



## Alumni Updates



► **You are invited**  
[Homecoming 2006](#) on  
**October 13 and 14**  
includes the 6th annual  
Rhody the Ram

Homecoming 5K, the URI-Richmond football game, reunions, and more! On Saturday evening, **October 14**, the inaugural [URI Distinguished Achievement Awards Gala](#) will be held at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence. This special event includes College receptions, dinner, and the presentation of awards in the Rhode Island Convention Center Ballroom.



► **Professionals of Color forum** On **September 28**, the Alumni Association will host the first [Alumni](#)

[Professionals of Color Forum](#) of 2006-2007. The event, held from 4-6 p.m. in the Alumni Center, is designed to help URI students of color network with alumni. URI alumni panelists will talk about the challenges they face as professionals of color. For details, contact Jessie Kenyon at [jkenyon@advance.uri.edu](mailto:jkenyon@advance.uri.edu).



► **Time to chat** Our **September 19** chat will feature URI Vice President for University Advancement [Bob](#)

[Beagle](#), who will discuss fundraising strategies and trends in philanthropy. You can [submit your question](#) at any time.



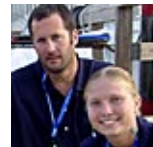
► **P-Bruins event at the Boss Arena** On **September 27**, the Providence Bruins play



## University News & Events



► **University reopens largest classroom building** Three new residence halls, a new dining hall, and a renovated classroom building were among the \$290 million in new construction and renovation projects shown off to legislators, local officials, and campus community members last week. President Robert L. Carothers and other URI officials led the group on a bus tour of the many projects transforming URI's 1,200-acre main campus. The reopening of Independence Hall after a \$9 million renovation launched the tour of academic, housing, dining, and athletic facilities. The work on Independence, which has the largest number of classrooms with 18, included major structural improvements, technology upgrades, a new enclosed lounge, and landscaping. [More...](#)



► **Engineering students place 4th in international competition** A team of five URI engineering students and their advisor won \$3,000 for placing fourth in the ninth annual International Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Competition held recently in San Diego. The event, sponsored by the U.S. Office of Naval Research and the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, challenges student engineers to build a miniature robotic submarine that can self-navigate and independently perform realistic missions. [More...](#)



► **URI honors fallen alumnus as it opens first permanent home for emergency medical services** The University marked the 21st anniversary of its volunteer emergency medical services by opening a new 5,000-square-foot headquarters on Plains Road. Twenty-five current members of the service, most of whom are URI students and alumni who served as medics when they were on campus, and local public safety officials participated in ceremonies dedicating the multi-purpose/training room to the late Brian Jackson, a member of the Dallas Police Department who was killed in the line of duty last fall. He served as URI EMS vice commander from 1995 to 1999 when he graduated from the University. [More...](#)



► **Veteran professor, administrator to head URI College of Business Administration** Longtime URI Accounting Professor Mark M. Higgins has been named dean of the University's College of Business Administration and the Alfred J. Verrecchia-Hasbro Inc. Leadership Chair in Business. In making the appointment, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs M. Beverly Swan said Higgins has shown through his administrative work, teaching and community service that he possesses the intellect, resourcefulness and energy to be successful. "His unique perspective will help him lead the college and position it as a leading business school in the region." Higgins succeeds Edward M. Mazze, who served as dean from July 1998 through this summer, and who has joined the faculty. [More...](#)



► **Retired general to discuss transnational terrorism at global security, transportation conference at URI** Retired U.S. Army Gen.





the Bridgeport Sound Tigers at Boss Ice Arena. Game begins at 7:05. Alumni, family, and friends are invited to come at 6 p.m. to join us for coffee, hot chocolate, cookies, and brownies, and a free raffle for great prizes. Kids can visit our face-painting booth, and meet players and mascots! Tickets are \$7. [Reserve your tickets](#) or contact Kristal Cardone '99 at [kristal@uri.edu](mailto:kristal@uri.edu) for more information.



► **Psych professors celebrate retirement**  
Colleagues of Professors Larry Grebstein and Dominic Valentino are throwing them a retirement party on **September 29** to celebrate the many contributions of the two distinguished psychology professors. Alumni are invited to attend the celebration and to contribute to a fund in their honor that will support expanded student research opportunities. [Find out more.](#)

► **Upcoming reunions** The Class of 1961 is celebrating its [45th Reunion](#) on September 30, and members of the Class of 1966 are coming back to Kingston October 13-14 to celebrate their [40th Reunion](#). The [Former Football Players' Reunion](#) will also be held October 13-14. Online registration is available for all events.



Leon J. Laporte will discuss transnational terrorism threats as the featured luncheon speaker on the first day of the global security and marine transportation conference being held at URI September 25 through 26. The conference will bring together some of the top maritime, port, and transportation security experts from around the world. A 1968 URI graduate, Laporte was commander of the United Nations and combined Republic of Korea and U.S. forces in Korea. He retired last spring after 34 years of military experience, having attained the highest rank in the Army, four-star general. [More...](#)



► **Golf tournament to benefit the Carl W. Myllymaki Scholarship**  
Alumni and friends are invited to a golf tournament to be held on September 22 at the Fenner Hill Country Club in Hope Valley, R.I. to raise funds for the [Carl Myllymaki Scholarship](#). The URI endowed scholarship was established in memory of 1st Lt. Carl William (Bud) Myllymaki III USMC, a 1965 University of Rhode Island graduate who was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968. For more information, please contact Richard Smith at 401-596-0990 or [smithuri17@yahoo.com](mailto:smithuri17@yahoo.com). [More...](#)



► **On the calendar** Folksinger and songwriter [Tom Paxton](#) will speak and perform in Edwards Auditorium on **September 19** at 7:30 p.m. as part of the the 2006 Honors Colloquium series. All [Honors Colloquium presentations](#) are free and open to the public. The series features Trisha Rose and AS220 on **September 26**. URI's 10th annual [Diversity Week](#), offering a variety of workshops, presentations, and music performances, runs **September 25-29**. A five-week training program for local residents interested in becoming experts at [composting and recycling](#) begins on **September 25**. Pangaea: The URI Roots Music Series features the acclaimed world fusion group, [Ancient Future](#), on **September 29**. Free and open to the public. At the [Ryan Center](#): **September 28**, Gnarl's Barkley; **October 4**, the Rhode Island Statewide Business to Business Expo; **October 12**, Scooby Doo Stagefight - Live on Stage; **October 28**, comedian Brian Regan. [More..](#)

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