

Authority

Continued from page 1

ter Darlington's remarks and after Keiser's presentation that the authority agreed to consider the sale.

The town originally asked for 6,000 square feet to annex to its 25.62 acre parcel that abuts a bridge ramp on the southwest boundary. The requested parcel is near Bayview Drive and near the Newport westbound bridge abutment, east of the toll plaza.

Bridge officials said the pending engineering study might show a need for a different parcel configuration, and that was interpreted to mean the town might have to buy up to 2,000 more square feet at the west end of the requested parcel to meet its design needs. Darlington commented the size, within the variations discussed, would not affect the decision either way. The authority vote did not specify an amount of land it would consider selling.

Voters two years ago rejected a \$2.4 million plan to put a highway barn on a northern part of the town's Taylor Point site. Officials said they did not know if the voters were against the cost or the location.

Darlington told authority colleagues, as he had told town councilors last month, that the value of the land might be bartered, so that it might not be a cash transaction. The authority pays the town an annual stipend of about \$30,000 in lieu of taxes and that payment might be part of the land purchase trade, the chairman suggested.

Costs for the three current barn site options are \$515,726 plus land and study costs for the bridge site; \$417,746 for Lot 47; and \$692,746 plus any added environmental cost ramifications for Lot 48. Use of any of the sites would require storage of highway supplies at the landfill, according to details from town officials.

The town promised the authority a role in design review of the barn's aesthetics.

In addition to Darlington, authority members are Vice Chairman Richard P. Eannarino and Stephen C. Waluk, William Chuck Alves and Arthur H. Fletcher.

Swim at URI pool complex

The Tootell Aquatic Center at the University of Rhode Island is offering a wide range of water-related classes beginning May 21.

Community swim hours are from 6 to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. Adult swim is from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call Ted Boyett at 874-4653.

To register, drop by the recreational services desk located at the Mackal Field House or call 874-5926.

Pier

Continued from page 1

ficers came

out on the wood pile pier Saturday night, about 11:30 p.m. and "they just started yelling."

Zeek said the two officers, using harsh tones, ordered all 15 or so of the squid fishermen off the pier immediately and threatened further action if anyone disobeyed. When he confronted the officers about being thrown off, Zeek, a lifelong and well-known fisherman in Jamestown, said he lost his temper and, "blew up at them," reminding them that the pier was, in fact, usable as a fishing pier by members of the public.

"I fish for a living," Zeek said, and being thrown off the pier after just a few hours resulted in his, "working for no pay that night."

Zeek said he was told by the officers that they were just following orders from Police Chief Tom Tighe.

The police officer's turn

Sgt. Angela Deneault said she and Sgt. Keith Woodbine arrived at East Ferry in separate cruisers. Woodbine was already walking down to the pier when Deneault said she was opening the door of her car. As she was walking nearer to the scene, Deneault said she saw Greg Zeek, who she recognized, yelling at Sgt. Woodbine. "He said we were harassing the fishermen, we were racists, we were discriminating," against the foreign-born fishermen, several of whom were on the pier that night.

"In my opinion," Sgt. Deneault

said, "he was trying to get the others going," meaning he was attempting to incite a scene.

Zeek continues

He said he asked the officers for their names and badge numbers and later called friends on the Harbor Management Commission for help in rectifying the situation, which he categorized as wrongfully being thrown off the wood pile pier.

Bob Bowen, of the HMC, said he did some checking on Sunday to see if he could corroborate Zeek's account of what happened.

Bowen said he found the night watchman at Conanicut Marina, who observed the police action at the pier. According to Bowen, the watchman called the police "rude and loud," and said he "couldn't believe," what was going on.

The wood pile pier, according to Bowen, can be used by the public at all hours, as stated in the Harbor Ordinance. "There is no reason at all," why fishermen were asked to leave the pier Saturday night, Bowen said, adding this kind of publicity is, "not what the harbor commission needs." Bowen said the rules were clarified last year, "and they worked."

"There shouldn't be any confusion," about the ordinance, Bowen said.

"We know the laws," said Sgt. Deneault.

Deneault said she and Woodbine tried to "explain to Mr. Zeek," the true purpose of their routine patrol in the area, "but he was really worked up."

Deneault said that in recent

days, several complaints had been lodged by boat owners that fishermen had been boarding private boats, fishing from private docks, leaving behind litter and also using electric outlets to illuminate their squidding lights, on the docks that are paid for by the slip owners.

"We were under orders to make sure none of that was happening," Deneault said.

"We know they can fish from the wood pile pier," Deneault added.

Deneault said that "no one was thrown off the pier," that night, but she and Woodbine did threaten to take action against Zeek if he continued to act in a disorderly manner.

"He was the only one misbehaving," Deneault said about the group that night. "His behavior was terrible," she added.

Lt. Bill Donovan of the Jamestown Police Department said about the ongoing situation, "If there's a solution, I don't know what it is."

Donovan said much of the problem comes from lack of space, and "It's just not a good mix," with fishermen casting over boats and getting tangled in dock lines, etc.

To get some distance between them, fishermen are routinely boarding private boats and fishing off the bows, Donovan said. Not only that, they are leaving behind litter, footprints and squid ink. "If people just respected each others' property," we wouldn't have to spend so much time trying to enforce the laws down there, Donovan said.

Hospitality

Continued from page 1

trouble from mother," the older Anderson kidded her daughters.

Carol and Deborah both gave credit to their mother for the success of the business. "Mother kept a watchful eye on the finances, and did bookkeeping for many years," Deborah noted.

Helen brought professional savvy to the shop, the daughters agreed. Their father owned Anderson's Dairy Farm, and Helen was the office manager, doing everything from payroll to accounts payables, "She was the executive director of her day," Carol said.

Deborah remembered her mother coaching them by saying, "Buckle up." With Helen's encouragement, they always paid the bills, even in times when the economy was weak. "Mother said we needed to pay as we go," Deborah said.

Over the course of the years, challenges arose, no doubt. Yet the three maintained a bond that was strengthened by people close to them. They reminisced about Deborah's daughters joining the activities of the shop, and a long-

time worker, Cheryl Parker, who is considered family. "Cheryl stepped up to the plate when we needed her," Deborah remarked. Carol agreed, adding, "Cheryl is invaluable to us."

Deborah's daughters, Julie and Katherine, became interested in the shop as they got older, and helped out. "We all go on buying trips together. The girls have a good eye and pick out nice things at the craft shows," Deborah noted. Caroline, Deborah and Carol's niece, also joined the clan.

The retail store is filled with specialty items, many one of a kind. "Our niche has evolved into finding goods made in America, particularly highlighting local artists," Carol noted. The store continues to offer custom-made framework, done on the premises.

In addition to the all-day open house event this Saturday, Jamestown Designs plans to hold a reception on May 25 to commemorate three and a half decades of retail service to the town. Details will follow as Memorial weekend draws closer.

For more information about Jamestown Designs, visit online at www.jamestowndesigns.com or call 423-0344.

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