Come to the Alumni Association Annual Meeting

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Open Meeting of the URI Alumni Association at the W. Alton Jones Campus on June 1. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Sycamore Lodge. Please join us in welcoming newly elected members of the Executive Board and expressing our thanks to outgoing members for their contributions. Join us for dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the main dining room. The cost is $25 per person. Spouses and guests are welcome to attend. For more information or to register no later than May 6, please contact Lisa Harrison at lharrison@advance.uri.edu.

Don't forget to vote

If you have not yet cast your vote for Executive Board committee members, we hope you will take the time to review the nominees and vote online. You may either vote for the nominee or write in the name of the candidate of your choice. To protect your privacy, log in is required. Thank you for your participation! Please note that only alumni may participate.

Support proposed state matching grant program

If 20 other states, including three New England neighbors, can do it, why not Rhode Island? What are they doing? These states are investing in their state universities by providing matching endowment funds that encourage the private sector (i.e. alumni, businesses, and others) to also support public higher education. The current Rhode Island legislative session has two bills under consideration that would provide the University of Rhode Island $1 in state funding for every $2 privately raised (the state funding would be capped at $5 million). President Robert L. Carothers has identified this legislation as being among the University's top priorities for 2005. More...

URI student invention exhibited at national inventors conference

A page-turning device invented by a team of URI students was recently exhibited at the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance conference in San Diego. The device is one of just 14 student inventions selected for the ninth annual "March Madness for the Mind" event. The collapsible page-turner is made of Lexan, a plastic glass, and can hold hardcover books up to a size slightly larger than an average textbook. Using this device, the pages of a book are lifted one by one using an adhesive head in a rotational motion. The device is user-friendly, reversible, portable and easy to load. More...

Student tutors celebrate success with preschool partners

Thirty-six preschool children and 41 Jumpstart URI student AmeriCorps members celebrated their year together earlier this month. The event gave the 3- to 5-year-olds from Wakefield and Westerly a chance to play and learn while their families had the opportunity to see the Jumpstart URI Corps tutors interact with their partner children. In the program, which is sponsored by the Feinstein Center for Service Learning, Jumpstart URI Corps tutors work one-on-one with children to help them further develop language, literacy, and social skills before they enter kindergarten. More...

URI students take a step off the tour bus

Five URI students who either studied, lived, or worked abroad, recently talked about their experiences and how the people they met viewed America and Americans. The panel discussion, "A Step Off the Tour Bus," was sponsored by the URI Honors Program and the Office of International Education. The students on the panel spoke of lessons learned through their experiences in Brazil, Germany, France, Italy, and the Republic of Georgia. More...
Chat update Coming up on May 17 will be a chat with 2005 Academy Award winner Ross Kauffman '89, who will talk about the making of his Oscar-winning documentary. In case you missed our April chat with Rosanne Sherry '77, coordinator of the URI Master Gardener program, you can take a look at the transcript and find the answers to some challenging gardening problems. Our online chat series is sponsored by the Division of University Advancement.

Chapters head out to the ballpark Summer's coming and baseball is on the program for the New Jersey Chapter on June 4, the Ohio Chapter on June 20, the Southern California Chapter on July 20, and the Chicago Chapter on July 23. See the details and find out what your chapter has planned.

Family camp coming up This will be the fifth year for URI Alumni Family Camp, a great summer weekend of fun activities for adults and children of all ages! The dates for this summer's Family Camp are July 29-31. Register online today.

Winners of student leadership awards announced The University celebrated the achievements of several students who have taken on leadership roles in the community while maintaining solid academic records. A leading student athlete, the head lifeguard at URI's Tootell Aquatic Center, and the College of Pharmacy Student Leadership Council have been named the 2005 A. Robert Rainville Leadership Award recipients. A competitive award, the Rainville Award is named in memory of A. Robert Rainville who was vice president for student affairs from 1980 to 1986.

On the calendar In recognition of Mental Health and Wellness Month in May, the URI Feinstein Providence Campus will present "Riva and Friends: Alive and Well," May 1-27, an exhibit exploring the use of art in healing, and the premiere of "SQUIGGY and the Goldfish," a play dealing with mental health issues for teens by Rhode Island playwright Lenny Schwartz. The production, held May 4-7 at 8 p.m. and May 8 at 2 p.m., is free and open to the public. The URI Theatre production of "The Diary of Anne Frank" will be performed April 28-30, May 4-7 at 8 p.m., and May 1 at 5 p.m. Immediately following the May 1 performance, the Theatre Department will host "Never Again," a panel discussion about the Holocaust and more recent genocides with a view to improving understanding among people. Coming up at the Ryan Center are the Stars of Saturday Night Live on May 8, the American Family Theater's production of "Pinocchio" on May 16, and Lynyrd Skynyrd on June 28.

The next issue of inAdvance will be sent on May 12.
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