



Jim Russell

Patisserie owner Jean-Yves Bougouin, here with daughter, Sonya, 1, has been fined multiple times for having a sandwich board outside his shop in downtown Lenox. He said the fines are just plain “harassment.”

Lenox cracks down on sandwich boards

By Jim Russell

LENOX—The building department has issued warnings and fines to many businesses — and the municipal library — for allegedly violating signage display bylaws.

In letters to those affected, Building Commissioner William Thornton

said the dragnet was the selectmen’s idea. Thornton declined a request to be interviewed, but made available the files. They show he sent 29 letters. Thornton took more than one action against some businesses, such as Patisserie Bakery located at 30 Church Street.

Patisserie Bakery was warned,

then fined \$25, then fined \$50, then fined \$100; the owners paid the first fine, but have appealed the others to Massachusetts Trial Court. The bakery ran afoul of the bylaw even though their sandwich board displayed on their own property.