

## **Building Condemned**

By Ryan Hutton

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ADAMS -- The Mausert Block on Park Street (Route 8) has been condemned due to an unsafe fire escape and the building is poised to be foreclosed upon by the bank that holds its mortgage.

Code Enforcement Officer Scott Koczela said the building was condemned in mid February because its fire escape was not safe. He said there was also some problems inside the building.

The building was purchased by Boston architect Chiong Lin in May 2007 for \$600,000. She put in an offer on the building without seeing the inside.

Chiong purchased it from Thomas Hawke, who had owned it for over 30 years previously. The building was home to a F.W. Woolworth's store for years before the main commercial space was divided up into four commercial spaces with 18 apartments above.

"There was no relocation of residential or commercial tenants," Koczela said. "The condemnation was just to let emergency services know that there were dangerous situations in the building."

The building is still in bankruptcy and the bank, Bayview Financial of Coral Gables, Fla., has not taken legal possession of it yet. Koczela said bank representatives will be at the April 1 meeting of the Board of Health to discuss some of the terms of taking the building over.