What's News At Rhode Island College

Rhode Island College

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Annual tree lighting here slated for Dec. 7

Rhode Island College will hold its fifth an-
nual tree-lighting ceremony on Monday,
Dec. 7, at 6:30 p.m. at Roberts Hall on the
College campus.

In what has become a holiday-season tradi-
tion, the College is inviting members of the
College community, their friends and fam-
ilies to gather for the festivities.

The evening’s events will begin with tradi-
tional holiday music by the Rhode Island
College Brass Ensemble under the direction
of John Pellegrino starting at 6:25
As always, everyone will be invited to join
in caroling.

After the performance by the ensemble,
Professor Emeritus Ridgway F. Shius Jr.
will read “The Night Before Christmas.”
Tree-lighting organizer Kathryn Sasso
points out that while this has become a
favorite part of the festivities for the
children, “adults seem to enjoy it just as
much.”

Article continues on page 3

Scholarship established for minority students by family
of R.I. College alumna

Her grandfather was a slave

by George LaTour

The family of a black woman, whose
grandfather had been a slave in the South
and who herself grew up in Alabama and at-
tended segregated schools there, has donated
money to establish a scholarship geared

toward helping minority students at Rhode
Island College.

Named the Celia Munir Educational
Scholarship, initial funds have already been
placed within the Rhode Island College
Foundation which will act as administrator of
the scholarship fund.

Scholarships will eventually be available
to new minority students at the College and
to minority adults who intend to resume their
education—preferably in an education cur-
riculum, says Munir, herself having return-
ed to school to further her education after
years spent raising a family.

She is the mother of 10 children.

“It was always a dream of mine to finish
my education after I raised my family,” she
had told What’s News in a 1984 interview.

Explaining that she had not wanted to
leave her young children at home while she
pursued a college education, she, sorrath-
less, lost little time “sitting around the
house.”

“I read and taught my children and I spent
a lot of time around the schools. I’m very ac-
tive in the community,” she related.

Last year, Celia Munir graduated from
Rhode Island College with a degree in ele-
dimentary education. She now teaches the
sixth grade at the Oliver Hazard Perry Mid-
dle School in Providence, the city in which
she and her husband, Yusuf Munir, and
three of their children reside.

Her graduation drew the attention of many
from different segments of the community.

Mayor Joseph R. Paolino Jr. of Providence
personally came to her home and presented
her with a proclamation both noting her
achievement and calling the attention of that
city’s diverse minority populations to it.

Last May at a fund-raising dinner in War-
wick’s Great House, she was presented
another proclamation, this time from the
state’s governor, Edward D. DiPrete, who
has just recently asked her to sit on the Adult
Education Commission as a “repre-
sentative of the public.”

The Munirs relate that their family will
have a yearly event such as a dinner to raise
funds for the scholarship.

Depending on how much is raised, it is
their hope that the Foundation can soon start
(continued on page 3)

Article continues on page 3

Agreement allowed faculty to develop product here
then share proceeds

by George LaTour

Rhode Island College has, for the first
time, entered into an agreement with faculty
members to produce a “marketable pro-
duct” which the College now owns and from
the sale of which they will share proceeds.

The product in this case is a series of 32
computer-based educational programs cover-
ing Western civilization which have been
developed by Drs. David S. Thomas and
Jeffrey L. Newton of the College history
department.

Called “ClioTutor,” the programs are in-
tended for use in introductory courses as
supplements to lectures and readings.

“This marks the first time that the College
has entered into a collaborative relationship
with faculty who produce a marketable pro-
duct which is then able to be patented or
copyrighted,” according to Dr. R. N.
Keogh, director of the Office of Research
and Grants Administration here.

He explained that the agreement encom-
passes the “significant use” by the faculty
of College resources and equipment and the
resultant College ownership of the finished
product. The College and product devel-
opers then share in the proceeds from the sale
of the product.

The agreement is seen as a foreunner of other
similar agreements between the Col-
lege and faculty here, said Keogh.

Such agreements are common at research
universities which “have been doing this for
years,” related Keogh. He noted that the
University of Rhode Island has such an
agreement which is usually called an
“intellectual property policy.”

Keogh said in lieu of such a policy here, the
College sought the guidance of the state
Board of Governors for Higher Education to
work out an agreement on the history side
in lieu of Thomas and Newton, the Col-
lege and Digital Equipment Corporation,
resulting in a “joint arrangement.”

Then last September, the College entered
into a “software owners agreement” with the
Clearinghouse for Academic Software at
Iowa State University, which is already
marketing the computer software nation-
wide.

The move was heralded in the Sept. 2
issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education
which cited the program authors, Newton
and Thomas, and the “Clio Consortium.”

Colleges which have agreed to try out the
ClioTutor programs comprise the “Clio
Consortium.” They are, in addition to
Rhode Island College, Colorado, Hollins
and Keene State colleges, Ball State, Du-
buque College and Western Massachusetts
Community College.

They are scheduled to use the programs
over the next three years which the develop-
ers hope will provide ample evidence to
gauge the impact of computers on the teach-
ing of Western civilization.

Newton and Thomas began developing
ClioTutor here in 1982. Their efforts were
chronicled in What’s News at the time and
later when they received a $339,000 grant
from Digital—which is providing members of
the Clio Consortium with the software they
need to run ClioTutor on their Digital VAX
machines.

“We are now in the process of developing
an ‘intellectual property policy’ with the board
of governors to serve as a guide to us in what
we hope will be the development of a
number of marketable products,” said Keogh.

Admissions open house Dec. 6

700 to 800 expected to attend

Rhode Island College will conduct its third
annual open house for prospective students
and their families on Sunday, Dec. 6, from
1 to 4 p.m.

Some 700 to 800 people are expected to
de-scend on the campus to learn firsthand what
the College has to offer.

The day’s events will open in Gaige Hall
auditorium with a welcome by John Nissen,
dean of admissions, and opening remarks by
College President Carol J. Guardo.

Presentations and panel discussions at
various sites will then be made in four ses-
sions by various deans, directors, depart-
ment chairs and faculty covering all aspects
of the College’s academic programs and stu-
dent life, and tours offered by members of
the College’s Academic Programs and Admis-
sions office.

Refreshments in Donovan Dining Center
will close out the day from 3 to 4 p.m.
RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE COLLEGE DANCE: Company member Maria Michael rehearses for the company's Winter Concert which is set for Thursday, Dec. 3, at 8 p.m. in Roberts Hall. The college dancers will share the stage with the acclaimed professional Concert Dance Company of Boston in "A Celebration of Repertory Modern Dance." Tickets are $5, $3 for seniors and students, and may be purchased at the door. (Photo by Richard M. Grabbert)

Student chapter of manufacturing society to be chartered here

A student chapter of the American Production and Inventory Society (APICS) will be chartered and officers installed at Rhode Island College on Thursday, Dec. 3, in the Faculty Center starting at 6:30 p.m. The student chapter members will have their dinner paid for by APICS, a 67,000-member professional society for industry from operations management through manufacturing engineering.

The student chapter's affiliation with the national society is being accomplished through the departments of industrial technology and management, according to Glenn P. Varo, a senior from Woonsocket, who will be installed president.

Steven King, assistant professor of industrial education, is the group's faculty advisor.

Other chapter officers to be installed are:

David Moran, vice president; Robert Kelly, corresponding secretary; Kaylin Charles, recording secretary; and Jacqueline Mercibott, treasurer.

Guest speaker will be Philip Helle of Helle/Albert, manufacturing consultants in Massachusetts. His topic will be "Journey to Manufacturing Excellence."

To lecture, demonstrate Geometric Supposer software here-Dec. 2nd

"The Geometric Supposer: Encouraging Students to Think and Behave Like Geometers" is the title of a lecture which will accompany a demonstration of The Geometric Supposer software at 12:30 p.m. in Henry Barnard School 215 on Wednesday, Dec. 2.

The speaker will be Dr. Richard Houde, a highschool math teacher and researcher at the Harvard Educational Technology Center (ETC).

WHAT'S NEWS AT RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

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Research and Grants Administration: Request for proposals

The Office of Research and Grants Administration will be providing information about research opportunities (RFPs) or other ventures in this column. Anyone interested in obtaining further information or applications and guidelines need only circle the number of the RFP on the coupon below and send it to the office in Roberts 211.

1. American Archeological Society: Fellows for short- and long-term research projects in the Western Hemisphere and in Asia will be selected by a national society through competitive application. The fellowship is open to all, provided they have a doctorate or show evidence of the ability to obtain one. Deadline: March 30.

2. U.S. Dept. of Energy: Energy Research Opportunities. Oak Ridge Associated Universities offer a 10-week summer educational training and research experience for college juniors majoring in engineering, physical and life sciences, mathematics, computer science, or the social sciences. Under the guidance of staff members at major U.S. Department of Energy facilities, participants receive individual projects that relate to their academic majors, career goals, and the shadowing, planning, and executing a research and development program. Stipends are $200 per week. Certain expenses are reimbursed. Students work 40 hours per week for 10 weeks. DEADLINE: Jan. 25.

3. American Foundation for AIDS Research. This program awards grants research grants for behavioral and social science research relevant to the AIDS disease. Awards are granted to a maximum of $5,000. Applications are due by January 1 of each year. This foundation also awards travel fellowships to enable investigators to conduct social science research for short term training or study at U.S. institutions to a maximum of $5,000. Interested researchers must submit a two-page "letter of intent" that consists of project description, work to be done, and a resume and vita of principal investigator. DEADLINE: Jan. 31.

4. Swedish Information Service: Swedish-American Exchange Fund. Grants are offered to Swedes and Americans working in the following fields: political and government administration, working life, the human environment, media, business and industry, education, research, and culture. The purpose of the Fund is to provide opportunity for people interested to take a leading position in future public opinion and contribute to the development of their society to spend time to six weeks intensive study visits in Sweden. Swedes who have visited Sweden many times provide opportunities for people important to historic preservation. DEADLINE: first week in February.

5. American Philosophical Society: Basic Research Grants in All Fields of Learning. These awards support basic research in all fields of learning by those holding a doctoral degree or the equivalent. Grants will be used to defray research costs such as travel and the collection and preparation of materials. The maximum award for each recipient is $2,000. This program has Feb. 1, April 1, Aug. 1, Oct. 1, and Dec. 1 deadlines. DEADLINE: Feb. 1.

6. Council for International Exchange of Scholars: Fulbright Awards for Research, Lectureships and Travel. Grants available for periods ranging from university location and travel in over 100 countries. Deadlines, disciplines and types of grants vary by country. An upcoming deadline is for activities in Latin America (except Mexico, Venezuela and the Caribbean), Australia, Asia and India; the September date is for activities in Europe, Africa, Asia, Canada, the Middle East and the Caribbean; and the February deadline is for travel only to France, Italy and Germany. DEADLINE: Feb. 1.

7. U.S. Department of Education: FIPSE: Innovative Projects for Student Com-
Charters appeal here surpasses goal with donations of over $32,000

Robert I. Cohen, Ph.D., ACSW, a faculty member at Rhode Island College's School of Social Work, has taken an important step in helping to raise appreciable recognition from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society by designing and presenting a program focused on and in support of the family of MS patients.

Playing on the words "Family Cookbook," Dr. Cohen developed a "Cope Cookbook," a recipe for family, designed to emphasize improved family communications. It was spearheaded by the trust of about 250 participants in discussion during the two-and-a-half-hour session.

The purpose of this project is to help families recognize the strengths they already possess as a family unit, and to help them identify ways to build on those strengths.

The family cookbook was judged as the year's final support-family program in a recent competition among national MS chapter services programs.

MS is a chronic disease of the central nervous system in which the simplest, everyday tasks can no longer be taken for granted. It is so debilitating that many MS patients can run the gamut from slight blurring of vision to complete paralysis.

An estimated quarter of a million Americans have Multiple Sclerosis, with nearly 200 new cases diagnosed every single week.

The Rhode Island College program is called "Lending an Ear..."

Wrestlers chip in for the needy

Wrestlers are unique individuals, both loved and mistrusted. They are tough, self-disciplined athletes in the only sport in the world that is based entirely on making weight.

It's a challenge to lose weight and maintain a strong mind and body, all at the same time; but one of his tasks as a wrestler is the responsibility to be a role model for himself.

While some might think that they are too young and unruly to help others, the wrestlers at Rhode Island College are part of a growing national trend of athletic programs to promote community service.

As a former wrestler himself, Dr. Cohen has been impressed by the dedication and commitment of the athletes he has coached.

"Each of these athletes is a different kind of person," he said. "It is critical that we change the way we think about these athletes. They are not just athletes. They are students, and they are members of our community."

The club, which is comprised of 205 separate agencies with a total of more than 12 million students, is comprised of 205 separate agencies with a total of more than 12 million students. It is a challenge to lose weight and maintain a strong mind and body, all at the same time; but one of his tasks as a wrestler is the responsibility to be a role model for himself.

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College's Performing Arts Series—
R.I. College to host Famous People Players

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