

Police Log

Drunk driving charged

Kimberly A. Harpool, 42, of 149 Hamilton Ave. was charged with drunk driving March 25 after a motorist called police at 1:30 a.m. to report that she was driving erratically on the Newport Bridge.

Harpool is scheduled for a pre-trial hearing March 31 in Newport District Court, police said.

Juvenile charged

A 16-year-old male was charged March 25 with driving without a license after he was pulled over on Narragansett Avenue.

The boy was referred to Family Court, police said.

Acts of vandalism

- A resident of Windsor Street told police March 26 that a bird-bath, a concrete planter, and some landscape lights had been damaged.

- A man from Highland Drive reported March 23 that his mailbox post and newspaper box post were knocked down, possibly by a vehicle.

- A Union Street resident reported March 22 that a picket fence had been damaged by vandals.

- A resident of Marine Avenue told police that he believed a neighbor urinated on his car door and put screws in his parking spot as part of an ongoing dispute over parking.

- A Windsor Street man reported March 25 that his fence had damaged.

General Assembly passes municipal court legislation

By Donna K. Drago

A local court for Jamestown is a distinct possibility now that bills to enable the town to establish a municipal court have passed both sides of the General Assembly.

The measure passed the House on March 1 and the Senate on March 22. The bills were submitted by legislators Rep. Bruce Long (R-Jamestown, Middletown) and Sen. Teresa Paiva Weed (D-Jamestown, Newport).

“With approval of this legislation and action by the Town Council, the residents of Jamestown will have the convenience of having their municipal matters dealt with locally,” said Paiva Weed. “The court will also provide a new revenue stream for the town, thereby providing a measure of property tax relief for the residents,” Paiva Weed said.

Like the state’s other municipal courts, the Jamestown court would have the authority to impose sentences of less than 30 days in jail and fines up to \$500, or both. The court could also handle matters such as traffic and parking tickets, municipal code and animal regulations violations and minimum housing ordinances. The court would have the power to administer oaths, order the testimony of witnesses and authorize and execute search warrants, Paiva Weed said.

Town Administrator Bruce Keiser said that the next step in the process is for the Town Council to enact a local ordinance

that sets the boundaries of what types of violations the court will prosecute.

Keiser said the enabling legislation gives Jamestown the power to handle all types of cases Paiva Weed outlined, but he added that the town can “be more selective.”

He said he recommended to the council a “putting a toe in the water” approach to establishing the court, starting with zoning, minimum housing, and harbor violations.

On traffic issues, Keiser said they are handled now by the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal, which gives Jamestown a percentage of each fine that is paid. If Jamestown were to undertake traffic violations, “we would only get \$2 per ticket more” than the town now gets from the traffic tribunal.

“It’s not cost effective to work with that volume” of cases in a small town, Keiser said.

The council has not yet scheduled discussions on how or when to establish the court, Keiser said.

Fire and EMS Runs

Fire runs

3:01 p.m., March 20, Ladder 1, Unit 10, and Engine 3 were sent to Route 138 eastbound for a car accident with injuries.

3:20 p.m., March 20, Ladder 1 and Unit 11 went to Pemberton Avenue for a car accident with injuries.

10:31 p.m., March 22, Engine 2 was dispatched to North Kingstown for a mutual aid call.

5:15 p.m., March 23, the special services team went to Ferry Wharf for a dive training exercise.

7:00 p.m., March 23, all units turned out for a training drill at the fire station.

11:05 a.m., March 24, Unit 10 and Engine 3 went to Route 138 eastbound for a car accident with injuries.

EMS runs

3:00 p.m., March 20, Unit 11 took a trauma victim from Pemberton Avenue to Newport Hospital.

3:00 p.m., March 20, Unit 10 went to Route 138 eastbound to transport an auto accident victim to Newport Hospital.

1:30 p.m., March 23, Unit 10 was dispatched to North Main Road to take a person to Newport Hospital.

11:15 p.m., March 24, Unit 10 was sent to the Newport Bridge for a car accident that sent two people to Newport Hospital.

Births



Brayden John Dickinson

Dickinson

A son, Brayden John Dickinson, was born Feb. 21, 2006 at Women and Infants’ Hospital to Jane (Seymour) and Blake Dickinson of Saundertown.

Lindsey Dickinson is the big sister.

Maternal grandparents are Marilyn and David Seymour of Wickford and paternal grandparents are Barbara and Bert Dickinson of Pemberton Avenue. Great-grandmothers are Clarice Seymour of East Greenwich and Dottie Dickinson of Conanicut Avenue.

Andersen

A daughter, River Jane Andersen, was born March 13 at South County Hospital to Ellen E. House and Michael Andersen of Hamilton Avenue.

Grandparents are Bill and

Ellen House of Hamilton Avenue and Svend Andersen of Denmark. Great-grandparents are William and Marie House of East Greenwich.

Smith

A daughter, Alexandra Elizabeth Smith, was born March 21 at South County Hospital to Tara and Roy Smith of Wakefield.

Grandparents are Roxanne Smith of Jamestown, George Smith of Florida, and Magdalene Brown of Mansfield, Mass., and Thomas and Denise Brown of Wellesley, Mass.

Caroline Head of Jamestown is the great-grandmother.

Froberg

A son, Joseph Prescott Froberg, was born Feb. 20, 2006 at Women and Infants’ Hospital to Antonia Mendes and Stephen P. Froberg of North Main Road.

Grandparents are Astrid Mendes and Prescott and Florence Froberg, all of Jamestown.

Remember to send news of your upcoming events to The Press at least two weeks in advance!

Aubin sexual assault trial underway in Kent County

A Jamestown doctor is on trial in Kent County Superior Court for allegedly fondling a patient who was having knee surgery.

Dr. Russel J. Aubin, 40, of Sloop Street, an anesthesiologist, is charged with one count of second-degree sexual assault. He is accused of inappropriately touching a 21-year-old woman during her knee surgery in December 2004.

In a case from 2000, which occurred at Wing Memorial Hospital, in Palmer, Mass., a 23-year-old woman complained Aubin fondled her during surgery on her wrist. Judge Melanie W. Thunberg said she will allow the testimony of the Massachusetts woman to come into the current trial, ruling that the previous incident is similar enough to the one at hand to suggest a pattern of behavior.

Aubin’s Rhode Island medical license was suspended in January of last year. In December, after hearing testimony from both patients, a Department of Health hearing officer revoked it permanently.

The doctor has denied any wrong-doing. Jury selection was scheduled for Tuesday morning.



Rochelle Ducharme
Travel Consultant

P.O. Box 253
Jamestown, RI 02835
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