said in a follow-up e-mail, “We are very excited to have the Franklin Square used in a movie. We appreciate Stephen’s efforts to reduce damage on the green caused by heavy filming equipment and his attention to detail in protecting the fountain. I believe Stephen’s crew will be very professional and considerate about leaving the Square unharmed after filming as he is a Boston local and very experienced at managing on-location projects such as this one, and protecting

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Dog Lady
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many millions of times better than our. "Here's a
sterling stat: A mouse has 5 million smell receptors,
a Woodland has 300 million. Dogs live through
their noses. The world makes sense (sorta) to them
through their ears.

The telephone poles and Jeannie Maggie make
good against the exceedingly naked post if she has
a special treat. She's not as good at them as she's
taking away some of the bees. She also wants to be
behind her own scent, a cutting ward, so to speak. It's
a primal thing.

Dear Dog Lady,
I moved with my dog, a Jack Russell,
from our home of nine years to a condo about
three years ago. She had always slept belly up
at our old place. After the move, it seemed
to take her a long time to adjust to the new
place. But I knew it had become her home when
she began sleeping belly up again. It took
about two months. I believe that sleeping belly
up means the dog feels totally secure in its
environment because it's at a vulnerable sleep
position. I enjoy your column.

—Jim

Dear Jim,
Yes, you're right. Rolling over belly up is a sign
of security and confidence for a dog. This is
certainly one way of getting that done. Tho Dogz
enjoys the belly-up position—belly and
vulnerable, exposed to the world to see—and is
suspiciously comfortable doing so. With its
unfamiliar in the air, a dog is home, so to speak, and
don't have to keep watch for many predators looking to steal
food or food. Dogs roll over and curl to keep to keep
reach belly rubs, which, with a scratchy tag, the
knees, and a little treat, are the greatest pleasures
we humans can bestow.

Dear Dog Lady,
Our Craigslist, Wilbur, has lately
started to scratch at the carpet as if he's digging
a hole. He's never done this before and it started
only last week. He's quite curious about this.

What gives? Is there something in the carpet
that smells or want? He only stops when
we tell him to, so it's annoying and puzzling.

Any advice?

—Craig

Dear Craig,
Your carpet has powerful go-to-ground genes.
Dig he must. Have you given him anything precious
in the last week—a bone, a special treat, a new
toy? He could be trying to hide his stuff.

Dogs dig in their beds, the sofa cushions, the
storage pillows. Their indoor digging can be
defensive if they allow the behavior to go too far.

Thi digging is also a little chamber because they
work so hard for so little reward. Do you have any
ideas to offer about Wilbur to dig?

Dear Dog Lady,
My extended family, Stanley, has become
aggressive towards me (his owner). He is nice
with everyone else, but when we are at home,
if I try to get off of my chair or leave a room,
he comes in front of me and stands and snags.
It is like he is trying to keep me in my place.

Please help. I love this dog and don't want
to have to get rid of him.

—Mary

Dear Mary,
It is Chucky food—nutrients? There is an
important study about a dog's diet behavior. But, Chucky,
SMLRF is one of the heroes in this new
aggressive tendency started happening. These could be
organic reasons for his behavior and he's trying to
let you know. A sudden change in a dog's behavior is a reason
to consult a qualified professional.

Hollywood
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his relationships with the Parks Department
and Boston Police Department. We also
believe that the community will be more excited
than portrayed by the 12 hours of film
shooting. This opportunity offers help to keep
the negative dialog (37) about Franklin
Square which centers regularly on drugs,
alcohol and homelessness.

SMLRF, which is slated to debut on
Showtime in November, is a comedy set in
South Boston about a twosome couple
working for a personal life. When filming in Thayer
Street was completed on August 24, the crew
moved to South Boston for nighttime
shooting. SMLRF's cast include
Dennis O'Connell and Miguel Gomez of the
FX television series, "The Strain."

Sara Campbell
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With 18 stores, the retail company is
bound to have some stock. Thirteenthman,
Campbell, staked through apparel set aside for
a warehouse sale to take place the Hingham
location in early September. She suggested
items that would suit Houston residents for
donation instead.

Sara Campbell said, "If you ask what I'm always
saying around the office, anyone who
works with me will tell you the same thing, 'It's
takes a village and we're all in this together.'

This is true of the workplace but also of the
community. Our neighbors are in need and
we're just doing our part."

In addition, all 18 Sara Campbell
locations will donate 10% of their Saturday,
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A Luminous Gypsy

By Julian Becker

"Fiddler on the Roof," Tony Award-winning musical, is become a kind of national phenomenon. "Gypsy," on the other hand, is a rare jewel that has been in the vaults of Broadway for decades. The story of Mama Rose, a woman who dreams of becoming a vaudeville star, is one of the most beloved musicals of all time. It is a story of love, loss, and survival, told with a heart that is as big as the American Dream.

Steven Factscher and Leigh Barrett, in their roles as Eve and George, respectively, deliver a performance that is both touching and inspiring. The cast, led by the incomparable Barbara Cook, is a powerhouse of talent that brings this timeless story to life.

The show's set design is a marvel of imagination and ingenuity. The transformation from a small-town parlor to a bustling New York City street corner is seamless and breathtaking. The costumes, designed by Travestit Tissa, are a work of art in their own right, each one telling a story of the character it adorns.

Gypsy is a must-see for anyone who loves theater. It is a testament to the power of music and storytelling, and a celebration of the human spirit. Whether you are a long-time fan or a first-time attendee, you will be moved by this timeless tale of ambition, love, and perseverance.

Imagination and freshness is served

By Julian Becker

New England has always been a hub of creativity and innovation. Whether it's the innovation of the Boston Tea Party or the ingenuity of the MIT students who built the first hovercraft, the region is filled with a spirit of exploration and a willingness to try new things.

The new Alley Cat Theatre, located in the historic Newbury Street district, is a perfect example of this spirit. The theatre's mission is to create a space where artists can experiment and take risks. The result is a series of shows that are as innovative as they are entertaining.

One of the most exciting recent productions is "Plank," a play about a family of con artists who are trying to make a living on the streets of New York. The show is a hilarious and heartfelt celebration of the human spirit, and a reminder that even the most down-and-out of us can find the strength to rise up and make a difference.

"Plank" is just one of the many shows that are currently on the Alley Cat Theatre's schedule. The company is committed to bringing the best in contemporary theatre to the Boston area, and they are doing exactly that. With a passion for the arts and a commitment to excellence, the Alley Cat Theatre is a shining example of what can happen when imagination and dedication come together.

Photo by Joan Melia

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Two religious sanctuaries, a gymnasium, fitness rooms, office, classroom, and meeting space for religious educational, recreational and social services uses, a small (approximately 2,000 sf) ground floor commercial space, and approximately 72 residential units.

A coastal home near sunrise. These homes are being built for illustrative purposes only.

Gypsy
Continued from page 4

Rose, Louise, June (actual dancer-writer June Havoc) and the performers who join them. Then budding musical giant Stephen Sondheim's lyrics help show how that story is as they happily mesh with Julie Styne's warm and hopeful melodies. Original director Jerome Robbins' expansive choreography rounds off one of Broadway's best collaborations.

The Lyric Stage revival has a strong, collaborative feel of its own. Bertolt Brecht's operatic work is on display for the Baby June and Her New Boys number set for the late Donte June and Her New Boys one. Both Margot Anderson's Song Baby June and Kiss Me on her grown-up man and display and brightness. Shoshone Miles' demonstrative Tulsa'sytic dancing talent on "All I Need Is the Girl" while Kristen Salpini makes Louise's unrequited crush evident very clear. Salpini is riveting vulnerable on the touching solo "Little Lamb," and Tako and Salpini are fully convincing as siblings—especially on the insightful duet "If Mama Was Married."

Barrett's and the cast of Mama Rose's group agent and candy salesman boyfriend Herbie do well with the up and downs of their relationship. Backman's understated singing of Herbie's more reserved responses with highly enthralled Mama Rose. Barrett, Backman and Salpini have the feel of a real family unit on a very winning rendition of "Together. Wherever We Go."

Shannon Lee Jones as Tante Tura realistically communicates insightful attitude and good-natured mentorship with novice burlesque performer Louise. Kathy St. George is a host as a deep-voiced horn-toning Missie Pyle.

Most of all there is Barrett's brilliant performance as Mama Rose. She captures all of Mama's complexity—her early single-minded determination to develop June's talent, her later conflicting focus on Louise, her conflicted feelings about Herbie and the idea of a fourth marriage, and her sighs about what might have been her own life. Barrett's unjadedly captured Mama Rose finds sympa-

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Plank
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...where...blind children, sitting in the darkness, with no expectation of whales and their underwater...At the same time, a lunchtime with a sandwich and a coke materializes for Pete as well as a large edition of "Moby Dick."

Of course, as Pete begins reading, "Call me Ishmael"—the famous beginning of Herman Melville's masterpiece—connects her with the novel's role surviving shipmate. Once Pete turns is on land, survival issues expand with talk about climate change and human responsibility. Here of course the questions will rightly be thinking about their own feelings and commitments. Taking these thoughts and considerations to center stage are exchanges between Pete and Uwilliam, Big-Sized, like Mercedes—played with a winning, touching vulnerability by Adams—and Mercedes' conflicted sidekick, Thumble—captured with fitting irony by Kirby.

As Mercedes intimidates Pete with a hostile interrogation and virtually dismisses her as a "little girl," the more the question might be having the ship's crewman walk the plank—at least figuratively and philosophically. Pushing the idea of "some future crown," she sees safety in "a shared view of the world." By contrast, will Pete—who lost everything overboard—survive without having an iPhone, Facebook or even a television? For Pete, the unusual heroine suggests that contemporary human beings lack perspective and that "maybe we should have stayed in the ocean." Alluding to Adam and Eve, evangelist Mercedes contends that "We belong on land"—Director Morgan Stiby Clesher deeply paces the exchanges between Pete and Mercedes to that their ocean-based debate is the only possible way of life fairly appealing. She may also be emotionally drawn to Pete. Does their sitting on the pavilion's plank together signify a substantive change in Thumble? Look for a revealing surprise in the final stretch.

At one point, there is talk of going around in circles. Audience members sometimes feel that way about this play. Even so, "Plank" does possess a welcome freshness and a healthy food for thought about theater itself. Set sail for the BOA and Greenwich Playhouse stage line.

In her playbill notes, Bennett speaks of audience noting for Maria Rose as she faces the truth she's been avoiding. Thanks to Barrett's luminous portrayal and Bennett's masterful effort, everything is truly coming up roses in Lyric Stage's "Plank."

Gypsy
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...are only one, even as she disturbs this a pretty stage mother. This young talent can be with the best as she demonstrates in Mr. Rose's anthems like the final solo "Rose's Turn."
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