

Two Boots debuts its celeb-themed pizza joint in Midtown

Published July 12, 2013 by Dana Kopp Franklin



This week's news touches on three of Food Biz's favorite obsessions: pizza, beer and the Gulch. (We're taking a break from barbecue and fancy coffee this week.)

First, this hot slice: New York-based pizza pie purveyors Two Boots opened their doors this week in the former Great Escape space on Broadway in Midtown.

Two Boots is not a traditional New York pizza joint. The eclectic pies unite Cajun and Italian influences, and the concept serves up a generous helping of pop culture whimsy.

That's been evident for a few weeks, as the renovated space sprouted with exterior murals celebrating jazz legend Charlie Parker, The Dude from *The Big Lebowski*, comedian Andy Kaufman's alter ego Tony Clifton, and other figures who've inspired Two Boots' various pies.

Unique to Nashville is a new avatar: country legend Kitty Wells. Two Boots Nashville executive chef Chuck Ruwet created a special pie in her honor, topped with slices of hot chicken (supplied by Midtown neighbor Hattie B.'s), blue cheese dressing, pickles and jalapeños on a white pie.

There's also a pizza named for The Great Escape, which operated for many years on the site, selling comic books, records and more to a couple generations of Nashvillians. (The Great Escape's main local location is now well established on Charlotte Pike.) The pizza homage is topped with house-made andouille sausage meatballs, fresh basil and ricotta.

For now, Two Boots Nashville is serving pizza only, whole pies or by the slice. (Sandwiches and salads will come later.) Boyer hopes to secure a beer license soon. Two Boots Nashville is at 1925 Broadway. This weekend, hours will be 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday; they'll be closed this Sunday. Regular hours begin Monday, July 15: 11 a.m.-midnight Sundays through Wednesdays; 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. Thursdays through Saturdays.