



What's News at Rhode Island College



Vol. 24 Issue 11

1854-2004

Commencement Issue 2004

Highlights

In the News

Graduate and undergraduate commencements held May 13 and 15

Original HBS entablature unveiled

Harlem Renaissance conference attracts presenters from over 30 institutions of higher learning

Dean's List announced

Features

Biology professor helps grow tree awareness on campus

RIC becomes "home" to Cliff Rebelo '04

Foundation/Alumni News

RIC on the Road: Deep in the heart of Texas

Class of 2004 makes \$150,000 pledge

Sports

Athletic hall of fame 2004 announced

Arts/Entertainment

Sneak preview of the Performing Arts Series 2004-05 season

Index

Then and Now...	2
Foundation/Alumni News	4
(Not Just) Academically Speaking	5
Faces of RIC	9
Arts/Entertainment	14-15
Marriages Made at RIC	15
Dean's List	16-17
Sports	18
Around the Campus	20

Photos in this issue of *What's News* by Gordon E. Rowley, Suzanne Russell, Charlie Allsworth and Nancy Hoogasian

Sesquicentennial commencements celebrate the enduring value of knowledge

On May 13 and 15, Rhode Island College awarded a total of 1,449 diplomas to graduate and undergraduate students who will now contribute to the community at large as educators, entertainers, social workers, scientists, artists, and business professionals. RIC's graduation tradition began 150 years ago.



SYMBOL OF RETURNING: Above, College President John Nazarian releases the first dove that will return to its nest, symbolizing that graduating seniors will always be welcomed back to their alma mater. At left, a grad rejoices after receiving her diploma.



Baccalaureate ceremony unites newest alumni with past graduates

A special year - the College's Sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary - closed May 15 with an especially warm and sunny undergraduate commencement on the campus esplanade. Over 1,100 students went from candidate to graduate in a baccalaureate degree conferral heralded by *Sesquicentennial Fanfare*, a six-trumpet concerto composed by RIC assistant professor of music Joseph D. Foley. Keeping with the anniversary theme, the event brought out representatives from each graduating class since 1934, and featured members of the golden anniversary Class of 1954 - including College President John Nazarian.

Two Presidential Medals, rarely given at RIC, were awarded at a graduation ceremony for the first time. Natalie Cullen Howe '24 was honored as the oldest living alumna of the College. She will turn 100 years old in August. Howe had been a kindergarten teacher in the Providence school system.

Howe, who strode to the podium with the help of a walker, wore a chain that held her 1924 class ring. "I thank you all," she said. "Rhode Island College, I've known you for a long time." The thousands in the audience responded with a sustained standing ovation.

Kathleen Mellor '70, MEd '77 also received a Presidential Medal.

In April, she was honored by President Bush as the National Teacher of the Year, a first for a Rhode Island educator. Mellor, an English-as-a-second-language teacher in North Kingstown, will travel around the country as an advocate for her profession. (See "Faces of RIC" profile on page 9.)

The College conferred honorary degrees on composer and orchestral performer Peter Boyer '91, Hasbro chairman of the board and philanthropist Alan Hassenfeld, and U.S. Rep. James Langevin '90.

Among the guests who sat on the platform were U.S. Sen. Jack Reed, Gov. Donald Carcieri, U.S. Rep.

Patrick Kennedy and Providence Mayor David Cicilline.

Carcieri told the graduates that they need only look at some of the distinguished alumni in attendance, including his wife Suzanne, Nazarian, and Langevin, to "see successful lives following a RIC degree."

Paraphrasing the words of education pioneer Horace Mann, Carcieri urged the graduates to "always have the determination to make the right things happen." The governor advised students to "set your sights on doing what excites you the most and gets your juices flowing."

Judge Frank Caprio, chairman of

Continued on page 10



GOLDEN PROCESSIONAL: The Class of 1954 takes part in the Sesquicentennial commencement exercises held May 15 on the campus esplanade.

Then and Now...

In keeping with the Sesquicentennial celebration, we will feature a series of paired photos showing the College "Then" and "Now."



CONGRATULATORY KISSES: In 1975, John Nazarian, then special assistant to RIC President Charles Willard, thanks and kisses Lenore DeLucia as she stepped down from the position of acting vice president for academic affairs. History repeated itself this year on May 14, when College President Nazarian again kisses DeLucia and thanks her for 42 years of service to the College. For more on DeLucia's retirement see page 6.

RIC biology professor cultivates campus tree awareness program

It stands to reason that the state's senior public institution of higher education would have many grand old trees speckling its foliage-rich landscape. And indeed it does. The northern red oak, purple European beech, Norway spruce, and London planetree are some of the living towers that stand over 60 feet high, offering rustic appeal and welcoming shade to the 180-acre campus.

The diverse and colorful collection of trees impressed Jerry Melaragno, professor of biology. Now he has created a comprehensive program that highlights the importance of RIC's resident trees, and offers the College community a chance to explore firsthand these overlooked treasures.

In April, he received word that RIC would be granted \$6,300 from the America the Beautiful Tree Rhode Island program, which is administered by the state Dept. of Environmental Management's Division of Forest Environment. The grant will fund tree inventory and labeling as well as the development of a campus tree tour and accompanying brochure.

The endeavor is part of a project to "recognize and promote the

value of our campus trees," said Melaragno.

The grant is actually the second phase of the program, which began last fall, when a 2004 campus tree desk calendar was published. Melaragno worked with the College's Publishing Services Dept. to produce the calendar, which was funded by the RIC Foundation. Over 2,500 calendars were printed; it can also be viewed online at www.ric.edu/ric150.

In December and January, inventory was taken of RIC's 280 conifer trees, including 21 different species. Currently, deciduous (leaf-shedding) trees are being catalogued. The listing and labeling of trees - about 800 total - will encompass all developed areas of the College, including the East Campus.

The database and labeling of trees will greatly facilitate their future care and maintenance, according to Melaragno. "The inventory will allow us to make better decisions about new plantings and maintain the existing plantings," he noted.

Publication of the brochure is planned for 2004. It will include a map and tree guide suitable for self-guided tours. Group tours are planned for the future.

The College's tree program was also given a boost by the Rhode Island Tree Council, a nonprofit citizens' group that offers a six-week tree steward class. For the first time, the training, which began in May, is at RIC. Topics include tree biology and how to identify, plant and care for trees. In conjunction with the class, two cherry trees will be planted on campus.

The variety and significance of trees will extend into the RIC classroom this fall when Melaragno's new course "The World's Forests" is offered. Class work will include a student project on campus trees and investigating the interactions between people and trees from a global perspective. Also, a biology lab will focus on Rhode Island's state tree, the red maple, of which there are many on campus.

Two RIC trees have been nominated as the largest of their species in the state,

including a noble fir, located near the Fruit Hill Avenue entrance to the campus, beside the old alumni house. This tree, at 107 feet high, is the tallest one on campus (see photo at lower left). The white oak located at the Mt. Pleasant Avenue entrance is the symbol of RIC's Sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary, being celebrated this year.

Melaragno believes his effort to raise tree awareness will have a lasting benefit. "Successful completion of this project will ensure that the Rhode Island College campus will be an important destination for our citizens, highlighting our trees for the various ways they enhance our world,"



SHADY SITUATION: A 21-foot-tall flowering crabapple provides shade for the benches below. The tree produces masses of flowers that almost fully cover its branches, and its abundant fruit provides winter food for many types of birds.

said Melaragno. "We proudly celebrate them as valued companions in the natural world."



TREE NOBILITY: Reaching 107 feet into the sky, this noble fir is located beside the former Alumni House on the Fruit Hill Ave. side of the campus.



RING AROUND THE BEECH TREE: This purple European beech, located on The Forman Center lawn, has the greatest girth of any tree on campus, measuring seven first graders around. Standing 92 feet tall, it may be RIC's oldest tree.

Never forget RIC...

Reflections of a recent grad

by Cliff Rebelo
Class of 2004

"There is a good reason they call these ceremonies 'commencement exercises.' Graduation is not the end; it's the beginning."

— U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch

Nothing rings truer than the quote above. For six years I had anticipated the day I would graduate from Rhode Island College with much excitement. As the semesters turned into years and my majors kept changing, I had only one goal in mind and that was to finish whatever degree program I was in and finally end my college career once and for all. No thought kept me going like the thought of finally being rid of exams, reports, lectures, etc. Having worked second shift since I started college, I could not wait to begin working "normal hours," as I liked to call them. Going into work in the morning and leaving in the afternoon seemed a lot better to me than going to class all day, then going to work until 8 p.m., only to go back to campus to work at the school's newspaper and radio station. Granted, I took on a lot of responsibility by joining as many organizations as I did, but since I had no time for an internship with my job schedule, getting involved on campus seemed to be a logical alternative. I derived much happiness by being as involved as I was but there was still that one thought lingering in my head... GET OUT!

On Saturday, May 15, I sat in front of the Murray Center and stared out into the distance. I would be lying if I said I listened to every word of every speech that was given at this year's commencement ceremony. Instead, I spent a majority of the time thinking about this strange emotion I was feeling. It wasn't joy or happiness but instead, it was sadness. Sadness? How could I be sad when graduation was all I had wanted for so long? How much sense does it make to wish for your graduation day, have it come, and then you do not want to leave? I kept looking around at my fellow graduates wondering if they too were sad that this whole experience seemed to be over. A few days earlier, I had spoken to a friend who was also graduating and he had mentioned how weird it was going to be to leave because Rhode Island College had been his "home" for the past few years. Home... I had never thought of RIC as being my home. I enjoyed every minute I spent on campus and thoroughly enjoyed connecting with all of the professors, administrators, staff members, and students, but I had never called it home. It didn't feel like home until I was sitting there in my cap and gown on that overwhelmingly hot day in May.

There was a unifying theme this year during the commencement exercises: "Never forget Rhode Island College." It was echoed through President Nazarian's speech and David A. Medeiros, class president, also made that sentiment clear in his address to the class. They told us, the graduates, to remember Rhode Island College as the place that prepared us for the world and gave us the keys to our future. During President Nazarian's closing remarks, he released a set of doves and said that no matter where they are, they would always find their way back home to the place where they were raised. He likened us to those doves and invited us to find our way back to Rhode Island College no matter where we



CLIFF REBELO

were in the future. It was at this point that I realized how Rhode Island College had in fact become my home. I looked to my right and saw the varied groups of alumni that had returned to be a part of the 150th commencement and finally understood why they took the time to come back.

As children, our families are supposed to be the people who train us for our first phases of life. They teach us right from wrong and show us how to survive in a world filled with uncertainty. After a certain age, there is a need to look outside the home for support and comfort. When I look back on the past six years of my life, I certainly recognize my family for supporting and helping me, but I can't ignore the fact that a lot of my support also came from the people I met at school. From students to members of the administration, it seemed I always had a place to go to when I needed a reality check and needed to grow up a bit. I am 23 and when I look back at the 17-year-old who started college back in 1998, I am beside myself. I went from being a child to an adult and it all happened right on the Rhode Island College campus. Since I was so involved in different student organizations, it seems as though I spent more time on campus than I did at home. Through the years, I grew up at RIC and now that I think about it, it was my home. I learned so much about life and about myself on that campus. So, it is easy to see why I suddenly became so apprehensive about leaving RIC that hazy Saturday morning.

Commencement really IS just the beginning. While most students are celebrating their commencement ceremonies as being the end of a chapter in their lives, I see my graduation as just the beginning of a new one. I can now look forward to standing up as a proud alumnus and especially look forward to giving back to a place that gave me an education and so much more. It was comforting to see a member of the class of 1924 attend my ceremony and watch her be welcomed back as if she were a student just yesterday. I don't think any other college in the state is as community oriented as Rhode Island College is today. I hope every undergrad reading this can appreciate the kind of school RIC is and can take advantage of the opportunities such a college provides.

Thankfully, as an alumnus, I now have the opportunity to spread that word and hopefully provide future students with the same opportunity I received here. Graduation may mean the end of classes for me, but it is only the beginning of new lessons in life. I know I will be sure to keep RIC in all I do and urge all graduates to keep RIC in your hearts too.

Harlem Renaissance conference draws participants from over 30 colleges and universities

*Chant another song of Harlem;
Not about the wrong of Harlem,
But the worthy throng of Harlem,
Proud that they belong in Harlem;
They, the over-blamed of Harlem
Need not be ashamed of Harlem;
All is not ill-famed in Harlem
The devil, too, is tamed in Harlem.*

—Anonymous (song)

Fresh perspectives on the Harlem Renaissance – the fertile period of African-American literary, artistic and cultural activity in the 1920s and 30s – were presented by an international panel of 47 scholars from over 30 institutions of higher learning at a conference at RIC May 7 and 8.

The conference's title, "Temples for Tomorrow," comes from the Langston Hughes essay "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain," first published in 1926. (The ending appears below.)

Fourteen panel and plenary sessions helped provide a deeper understanding of the Harlem Renaissance. Topics included Marxist perspectives, postcolonial studies, African and Caribbean linkages, contemporary feminist and "queer" theory, critical race theory, performance studies, and the recent sociological work on black communities during the period.

Amritjit Singh and Daniel Scott, RIC professors of English and African-American studies, chaired the conference, which was originally conceived to highlight the work of two Harlem Renaissance-era writers, Wallace Thurman and Richard Bruce Nugent.

Singh and Scott, who recently co-edited *The Collected Writings*

of Wallace Thurman, a book featuring previously unpublished writings by Thurman, discovered that dozens of works had been published on the Harlem Renaissance in the previous decade and decided the conference would highlight these new readings.

"What we call the Harlem Renaissance today is so much larger, so much more complex, than the entity called by the same name on which I wrote my doctoral dissertation over 30 years ago," said Singh.

Of the conference, Singh said: "We were thrilled by the enthusiastic response from all over the country and Europe."

Among the presenters were independent scholars Thomas Wirth, a conference keynote speaker who edited a 2002 book about Nugent, and Christa Schwarz of Germany, author of a book about the Harlem Renaissance.

Tuire Valkeakari, from Finland, who is working on a doctorate in African-American studies at Yale, also participated in the conference. "The presentations I heard were thoughtful and thought-provoking, and the atmosphere was supportive and warm," said Valkeakari.

Other Rhode Island College contributors included Dan Moos and Susan C. W. Abbotson of the English department, Katharine Capshaw-Smith, assistant professor of English, and student Don Carrara. RIC grad Paul Khalil Saucier '99 of Northeastern University also presented at the conference.

The "Temples for Tomorrow" conference was supported by the Faculty Development Fund.



HARLEM RENAISSANCE CONFERENCE PANELISTS (l-r) Jon-Christian Suggs (Graduate Center, CUNY), Adam McKible (John Jay College, CUNY), and Kathleen Pfeiffer (Oakland University) discuss the rediscovery and republishing of lost novels of the Harlem Renaissance.

"We younger Negro artists who create now intend to express our individual dark-skinned selves without fear or shame. If white people are pleased we are glad. If they are not, it doesn't matter. We know we are beautiful. And ugly too. The tom-tom cries and the tom-tom laughs. If colored people are pleased we are glad. If they are not, their displeasure does not matter either. We build our temples for tomorrow, strong as we know how, and stand on top of the mountain, free within ourselves."

— Langston Hughes

The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain

Foundation & Alumni News

Class of 2004 pledges \$150,000

At this year's commencement, Miguel Lopes '71, president of the Rhode Island College Alumni Association, ceremonially welcomed the Class of 2004 into the ranks of the Alumni Association. President Nazarian also praised the class for its enthusiastic five-year pledge of \$150,000 to the Capital Campaign.

The Class of 2004 and The Student Community Government donated \$10,000 to start the class fund, which will help provide scholarship aid to future students.

Class president David Medeiros said that the class wants to make it possible for students, who would otherwise not have access to a college education, have the same top-notch education and opportunities

that they received at RIC.

Whether you are a graduate of the Class of 2004, a family member, alumna/us or friend of the College, you can help the Class of 2004 reach its goal. Pledge online securely and easily at www.ric.edu/givenow/. Or send a check made payable to: RIC Foundation (note Class of 2004 in memo line). Return it to Nancy Hoogasian, Alumni Association, Bldg. 10, 600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Providence, RI 02908.

Please note: College President Nazarian will personally match every \$5 with a \$1 gift of his own. Call 401-456-8827 or email nhoogasian@ric.edu if you have any questions about pledging.

Individual pledges and gifts to Class of 2004 Fund

Robert Anderson '04
 Michael P. Cardin '04
 Kristin Colello '04
 Vanessa Craveiro '04
 Michael De Motte '04
 Dianne Diggett '04
 Barry Dowell '04
 Michele K. Dunphy '04
 Kevin J. Ferreira '04
 Milagros Garcia '04
 Joseph R. Giardina '04
 Rebecca E. Howard '04

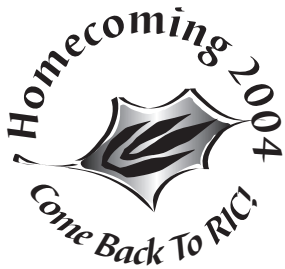
Kristina Laczynski '04
 Lorie Maguire-Henderson '04
 Alicia Marie Mahoney '04
 Tara Mancini '04
 Jason Masterson '04
 Bethany Orlando '04
 Emily L. Perron '04
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph M. Quigley
 (In honor of Jamie M. Quigley '04)
 Melissa Weber '04
 Mary Jane Clune Yolen '04

Save the date!

Homecoming 2004

October 1 - 2

Look for an invitation in late summer.



RIC on the Road headed southwest to the Dallas/Ft. Worth area on May 22. Neil "Doc" Gallagher '63, honorary Texas chairperson, and Peg Brown gave introductory remarks followed by comments from our alumni on their Rhode Island College stories and how they wound up in Texas. Everyone agreed it was a great first-time event. Seated (l to r): Ann Marsland '72, Mary Beth Crane '89, Mary Lou Rose '95, Paula Sullivan Flint '76, Gale Simeone Follett '65; standing (l to r): Vice President for Development and College Relations Peg Brown, Sergio Sajche, Robert Crane '98, Steven Bajinski '77, Gail Gallagher, Neil "Doc" Gallagher '63, Bill Cooley, Alumni Director Ellie O'Neill, and Loretta and Michael Combs.

*There is one last chance to join us
 in celebrating 150 years
 of academic excellence*

Mark your calendars for...

**Rhode Island College's
 Sesquicentennial Jubilee
 Sunday, June 20, 2004
 Rhode Island State House Lawn**

4 p.m.

Old-fashioned Garden Party
 with reenactments of College traditions of yesteryear. The afternoon will feature entertainment by the American Band. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

5:30 p.m.

Jubilee Dinner featuring Rhode Island's unique cuisine, catered by *Guy Abelson Catering*. Entertainment by *Avenue A* and Rhode Island College alumni performers. \$100 per person (includes trolley transportation to a private dessert reception)

8:30 p.m.

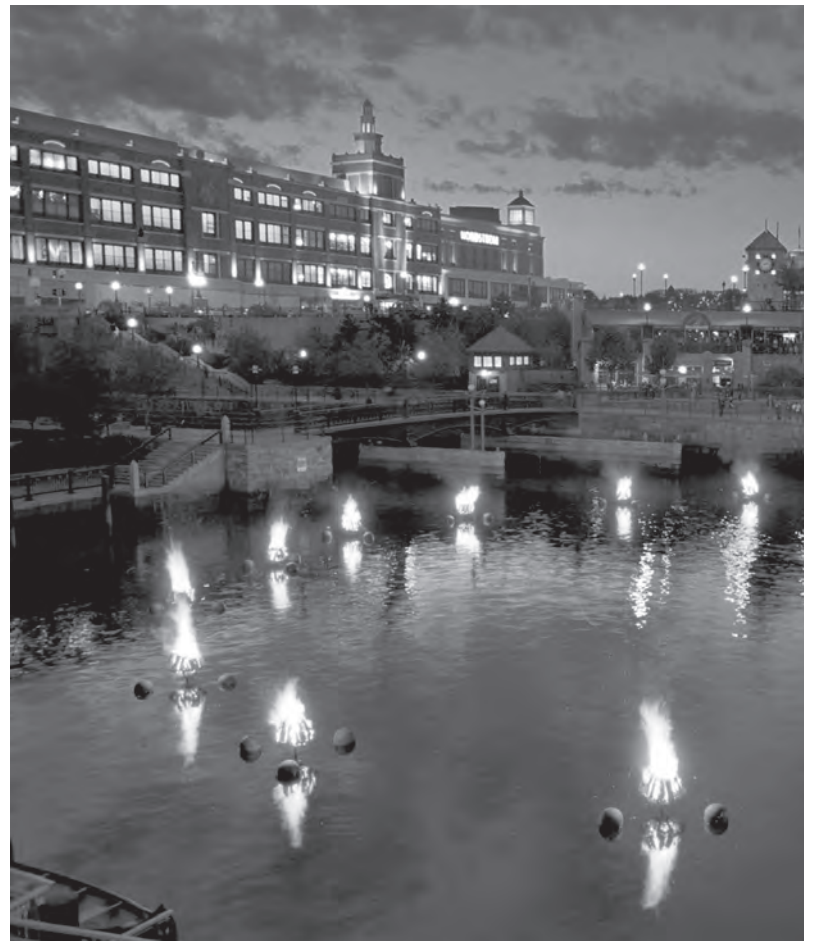
Sesquicentennial Torch Parade and WaterFire
 The College's gift to all friends, alumni, and the community.

For more information, call (401) 456-8105 or email dmales@ric.edu.

Rhode Island College
 John Nazarian, President

Governor and Mrs. Donald L. Carcieri,
 Sesquicentennial Honorary Chairpersons

Mark Motte and Madeline Nixon, Sesquicentennial Co-Chairs



Barnaby Evans' critically acclaimed WaterFire illuminates WaterPlace Park Basin. ©Barnaby Evans 2000.

Sesquicentennial Memories



Remembering Commissioner Bicknell

During the course of the College's Sesquicentennial observance, Michael Smith, assistant to the president, periodically contributes to What's News at Rhode Island College a brief glimpse of an historic College event that occurred at some point in the institution's history corresponding to the publication date of that particular edition of What's News. This is the 15th installment.

by Michael Smith '79
Assistant to the President

While the College, during the course of its 150-year history, has had a full measure of courageous, innovative, accomplished, and energetic leaders, few have been as vital to the establishment and growth of the institution as the 35-year old commissioner of public schools appointed on June 1, 1869: Thomas Williams Bicknell.

Bicknell's early life was colorful. Born on September 6, 1834, the son of a farmer, minister, state legislator, and colonel in the Bristol County Militia, Thomas W. Bicknell attended schools in his home town of Barrington before traveling to Vermont to continue his education at Thetford Academy. From there, he was admitted to Amherst College. After Amherst, he taught school and served as principal in Rehoboth before heading west to teach and serve as principal in Elgin, Illinois. Shortly after signing on with an emigration company to help settle Kansas as a free state, Bicknell was taken hostage by bandits on the Missouri River but was set adrift by sharpshooters after two weeks as prisoner.

He made his way back to New England, where he once again served as principal in Rehoboth before pursuing graduate study at Brown. After earning a master's degree, Bicknell was elected principal of Bristol High School and then served as principal of the Arnold Street Grammar School in Providence before returning to Bristol High School in May, 1867, where he taught until being named Rhode Island commissioner of public schools in 1869.

Appointed by Governor Seth

Padelford, Bicknell's primary charge was to re-establish the Normal School, which was then dormant. During his six years as commissioner, Bicknell not only succeeded in reopening the Normal School as a well-funded Providence-based entity, he also led the effort to establish a State Board of Education, oversaw the selection of school superintendents in every city and town in the state, dedicated over 50 new school-houses, and increased the school year from an average of 27 weeks at the beginning of his tenure to 35 weeks at the time of his departure – the longest school year of any state in the country at that time. He was also instrumental in nearly tripling appropriations for public education. A spellbinding orator, he delivered over 500 addresses as commissioner.

Bicknell also revived the publication *The Rhode Island Schoolmaster*, which had been in decline, and served as its editor for close to a decade. He was also a joint publisher and editor of the *New England Journal of Education*. An avid writer and editor, he served as president of the New England Publishing Company and was the author of several books, including the *Story of the Rhode Island Normal School*, *Story of Dr. John Clarke*, *The Governors of Rhode Island*, *The Dorr War*, and a five-volume *History of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*.

As an educational leader of national renown, he helped to re-establish the American Institute of Instruction and served as its president. He had also served as president of the Rhode Island Institute of Instruction and the National Educational Association. At the well-attended national meetings that he organized, he would feature

such luminaries as Booker T. Washington. At one such event, he arranged the first public exhibition of the telephone. A visionary, Bicknell foretold of the coming of the automobile in an 1892 lecture entitled "The Horseless Carriage" and later served as an officer of the company that built the first automobile in Rhode Island.

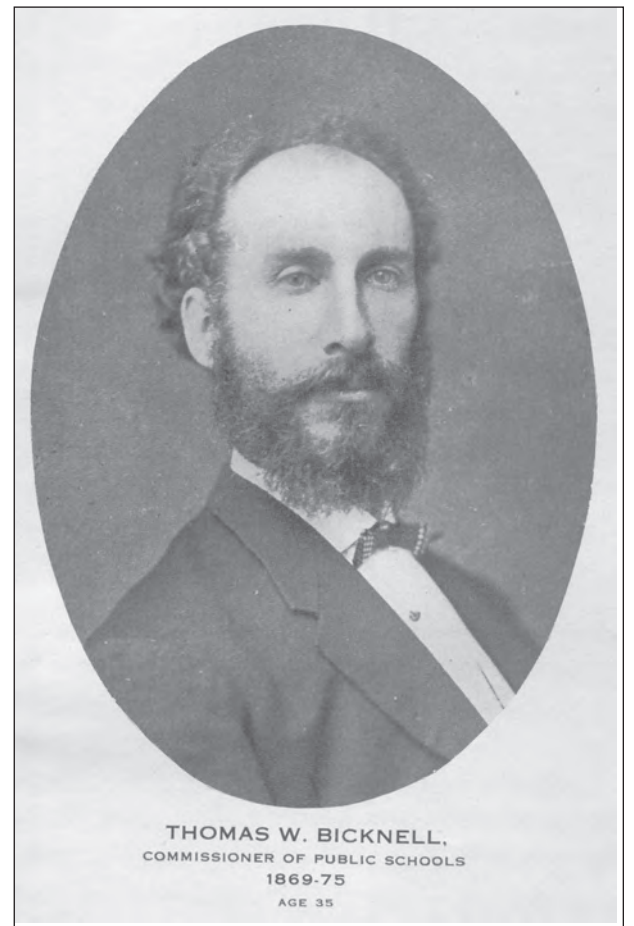
Bicknell held viewpoints on public issues that were quite progressive for his day. As an elected state representative in the Rhode Island General Assembly while still a senior at Brown University, his first speech on the floor of the House was to advocate the abolition of separate schools for African-American children – nearly a century before the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on the matter.

He was also an advocate for women in public service and is credited with helping to elect the nation's first all-female school board, a special distinction of the Town of Tiverton.

Heavily involved in religious, educational, and civic organizations, Bicknell served as president of the Massachusetts Congregational Sunday School Union, the New England Sunday School Association, the International Sunday School Union, and the Chautauqua Teachers' Reading Union. He was also commissioner from Rhode Island to the Universal Exposition at Vienna, Austria, and a mem-

ber of the 1878 Postal Congress, at which the U.S. Postal Code was developed. Bicknell was credited with membership in over 100 organizations, of which he served as president in more than 30.

An honorary member of Phi Beta Kappa, Bicknell later received honorary degrees from Amherst College and Drury College. After a long and productive life, Bicknell passed away in 1925 at the age of 91. While he accomplished a great deal throughout his career, it is for his lasting commitment to the institution now known as Rhode Island College that we remember him with great appreciation and reverence.



(Not just) academically speaking

Research in Sudan yields bounty of historical and political insights

by Richard A. Lobban, Jr.,
Professor of Anthropology
and African Studies



RICHARD LOBBAN

From December 2003 until mid-March 2004, I was on sabbatical leave in the Middle East. This was a fascinating and important time to be in the region. I had not been there for 15 years owing to complicated

political relations between the United States and Sudan, though I stayed in touch with the Sudan as the executive director of the Sudan Studies Association, teaching regularly about Sudan, attending many national and international meetings on ancient and modern Sudan, and working on Sudanese political asylum cases in the USA. I was especially keen to return to see what had changed.

My study and travel began on win-

ter break with my wife and RIC professor Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban and an Italian overland tour of Sudanese antiquities crossing the Butana, Bayuda, and Nubian deserts of the Sahara in a group of three heavy-duty four-wheel-drive vehicles. This was organized by my friend and colleague Eugenio Fantusati from the University of Rome. Having just published my latest book, *Historical Dictionary of Ancient and Medieval Nubia* (an ancient name for Sudan) I was especially eager to visit the tombs, temples, sites and pyramids for which the Sudan is famed. In fact, there are more pyramids in Sudan than even its neighbor Egypt, albeit, the Sudanese examples are later and smaller.

We left Khartoum over the fine road built by the construction company of Osama bin Laden who departed the Sudan in 1996. South of the northern commercial town of Shendi we headed into the desert to visit the many archeological sites at Naqa, including important temples to the gods Amun and Apedemek dating to several centuries before Christ.

We traveled deeper into the east-

ern or Butana Desert to the intriguing temple-terraced and walled complex at Musawwarat es Sufra that has been explored and excavated for decades by German archeologists Fritz and Ursula Hintz, and my friend Steffen Wenig. From there we went on to the royal pyramid fields of Meroe just north of Shendi. These grand structures are situated on a prominent hill of iron and rolling sand dunes that gives a spectacular view back toward the Nile. We crossed the Nile by a small ferry with loaded camels, then across the Bayuda desert camping for the nights in handy two-person tents. Naturally, there was no



PREHISTORIC ROCK DRAWINGS: A wall in a valley in the Third Cataract on the Nile features detailed petroglyphs of ancient livestock and boats. Photo by Teodoro.

water, power, contact or bathing facilities in these areas, but we had a fine time nonetheless. We took two days to drive across this region, and

Continued on page 8

A lady and a scholar leaves RIC—

Lenore DeLucia to retire after 42 years

by Jane Fusco
What's News Editor

Tuesday mornings for Lenore (Lee) DeLucia, vice president for administration and finance, begin with a staff meeting followed by the President's weekly meeting. It was business as usual on Tuesday April 27, except that day, DeLucia announced she would retire at the end of June, leaving the College after 42 years. Until then, only President Nazarian and DeLucia's immediate family knew of her decision.

"It's time. I've been here 42 years and it's time for new blood," DeLucia said in an emotional interview on May 17.

It was an announcement her staff



LENORE DELUCIA

did not want to hear. They were shocked.

Budget director Roxann Johnson-Nance said of DeLucia, "She allowed me to learn, encouraged my new ideas, and guided me." Paul Forte, assistant vice president for finance, added that, "Lee always had an open door and was willing to discuss problems and help me make better decisions and grow as a manager and a person.

"Her contributions to the College in both her academic and administrative roles have been enormous, and the College will certainly be a different place without her," said Richard Prull, assistant vice president of information services.

DeLucia credits the late Eleanor McMahon, dean of the School of Educational Studies, provost and vice president for academic affairs at RIC, as a mentor and role model who helped shape her administrative career at RIC. "I learned a lot about how to run a tight ship from Eleanor," she said.

DeLucia began her tenure at RIC in 1962 as an assistant professor of psychology, one of what was then a five-member department. She was promoted to associate professor in 1966 and full professor in 1969. From 1972-77, she served as associate dean of educational studies, interrupted to serve as acting vice president for academic affairs for a year in 1973-74, acting dean of educational studies in 1974-75 and again in 1977-79 before being named director of institutional research and planning, a position which she held from 1979 to 1990. In 1990, newly elected College President John Nazarian appointed her vice president for administration and finance, a position she has held for the last 14 years. In all, she has served in six

presidential administrations at the College.

A 1958 graduate of Pembroke College in Brown University, DeLucia went on to obtain her master's degree in 1961 and PhD in 1963, also from Brown.

DeLucia's legacy to the College is undoubtedly the extensive construction projects that have taken place on campus in the last decade and a half. She has overseen more than \$50 million in capital projects at RIC and takes great pride in having watched buildings erected from the ground up, or an outdated workspace circa 1959 transformed into a modern functional area for working or learning in this new age of technology.

In a memo to the campus community announcing her retirement, Nazarian wrote, "During her leadership as vice president, the College has been dramatically transformed and expanded; indeed there is little on this campus that does not bear her imprint."

Some of the projects she has directed include remodeling of The Forman Center; expansion and renovation of Donovan Dining Center; construction of the Murray Center and the Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts; reconstruction of the campus mall; installation of a campus-wide technology infrastructure and implementation of PeopleSoft administrative software; renovation of buildings 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10 on the East Campus; campus parking expansions; and redesigned campus entrances at Mt. Pleasant and Fruit Hill Avenues.

"I sat in on every single construction meeting for the last 15 years," she says fondly, having been involved in every phase of the projects from selecting the architects to choosing carpet colors.

DeLucia said that she will miss the people of RIC the most. "After all these years, they're not just colleagues, they are good friends," she said.

One of those good friends is Nazarian. When DeLucia first told Nazarian last year of her plans to retire, she recalls him saying, "Who am I going to talk to?" to which DeLucia replied, "John, there's always the telephone."

DeLucia says that she intends to continue her strong, personal friendship with Nazarian and other RIC colleagues.

"Lee DeLucia is, to take some poetic license, a person for all seasons. She has always risen to the challenge, no matter what nature that challenge might take," said Nazarian. "Whether the issue was related to financial matters, negotiations, personnel, construction projects, technology, administrative policies or academic affairs, Lee has always been successful because of her knowledge, creativity, energy and commitment to Rhode Island College and to higher education."

What DeLucia said she won't miss when she retires are the complaints about the lack of parking around the campus and breakdown of air conditioning units on the hottest days of the year.

Her advice for her successor is simple, mirroring her years of training in the behavioral sciences. "Know the people in your division, meet with them frequently, and once a decision is made, let them do their jobs and carry it out on their own."

On June 25, Lee DeLucia will leave the campus as an employee for the last time. What does she think that



day will be like? "Sad," she said, "but I will leave with good feelings." She said she will take with her many memories of an institution that has grown in stature, students who have gone on to great success, and friendships with many colleagues over the years.

"I feel I will never be done with the College. I will always have some connection," she said. "It's been a wonderful place to work. I would have

never wanted to work anywhere else."

And after June 25? "I'm going to the beach with my grandchildren Ryan and Emily," she said. "The summer will be for playing golf and going to the beach. In September, we'll see."

The DeLucia Family has established a fund in the RIC Foundation. For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu.

RIC retirees recognized at Commencement Gala

The 33 members of the Rhode Island College community who have retired during the past year were recognized at the College's annual Commencement Gala, held May 14 in the Donovan Dining Center.

RIC President John Nazarian noted that the retirees represented a combined total of over 760 years of service to the College. "Each...is a special member of the College family and both individually and collectively, they leave big shoes to fill," said Nazarian. "We are deeply grateful to each of them and wish them a lengthy, healthy, joyful, and active retirement."

Senior administrators

- **Lenore A. DeLucia**, vice president for administration and finance and professor of psychology, 42 years
- **John A. Bucci**, dean of the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development and professor of foundations of education, 30 years
- **George D. Metrey**, dean of the School of Social Work and professor of social work, 25 years

Faculty

- **James E. Bierden**, prof. of math/secondary ed., 35 years
- **Linda A. Cathers**, professor of nursing, 31 years
- **Donald H. Cousins**, associate prof. of psychology, 33 years
- **Murray H. Finley**, associate prof. of counselor ed., 30 years
- **Nancy H. Gewirtz**, professor of social work, 26 years
- **Joan I. Glazer**, professor of elementary education, 29 years
- **Dolores M. Harrison**, assistant professor of nursing, 24 years
- **P. William Hutchinson**, professor of theatre, 36 years
- **Daniel J. Orsini**, associate professor of English, 40 years
- **Anne K. Petry**, professor of elementary education, 30 years

Staff

- **John R. Bedard**, Landscaping and Grounds, 35 years

- **Linda R. Binder**, Adams Library, 22 years
- **Elaine A. Coccoli**, Campus Store, 21 years
- **Dolores Corsetti**, Campus Store, 8 years
- **Anthony C. Delguidice**, Facilities and Operations, 33 years
- **Donna Diminico**, College Dining Services, 9 years
- **John J. Doniec**, Maintenance and Repairs, 5 years
- **Lucia M. B. Feitosa**, Maintenance and Repairs, 9 years
- **Nancy Jaynes**, Student Loan Office, 16 years
- **Sharon A. Kaye**, Office Services, 34 years
- **Rachel LaBreche**, Campus Store, 8 years
- **George E. LaTour**, Office of News & Public Relations, 23 years
- **Donald J. Lopes**, Facilities and Operations, 6 years
- **John B. Mancini, Jr.**, Landscaping and Grounds, 8 years
- **Doris I. Remillard**, Henry Barnard School, 22 years
- **Arlene R. Robertson**, Physical Sciences, 29 years
- **John L. Seitzinger**, Maintenance and Repairs, 7 years
- **Alfred J. Sisto**, Landscaping and Grounds, 23 years
- **Elizabeth Spolidoro**, School of Social Work, 24 years
- **Melissa Vaccaro**, College Dining Services, 9 years

See photos on page 18.

Founding dean of the School of Social Work – George Metrey recalls 25-year career at RIC

by Rob Martin
What's News Managing Editor

George Metrey will embark on his legendary commute – 194 miles one way – for the final time on July 9, when he retires from Rhode Island College and heads home to New Jersey after 25 years as the only dean the School of Social Work has ever had.

“This is the right time,” said Metrey. “I had a great run.”

Sitting in his office among boxes packed for the school’s move to a newly renovated building, Metrey spoke about his stewardship of the School of Social Work and his plans for retirement.

“The reason I came here was the opportunity to start something from scratch,” recounts Metrey. As the founding dean of the school, he takes pride in building a “solid” program, “a place where the faculty and students can grow and follow where their vision takes them in the community.”

Metrey has led the School of Social Work in developing many new initiatives, among them the state’s only master of social work program.

His curriculum has evolved around “social and economic justice,” as well as “working with oppressed populations,” said Metrey. “The school has made its mark on social work and is an influence on social services in Rhode Island. Most of the leadership in social work in Rhode Island is coming from the School of Social Work.”

Indeed, since joining the School of Social Work in 1979, first as director, then a year later as dean, Metrey has overseen the awarding of over 1,200 master’s and 1,100 bachelor’s degrees in social work.

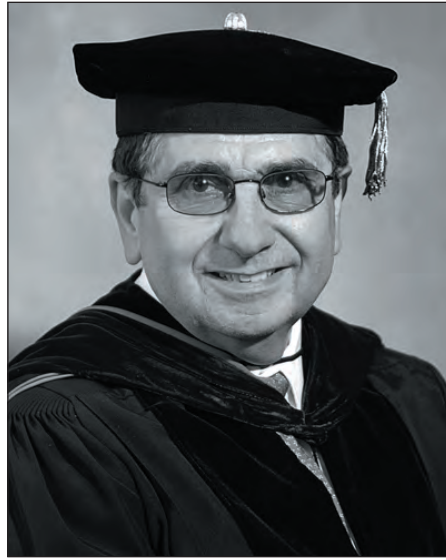
Among the school’s grads are Jane Hayward ’71 MSW, managing director of the state’s Health and Human Services, and Corinne Calise Russo ’85 MSW, director of the state Dept. of Elderly Affairs. He noted that there are many alumni who are in the legislature and in public and private social service agencies.

Some of those agencies are part of the School of Social Work and the new Center for Public Policy at RIC: the Poverty Institute, Case Management Institute, Child Welfare Institute, and Welfare Reform Evaluation Project are housed at the school.

Raised in Milwaukee, Wis., Metrey started on his career path at Marquette University, doing undergraduate work in psychology and history. He earned a master’s in social work from Fordham University and a PhD in public administration from New York University.

For nine years he was on the faculty of Kean College of New Jersey, as professor of social work, acting associate dean of the school of arts and sciences and director of the social work program.

Having led the School of Social Work in four different decades, he was second nationally in terms of seniority of social work deans. He has worked with three presidents, three vice presidents of academic affairs, five deans of education and three deans of arts and sciences.



GEORGE METREY

“I don’t know if there is anything I would do differently,” Metrey said. He did point out the shortage of social work faculty, and hoped that a doctoral program in social work could eventually be implemented.

Metrey remains active in the National Association of Social Workers, and volunteers on the education and accreditation committees of the Council on Social Work Education. He was recently honored for his service to Adoption Rhode Island, where he is a charter member and on its board of directors.

One thing Metrey will not miss is the travel. “If I never had to drive a car again, it wouldn’t bother me,” he said. A resident of Wyckoff, New Jersey, he usually drives to work at 4 a.m. Mondays, and returns home on Friday afternoons.

“When my daughter was young, she thought everybody had an apartment in Rhode Island and lived in New Jersey,” said Metrey. Often he would come home for his daughter’s events during the work week. His late wife Cheryl was a high school teacher, principal and assistant superintendent of schools in New Jersey, so it made sense to keep their home there.

Asked what he’ll do in retirement, Metrey said that he hadn’t really decided, but then rattled off a busy list of possibilities.

“I want to do some more traveling,” said Metrey, who has a love of ancient history. Among potential destinations are Russia, Australia, New Zealand and the Great Wall of China. He wants to complete some of the household projects he neglected over the years and spend time at his second home in Aruba. And he plans to do volunteer work preparing social service reports for the mentally challenged citizens of a group home for which his sister-in-law is a board member.

As his retirement nears, Metrey, who will be 65 next month, leaves a legacy of accomplishment – both at RIC and in his profession.

“He has been an advocate and leader for his discipline, the School of Social Work, and the College in general,” said RIC President John Nazarian. “Obviously, Rhode Island College is a better institution because of the service of Dean Metrey.”

The Metrey Family has established a fund in the RIC Foundation to support scholarships in the School of Social Work. For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu.

John Bucci — ambassador for the School of Education retires after 30 years

by Gita Brown
Writer/Editor, Publishing Services

John Bucci is an exacting man, impeccable in speech, gracious in manner, and of considerable intellectual acumen. He is seated in his office with his legs crossed and one hand propped on a cane, reflecting on the past. Bucci will retire in July after 30 years at RIC, having served in various academic capacities.

“I’ve always felt that teachers should be role models, both intellectually and ethically,” Bucci said. “I think it’s important, as models in the community, to demonstrate that we are committed to justice, to fairness, and to do whatever we can. I think here at Rhode Island College everyone has those commitments.”

Bucci’s career has spanned many areas of academia. He’s been a high school science teacher, a principal, a professor, and a dean. But there’s been one continuous philosophy throughout his career—that teachers should be lifelong learners—and he has been one of the state’s foremost leaders in the professional development of teachers. “Professional development means constantly continuing your education. It means always working to improve what you know, and throughout your life you never reach a point in which you say, ‘Okay, I’m an educated person.’ You can only be a growing person,” he said.

In 1973 Bucci had been a full-time faculty member at the College for only two years when he was recruited as director of a federally funded project called Teacher Corp. His job was to upgrade Pawtucket junior high schools, and his first initiative toward that goal was the professional development of Pawtucket teachers.

Two years later, he became director of school services and assistant to the dean of Educational Studies. Again, the emphasis was on professional development through teacher in-service programs. He had RIC faculty extend their expertise to the teachers who were already in the field.

Within another two years he became assistant dean of the Rhode Island College School of Continuing Education and Community Service, a position he held from 1980 to 1984. There, he incorporated professional development with adult education.

From 1984 to 1986 he was acting dean of continuing education. When the school was eliminated in 1986, he was named associate dean for the School of Education and Human Development. In 1989 he became acting dean of the school of education, but left after three years to return to the classroom.

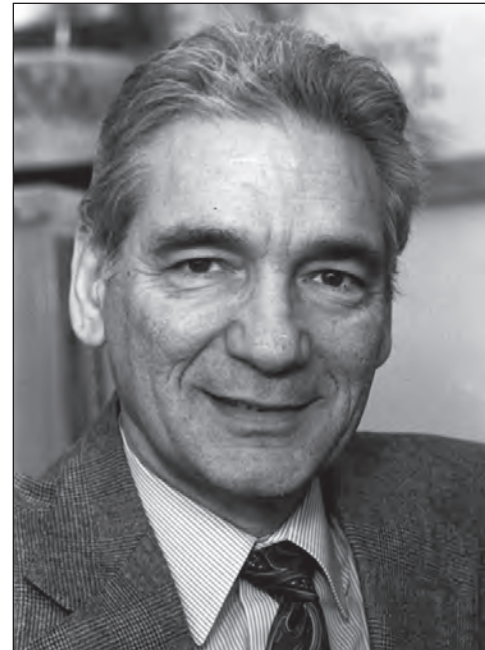
In 2000 destiny won over and he was again tapped to be dean. “I was probably better prepared to be dean than I would have been had I not had those eight years as a faculty member.”

One of the greatest challenges for Bucci as dean of the school of education has been the external demands of accreditation. “We are a teacher-preparation, specialist-preparation program that is state controlled. If we don’t have approved programs, essentially, we’re out of business. It’s our responsibility to

make fundamental changes and to put good practices in place. We produce, by far, the largest number of educators in the state, so we have a great responsibility to have quality programs and to produce good teachers. When they raise the bar and set higher standards, they are, quite honestly, simply setting standards that are nationally recognized. These standards are worth pursuing.”

Looking back on his four-year term, Bucci is most proud of his work as a lobbyist, which involves extensive knowledge of the educational politics of this state. His work has allowed Rhode Island College to become an important player in decision-making, policy-making activities at both the state and legislative levels.

Bucci is also proud of his efforts to create a more collegial environment at RIC by establishing structures for faculty to be more involved in decision making. It is the faculty, he said, he will miss most. When asked what advice he would leave them, he spoke of the great responsibility the faculty has as professionals to improve themselves and thereby their students. “Regardless of the reward system, regardless of what dean is in place, regardless of what unfair rules there are, we have to do the right thing, act in the right way, and take personal pride in what we do. In an existential way, there’s a bit of despair that comes with being a professional, because a professional is ultimately personally responsible. This is what has driven me,” he said.



JOHN BUCCI

Bucci recalls the great impact his own Rhode Island College advisor had on him as a graduate student. He had already earned a BA in secondary education and science from Providence College in 1963 and had just completed an MEd in secondary administration from Rhode Island College in 1968, intending to become a principal. On the last day of class, his RIC advisor waylaid him and asked him if he’d consider getting a doctorate.

“I came from a working class background,” Bucci said. “Neither my mother nor my father graduated from high school. They were both factory workers. The idea of getting a doctorate was beyond anything I could imagine at the time. However, after 20 minutes in his office, I was on my way to a doctorate in foundations of education from Boston University because he recognized something in me.” Bucci completed his EdD in 1974.

“Any of us as faculty can change the life of a student,” he says. “A lot of our students are first-generation college students who don’t have a lot of confidence, who don’t recognize how bright they are, how talented they are. They have to be told, they need to be reminded of that.”

As Dean Bucci leaves Rhode Island College, his words of advice, direction, and encouragement remain for all those who will follow his lead and continue the work of a man who strived for ethical and academic excellence.

The Bucci Family has established a fund in the RIC Foundation to support an annual endowed award for the faculty of the School of Ed. For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu.

Original 1928 HBS entablature unveiled

It's a story that is written in stone. The carved limestone entablature that once marked the entrance to the Henry Barnard School (HBS) in downtown Providence from 1928 until 1958 has been reset at the school's current entrance on the Rhode Island College campus. RIC President John Nazarian unveiled the entablature on May 20 in a special morning ceremony honoring all those who once attended the school.

Nazarian's first teaching assignment as a member of the Rhode Island College faculty was at HBS where he taught junior high math.

Family members of the late Clement J. Hasenfus, principal of HBS from 1960-68, and alumni, former faculty and staff of HBS attended the ceremony.

The ceremony took place on Grandparents' Day, an annual visiting day at HBS for families of current students. It was also the kick-off of a special projects capital fund to build a wrought iron fence that will circle the entire school in memory or honor of HBS students.

"Today's special commemoration salutes the great heritage of our families, grandparents who have built the world of today and their grandchildren who will build the world of tomorrow," Nazarian said in his welcoming remarks.

The entablature was originally designed for the Henry Barnard School building erected on the Rhode Island College of Education (RICE) campus. It is one of the architectural artifacts preserved by the College when the former HBS and RICE buildings were razed in 1997 to make way for the Providence Place Mall. HBS was located where the stateside garage on Park Street

is now.

HBS was the successor to the first observation and training school established in 1893 as an adjunct to the academic programs of the Rhode Island Normal School. In 1898, this school occupied the first floor of the new Normal School building. On December 3, 1920, the College's Observation and Training School was named in honor of Henry Barnard in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of his appointment as Rhode Island's first commissioner of public schools. Barnard passed away on July 6, 1900 at the age of 89.

Overcrowding in the 1898 Normal School building led to the construction of the new building on the College campus for which ground was broken in 1926. HBS first occupied its new building on September 10, 1928. The impressive structure featured 35 classrooms that could accommodate up to 1,000 students K-9, and a combination auditorium/gymnasium for 1,200 in theater-style floor seating and within a balcony. The exterior walls were finished with buff-colored brick in homage to its sister building on the hill. The building's interior design was strongly influenced by then President John Lincoln Alger and long-time HBS administrator and educator Clara Craig.

The school would become internationally heralded for its innovation of a demonstration classroom surrounded by theater-style seating to allow teaching students to observe a live elementary classroom without disruption, an idea of Alger's inspired by similar arrangements in medical schools. The building was funded by a \$660,000 sinking fund.

The name "Henry Barnard School"



DEDICATION: Pictured above is the HBS entablature, unveiled May 20. The stonework, which once stood above the entrance to the original Barnard School in downtown Providence, was saved from the wrecker's ball when the school was demolished to make way for Providence Place Mall. At left, HBS students at the ceremony say the Pledge of Allegiance.

was retained for the new structure housing the school when the College moved to the Mt. Pleasant Campus in 1958. The former school's structure was used to house, at different times and sometimes concurrently, the extension division of the University of Rhode Island and the Office of Higher Education; it

also provided classroom space for Rhode Island Junior College (now CCRI) until the Knight Campus opened. It is the only building to have housed all four components of the present-day system of public higher education in Rhode Island: RIC, URI, CCRI, and OHE.

(Not just) academically speaking

Continued from page 5

after plenty of tire changes, we could see majestic Jebel Barkal (the Blessed Mountain) in the distance along with more pyramid fields at Nuri. There, Taharqo, the famed pharaoh of Nubia and Egypt, who is noted in the Bible, is buried. Jebel Barkal rises spectacularly above the Nile. It overlooks the vast Amun Temple that dates back at least 3,500 years. The tomb of Shabaka, also mentioned in the Bible, was visited at nearby Kurru. Then heading northward, back to the trackless Nubian Desert, we navigated by GPS until reaching the latitude of about 20 degrees north. We turned west, back to the Nile near the upper Nubian town of Delgo. The New Kingdom temple of Pharaoh Amenhotep III and the Meroitic town of Sedeigna were marvel-

ous stopovers the next day before crossing the Nile again in a small boat to head south to visit the Third Cataract on the Nile and a valley filled with detailed petroglyphs (prehistoric rock drawings) of ancient livestock and boats. There was the opportunity to explore the ancient temple site at Kawa and the fascinating town of Kerma that has its roots as early as 4,600 years ago. The prodigious funerary mounds of Africa's most ancient state were reserved for their kings, and massive two-story mud-brick structures that still stand adjacent to their palaces upon the broad plain to the east of the Nile.

Starry skies on the open desert were a treat each night as we headed on to Old Dongola, the location of the Christian kingdom of Mukurra until the medieval church there was transformed into a Muslim mosque in the 14th century.

This study tour in Sudan was only a part of my mission since my work with the Sudan Studies Association also entailed meetings with officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and a nationally broadcast, hour-long television interview in colloquial Arabic, as well as several radio and newspaper interviews.

I then returned to Musawwarat es Sufra to be the guest of Steffen Wenig and his archaeological excavations. For more than two weeks I had total access to the sites, research team, and the broad valley that raises so many questions of the form and function of this ancient complex with terraces, walled corridors and the richly decorated temples to the Nubian gods Sebiumeker, Arensnuphis, and Apedemek, and the great importance given to animals, especially elephants, at that site. In particular, I worked with a team of German and Austrian conservators who were creating and expanding the open-air museum at this ritual complex. Certainly much of this material and the experiences will

find their way into coming classes.

Aside from this archaeological experience, it was a conference on African languages that also attracted my professional interest. This gave me an opportunity to present my latest findings on a long-term effort to decipher the written, but poorly understood, ancient language of Sudan known as Meroitic. The results were very well received and I gave a special seminar on Meroitic at Ahlia University as well as a program on this topic at the Goethe Institute sponsored by the Sudan Archaeological Research Society. I will continue these intellectual dialogues at the next Meroitic Studies meetings in Paris in September 2004 and Nubian Studies meetings in October in Moscow.

Throughout my stay I also took much interest in the great demographic transformation of Khartoum. When I first went to Sudan in 1970, perhaps the total number of inhabitants was 400,000 people; now it is estimated to have as many as seven million. Many of these people are refugees from the 20 years of north-south civil war and, more recently, from the serious strife in the western province of Darfur that has resulted in some 700,000 refugees according to United Nations officials. Indeed, compared to the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Israel-Palestine conflict, it is the sad reality that the Sudan has had far more death, internal and external displacement, and misery than all the others put together.

But Sudan falls "between the cracks" and needs much greater attention. The world is still awaiting the final peace accords that are supposed to resolve the north-south dispute and bring an end of the charges of slavery and genocide, especially now that a great reservoir of oil is known and being exploited from the southern Sudan by Chinese and Malaysian firms. Equally, the wider world of human rights activists is hoping for a return to democracy and an end of military rule by the government of General Omer Beshir in the north and by American trained John Garang, head of the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army in the south. The resolution of these matters still lies ahead.



The Tomb of Mahdi, the famed leader of Sudan in the 1880s. Photo by Teodoro.

Faces of RIC

This continuing series in What's News will feature RIC grads whose career paths have taken some unusual turns.

Like so many Rhode Island College students before and after her, Kathleen Mellor aspired to be a teacher, which she has been for nearly 20 years. This year, she will leave the classroom temporarily and travel around the country addressing educators as an ambassador for the teaching profession, having been named the National Teacher of the Year by the Council of Chief State School Officers on April 19.

On April 21, President George W. Bush honored Mellor at a ceremony in the Rose Garden of the White House, presenting her with the coveted crystal apple award signifying her achievement. In the April 22

Providence Journal article, *R.I. educator honored at White House as Teacher of the Year*, Bush is quoted as saying of Mellor, "Because she understands the importance of her work, her energy and her spirit have never waned."

Mellor is the first teacher from Rhode Island and the first ESL (English as a second language) teacher to receive the honor. She teaches English at Davisville Middle and Hamilton Elementary Schools in North Kingstown. Her students are primarily children of Cambodian refugees and Dominican factory workers. Mellor has also developed an adult-themed program called Lady Bugs to help the mothers of

her students learn English.

Mellor was chosen for the honor because of her creative approach to teaching English, her caring nature, and consistent successes.

Activities such as the word bank – a keychain of new words for each day of the school year – and dialogue journals of penpal type letters, have helped make learning the language more enjoyable. Yet, Mellor encourages her students not to forget or leave their native language behind.

She is credited with originating and implementing North Kingstown's ESL program, keeping students in their classrooms with their classmates and giving

them extra help rather than removing them from the mainstream.

Her commitment to her students' families was another reason Mellor was chosen for the award. Each year, she invites her students and their families to a picnic in Davisville and encourages them to bring dishes from their homelands while she supplies the American fare of hot dogs and chips.

Also in the April 22 *Providence Journal* article, Mellor was quoted as saying, "After many years, I still look forward to Monday mornings." To which Bush replied, "No wonder she's Teacher of the Year."



KATHLEEN MELLOR '71, MED '77
NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Portuguese Studies event honors two seniors

Awards in Portuguese studies were presented to two graduating seniors in ceremonies held at a Modern Languages Dept. reception following the Cap and Gown Convocation on April 28.

The "Prémio em Estudos Portugueses" (Portuguese Studies Award) was presented to Lisa M. Andrade Almeida for demonstrating excellence in Portuguese, Brazilian and Lusophone Studies. Almeida, a secondary education and Portuguese studies major, is the first graduate in Portuguese studies at Rhode Island College under the

student-designed major program.

The "Galardão de Herança Cultural Luso-Americana" (Luso-American Cultural Heritage Award) was presented to Cecilia D. Botelho for her effort in preserving and transmitting the Portuguese culture to future Luso-descendants. Botelho is graduating as a secondary education, Spanish major and will be certified to teach Portuguese.

The awards were presented by Joseph A. Levi, assistant professor of Portuguese and Marie Fraley, president of Friends of Portuguese Studies, the sponsor of the prizes.



AWARDS CEREMONY: Pictured (l-r) are Joseph Levi, assistant professor of Portuguese; Lisa Andrade Almeida, recipient of the Portuguese Studies Award; Cecilia Botelho, recipient of the Luso-American Cultural Heritage Award; and Marie Fraley, president of the Friends of Portuguese Studies.



HONORARY MEMBER: On April 30 Rhode Island's First Lady Suzanne O. Carcieri M '93 and Judge O. Rogeriee Thompson were installed as the first honorary members of Rhode Island Women in Higher Education. Above, Carcieri chats with Thompson after the ceremony in the Faculty Center.



VISIT: Students from St. Martin's College, Carlisle, UK, recently visited RIC for two weeks as part of a student exchange program with elementary education students. From left to right: College President John Nazarian, Clara Perez de Eulate, Gemma Anderson, Becci Heary, academic affairs vice president Dan King, and Gill Hebson. This is the sixth year of the program, which is coordinated by Ezra L. Stieglitz, professor of elementary education.



NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK: Members of Carole Harmon's "Methods and Materials of Art Education" class created a children's book as part of an image-making and writing project. Above, the book, entitled "Becky's Baffling Day at the Blissful Beach," is presented to Henry Barnard School librarian Laurie Parkerson. The students include (from left) Megahn McKervey, Ashley Richer, Amanda Sutcliffe, Erin Watson and Scott Servidio.

RIC celebrates graduate and und



DOCTORAL DIGNITARIES: Honorary degree recipients gather with RIC President John Nazarian (center). (Left to right): Alan Hassenfeld, Beatrice Schwartz Levin, U.S. Rep. James Langevin '90, and Peter Boyer '91.



GREETINGS FROM THE GOVERNOR: Gov. Donald Carcieri addresses the crowd at the undergraduate commencement. Carcieri told the grads to "always have the determination to make the right thing happen."



SAMUEL WORTHINGTON (second from left) receives an honorary doctor of humanities degree at the graduate commencement on May 15.

Commencement

Continued from page 1

the Board of Governors for Higher Education playfully thanked the College for adding a new word to the state's and his vocabulary throughout the past year. "I didn't have a clue what 'sesquicentennial' meant before this year," he said, in reference to the College's 150th anniversary.

After claiming he saw many familiar faces from his role as traffic court judge, Caprio paid a compliment to the Class of 2004. "This has to be the brightest class to ever graduate from RIC," he said to booming applause. He said that "countless" students had appeared before him for speeding on Mount Pleasant Avenue or running the stop sign on Cathedral Avenue because they were late getting to an exam at RIC. Caprio said he took it into account when a student would say, "Judge, I got an A."

Caprio told the graduates that their future stature would bring them certain rights and privileges but that they must always remember the values instilled in them at RIC. "Because you have the right to do it doesn't mean it is the right thing to do," he said. Caprio advised the students to "always have your moral compass gauged in the right direction."

In his farewell remarks, David Medeiros, president of the class of 2004, told the assembly that his class has pledged \$150,000 over the next five years to be used for scholarships to help future students. In support of the gesture, Nazarian has announced that he has personally pledged to match one dollar for every five dollars raised by the class.

Medeiros insisted that his classmates never forget the memories of their years at RIC, and to be proud of their accomplishments. "Remember where you received this pride, remember Rhode Island College," he said.

Representing the golden anniversary Class of 1954, Donald Driscoll told of how, encouraged by classmate Nazarian, the '54 grads set out to raise funds to put toward scholarships for future students that will "perpetuate the good deed given by the state to us."

The class' gift of \$126,000 (the largest donation of any class to

date) exceeded the goal of \$100,000 set earlier this year, and will be used to ensure that "no qualified student will come to this institution and be turned away because of lack of funds," said Driscoll.

The gift was presented to Nazarian in a Hassenfeld Brothers pencil box that contained Monopoly game money. The "Brothers" in the Rhode Island company's name were honorary degree recipient Alan Hassenfeld's grandfather and great uncle, who founded what is now Hasbro, Inc. Driscoll said the Monopoly money "represented the act of teaching for fun, but being deadly serious about the outcome."



The gift will be used to "keep the torch of learning burning at RIC," said Nazarian.

Nazarian recalled that 50 years ago he sat in the audience as a graduate "wondering where life would take me." He said he could measure the journey of the last 50 years from professor to administrator to president in the "tens of thousands of students I have met at the College." He noted that as College President for 14 years, he has "personally signed over 20,000 diplomas."

In a half century filled with change, Nazarian said that the things that remain the same are the "hopes and aspirations of college graduates and the abundant challenges they will face in their pursuit to help others and make a good life for themselves." He said the initials R-I-C have also come to describe virtues embraced by the College: respect, integrity and commitment.

Representing the alumni asso-



DAVID MEDEIROS, president of the Class of 2004, offers farewell remarks during the May 15 undergraduate exercises.

Senior graduate commencements

ciation, President Miguel Lopes '71 welcomed the graduates to alumni status and encouraged them to be active alumni. "Your degree, in the future, will only be as good as the College that awarded it," said Lopes. "Continue to support your College to help guarantee it will be strong for those who follow you."

To mark the College's 150th year, the class of 2004 received special-edition white diploma cases with gold lettering and the Sesquicentennial symbol, the oak tree.

Imploring students to keep RIC close to their hearts, Nazarian promised, "RIC will always be your home and we will always welcome you



back."

The ceremony ended with the releasing of white birds, the universal sign of peace, love, hope and unity around the world. The cluster of birds eventually will find their way home... the same way it is hoped that the newest College alumni will return to RIC.

Advanced-degree commencement hails 350 'voices' of the future

Asking graduates to "make a significant, positive difference in all whose lives you come into contact with," RIC President John Nazarian led a commencement ceremony in which 350 advanced degrees were conferred May 13 in the Murray Center.

Nazarian awarded honorary doc-

torate degrees to author and playwright Beatrice Schwartz Levin '42, and PlanUSA/Childreach chief executive officer Samuel A. Worthington.

Michael Ryan '74, of the Board of Governors for Higher Education, told the degree recipients that "leaders are problem solvers." As an example, he mentioned the late U.S. Sen. John Chafee, whose optimistic outlook helped him lead. Chafee "always looked toward the future," said Ryan, who quoted the words on a statue built in Chafee's honor: "What we do today will have an effect on our children, and on our children's children."

Ryan noted Nazarian's over 50-year association with RIC and his success in leading the College as President. "We on the board feel so strongly about him, we never want him to leave," he said.

Ryan also recognized Lenore DeLucia, vice president for administration and finance and professor of psychology, who will retire this month after 42 years at RIC. (See story on page 6.) "She has been a person of dignity and extraordinary knowledge, and this College is going to miss her," Ryan said.

Jennifer E. Lang, who received a master's in social work, was selected to speak on behalf of the graduates. "Each of us has a voice, and I ask you tonight how you want to use yours," said Lang. She quoted anthropologist Margaret Mead: "Never doubt that a small group of citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

In his address, Worthington asked: "What choices at home or at work will you make with the skills you have acquired?" He advised them to spend their time in a job they love, and to do something with compassion.

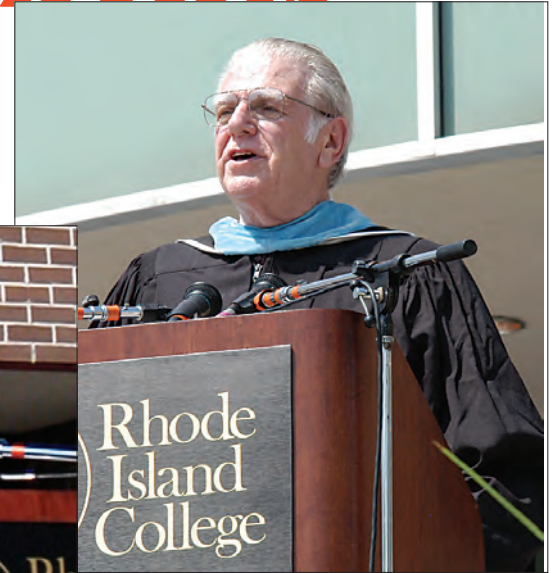
Worthington, who is also a founder of the Hope for African Children Initiative, spoke about visiting some of the poorest places on earth. What struck him was not the overwhelming poverty, he said, "but the power of the human spirit to shine through." He mentioned a 17-year-old boy he met from Uganda, who had lost both parents to AIDS. The boy helped organize co-op services that provided money for a daily meal for over 100 orphans.

Worthington told the graduates that it is "through our actions to help others that we actually help ourselves."

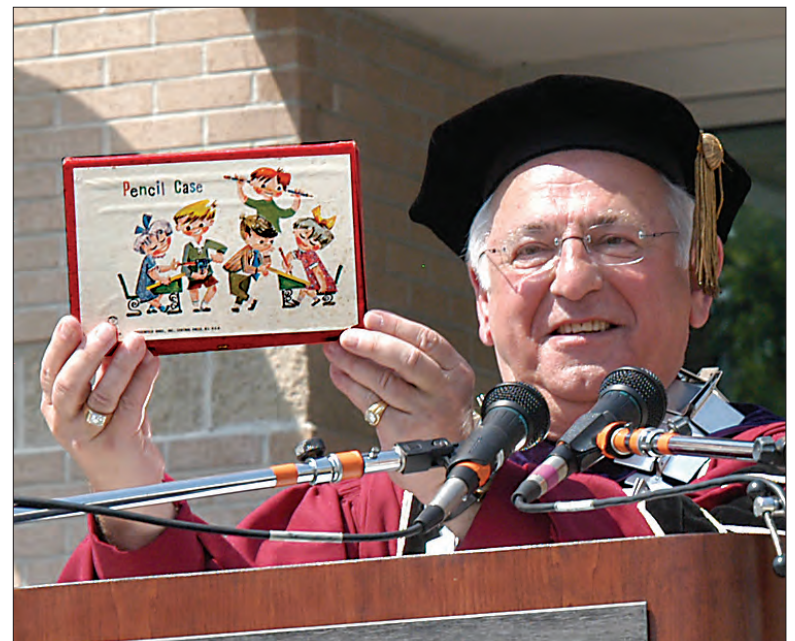
See pages 19 and 20 for more glimpses of graduation.



JUDGE FRANK CAPRIO speaks to the undergraduate degree candidates in his role as chairman of the Board of Governors for Higher Education.



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY class member Donald Driscoll speaks to the Sesquicentennial Class before announcing a gift to the College from the Class of 1954 for \$126,000.



SCHOOL DAYS SYMBOL: College President John Nazarian holds up a vintage pencil box (on loan from the archives of Hasbro, Inc.) in which he received a gift from the Class of 1954.



PRESIDENTIAL HONORS: Kathleen Mellor '70, MEd '77 (at left) and Natalie Cullen Howe '24, (above) the College's most senior alumna, were awarded Presidential Medals – a first for a RIC graduation ceremony.



PLAYWRIGHT AND NOVELIST Beatrice Schwartz Levin listens as RIC President John Nazarian reads a citation awarding her an honorary degree at the graduate commencement on May 13.

Convocation of Scholars Week

The first Convocation of Scholars Week, part of the College's Sesquicentennial celebration, was held April 21 - 28. It featured a variety of lectures and presentations covering a number of disciplines and celebrating the College's commitment to academic excellence.



Above from left: faculty members Meradith McMunn, David Thomas and Ghislaine Géloin talk about McMunn's research into medieval manuscripts at the April 22 Faculty Celebration and Appreciation of Scholarship Reception held in the President's Dining Room in Donovan Dining Center.



FIRST TIME: Seniors Corey Greenhalgh (left) and Kate Videlo place mortarboards on each other's heads during Cap and Gown ceremonies April 28 in Roberts Hall Auditorium. Cap and Gown Day is traditionally the first time graduating seniors at the College are allowed to don their graduation attire.



MATH RESEARCH: From left, Profs. Kathryn Sanders, Rebecca Sparks, Ying Zhou, Raimondo Kovac and Christopher Teixeira.



DIVERSITY SPEAKER Urvashi Vaid, former executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, greets well-wishers at a reception in the President's Dining Room April 21, just before delivering the Ninth Annual Spring Lecture, as part of the Dialogue on Diversity.



HISTORY: Pawtucket Mayor James E. Doyle (center) and College President John Nazarian with guest speaker and honorary degree recipient Elizabeth Johnson. Johnson, a lifelong historical preservationist presented "What was Pawtucket Like in 1854?" on April 22.



FIRST LADY: Suzanne O. Carcieri MEd '93 (inset), facilitates a panel discussion on "Policy and Standards in Early Education," held April 23 in the Student Union ballroom. Panelists include (from left) Leslie Sevey MEd '97, Carolyn Roseman '84, Donna Bettencourt-Glavin '73, Aurea Rosa, Kim Maine and Paula-Jo Gaines-Mays.



"LITERACY AND EARLY EDUCATION" was the topic of a lecture by Jerlean Daniel, associate professor in the School of Education at the University of Pittsburgh, who spoke April 27 in the Student Union ballroom, as part of the Convocation of Scholars Week.

The 2nd annual WebCT Faculty Luncheon and Instructional Technology Update event held in May

May 18 marked the second Annual WebCT Faculty Luncheon and Instructional Technology Update. As with the previous year, this event was an opportunity for faculty to demonstrate the highlights of their WebCT courses and for other faculty members to learn about the benefits of having an online course.

This year, in addition to featuring WebCT-related updates, there were also other instructional technology-related items from various departments. Richard Prull of Information Services gave the welcome remarks and mentioned the funding that has gone to support instructional technologies. Pat Hays from User Support Services, Marianne Castano from the Office of Instructional Technology and Training, Tim Spindler from the Adams Library, and Tony Carlino from the Audiovisual Department also talked about some of their new initiatives.

These initiatives include new projectors in two electronic classrooms that give clear and crisp images, the availability of online training courses, new scanners in the Horace Mann Technology Faculty Area, one of which can scan 35 pages at a time, and the availability of *Refworks* in the Adams Library, a tool that students and faculty use to create sources-cited pages and bibliographies.

Stephanie deGonzalez also talked about the move to WebCT 4 and new training opportunities for faculty.

Faculty that presented their courses gave their impressions on the effect the online tools had on their teaching and students. Presenters included Kay Israel and Philip Palombo (communications), Sandy Urban-Lynch (nursing), and Russell Potter (English).

Stephanie deGonzalez (User Support Services) talked about students' comments on the use of WebCT and ways in which WebCT could assist instruction. The faculty presenters were also given a certificate, in the spirit of "if this were the WebCT Oscars." Israel, for instance, received the Outstanding Rap Performance by Duo or Group and Philip Palombo took the Lifetime Achievement Award for the longest running course.

Certificates of appreciation were also given to the 24 Departmental Technology Liaisons (DTLs) who are the conduits between their departments and the Office of Instructional Technology and Training as well as to the faculty mentors who have expertise in certain software programs and who are available to assist faculty.

Door prizes were also given to three lucky attendees. A newsletter that provided additional details on the instructional technology



GADGETLAND: Members of the faculty and staff get a chance to look over the latest technology recently acquired by the College at the WebCT luncheon held May 18 in the Faculty Center.

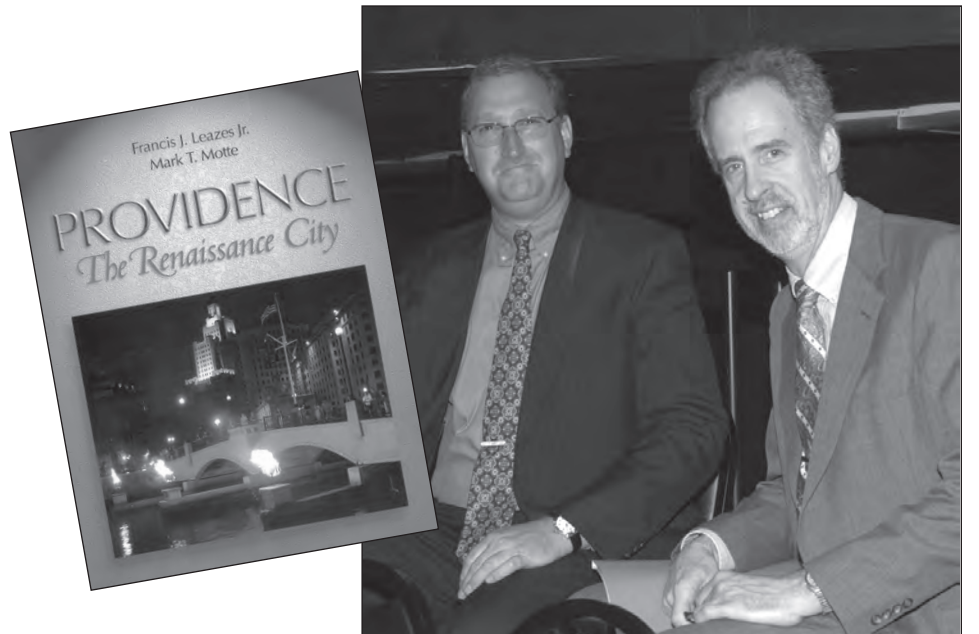
updates was given to the attendees. Along with the presentations, "Inspector Gadget" tables were set up to familiarize faculty with the newest gadgets and presentation

tools in the industry. The IT student-staff were available to assist the faculty as they explored the use of various equipment.

Recent retirees...



RETIRING STAFF AND FACULTY who attended the commencement gala pose with College President John Nazarian. Above from left: Elizabeth Spolidoro of the School of Social Work, George LaTour of News and Public Relations, Nazarian, Dolores Corsetti of the Campus Store, Anthony DelGuidice of Facilities and Operations and Elaine Coccoli of the Campus Store. Below from left: Prof. James Bierden, Assoc. Prof. Donald Cousins, Nazarian, Prof. Anne Petry, Prof. Joan Glazer, Assoc. Prof. Murray Finley, Asst. Prof. Dolores Harrison and Prof. P. William Hutchinson.



AUTHOR-IZING: Faculty members Mark T. Motte and Francis J. Leazes, Jr., authors of "Providence: The Renaissance City," launched their book during RIC's Center for Public Policy forum May 14 in The Forman Theatre.



THE FIRST JOHN J. SALETTES AWARD IN ENGLISH was presented recently to Jessica Crane, a junior English major. Above at a reception in the English department lounge are (from left) Prof. Meradith McMunn, Asst. Prof. Karen Boren, Crane and Prof. Maureen Reddy. Salettes was vice president for academic affairs and retired from the College in 2002 after 40 years of service.

Arts & Entertainment

RIC Performing Arts Series 2004-05: a must-see medley of live entertainment

From Broadway to ballet, classical to choir, and acting to acrobatics, Rhode Island College's Performing Arts Series somersaults into an exciting new season this September. The Performing Arts umbrella of entertainment includes the Potpourri Series, President's Music Series, and Jeffrey Siegel's Keyboard Conversations®.

POTPOURRI SERIES

Ballet Hispanico
Tuesday,
September 21,
2004

The leading Hispanic-American dance company in North America,

Ballet Hispanico draws on and celebrates an ethnic tradition. Its production of NIGHTCLUB is three stories of the passion and powerful rhythms that move us, as told through the intimate language of dance. NIGHTCLUB contains adult themes.

Putumayo-Latinas: Women of Latin America
Tuesday, October 19, 2004

This concert celebrates the soulful and inspirational music of Latin American women including Toto La Momposina (Columbia), Mariana Montalvo (Chile), and Belo Velloso (Brazil).

Delfos Contemporary Dance
Saturday, October 23, 2004

Recognized as one of the most important dance companies in Latin America, the group has an aesthetic vision and unique personality characterized by the fluency, physicality and poetry contained in each one of their works.



TAP CITY

Tap City
Thursday,
November 18,
2004

This international cast of legendary tap veterans, cutting-edge tap soloists and young talent from the New York City Tap Festival come together in celebration of one of America's most virtuosic and entertaining art forms.

The Soweto Gospel Choir
Thursday,
February 10,
2005

Formed to celebrate the unique and inspirational power of African American Gospel Music, the 32-strong choir draws on the best talent from many churches in and around Soweto. This concert is sure to be a major event in Black History Month celebrations.

BROADWAY! The Big Band Years
Wednesday, February 23, 2005

The staggering number of Broadway hit songs of the 30s, 40s and 50s are showcased in one bold, brassy show. Celebrate the vast contributions by Broadway composers and lyricists during the big band era!

The National Black-Light Theatre of Prague
Thursday, March 10, 2005

It's a stunning multi-visual show combining live performance with amazing black-light theatre effects, big-screen projections, and fantastic magic tricks. The group's production *Fantasy Travelers* is loosely inspired by *Alice in Wonderland* and *Gulliver's Travels*.

The St. Petersburg State Ballet Theatre
Tuesday, March 22, 2005

Born over a quarter-century ago, The St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre is considered one of the most distinguished classical companies in Russia. It will perform its new production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

The National Acrobats of Taiwan R. O. C.
Tuesday, April 19, 2005

The exciting acrobats return to RIC after performing for a standing-room-only audience during our 2001-02 season. Their perfect movements and flexible showmanship have provided entertainment to people from all walks of life for centuries. A great family night out.

Seasons of Migration
Tuesday, April 26, 2005

Cambodian-American choreographer Sophiline Cheam Shapiro creates an odyssey of cultural transformation with a cast of 54. The work will intermingle Cambodian and American forms with a resulting artistic equilibrium that is neither wholly of one tradition nor the other.

POTPOURRI SERIES EXTRA

Nobody Don't Like Yogi
starring Ben Gazzara
Tuesday, March 29, 2005

Ben Gazzara shines in this touching, dramatic portrait of one of the most beloved - and definitely the most quotable - athletes of our time. No matter how much or how little you know of baseball lore, you're bound to love *Nobody Don't Like Yogi*.

PRESIDENT'S MUSIC SERIES

The Muir String Quartet

The legendary ensemble returns for a 12th consecutive year with three classical performances.

Monday, September 27, 2004

Haydn: *Quartet in G minor, Op. 20, No. 3*

Janacek: *Quartet No. 2 ("Intimate Letters")*

Brahms: *Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 67*

Monday, November 8, 2004

With special guest Gilbert Kalish, piano

Haydn: *Quartet in D Major, Op. 20, No. 4*

Shostakovich: *Quartet No. 1 in C Major, Op. 49*

Elgar: *Piano Quintet*

Monday, May 2, 2005

Haydn: *Quartet in C Major, Op. 20, No. 2*

Schulhof: *Five Pieces*

Ravel: *Quartet in F Major*

Boston Symphony Chamber Players
Monday, January 31, 2005

RIC welcomes the return of some of the Boston Symphony's first-desk players.

J. S. Bach (arr. Mozart): *Preludes and Fugues for String Trio, K. 404a*

Villa-Lobos: *Trio for Oboe, Clarinet and Bassoon*

Brahms: *String Quartet No. 2 in G, Op. 111*

A CHAMBER MUSIC EXTRA

Quartetto di Venezia
Monday, March 7

These four extraordinary musicians manifest the magic, mystery, and majesty of Venice. Their unique all-Italian program will feature Bocherini, Bazzini, Busoni and Verdi.

JEFFREY SIEGEL'S KEYBOARD CONVERSATIONS®

The master of making classical music accessible will return to RIC for three different and delightful Conversations. In each concert, Siegel attempts to deepen the audience's understanding of a composition by speaking about it before performing the work in full. A lively question-and-answer session concludes the show.

Splendor from Silence: Beethoven, Smetana and Fauré
Tuesday, September 14

Features music of spiritual exaltation and soul-probing depth, written when deafness had engulfed each composer. Includes Beethoven's *Sonata No. 31 in A-flat, Op. 110*.

The Passion and Poetry of Chopin
Wednesday, November 3

Beloved favorites and special surprises stir the heart and enchant the ear. The program includes the fiery *Scherzo in C-sharp minor* and the rarely performed *Variations Brillantes*.

The Magnificent Melodies of Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff
Thursday, April 7

Soaring, lyrical dramas by two of the most popular composers of all time. Program includes Tchaikovsky's *Humoresque* and *Dumka*, and Rachmaninoff's picturesque *Etudes Tableaux*.

For additional details about RIC's upcoming Performing Arts Series season, call 401-456-8144.



SENIOR SHOW: Bannister Gallery was the venue for the work of graduating art majors. The exhibition ran from May 7 - 15.

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE THEATRE



Jacques Brel
*is Alive and Well
 & Living in Paris*

A 30th anniversary alumni performance starring:
 Denise Caron
 Patti Nolin
 Fredric Scheff
 Joseph Carvalho

Part of the College's Sesquicentennial celebration

Based on Jacques Brel's Lyrics and Commentary

Music by Jacques Brel

Production Conception, English Lyrics and Additional Material by Eric Blau and Mort Shuman

Directed by P. William Hutchinson in his farewell role

Fri. and Sat., June 11 & 12

Thurs., Fri. and Sat., June 17, 18 & 19

8 p.m.
 Sapinsley Hall
 Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts

General Admission: \$20;
 \$18 for seniors;
 \$10 for students

Call 456-8144 to reserve tickets.

Linda Succi honored by League of American Theatres and Producers

Linda Succi '68, MEd '72, received the League of American Theatres and Producers' 2004 League Educator Apple Award on April 26.

Succi, a house leader and assistant principal in the East Providence School Dept., was honored for her continuing collaboration with the Providence Performing Arts Center and the Edward Martin Middle School.

The award, announced by PPAC, is to reward, acknowledge and support the educational efforts of those who work in association



LINDA SUCCI

with league-affiliated venues across the U.S. Succi is one of three people to receive the award.

Last season, Succi facilitated her school's involvement in the "From Books to Broadway" program in connection with the touring Broadway production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*.

In class, students learned about the show's storyline, music and theatre etiquette, and gained insights through school visits by cast members.

RIC SummerArt Program to offer workshops for young artists

The Rhode Island College SummerArt Program will offer several two-week art workshops for children ages 5-15. The workshops are designed to provide a relaxed yet stimulating environment in which students can explore their creative interests.

SummerArt dates are July 12-22, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to noon. Classes are offered in mixed media for ages 5-11, sculp-

ture for ages 8-11, clayworks for ages 10-13, and drawing for ages 12-15.

Tuition and supply fees for all classes is \$200, which includes a non-refundable registration fee of \$20. Classes are small and early registration is recommended. For a brochure describing the program, please call the Rhode Island College Art Dept. at 456-8054 or email cmulcahey@ric.edu.



Marriages Made at RIC



From the Class of 1954



Donald '54 and Fran (Palumbo) '61 Driscoll



Eileen (Ward) '54 and John '54 Ryan

Dean's List

Dean's List

Graduation gear...

Commencement exercises celebrate the conferral of degrees, the beginning of a new life for the graduates – and the affirmation of long-established traditions. Like other institutions of higher learning, RIC observes many of the standard commencement conventions in terms of attire, but also features accouterments that are unique to the College. Some background:

The Del Sesto Mace

At the 1959 commencement exercises, the first held on the present Mount Pleasant campus, Governor Christopher Del Sesto presented to Rhode Island College a bronze replica of the statue of the Independent Man. This was done so that the College, which up to that time had been located near the State House, might continue its tradition of holding commencements and other academic convocations in the presence of the Independent Man.

The Del Sesto Mace, as it is called, was designed by the noted Rhode Island sculptor Aristide Cianfarani and crafted by the Gorham Company. It has been in use since 1962 in all academic processions as a symbol of tradition, authority, and of the College's commitment to the search for truth, knowledge, beauty, values, and learning.

The Willard Medallion

The Willard Medallion is a symbol of the office of

the president worn at official and ceremonial occasions. It links plates bearing the names of the chief executive officers who have led Rhode Island College since 1973 in a sterling silver collar with an enamel medallion.

The medallion was commissioned by the Rhode Island College Alumni Association and designed by silversmith Curtis K. LaFollette, then a professor of art at the College, to commemorate the inauguration of Charles Borromeo Willard as the first alumnus to be named president of the College.

Academic Attire

The caps, gowns, and hoods worn at college and university functions date back to the Middle Ages. Monks and students used them to keep warm in medieval castles and halls of learning. From these practical origins, they have developed into the accepted formal apparel that symbolizes scholarly achievement.

Baccalaureate gowns have a long, pleated front with shirring across the shoulders and back. They are primarily distinguished by flowing sleeves, pointed at the fingertip. These gowns may be worn either open or closed.



THE WILLARD MEDALLION

The master's gown is worn open and the sleeve is cut so that the forearm comes through a slit just above the elbow.

The doctor's gown has rounded sleeves and velvet panels around the neck and down the front of the gown, as well as three velvet bars on the sleeves. In recent years American universities have followed the custom of European institutions of having doctoral gowns in the color of the university.

Mortarboards or caps worn with baccalaureate and master's gowns generally have black tassels. The tassel of the doctoral cap is usually made of gold bullion.

The hood gives color and real meaning to the academic costume.

Its silk lining bears the colors of the institution conferring the degree. The hood is bordered with velvet of a prescribed width and color to indicate the field of learning to which the degree pertains.

Honor Cords

Undergraduates receiving their degrees with Latin honors wear special honor cords. The color of the cord indicates the level of the honor:

- Gold – summa cum laude
- Burgundy – magna cum laude
- White – cum laude



THE DEL SESTO MACE (held by Miguel Lopes '71.)

And **Caren Normandin**, a junior gymnast from Fall River, Mass.; **Carminda Rocha**, a senior women's tennis player from East Providence, R.I.; **Tim Rudd**, a senior cross country and track and field student-athlete from Warwick; **Liz Shields**, a senior women's basketball player from Warwick; **Kim Warrington**, a senior softball player from North Kingstown, R.I.; and **Kim Wood**, a senior women's soccer player from Little Compton, R.I.

SPORTS

11 honored by the Rhode Island Speaker of the House and House of Representatives

Ten current Rhode Island College student-athletes and one alumnus were honored by William J. Murphy, speaker of the House, and the Rhode Island House of Representatives at a reception held in the House Lounge at the Rhode Island State House on May 5.

The event was designed to give significant public recognition to men and women from the Community College of Rhode Island, Rhode Island College and the University of Rhode Island who have had significant achievements in their academic and athletic pursuits at their respective institutions. The honorees have also demonstrated exemplary citizenship and community service.

Thomas Winfield, deputy speaker of the House, was the master of ceremonies.

The 10 scholar-athletes from Rhode Island College were: **Kamran Alemdar**, a senior men's basketball player from Stockholm, Sweden; **Justin Deveau**, a junior wrestler from North Attleboro, Mass.; **Kari Geisler**, a freshman women's volleyball and basketball player from Derry, N.H.; **Kate McCalligett**, a junior track and field student-athlete from Warwick, R.I.

And **Caren Normandin**, a junior gymnast from Fall River, Mass.; **Carminda Rocha**, a senior women's tennis player from East Providence, R.I.; **Tim Rudd**, a senior cross country and track and field student-athlete from Warwick; **Liz Shields**, a senior women's basketball player from Warwick; **Kim Warrington**, a senior softball player from North Kingstown, R.I.; and **Kim Wood**, a senior women's soccer player from Little Compton, R.I.

Athletic alumni from each school were also honored. Greenville, R.I.'s Donald Hickey '62 was RIC's Athletic Alumnus award recipient.

Hickey was a three-sport standout during his years at RIC. He played four seasons of basketball and soccer, while playing three seasons of baseball. As a forward in basketball, Hickey was known as a fierce competitor, a brilliant passer and an excellent team player.

He earned his master's degree in education from RIC in 1969. Hickey was a teacher in Providence from 1962-73. He was the assistant principal at Bishop Hendricken High School from 1973-86. He was also a state senator from 1977-86.

Upon his retirement from teaching, Hickey worked for the State of Rhode Island as the director of the Retirement Board from 1986-90.

Athletic Hall of Fame 2004

The Rhode Island College Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2004 will be officially inducted at the Athletic Recognition and Hall of Fame Dinner, held in conjunction with Homecoming, on Saturday, Oct. 2.

Contact the Rhode Island College Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation at 401-456-8007 to purchase tickets or for additional information.

Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2004

- Abraham "Cappy" Asermely '51
- James Barbera '91
- Jenna Daum '98
- Claude Gladu '62
- Richard Lawrence '68
- Jeanne (Berthasavage) Lucey '86
- Joe Mikaelian '80
- Troy Smith '84



HALL OF FAME HONOREES: (left to right): Charlie Wilkes '64, Peg Brown, College President John Nazarian, G. Gail Davis '60, and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Intramurals and Recreation Don Tencher, were honored by the International Scholar-Athlete Hall of Fame on May 15. Wilkes was elected into the Hall of Fame's Rhode Island wing, while Davis and Tencher received the Frank Keaney Award given to individuals who have dedicated themselves to academics and coaching.

Athletics to celebrate 75-year anniversary



September 2004 will mark the 75th year of intercollegiate athletics at Rhode Island College.

Festivities to celebrate this milestone will occur throughout the 2004-05 year.

Log on to www.ric.edu/athletics to keep up with all of the events.

If you have any suggestions or ideas to help commemorate this anniversary, contact Scott Gibbons at 401-456-8516 or email sgibbons@ric.edu.

Anchor Club Golf Day set for July 19

The fourth annual Anchor Club Golf Day is set for Monday, July 19 at Pawtucket Country Club.

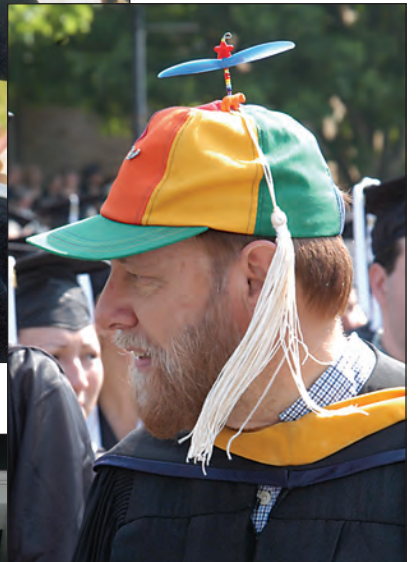
If you would like to play, or register a foursome, please call the RIC Athletic Office at 401-456-8007 to receive a brochure.

The cost is \$160 per golfer, which includes greens fees, favors, golf cart, refreshments, lunch, social hour and food stations. Lunch and check-in will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 12:45 p.m. There will be a reception with food stations at 6:30 p.m., followed by awards and prizes at 7 p.m.

Don't miss this great event. Register today!

Caps, gowns and smiles...

Warm sunshine, bright colors and the music of the RIC Wind Ensemble helped create a festive feeling that made the 2004 undergraduate degree ceremony a great success for everyone, including father and daughter grads Manuel Da Graca and Dorothy Da Graca (bottom right).



150 Years ...
and Still Growing!

The Back Page



\$23.1 Million
\$22.5 Million
\$21.9 Million
\$21.7 Million
\$21.3 Million

June 7, 2004
April 27, 2004
April 12, 2004
March 22, 2004
Feb. 16, 2004

The Campaign Meter

The Campaign for Rhode Island College

We are pleased to announce that alumni and friends of the College have made gifts or pledges in the amount of \$23.1 million toward our goal of \$25 million.

We need YOUR help to reach our goal by the end of June. You CAN make a difference.

Be part of this historic moment — support the Campaign.

For more information, contact mbrown@ric.edu / 401-456-8440, nhoogasian@ric.edu / 401-456-8827 or give online at www.ric.edu.

Recent donors to the Campaign for Rhode Island College

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Edward Ameen | Gail Brady '58 |
| Paul Bourget '69 | Mary Cameron '50 |
| Norma DiLibero '81 | Mary Frances Campbell '35 |
| Richard Mottola '54 | Edmund Costa '65 |
| Anne Colannino '72 | Barbara Durrell-Dickerson '66 |
| John Capurso '79 | Louise '83 & William '77 Hasenfus |
| Nancy Carriuolo | Susan Hayashi '76 |
| Dorothy '52 & John '52 Kennedy | Robert Herchen '40 |
| Madeline Nixon | Jacqueline Hickey '60 |
| Dorothy Pieniadz | Mary Higgins '34 |
| Sharon Charette '78 | Natalie Howe '24 |
| Barbara Romani '54 | Michelle Mallon '82 |
| Daniel Dwyer | Beverly Mansi '63 |
| Marianne McGregor '66 | Milton Martell '64 |
| Anne Schifino '60 | Helen McKinney '37 |
| Teresa Sieczkowski '84 | Christopher Meo '98 |
| Margaret Hickey '70 | Joseph Mollica '72 |
| James Turley | Michelle Noon '92 |
| Carolyn Aust '40 | Marguerite Odeh '68 |
| Barbara Calabro '68 | Marie Petrarca |
| Elaine Guimond '62 | Emily Smith |
| Judith Harrigan '00 | Cecile Smith '44 |
| Jean Lee '75 | Carol Ung '69 |
| Marvin Abrams | Alice Wagner '52 |
| Alice Bailey '32 | |

What's News at Rhode Island College

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Mortarboards make the grad...



A look at some of the artistically enhanced mortarboards worn at the undergraduate commencement May 15.



The next issue of What's News will be in September 2004.

Story ideas are welcome. Call 401-456-8090 or email jfusco@ric.edu.

We wish our readers a safe and happy summer.

What's News submissions welcome

The Office of News and Public Relations encourages members of the faculty, staff and administration to submit news stories, feature articles and department information for publication consideration in *What's News*.

Send materials directly to our campus office in Building 10 on the East Campus or email to jfusco@ric.edu or rmartin@ric.edu. All materials are subject to editorial review.

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Alicia Hedquist
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Kellie Hoffer
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Zachariah King
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Bradford Knight
April Knights
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Jennifer Kusiak
Melissa Kusnitz
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Meghan Labossiere
Sara Labossiere
Yara Labrador
Erika Lacey
Linda Lachapelle
Zacharie Lacourse

Spring 2004

er have their names placed on the Dean's List in recognition of their scholastic achievement.

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Murette Laguerre
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Heather Laird
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Amy Lamourine
Sarah Lamport
Terri-Lyn Landcot
Holly Landry
Elise Landry
Rita Langin
Jennifer Langlais
Caryn Langon
Michelle Lanoue
Alacyn Lanzieri
Kathryn Lapierre
Kerin Lapierre
Laura Laporte
Jodie Laprise
Nicole Laprise
Kathleen Larivee
Michelle Laroché
Nicole Laspee
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Christopher Latendresse
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Amy Laudon
Kristen Laurence
Sara Laurino
Christopher Lavendier
Stephanie Lavoie
Keith Lazarski
Denise Leathers
Mark Lebrun
Britney Lecomte
Jared Leduc
Brianna Leech
Lea Legault
Lelia Leite
Kyle Lemery
Amanda Lemoi
Nina Lennon
James Leonard
Erin Leonka
Lauren Leonti
Jessica Leroux
Modina Leta
Tara Lewis
Kristine Libby
Stacy Lima
John Lincoln
Regina Liuzzi
David Lizotte
Andrew Loisel
Meliza Lopes
Kelly Lopez
Sergio Lourenco
Cindy Lourenco
Caitlyn Lowman
Diana Lozano
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Anthony Lucchetti
Tamara Luciano
Sarah Luczkowski
Diane Luis
Nina Lusignan
Kerri Lussier
Stephanie Lutrario
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Laura MacDonald
Lisa MacPherson
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Amanda Machado
Alyssa Maclean
Brian Magnan
Nichole Magnifico
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Meghan Mahan
Kimberly Maida
Jennifer Mailloux
Jennifer Mainelli
Christine Maini
Becky Major
Mayra Malkun
Sara Malouin
Amy Manchester
Garrett Mancieri
Kristen Manning
Laura Marabelle
Agnieszka Marczak
Alicia Marganti
Peter Marino
Stephanie Marino
Amy Marques
Sherry Marques
Tressah Marra

Merissa Marsland
Crystal Martin
Tiffany Martin
Missy Martin
Toni Martin
Aaron Martin-Colby
John Martinelli
Jeannette Martinho
Nadezhda Maryanov
Jennifer Masciarelli
Audrey Massart
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Eric Mathieu
Melissa Matos
Cara Mattered
Gina Mattered
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Nicole Maynard
Jennifer Maynard
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Kimberly Mazza
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Jennifer McBride
Katherine McCalligett
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Joshua McCray
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Dianne McElroy
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Timothy McLellan
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Tina McDonough
Kristen McKenzie
Latrice McKinney
Barnaby McLaughlin
Jessica McMahan
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Derick Medeiros
Derek Melfi
Kendra Melise
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Rachel Menard
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Jayme Williams
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Lauren Williamson
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Amanda Wood
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Congratulations to all!