Alumni Updates

- **Alumni Family Camp to be held on July 31 and August 1!** This will be the fourth year for URI Alumni Family Camp. Two days of fun activities for adults and children of all ages! Stay overnight or come for the day. At Family Camp you can explore Narragansett Bay aboard the *Alletta Morris*, learn about bugs, butterflies, and sharks from URI research scientists, and enjoy horseback riding, ice skating—and much more! [Online registration now available.](#)

- **Pride in URI Night at McCoy Stadium** Join alumni and friends for a great evening at the ballpark as the PawSox take on the Buffalo Bisons on August 18. There will be all-you-can-eat BBQ, photos with Rhody, Paws and Sox, autographs from PawSox players, music by the URI Pep Band, and a fantastic URI raffle! Make plans now to be part of this year's [Pride in URI Night](#). Register online today!

University News & Events

- **URI to confer six honorary degrees during its 118th Commencement ceremonies** Honorary degrees will be awarded this year to Matt Gallant, Alfred J. Verrecchia, Gen. Leon J. LaPorte, Stephanie Danforth Chafee, Herbert Leon MacDonell, and Deborah Smith. Matt Gallant '86 of Animal Planet will speak at URI's undergraduate commencement ceremonies on May 23. "We think that Matt Gallant will really connect with our students, making commencement both serious and fun," says URI President Robert L. Carothers. "We have a wonderful array of honorary degree recipients this year, and Matt, as a younger alum, is another example of what our new graduates can make of themselves." [More...](#)

- **Construction of 800-bed housing complexes for upperclassmen planned** With S/L/A/M Collaborative as the architect and Gilbane Building Co. handling project management, URI is initiating its first undergraduate housing construction project since 1970. Chip Yensan, director of URI's Department of Housing and Residential Life, announced the hirings, noting that the $66.6 million project "represents URI's most ambitious pursuit of a more independent on-campus living option for its students." Construction is expected to start next spring, with completion to occur in phases over two years. [More...](#)

- **Rainville Leadership Award winners announced** The recipients of the A. Robert Rainville Student Leadership Awards for the 2003-2004 academic year were named during recent ceremonies on the Kingston Campus. They are Robert Kubica, Rachel Poirier, Kirsten Olson, and Doug Reed. The awards, which honor students who succeed in leadership roles while maintaining strong academic records, are named in memory of URI's vice president for Student Affairs from 1980 to 1986. [More...](#)

- **Clinic named for program's late founder, leader in field of speech disorders** The University's Department of Communicative Disorders has given an official name to the clinic that provides a broad range of speech-language and hearing services to clients of all ages and reflects the devotion of its namesake, the late Dr. Walter J. Beaupre. The Walter J. Beaupre Speech and Hearing Center is located in the Independence Square II facility on the URI Kingston Campus. [More...](#)
Rhode the Ram Yard Sale, which will be held June 12 in the Keaney Gym parking lot. We expect a great turnout and plenty of great bargains, perhaps even some treasured Rhody memorabilia. If you would like to know more about the Rhody Yard Sale, contact sale coordinator Gerri Beagle at gbeagle@foundation.uri.edu.

Tee time Be part of the URI Alumni Golf Tournament, which has been bringing together alumni and friends for more than 50 years! This year's event will take place on Friday, June 4, at Triggs Memorial Golf Course in Providence. Sponsored by the URI Alumni Association, this tournament raises funds to benefit URI students through scholarships and grants. Register online today!

Have you joined URI's online community? More than 6,000 alumni have joined the URI Online Community, a free service offering alumni access to the Online Alumni Directory, message boards, and yellow pages. Register today and take advantage of this great resource!

Summertime chapter events Clambakes, picnics, baseball games, and golf tournaments are just some of the alumni chapter events planned for the summer. See what your chapter is up to! If you are interested in learning how to get involved with a URI alumni chapter, now's the time. Contact Kristal Cardone '99 at kristal@uri.edu.

The next issue of inAdvence will be sent on May 20.

University celebrates opening of Commercial Fisheries Center, launch of new research boat The College of the Environment and Life Sciences officially opens the Rhode Island Commercial Fisheries Center at URI's East Farm in Kingston on May 7. The center will be home to five non-profit commercial fishing organizations, providing office space, meeting space, and a repository for information related to the groups and the fishing industry. It will also be a site for fisheries researchers and educators to interact with working fishermen. Following the open house, the College will dedicate the newest addition to the University's fleet of research vessels, the Hope Hudner, at Wickford Shipyard.

Retirement celebration for Richard Vangermeersch Join in a tribute to the remarkable career of Richard Vangermeersch, author, storyteller, all-around URI booster, and teacher extraordinary! Friday, June 11, at the Crown Plaza at the Crossings in Warwick, R.I. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and program at 7 p.m. $50 per person. For more information, please contact Robin Spivla at rspivla@advance.uri.edu.

On the calendar More than 170 crabapple trees of 50 varieties will signal the arrival of spring weather during the URI College of the Environment and Life Science's second annual East Farm Open House & Crabapple Festival on May 8. The URI Feinstein Providence Campus gallery provides a venue for the 2nd Annual Celebration of Older Americans through the works of more than 30 Rhode Island artists. "Master Strokes: Artwork by Older Artists," a mixed media exhibition is featured through May 28. A gallery night reception will be held on Thursday, May 20.

Recent successes The focus was on fashion at the Spring Splash, a special evening held April 29 by the Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design (TMD) department. The inaugural event, which honored donors, alumni, and student designs, raised more than $15,000 for TMD student education. And on April 24, URI held the largest job fair its history, the Passport to Employment at the Ryan Center, with 1,000 job-seekers meeting with 170 representatives from 80 companies and agencies.

At the Ryan Center The Great High Mountain Tour featuring Alison Krauss and Union Station will perform at the Ryan Center on June 1. Tickets are also on sale now for the August 3 performance of American Idol's Clay Aiken.

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PAST ISSUES

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