

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 4

Notable Notes

Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co., Inc.

Notable Works' 2024 Project

As part of Notable Works' 2024 Project, "Connections Nurtured Through Nature's Harmonies," partially funded by Rhode Island Council on the Arts, Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co, Inc. and Crosswinds Poetry are seeking original poems which celebrate the beauty of nature or speak to any personal or collective experience regarding the natural environment. More information about this 2024 Call for Poetry along with a complete list of Submission Guidelines can be viewed and downloaded by visiting: www.notableworks.org. The deadline for submissions has been extended and submissions will be accepted until February 29, 2024 (Midnight EST). Poems will be judged blindly, and cash prizes will be awarded for the top three poems: First Place (\$150), Second Place (\$75) and Third Place Award (\$50). In addition, the Barrington Public Library's Dial-A- Poem, will feature the top three winners on April 1st, 2024. There will also be three poems selected for Honorable Mention and all six winning poets will be invited to read their selected poems at a special event entitled "Celebration of Nature Through Music and Poetry" on April 6, 2024 at 1 PM in the Salem Family Auditorium at the Barrington Public Library (281 County Road, Barrington, Rhode Island). This free and open to everyone event (Pre-Registration Required), will kick off National Poetry Month and Earth Month and will include a special presentation by Cynthia Elder, Executive Director of the Barrington Land Conservation Trust. Notable Works could not be more pleased and honored to have BLCT as a Collaborative Partner for this new 2024 project. **REGISTER FOR THE EVENT**

"Founded in 1979, the **Barrington Land Conservation Trust** (www.BLCT.org) is a local nonprofit, volunteer driven organization which has preserved approximately 300 acres of open space in perpetuity for the benefit of the public." BLCT volunteers help to manage the town on conservation land. This organization epitomizes how to inspire a community to work together creatively with diverse ideas to make a positive impact with such projects as the Barrington Pollinator Pathways which creates friendly Garden habitats for birds, bees and butterflies. Over 90 people in the Barrington community are receiving the *Pollinator Garden Pathways Newsletter*. Other examples of BLCT's community projects are: the Tuesday Trails Team and Property Stewards and the Student Stewardship Team, Planting Projects which involve the Audubon Society of Rhode Island's Youth Conservation League Team, the Forest Management Plan, the Bridge and Boardwalk Restoration Initiative, Partnering on Conservation Land, Research, Fun Activities for Kids and Teaching Conservation and the rich history of this area. All of these creative activities and a multitude of very integrative ideas, center around and involve the community of Barrington, Rhode Island. BLCT also offers Guided Walks on their preserved and managed lands: Sowams Woods, Allin's Cove Conservation Area, the Doug Rayner Wildlife Refuge, the PIC-WIL Nature Preserve and the Osamequin Nature Preserve. BLCT also spearheads the Terrapin Conservation Research Project and the **Land Trust Learning Series**, which began in April 2023 and will feature the upcoming documentary film "*Gather*" on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 7 PM at the Barrington Public Library. (see listing below)



2024 Land Trust Learning Series

Join us on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 7 pm for a screening of the documentary, *Gather*, followed by a moderated discussion of the movie. The event will take place in the Salem Family Auditorium at the Barrington Public Library, 281 County St., Barrington, RI. There is no Zoom option for this event. **REGISTER FOR THE EVENT.**

(More information continued on Page Two)



Audubon Society
of Rhode Island
www.asri.org



Birds Across New England: Audubon Regional Conservation Symposium
February 4, 2024 8:30 AM-4 PM (EST)

Keynote Address by
Award-winning Author, Carl Safina
Location: Salve Regina University's
O'Hare Academic Building

Here is an excellent opportunity to learn more about birds and the amazing research being done about their lives, their behaviors, how climate change is affecting them, and what we all can do/ are doing to help. Come join us! For more information and to register for this event:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/birds-across-new-england-audubon-regional-conservation-symposium-registration-775849244977?aff=oddtcreator>



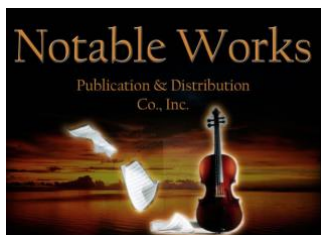
WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER
WATERSHED COUNCIL

For more information about WRWC:
www.wrwc.org

Upcoming Events:

- On February 6th from 6-7:30 p.m. the Olneyville Resilience Hub is hosting a kick off at the Joslin Recreation Center (17 Hyat St Providence, RI 02909). The Resilience Hub will be a service center and community space for Olneyville community members to gather for recreational and educational activities, seek shelter, and obtain resources in the case of a climate-related weather event. At the kick-off event, they will explain the concept of resilience hubs and invite attendees to discuss how the Olneyville Resilience Hub can best serve its community. They'll have food, childcare, and translation services available.

Events Continue on Page Three.....



www.notableworks.org

Notable Works' 2024 Sponsors

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Land Trust Presents Film on Native Foodways and Plants

BARRINGTON, RI – The Barrington Land Conservation Trust kicks off its 2024 Learning Series with a screening of the documentary, *Gather*, on Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 7 pm in the Salem Family Auditorium at the Barrington Public Library, 281 County St., Barrington, RI. The movie will be followed by a moderated discussion. *Gather* follows the stories of Indigenous Peoples on the frontlines of a growing movement to reconnect with spiritual and cultural identities through a closer connection to their traditional foodways and native plants.

The event is free and open to the public. Register at www.blct.org/events. This event is held in partnership with the Barrington Public Library and through the generosity of sponsors, Prickly Ed's Cactus Patch Native Plant Emporium and BankNewport.

The 74-minute documentary is directed by Sanjay Rawal and produced by Illumine in association with Ager Meillier Films and First Nations Institute. Rawal earned the James Beard Award for his film, *Food Chains*, and his films have won many festival prizes. Director of Photography Renan Ozturk is a *National Geographic* photographer.

This documentary follows the experiences of several Indigenous people as they engage with their ancestral lands and food. A chef embarks on an ambitious project to reclaim ancient foodways on the Apache reservation. In South Dakota, a gifted Lakota high school student, raised on a buffalo ranch, explores her tribe's native wisdom through her passion for science. A group of young men of the Yurok tribe in Northern California struggle to keep their culture alive and rehabilitate the habitat of their sacred salmon.

The stories show how the reclaiming and recovery of ancient foodways is helping Indigenous Peoples to restore health and vitality to their people.

The Barrington Land Conservation Trust has preserved nearly 300 acres of open space in perpetuity for the benefit of the public. For more information on the Land Trust and its properties, visit www.blct.org.



(Photos provided by *Gather*) The documentary film *Gather* shows how traditional foodways and native plants influence the wellbeing of Indigenous Peoples.



Ocean State Center for Independent Living Presents
Annual Independent Living Conference

The Past, Present, and Future of Independent Living in Rhode Island

Featuring speakers, discussion panel, and exhibitors!

This event is dedicated to fostering independence and inclusivity, bringing together industry leaders, innovators, and advocates for the rights and advancement of persons with disabilities.

Save the Date!

FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH, 2024 FROM 8:30AM-12:30PM
 Crowne Plaza, Warwick, RI

Scan QR code or visit <https://www.oscil.org/conference> for registration and more details.



Accessible parking available. Sign language interpreters and CART provided.

- On February 7th from 6-7 p.m. The Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council is hosting AARP Rhode Island for our monthly Speaker's Program. Please join us as we will be welcoming AARP Rhode Island's State Director, Catherine Taylor, who will be providing an overview of all that AARP offers its members and the local community at large. **Where:** The Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council: 45 Eagle St., Providence, RI 02909

- Saturday, February 10, 2024, 10:00am - Join us for a **Gentle Hike at Stillwater Scenic Trail Place:** Meet at Stillwater Scenic Trailhead: Park in a gravel lot off Farnum Pike (Route 104) between Washington Highway (Route 116) and Stump Pond dam. This roughly two-mile round-trip walk will take us along sections of the Woonasquatucket, including Stillwater Pond. We'll see some of the buildings remaining from Stillwater Village, remnants of the railroad spur that served the mill complex, and past dams that created these ponds—reminders of RI's thriving industrial past. <https://wrwc.org/events/>. And if anyone has questions about any events, they can call our office at (401) 861-9046.

-Saturday, February 10, 11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M - Crochet



Where: Leo Bouchard Conservation Center Waterview Drive, Smithfield, RI. \$20 per person - Open to Smithfield residents. Led by WRWC Environmental Education Director Amanda Peavey. Get to know the WRWC and our new Environmental Education space! This workshop offers beginners their first jump into crocheting. We will learn how to hold a crochet hook and yarn, understand our own tensions, learn how to start projects and become familiar with stitch names. Hooks and yarn will be provided for participants to practice with and take home. We look forward to seeing you! <https://wrwc.org/events/>. And if anyone has questions about any events, they can call our office at (401) 861-9046.



For more information, please contact:

info@easternriconservation.org

or visit:

www.easternriconservation.org



Register today for the 2024 RIEEA Summit: Art for Eco-Literacy and Activism

Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District (ERICD) will hold a Local Work Group Meeting for Eastern Rhode Island farmers and landowners on **Tuesday, February 6 at 6:00PM** at Greenvale Vineyards, 582 Wapping Rd, Portsmouth, RI 02871. This meeting is an open forum meeting for Bristol and Newport counties to provide feedback and input on ongoing resource concerns and mitigation efforts.

Through a partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), ERICD provides financial and technical assistance to address natural resource concerns through an array of conservation practices. Local Work Group Meetings are a valuable part of the NRCS's planning process, providing an opportunity for local land managers to be part of a collaborative effort to improve natural resources within their county.

The aim of this meeting is to provide a platform for anyone in Bristol and Newport Counties to provide feedback on the programs ERICD helps to facilitate through the NRCS, as well as communicating active resource concerns such as flooding, erosion, etc. ERICD provides this valuable information directly to the NRCS so that it can shape existing and future programs.

The Public is invited to:

- Review the performance of the past year's NRCS projects
- Help shape the plans and priorities for future NRCS projects.
- Connect with partners and new audiences to seek opportunities to leverage partnership funds.
- Learn about other NRCS programs which may prove beneficial for ongoing resource concerns.

Farm and forest landowners and managers, as well as the general public of Bristol and Newport counties, are encouraged to attend. This event is free and open to the public. For questions, please email Natalie Ducharme-Bart: nducharmebart.ericd@gmail.com

Each year, RIEEA hosts a Summit to bring together engaged communities throughout the state and from across various sectors to build networks, gather resources, share best practices, and cultivate leadership skills for widespread environmental literacy adoption and implementation.

Register today for the 2024 Summit: Art for Eco-Literacy and Activism, featuring keynote speaker, May Babcock, at Rhode Island College on Saturday, March 16, 2024. Registration includes a RIEEA membership for the year. *Click the link below to register.*

<https://www.rieea.org/programs/summit/2024-annual-summit/>



For more information and to register for upcoming events, visit: www.pawtuxet.org

The Pawtuxet River Authority and Watershed Council is happy to begin scheduling Volunteer Clean-up Events this Spring. Folks interested in volunteering can always sign up for our email alerts about upcoming clean-up events using this link: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/ds882bj/PRAcleanup>. We hope to see you out there! Please note, due to historic flooding events in December and January, our Pontiac Canoe Launch Parking Lot on the mainstem river at the end of Knight Street in Warwick is currently closed. Excessive stormwater caused lots of erosion, and while we assess conditions and check the integrity of our access structures, we have temporarily closed the area to the public. Please pardon our appearance for now, and we hope to have good news to share soon when we can get back out on the water. However, the Howard Conservation Area is still accessible from Kenney Drive in Cranston for those birding enthusiasts!



Environment Council of Rhode Island

2024 Coffee Hour

Thursday, February 1st | 3:00 – 4:00 PM
RI State House Library

ECRI members, environmental leaders, and legislators will connect over coffee and refreshments to kick-off the 2024 legislative session. Please join us to learn about emerging environmental policy priorities for Rhode Island!

Featuring Kim Cobb, Ph.D., Professor and Director of the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, who will speak on the case for climate action in Rhode Island.

ECRI is a coalition of over 60 Rhode Island organizations as well as individuals advocating for policies and laws that protect and enhance the environment.

Rhode Island Leads the Way: Act on Climate 2021 Act on Climate



On April 14, 2021, Governor Dan McKee signed into law the 2021 Act on Climate, which sets enforceable climate emissions reduction mandates. This legislation updates the previous 2014 Resilient Rhode Island Act, positioning the state to boldly address climate change and prepare for a global economy that is shifting to clean energy.

Save Morley Field!

Morley Field is a beloved community green space, the only one of its kind in a working class, mostly-BIPOC district of Pawtucket, RI.

The City of Pawtucket is trying to move the field to a whiter, wealthier district.

This would be a grave environmental injustice, and an example of environmental racism in action.

We need ALL HANDS ON DECK to save Morley Field!

!!! ACTION STEP !!!
Submit a public comment to the City of Pawtucket by Fri., February 2, 2024 and tell them Morley Field must stay!



The City of Pawtucket has quietly opened up a public comment form on their website. Let's inundate them with comments that the people want to SaveMorleyField!

[DUE BY FRI., FEB. 2, 2024]

In addition to submitting comments, you may also send your comments in an email (if you are comfortable) to:

- terry.gray@dem.ri.gov
- megan.diprete@dem.ri.gov
- paul.jordan@dem.ri.gov

- mary_morrison@nps.gov
- joel_lynch@nps.gov
- lauren_ingrund@nps.gov
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- mhardy@pawtucketri.com



20th Anniversary of the Land & Water Conservation Summit

Early bird registration ends on Feb 9th. [Here is more information.](#)

Hosted at URI Memorial Union on March 9, 2024

This year, we are focusing on critical strategies to conserve our important landscapes and waterways and will be grounding our program in contemporary environmental challenges and opportunities for collaboration! **Registration for the 2024 Land & Water Summit is now open!** Learn more: <https://rilandtrusts.org/summit/>