



Alumni Updates



► **The 16th annual Winter Gala** Get out your dancing shoes and plan to attend our 16th annual [Winter Gala](#) on

January 27, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency in Newport. Sponsored by the URI Alumni Association, the Winter Gala is an elegant, festive evening of dining, dancing, and silent auction fun held each year to benefit student scholarship and grant programs.



► **Feeling that holiday stress coming on?** Take a break from the hustle and bustle. On **December 9**, the [Ram Alumni Academy for Lifelong Learning](#)

is sponsoring **Tips for Coping with the Stresses of the Holidays**, offered by Dr. Gene Knott, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Alumni Center. Following the seminar, enjoy lunch in the Alumni Center, and watch the URI Rams men's basketball team take on the University of Utah at the Ryan Center. Game time is 2 p.m. \$25 per person includes the seminar, lunch, and a ticket to the game. [Register online today.](#)



► **Cruise Control: Expert advice for sailing the seven seas** If you're planning a cruise for your winter

getaway, you'll want to get in on the December 12 online chat with [Howard Frank '62](#), Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer of the Carnival Corporation. Read the transcript from our November 21 food safety chat with URI Cooperative Extension Professor [Martha Patnod](#).



► **Get in the game: URI**

University News & Events



► **URI study confirms popular dietary lore: Eating slowly really does inhibit appetite** For more than 30 years, dieters have been told to eat slowly to reduce their intake of food. But until now, there has been no scientific evidence to support the theory. Last week, *USA Today* reported on a recent laboratory study of college-age women by Kathleen Melanson, assistant professor of nutrition and food sciences at URI, that confirms the long-held belief. "Satiety [fullness] signals clearly need time to develop," Melanson concluded. "Not only did the women take in fewer calories when they ate more slowly, they had a greater feeling of satiety at meal completion and 60 minutes afterwards." [More...](#)



► **URI team awarded grants to help fight crime in cyberspace**

URI's Digital Forensics Center, directed by Victor Fay-Wolfe, professor of computer science, has received two grants totaling \$600,000. The first grant will help researchers develop software to differentiate human images from computer-generated images, a distinction that is critical in prosecuting child pornography offenders. The second grant will help detect steganography, a technique used to hide messages in innocent-looking digital documents, such as photographs. [More...](#)



► **Making a Difference: New esubscription will share Capital Campaign highlights**

A new esubscription debuted last week with a message from Campaign Chair Tom Ryan '75. The newsletter was sent to almost 40,000 members of the URI community on November 15, marking National Philanthropy Day, a day established two decades ago to recognize all those whose generosity makes a difference in the world. The biannual esubscription will provide updates on the Making a Difference campaign. View [Tom Ryan's message](#) or [subscribe](#).



► **Gift fuels Rhody Rides program** URI's designated driver program, "[Rhody Rides](#)," recently received \$5,000 from the Katie DeCubellis

Memorial Foundation. Rhody Rides is a successful program developed and operated by URI student volunteers to prevent students from driving under the influence of alcohol. The program is financially dependent on contributions like the one from the Katie DeCubellis Memorial Foundation. Katie DeCubellis died at the age of 13 when a drunk driver hit the car in which she was traveling. "We are happy to contribute to a program that is definitely making a positive difference in our community," said Katie's father, John DeCubellis, executive director of the Foundation. [More...](#)



► **Put Rhody on your holiday gift list** The 2006 tax year will soon end, but there's still time to make your annual gift to the [Fund for URI](#) or the [Rhode Island Rams Athletic Association](#). Each year, thousands of URI alumni, parents, faculty, staff, friends, corporations, and foundations participate in the University of Rhode Island's Annual Giving Programs. Thanks to this support, the University continues to attract and



vs. Dayton Join alumni, family, and friends at the Ryan Center on **January 7** to watch the URI men's basketball team take on Dayton. Sign up and receive discounted 100-level tickets for only \$15, a savings of \$7, and a discount on food from selected concession stands. [Register online today](#) or contact Gina Dei at gmdei@advance.uri.edu.

► **At the chapters** On December 3, the Southwest Florida Gators will get together for their annual Christmas brunch. The DC Chapter will kick off the January 20 Wizards-Celtics game with a pre-game gathering. Join the Ohio Chapter as they cheer on the URI Men's basketball team at Xavier on February 21. [Learn more](#) about these and other upcoming chapter events.

► **Save the date** Travel packages will be available soon for the 2007 Atlantic 10 Men's Basketball Championship on March 7–10, 2007 at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. To learn more or to add your name to the list of interested alumni, contact Gina Dei at 401-874-5808 or gmdei@advance.uri.edu.

retain a talented student body and an exceptional faculty, provide scholarships to deserving undergraduates, and enhance athletics and campus life.



► **URI professors locate groundwater resources for the Azores**

Groundwater is the sole source of fresh water for the Portuguese island of Terceira in the Azores, about 930 miles off the coast of Portugal. The 58,000 residents of Terceira have a growing need for fresh water, but the availability of fresh water is limited. The island receives abundant rainfall, but there are few streams on the island because the water sinks rapidly into the highly permeable ground surface. Thanks to University of Rhode Island professors Daniel Urish and Reinhard Frohlich, potential new water resource locations have been found. [More...](#)



► **On the calendar** [URI Theatre](#) presents *The Best Little Whorehouse*

in Texas November 30–December 2 and December 7–9 at 7:30 p.m. and December 3 and 10 at 3:00 p.m. For tickets, call the box office at 401-874-5843. The [2006 Honors Colloquium](#) Series continues on November 28 with award-winning local musicians [Joyce Katzberg](#), [Charlie King](#), and [Karen Brandow](#). Take a look at what's coming up at the [Ryan Center](#). [More...](#)

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