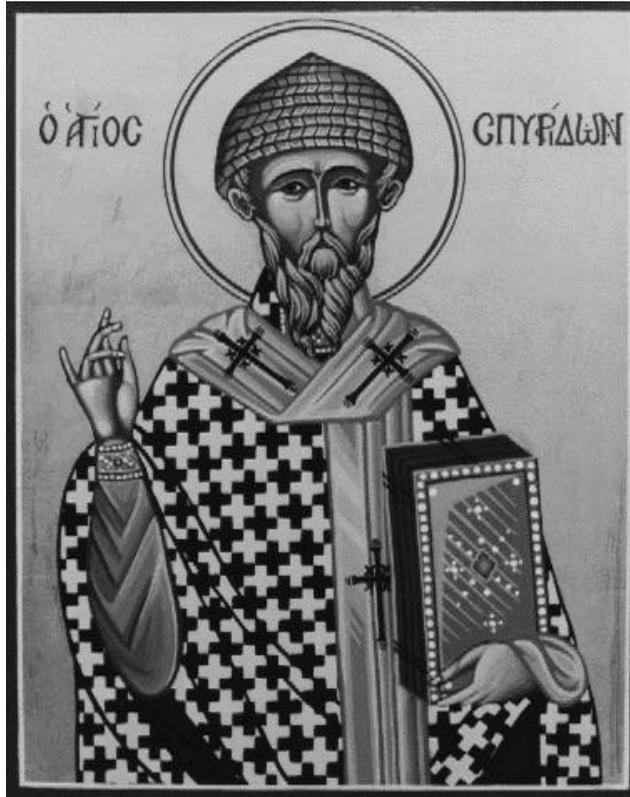

THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE
OCTOBER 2004



Saint Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church
PO Box 427
Newport, RI 02840
tel: (401) 846-0555, fax: (401) 841-0960
www.stspyridonchurch.org



SAINT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
www.stspyridonchurch.org

Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos
franthy@stspyridonchurch.org

Office Hours

Priest: Tuesday– Friday, 9 am– 3 pm

Church secretary, Ellen Anagnostos: Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am– 1 pm

Parish Council President: Steven Mellekas

Chanters: George Spiratos

Basile Panoutsopoulos

Choir Director: Paul Cotsoridis

Organist: Jane Iandolo

Religious Education : Marianne Menas

Stewardship: Parish Council

Philoptochos President: Zinovia Canale

Acolytes: Team A– Nick Mellekas

Team B– James Canale

GOYA President: (pending)

JOY Advisor: Sandy Giannopoulos

Greek School:

Loula Eliopoulos

Basile Panoutsopoulos (adult classes)

Bulletin: Aliko Cooper (alikooper@yahoo.com)

Affiliated Organizations

AHEPA President: Basile Panoutsopoulos

Daughters of Penelope President:

Stella Volpicelli

Island of Skiathos Organization:

John Michael

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Winter Hours Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10am

Wednesdays Vespers (or Small Paraklesis on
 last Wednesday of month) 7 pm*

Saturdays Great Vespers 6 pm*

Festal celebrations in the week:

Vespers– 7 pm*

Orthros– 9 am

Divine Liturgy– 10 am

* Note: Holy Confession is available each Saturday after vespers, after Wednesday or other evening services (when there are no adult classes), and during office hours by appointment.

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER ANTHONY

Many times we hear people refer to the Orthodox Faith as a *living faith*. What exactly does this mean? What would make Orthodoxy a *dead faith*? One way to answer these questions, is by considering the reality of *miracles*.

To understand miracles, we must remind ourselves of the role of the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church. Since the day of Pentecost, the Spirit dwells in the Church, guiding Her in truth and holiness. This is why we Orthodox speak of Holy Tradition with such authority, knowing that through the Holy Spirit, our Faith has been handed down to us by the holy Apostles themselves, and through the teachings of the holy Church Fathers throughout the ages. It is because of this indwelling of God in the Church through His Holy Spirit, that miracles are part of the life of the Church.

By definition, miracles are unexplainable events in which God acts against the laws of nature as we understand them. Miracles and signs from God abound in the Old Testament, as well as in the New Testament. In the Gospels we experience many miracles performed by Christ during His earthly ministry. (There were obvious many more than those recorded, since we know that the Gospels are not a day by day account of the life of Christ on earth.) Throughout the ages, we see countless miracles occurring through the intercessions of holy people in the Church, both during their life on earth, and after. These great works can only be wrought through the power of God. This is obvious to us regarding the miracles recorded in Scripture. In the life of the Church, it is also the power of God which works through His saints, in order to intervene in the life of man through miracles *for our benefit*.

This prior statement, "*for our benefit*," is very important. We must always remind ourselves that miracles do not occur in order for God to "prove" Himself to the world. They occur, rather, in order to benefit man through God's grace and mercy. This beneficial aspect may be found first and foremost, in the sacramental life of the Church – in the *Holy Mysteries*. Let us remember that at every Divine Liturgy, we are repeatedly in the presence of the greatest miracle of the Church – the change of the bread and wine of the Eucharist into the very Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each of the other major mysteries, or sacraments of the Church, also have an unexplainable, intangible aspect to them. In all cases, there are very obvious benefits to those who participate in these holy mysteries, as the Church teaches us.

Besides the on-going, intangible miracles present in the holy mysteries, there are clearly tangible miracles wrought by the saints on our behalf, as mentioned above. Numerous prayers are constantly answered throughout the Orthodox world, through

miraculous events. Generally, these events involve physical healings of various ailments; but of course, these always include *spiritual* healing, which can never be separated from the healing of the body. There is no way that the recipient of a miracle of physical healing could not be forever altered in the soul. Other miracles may involve deliverance from imminent danger, or from major obstacles in one's life.

When considering miracles that have occurred throughout the ages, we constantly see the Theotokos – our beloved *Panayia* – as the source of many of them. After her, many of the various miracle-working saints answer the prayers of the faithful who are in sickness or distress. This includes such saints as St. Nicholas, St. Nektarios, St. Spyridon, St. Paraskevi, just to name a few. Because of their personal holiness, these shining examples of Christian living were granted the power of the Holy Spirit for the benefit of all of us.

This, beloved, is why Orthodoxy is the *true and living* faith. We are a Church that is both divine and human – found in heaven and on earth, and the two are in constant communion through the power of the Holy Spirit. A dead faith would not be one of great works, but one of words, ideologies, philosophies, and other humanistic teachings that do not find their source in the Holy Spirit. Many today of the New Age movement, seek to blend world religions together in a sort of melting-pot of various expressions of the “truth” of some unknown higher being. Let us never pollute the Orthodox Christian faith in such a way. The Word of God, Jesus Christ, came to us in the form of a man to bring us the one and only Truth – the living water that He spoke about to the Samaritan woman at the well. With the miracles that continue to happen all around us, we can be assured that the living water given to us by Christ continues to flow through His holy Church, bringing us *true life* – the life in Christ.

May we always turn to our beloved Panayia and all the saints in time of need, and for daily guidance. They love us and seek to help us, according to the will of God. Our prayers to them should always be filled with humble petitions for the Lord's will to be done in our lives. Only God knows why He answers the requests of some and not others. We should never be discouraged when we think our prayers are not being answered. Our constant prayer should be for the salvation of our souls, as we prepare ourselves for the next life. Always remember that eternal life is a reality for us because of the greatest miracle of all – the Holy Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

In Christ' love,
+Fr. Anthony

MAY YOUR MEMORY BE ETERNAL

A tragic accident occurred on 9/11 which took the life of His Beatitude Patriarch Petros of Alexandria and All Africa. Patriarch Petros was on his way to Mount Athos along with other hierarchs, clergy, and laypersons of the Church of Alexandria, when their helicopter went down into the sea just a few miles from their destination. In all, 17 lives were lost, including the crew of the Greek military helicopter. May God grant his Beatitude, and all those who perished, eternal rest!

PARISHIONER CONFIDENTIALITY

As most of you know, there is a state law regarding patient confidentiality. No healthcare employee can disclose any information on patients, except to those so authorized by the patient. In this spirit, a priest should always respect parishioner confidentiality, especially in times of illness. Therefore, the priest cannot disclose any information on parishioners regarding the status of their health, nor other such personal matters.

Many have probably noticed that I do not give out any information regarding specific parishioners, nor do I discuss who may be in the hospital. I realize that most people ask out of genuine concern, but unfortunately, there is the possibility that some ask out of idle curiosity. If someone really wants to know how someone is doing, then they should contact the parishioner or the parishioner's family directly. Thank you for your understanding.

+Fr. Anthony

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD

We will again be preparing a Community Christmas Card this year and it is time to submit names to be included in the card. Anyone wishing to have their name printed in the card should submit their name and check either through the sign-up book in the church hall or mail the information to the church at PO Box 427, Newport, RI 02840. The charge is \$10 per line. Please print your name so that it is easy to read. Entries must be received by December 10th at the latest in order to be included. See Ellen Anagnostos for more information.

MEETING SCHEDULING

We wish to remind all parish organizations not to schedule any meetings on Wednesday evenings, due to the weekly vespers held at 7 pm. We cannot have meetings in the hall simultaneously with church services, which always take precedence over everything else. When scheduling, please also check for any other special services that are periodically held on other evenings. This can be found on the monthly liturgical calendar included with each bulletin; or if planning far in advance, call Fr. Anthony at the church to check on dates.

RETIREE LUNCHEON & PRESENTATION

We wish to thank Telly and Liza Amarant of the Seabreeze Inn, for providing the lunch at the September retirees gathering. The next luncheon and presentation will be on **Thursday, October 14th at 12 noon**. Please join us for an enjoyable afternoon of fellowship.

MOM'S GROUP

St. Spyridon is starting a Mom's Group as a way for mothers of preschoolers to have a chance to get together and socialize as well as let the kids play and get to know each other. The group plans to start meeting at the church the first Wednesday of each month, with the first meeting being **Wednesday October 6th, at 10:30 am**. Bring whatever snacks you may want for your child and also ideas as to future activities or organization for this group so that it may best serve the Moms of the community. Come join other moms and preschoolers for fellowship and fun!

CHURCH BOOKSTORE

The bookstore is open at all times. You will find books, CDs, tapes, incense, etc. Pay by leaving your check or cash in the basket on the table. Stop by and have a look. There is a wide collection of Children's books, Greek Philosophy and Christianity, and Greek books for children with audio tapes. If you need to order an item not available, see Basile.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We begin the fall series of adult religious education on **Wednesday, 10/13 after vespers**. The usual format is a short meditation on the scriptural passage of the day, followed by a presentation on various topics. Questions are encouraged. Come and learn more about your Orthodox faith, in order to help yourself in your spiritual growth.

HELLENIC FEST PHOTOS

You can view this year's Hellenic Fest pictures on the church web site
<http://www.stspyridonchurch.org/hellenicfest.html> .

HELLENIC FEST 2005

Hellenic Fest 2005 has been set by the Parish Council for July 29 - 31, 2005

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

The next Philoptochos General Meeting will be October 21st at 6:30 pm in the church hall.

To the members of Philoptochos, please remember the date of our major fund raiser , Fall Social, November 4,2004. If anyone would like to contribute prizes or gift certificates let Bunny Snapp know at 846-6341.

We would like to thank Katherine Carbone for a most pleasurable, soothing and above all relaxing presentation at our recent first meeting held on September 15. Her knowledge was greatly appreciated by all!

CHANGING TABLE & MOTHER'S ROOM

Just a reminder to those who may not know... we have an infant changing table with a pad in the downstairs women's restroom, which can be reached by descending the stairway from the Narthex, and going to the end of the downstairs corridor. Also, we wish to remind mothers of infants and toddlers, that there is a mothers' room on the left side of the Narthex for your convenience. If you need to take an inconsolable child there, or need to nurse your infant, feel free to enter; there is heat, and both a loudspeaker and a window in order to not miss any of the service. We kindly ask that you do not change diapers in the mothers' room, but only on the changing table downstairs.

OCTOBER 2004

Sunday Winter F

Sun**Mon****Tue****Wed****Th**

3 2nd Sunday of Luke Altar Team B	4	5	6 Small Vespers, 7 pm <i>(fast day)</i>	7
10 3rd Sunday of Luke Altar Team A	11	12	13 Small Vespers, 7 pm, followed by adult religious education <i>(fast day)</i>	14
17 4th Sunday of Luke Altar Team B Vespers for feast of St. Luke, 7 pm	18 St. Luke the Evangelist, Orthros & Liturgy	19	20 St. Gerasimos, Orthros & Lit., Small Vespers, 7 pm, followed by adult religious ed. <i>(fast day)</i>	21
24 6th Sunday of Luke Altar Team A	25 Vespers for the feast of St. Demetrios at FALL RIVER, 7 pm	26 St. Demetrios the Myrrh- streamer, Orthros & Liturgy	27 Paraklesis, 7 pm, followed by adult religious education <i>(fast day)</i>	28 Holy P Theot Liturgy
31 5th Sunday of Luke Altar Team B Vespers for the feast of St. Cosmas & Damianos, 7 pm				

Orthros 8:45 am Divine Liturgy 10 am

Fri

Sat

1

2

Great Vespers, 6 pm

(fast day)

8

9

Great Vespers, 6 pm

(fast day)

15

16

Great Vespers, 6 pm

(fast day)

22

Vespers for feast of St. Iakovos, Brother of the Lord, 7 pm

(fast day)

23

St. Iakovos, Orthros & Liturgy
Great Vespers, 6 pm

of the
Orthros &

29

(fast day)

30

Great Vespers, 6 pm

Upcoming Events

October 2 & 3— Ahepa/DOP booth at Norman Bird Sanctuary Harvest Fair

October 5— Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm

October 6— Mom’s Group meeting at church hall, 10:30 am

October 12— Daughters of Penelope meeting, 7 pm, Ahepa housing complex

October 14— Retirees Luncheon & Presentation, 12 noon

October 21— Philoptochos General Meeting, 6:30 pm, Church Hall

Regular Events

Children’s Greek School— Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4— 6 pm

Adult Greek School— Mondays 5— 6 pm

Religious Education— Sundays, immediately after Holy Communion

Adult Religious Education— after Wednesday night services

Holy Confession— available after Saturday Vespers or other evening services and during office hours by appointment

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Welcome Families-

If you haven't registered your child for religious education, please see me for a registration card. Registration cards are also attendance cards this year. I am asking parents to fill out the top part and to put their email at the bottom. I will fill out these cards weekly on each child. I hope to register up to 60 children this year, more so than last year.

Also, please make sure you, the families, have a copy of our yearly calendar. Keep this calendar handy as it states the Sundays class in on, Sundays class is not on, and important feast days. For those children in Sandy's class from gr. 3-6, a notice will be coming home stating our new elementary oratorical festival. Read the notice carefully and ask me about any questions.

Marianne Menas

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The next Parish Council meeting will be held Tuesday, October 5, 2004. At the September meeting items discussed were:

- A. Discussion of the church assessment being lowered to \$19,000
 - B. Report on Greek School by Evangelos Giannopoulos
 - C. Hellenic Fest report
 - D. Roof repairs and installation of the cross
 - E. The stairs repairs entering the church hall
 - F. Discussion of budget and agenda for the General Assembly to be held November 14.
- Please feel free to contact anyone on the council regarding our Parish.

Thank you,
Steve J. Mellekas, Council President

PARISH BOOKKEEPER

The Parish Council is actively pursuing to hire an experienced part-time bookkeeper to pay the monthly bills. Responsibilities include creating a monthly income/expense report, maintaining the year-to-date budget and reconciling and filing all financial statements. It is anticipated that the position will involve ten to twenty hours per month at a set monthly stipend to be determined by the Parish Council. If you know of any qualified person that would be interested, please contact the church office.

GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

The Greek School program is continuing its operations for the 2004-2005 school year. The program started on 20 September and will follow the standard school year schedule. Classes will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 4-6PM. . We are encouraging all the families in our community to participate in this program. For additional information on the program and to register please contact Loula Eliopoulos or Evangelos Giannopoulos.

ADULT GREEK SCHOOL

Basile will offer a class on Modern Greek for high school student and adults. The class will start from the alphabet to proceed quickly to reading, and writing. Topics of Modern Greek culture will be emphasized. The class and all material are free. See you every Monday from 5:00 to 6:00.

For the people that cannot attend the offered Greek School classes, there are available multimedia computer programs that can assist in learning the language. Basile will be available for any help. The following multimedia products are available free to the members of our community:

- Kindergarten
 - First Grade
 - Second Grade
 - The Little Red Riding Hood Story
-

GREEK DANCING LESSONS

We are happy to announce that we are continuing our dance lessons. Our group started practicing again in September and will be continuing for the upcoming church year. We will be continuing to practice and update the dances we learned last year and we will be introducing new dances through out the year. The classes are held on selected Sundays after Liturgy and Sunday School. This is open to all children in our community, however children under the age of 6 should be accompanied by an adult. Please contact Evangelos or Xanthoula at 782-9457 for additional information.



Paideia in Newport

Dinner Dance Gala

Sunday, November 21, 2004

Pavilion Ballroom at the Atlantic Beach Club

Memorial Boulevard/Purgatory Road (Easton's Beach)

Newport, Rhode Island

Cocktail Hour - 5:30 pm, Dinner - 6:30 pm

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Music by
The ASTERIA Orchestra

Co-Sponsored by

The Paideia Society of Rhode Island

and

Newport AHEPA

for the benefit of

The Hellenic Studies Center "Rodos"

at the

University of Rhode Island

Donation: \$40

For tickets contact:

George Anagnostos - 683-4275

Zoe Adamedes - 274-1316

Arthur Stefanopoulos - 846-7086

IN OUR PARISH

Baptisms: *Christopher George*, son of Christopher & Stephanie (Spiratos) Synnott, was baptized on 9/5; his sponsors are Anthony & Penelope Spiratos. May he live many years!

Oourania (Skyler Jade), daughter of Zoe Michael, was baptized on 9/12; her sponsor is Matthew J. Michael. May she live many years!

Weddings: *John (Jack) Mateer & Paraskevi (Karanikola) Mateer* had their marriage blessed in the Orthodox Church on 9/11; their sponsor is Panayiotis Miliias of the Hellenic Navy. The Mateers', including their son Konstantinos, are a new family who will be with us for one year. We welcome and congratulate them; may they live many years!

Mark Botelho & Maria Volpicelli were married on 9/19; their sponsors are Angela Volpicelli and Maria's daughter, Christine Krones. May they live many years!

AHEPA NEWS

NORMAN BIRD SANCTUARY HARVEST FAIR— (OCT. 2 & 3, 10 AM TO 5 PM)
The AHEPA and the Daughters of Penelope will once again organize a Greek food booth at the Norman Bird Sanctuary Annual Harvest Fair at 583 Third Beach Road in Middletown. The festival will take place the first weekend of October, Saturday the 2nd and Sunday the 3rd from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. This is an old-fashioned, traditional celebration of Autumn and the harvesting of the crops, as has been the tradition in many countries for centuries. The Harvest Fair maintains an old-time country fair flavor with hay and pony rides, high ropes challenges, quality crafts from over forty New England crafters, live musical entertainment, a wide selection of food vendors (including Greek food!), the ever popular mud pit, and lots of family fun. We urge all AHEPANS and Daughters (and any other community member) to participate in running the food booth and we urge all parishioners to attend. Come by and sample the delicious Greek food items to help support your local chapters in raising funds for their on-going philanthropy.

AHEPA "OXI DAY" CELEBRATION - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

On Sunday, October 24th the Newport AHEPA Maud Howe Elliot Chapter 245 will sponsor coffee hour after the Divine Liturgy to celebrate "OXI Day", the anniversary of October 28, 1940, to commemorate Greece's heroic stance in World War II. By October 1940 most of Europe had fallen under the aggressor forces of the Axis of Germany and Italy. These forces justified themselves on the principles of nazism, which were against democracy, freedom of speech, equality of human beings, and other teachings of Hellenism. In the United States, the Order of AHEPA had been the first organization to publicly condemn nazism. Join the AHEPA in celebrating the day Greece said 'no' to nazism and 'yes' to the centuries-old ideals of Hellenism.

PRESENTATION BY JIMMY CANALE ON HIS 2004 IONIAN VILLAGE
EXPERIENCE— SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

On Sunday, October 24th, in conjunction with the AHEPA Celebration of "OXI Day, Jimmy Canale will make a presentation on his experience in Greece as part of the Ionian Village program. Jimmy was the first recipient of the AHEPA Ionian Village Fellowship Award this past Spring, and as such, kept a diary of his daily activities to share with the community. Jimmy participated in many activities at the camp as well as traveled the country, venerating relics of saints, walking in the footsteps of the Apostles, and visiting significant sites of Greek history and culture. We eagerly await to hear of Jimmy's two weeks in Greece at the Ionian Village camp!

2005 AHEPA "IONIAN VILLAGE FELLOWSHIP AWARD" AND "ACADEMIC
SCHOLARSHIP" APPLICATIONS

If any community child is interested in being considered for an AHEPA Ionian Village Fellowship Award in the summer of 2005, or will be graduating from High School and continuing on to college this coming year and would like to be considered for an AHEPA Academic Scholarship, please submit your name to any AHEPA or Daughters member so that you may be provided with an application.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

The Daughters of Penelope are joining the Ahepa chapter in hosting a booth at the Norman Bird Sanctuary Annual Harvest Fair on October 2nd and 3rd.. The Daughters will be selling baklava and coffee while the Ahepans will be making gyros for the masses. All members are asked to come and help set up on October 1st. Please call any officer for details.

Officers reelected last June for the coming year are: President Stella Volpicelli, Vice President Angela Volpicelli, Secretary Ellen Anagnostos, Treasurer Joanne Hologgitas, PhD, Priestess Mary Champion, Marshal Koula Tsaparas and Chairman of the Board Maria Volpicelli.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 12th at 7 p.m. at the Ahepa Housing Complex.

<p><i>In loving memory of</i> <i>Gredo Vincent Volpicelli</i></p>	<p>Order of AHEPA Maud Howe Elliott Chapler No. 245 Daughters of Penelope Ares Chapter Number 49</p>	<p>Mel's Cafenio 25 Broadway Newport 849-6420</p>
<p><i>With compliments of...</i> Dr. Joanne and Mr. C. Gus Hologgitas</p>	<p>Aquidneck Pizza Breakfast ? Lunch ? Dinner 27 Aquidneck Avenue Middletown Take out orders: 849-3356 Daily 7am-12am, Fri & Sat 7am-2am</p>	<p><i>✍</i> Tommy's <i>✍</i> Deluxe Diner 159 East Main Road Middletown 847-9834 Established in 1936</p>
<p>Nikolas Pizza 38 Memorial Blvd West Newport 849-6611</p>	<p>Astro Construction Inc. PO Box 522 Portsmouth, RI (401) 683-9120 Established 1954</p>	<p>CODDINGTON BREWING COMPANY 210 Coddington Highway Middletown 847-6690</p>
<p>Compliments of the ATLANTIC BEACH CLUB 53 Purgatory Road Middletown 847-2750</p>	<p>A-1 Pizza 306 Broadway Newport Free Delivery 849-2213</p>	<p>Rhea's Bed & Breakfast <i>Accommodations with jacuzzi's available!</i> 120 West Main Road Middletown 841-5560</p>
<p><i>Compliments of</i> Island of Skiathos Organization Established 1967</p>	<p>Flo's Drive-In <i>Portsmouth</i> Flo's Clam Shack <i>Over Flo's</i> <i>Middletown</i> <i>Voted Best in Rhode Island!</i></p>	<p>The Mainstay Inn 151 Admiral Kalbfus Road Newport 849-9880</p>
<p>ELLAS Greek and American music We play all types of functions. Call Andy. (978) 532-0771</p>	<p><i>Compliments of</i> C.H. Charles 5 & 10¢ Stores 233 Broadway 94 Williams Street Newport</p>	<p>Sandwich Board Deli 397 Thames St. Newport, RI 849-5358</p>



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