



Alumni Updates



► **Browse our Winter Gala Photo Album** The 15th annual Winter Gala, held on January 28, was a great success. Take a look at our [photo album](#) from this fun event!



► **Young Alumni Weekend coming up** A special weekend for graduates of the past decade, [Young Alumni Weekend](#) is sponsored by the Alumni Association. Highlights include the [Blue & White Ball](#) on **February 24** at Newport's Hotel Viking and the URI/Xavier men's basketball game and pre-game buffet on **February 25**. [Register online today!](#)



► **Web chat update** Read the [transcript](#) from our recent chat with Pharmacy professor Jef Bratberg, who

conducted a fascinating discussion about the avian flu. Coming up in March is a chat with CVS Corp. CEO [Tom Ryan '75](#), who will address questions about the health care industry.



► **At the chapters** The **New York Metro Chapter** is holding a pre-game reception before the URI/Fordham men's basketball game on **February 12**. On **February 25**, **Colorado Chapter** members are volunteering at the Food Bank of the Rockies. The **Southern California Chapter** is holding a Dolphin and Whale Watch on **February 26**. What does [your chapter have planned?](#)

University News & Events



► **URI College of Pharmacy reaches out to help Rhode Islanders** The University of Rhode Island and Providence television station ABC 6 have launched a new segment called "[Ask the Pharmacist](#)" to provide area viewers with accurate and timely answers to their medication questions. The segment features registered pharmacist Dr. Kristina Ward, College of Pharmacy clinical assistant professor and director of its Drug Information Services. In addition, the University's Pharmacy Outreach Program has been providing Rhode Islanders with help deciphering the complexities of Medicare Part D through its special [Medicare Part D Web site](#) and with a series of 32 Medicare Part D presentations that served 1,700 individuals throughout the state. [More...](#)



► **Physical therapy students have moving experience in Guatemala village** Jenny Audette, clinical assistant professor of physical therapy, and five of her students recently returned from two weeks in Guatemala, working at a center for children with physical and cognitive disabilities. Each student paid his or her own way, received two credits for the course titled International Service Oriented Clinical Experience, and worked with youngsters with developmental disabilities, such as cerebral palsy and spina bifida. The five students are now completing internships and will earn masters' degrees in physical therapy in May. [More...](#)



► **Students call 'MA' and 'PA' for help on campus** Thanks to URI Parking Services, students have a set of on-campus parents they can depend on for help: "MA," short for the University's Motorist Assistance Program, and "PA," short for Pedestrian Assistance Program. Students, faculty, staff, and guests can call "MA" whenever

they encounter car problems on the Kingston campus. The initiative is a seven day, 24-hour free helping hand for members of the campus community who have locked their keys in their car or have a battery that has gone south. [More...](#)



► **Forensic Science Partnership begins spring seminar series**

Fingerprints, DNA, and the insanity defense are among the topics for the URI Forensic Science Seminar Series. The seminars, free and open to the the public, run through April 28, and are held on the Kingston Campus, Fridays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Pastore Hall, Room 124. The exception is on Monday, February 20, when Professor Joseph Almog, a forensic chemist with the Casali Institute of Applied Chemistry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, will speak on "Investigating Bomb Scenes." [More...](#)




► **URI researcher seeks salt tolerant grass to reduce impact of winter road salt** With snow covering the grass and the soil frozen solid, few people are putting much thought into their lawns. But for turfgrass researcher Rebecca Brown, winter is a crucial time of year for the health of many lawns. That's because snow and ice season is also the season when road salt is used in abundance, and salt is a natural enemy of

▶ **Alumni Association member events** Upcoming Alumni Association [member events](#) include a dinner-and-theater evening on **February 23** and a Saturday afternoon free-skate at Boss Ice Arena on **March 4**. Pre-registration is required for both of these events. Contact Lisa Cugini '84 at lcugini@advance.uri.edu or 401-874-4604 for more information.

▶ **Great Globetrotter event** On **March 26**, the Harlem Globetrotters play the Washington Generals at the Ryan Center. Don't miss this opportunity to have lunch and meet players before the game, participate in a free raffle, and attend Globetrotter U, a special session where the players demonstrate their best tricks to a small audience! Tickets are \$30. Contact Jessica Kenerson at jkenerson@advance.uri.edu for details.

most grasses. [More...](#)

Will your employer match your gift? 

▶ **Will your employer match your gift to URI?** If you, or your spouse, work for a company that matches employee gifts to higher education, you could double, or even triple, your gift to URI. Find out if your company has a [matching gift policy](#).



▶ **On the calendar** Sociologist [Elijah Anderson](#) presents a talk entitled "Poor, young, black and male: The case for national action," **February 16** on the Kingston Campus, and **February 17** at the Feinstein Providence Campus. The URI Theatre presents the Tony Award winning musical [Urinetown](#), **February 16-18, 22-25**, and

March 1-4 at 7:30 p.m., and **February 19** at 3 p.m. The Spring [Community Planning](#) lecture series begins **February 16**. Vocalist [Kim Trusty](#), accompanied by the URI Big Band under the direction of Joe Parillo, performs a program of jazz, blues, and rhythm & blues on **February 19** at the Feinstein Providence Campus. Coming up at the [Ryan Center](#): the South County Boat Show on **February 11** and **12**; Barney Live on **February 14** and **15**; the South County Home Show on **March 4** and **5**; and the Harlem Globetrotters, on **March 26**. [More...](#)

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