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WHAT'S NEWS

AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

Vol. 14 Issue 8

Circulation over 35,000

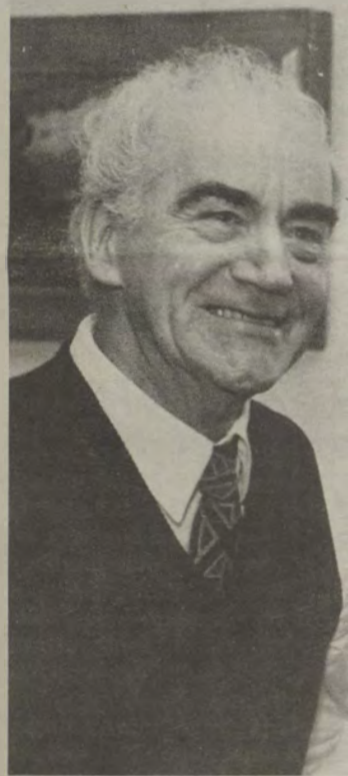
December 13, 1993

'Taki' Votoras, 95 others honored for their service

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Panajotis T. "Taki" Votoras of the English faculty, upon being added to the honor role of 30-year employees at the annual Service Recognition Day Dec. 2, told Rhode Island College President John Nazarian — with tongue in cheek — that he'd "come to get his \$10,000 reward" for the achievement.

"I'll give you 100,000 lire," replied a straight-faced Nazarian, while placing a friendly hand on the associate professor's shoulder.



'TAKI' VOTORAS

"But you have to pay for the coffee," interjected Vice President John J. Salesses, failing to hold back the laughter.

Votoras, of Greek descent, fully appreciated the joke, laughing while trying to balance his coffee cup.

It was that kind of day both on Dec. 2 for the past 30-year retirees who met in the President's House for coffee, fruit and rolls and the previous day when those who were recog-

nized for 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service were on hand.

President Nazarian, himself able to boast of nearly 40 years in the service of the College (second only to Chester E. "Chet" Smolski, a professor of geography, who does have 40) informed those present for the 10-to-25-year honors that their years of service totaled 1,805.

"I want to thank each of you for your service to Rhode Island College...for all you've done and all that we'll ask you to do," said Nazarian, adding, "We are family."

Votoras is the only RIC employee this year to reach the 30-year mark. Of special note is the achievement of James R. Medeiros of the College support staff, who works for the landscaping and grounds crew.

"Jimmie" is just 41 years old and has 25 years of service at the College, having started at age 16.

College pins were given to the honorees with the exception of Taki Votoras, who received an engraved bronze desk plaque.

"If you're still around for 50 years, we'll give you a gold plaque," the President told him.

"No. That won't happen Votoras told *What's News* later. He'll probably retire in the next year or two, he says.

A resident of Providence, who maintains an apartment in Athens, Greece, Votoras began his tenure at RIC in September of 1963 as an instructor of freshman composition and Western literature, later adding some children's literature to his course schedule.

He has two grown daughters, Stephanie Tranquilla, who now resides in Pennsylvania with her husband and two children, and Sonia Ides of New York and Los Angeles.

Votoras plays the piano for enjoyment and translates Greek to English, also as a hobby.

He is a graduate of the University of Genoa in Italy and has a master's degree from Wayne State University and Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut, both in English.

For now, he'll continue to put all that education and his teaching talents to work in the classroom and only dream about retirement.

See page 9 for more on Service Awards.

From one alumnus to another— Support Higher Education and Adams Library

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor



College President John Nazarian, Class of 1954, will reach out "from one alumnus to another" in the upcoming days to ask fellow alumni from all graduating years to contribute to the College's BUY-A-BOOK RAFFLE - a project undertaken by the Foundation to raise public awareness of the fiscal crisis facing higher education in the state, and to generate revenue for the James P. Adams acquisitions budget.

According to Vice President for Development and College Relations Kathleen McNally Wassenaar, the President has written a letter of

encouragement to all alumni seeking further support for the raffle. The mailing will go out within the next few days. Enclosed will be two books of raffle tickets and a return, postage-paid envelope. Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5.

The raffle is sponsored by the RIC Foundation, with a first prize of one year's in-state tuition and fees redeemable at any time at the 1993-94 value of \$2,601 or \$1,500 in cash. Second prize is a \$500 gift voucher at the Campus Store. Fifteen additional, donated prizes will be awarded.

"The Alumni Association has generously supported this endeavor by paying for this mailing," Wassenaar noted. Both the Foundation and the Alumni Association will sponsor The Adams Affair, a black-tie-optional gala event, also planned to benefit the library. The evening, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 19, at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet, will include dancing to Rhyme & Reason, sumptuous food,

Continued on page 12



A VIOLIN FOR RIC: Silvia Coolidge (center), wife of the late Arlan R. Coolidge of the Brown University music department, donates his Albani violin (circa 1700) to RIC in ceremonies Dec. 6 at the Chorus and Symphony Orchestra concert. With her are John Sumerlin (left) and Robert Elam, both of the RIC music department. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Reminder!

**1993 Alumni Fund
closes Dec. 31, 1993**

**All gifts and pledge payments
must be postmarked by that date.**

Together we can make a difference!

In Memoriam — Richard K. Gehrenbeck

Preceding a moment of silence for the passing of Rhode Island College faculty member Richard K. Gehrenbeck, College President John Nazarian noted before a gathering at the annual Service Recognition Days that he was "a dear friend of many here."

Nazarian characterized the physics professor as "a caring individual, a fine teacher and one who was dedicated to the principles of Rhode Island College and what we stand for."



RICHARD GEHRENBECK
(File Photo)

Dr. Gehrenbeck, 59, of Providence, died after being stricken at the College on Monday, Nov. 29. He was the husband of Rita (Reynolds) Gehrenbeck.

Born in St. Paul, Minn., a son of Gilbert B. Gehrenbeck of White Bear Lake, Minn., and the late Alice (Naulsby) Gehrenbeck, he lived in Providence for the past 20 years.

Professor Gehrenbeck received a bachelor's degree in physics from Macalester College, St. Paul, in 1956, and a doctorate in the history of science from the University of Minnesota in 1973.

He was a missionary teacher in Lebanon from 1957 to 1960.

A member of the RIC faculty since 1972, he taught astronomy, the his-

tory of science, and physics.

Professor Gehrenbeck wrote numerous articles and delivered many lectures on the history of physics and astronomy, including his "Thoughts on the Star of Bethlehem" delivered in 1973 at the Ladd Observatory in Providence.

He was a member of the American Association of Physics Teachers, Sigma Xi, and the Scientific Research Society of America. He was a member of the Providence Presbyterian Church and served as an elder, a trustee, a choir member and Sunday school music leader.

An Eagle Scout, he had founded and led Cub Scout Pack 15. He served as an advisor to the Smith Hill branch of the Providence Public Library; sang bass in the German Dramatic Club Men's Choir; was a member of the presbytery of the Southern New England Peacemakers Committee, and conducted educational workshops on international relations and environmental concerns.

Professor Gehrenbeck was a charter member of the Smith Hill Interaction Council.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Anne Reynolds Gehrenbeck-Shim of Watertown, Mass., and Nancy Naulsby Gehrenbeck of St. Paul; a son, David L. Gehrenbeck of Pittsburgh, Pa.; a brother, Dr. David M. Gehrenbeck of Normal, Ill., and a granddaughter.

A memorial service was held Dec. 2 at the Providence Presbyterian Church in Providence. Cremation and burial was in White Bear Lake.

G.L.

Former RIC faculty member dies Dr. Helen Kyle Conlon was 75

Dr. Helen F. Kyle Conlon, 75, of Salem, Va., a member of the Rhode Island College faculty from 1964 until 1976, died Nov. 8 after a long illness, according to the *Livingston County News*.

She was the wife of the late John J. Conlon.

She had taught at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Colorado before joining the faculty at RIC, attaining the rank of professor in the Department of Elementary Education here.

Dr. Kyle Conlon was widely recognized as a lecturer on education, particularly in the area of reading.

A daughter of the late John S. and Katherine Holland Kyle of Genesco, Va., she was a native of that commu-

nity.

She was a graduate of Genesco State Teachers College and received her doctorate from Boston University.

Survivors include a brother and sister-in-law, Harold and Ann Kyle of Roanoke, Va.; a sister, Mary Kyle DuPuis of Williamsburg, Va., and 10 nieces and nephews.

A memorial Mass was celebrated Nov. 13 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Genesco.

Dr. Kyle Conlon also was remembered in a Mass on the RIC campus Dec. 8.

Contributions to the Rhode Island College Foundation in Dr. Kyle Conlon's memory would be appreciated.

Mary Loughrey, for 38 years an integral part of RIC, dies at 91



MARY F. LOUGHREY
(File Photo)

Mary F. Loughrey of Providence, a long-time faculty member at Rhode Island College who boasted she had as one of her students RIC's current President John Nazarian, died Thursday, Dec. 2, at Rhode Island Hospital.

She was 91.

A professor of modern languages at RIC from 1928 (when it was called the Rhode Island College of Education) until her retirement in 1966, she had, she said, taught "mostly French."

She and other faculty members, who had taught members of the Class of 1940, were honored at a luncheon by members of that class in August of 1992.

"President Nazarian was a student of mine," she said at the time, and "was one of all the wonderful people I had taught."

Born in Stamford, Conn., she was a daughter of the late James C. and Katherine (Reilly) Loughrey.

She had resided in Providence and North Providence before returning to Providence and the St. Elizabeth Home two years ago.

Professor Loughrey received her bachelor of arts degree in 1923, and her master of arts degree in 1929, from Middlebury College in Vermont. She earned her Ph.D. in 1943 from Columbia University, and later pub-

ALUMN

ASSOCIATION & ALUMNI FUND NEWS

This is my last column for 1993. I've thought of several things to write about this time—though the upcoming holiday season is certainly adding to the difficulty of remaining focused! No, I probably won't get many Christmas cards out this year; I still have to wrap my Secret Santa gift for the office; and this column will probably jump all over the place.

You will receive more mail from the College in the next few weeks than you have received in the past six months. It may seem overwhelming, but I really hope you'll take the time to read all of it. Perspectives is on its way—read it carefully because we may be asking some of you to help us with a reader survey in the next month. All of you will receive at least one (and some of you two) reminder about the 1993 Alumni Fund. A letter is also on its way from President Nazarian about the library raffle.

One piece of mail will be an invitation to The Adams Affair to be held on Feb. 19, 1994 at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet. This is the first time we have planned such a large-scale event for the College and the Alumni Association is co-sponsoring it with the RIC Foundation. Please try to attend—it's a great way to celebrate your alma mater's 140th birthday and to help the acquisitions fund for Adams Library. Someone you know is bound to be there.

In fact, you don't need a college event to run into alumni. It's difficult to go anywhere around here and not see someone who graduated from RIC. In the last few weeks alone, I saw or heard from David Heimbecker, Master's 1974, Bill David, Class of 1968 and Lou Marciano, Master's 1960. We're members of the same Rotary Club, where incidentally a recent speaker was my classmate Donna Foisy Smith, Class of 1973. Dorian DeSimone, Class of 1982 had a booth at the Campus Center's Holiday Fair. S. Elizabeth Campbell, Class of 1931 and Thomas Farnsworth, Master's 1957 stay in touch on a regular basis. Mike Smith, Class of 1979, made my week with the FacultyGram he sent. Mitch Cohen, Class of 1992 sent a list of interesting fundraising ideas for the Association and the College. Linda Bottega Andrew, Class of 1987 called from Arizona. She calls to talk at least a couple of times during the year. Betty Filippelli, Class of 1968 sent a great reunion letter about the Class of 1968—or as she calls it, "the class who never did anything on time or by the book." The list goes on, but I'm running out of space.

I do want to wish everyone a very happy and healthy holiday season. Aside from my own wishes for my family and friends, there are a few other wishes I have...that Syd Cohen, Class of 1940 will finish his book on the New York

Yankees so we can have a book signing party for him; that a highly successful Adams Affair will bring together not only large numbers of alumni, but a great turnout of faculty and staff; and that John Nazarian, Class of 1954 will have to pay off at least one of his challenges to the 1993 Alumni Fund (now I can bug Syd about finishing his book, but the other two wishes really depend on you!) Happy Holidays!



Holly L. Shadoian
Class of 1973
Director of Alumni Affairs

*The staff of What's News
wishes its readers
a happy holiday season!*

*The next issue of
What's News
is Monday, Jan. 31, 1994.*

*Deadline is Jan. 21
for submission of copy,
photos, etc.*

WHAT'S NEWS AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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G.L.

College Shorts

Adams has first solo show

Catherine Adams of the RIC art department will have her works shown in her first Providence solo show at Lenore Gray Gallery, 15 Meeting St., Providence from Dec. 3 to Dec. 28.

The gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Scott Carlsten named asst. coach of men's wrestling team

Scott Carlsten, Class of 1992 and former RIC wrestler, was recently appointed as assistant coach of the men's wrestling team.

Carlsten was a four-time New England champ, two-time All-American, and placed third in the nation while at RIC. Carlsten's father, Rusty, was former head coach at RIC.

Attention Students!

Get an early start on your summer jobs and internships.

The Student Employment Office has new and exciting opportunities waiting just for you.

These opportunities are a chance of a lifetime and won't last long, according to Peg Theroux.

The Student Employment Office is located in Craig-Lee Hall 050.

'Teach for America' internships

"Teach for America" is seeking undergraduates to participate in the 1994 Summer Institute Internship Program.

For more information or to receive an application, contact Amy Gerold, director of institute operations, by phone (212) 789-9302, Ext. 112, or write Teach for America, P. O. Box 5114, New York, NY 10185.

Applications also are available in the Student Employment Office.

All materials must be postmarked no later than March 1.

Me for you and you for me!

by Cynthia L. Sousa
What's News Writer

All Karen Antar and Amanda DiCenzo want for Christmas is to continue their friendship of 18 years!

The two RIC students have been friends since kindergarten and plan to be friends forever! Says, Karen, the more talkative, "I hope our kids are friends someday!"

Both girls are seniors majoring in accounting, but the similarities don't stop there!

They are both from Johnston, graduated from Bayview Academy in East Providence, received associate's degrees from the Community College of Rhode Island, have long, naturally curly hair and hazel eyes, have boyfriends named John, have dogs, love the beach, watching pro football and playing pool.

But, Karen and "Mandy" aren't clones. Karen is taller and, according to Mandy, "the athletic type." She is very outgoing, and talks to everyone, Mandy said.

Mandy is quiet and reserved and "not athletic at all." "Karen has tried to get me involved in sports like softball and skiing," Mandy said, "but I'm just not cut out for that type of thing."

But the two get along just fine, boasting that they have never had an argument in their long friendship.

They had the typical stories to tell of a close friendship and of growing up, some of which they asked not to be printed!

There was the time Karen and some other friends surprised Mandy on her birthday by renting a limousine and taking her out on the town in Newport...the time, as high school students at Bayview, that they planned to skip first period and ended up being escorted to school by police...then there were their trips to Cancun and Florida!

The 23-year-olds reminisced about riding the RIPTA busses to high school every morning before getting their licenses, and taking time each day to ride the glass elevator at the



FRIENDS TILL THE END: Karen Antar and Mandy DiCenzo have shared many life experiences.

Biltmore. "The doorman got to know us, and, as it happened, we had a prom there and he gave us each roses," laughed Mandy.

The two have been celebrating birthdays and Christmas for the past few years by taking each other out for dinner. They also socialize

with the bookkeeping for a while. She plans to continue working there after graduation.

Karen and Mandy are members of the RIC Accounting Club and Mandy serves as president of the Computer Information Systems Club and of the student chapter of the

But the two get along just fine, boasting that they have never had an argument in their long friendship.

regularly with Karen's sister, Michelle, and her husband and two other friends named Donna.

Both girls plan to graduate in May, and, of course, are planning a joint party. Mandy has a double major in accounting and computer information systems and works part time at Marlee Casting doing bookkeeping. As part of her course work, she did an internship at Textron.

Karen's father, Bill, owns and operates Family Auto in Johnston where Karen has been helping him

Association for Systems Management. She was named to *Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities* in 1993.

Both girls plan to take the CPA exam in the near future and hope to pass. Then, down the road, they can fulfill their dreams of opening their own offices in their homes and starting families so that their children will have the special relationship that they feel they are so fortunate to have.



PLANNING FOR 'THE ADAMS AFFAIR' are (l to r) Richard Olsen, director of the James P. Adams Library, Patricia Ross Maciel, Class of 1961, co-chair of the event and Alumni Association president and Joseph Neri, Class of 1969, co-chair and member of the RIC Foundation. The event, to raise money for the Library, is scheduled for Feb. 19 at Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet. See ad on page 10 for more information.

Trip to Iceland, Greenland proved to be fun in the endless sun for RIC's Sheri Smith

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Ladd of Wheaton College and Lynn Pasquerella of the University of Rhode Island made a presentation at

Aside from that

Aside from that fleeting shadow cast over their visit, everything was sunshine and fun.

Having rented a nearby apartment to save money, Smith and her colleagues found sleeping something that was not so easy to accomplish with nearly 24-hours of daylight each day that close to the Arctic Circle.

"We never saw darkness," relates Smith with astonishment. "We figured around 1 or 1:30 a.m. it became like dusk here, but it never really became dark."

"We took a photo at midnight and it just looks like the sun is starting to set. A lot of people had problems sleeping."

dants of Scandinavian peoples.

That dog-sled ride

About that dog-sled ride, Smith says she was "really excited about going on a dog sled."

"The only thing was, I felt really sorry for the dogs. They, well, had to work like dogs," she relates, what with four adults plus the driver on board for a half-hour run to the Inuit village.

She says there were nine dogs pulling each of three sleds.

Smith had a two-hour flight from Iceland to Greenland where she and others rented the dog sleds for the trip.

"We had to leave by six o'clock because that's when the airport

But, when they got to a traditional local favorite, "Rotten Shark," they had to draw the line.

The three women went to a local grocery store for food, again, to save money on the trip of which they had to finance most themselves, and there they found groceries that proved somewhat of a surprise.

There was a lot of fish pot pie available as well as salmon and smoked fish, smoked duck and other smoked meats and lamb.

That sounds palatable.

"Sometimes we weren't quite sure what we were getting," Smith says with a chuckle.

For instance, there was "skyr," a rich type of curd dessert, which, they all agreed, "was good."

But, when they got to a traditional local favorite, "Rotten Shark," they had to draw the line.

"Someone explained to us that the shark meat wasn't actually 'rotten' but 'decomposed,'" Smith notes.

Well, that does make a difference one supposes.

Icelanders explain that the "ceremonious intake" of Rotten Shark (hakarl) — along with what one imagines is a good dose of schnapps — is the "crowning glory" of a mid-

closes, and the airport crew also ran the dog sleds," says Smith.

"The dog-sled ride required a little international cooperation," she notes, what with "a Frenchman on the back, me next, followed by a Japanese man, then the Frenchman's wife and, lastly, the driver who was up front."

"We were packed together as close as we could get, and we had to keep our arms and legs in, or else we would have them in the snow, thus slowing the ride," she explains.

They were beautiful

Iceland and Greenland were beautiful, assures Smith, very clean and — in Iceland's case — very small. Iceland's population numbers about quarter of a million with about half living in Reykjavik.

She points out that there is 100 percent literacy in Iceland, with most everyone being able to speak English and two or three other languages, including one Nordic language.

"There's a very strong tradition of education there," says Smith.

Iceland is a five-and-a-half hour



GETTING READY for her dogsled ride in Greenland is RIC's Sheri Smith.

Do you remember what you were doing last May 26 to June 2?

For Rhode Island College's Sheri L. Smith it's a time she'll never forget.

Virtually endless sunlight, exotic foods, friendly people, and a landscape that reminded her more of a moonscape with glaciers, geysers, icebergs and mountains.

A dog sled ride over snow to an

the Congress on "Law, Domestic Violence, and the Demands of Justice."

Some 350 people from around the globe attended the Congress at the University of Iceland.

"One thing that disturbed me," relates Smith, "was the people talking about violence here in America."

A judge attending the Congress from Australia wondered aloud "why



GULLFOSS OR GOLDEN FALLS is Iceland's best-known natural wonder. Here RIC's Sheri Smith photographed the Hvita river, which is fed by glacial melt water, as it thunders over the falls. Tons of water tumble over one ledge before turning at right angles to cascade over the second stage of the waterfall into a deep and narrow rocky gorge.

Americans can land a man on the moon and can't control the violence."

winter feast and of many functions year-round for these hearty descen-

Inuit village in Greenland easily was the highlight of the period.

Smith, a professor of philosophy, and two colleagues visited Reykjavik (Rey-kee-a-vik), Iceland, for the 16th annual World Congress on Philosophy of Law and Social Philosophy.

From there, Smith, on her own, made a one-day side trip to nearby Greenland, the site of the Inuit village.

Smith and colleagues Rosalind

airplane flight northeast from New York City and has a four-hour time difference (earlier) from us.

Temperatures ran between 40 and 50 degrees there and it was "very windy." It was noticeably colder on Greenland with heavy wet snow covering the ground at that time of year.

"We were never in Iceland before," says Smith, who had never been to Greenland before either.

"And we all loved it!"

Move over Letterman... Perotti and RIC-TV are on their way

by Cynthia L. Sousa
What's News Writer

On Friday, Dec. 10, the studio set at RIC-TV in Adams Library resembled the set of the David Letterman Show as eight local morning radio personalities were featured in an informal interactive program with a live studio audience.

Paul and Al of 94HJY, Mike Butts and Sue Cope of 92PRO-FM, Jones and Joan of 93WSNE and Larry Kruger and Coach Colletto of 63PRO-AM were on hand for one hour answering questions from host Rudy Cheeks from the *Phoenix Newspaper* and from a live audience of about 50 people.

Cheeks' questions focused on the business of radio as an everyday job. The audience asked how each radio personality got into the business, what are the advantages and disadvantages of radio, what are the best and worse parts of the job, is this a lifelong career and is TV a possibility.

Robert Perotti of Warwick, general manager of RIC-TV, and communications major Tom Brassil of Warren produced the show along with fellow classmates and associate producers Ileana Martos, Bill Bartoli, Jennifer McMann and Christina Noel.

"We wanted to allow the audience to get to know these radio personalities on a personal level and also to see what they look like," Perotti said.

RIC-TV is a student organization funded by Student Government that has recently been producing one or two quality productions per semester. Perotti, a senior communications major, co-founded the group as a freshman to show videos (on the State Interconnect channel) made in

class by himself and fellow communications classmates.

At the time, students interested in TV production borrowed equipment from the College's Audiovisual Department to produce their work and had to schedule time in the studio.

In 1990, the communications department acquired the facility and equipment in Adams Library and Perotti and other students have been producing ever since.

Perotti said the studio has come a long way over the past few years.

"When we first started out, we didn't push quality because we were just experimenting," he said. The group put out hundreds of tapes and videos—talk shows, comedy sketches and other "candid camera" type pieces.

As the group matured, Perotti said it began focusing on quality—dedicating a lot of time to pre-planning and pre-production work in a smaller number of productions.

And it's paid off.

In the fall of 1993, RIC-TV produced a show which became the first show produced by a Rhode Island college or university to air on local PBS affiliate WSBE-TV. The show was entitled "Interactive: Trends in Television News." In an open forum, students asked questions of local television anchormen in what was termed a successful quality production.

In the spring of 1993, RIC-TV produced a second show in the "Interactive" series. In this half-hour show entitled "Children Living with Cancer," five children who have or had cancer talked openly with a psychologist from Rhode Island Hospital about their struggles with the disease.

Both shows aired on the State Interconnect channel and have been entered in the Public Utilities Commission Awards. Award



TOP: 92PRO AM morning men Larry Kruger and Coach Colletto make early drive time enjoyable for Rhode Islanders. **BELOW:** 'Mike Butts in the Morning' rocks listeners with his wit and quick humor. (Photos courtesy of RIC-TV)



TWO KELLYS: Kelly Lombardi, 4, and Rhode Island College senior Kelly Connors work on holiday decorations for Christmas and Hanukkah at the Kids Holiday Craft Party Dec. 4 in the Student Union ballroom. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

announcements are due this month.

RIC-TV has recently formed the Rhode Island Student Media Organization (RISMO) with Brown University's BTV. RISMO's main goal is to get other media organizations in Rhode Island working together to produce shows.

Perotti said he wants more schools to unite and cooperate to create better programming. "With more cooperation, schools can benefit from each other," he said.

RISMO plans to produce a first show in February dealing with the issue of racism on college campuses throughout the state.

RIC and Brown hope to involve Providence College, the University of Rhode Island, Johnson and Wales University and other Rhode Island schools in this production.

Perotti said he hopes this show, an open forum, will be broadcast live on the State Interconnect channel and simulcast in RIC's Gaiage Hall as part of RIC's African-American History Month celebration.

The Dec. 10 production about morning radio hosts will be broadcast next month on the State Interconnect channel. Watch your local listings for time and date.

Attention Parents:

For the holidays, give your RIC student
a Buy-a-Book Raffle Ticket.
RIC TIX are priced at \$2 each, or three for \$5.

The first prize is
one year's in-state tuition and fees
redeemable at any time at the
1993-94 rate of \$2,601 (or \$1,500 in cash)

All proceeds benefit the James P. Adams Library.
Drawing date: Feb. 19, 1994

Send your check for \$5 per book of raffle tickets to:

RIC Foundation Raffle, 600 Mt. Pleasant Ave., Prov., RI 02908
or call 401-456-8105 for more information

Admissions Open House

Monsoon-like rains outside fail to dampen spirits inside

An open house for prospective new students Sunday, Dec. 5, at Rhode Island College drew some 900 enthusiastic youngsters and their parents or guardians to Roberts Hall auditorium.

The weather certainly had an effect on the turn-out which usually finds standing-room-only in the nearly 1,000-seat auditorium. It poured all day, leaving some two-and-a-half inches of rain on the ground.

But the weather didn't dampen the spirits of those who made it, attests William Hurry, dean of Admissions and Financial Aid.

He termed the day "a success."

These "guests" of the College received a warm welcome by President John Nazarian, and then had the opportunity to attend separate informational gatherings in various campus buildings in four general sessions that lasted until 4 p.m.

The prospective students learned about the various programs of study at the College, including those in liberal arts, education, computer science, math, biotechnology, nursing and so on.

A tour of the campus was provided—umbrellas in hand—and the prospective students had the chance to talk to current RIC students, to ask questions about financial aid, to learn about some campus activities such as those through the Performing Arts Series, to check out the athletics program, to discuss life on campus, including the multi-cultural experience, and, finally, the procedures for admission for transfer students and freshmen.

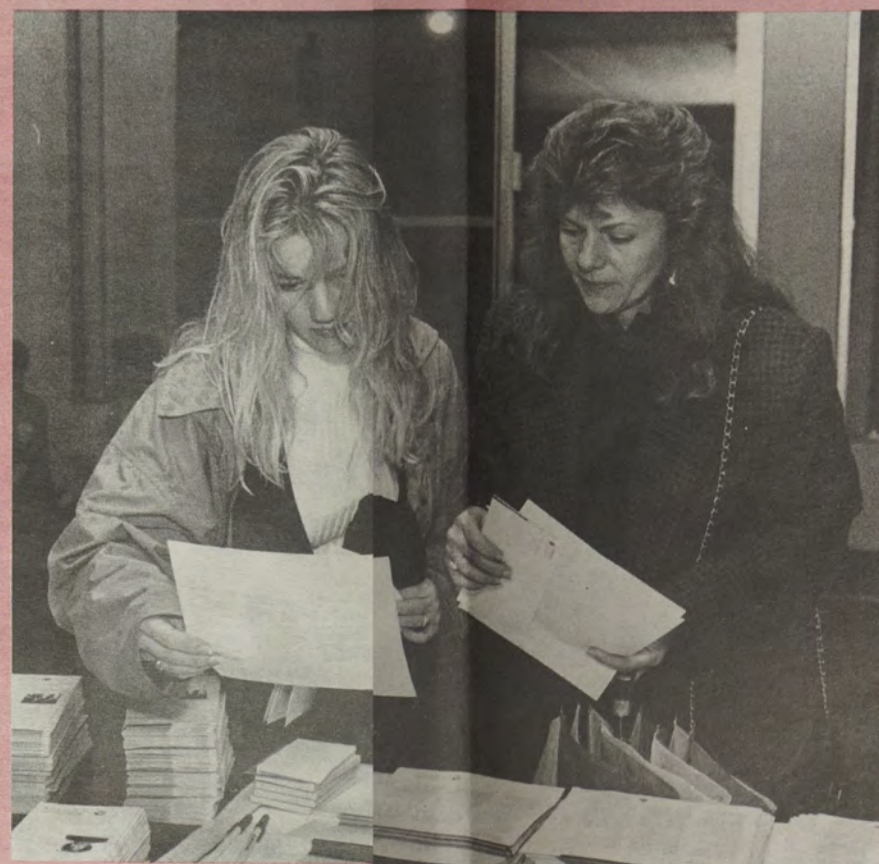
Refreshments were provided at the Faculty Center where pianist Kathy Sperry, a RIC music student, played. Hearing-impaired interpreter Teresa Nickerson provided her services, and the Campus Store and Student Union doors were open all afternoon for inspection.

Photos by
Gordon E. Rowley

Text by
George LaTour



ABOVE: Despite the rain, Roberts Hall auditorium was nearly full. AT RIGHT: Pianist Kathy Sperry provides music to accompany the refreshments served in the Faculty Center, while (BELOW, FAR LEFT) Josephine Brown and her niece, Katrina, get an explanation of programs from Deborah Johnson, assistant director of undergraduate admissions. BELOW, Denise Moreira and her mother, Ann, of Cranston, pick up literature, while at FAR RIGHT Melissa Lech (on left) and Shelly Lenihan, both of West Warwick, explore the bookstore.



Students with disabilities use services to succeed in school and in life

by Cynthia DeMaio
Student Writer

For the person who must struggle with a disability in addition to the rigors of college life, academic help and personal support is available at the Office of Student Life. The Office is located in Room 127 in Craig-Lee Hall on the Rhode Island College campus.

According to the federal definition, a disability is any impairment, physical or mental, which substantially limits a person's major life activities. These activities include everything from basic personal care to manual tasks, learning and working.

Common disabilities include physical impairments such as mobility problems or difficulty using one's hands, said Sara Weiss, peer advisor for students with disabilities. They also include learning disabilities, chronic illness (such as asthma or heart disease), neurological problems, mental illness, and sensory conditions such as blindness and deafness.

Joanne Robert, a resident of Pawtucket and sophomore in RIC's bachelor of social work program, believes that the faculty and staff at RIC extend themselves to students with special needs. Joanne is legally blind, seeing with only 20 percent normal vision. She uses the services of the Student Life Office in several ways, including use of books on audiotape.

"Before the semester begins, I call my professors and find out what text books we'll be using," Joanne said. She then calls a non-profit agency, Recordings for the Blind of Princeton, NJ, to request copies of the books on tape. "If they don't have the texts in stock, I go to the Office of Student Life." Work study students in the office will record the textbook free of charge to the student as part of the office's services.

Student assistants also help Joanne when she does research in the library. "They are my eyes. I can't read the call numbers on the computer screen and can't see the microfilm clearly," Joanne said. She is able to read the library books, however, if she enlarges the print on a copy machine.



**SARA WEISS AND DIXON MCCOOL
OF THE STUDENT LIFE OFFICE**

A common practice for visually impaired students and those with learning disabilities is to take tests in a separate, quiet room. Often the student is given extra time to finish the test and some students must have the tests read to them.

Joanne recalls taking the test to fulfill the school's math competency requirement. The Office of Student Life got her in touch with a tutor, who helped her brush up on her math skills during six review sessions. "The tutor was like a god-send," she said.

The day of the test, Joanne had a student available to read the test to her. "Because there were fractions involved, the student had to read the test symbol by symbol, number by number." Because of the effort that goes into test taking under these conditions, Joanne requested extra time.

The chairman of the math department, who was not familiar with this process, requested to sit in on the test. "Once he saw that the reader was necessary and was not answering the questions for me, he was sat-

isfied and left," Joanne said.

Sara Weiss, peer advisor, notes that the accommodations made to students with disabilities give them equal opportunity to succeed academically. The accommodations are not meant to give one student an advantage over the others. Dixon McCool, associate dean of Student Life, said "assistants are there to provide hands, eyes and ears for disabled students. They are not there to be a student's brain."

Independence is the key theme of the Office of Student Life. "The thrust of the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (which requires colleges to provide accessibility of programs and services to all individuals) and the goal of this college is to make the student more independent," Weiss said. "Our hope is that when a student graduates, he or she will feel comfortable about themselves and their condition and will be able work in the career of their choice."

Joanne notes that this message comes through. "The office is not there to solve problems for you that you can handle yourself. They only step in when a situation gets beyond what any one individual could control."

In addition to student assistants, books on tape, and separate testing rooms, the office sponsors a weekly discussion group for students with disabilities. Michelle Pennacchia, a second semester junior in the social work program, says she has gotten a lot from being a member of that group. Michelle has a slight case of cerebral palsy, so her condition is not visible, although it sometimes affects her ability to write.

"We discuss the daily problems we may have in the group. We all are dealing with some kind of disability (the group is a mixed one) and our respective disabilities make life more difficult. By talking we learn ways to cope. Sometimes the same method works for two different people, such as taking extra time on a test," Michelle said.

Michelle said that her personal relationship with Sara Weiss has helped her tremendously. "Having Sara be there has been one of the biggest benefits I've gotten from the Office of Student Life. She cares and she'll do everything she can to help you. Because she's there, I know I can get through."

Student Life Office director McCool notes that while the office does have many services, there are some things which it cannot provide. "If a student needs a personal care attendant for activities such as dressing, personal hygiene, or eating, they must get one on their own. Also, we do not provide transportation to and from school. However, we try to be helpful in emergency situations."

Equipment available at the office includes a braille for students who need to type documents in braille; phonic ears (a microphone/receiver set by which a hearing impaired can hear a lecture); a talking calculator; a TDD (telecommunication device for the deaf); and tape recorders.

Adams Library has a Kurzweil reader which scans and reads books aloud, a visual-tech device which magnifies maps and diagrams, and a DecTalk talking computer.

Students interested in the services at the Office of Student Life can contact Sara Weiss or Dixon McCool at Craig-Lee Hall, Room 127, phone 456-8061.

G.L.

A tadpole, a frog, four goldfish and six ram-horned snails

The youngsters and their teachers at Rhode Island College's laboratory school, Henry Barnard, have come up with yet a new twist in their pursuit of education.

Alida Frey's fifth grade class has created a fresh water pond in the classroom...to study any number of issues related to the environment, of course.

And, also, to enhance their literacy skills through research reading.

Funded by a modest grant from the New England Reading Association, they named the project "Lily Pads and Goldfish: Developing Literacy for Life-Long Learning."

The students, says Frey, began their pond studies the first week of school by identifying tributaries to fresh water ponds.

The result of their research was

sketched and painted on their classroom windows beginning with a trickling mountain stream and ending with a "flourishing pond" which, one could assume, is on the classroom floor.

Actual construction of the pond, says Frey, began the third week in September with the gathering of needed materials and the assembly of a biofilter.

Next came an endless (to the children's way of thinking) 10-day wait for the tap water in the pond "to age" before introducing some animals.

To pass the time, the kids built a waterfall from concrete blocks and natural stone and added some lava rock to enhance the filtration process.

By the time the 10th day had past, plants were added: a taro, water

hyacinths, money wort and parrot feathers. Parrot feathers!?!)

The animals were the last to arrive and include four goldfish, six ram-horned snails, a tadpole and a frog.

According to the young scientists, the pond provides "sound, visual delight and endless activities."

"From measuring 40 liters to replenish the pond water, to checking the plants for decay, to removing an oil slick from the pond, the students are constantly making connections that have real-life applications," Frey assures.

"Whether it be fertilizing the plants, analyzing an imbalance in the ecosystem caused by possible over feeding or observing how cold the pond water seems, the students are using the pond to develop the habit of literacy for life-long learning."

For their commitment and dedicated service to Rhode Island College...

25 Years

Faculty

Charles Foltz
 Florence E. Hennen
 P. William Hutchinson
 Victoria S. Lederberg
 Janis M. Marecsak
 Elaine F. Perry
 Stephen M. Rothschild
 Earl E. Stevens
 Tony Y. Teng
 David C. Woolman

Administrative Staff

Ronald D. Lupo
 Richard A. Olsen
 Richard W. Prull

Support Staff

James R. Medeiros

...Nearly 100 members of the College community were recognized for their service at the sixth annual Service Recognition Day. The honorees were treated to a reception at the President's House Dec. 1. The following morning, the community and already inducted members of the 30-Year Honor Roll received Panajotis T. Votoras into their ranks. The Honor Roll is permanently displayed in the President's Office reception area in Roberts Hall.



25 YEARS OF SERVICE AND COUNTING: Recipients of 25-Year Service Awards at Rhode Island College are (rear from left) Ronald Lupo, Richard Olsen, Richard Prull, James Medeiros and David Woolman; (front) Janis Marecsak, Stephen Rothschild, Elaine Perry, Victoria Lederberg and President John Nazarian, who presented the awards. Site is the President's House on Dec. 1.

10 Years

Faculty

Joao P. Botelho
 Judith A. Doherty
 Frederick F. Harrop
 Yolande A. Lockett
 Marlene L. Lopes
 Frederic G. Reamer
 Charles L. Roy
 Deborah H. Siegel
 Albert L. Stecker
 Patricia A. Thomas
 Caroline Tropper
 Geraldine G. Verhulst

Administrative Staff

William R. Angell
 James R. Bucci
 Diane L. Hall

Support Staff

Stephen J. Albanese
 Anita L. Alterio
 George R. Bassett
 Roy F. Clements, Sr.
 Louise A. DiGiacomo
 Richard DiMaria
 William J. Gardiner
 Robert L. Panciocco
 Doris I. Remillard
 Ann M. Tamboe

15 Years

Faculty

David H. Burr
 Nancy H. Gewirtz
 Elaine S. Magyar
 E. Pierre Morenon

Administrative Staff

Mariam Z. Boyajian
 Thomas J. Bradley
 Louis H. McGowan

Support Staff

Elaine A. Papa

20 Years

Faculty

Louis E. Alfonso
 Samuel B. Ames
 James J. Betres
 Lawrence Budner
 Robert L. Castiglione
 Linda K. Cathers
 Stanford E. Demars
 Allan L. Fingeret
 Barry Gilbert
 Gary R. Grund
 Terence E. Hays
 Steve C. Imber
 Thomas T. Kochanek
 Bennett J. Lombardo
 Barbara E. Lounsbury
 Rena M. Maddox
 Jane D. Malone
 Peter A. Marks

Edward W. Markward
 Charles J. Marzzacco
 James G. McCrystal
 Judith N. Mitchell
 Ann E. Moskol
 Rosemary J. Murphy
 Richard R. Olmsted
 John A. Perrotta
 Anne K. Petry
 Robert T. Rude
 Raquel Shapiro
 Ronald M. Steinberg
 Deborah K. Svengalis

Administrative Staff

Charles H. Allsworth
 Kirk I. Bryden
 Sharon A. Giacobbi
 Dianne J. Huling

Donna L. Konicki
 Linda M. McEnery
 Russell J. Monaghan
 Shirley A. Rinehart
 Gordon N. Sundberg
 Elaine A. Walsh
 David A. Wilson

Support Staff

Jeanne A. Boichat
 Judy A. Convey
 Carmelo DiCicco
 Jane C. D'Uva
 Helen A. Feole
 Linda A. Green
 Pauline Margerison
 Anne F. Quinn
 Harold Ramsay
 Dorothy A. Sullivan

'In the St. Nick of Time' for RIC grads

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

A Providence-based professional touring theater company with strong Rhode Island College affiliation is embarking on a new venture this season: dinner theater.

Kaleidoscope Theatre is presenting *In the St. Nick of Time*, described as a holiday murder mystery musical, at several area restaurants from Thanksgiving until Christmas.

Founded in 1977 as a tax-exempt organization by RIC alumni David Payton, Class of 1977, Anne Colannino, Class of 1972, and Bob Zannini, it has maintained its strong ties to the College through the years.

RIC's director of alumni affairs, Holly L. Shadoian, acted with the company for a period of 10 years and currently serves on its board of directors.



SEARCHING FOR CLUES in the Kaleidoscope Theatre's dinner theater production are (clockwise from left) Denis Pelletier of Cumberland, Jim Manchester of Bristol, Chris Schultz of Coventry and John Pacheco of Providence. The center of their attention is Dina D'Lovely as played by Carol Cullen of Cranston, whose character is described as the 'hostess with the mostest.'

Kaleidoscope Theatre was recently chosen Rhode Island's Family Favorite Children's Theater in a poll by the Rhode Island Parent's Paper.

Fun-filled musical

A Kaleidoscope spokesperson described *In the St. Nick of Time* as a "fun-filled musical production that gives dinner guests the opportunity to solve a most baffling murder case while at the same time enjoying a four-course meal at some of New England's finest restaurants."

The actors — described as seven of Rhode Island's most talented cabaret performers — are all RIC grads or undergrads.

Jim Manchester, Class of '73, and Marianne Douglas, Class of '72, play world-famous detectives Charles and Nora St. Nick in a take-off on the old movie detective heroes, Nick and Nora Charles.

They are assisted by Denis Pelletier, a continuing education student, who plays a police detective sergeant named Christopher Columbo in an obvious tongue-in-cheek reference to TV's not-so-bumbling detective Columbo.

"Columbo" interrogates suspects while dinner guests sift through clues to determine just who murdered restaurant owner Santo Lucia, and why.

Was it Otto Lombardo, played by John Pacheco, RIC Class of '93?

"Otto" had been "Santo's" cellmate in prison, so that sort of makes you wonder.

Or was it Mickey Butler, played by Chris Schultz, a RIC sophomore, who was a former prison cook-turned-restaurant chef, or Dina D'Lovely, played by Carol Cullen, Class of '86?

"D'Lovely" is an infamous actress now serving as restaurant "hostess with the mostest."

As though that weren't enough suspects, consider if you will Jane Doe, played by Suzanne Andrews, Class of 81. "Jane" is a bag lady waitress.

Or was it someone else?

Each character sings

Each character sings and dances as the evening progresses to a surprise climax.

Stage managers for the production are Anna Szawlowska, a RIC senior, and Bill Frederickson of North Scituate. Understudies are Molly Marks, Class of '83, and Alyce Fitzgerald of Scituate, Mass.

"We loved it!" says Chip Munro, manager of Twister's restaurant in Narragansett where the production first appeared.

"All our patrons had so much fun that we booked it back into the restaurant right away," Munro says.

Show times and prices vary, so you are advised to call the restaurant of your choice for further information and reservations.

In the St. Nick of Time will be appearing this holiday season in the following restaurants:

The Classic Restaurant, North Providence, Dec. 13; Governor Francis Inn, Warwick, Dec. 14; Twister's Restaurant, Narragansett, Dec. 15; The Cocks 'N Kettle, Uxbridge, Mass., Dec. 16; The Coachman Restaurant, Tiverton, Dec. 19.

For further information about Kaleidoscope Theatre, call 941-1977.



THE ADAMS AFFAIR

A ball to benefit the
James P. Adams Library

Saturday, February 19, 1994

8 p.m. to Midnight

Rhodes-on-the-Pawtuxet

Sumptuous hors d'oeuvres

Dancing to music of *Rhyme & Reason*

Black tie optional

\$50 per person

Sponsored by

the Rhode Island College Alumni Association
and the Rhode Island College Foundation

Attention Class Representatives and Advisors: The following classes have scheduled reunions in conjunction with *The Adams Affair*: 1954, 1959, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1968, 1969, 1973, 1974, 1978, 1984, 1989.

Consider joining them for your own class reunion. Call the Alumni Office at (401) 456-8086 or Development Office at (401) 456-8105 for details.

Hungarian State Folk Ensemble to offer whirling dancers, show-stopping orchestra

by George LaTour
What's News Associate Editor

Hungarian State Folk Ensemble's 70 performers, comprised of whirling dancers, chorus and show-stopping orchestra, will take the stage at Rhode Island College's Roberts Hall auditorium Thursday, Jan. 13, for an 8 p.m. performance.

Considered "the best in the world of its kind," artistic director Sandor Timar's company is complete with Gypsy violins, Hungarian cimbaloms and other typically ethnic instruments.

Based in Budapest, the members of the company are hand-picked from the very best in Hungary, and have been chosen above all other Hungarian folk companies by the government to be its official representative abroad.

America is the 23rd country in its current tour to be added to its unbroken chain of "sensational success," according to advance publicity.

It is not the ensemble's first tour of America, having visited cities from coast-to-coast in 1984, 1987 and 1990, drawing the praise of critics in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Detroit, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco, among others.

This vibrant, youthful, performing group, carrying on a tradition of Hungarian folk music, has itself become a tradition, performing over the years on four continents, in 40 countries before more than five million people, says the Hungarian-American Folklore Centrum in Bogota, N.J.

Music that inspired

The folk music that inspired Bela Bartok, Zoltan Kodaly and Franz Liszt is the foundation for the ensemble's panorama of dance, colorful costumes, choral singing and Hungarian folk and Gypsy melodies.



HUNGARIAN STATE FOLK ENSEMBLE

Many people associate Hungarian folk music with that of the Hungarian Gypsy. Much of this type of music was written in the last century and made famous by many Gypsy orchestras.

In addition, Hungarians in isolated villages have introduced their own folk music into the current culture.

All of the dances performed by the ensemble are authentic and date back hundreds of years. A different art form from that of classical or modern ballet, the folk dance as an artistic achievement by the

Hungarian State Folk Ensemble which equals those of the best dance companies, and, reportedly, has influenced the choreographic philosophy of many other folk ensembles around the world.

Old Style dances

The Old Style Hungarian dances include the Chain, Line or Round Dance, usually accompanied only by singing. Possibly remnants of dances of the Middle Ages, they have survived today especially in girls' circle dances and children's games.

Herdsmen's Dances are another

type of Old Style dance, reminiscent of the weapon dances of the Middle Ages which were done at victory feasts, wakes and court festivities.

They are characterized by the use of some sort of utensil: broom, bottle or most commonly, a stick.

Jumping Dances (Ugros) are closely related to Herdsmen's dances and include some of the oldest and most intricate forms of Hungarian dances. They vary widely throughout the Hungarian speaking territories. Jumping dances can be identified mostly by the jumping movement, but leg twisting and slapping steps also are included.

One of the most exciting dance forms of Jumping Dance is the "Legenyés," varying in tempo from slow to very fast. Legenyés dances are found and still widely performed in Erdely (Transylvania).

The Old Style Couple Dances are almost exclusively found also among the Transylvania Hungarians.

The influence of Western Europe musical fashions reaching Hungary in the 18th Century resulted in the development of the New Style.

One characteristic dance that evolved from the practice of employing professional dancers to lure villagers to enlist in the Austro-Hungarian army was the "Verbunk" or Recruiting Dance.

As a rule, Verbunk dances are done by men.

"Csardas," the other New Style dance type, has become identified with the national dance of Hungarians, being the most popular and practiced dance type through the Hungarian speaking territories and everywhere Hungarians live in the world.

Press Reviews

The press has been lavish in its praise of the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble.

"The capacity crowd responded with bravos, cheers and whistles!" said the *Washington Post*.

"Rarely do so many virtuosos share a stage...offering a startling lesson in what great folk art is all about," said the *Chicago Tribune*.

"A foot stomping whirlwind of authenticity...and the audience cried out for more." — *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

"A zesty mix of substance, sentiment and showbiz — the right mix for a successful run — ending in an absolute frenzy." — *Houston Chronicle*.

Ticket information

Reserved-seat tickets are \$16 with discounts for students and senior citizens. Tickets may be ordered by calling 456-8194 from 9 to 4 daily. All phone orders must be charged to MasterCard or VISA.

The box office for in-person sales will open approximately 10 days prior to the date of performance. Box office hours are 10 to 5 weekdays and until time of performance on Jan. 13.

Performing Arts Series events are made possible through partial funding from the RIC Performing and Fine Arts Commission, the Rhode Island Committee on the Humanities, the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, the New England Foundation for the Arts with support from the Dance Tour Program of the National Endowment for the Arts and the RIC Lectures Committee.

For more information, call 456-8194.

'Animals 'n Space'

The annual Young People's Concert by the American Band will feature music from the films *Jurassic Park*, *Canine Capers*, and *The Planets*.

Entitled "Animals 'n Space," it will be conducted by Francis Marciniak Sunday, Jan. 23, at 3 p.m. in Roberts Hall auditorium on the Rhode Island College campus.

This will be the first of a two-concert series this year, says Marciniak, the second scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 20, at 3 p.m. in Gaige Hall auditorium.

The program in the first (Jan. 23) concert will include music about animals and space and will feature such works as Saint-Saens' "Carnival of the Animals" with narration by Ogden Nash, Gustav Holst's "The Planets" and Donald Erb's unusual "Stargazing Highlights from the Soundtrack of *Jurassic Park*."

Also featured will be slides of art work produced by area school children as the band performs certain selections.

Tickets are \$5 each with a special offer of buy two and get a third ticket free. For tickets, you may call 456-8244.



PRESENTING SCHOLARSHIP: Helen Forman (left), Class of 1934, presents the first Forman Scholarship to Laurie Marcotte of Blackstone, Mass., a sophomore music major and pianist, at ceremonies during the Monday evening, Dec. 6, RIC Chorus and Symphony Orchestra concert in Roberts Hall auditorium. (What's News Photo by Gordon E. Rowley)

Campus Center associate director moves on

Who better than RIC's Cureton to deliver a message of hope, understanding and cooperation

by Clare Eckert
What's News Editor

Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be. Abraham Lincoln was the author of those words many years ago.

Today, Douglas Cureton, associate director of the Rhode Island College Campus Center, who has this impressive message, among many other positive statements, nailed to his office walls, lives by them and encourages others to do the same.

Cureton has been at RIC for the past 13 years—give or take a few months here and there for substitute teaching assignments around the state. Generally, the affable administrator is known as the College's own positive motivator-in-residence.

At 36 years old, the Pawtucket resident has already faced some of the most difficult personal obstacles asked of anyone his age. As a youth, "I started out an introvert." During adolescence and into adulthood, Cureton was overweight and felt the pain of bias. And it was only four years ago, that Cureton faced his parents - the two people he loves and cherishes most dearly - with news that their son was a gay male. And throughout all the years as a young adult, when men and women alike, are seeking out companions for romance and love, Cureton said, "all that took a backseat."

So, who better than someone like Cureton, who has experienced the heartbreak of society's indifference and discrimination through no fault of his own. He's the right kind of human being to help others step out from behind the curtain of life and learn to face life's challenges forthwith.

Readying himself to begin sharing his experiences and building up a bigger "bag of tricks" for his latest self-assignment as a business executive in motivation training come June, he will leave the College and explore the possibilities as an entrepreneur selling his "wares" to other colleges and universities, businesses and corporations.

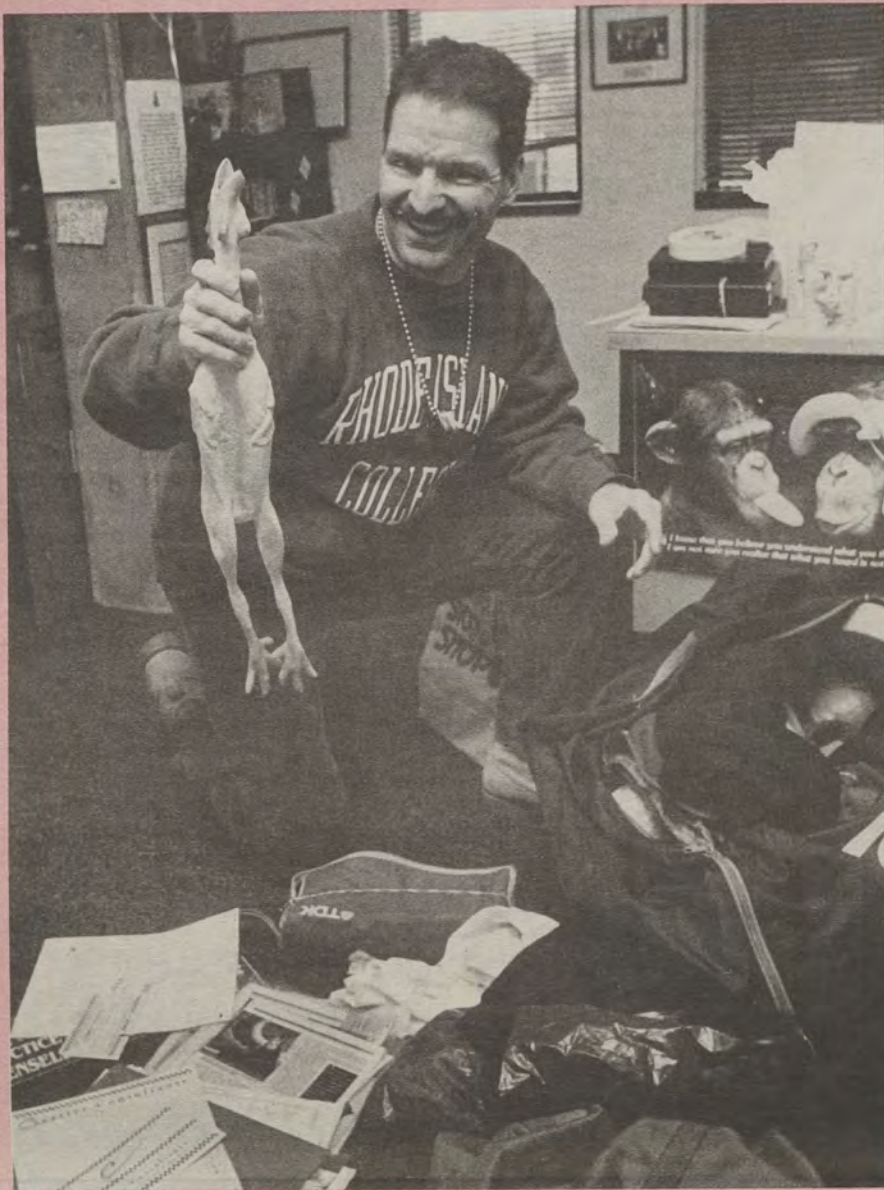
"This all started totally by accident," he said. After receiving an undergraduate degree in music education from RIC in 1980 and teaching in different school systems in the state, Cureton was hard-pressed to secure a full-time teaching position.

Unable to get a job, he enrolled in the University of Hartford's master's in conducting program. Soon he discovered that it wasn't for him, and after one semester changed curriculums to a business program.

Still dissatisfied, in 1983, the young man's eye was caught by a job announcement for a residence hall director at his alma mater. By 1986, Cureton received his master's degree from RIC in human resource management, was making his mark at the College in student affairs, and became involved in the professional association - the National Association for Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA).

It was through his hard work and contributions to NASPA that the opportunity to develop workshop training programs on topics like building leadership skills, stress management, interpersonal communications and creative decision-making came to him.

In addition to NASPA workshops, Cureton had put together a series of



DOUG CURETON AND HIS 'BAG OF TRICKS'

programs for new students to RIC as part of summer orientation that reaches out to them and helps them behave in a College environment that benefit the individual student and provides methods to be successful at school and in life.

The development and delivery of the programs at the administrative level and for students, he said, "is really a natural extension of my teaching background."

Cureton takes a holistic approach to the human psyche, believing that the connection between one's physical and psychological well-being is deep and real. His seminars mix humor and learning, and his message to his audience is that "we must begin to recognize the power we have over our own lives."

The business side of the training sessions started about seven years ago. "I was being asked more and more" to head-up conferences. What initially took about 10 hours to plan, each session takes him no more than two hours today. And he now has a name for himself: Creative Consultant.

Cureton's expertise and reputation has taken him all over the country, from California to Oregon, Washington State, Florida and Arkansas. When he leaves RIC in June, he plans to move to San Francisco to "give myself the time to develop new workshops and to beef up information for the gay and lesbian communities....there is a tremendous need."

He believes that life brings options and choices. "You must play around with options, create other options and move on them," he said.

"I have seen what administrators do and that's not for me," he said explaining how he decided to take

the plunge into business. "I said to myself, 'how do I qualitatively want to spend my life. It doesn't have anything to do with money. You have to believe in what you do and that you can do it the best. You have to take the risk and try'."

His first "risk" was going to college! "You can go, but you must pay for it," were his parents parting words. Cureton is the only family member out of five brothers and sisters to hold a college degree.

"It is critical in life to do what you want to do," he said, and it's wise to be self-disciplined, which Cureton knows a lot about.

Losing weight was all about discipline. "I just never let go. I wouldn't

let myself let go. Physical appearance is something about self-esteem. I tell people it's about making time for self. It's committing something to yourself and taking care of your body." An aerobics instructor for the past eight years, Cureton said, "I now have infinitely more energy and more enthusiasm."

Cureton lost his inhibitions when "I flunked chemistry" in high school. Chemistry and chorus were at the same time. "I hated chemistry!" The chorus instructor needed a tenor, Cureton's appearance at practice was just what the doctor ordered. It's a strange set of circumstances, but another that demonstrates choices and options to Cureton. "I got involved with the group (of students) and worked hard. I learned I had organizational skills. That's when I started to be an extrovert."

As a young man in his early thirties, Cureton said he was "hiding from myself" with his homosexuality. At 32, he told his parents, who remain supportive of him—come what may. When finally told, Cureton said their response was: "The only thing you've ever made us is proud—and that hasn't changed."

With his latest announcement of leaving the security of RIC, his parents are once again supportive. "They're very happy for me."

Of RIC, Cureton will only have good memories. "I've loved Rhode Island College. It's given me a place to grow, challenges and let me go on," he said. "I know I will be back. It will always be a place to call home."

At last month's annual NASPA conference, Cureton received the Continuous Service Award. He is honored to have been the recipient for a number of reasons, but especially remarks that without the opportunity afforded to him by the group to develop and present his workshops he may not have started his business. "This organization, to me, provided the wings that got me going."

Cureton said he leaves with "cautiousness," not fear, and knows when he returns he will bring back to RIC a "renewed gift." For now, he said, "the door just opened," and he's "got to check it out."

Tickets

Continued from page 1

and the BUY-A-BOOK RAFFLE drawing.

According to Wassenaar, response from alumni who have read about the project in *What's News*, the *Providence Journal-Bulletin*, *USA TODAY* and *The Boston Globe*, or have heard or seen it on local radio and television, has been "extremely positive."

"When we began receiving letter after letter of support from our alumni about the project, along with requests for tickets, it highlighted the need for us to make this direct appeal to all 35,000 members of the association," Wassenaar said.

Written comments by alumni included one from Ella Williams Greene, Class of 1930, who writes from Cape Coral: "President John Nazarian had a wonderful idea when he suggested a raffle to raise

money for the library. After reading about the project in *What's News*, I am enclosing my \$5 check for my book of tickets." Another alumna, Gloria Tucker, of North Providence, who received her bachelor's degree in 1967 and a master's in 1977, writes: "Great Idea!"

Elizabeth Reardon of Chattanooga, Tenn. writes: "As an '81 RIC grad - and a librarian - I want to do my part for the Adams Library! Please send two books of raffle tickets." And, Marjorie Lowe Nuttall, Class of 1939 of Wesley Chapel, Fla. gave these encouraging words: "I hope many people donate to this good cause."

For further information on the raffle or the February benefit, call the Foundation office at 401-456-8105.