Alumni Updates

Online chat features expert on food safety issues With all the stories about food contamination in the news these days, you won't want to miss our November 21 chat. We will feature URI Cooperative Extension Professor Martha Patnoad, who will address questions about the timely topic of food safety.

Graduates of the last decade, mark your calendars Our 2007 Young Alumni Weekend will be held February 16-18, 2007. Among the highlights of this special weekend for graduates of the last decade is the sixth annual Blue and White Ball to be held in Narragansett on Saturday, February 17. Online registration for YAW will be available soon.

Our 16th annual Winter Gala Get out your dancing shoes, and plan to attend our 16th annual Winter Gala on January 27, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency in Newport. Sponsored by the URI Alumni Association, the Winter Gala is an elegant, festive evening of dining, dancing, and silent auction fun held each year to benefit student scholarship and grant programs.

Tips on coping with holiday stress On December 9, the Ram Alumni Academy for Lifelong Learning is sponsoring Tips for Coping with the Stresses of the Holidays, offered by

University News & Events

Rhode Island casts overwhelming yes vote for new College of Pharmacy Thirty-eight of Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns approved the higher education bond issue that will provide $65 million for a new College of Pharmacy building at the University. Approval of the $72.8 million Question 4 bond referendum also provides $7.8 million to Rhode Island College. "As Tuesday night's election numbers came in, it was apparent that the people of Rhode Island recognized the quality of the programs offered by the University and voted to support them through the continuing rehabilitation of the campus at Kingston. We are grateful for their overwhelming support," said President Robert L. Carothers.

URI celebrates 30th anniversary of research vessel Endeavor In a special ceremony last week, URI celebrated the 30th anniversary of the research vessel Endeavor at the URI Narragansett Bay Campus. For the last three decades scientists from Rhode Island, the nation, and abroad have conducted government-sponsored research and trained graduate students aboard Endeavor on more than 400 scientific cruises, from near the Easter Islands and Galapagos Islands in the South Pacific to the Mediterranean and Black Seas. Endeavor spends an average of 240 days each year at sea and serves as Rhode Island's ocean-going ambassador in domestic and international ports of call.

College of Nursing opens White Hall Nursing Commons URI College of Nursing Dean Dayle Joseph welcomed students, faculty, alumni, staff, and hospital officials to a recent ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new student center. The event marked the completion of the first major renovation project at White Hall, which has been home to the College of Nursing since 1976. "The former student lounge on the second floor was cramped, and the furniture was outdated and worn," Joseph said. "When the College celebrated its 60th Anniversary last year, we wanted to do something for our students, so our fund-raising events, including the gala event, were focused on raising money for this wonderful facility."

Pharmacy student is grandfather, full-time EMT At age 54, Ronald Hammond is a grandfather of three, a full-time emergency medical technician with the Woonsocket Fire Department, and a second-year pharmacy major. Why did he decide to return to school in his fifties, and tackle one of the University's most difficult majors? In order to give his patients the best possible care, he says. "Many patients we pick up on the rescue are on a myriad of medications. I want to know that any treatment or medication I give doesn't have an adverse effect on them."

Women scientists and engineers ADVANCE at URI Assistant Professor of Physics Yana Reshetnyak may have discovered a way to stop cancer cell growth without harming the healthy cells that surround them. Her novel approach could provide a new concept for
Dr. Gene Knott, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Alumni Center. Following the seminar, enjoy lunch in the Alumni Center, and watch the URI Rams men’s basketball team take on the University of Utah at the Ryan Center. Game time is 2 p.m. $25 per person includes the seminar, lunch, and a ticket to the game. Register online today!

**At the chapters** The Rhode Island Chapter is sponsoring an evening of volunteering at the Rhode Island Community Food Bank on November 21. On December 3, the Southwest Florida Gators will get together for their annual Christmas brunch. Learn more about these and other upcoming chapter events.

**URI-Dayton basketball event** Join alumni, family, and friends at the Ryan Center on January 7 to watch the URI men’s basketball team play Dayton. Sign up and receive discounted 100-level tickets for only $15, a savings of $7, and a discount on food from selected concession stands! Register online today or contact Gina Dei at gmdei@advance.uri.edu.

**RIRAA celebrates our student-athletes** On November 5, the URI Men’s Soccer team won its second straight Atlantic 10 Tournament, earning the league’s automatic bid to the 2006 NCAA Tournament, their third tournament appearance in four years. Our congratulations go to the URI men’s soccer team, and to all of our dedicated student-athletes. Providing opportunities for their success is dependant on the generous support of alumni and friends. Please consider making your investment today through our secure Web site. You can give online to the area of greatest need or to any varsity team. Making your gift today ensures your contribution will be tax-deductible for the 2006 calendar year. Thank you for your generous support.

**On the calendar** The 2006 Honors Colloquium series continues on November 14 with Songs of and by Native Americans, featuring Buffy Sainte-Marie and Bill Miller. On November 16, the URI Student Alumni Association will sponsor a special program by student ambassadors from the University of New Orleans, “Surviving Katrina: A Year in Review,” at 7 p.m. in Edwards Auditorium. Online registration is available for the Katrina event. The Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies is offering a free two-day session of Kingian Nonviolence Training November 17 and 18. Take a look at what’s coming up at the Ryan Center! More..