

Latest renovation work begins at Mission

By MARY SCHLEY

THE SEISMIC retrofit of the Sir Harry Downie Museum and overhaul of the courtyard and gardens in front of the Carmel Mission Basilica started early this month, with plans calling for repairing walls, fixing drainage, making the courtyard more ADA accessible, and building new restrooms.

The work is part of a second phase of restoration of the



PHOTO/KERRY BELSER

Construction crews were busy Thursday working on the retrofit of the Sir Harry Downie Museum at the Mission. A \$4 million renovation project is underway.

EVENTS

From page 12A

"We're going to do something, but we're not going to do theater until we can do theater with facial expressions, with touching and with breathing on each other," he said. "I don't need audiences looking at the actors and thinking, 'Are they safe?' That's not what theater is supposed to do — it's supposed to transport you to another place and time."

Moorer said he hopes more clarity will come from the state soon, including what the rules will be when the tier system is abandoned in mid-June, assuming case rates continue to stay low.

"I kind of need to know in May, because we have a lot of performers waiting in the wings, and we're supposed to start rehearsing end of June, so that's a little tight," he said.

There's no need to speculate about planning for indoor performances, though, since the Golden Bough is slated for a remodel. "We're about to break ground," he said. "It should be finished by spring 2022, and hopefully we'll be back to whatever the new normal is going to be."

Tentative plans for the Forest Theater include "Shrek" in late summer and "Othello" in the fall, according to Moorer.

Fair is on

Kelly Violini, CEO of the Monterey County Fairgrounds, said that as soon as the state announced rules for public and private events, organizers started "coming out of the woodwork" with inquiries about using the fairgrounds.

"And of course everybody wants to jump back in," she said. "But there's also that hesitancy of making sure we're doing it safely, and the overall feeling of, 'Is the public ready for this?'"

Violini said she's trying her best to keep on top of the ever-changing rules and guidelines.

First on the potential calendar is the Artichoke Festival in late July. "They're working with the health department to receive approvals in order to move forward," she said. "They're a very active and motivated group."

Cali Roots is planning a couple of smaller concerts in August, rather than the multiday music festivals the group often organizes and promotes, and "the Cowboy Festival has expressed interest in holding smaller events, as well," she said.

Plans are also moving ahead for the fair, which takes place the first weekend in September. In order to ensure there's plenty of space for everything and everyone, the livestock competition will be held the week before.

"With livestock, you have to plan early on, because the kids and 4H and FFA advisors have to plan," she said. "So, we thought the safer thing would be to hold that the week prior to the public fair, due to limited capacity most likely being a requirement."

Violini and her staff are planning the fair according to current guidelines, and if the state relaxes them and "will allow us to open it up a bit more, then we definitely will."

Modifications include providing onsite parking, "which I think a lot of people are going to love," she said, and fewer carnival rides. Local entertainment like the Money Band, Journey Revisited and Left of Center are already booked.

"We're excited that everything is reopening," she said.

Mission, which was founded by Junipero Serra in 1771 and is one of California's most historic properties. The first phase approved in 2010 included the seismic retrofit of the Basilica, new electrical and plumbing, and other vital infrastructure work, and was completed in 2013.

Phase 2 was approved by the city in 2015, and while certain aspects were finished, including redoing the Mission's large quadrangle courtyard and fountain, others, including new bathrooms and retrofitting the museum, were set aside due to lack of funds.

This week, the nonprofit that's raising the funds and spearheading the restoration projects, the Carmel Mission Foundation, reported it has received 90 percent of the \$4 million needed to complete Phase 2, including \$1.8 million from the Hind Foundation, \$1.5 million from an unnamed

family and \$100,000 from the Hayward Foundation, with about \$400,000 left to go.

The work on the museum and in the forecourt includes seismically retrofitting the century-old adobe museum building, expanding the interior exhibit space and adding two ADA-compliant restrooms on the west side.

Upgraded irrigation and drainage systems will be installed to resolve ongoing problems with flooding and water damage to the old plaster and adobe, and the courtyard itself will be resurfaced and better graded to accommodate disabled visitors. The garden will be relandscaped with drought-tolerant native plants, and a temporary wall that was added when a segment near the front gate had to be removed due to safety concerns will be replaced. The fountain in the garden will undergo restoration, as well.

The foundation's goal is to have the work done by the fall in time to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the Mission.

GLACIER BAR MD

May Specials to Celebrate Mom

- **Silkpeel and Cryo21 facial \$200** (reg. \$250)
Exfoliate, lift, tone, and hydrate the skin.
- **Under arm/bikini wax combo \$85** (reg. \$110)
- **Buy 40 units Botox get 10 free** (\$130 savings)
- **Buy 2 syringes of filler get \$200 off**
- **Cryotherapy membership \$199*** (reg. \$300)
*First 10 clients

jbj curated goods
POP UP EVENT APRIL 30TH, 1-5PM

831-250-5874 | Glacierbarcarmel.com | 26135 Carmel Rancho Blvd, Suite F-21, Carmel

Monterey Bay Eye Center

21 Upper Ragsdale Dr, Ste. 200
Ryan Ranch Monterey

Don't Let Glaucoma Darken Your Life!

Illustration of field of vision decrease from glaucoma



SCHEDULE AN EVALUATION WITH DR. ANNA SHI, TODAY.

It is estimated that half of those with glaucoma don't know that they have it. Glaucoma rarely has symptoms—until it's too late. A dilated eye exam can detect glaucoma early and save your sight. Don't delay.

Risk Factors:

- Age over 50
- Severe near-sightedness
- Family history of glaucoma
- High eye pressure
- History of eye injury or trauma

montereybayeyecenter.com | 831.372.1500