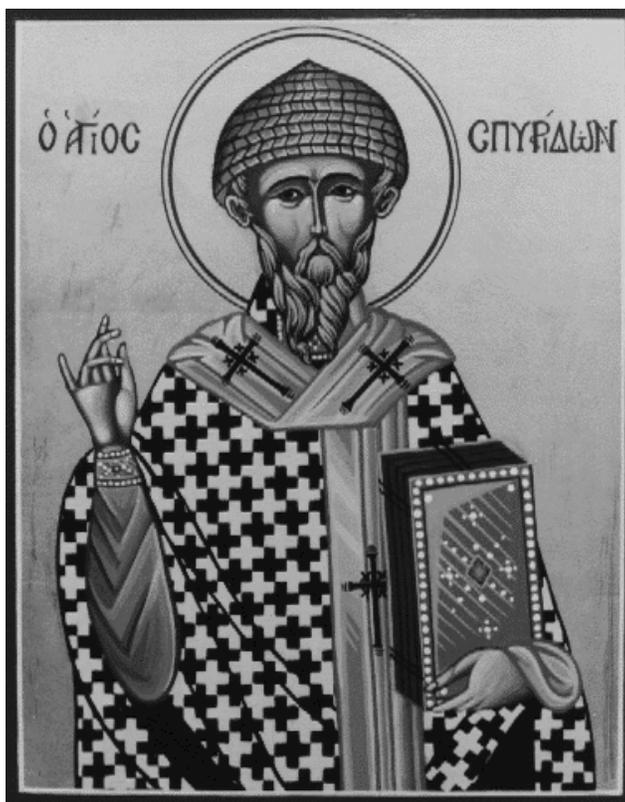


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THE SAINT SPYRIDON VOICE  
MAY 2007

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

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**SAINT SPYRIDON GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**
[www.stspyridonchurch.org](http://www.stspyridonchurch.org)
**Reverend Presbyter Anthony Evangelatos**
[franthy@stspyridonchurch.org](mailto:franthy@stspyridonchurch.org)
**Office Hours**

Priest: Tuesday—Friday, 9 am—3 pm

Church secretary, Ellen Anagnostos: Tuesday &amp; Thursday, 9 am—1 pm

**Parish Council President:**

Tom Nichols

**Chanters:** George Spiratos

Basile Panoutsopoulos

**Choir Director:** Paul Cotsoridis

**Organist:** Jane Iandolo

**Religious Education :** Marianne Menas

**Stewardship:** Zoe Adamedes

**Philoptochos President:** Zinovia Canale

**Acolytes:** James Mellekas

**GOYA President:** James Mellekas

**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:**

Ellen Anagnostos

**Island of Skiathos Organization:**

Christina Logothets

## SERVICE TIMES

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

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

Weekday Festal Celebrations:

Vespers—7 pm\*

Orthros—9 am

Divine Liturgy—10 am

Saturdays Great Vespers 6 pm\*

\* 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

Just as we began to enjoy the second week of Holy Pascha, the tragic shootings at Virginia Tech took place. As the Orthodox world continued its celebration of the triumph of Christ over death and the power of the Devil, once again, evil manifested its ugly face on that day. Each one of us, and especially those of us raising families, is definitely affected by these types of events. In these instances, it is easy to become frustrated, angry, and even depressed. Our faith can potentially be shaken by the magnitude of such tragic occurrences. However, each of these events is also an opportunity to reflect on the divine gifts of *faith, love, and hope* that should be present in the life of every Orthodox Christian, for these are a major part of the foundation upon which the Church has grown throughout the ages.

When we look back at the ancient Church we are reminded of the days of persecution, when Christians could easily be put to death for their belief in Christ. We Orthodox can also look back with great sadness and disappointment, at the barbaric and sacrilegious pillaging and sacking of Constantinople, by western Christians during the Fourth Crusade of 1204. And where do we begin regarding the capture and fall of Constantinople in 1453, and the subsequent captivity of Orthodox Christianity in the lands occupied by the Ottoman Turks? The dark years of Communism also had tragic consequences upon Orthodox Christianity, in some places more so than others, such as Albania. And lastly, let us not be ignorant of the oppression and outright persecution that modern Orthodox Christians have been facing at the hands of fanatic Muslims, in places such as Indonesia, Iraq and Turkey.

On an individual level, both Orthodox and non-Orthodox Christians worldwide, are constantly faced with an ever-growing secular, God-less society that is indifferent to, and many times even despises the teachings and traditions of Christianity. We can become spiritually confused by various teachings and philosophies which contradict Christian doctrines and dogma. Humanism – basically, man's "love affair" with himself – is one of the greatest enemies of traditional Christian doctrines and values. Even within Christian circles, we constantly see perversions of the faith, and even outright heretical teachings that chip away at the very foundation of Orthodox Christianity.

Now, given all these examples above, we need to retrospectively review these periods of Christian history, as well as consider our present situation, and remind ourselves of the gifts of faith, love, and hope given by Holy Spirit, that have kept

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devout Orthodox Christians faithful in times of tribulation. All of these periods of Christian history have produced martyrs and many other saints of various categories. The evangelical spirit and mission of the Church has never ceased, even though it was suppressed during the darkest periods of Church history. Throughout the ages, Orthodox Christian men have continued to be called to the Holy Priesthood, as well as to the monastic life along with countless females.

So, getting back to the recent violence experienced at Virginia Tech, let us all take spiritual assessment of ourselves, in order to ensure the presence of faith in God, and love and hope deep within our hearts. If we let each tragic event that occurs chip away at the love we have for God and our fellow human beings, then we will lose everything. If faith in God, and hope in the promise of eternal life are diminished within us because we can only focus on our current condition, then we will have nothing for which to live. If our Orthodox Christians ancestors hadn't stood firm in their faith, our Church may have become an obscure pocket of Christianity found here and there. Thank God, this is *not* the case at all, since God obviously had different plans for His Church.

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, our task as a faith community is to continue to pray for our Church, for our local parish, and for ourselves and all the world, as we do in each and every Divine Liturgy. By truly *living* our Orthodox faith, we will be examples of true Christian living to those around us. We cannot change the entire world, nor stop acts of violence forever; these things will always be with us. However, no one can stop us from praying, and from growing into the image and likeness of Christ. So let none of us be distracted from our sacred task by any obstacle placed before us through the forces of evil. Our Risen Lord has destroyed the power of the Enemy, so that we may follow Christ toward eternal life and salvation.

Christ is Risen!

+Fr. Anthony

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## IN APPRECIATION

A sincere *thank you* goes to all those involved with the celebration of, and preparations for the divine services of Holy Week and Pascha. This includes all the volunteer chanters, readers, our choir, our beloved acolytes, our prosforon bakers, palm cross weavers, the egg-dying volunteers, kouvouklion decorators, the parish council members who took care of many behind-the-scenes necessities, and all the generous donors who again covered all of our floral expenses. These beautiful services could not happen without the collective help of all these people, and any others who we may have missed. A special *thank you* goes to Mr. Matthew Kakis of *Mormile Florists* of Rockville Center - Long Island, NY. He is a family friend of Fr. Anthony who donated 88 long-stemmed roses and multiple bunches of wax flower to be used for the Epitaphios. May the Risen Lord bless all of you and your loved ones during this holy season.

+Fr. Anthony

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## MEMORIAL WEEKEND CEMETERY VISITS

This year Memorial Day weekend coincides with the celebration of Pentecost as it did in 2004; therefore, I will follow the same procedure as I did then. Since the day before Pentecost Sunday is a Saturday of Souls, it would be more proper to chant the *trisagion* at the cemeteries on *that day instead* of Memorial Day itself. This makes good sense since we always give preference to religious observances over civil ones. What would be most appropriate is to first attend the liturgy on **Saturday, 5/26**, and to bring *kollyva* if we are able. After liturgy, we will share the *kollyva* in the hall and then proceed to the cemeteries as follows:

Island Cemetery Annex – 12:15 pm

Middletown Cemetery – 12:45 pm

**Again, let me emphasize that Fr. Anthony will be at the cemeteries on Saturday, 5/26 – not on Monday 5/28.**

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## FROM THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

### 5/5 – The Memory of our Holy Father Euthymius the Wonderworker, Bishop of Madytos

Born at the beginning of the tenth century in a Thracian village on the shore of the Propontis, Saint Euthymius was placed by his mother in a monastery in Constantinople, where his virtues shone for more than thirty years. Desiring, however, to lead a hesychast life, he withdrew a little way outside the city and waged his warfare in secret, conversing with God alone for four years. The Bishop of Perinthus (Heraclea in Thrace), noting the ascetic's outstanding virtues, ordained him deacon against his will. Euthymius was then consecrated Bishop of Madytos (Madyta) on the Hellespont.

For forty years, he showed himself to be a vigilant pastor and a faithful dispenser of the grace of God. He obtained for many of the faithful not only health of soul by his teaching but also health of body by his miracles. During a terrible famine that raged in 989, the holy bishop gave himself unstintingly and succeeded in collecting enough goods to save the faithful.

His fame became known to Emperor Basil II (976-1025), who went to visit him in his diocese. Euthymius then predicted to him his victory over Bardas Phocas (989). The Saint entered into rest a few years later, surrounded by his spiritual flock. Many of the sick later found healing at this tomb, from which there flowed a fragrant balm.

### 5/28 – The Memory of the Holy New Martyr Mitros

“Saint Mitros (Demetrius) came from a Christian family living in the Peloponnese. He denied the Christian Faith at the age of eleven and, entering into the service of various eminent Turks, became, as time went on, rich and respected. But one day he suddenly realized the vanity of all earthly pomp and, remembering the piety of his youth, began to cry bitterly and resolved to repent. He went to Tripolitsa, to the home of his kinsfolk, sold all he possessed, made his Confession, and resumed a devout and respectable Christian life. One day when he was visiting Mystra on business, he was recognized by Turks who knew him. They seized him and dragged him before the Ottoman governor of Tripolitsa, accusing him of apostasy with great cries. Mitros replied to the magistrate's questions by saying that, after many years, he had understood that the Christian faith was the true Faith and that he had abandoned its light to plunge into darkness, and that he was ready to shed

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his blood for Christ. He was thrown into prison and handed over to the *agas* who had received the order to do everything possible to return him to Islam. But Mitros remained deaf and indifferent to their arguments, and, in the end, they went away sheepishly. The sentence of death was pronounced; the Saint rejected with disdain all his torturers' attempts to make him return to Islam, and he was beheaded on 28 May 1794."

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## HELLENIC FEST NEWS

The first Hellenic Fest meeting was held on 4/12. The next meeting date will be determined at the upcoming parish council meeting. Next month's bulletin will have a listing of items that can be donated to help defray the expenses of the festival. Please remember that this year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hellenic Fest. We're counting on everyone to help make this the most successful festival yet!

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## CONTEMPORARY GREEK MUSIC CONCERT TO BENEFIT KIDS

Saturday, May 12th, 7 pm

"A Concert of Contemporary Greek Music" will be held on Saturday, May 12 at 7 pm to benefit Greek 4 Kids ([www.greek-4-kids.com](http://www.greek-4-kids.com)), a Greek language preschool for children in the Metropolitan Boston area. Music performed by Greek Music Ensemble ([www.greekmusicensemble.com](http://www.greekmusicensemble.com)). The concert will take place at the Maliotis Cultural Center on the Hellenic College campus, 50 Goddard Ave in Brookline, MA and a \$50 donation is requested.



# MAY 2007

<b>Sunday Winter Hour</b>
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
		1	2 Mid-Pentecost Small Vespers, 7 pm  <i>(fast day)</i>	3
6 Sun. of the Samaritan Woman	7 Vespers of St. John the Theologian & Evangelist, 7 pm	8 Feast of St. John the Theologian, Orthros & Lit.	9 Small Vespers, 7 pm  <i>(fast day)</i>	10
13 Sun. of the Blind Man	14	15	16 Leave-taking of Pascha, Orthros 10 am; Vespers of the Ascension 7 pm <i>(no fasting—all foods permitted)</i>	17 Feast of the our Lord, O
20 The Holy Fathers of the 1st Ecumenical Council	21 Feast of Sts. Constantine & Helen, Equals to the Apostles, Orthros & Lit.	22	23 Small Vespers, 7 pm  <i>(fast day)</i>	24
27 Holy Pentecost	28 Feast of the Holy Spirit, Orthros & Lit.	29	30 Paraklesis 7 pm	31

<i>No fasting during week of Pentecost— all foods permitted.</i>
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s Orthros 8:45 am	Divine Liturgy 10 am
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**Fri**

**Sat**

4

5

Great Vespers, 6 pm

*(fast day)*

11

12

Great Vespers, 6 pm

*(fast day)*

18

19

Ascension of  
Orthros & Lit.

Great Vespers, 6 pm

*(fast day)*

25

26

Sat. of Souls, Orthos &  
Lit., followed by cemetery  
visits (see entry);

*(fast day)*

Great Vespers, 6 pm

**Upcoming Events**

May 1—Parish Council, 7 pm

May 8—Daughters of Penelope,  
AHEPA Housing, 7 pm

May 14—Soup Kitchen, 5 pm

May 17—Retirees Luncheon &  
Presentation, after Liturgy

May 20—Religious Education End of  
Year Luncheon & Program

**Regular Events**

Religious Education—Sundays,  
immediately after Holy Communion

Children’s Greek School— Mondays,  
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 4-6 pm  
and Thursdays, 4-5 pm

Adult Greek School—Mondays, 5-6  
pm

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## THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP

### THE PARABLE OF THE DEAD CHURCH

A person once called the priest to say he wanted to join the church. But, he went on to explain that he didn't want to worship every week, participate in the sacraments, pray regularly, study the Bible or the teachings of the Holy Fathers, visit the sick, witness to non-Christians or serve as an usher, leader, teacher or be involved in any committee.

The priest commended him for his desire to join, but told him the church he sought was located in another section of town. The man took the directions and hung up.

When he arrived at the church, the man came face to face with the logical result of his own apathetic attitude. There stood an abandoned church building, boarded up and ready for demolition.

God calls each of us to do the work he has commissioned us to do. The Holy Orthodox Church is still God's chosen vessel for sharing the "good news". To do that, we need to share all our resources in response to God's grace.

Don't forget to return your Stewardship cards! Our financial goal this year is \$90,000, and so far we have raised \$30,000. So, keep the cards coming in!!!!.

Zoe Adamedes  
Stewardship Chair  
401-274-1316  
[zadamedes@yahoo.com](mailto:zadamedes@yahoo.com)

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Dear Families,

Our academic year is now coming to a close! Please look for the sign up sheet on the bulletin board for donations for our end of the year luncheon, on Sunday May 20th.

Thank you to everyone for helping out this year to make it such a success!

God Bless!  
Marianne

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## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Council met in a short meeting on April 1 in order to receive communication from the Metropolis, which will be discussed at the General Assembly, and then again for a regular meeting on April 16. At the regular meeting, issues related to the repair of the church stairs and the reorganization of the Endowment Committee were discussed. The Council also voted to make a donation to the Aquidneck Land Trust in memory of Al Iandolo, the husband of our organist and friend, Jane Iandolo.

The next regular Parish Council meeting will take place on May 1 at 7pm. Please feel free to contact any member of the Council with proposed agenda items.

Tom Nichols  
President

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## SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

The Soup Kitchen committee would like to thank the Amarant and Moisiades families of *Aquidneck Pizza*, for providing pizzas for the April soup kitchen. This was such a blessing being that it was the day after Pascha, which made it impossible to prepare a home-cooked meal. Our next soup kitchen will be Monday, 5/14. Please join us between 4-4:30 pm if you would like to help.

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## RETIRES LUNCHEON & PRESENTATION

Our next retirees luncheon and presentation will take place on **Ascension Thursday, 5/17, immediately after the liturgy**. Please come and enjoy the good food, fellowship, and quality presentations that our regular attendees have enjoyed for the past few years. This will be our last gathering until the fall. We wish to thank Bill Christy of *Coddington Brewery*, for providing the lunch for our April gathering.

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## GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

The Greek School program is nearing the completion of another successful year. An end of year celebration is planned for June in our Church Hall. We are now starting to put together a schedule for the 2007-2008 school year. We would like to know who is planning to attend next year so we can order books and setup the school program. We kindly request that you Contact Loula Eliopoulos or Evangelos Giannopoulos and let us know about your plans or to ask any questions about this program.

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## NEWPORT HELLENIC DANCERS NEWS

The Newport Hellenic Dancers started the preparations for Hellenic Fest 2007. This will be the fifth year that our dancers will be performing at the festival and we are planning a special anniversary show. We invite everyone in the community who is interested, to join us. Our next practice session is planned for May 6th at 12:15 in the Church school rooms. This year we are expanding our dance group to include pre-school age children, as well as young adults. If you would like your children/ grandchildren to participate we ask that you try to make this session. We plan to hold separate classes for the various ability levels. For children under six we invite the parents to join us during the lessons.

We are also looking to update our collection of traditional costumes. If anyone in the community has costumes that they are no longer using and are interested in selling or donating them to the group we request that you let us know.

As always please do not hesitate to call us, Evangelos and Sandy Giannopoulos, at 667-2984 or contact us at church if you have any questions.

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## IN OUR PARISH

Baptisms: The daughter of Michael & Sarah (Jennings) Redman was baptized on 4/14, and was given the name *Ana*. Her sponsor is her uncle, Steven Jennings, Jr. May she live many years!

*Christopher Charles Soliozy*, son of Charissa Soliozy, was baptized on 4/22 and was given the name *Christopher*. His sponsor is his uncle, Charles Soliozy, Jr. May he live many years!

Engagements: *Constantine Amarant*, son of Telly & Leeza Amarant, was recently engaged to *Kristin Deveault* of Middletown, RI. We congratulate them at this blessed time of their life.

*Leonidas Amarant*, the other son of Telly & Leeza Amarant, was also recently engaged to *Despina Apazidis* of Boston, MA. We congratulate them as well, and the entire Amarant family as they prepare for the weddings of both sons.

Deaths: *Rita Hologitas* fell asleep in the Lord on 3/27, and was buried on the Saturday of Lazarus, 3/31. We express our condolences to her brother and sister-in-law, Gus & Joanne Hologitas. May her memory be eternal!

*Albert Iandolo*, husband of our organist Jane Iandolo, fell asleep in the Lord on Palm Sunday, 4/1, and was buried on Holy Thursday, 4/5 through the Iandolo's parish of St. Columba in Middletown. We express our condolences to Jane for her loss. May his memory be eternal!

*Alson (Alexandros) Castonguay* fell asleep in the Lord on 4/24, and was buried on 4/28. We express our condolences to his daughter Cristina Hartley, her husband, children, and all of Al's extended family. May his memory be eternal!

Forty-day Memorial: A memorial will be chanted for *Rita Hologitas* just prior to Vespers on Saturday evening, 5/5 at 6:00 pm, sponsored by Gus & Joanne Hologgitas. Since the memorial service is not being done on a Sunday, the family would like to inform parishioners in advance of the service. A light reception will follow Vespers in the hall.

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## AHEPA NEWS

### **The Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting**

The Eastern Orthodox Committee on Scouting [EOCS] was created in 1960 by the Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops in the Americas (SCOBA), whose purpose is to conduct the mission of our Lord and His Church via the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts USA programs on a national level. <http://www.eocs.org/>

### **AHEPA GOES TO THE PAWSOX**

The Newport Chapter of the Order of AHEPA would like to invite any of our community's youth to join us for an evening of baseball at McCoy Stadium to watch the PAWSOX take on the Richmond Braves on June 14th at 7:05 pm. We have purchased some great box seat tickets along the first base line, and we are offering these for free to any young person (s) and their parent from the St. Spyridon Church Community. Come along and join the AHEPA for a night of the best family entertainment under the stars. Contact George Koulouvardis to reserve your tickets, this is always a great time, so contact George as soon as possible.

### **Mortgage Seminar sponsored by AHEPA**

On Thursday, May 10th at 7:00 at the St. Spyridon Church Hall, AHEPA will sponsor a seminar given by Mr. Michael Kennedy from Wells Fargo Bank about reverse mortgages. All of your questions will be answered about reverse mortgages and if you should consider turning your home into a paycheck or safety net during your retirement years. All parents of current or future college students will want to attend!

Refreshments will be provided..

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## DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE NEWS

Thank you to all of our members who contributed to our Palm Sunday Fish dinner and to the parishioners who attended. The proceeds will enable the chapter to continue in its work for the charities it supports.

The next meeting of the chapter will be held on TUESDAY, MAY 8 at 7 pm at the Ahepa Housing. All members are asked to attend to elect national convention delegates.

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<p><i>In loving memory of</i> <b>Gredo Vincent</b> <i>Volpicelli</i></p>	<p><b>Order of AHEPA</b> Maud Howe Elliott Chapter No. 245 <b>Daughters of Penelope</b> Ares Chapter Number 49</p>	<p><b>Mel's Cafenio</b> 25 Broadway Newport 849-6420</p>
<p><i>With compliments of...</i> Dr. Joanne and Mr. C. Gus Hologgitas</p>	<p><b>Aquidneck Pizza</b> Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner 27 Aquidneck Avenue Middletown Take out orders: 849-3356 Daily 7am-12am, Fri &amp; Sat 7am-2am</p>	<p><b>Enthimia</b> <i>The Wedding and Baptism Store</i> Elegant Accessories 705 Washington Street Norwood, MA (781) 702-6034 <b>enthimia.com</b></p>
<p><b>Nikolas Pizza</b> 38 Memorial Blvd West Newport 849-6611</p>	<p><b>ASTRO CONSTRUCTION INC.</b> PO Box 522 Portsmouth, RI (401) 683-9120 Established 1954</p>	<p><b>CODDINGTON</b> <b>BREWING COMPANY</b> 210 Coddington Highway Middletown 847-6690</p>
<p>Compliments of the <b>ATLANTIC</b> <b>BEACH CLUB</b> 53 Purgatory Road Middletown 847-2750</p>	<p><b>A-1 Pizza</b> 306 Broadway Newport <b>Free Delivery</b> <b>849-2213</b></p>	<p><b>Rhea's Bed &amp; Breakfast</b> <i>Accommodations with jacuzzi's available!</i> 120 West Main Road Middletown <b>841-5560</b></p>
<p><i>Compliments of</i> <b>Island of Skiathos</b> <b>Organization</b> Established 1967</p>	<p><b>Flo's Drive-In</b> <i>Portsmouth</i> <b>Flo's Clam Shack</b> <i>Middletown</i> <i>Voted Best in Rhode Island!</i></p>	<p><b>The Mainstay Inn</b> 151 Admiral Kalbfus Road <i>Newport</i> <b>849-9880</b></p>
<p><b>This space available.</b> <b>Call church office.</b></p>	<p><i>Compliments of</i> <b>A Friend</b></p>	<p><b>PEQUOT PROPERTIES</b> <b>Dino Dart—Realtor</b> 711 Broad Street Ext. Waterford, CT 06385 Office: (860) 447-0345 Fax: (860) 444-6306 DinoD6969@aol.com</p>



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