

M A Y 2 0 2 4

Notable Notes

Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co., Inc.



Photo by Audubon Society of Rhode Island

“A Celebration of Nature Through Music and Poetry”

Thank you to all who attended Notable Works’ event on April 6, 2024 at 1 PM in the Salem Family Auditorium at the Barrington Public Library to help recognize the six winning poets from Notable Works’ and Crosswinds Poetry’s 2024 Poetry Initiative who did a wonderful job of reading their outstanding poems (see top three poems on page 4). This event, which kicked off National Poetry Month and Earth Month, began with a magnificent Land Acknowledgement by Pokanoket Sachem Dancing Star which was then followed by a performance by The Notable Works’ Ensemble premiering Notable Works’ Artist in Residence Noreen Inglesi’s new work “Stand Together Hand in Hand.” This piece was inspired by historical research and tours of Hundred Acre Cove, the Doug Rayner Wildlife Refuge and other areas in the East Bay. This performance was followed by a special video presentation entitled “Notable Works Presents: Connections Nurtured Through Nature’s Harmonies,” which highlighted the historic nature of Hundred Acre Cove, Osamequin Nature Preserve, the Doug Rayner Wildlife Refuge and the dedicated efforts of the Barrington Land Conservation Trust to protect and steward these lands and its fragile natural habitats. To view this video, please visit Notable Works’ website: www.notableworks.org or click this link: <https://youtu.be/f3xfjQ-D36Q>. David Dragone, Editor-in-Chief of Crosswinds Poetry premiered his new poem “Fine Dining at Sunset” and led the poetry segment of the program, when the winning poets were presented with their cash prizes and certificates. Congratulations again to: First Place Winner, **Mary Ann Mayer**; Second Place Winner, **Diana Cole**; Third Place Winner, **Monique Cellemme** and Honorable Mention Winners: **Janet E, Aalfs, Nancy Cook and Charron Holtzman**.

Sensory Friendly Hours at Audubon Audubon's Nature Center and Aquarium in Bristol is now offering Sensory Friendly Hours. Audubon invites people with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other sensory processing sensitivities to discover nature at the Center with fewer guests and a quieter environment, as well as lower lighting and no screens. Sensory Friendly Hours are offered twice a month on the 2nd Sunday from 9:30am -12:30 pm and the 4th Tuesday, from 1:30-4:30 pm. Please register through the events calendar at asri.org. Admission fees apply.

Check out the schedule and register at <https://asri.org/calendar/>



WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

Saturday, May 4, 1-3 pm- Free community & press event at Leo Bouchard Center (5 Waterview Drive, Smithfield, RI) featuring speaking engagement, tours, family activities, paddle rides & nature walks. Free, light refreshments available and speaking engagement at 1 PM. Join us for the official WRWC Education Center ribbon-cutting at the Leo Bouchard Conservation Center in Smithfield, RI. We will be celebrating this joint venture of the WRWC and the Town of Smithfield with tours of this beautiful educational space, canoe and kayak short paddle adventures on Stillwater Pond, on-site nature walks and lots of other fun! Smithfield residents, come by to celebrate with us! Not a Smithfield resident? You are also welcome, and we look forward to seeing you there. [RSVP!](https://www.asri.org)

WRWC events cont. page 3.....



(Left to right): Cynthia Elder, Monique Cellemme and her son Everett, Maria Bilyeu, Noreen Inglesi, David Dragone, Sachem Dancing Star, Charron Holtzman, Diana Cole, Mary Ann Mayer and Bina Gehres. (Photo by Jen Scungio)



BARRINGTON LAND CONSERVATION TRUST
ESTABLISHED 1975

Johnannis water and clouds. Photo on right by Barrington Land Conservation Trust.

Protecting Our Salt Marshes with Tom Kutcher

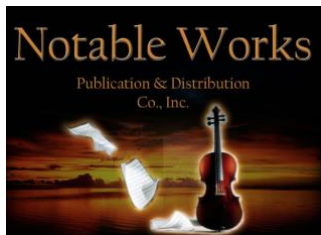


Like many Rhode Island towns, Barrington is surrounded by salt marshes that protect our shoreline from erosion, maintain the water quality in coastal bays and estuaries, and provide an important habitat for fish, birds and other animals.

On Tuesday, May 14, at 7 pm, the **Barrington Land Conservation Trust** invites the public to a presentation on Protecting Our Salt Marshes by Tom Kutcher, Wetlands Scientist with the Rhode Island Natural History Survey.

Continued on page 2

Barrington Land Conservation Trust Continued from Page 1



www.notableworks.org

Notable Works' 2024 Sponsors

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The event will take place in the Salem Family Auditorium at the Barrington Public Library, 281 County St., Barrington, RI. The event is free and open to all. Registration is required as space is limited. To register, go to www.blct.org/events.

Tom will share his on-the-ground (and in the muck) experience with Rhode Island's salt marshes. He'll discuss the critical threats facing our salt marshes due to sea level rise and salt marsh restoration programs that are responding to that threat. The presentation will provide insight into the condition of Barrington's salt marshes and how the RI Natural History Survey's research in these locations, carried out in partnership with RIDEM, Narragansett Bay Research Reserve, CRMC and USEPA, contributes to our understanding of salt marshes.

About Tom Kutcher

Tom Kutcher is a Wetland Scientist for the Rhode Island Natural History Survey, where he works to develop wetland monitoring, assessment, and restoration protocols for Rhode Island's state environmental agencies. He is a recent co-author of the Rhode Island Salt Marsh Monitoring Strategy (2016) and principal author of the Rhode Island Coastal Wetland Restoration Strategy (2018).

Tom has developed and implemented wetland monitoring and assessment methods across Rhode Island, including for recent large-scale salt marsh restoration projects. Tom formerly worked as Stewardship Coordinator at the Narragansett Bay Estuarine Research Reserve, where he wrote the Habitat and Land Cover Classification Scheme for the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (2008), and served as the Narragansett Baykeeper with Save The Bay and the Waterkeeper Alliance.

Tom lives and recreates along the shores of Narragansett Bay with his marine-biologist wife and two salty kids.



Environmental Creativity Workshop Series

This spring/summer, the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association (RIEEA) is pleased to host a series of workshops, each of which explores the intersection of art, education, and the environment. Each workshop is collaborative, co-facilitated by a Rhode Island artist and a Rhode Island environmental educator. Together, the facilitators will share different approaches to integrating the creative arts into a nature-oriented classroom. The workshops are: Poetry of the Wild with Ana Flores and Wanda Hopkins on June 15; Microcosmos: microscopes and seeing tiny worlds with Jeffrey Yoo Warren and Jo Ayuso on June 29; and Fresh Indigo: farm to fabric with Sasha Azbel (educator tbd) on July 13.

Quote of the Month

"However vast the darkness, we must supply our own light."
.....Stanley Kubrick

The power of the human will is an incredible force, and even in the most daunting times, we are capable of making a positive difference. Legendary filmmaker Stanley Kubrick certainly believed this, as evidenced by this quote from a 1968 interview he gave in "Playboy" magazine. Kubrick (who made "2001," "The Shining," and other classics) argued that any meaning in life must be created by ourselves, and once we accept this responsibility, we can "forge a fresh sense of purpose and affirmation." When we accept the challenges and limitations of life, he said, "our existence as a species can have genuine meaning and fulfillment.

Earth Month North Providence Clean Day

Saturday, May 11, 10 am-2 pm Location: Cricket Field, Johnston, RI

In collaboration with the Rhode Island Tree Council, we will be planting trees at the newly developed Adams Lane river access location, along with maintaining trails, removing invasive plants, and collecting trash. We will also be working on Cricket Field beautification and doing an in-water clean up at Greystone Pond. We will provide everything you need to have a successful volunteer experience. We recommend that you bring a reusable water bottle, and if you have work gloves that you would like to use, please bring those as well. If not, we have plenty of gloves for your use. Registration is REQUIRED. Please register below.

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

Friday, May 18th 2024. (RAIN DATE: Sun.. May 19th) Georgiaville Pond Paddle and Swim! Launch at 10 AM (arrive 15 minutes early)

Once you get out of work we would love to have you join us for an early evening paddle on Georgiaville Pond in Smithfield, Rhode Island. We will launch from the historic Smith-Appleby House and make our way to the town beach, where participants are invited to take a refreshing swim or just unwind. With the setting sun, the return paddle is sure to be a lovely summer experience as well. This trip is always the highlight of our paddle season, come along and see why! To register click the link below:

<https://wrwc.org/events/georgiaville-pond-paddle-and-swim-5-18-24/>



Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District
please contact:

info@easternriconservation.org

or visit:

www.easternriconservation.org

Through a partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District (ERICD) can provide you with financial and technical assistance to address natural resource concerns through an array of conservation practices. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) announces additional funding opportunities for fiscal year 2024 for Rhode Island farmers and forest landowners. NRCS is opening a third ranking sign-up period for Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) climate-smart agriculture and forestry funding under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Interested Ocean State farmers, forest landowners, and urban growers should apply by the May 17, 2024, ranking cutoff date. Through conservation programs, NRCS provides technical and financial assistance to help farmers and forest landowners make conservation improvements on their land to benefit natural resources, build resiliency, and help combat the impacts of climate change. Reach out to ERICD’s Conservation Planner Julia Vieira at jvieira.ericd@gmail.com for questions or to apply!

The Stormwater Innovation Center (SIC) presents another installment of its [green infrastructure maintenance training series](#) this May. These two trainings will be held in the field at Roger Williams Park in Providence, RI – where the City has installed a variety of green infrastructure projects that can be used as educational demonstration sites. This year’s training series will be geared towards two audiences – the first towards municipal or private maintenance staff, and the second towards the owners of green infrastructure projects. Throughout multiple initiatives, the SIC has worked with vendors in the private green infrastructure sector, and we look forward to providing learning opportunities from facilitators working in this sector in our upcoming maintenance training series. Join us for these special sessions, facilitated by Gregg Novick and Nathan Marles of Stormwater Compliance, LLC!

Training 1 - BMP Maintenance for Staff May 15, 2024 - 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Roger Williams Park Casino

This training, facilitated by Gregg Novick and Nathan Marles of Stormwater Compliance LLC, will begin with a short “Stormwater 101” session that leads into best management practice maintenance demonstrations in the field. Attendees will be shown best practices for inspecting BMP sites for functionality. Gregg and Nathan will feature their maintenance practices with an eye toward typical municipal maintenance plans. Registration is limited to 50 participants.

[REGISTER FOR TRAINING 1 HERE!](#)

Training 2 - Maintenance for Green Infrastructure

Owners May 30, 2024 - 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Roger Williams Park Casino

This training, facilitated by Gregg Novick and Nathan Marles of Stormwater Compliance LLC, is designed specifically for a variety of green infrastructure owners - commercial, municipal, etc. Gregg and Nathan will relay high-level content about permitting, staffing, budgeting, and designing maintenance plans for GI owners, weaving in case studies from their maintenance work with primarily private GI owners and demonstrating use of specialized equipment. Registration is limited to 50 participants.

[REGISTER FOR TRAINING 2 HERE!](#)

TANK WELCOMES SPECIAL GUEST

Kate Mulvaney, Research Social Scientist - U.S. EPA Atlantic Coastal Environmental Science Division

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS SOCIAL JUSTICE

In this talk we will introduce what environmental justice is, provide a quick history of the movement, some examples of injustices and highlight ongoing work to begin to address them.

North Kingstown Free Library

WEDNESDAY
MAY 1ST
7:00 PM

tankri.org

Top Three Winning Poems from Notable Works' and Crosswinds Poetry's 2024 Poetry Initiative

First Place - Mary Ann Mayer In Rosenlauri

I hired the moon to watch over you
& kneel beside the brook, the flow of stars
all night play the notes you love—wild and minor—
beneath your window, sleeping
stars in the brook & overhead, watchful
stars and cows your constant companions

Through every turn, even in the gloomy passes
when time turns ancient and you feel your face
as crag, and the paths you strode buoyantly, diminished,
remember how
the mist would lift

And the peaks and seracs shine, revealing
cows at their duty, magnitude of rock
softening in the mist, and waterfalls
trumpeting (*angelic*, you said)
in Rosenlauri, that year we made the crossing

If stars must claim now the higher places
and replace our cleats,
If forty too soon became seventy,
our purpose is revealed,
singular and insatiable—

To spend our time in nature, and, with every summit
Gipfel, Tal, Weg, Sattel, Gletscher, Wald
we have loved together, here, now
how peaceful, how grateful, how bright, shining
your eyes are, still

Third Place - Monique Cellemme Garden

When there was a garden, Vavó would putter
through the maze of shrubs taller than me,
tangerine tiger lilies where moths flutter,
her calico housecoat chasing sunbeams.

Through the maze of shrubs taller than me
my grandmother pressed the soil with her palm.
Her calico housecoat chasing sunbeams,
I picked at branches sweeping dawn.

My grandmother pressed the soil with her palm.
I hid by the pheasant coop edging her yard
and picked at branches sweeping dawn.
She found me spinning where bumblebees are.

I hid by the pheasant coop edging her yard,
feathers grazed a world too wide.
She found me spinning where spiderwebs are,
stifled in spouting fountain tides.

Feathers grazed a world too wide.
Her laughing braided a blanket of green,
bubbling in spouting fountain tides
with rope she wound from hosta leaf.

Second Place - Diana Cole Squall

*White out winds taking down and taking away
blue sky horizon weak branches
not a sparrow flutter a squirrel dash a kind word
just anger the red jungle gym,
red rake red chokeberry black ice*

Just as suddenly snow settles and
Light breaks through the impasto sky.

Shaking loose, the trumpet vine
finds itself still clinging to the house.

Shrubs offer white carnations.
Birds devour the chokeberries.

As sunlight returns through a wide-open door,
shadows fasten to real things.

Toast jumps out of the toaster,
the knife thick with honey.

Eggs break into whitening skies with yellow suns,
perhaps a little crisp on the edges.

And we welcome love again
in a bare bough, laundered world.

Garden Continued....

Her laughing braided a blanket of green.
I imagine it still, where the stone bench sits
with rope she wound from hosta leaf,
where all the flowers she grew used to fit.

I imagine it still, where the stone bench sits,
tangerine tiger lilies and moths putter.
All the flowers she grew used to fit
in Vavó's garden where we would flutter.



Photo by Gail Read
Pollinator Pathways
Barrington Land
Conservation Trust