

Police Log

Drunk driving charged

Olga McMaster, 47, of 87 Southwest Ave. was charged with drunk driving Nov. 13 after she was observed driving erratically through town.

McMaster appeared in Newport District Court on a violation hearing Nov. 14, police said.

Attempted B & E reported

A resident of Bayview Drive told police Nov. 9 that someone tried to gain entry to his house by ripping off the door that led to where the garbage cans were kept.

Nothing was taken, police said.

Vandalism reported

A resident of Weatherly Court reported Nov. 11 that political signs and beer cans were strewn around his lawn.

Threats yelled

A Jamestown man reported Nov. 11 that he was driving through Shoreby Hill and came upon a plank with nails protruding from it in the road. When he stopped to move the plank off the road, a man in a pickup truck at the construction site yelled threats at him.

When police arrived at the scene, the man in the pickup was gone, they said.

lation about my specific reasons for retiring. I think this should clear it up," he said.

"The philosophy of the recreation department according to the town Comprehensive Community Plan is to provide opportunities for all people to participate in recreation. Future goals of the department include increased access to alternative recreational activities such as the arts and cultural programs, and linkage of recreational areas through linear walkways and bikeways. The recreation department would like to see an increase in maintenance capabilities as well as improvements to the existing inventory of recreational facilities, development of additional recreational facilities, increased volunteerism and additional out-of-town recreational programming. Increasingly, the political climate is making the achievement of some of these worthy, community-wide goals literally impossible," Bolles said.

He also said that the department's effort to provide a participatory theater arts program, once lauded by the Town Council, is now the subject of false charges apparently instigated by representatives of certain private groups.

Town hall project moving quickly

Construction on the new town hall on Narragansett Avenue is two weeks ahead of schedule, primarily because moving the old Town Hall building off its foundation to another part of the site took less time than expected, according to Town Administrator Bruce Keiser.

He briefed Town Council Monday about the status of the \$3 million project. Keiser also reported the first contract change, adding \$8,000 to remove unexpected ledge found when the area for an expanded foundation was dug. He said the amount represented an hourly charge for actual labor, without any charge for a contractor fee.

The administrator noted that foundation forms were on site, ready for placement, and concrete will be poured within several days.

Given that these groups enjoy the use of town facilities and equipment free of charge, their behavior appears unseemly at best. All revenues from recreation department programs are deposited in the self-funded .801 Recreation account, a system that pre-dates Bolles' employment with the town. Records for each activity were kept separate by his department so that funds, especially donations, were not misdirected. Funds remaining after expenses were generally used for improvements to the appropriate facility. These funds carry over year to year, Bolles said. They absolutely did not revert to the general fund, though that misinformation is still being repeated at the Town Council level. "Similarly, funds from our dance and exercise programs are deposited in the self-funded country-club account, which also rolls over year to year. The singling out of the theater program as being essentially 'different' from these other self-funded programs is questionable. The constant misrepresentation of the nature and goals of our very successful teen program, an after school activity, which belongs in the Community Center, is also disheartening," Bolles said.

"Far from seeing our maintenance capabilities increased we have found our parks supervisor and his equipment forced out of our only maintenance space to make way for an animal shelter that has yet to materialize," he said. "We were promised temporary garage space elsewhere, which also never materialized. In the meantime, thousands of dollars worth of recreation department landscaping equipment continues to sit outside in the elements, and considerable budget funds have been spent on shop labor costs for routine maintenance and repairs which would normally have been performed in house, especially

over the winter. Nearly a year later, the garage still sits vacant. This is a disservice not only to my department, but to the taxpayer," Bolles added.

He said that the aforementioned was not everything that was in the letter, but it was adequate to make his position and feelings understood. "Our current leadership clearly does not favor a progressive approach to public recreation and leisure services. That's why I find this an appropriate time to announce my retirement," he said.

The many letters written to the Jamestown Press in support of Bolles and his distinguished record as parks and recreation director, indicate that he is loved and respected, and will be sorely missed.

Matt Bolles was born in Providence, R.I., on Aug. 25, 1948 and graduated from Pilgrim High School in 1966. He left Suffolk University after two and-a-half years to pursue a music career. He married Judith Steere in 1972. He and his wife have two children, Dylan and Erin, age 32 and 30 respectively.

They have one grandchild, Naima Chara Bolles, age 2 years and one month. The family has lived in Jamestown since 1976. Bolles began working for the Jamestown Parks and Recreation Department in 1988. He is an NYSCA certified sports clinician, a USSF licensed coach, a USSF certified referee, and has spent 30-plus years as a professional singer and musician.

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