

WACRINPCEVENT1

July 8, 2008

**WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF RI TO HOST
NATIONAL PRESS CLUB PRESS FORUMS IN
PROVIDENCE/KINGSTON AT URI ON SEPTEMBER 22**

*Participants Include Providence Chamber of Commerce, ProJo, WJAR,
WPRI, LIN/TV, URI, Johnson & Wales*

PROVIDENCE, RI – The World Affairs Council of RI has been selected by The National Press Club (NPC), the world’s leading professional organization for journalists, to host a special program on Monday, September 22, to promote the National Press Club’s centennial and encourage a public discussion on the First Amendment, freedom of the press and the future of journalism in international affairs.

Attendance at both events is free!

The World Affairs Council of RI (WACRI) has plans to host two similar events on September 22, 2008: one at the Johnson & Wales University 500-seat auditorium in downtown Providence at 7:30 AM in the morning, and a duplicate program in cooperation with the URI School of Journalism that evening at 7 PM at the 500-seat Chafee Auditorium on the Kingstown campus of the University of Rhode Island (URI). Preliminary details of the gala event include premiering and showing of the new NPC centennial documentary, “A Century of Headlines,” followed by a panel discussion comprised of leading journalists. All attendees will receive a free DVD of the movie.

“For a century, the National Press Club has provided a neutral forum for national and international leaders to talk to the world through the news media,” said Washington, DC based Club President Sylvia Smith. “With this program, we encourage public discussion about the core values and future of journalism.”

According to Martin Pottle, President of the World Affairs Council of Rhode Island, “As the SE New England hosts for this exciting event, we

hope to bring to students and citizens a fascinating retrospective examining the role played by the NPC in critical international events and commemorate the centennial of the world's leading professional journalism organization.” (Web: www.worldaffairsCouncilri.org).

Print and broadcast media luminaries to be panelists for the RI events will include NBC-10's Jim Taricani and Dan Jaehnig, CBS-12's Tim White, Robert Whitcomb and Tom Heslin from the Providence Journal-Bulletin, a leading representative from www.msnbc.com from New York and Linda Levin, Chair of the URI School of Journalism, among others. Other panelists are expected to be named shortly.

The events, aimed at every state and the District of Columbia, will be organized and moderated by Gil Klein, a veteran national correspondent, a past Club president and the author of the Club's centennial history, “Reliable Sources: 100 Years at the National Press Club.” Web: www.press.org, and www.press.org/education for more details on the centennial event and excerpts from the movie.

The National Press Club has partnered with the World Affairs Councils of America (www.worldaffairsCouncils.org) and its 89 chapters nationwide as well as with journalism schools at leading colleges and universities. The World Affairs Council of RI, now in its 74th year, and with a base of 200+ members, (www.worldaffairsCouncilri.org) is a not-for-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to expanding public understanding of international issues. It has an active and diversified membership consisting of professionals from business, government, academia, diplomacy and non-government organizations. Monthly meetings find attendees learning about world affairs from some of the world's leading experts, plus special business breakfast meetings on doing business internationally.

The National Press Club is the world's leading professional organization for journalists. Founded in 1908, the Club has 3,700 members representing most major news organizations. The Club holds more than 2,000 events including news conferences, luncheons and panels each year, and more than 250,000 guests come through its doors.

More information may be obtained by contacting: World Affairs Council of RI, c/o The Hope Club, 6 Benevolent Street, Providence, RI 02906. Tel: (401) 228-8657 (leave a message). Editorial inquiries to: Martin K. Pottle,

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