



Alumni Updates



▶ **Alumnus speaks at ROTC commissioning ceremony** U. S. Army [General Leon J. LaPorte](#), a 1968 URI graduate, spoke

at the ROTC commissioning ceremony on May 23. LaPorte is a four-star general and the commander of U.S. and United Nation forces in Korea. During the ceremony, LaPorte and the new lieutenants unveiled the name of Lt. Col. Richard S. Schott on the University's Vietnam Memorial in front of Keaney Gym. URI awarded Gen. LaPorte an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on May 23.

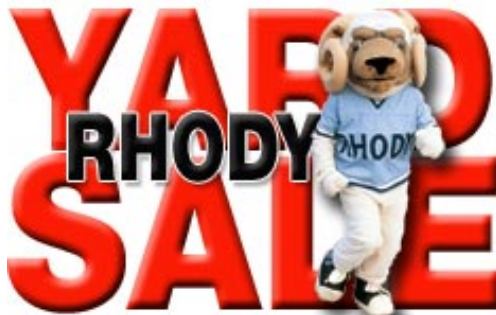
▶ **Welcome new URI alumni!** Our congratulations and best wishes go to the 2,686 University of Rhode Island graduates who were awarded degrees at Commencement 2004, May 22-23.



▶ **Class of 1959 reunion to be held on September 10-11** Members of the

[Class of 1959](#), don't miss the chance to celebrate your 45th reunion! Some great events are planned for this special weekend. [Online registration is available!](#)

▶ **Calling members of the Class of 1974** We are looking for volunteers to join the **Class of 1974** reunion committee. If you would like to reconnect with old friends and help plan your upcoming 30th reunion, contact Kristal Cardone at kristal@uri.edu or 401-874-4536.



University News & Events



▶ **URI names new athletic director** Thomas P. McElroy, the deputy director of athletics at the University of Connecticut, will become URI's new director of athletics effective July 1. Overseeing an athletics operation that has 22 intercollegiate sports and a recreational services program that includes 14 club sports and intramurals, McElroy will play critical roles in budgeting, fund-raising and marketing for athletics. The Department of Athletics has a budget of about \$14.5 million and serves about 500 intercollegiate student-athletes. URI has awarded McElroy a 5-year contract that will pay him a base salary of \$150,000 per year. [More...](#)



▶ **URI High School Journalism Day hosts 175 R.I. students** More than a dozen URI journalism alumni offered workshops on everything from interviewing techniques to the new world of Internet journalism at the second annual Student Journalism Day on May 14. Keynote speaker was Pat Mastors, Channel 12 news anchor and a URI journalism graduate. Presented by the URI Journalism Alumni Advisory Committee, the Department of Journalism program was sponsored by the Division of University Advancement, Theta Chi Fraternity, *Rhode Island Monthly*, and RDW Group Inc. [More...](#)

▶ **Professor emerita continues to be role model for students** This year, three students were the benefactors of the Nancy Potter Endowment. The endowment was established through generous contributions of colleagues and friends when Potter retired in 1989 after spending 42 years teaching courses in literature and creative writing. Potter made an initial contribution and has continued to fund the scholarship. [More...](#)



▶ **URI vice president presents at national conference on athletics and advancement** Bob Beagle, vice president for University Advancement, was a faculty member at the recent CASE "Athletics and Advancement" conference in New Orleans. The vice president led a workshop on naming opportunities, naming rights, and related naming issues within both higher education and professional sports facilities. He joined the vice president of the University of Georgia in a two-person panel examining the impact of intercollegiate athletics on an institution's image, alumni relations, and fundraising. He also made a presentation, entitled "Competing Interests," that was based on an article he wrote for *CASE Currents* (fall 2003).



▶ **Yard sale to benefit Rhody the Ram Endowment** Don't miss the Rhody the Ram Charity Yard Sale on **Saturday, June 12**, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the Keaney Gym parking lot (rain date is June 19). All proceeds go toward the [Rhody the Ram scholarship endowment](#) to benefit the dedicated student volunteers who bring Rhody to life. There will be great items for sale, including small appliances, furniture, and books--and the chance to meet Rhody and purchase your very own copy of [Cooking with Rhody](#). **Those wishing to donate to the yard sale can**





► **Pride in URI Night at McCoy** Don't miss this year's [Pride in URI Night](#) on August 18! A great night out at the ballpark for the whole family, this special evening features all-you-can-eat barbecue and a chance to meet Paws, Sox, Rhody, and PawSox team members. At game time it will be the PawSox vs. the Buffalo Bisons. [Register online today!](#)

► **Great chapter events coming up**

From east to west, there are plenty of great chapter events planned for this summer. Upcoming events include the **Washington, D.C. Chapter's** annual clambake on June 19 ([online registration available](#)), and the **Southern California Chapter's** outing at the Del Mar Racetrack on August 8. But that's not all! For details and a full listing of summer activities planned, take a look at the [chapter events](#) page on our Web site.



► **Scholarship deadline approaching** The application deadline for [Alumni Children Excellence Scholarships](#) is **Friday, June 11**. Any alumni son or daughter currently enrolled at the University is eligible to apply.

► The next issue of *inAdvance* will be sent on **June 17**.

OTHER NEWS SOURCES

- [Athletics News](#)
- [University Pacer Online](#)
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drop items off on Friday, June 11 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m at the recycling truck parked in the Keaney lot. [More...](#)



► **Swimming together toward a common goal** The University of Rhode Island's synchronized swim team does more than just swim at the same time. Some get their hair cut together too. Members of the club team decided to donate the required 10 inches of hair to Locks of Love, a program that makes wigs for cancer patients. [More...](#)



► **Professor earns national leadership award for advancing international education** The National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges will honor John Grandin with its most prestigious award for furthering international education in the United States. Grandin, a professor of German and executive director of the University's International Engineering Program, will receive the Michael P. Malone International Leadership Award in July. [More....](#)



► **On the calendar** The URI Multicultural Center is holding its second [World Voices, World Visions](#) folk music and dance camp on the Kingston campus, July 18-23. The camp, which offers events and programs for participants of all ages, is designed to build understanding and respect for people and cultures around the world through participation in and exposure to the folk arts, public dialogue, and study and reflection. [More...](#)



In Memoriam Frank Newman, a visionary in the world of education who served as the president of the University of Rhode Island from 1974 to 1983, died Saturday, May 29 after a short illness. A resident of Jamestown, he was 77. The University honored Newman in 2002 by naming its renovated admissions building on 14 Upper College Road in his honor. [More...](#)

► [More URI news](#)

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