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TABLES

OPENINGS, CLOSINGS, AND CHATTER FROM THE RESTAURANT SCENE

COMING SOON: Dumpling Daughter owner Nadia Liu Spellman tells me she'll open a Boston branch in February 2023, taking over the old Lee Chen's space (475 West Broadway). Unlike her other Chinese restaurants in Brookline, Cambridge, and Weston, this one will be takeout and standing-room only, with a focus on dumplings alone, such as pan-seared pork and cabbage with soy ginger and Mike's hot honey glaze and chicken with sesame and chili oil. "There will be fewer items, but creative combinations," she says.

WELCOME BACK: On a happy New Year's Day note, temporarily shuttered Israeli restaurant Simcha officially reopens in Sharon (370 South Main St.) to kick off 2023,

hosting a first-come, first-served brunch starting at 10 a.m.: Try lamb belly hash, smoked pork Benedict, shakshuka, and brie-andjam boreka. And slinky Mexican-inspired Back Bay hideaway Lolita Cocina & Teguila Bar (271 Dartmouth St.) has also reopened, with 2,000 more square feet and plenty of potent margaritas and sangria. In the South End, Casa Giacomo will open soon in the old Giacomo's space (431 Columbus Ave.) from Mazi Food Group, the team behind Ilona and Krasi. The Italian restaurant will be open nightly from 5 p.m.

KARA BASKIN



JONATHAN WIGGS/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

Dumplings at Dumpling Daughter in Cambridge.