

The exterior of The Beatrice.

The Beatrice in Providence opens



Joseph Paolino Jr. combines his vision for a boutique hotel with his late mother's love of the city — and the result has Beatrice Temkin written all over it

> BY HILLARY RICHARD GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

ROVIDENCE — When Joseph Paolino Jr. bought the historic 1887 Exchange Building in downtown Providence in 2013, he had grand plans to create a luxury hotel one day. His mother, lifelong Providence resident Beatrice Temkin, had plans of her own.

"If you're going to open a hotel, you should name it after your mother," she said one day, with a firmness that betrayed the casual delivery. "Wouldn't that be nice?"

"We looked at her like, 'OK, Mom,'" said Donna Paolino Coia, Paolino's sister. "Then when she suddenly died [in 2016], one of the first things Joe said was that we're going to name this after Mom."

The Beatrice Hotel opened in October after several months of pandemic delays, becoming Providence's first new luxury boutique hotel in nearly a decade. The entrance to The Beatrice is a tall, chic corridor with historic brickwork and floor-to-ceiling windows with a modern chandelier, recently enclosed with a glass ceiling that connects the Exchange Building with its neighboring Westminster Street office building. The lobby is the repurposed alleyway between buildings, now filled with plants and enormous light sculptures. The 47-room hotel is compact but elegant, with unparalleled views of the city through its tall windows. Rooms range in size from 300 square feet to 800 square feet. The hotel is contemporary, with high ceilings, splashes of color, and notably upscale amenities (like Dyson Supersonic hair dryers and Mascioni linens).

The lobby of The Beatrice.



A bathroom at The Beatrice.

A guest room at The Beatrice.

And of course, there are very subtle tributes to lifelong Providence resident Beatrice Temkin everywhere.

The logo is emblazoned with Temkin's elegant handwriting. Temkin's likeness resides over the hotel across from the check in desk, in the form of a tiled mosaic. The artwork was taken from a photo of Temkin when she was about 80, smiling brightly with well-coiffed hair and obvious style. The plaque next to the mosaic describes her legacy, as written and edited by her granddaughters.

Temkin was a fixture of the Providence social and philanthropic scene. She lived downtown for many years in a high rise that can still be seen from The Beatrice's rooftop. She was an avid patron of the arts, especially the Providence Performing Arts Center and Trinity Repertory Company.

Paolino became the mayor of Providence in 1984, at 29 years old. At 41, he joined the family business and became fourth-generation owner of HOTEL, Page N14

Chilling in Cooperstown

By Diane Bair and Pamela Wright GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS

> love it here in winter," said the young waiter as he opened our bottle of wine at cozy Nicoletta's Ital-

ian Café in Cooperstown, N.Y. He explained that he'd grown up in Cooperstown and was back home on school break. "Everything just slows down, and we get the place to ourselves. It's really beautiful."

The historic village, nestled on the southern shores of Otsego Lake about three hours from Boston, is best known as the birthplace of baseball, and home to the renowned National Baseball Hall of Fame. It's wildly popular in the summer, when tourists, clad in baseball jerseys and hats touting their favorite teams



OTESAGA RESORT HOTEL

and players, crowd Main Street, and funnel into historic Doubleday Field. It's a fun, buzzy summer destination, but we like this small village best during the quieter, winter months, when the **COOPERSTOWN, Page N14** The pretty village of **Cooperstown is set** on the shores of **Otsego Lake**. THE VIP LOUNGE A FAN OF JUDY AND LIZA Seth Sikes loves musical theater divas, margaritas, and beach massages N12

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Gear to keep kids warm and dry all winter long

By Diane Bair and Pamela Wright GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS

f you have kids, you know that hibernating indoors for the long New England winter is not an option. Getting outdoors is the healthy (and sane) thing to do. Kids love winter: skiing, sledding, snowmobiling and making angels, snowmen, and forts. The challenge is keeping them warm, dry, and comfortable. We put the top selling winter gear — jackets, snow pants and long underwear - to the test, putting them on kids of all ages, and turning the tykes, toddlers, and teens loose to play outdoors in all kinds of weather. We stuck with the gear that got the highest reviews and

singled out the best of the best. Consider some as investments; they're not cheap, but we deem them hand-me-down worthy, built to last from one kid to the next. Prices listed are manufacturer's suggested retail prices.

Base layers (a.k.a. long underwear)

The Patagonia Infant Capilene (\$49) scores high on the adorable meter, with cute colors and prints. It's also wicked warm and comfy. It comes as a set with a onesie top and matching leggings. We liked the padded knees, extra diaper room, and the stretchy fabric, and it's made from 100 percent recycled polyester. Patagonia uses recycled **GEAR, Page N13**



TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER



KIICHIRO SATO/AI

Orbitz switched her Aruba vacation but not her hotel in Tahiti

By Christopher Elliott GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Q. We had a vacation to Tahiti booked through Orbitz. My husband recently called Orbitz to see how much it would cost to change the vacation to Aruba. Orbitz rebooked our tickets without permission.

But they didn't completely switch the vacations. Now we have flights to Aruba, but our hotel remains in Tahiti. I have tried numerous times to get this corrected, with absolutely no help. I've done this through phone calls, e-mails, Facebook Messenger, and the Orbitz website chat.

The Orbitz error has cost me several hundred dollars because of change fees and penalties. Our original flight was refundable with a \$250 change fee per person. Can you help us?

JENNIFER WATERS, *Salem* **A.** Orbitz never should have changed your original reservation. I don't know why it did. I think unless we went back to the call, we wouldn't know who said what.

That's one reason I always recommend that you use the website to make any changes to your reservation with an online agency. Orbitz, like most major online agencies, keeps a record of every click and keystroke. Also, you would have received an immediate e-mail verifying the change to your itinerary.

Whatever happened here — and after a full investigation, that's still not entirely clear — a lot of things went wrong.

Seth Sikes on beach massages, Judy and Liza, and his upcoming show at Club Café

ver since he was a young boy, Seth Sikes was "obsessed" with Judy Garland. "While other kids would be singing, you know, Mariah Carey and other pop music singers' songs, I would run around the playground singing 'I got rhythm, I got music ...' [from Judy Garland's rendition of the George and Ira Gershwin song "I Got Rhythm"]. It's been in my blood forever," Sikes said on a recent phone call from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, where he is performing and vacationing. "I got off lucky as a kid in Texas who liked Judy Garland. I think other kids thought I was weird, but I wasn't bullied, thank God." Sikes, 37, is bringing his affinity for Garland and other "musical theater divas" including Liza Minnelli and Barbra Streisand, to a one-night performance - his Boston debut – at Club Café on Jan. 29. "The difference in what I do and what other people do is that I don't do any sort of impersonation. It's a loving tribute to my obsession with these people that I've had since I was a little boy," said Sikes of his show, "Seth Sikes Sings Judy and Liza and Barbra, etc." He added: "What you get to hear is old songs from a youngish guy with a modern twist." In addition to playing at New York City piano bars and other musical venues (including some in Provincetown), Sikes has worked as a production assistant and assistant director on several Broadway shows, including, most recently, the Tony Award-winning "The Band's Visit," for which he was an assistant director. We caught up with the Paris, Texas, native, who lives in New York City, to talk about all things travel.

Favorite vacation destination?

It's a toss up between Fire Island Pines [on New York's Long Island] and my new favorite getaway, which is Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Last year I went down [to Puerto Vallarta] for three weeks and stayed for four months. That seems to be a common trend among its visitors. There are so many shows to see every night — performers like myself, as well as concerts and drag shows. Great restaurants. You can rent a chair on the beach and people will bring you drinks all day and stop by to offer outdoor massages. Most importantly, it's amazingly cheap. They basically pay you to eat the food, which is often very good.

Favorite food or drink while vacationing?

Margaritas — especially at the beach. I could drink them all day, but in order to function properly, I usually stick with white wine. And when in Europe, it's great to drink carafes of local wines, which are, again, insanely cheap and often delicious. For food ... I'm from Texas, so I grew up loving Tex-Mex food which is different than Mexican food. It's all about the hot sauce.



Seth Sikes at Fire Island Pines, N.Y.

One item you can't leave home without when traveling?

A book. As the quote goes: A book is a loyal companion always. Actually, I take several books. I'm an avid reader of fiction, and I don't like e-books. I'm terrified of being stuck somewhere without a novel, so I always bring several books, which make my luggage heavier ... but it's so worth it.

Aisle or window?

Window, because it's easier to sleep, although it's not usually very good sleep. Those little neck pillows big play area in the back for me and my brother with lots of toys and snacks. I remember being in the car more than the time we spent in, say, Branson, Mo. But now that I recall my brother and I rolling around in the back of the car, it seems incredibly dangerous, doesn't it? It was a different time.

Guilty pleasure when traveling?

Aforementioned cheap beach massage.

Best travel tip?

Pack half of what you think you need. I've never

According to your account, you were on the phone with an Orbitz representative discussing flight options. You wanted to change your ticket because you were concerned that you might not get to Tahiti because of COVID-19 testing requirements. Then the call either got cut off, or the agent hung up — you're not sure which.

A web chat or an e-mail could have provided a paper trail. But it looks like you tried to call Orbitz after the dropped call, so there was no paper trail. Any record of the conversations would be in call center recordings that Orbitz won't let you listen to. You don't know definitively what you said or what the agent said.

In a perfect world, you would be able to record every phone call with Orbitz and have access to the transcript. But recording a phone conversation is a hassle, and call center employees are often instructed to hang up when you tell them you're recording the call. I guess only they can record.

Your vacation was part of a package, which means that you booked all of the components together, so it's even more confusing to me that Orbitz could have changed your flight but not the hotel. Yep, this one's a head scratcher.

You could have reached out to an executive at Orbitz to find out how to fix this. I list the names, numbers and email addresses of the customer service managers at Orbitz (Expedia) on my nonprofit consumer advocacy site at www.elliott.org/company-contacts/expedia-customer-service-contacts.

It turns out Orbitz had already offered you a credit for the price difference between the Tahiti vacation package and the one in Aruba. I contacted Orbitz, and it reviewed your case. "A refund of \$1,185 was processed back to the customer's card due to the miscommunication that occurred," a spokeswoman told me. That resolution worked for you.

Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer of Elliott Advocacy, a nonprofit organization that helps consumers resolve their problems. Elliott's latest book is "How To Be The World's Smartest Traveler" (National Geographic). Contact him at elliott.org/ help or chris@elliott.org.

Where would you like to travel to but haven't?

Israel. I'm not religious, but I'd like to visit all of the holy sites and see the splendor of the Western Wall. Also, I've heard the parties are great in the Holy Land. of which I've bought probably 20 over the years, do absolutely nothing. In fact, I've decided that they make matters worse — and yet I still bring one with me.

Favorite childhood travel memory?

We never went very far, but when we did, we'd always drive. I remember long road trips when my parents would fold down the seats of the SUV to make a been anywhere where you couldn't drop off your laundry to be done overnight. And if you forget something, you can always buy something when you get there. But that's easier said than done. I should follow my own advice: I just got to Puerto Vallarta and my bag was so full I had to sit on it to close it and then pay extra because it was so heavy.

JULIET PENNINGTON



HERE

STOWE-AWAY

Skiers, hikers, and mountain bikers heading to Vermont have a new affordably hip place to stay in Stowe. Tälta Lodge, a mountain-base camp along the bank of the Little River, is the third property launched by Lark Hotels in their Bluebird Hotels portfolio. Designed to be accessibly priced, the 51room, pet-friendly hotel offers a variety of room configurations, from standard kings to bunk rooms - revamped with plush beds and mountain-style furnishings - including many with handy modular gear walls, access to the Stowe recreation trail, and private decks to take in views of Mount Mansfield. Amenities include sauna, yearround indoor pool, firepit (s'mores, anyone?), ski and mountain biking storage, and more. Rates from \$109. 802-253-7525, www.bluebirdhotels .com/hotels/talta-lodge

HISTORIC HOUSE WALKING TOUR

Take a walking tour to a dozen of Salem's historic buildings with the new audio postcard series launched by the Peabody Essex Museum. Entitled PEM Walks, the tour explores the rich architectural heritage found within the museum's three city block campus, including a unique collection of buildings, gardens, and architectural fragments spanning three centuries. Simply look for a sign with a QR code, located in front of each historic structure, and scan with your phone to hear the audio postcard — for free. PEM Walks is hosted by Dinah Cardin, PEM's content producer, and Steven Mallory, manager of historic structures. www.pem.org/visit/historic-houses/ pem-walks

THERE

STREAMLINED CAMPING

If you've ever wanted the experience of staying in an Airstream — without having to actually purchase one — you're in luck. The recently opened Auto-Camp Joshua Tree, located adjacent to California's Joshua Tree National Park, offers 47 custom-built Airstreams, four accessible suites and four X Suites on its 25-acre property. All units are equipped with updated HVAC systems, kitchenette with essential cookware, outdoor firepit with grill, luxury linens, robes and towels, and more. Features communal clubhouse, outdoor bar with a full beverage program, fully stocked general store, and hybrid hot tub and plunge pool. Designed for minimal environmental impact, including dark sky-compliant lighting to preserve a clear view of the stars. A \$25 per night amenity fee includes breakfast granola, craft coffee and tea, bicycles, pool towels, lawn and board games, weekly events such as yoga and stargazing, and more. Rates from \$129. autocamp.com/joshua-tree

CARIBBEAN WEDDING PACKAGE

Your 2022 destination wedding is now a whole lot more affordable with all-inclusive brand Sandals Resorts' new Free Tropical Wedding package. Yes, we said free. The catch? Couples must book three nights or more to qualify for a seaside luxury wedding at one of the brand's many resorts, from Jamaica to Antigua to Barbados and more. Package includes personal wedding planning team (partnered before arrival); preparation of marriage documents; ceremony (held on grass or sand); music of choice; flowers; professional wedding photo; a two-tiered white fondant wedding cake with Dendrobium orchids; table settings with linens, silverware and crystal; cocktail reception with sparkling wine and hors d'oeuvres; and bride and groom signature cocktail. The honeymoon celebration includes 15-percent discount at the Red Lane Spa, mimosa breakfast-in-bed and more. Rates from around \$1,300 per room, per night for all-inclusive stay. (Prices vary by resort and season.) www.sandals.com/ weddings

SKYSPACE DEBUTS IN URUGUAY

Make your next art pilgrimage to the

Uruguayan seaside town of Jose Ignacio and experience a new work by internationally renowned light-artist James Turrell, located on the property of the 17-room hotel Posada Ayana. Two years in the making, Turrell's first freestanding Skyspace in South America — titled Ta Khut (The Light in early Egyptian) — is made of 44 tons of pure white marble from Laas, South Tyrol. The immersive light installation, carving out a 16-foot piece of the sky and framing it as a canvas with infinite depth, is set atop a rectangular templelike structure clad in earth and grass with entrances on both sides. Spacious hotel guestrooms, offering private gardens or ocean views, are drenched in natural light with floor-to-ceiling windows. Public spaces are designed to reflect the glamour of the Cote d'Azur of the '50s and '60s An adult-only hotel. Rates from \$450/night. www.posadaayana.com

EVERYWHERE

ART HITS THE SLOPES

Be the hippest skier on the slopes this winter with the limited-edition Artist Series skis offered by Bomber, designers of artisan-crafted ski products located at the foot of the Italian Alps. The creative spirits of Jean-Michel Basquiat and Keith Haring can be seen in the bright colors and bold designs of each series which are as functional as they are beautiful. Each ski set is handcrafted with modern technology, and available in different sizes, including four Jean-Michel Basquiat models (Black Crown, Evil Thoughts, Third Eye, In Italian) and three Keith Haring models (Bright Vibes, Flag, Luna Luna). From \$2,050. bomberski.com/ collections/artists-series

NECEE REGIS





Burton's Toddlers Grommitt Mittens





L.L. Bean's Cold Buster



Cool gear to keep kids warm

► GEAR

Continued from Page N11 materials in 87 percent of its products, which are also Fair Trade Certified sewn. You can also buy and donate used clothing and gear through its Worn Wear program.

There's a reason that Chasing Windmills merino apparel for babies, toddlers, and children is often sold out. It's ultra-soft, warm, and sourced from ranches in New Zealand and Australia. The Denver-based company was founded by a husband-and-wife team, who were looking for natural, durable wear for their own kids. The Thermal Long Johns make great base layers (and cozy pajamas) and come in sizes from three months to 10 years (\$77 for sizes up to 2 years, \$82 for sizes 3-10).

L.L. Bean's Wicked Warm



lent and PFC-free. "Our daughter is very finicky about jackets, but she loved this one," says Kelly Glass, one of our volunteer testers. "It's so soft, and easy to get on and off." It comes in lots of designs and bright colors; the camo print is a popular boy choice, but we loved the signature Golden Glow yellow (sizes 1-9, \$120). And it's reversible!

The Helly Hansen K Vertical insulated jacket (\$150) and K Vertical Bib Pant (\$110) are solid choices for young skiers and snowboarders. The jacket features a helmet-fitting hood, soft chin guard, ski pass pocket, and waterproof powder skirt. The K Vertical Bib Pant has a fleece upper, waterproof legs, and boot gaiter. The leg length and shoulder straps can be adjusted for a better fit. We liked that they were not as bulky as other snow pants, and the kids could easily move around in them.

"Adorable!" "So cute!" Those were the consistent comments from our mom testers when they saw the Burton Classic Jacket (\$114.95) and matching Maven Bib Pants (\$109.95). We loved the fun, bright patterns (especially the Doodle Dot and Dreamscape choices). We also liked the streamlined fit (as opposed to the bulky abominable snowman look).

Both the jacket and snow pants feature a patented two-layer technology providing warmth, waterproofing, and breathability, and adjustable cuffs and leg lengths for room to grow. "My son rolled around in the snow for hours and didn't get wet or cold," said one tester. Burton also has some of the best (read: warmest) mittens on the market. The Toddlers Grommitt Mittens (\$29.95) cover up to the elbow and stay on tight. (Burton recently opened a flagship store in Boston at 37 Newbury St.)

If your young ones prefer more conservative colors and designs, and are rough and tumble players, check out the Patagonia Snowshot Jacket (\$199) and Snowshot Pants (\$139). They have high-tech insulation and waterproofing, and are made to last, with hand-me-down durability.

Your kids will look very stylish on the slopes in a The North Face Freedom Extreme Jacket (\$189), with its bright and zany designs. It's not just a good looker; it's a hard worker, too, with super warmth (it's one of the warmest kids jacket that The North Face makes) and water resistance. It also has snaps, hooks, loops and pockets where vou need them.

Our final choice is also a work horse: the L.L. Bean Patroller Jacket, which the company calls its most technical waterproof kids ski jacket (\$149). It stands up to the elements, but we also like the soft, fuzzy lining, and multiple pockets. It's a good, solid choice for any New England kid.

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Everything under the

Long Underwear lives up to its name, and the lightweight synthetic material allows for great flexibility and ease of movement. The durable, hardworking base layer comes in several colors, midweight and expedition weight, from kids size 4 up to 16 years. Tops and bottoms are sold separately. (Starting at \$19.95.)

Onesies for wee ones

One-piece baby snowsuits are one of the warmest options for infants and young toddlers. They offer full coverage, wrapping your bundle of joy in a bundle of warmth. Our favorite of the best-selling bunch was the puffy and soft The North Face Infant Nuptse One-Piece (we wish it came in adult sizes!) Oh my, it was cozy! It's made of 700fill goose down (certified to the Responsible Down Standard by Control Union), is water resistant, and easy to get on and off. We like the built-in foot and hand covers, too (sizes three to 24 months, \$159).

The Patagonia Snow Pile

One-Piece (\$179) keeps kids warm and dry even on the worst winter days. Made of 100 percent recycled polyester, it's waterproof and wind-resistant, and comes in fun, bright patterns and colors. We like the removable hood, and the elasticized cuffs and bootstraps, which fit easily over mittens and boots. The Grow-fit sleeves and legs add two inches for longer wear. But we thought the size ran big,

with an especially long torso. L.L. Bean Cold Buster gets high marks for its quality, warmth, easy on and off, and reasonable price tag (\$89). The hidden "grow" cuffs, reinforced knees, fulfront zipper, and elasticized waist are nice features.

Jackets and pants

Have a kid who spends a lot

of time outdoors? Look at the new Columbia Mighty Mogul II jacket (\$99). "My boys are outdoors all winter long, ice fishing, snowmobiling, snow biking you name it!" says Nancy Clarke, a mother of three from Durham, N.H. "This jacket keeps them super warm and stands up to whatever they throw at it. They liked the cool designs, too." The Mighty Mogul II features patented Omni-Heat Infinity technology, with synthetic insulation, a thermal-reflective lining, and waterproof-breathable outer layer. It has plenty of pockets, powder skirt, fleece lined hood and extendable cuffs.

Helly Hansen K Twister is a perfect kid's puffer, super lightweight and warm. The top-quality jacket features recycled polyester insulation, is water repel-



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Winter is a great time to hit Cooperstown

► COOPERSTOWN Continued from Page N11

crowds disperse. Fortunately, there is still plenty to see and do. Here's a plan.

Stay: Treat yourself to an overnight at the Otesaga Resort Hotel, an historic grand dame set on the southern shoreline of Otsego Lake. The rambling 1909 Federal-style building oozes bygone elegance. You can't beat the location, with fine water views, and within easy walking distance to village restaurants and shops. There are 132 rooms, decked out in traditional décor, and updated amenities (thick towels and robes, lush linens, Wi-Fi and flat-screen TVs). The lobby, next to a roaring fireplace, is a fine place to hang out when the temperatures drop and the snow flies. There are also several dining venues, including The Hawkeye Bar & Grill, serving upscale tavern fare like edamame dumplings, slow- roasted prime rib, specialty pizzas, and gourmet burgers. The cavernous, ballroom-style Glimmerglass is where the resort serves daily breakfast, either an elaborate, multi-station buffet or an expanded a la carte menu (depending on current health safety regulations). Rooms start at \$239; the Curl Up and Unwind package, available Sunday-Thursday through March, starts at \$179, and includes accommodations, hot chocolate kit, and additional resort activities and amenities.

Play: Of course, you'll visit the National Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum, chock-full of memorabilia, photos, videos, and more. A mecca for baseball lovers, the three-floor museum contains more than 40,000 artifacts. Winter is the best time to visit, when there's lots more elbow room to wander and look. Also, the Custom Tour Experience is only available in winter (weekdays, Labor Day-Memorial Day). This personalized visit includes a private tour of the museum focused on your favorite team and players, and a behind-the-scenes look at artifacts that aren't currently on display.

For outdoor fun, head to Glimmerglass State Park, set along the shores of Otsego Lake. It was James Fenimore Cooper who nicknamed the lake in his "Leatherstocking Tales," calling it Glimmerglass for its smooth, reflective surface. In winter, the park is a popular place for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, ice skating, and ice fishing. Bring your snowshoes and hike the Sleeping Lion Trail, a 2.5-mile jaunt through the woods with pretty lake views. The park also has snow tubing. While at the park, take a look at the nearby Hyde Hall Covered Bridge, the oldest wooden, covered bridge in the United States. There's also snowshoeing and cross-country skiing at the Leatherstocking Golf Course at the Otesaga Resort Hotel and at Betty and Wilbur Davis State Park. Many of the village shops remain open during the winter, including the Cooperstown Bat Company, where you can purchase a custom engraved baseball bat, team apparel, and loads of souvenirs. The Cooperstown Farmers' Market is also open year-round, in a heated indoor facility, and is a fun way to meet local farmers, producers, and artisans.









The Otesaga Resort Hotel (top) is a historic grand dame set on the southern shoreline of Otsego Lake. Clockwise (from far left) the **Cooperstown Bat Company; local** produce and artisan products at **Cooperstown Farmers' Market; Cooperstown Diner.**

an curry butter chicken. There are specialty burgers and sandwiches, too. Join the locals at the super tiny Cooperstown Diner: this village mainstav just celebrated its 100-year anniversary. It's a favorite place for an unfussy breakfast or lunch. Stagecoach Coffee serves fresh roasted coffee, pastries, and breakfast and lunch sandwiches. Craft beer lovers should check out the Brewery Ommegang, specializing in Belgian ales, with an on-site café. For a warm winter's nightcap, visit the Cooperstown Distillery. Curl up in the comfy tasting lounge and bar with an artisan craft cocktail, made with the distillery's custom-crafted spirits.

Eat & drink: A cold winter's night is the perfect time to cozy up at the intimate Nicoletta's Italian Café on Main Street. The family-owned restaurant serves hearty, homemade meals in its

warm, welcoming dining room. Homemade sausages, lasagna, and pasta dishes are top sellers, including the lobster ravioli and shrimp scampi. Mel's at 22 is



with a soul-warming bowl of creamy clam chowder or the grilled shrimp caprese with fresh burrata. Popular entrees include the ultra-rich mac and cheese made with brie, cheddar, and asiago, scallops carbonara, and the Indi-

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Providence's new hotel reflects its namesake

► HOTEL

Continued from Page N11

Paolino Properties, a property management and development company, next door to the Exchange Building. The Beatrice is his first hotel endeavor without partners, and the toughest development project he's been involved in.

"I always wanted to do a hotel. I always loved this building." Paolino thinks this is the best area of the city. Paolino wanted to be mayor of Providence since the age of 5, but it was time as US Ambassador to Malta from 1994 to 1996 that inspired his new visions.

"I traveled a lot and knew what was missing from my hometown. This hotel was missing," said Paolino.

Having world-famous restaurant brand Cipriani in the building certainly helps. Their restaurant Bellini (an ode to Giuseppe Cipriani's 1948 invention of the Bellini cocktail in Venice) has outposts in New York, Miami, and now. Providence. Ignacio Cipriani was heavily involved in all aspects of the design and vibe of the first floor, to keep it in line with the fourth-generation family business's brand. The ever-changing menu puts a modern twist on classic Italian dishes served on hand-painted plates. The restaurant is chic and so very Italian, but with some subtle

Rhode Island influences. For example, while much of the furniture was made in Dubai, the woodwork was done by Newport boatbuilder Jim Thompson.

The very meticulous finishing touches are still being added to the rooftop private Bellini Club (set to open in early 2022). The roof will be an indoor/outdoor space for guests and members only, serving custom cocktails and a specialty menu against the backdrop of sweeping views of historic downtown Providence.

"It's helping to make the difference of what we're trying to do for the city," said Paolino.

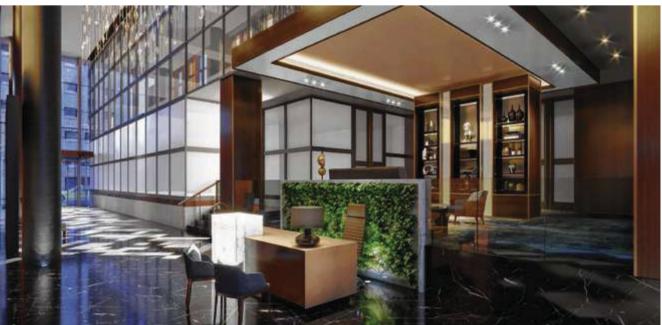
The hotel's opening is significant in Providence, a city that has worked hard to get past its notoriously gritty reputation. Similarly, once Beatrice herself got involved (in spirit), the hotel became more than just a real estate project to Paolino.

Coia, Paolino's sister, worked with Eric Zuena of ZDS Architecture & Interiors to put special touches throughout the hotel that reminded her of her mother.

"My mom was always ahead of her time in everything," said Coia. "She was very elegant. She loved color. She loved modern when modern wasn't even en vogue, so we started there."

Sometimes, that meant re-imagining

a lively, contemporary bistro with a wellrounded menu of updated classics. Start



THE BEATRICI

The lobby is the repurposed alleyway between buildings, now filled with plants and enormous light sculptures.

the details that might go over other people's heads. The original design plan had no significant counter space around the bathroom sink, which just would not do for a perfectly put-together woman like Beatrice, said her daughter. She wouldn't have liked the shower head in the center of the glass shower since it would get the floor wet, so they

moved it to the far side of the wall.

"She always wanted to be filled in on the day's activities," said Paolino. "If she was alive today she'd be here a lot, and she'd probably have been very involved."

In her absence, a hotel mural implores, "Tell me, tell me, tell me," Temkin's favorite phrase to use any time she called her children and grandchildren to ask what was new in their lives.

In that spirit, The Beatrice hopes to be more than a chic stopover for out-oftowners and alumni weekends. Both The Beatrice and Cipriani have been consistently busy since their opening,

with a huge community interest. But most importantly, what would Beatrice Temkin think of her namesake?

"I think she'd love it. She loved the community so much. She also loved notoriety. And she'd get a real kick out of seeing her name in The Boston Globe," said Paolino.

"Mostly, she'd always say, 'You'll miss me when I'm gone.' And if she was here right now I'd tell her, 'Dammit, Mom, you were right."

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