



Stratham Summerfest goes big for America 250

INSIDE, 5A

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The proposed four-story mixed-use building at 931 Ocean Boulevard includes retail on the first floor, a second-floor restaurant and condominiums on the upper levels. PROVIDED BY THE TOWN OF HAMPTON

Hampton OKs project at Cinnamon Rainbows site

Mixed-use redevelopment coming to location destroyed by fire

Patrick Cronin

Portsmouth Herald | USA TODAY NETWORK

HAMPTON — The town Planning Board has approved a proposal to redevelop the former Cinnamon Rainbows surf shop and North Beach Bar & Grille site — destroyed by fire — into a four-story mixed-use building at 931 Ocean Blvd.

The board voted unanimously on July 1 to approve the site plan for the project which calls for commercial on the first floor, a restaurant on the second and four residential units occupying the third and fourth floors.

“It’s essential to bring this property back to life,” attorney F.X. Bruton, representing Barn Realty and owners Fred Schaake and family, told the board. “This is the former Cinnamon Rainbows property, and obviously, it’s been in a state of disrepair, and now demolished to the grade... (It’s) one of the focal points of Hampton, and we are really excited to bring it back in

a nice way.”

Cinnamon Rainbows, which, after the fire, relocated to Route 1 in North Hampton, plans to return to the site once the redevelopment is complete. North Beach Bar and Grille closed permanently after the fire, and a new restaurant is planned at the site.

Bruton previously said the proposed new development “addresses and deals with a devastating fire,” which destroyed the one-story building on Aug. 19, 2022.

Demolished last July after being vacant for three years, the building on the triangle-shaped parcel housed Cinnamon Rainbows surf shop, the Secret Spot, and the North Beach Bar and Grille.

Barn Realty is proposing a four-story mixed-use 8,009 square-foot building with retail space on the first floor, a restaurant and retail on the second, and four residential units on the third and fourth floors

See **PROJECT**, Page 2A

Music Hall’s new leader was raised in Beethoven’s Austria apartment

Ian Lenahan

Portsmouth Herald | USA TODAY NETWORK

PORTSMOUTH — An Austrian-born, world-renowned pianist and composer raised in an apartment formerly inhabited by Beethoven has been tapped as The Music Hall’s next president and chief executive officer.

Markus Gottschlich will be handed the reins to the Chestnut Street theater and performing arts venue effective Tuesday, Sept. 1, ending the national search for Tina Sawtelle’s successor.

The Vienna native will leave his role as executive director of Warehouse Arts District Association in St. Petersburg, Florida, to take the downtown Portsmouth role, less than two years ahead of The Music Hall’s 150th anniversary year.

“It is a profound honor to join The Music Hall and help steward this incredible legacy into its next chapter,” Gottschlich said in a Wednesday, July 8, statement. “What draws me to Portsmouth is the vibrant community spirit and the immense potential within the organization’s unique venues. As both an executive and performing artist, I believe a cultural institution truly belongs to its people. I look forward to listening to, learning from, and collaborating with our brilliant staff, board, volunteers, and neighbors to foster innovation while keeping our work deeply rooted in the community.”



Gottschlich

The musician grew up in the home that Beethoven once lived in and received a classical piano education as a child. His talents and ear for jazz took him to the U.S., where he attended Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg and then graduated from Western Connecticut State University with a degree in international business and political relations.

Gottschlich’s debut solo album “When the Day is Done” was released in 2008. In May 2014, Gottschlich was named a Steinway Artist, reserved for the world’s top pianists that play exclusively on Steinway pianos, joining the likes of Billy Joel, Irving Berlin, Harry Connick Jr. and Diana Krall.

See **GOTTSCHLICH**, Page 2A

Gov. Kelly Ayotte ordered Rye Beach parking restored after complaints

Ian Lenahan

Portsmouth Herald | USA TODAY NETWORK

RYE — The call to remove nearly all of the recently installed no-parking signs on Route 1A came from Gov. Kelly Ayotte before the Fourth of July weekend.

The first-term governor directed the state Department of Transportation to take down the signs — which had eliminated roughly 90 free public beach parking spots in Rye — after receiving complaints. All but six spaces were restored for public use.

“After hearing concerns from local stakeholders, Governor Ayotte directed DOT to remove parking re-

strictions placed on Route 1A to ensure Granite Starters can enjoy the beach this summer and support local businesses that depend on access to parking,” said John Corbett, a spokesperson for Ayotte, in a Tuesday, July 7, statement. “Once the season is over, the governor plans to convene DOT, the Department of Safety, the town of Rye, and local stakeholders to work on a long-term solution.”

The state Department of Transportation installed the no-parking signs along Ocean Boulevard after the Rye Select Board voted in mid-May to amend its

See **PARKING**, Page 2A



Gov. Kelly Ayotte ordered nearly all of the recently installed no-parking signs on Route 1A removed just before the Fourth of July weekend.

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