



Progress On Purpose

Fall 2020

# Construction Break



Left: BPS crews are entering the final stages in a massive project to renovate Laconia's famed Colonial Theater. Right: Skyscraper-like towers of scaffolding are required to access the upper reaches of the theater.

## Renovations Continue At The Colonial Theater

**A**s we enter the home stretch of the Colonial Theater project, we would be remiss if we didn't take a second to slow down and appreciate such a unique restoration effort happening in our home city of Laconia. It wasn't long ago, when the mold and deterioration of the theater made it almost unbearable to enter for more than minutes at a time. That is quite the opposite these days. Now, it's hard to leave!

Spots that were once rotted away are now rejuvenated with fresh carpentry and finishes. Plaster that was once cracked and worn, no longer sits quietly deteriorating in the darkness. Instead it now shines brightly, extending up and down balconies and banisters, stretching as far as the eye can see. Peeking between skyscraper-like towers of construction staging (which is impressive in its own right) vibrant colors begin to

breathe life back into walls and ceilings as talented artists carefully apply fresh paints, working tirelessly to recreate the beauty that once was.

It may seem that many of us appear on the outside to have tempered our excitement as we go through the day-to-day grind of removing the rotted remains and rebuilding the parts and pieces that many will never see. It's always nice to enjoy the moments where we can stop and take a minute to appreciate how rare of a project it is that we are working on. We love the moments when someone who used to come to theater as a child or maybe someone who just appreciates the efforts that are being made to restore downtown Laconia, walks by and asks how everything is going.

But instead of a simple, "good" from our crews, they are instead offered a

tour. Many of them enter with tempered expectations, wondering what will be inside, trying to remember the times they enjoyed inside from years ago. Upon entering, those distant memories come to life. For a moment they are front and center, excitedly watching as workers going in every direction are moving cohesively as instrumental parts of the buildings rebirth. It's in these moments that we are reminded how much we truly love what we do.

Thank you to BelknapEDC, the City of Laconia, Misiaszek-Turpin LLC, Rist-Frost Shumway, all the owners, and the subcontractors for their efforts thus far. We are beyond excited as we wrap up this incredible project and remind ourselves how fortunate we are to be a part of something so great.

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### Have You Checked It Out?

We are continually updating our website at [www.bpsnh.com](http://www.bpsnh.com). When you have a moment check it out, and follow us on Facebook, too. Hope to see you there. Use the QR code at left to take you to our website.



## Did You Know?

- 1) Ben & Jerry originally considered getting into the bagel business. Luckily for us, the equipment was too expensive.
- 2) In Japan, letting a sumo wrestler make your baby cry is considered good luck.
- 3) Barry Manilow wrote the jingles for State Farm Insurance and Band-Aid.
- 4) It is rude to write in red ink in Portugal.
- 5) Between 1900 and 1920, tug of war was an Olympic event.
- 6) In 1986, Apple launched a clothing line.
- 7) Although they are rarely seen, bobcats are the most common wildcat in North America.
- 8) Dolly Parton once entered a Dolly Parton look-alike contest—and lost.
- 9) The Nile crocodile can hold its breath underwater for up to two hours.
- 10) Hearing is the fastest of the human senses. A person can recognize a sound in as little as 0.05 seconds.

—*Mental Floss*

## Medieval Epidemiology

We're depending on the epidemiologists at the World Health Organization and the CDC to predict what might happen with the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly with regard to a possible new surge in the disease. In the Middle Ages, people also looked to the experts for guidance, but the experts at the time were astrologers.

According to *The Conversation* website, "Astrologers were respected health authorities who were taught at the finest universities throughout Europe, and hired to treat princes and dukes." Astrology is based on the belief that the positions of heavenly bodies like the moon and the planets affected life on Earth in many areas, including epidemics like the Bubonic Plague. In 1348, for example, physicians at the University of Paris told the King of France that the plague was caused by the conjunction of Saturn, Mars, and Jupiter.

In the 17th century, British astrologer John Gadbury analyzed data from four previous plagues in 1593, 1603, 1625, and 1636, and looked at planetary tables for correlations between the planets' positions and the rise and fall of each outbreak, finding a connection between disease and the positions of Mars and Venus. With this data he attempted to predict the behavior of a plague ravaging the country at the time.

"He predicted the upcoming movement of Venus in August would see a fall in plague deaths," the website states. "Then the movement of Mars in September would make the plague deadlier, but the movements of Venus in October, November, and December would halt the death rate."

Actually, plague deaths rose dramatically during August, although he was correct in predicting they'd peak in September and then decline steeply at the end of the year. Fortunately, today's experts have come a long way.

*"We are just an advanced breed of monkeys on a minor planet of a very average star. But we can understand the universe. That makes us something very special."*

—Stephen Hawking

## Expert Financial Advice for Staying Solvent During a Crisis

The pandemic isn't just a health threat; it's also an economic one. Finance expert Suze Orman shares tips on keeping your finances under control on the *Yahoo Finance* website:

- **Put bills on hold.** Some mortgage lenders are giving homeowners a break on payments, and many states and communities are prohibiting evictions over nonpayment of rent. Citizens with student loans can withhold payment for two months. Talk to your creditors to see what they can do for you.
- **Don't sell stocks in a panic.** Yes, the stock market is down severely right now. If you have your savings there, you might be tempted to get out before things get worse. Orman advises staying the course as much as you can. In time, the market will rise again. Keep investing if possible.
- **Beef up your emergency fund.** Most experts advise saving enough money for three months of bills. Try to expand that. Chances are this crisis will last a long time, and if you're laid off or furloughed, three months may not be enough to tide you over.
- **Be reasonable with purchases.** Put off buying that new smartphone or major appliance unless you absolutely have to. Conserve water and electricity as much as possible. And don't go overboard with online shopping if you're cooped up at home. It's all too easy to click "buy" on something you don't really need.

## Finding Happiness At Work

You spend lots of time at work—even if you're working from home these days—so it makes sense to be happy there. *Boss Magazine* has some tips for increasing your happiness on the job:

- **Build strong bonds with co-workers.**

In an office setting, you spend more time with your colleagues than with your family. Even when you're distant, you still depend on them for assistance and support. Get to know them as people. Celebrate their successes. Talk about stuff other than work. You'll create relationships that will make work feel more like play.

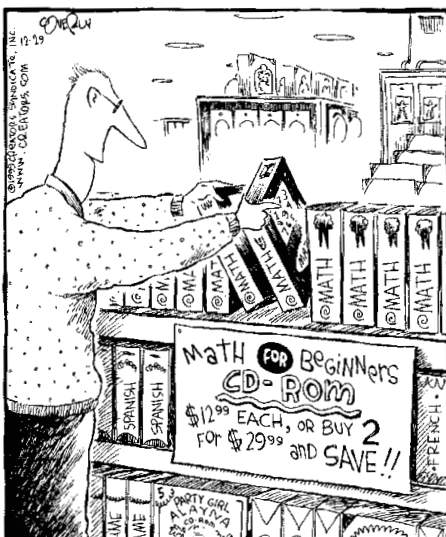
- **Know your role and responsibilities.**

We feel stress when we're uncertain about what we're supposed to do. Be sure you know exactly what you're responsible for—now more than ever. Who do you report to? Who depends on your work? How are your results being measured? The more you know, the better you can concentrate on doing your job.

- **Set goals for yourself.** It can be very motivational and satisfying to achieve goals, even small ones. Challenge yourself to hit a self-imposed deadline, learn a new skill, or ace an important project. When you accomplish each goal, spend some time savoring the experience. Then get started on a new objective.

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



## Success Secrets From Tony Robbins

Success guru Tony Robbins is world famous for helping people achieve their dreams. On the *Forbes* website he shares some of his knowledge for everyone striving to improve and advance in their career:

- **Value.** “You’re rewarded for delivering massive value. And now, when a lot of jobs are being automated and technology is making things happen faster than ever before, it’s even more important.”
- **Motivation.** “Focusing on the needs of others has a way of motivating you to do more than you thought possible. When you give back to others, whether that’s your clients, your employees, or your community, you have a different kind of drive; a force that pulls you forward.”
- **Role models.** “I’ve found that the key to success is modeling the best. Find the people who have already achieved what you want to achieve. Study the methodology behind their success and create a similar path for yourself. One of my original mentors, Jim Rohn, taught me: ‘Work harder on yourself than you ever do on your job or business. Because if you can become more valuable, you will produce an amazing result.’”

## Salt Water On Mars?

Pockets of salty water—brine—may be able to exist on the surface of Mars, the *Sci-News* website reports. Regular water would instantly freeze, boil, or evaporate because of Mars’ low temperatures and dry conditions, but brine would have a lower freezing temperature and therefore would evaporate more slowly.

Salts have already been found on the surface of Mars. A study using atmospheric models and spacecraft measurements looked at specific regions on Mars where liquid water temperature and accessibility limits might allow known terrestrial organisms to replicate. Researchers found that pockets of brine can form for up to six hours over 40% of the Martian surface—from the equator to high latitudes—but only for about two percent of the Martian year. The maximum brine temperature that might be found is -55 degrees Fahrenheit, too low for the formation of organic life. Still, the results represent a reduced risk for the future exploration of Mars and contributes to the potential for habitable conditions for humans, scientists say.

## Find Your “Big Idea”

The legendary David Ogilvie was a pioneer of the advertising industry. One reason for his success and influence was his ability to create what he called “the Big Idea”—a memorable concept that he could wrap an ad around, or base an entire advertising campaign on. Here’s how he developed Big Ideas—and how you can, too:

- **Step 1.** Analyze your data and look for the single element that best expresses what you want to say. What one idea do you want people to remember?
- **Step 2.** Take that idea and boil it down to a statement of 10 words or less, using lively, action-oriented language.
- **Step 3.** Build your presentation—whether it’s an ad, a speech, or a persuasive e-mail—around your “Big Idea.”

“Creative people don’t follow the crowds; they seek out the blank spots on the map.”

—David Brooks

# Pizza Party!

Who doesn't love a good pizza party? At BPS, you can always count us in! Let's head up to beautiful Freedom, N.H., where we have had the pleasure of renovating what was once a dirt floor storage area, stuffed with floats and forgotten toys living quietly under a three-season living room, into what is now becoming a beautiful covered cooking area. The only thing will be stuffed in this room now, is people. Literally!

This area's center piece is an Italian-made wood-fired brick oven. This piece was worked into the room by opening the existing walls to allow it to live half in and half out of the existing room. With a little ingenuity and great vision from Bob and the team, we were able to slide the 500-pound oven onto a perfectly placed pad without any machinery. We then encased all the parts and pieces with a custom stone chimney totaling more than 300 square feet!

The covered cooking fit-up also includes a new stone floor, shiplap walls, concrete countertops, and a careful reworking of the area's existing support beams and posts. Now, the owners have a perfect view of the lake. That's a-nice! Go ahead and add pizza oven install to the long list of unique projects we can help you with today. Give us a call or stop by the office and see how we can make your project a reality!



*This outdoor kitchen features an Italian-made wood-fired brick oven. Say that ten times fast!*



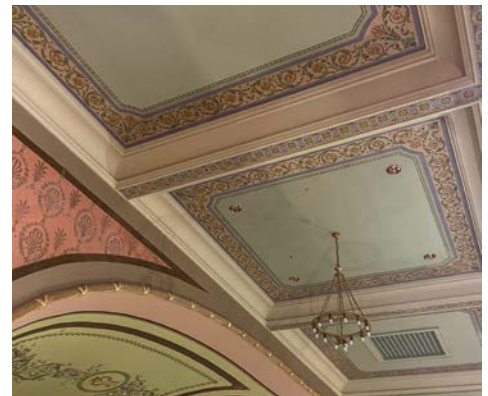
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## Renovations... *continued from page 1*



*Left: BPS crews are replacing cracked and damaged plaster throughout the theater. Center: Exterior renovations include refurbishing the structure's brick facing. Right: Talented local artists are breathing life back into the theater's timeless décor.*

Considering a project? Give us a call at 603.524.3411 to explore concepts, ideas and feasibility or just stop in and say hello, the coffee is on us...  
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