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Town ‘on the upswing’



The Framingham Planning Board has approved a plan to convert the two upper floors of this building at 92 Concord St. from office use to housing. ART ILLMAN/DAILY NEWS

Framingham board OKs plan to convert downtown office space to housing

Caroline Bunnell
The MetroWest Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

FRAMINGHAM — A proposal to convert the upper two floors of a three-story building at 92 Concord St. from office use to housing units was unanimously approved during a recent Planning Board meeting.

Longtime building owner Vaios Theodorakos proposed converting the office space on the second and third floors to 21 housing units. During the Sept. 4 Planning Board meeting, he voiced concern about safety issues at the property. The building was constructed in the 1920s and was most recently renovated in the late 1980s and early ‘90s. But with

demand for office space declining, Theodorakos proposed converting the space to residential units. “One of the challenges that this building has had for the last 20 plus years is it’s a cut-through building, so people walk through Concord Street out to the rear of Franklin Street by cutting through the building,” Theodorakos said during the meeting. “That has caused many problems over the years with vagrants, homeless people and burglaries.”

See BOARD, Page 2A

Hopkinton to get new pizzeria in familiar spot

Tom Benoit
The MetroWest Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK

A new pizzeria is taking the spot of the former Hiller’s Pizzeria on 77 West Main St. in Hopkinton. Ryan Dion, owner of soon-to-open Crust & Co. Pizza & More, told the Daily News that the restaurant will preserve old favorites. “It’s going to be the same gourmet pizzas that the community is used to, (as well as) salads, sandwiches, appetizers,” said Dion, who lives in Westford. “A lot of the food is going to be very similar to what guests remember here from the past restaurant.” Along with offering many of the same flavors and menu items, the new pizzeria “looks forward to supporting the Hopkinton community” by partnering with local organizations, according to a press release from the restaurant.

Hiller’s Pizzeria closes after owner is sentenced to prison

Hiller’s Pizzeria, which closed this summer, was owned by Petros “Peter” Sismanis, who according to the Hopkinton Independent, was found guilty in June of indecent assault and battery on a person over 14 years of age and two counts of witness intimidation. Sismanis was sentenced to two and a half years in prison, with six months to be served and two years suspended. He also received three years probation for the charges and is required to register as a sex offender. Dion said he will overcome the former restaurant’s reputation by bringing himself into the community. “I’ve never met or have any relationship with the family,” he said. “I am

See PIZZERIA, Page 2A

Court records of suspect in Shrewsbury fatal shooting unsealed

Kinga Borondy
Worcester Telegram & Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

Court records pertaining to the 2023 assault trial of Snehal Srivastava, charged in the shooting death of a Shrewsbury father during a dispute over graffiti, were improperly sealed from public scrutiny and ordered released

Sept. 3 after an inquiry into the records was made by the Telegram & Gazette. Clerk Magistrate of Westborough District Court, Joseph McCarthy, on Sept. 3 ordered the records to be unsealed. The T&G received copies of the records a day later Sept. 4. The documents detail the 2023 trial of Srivastava, 26, of Edgewater Avenue in Shrewsbury on charges of assault and

battery against three people, including two police officers, that occurred in 2021. The T&G learned of the incident in 2021 and the subsequent trial as it was reporting on the shooting death of Kevin Doherty, 56, who was shot on the morning of Thursday, Aug. 28, as he was returning home from walking his 6-year-old son to school.

Doherty confronted Srivastava who he saw spray painting the bridge at Jordan Pond and was shot while talking to a police dispatcher as he called law enforcement for help. Srivastava was arrested following a neighborhood and school lockdown. In the confrontation at Jordan Pond, See COURT RECORDS, Page 2A



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