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**Park**

Continued from page 1

ble, rocks, and wood that had nails sticking out of it.

"Skateboarding on the basketball court is ruining the court itself, and to build something on it is just something we can't have," Piva said.

Also along to survey the damage were Kitts and town councilwoman Barbara Szepatowski.

Kitts said the damage was bad, but the worst part was what most people do not see.

"I have caught people skateboarding on the roof of the school, and we have had to clean up urine in the doorways at the school in the morning before we can even open the school," he said.

Parks and recreation maintenance supervisor Ron Parfitt said he and his crew spend every Monday morning cleaning up the area.

"We will come out here and there will be trash all around the trash can, but not in it," he said. "And there is a boulder that keeps getting moved onto the basketball court. We finally had to get someone to move it to Ft. Getty with a backhoe to keep it off of there."

Parfitt also notes how the tennis courts have been abused in the same manner.

"We have locked the gates to the courts to keep the boarders off because it messes up the surface, which was redone, but they peeled back the fence and ruined the

fence to get in there," he said.

This most recent round of vandalism is particularly distressing to all of them because of the success of the SkateFest.

"We really thought we got the message out there to the kids about taking care of this place because of the insurance issues. We advised them of the rules and thought that would take care of it," Piva said.

Although he does not have an idea who the culprits were, he does point out that he hopes, and thinks, that the damage was done from skaters who are from off the island.

"Unfortunately that doesn't change the outcome. We really need to encourage the local kids to report what they see going on. If they allow this to go on in their park, it is adding to the problem. The have to make the change," he said. "They can call the recreation department or the police and give a report anonymously if they want."

Piva acknowledged that he had a plan in place to shut down the park, and said the reality of the situation is that it may be the only option.

"Basically the option is to shut it down, and when and if we open it again we will have to pay staff to monitor it, which will mean it will only be open certain hours," Piva said.

The first step to keep the park open is to install security cameras and increase police patrols in the area.

"The Jamestown police do monitor the area, but unfortunately they aren't, and shouldn't be expected to be, here 24 hours a day," Piva said.

The park is closed during school hours and users must wear helmets. Reporting those who violate these rules is a start to controlling the area, Piva said.

"Older skaters, especially those from off-island, have been known to monopolize the skate park and island teens, little kids and those that take care of the park are not getting equal time," Piva said. "All of this is a misuse of the facilities that we can't have."

Anyone who has information about the vandalism or who may witness future misuse of the park can make an anonymous report by calling the Jamestown Police at 423-1212 or the recreation department at 423-7260.

**New yoga classes start today**

Two new yoga classes will begin Thursday, Sept. 6, at Central Baptist Church.

Chair Yoga will be offered from 5 to 6 p.m. at \$8 per class for the series or \$10 for one-time drop in.

From 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., Hatha Yoga basics will be taught. The fee is \$12 per class for the series, or \$15 to drop in for a single session.

All classes will be taught by Janet Larson. For more information, contact her at 423-1238.

**East passage picnic planned**

The East Passage Lot Owners Association will hold its annual Family Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 8, from 4 to 6 p.m. The raindate is Sunday, Sept. 9.

The event will be at Rainbow Pond and all are welcome to attend. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share.

For more information, call Ann Deffley at 423-3326.

**URI offers children's piano lessons**

The URI Preparatory Music Program will offer the popular "4 Hands Together" piano class this fall on the Kingston campus.

This eight-week piano class is open to children ages 4 to 7 who come with a parent. Parents will be actively involved in the class and at home but don't need any prior knowledge of music. Taught by Christine Müller, the course covers the basic elements of music with songs, rhythms and improvisation on the piano. Materials are included. A piano or keyboard for practice is required. The class will meet in the piano lab on Saturday mornings from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. beginning Sept. 29.

To register, call the office at 874-2798.

**Rhodes exhibits in Providence**

The Galleries of the Providence Art Club are pleased to host the Art League of Rhode Island's (ALRI) 7th Annual Members' Exhibition.

The show runs from Sept. 9 to 28, with an opening reception on Sept. 9, from 2 to 5 p.m.

Over 50 artist members representing 20 Rhode Island communities will have works on display in a wide variety of media, including photography, sculpture, glass, and paintings in oil, watercolor and others. Among the works on display will be Jamestown artist Evelyn Rhodes.

The Providence Art Club is excited to usher in the beginning of its exhibition season with an exceptional group of artists. All exhibitions are free and open to the public.