

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 6

Notable Notes

Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co., Inc.



Audubon Society
of Rhode Island



Northern Mockingbird
Photo by Butch Lombardi

Bristol Bimonthly Bird Walks Audubon Nature Center and Aquarium, Bristol, RI

February 13, 27, 2026; 9:00-11:00 am

Join an Audubon naturalist for a stroll through the Claire D. McIntosh Wildlife Refuge in search of birds. On February 13, sightings will be contributed to the Great Backyard Bird Count (www.birdcount.org)!

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced birder, you'll enjoy spotting and learning about resident species and seasonal visitors. Bring your binoculars and experience the sights and sounds of winter birding! Fee: \$5/member, \$10/non-member. Ages: 14+.

Register online through the events calendar at: www.asri.org/calendar



Free Sunday Guided Bird Walk Sunday, February 15, 2026 8:00-10:00 AM

Meet in main parking lot

Free Wednesday Nature Walks

February 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th
3:00 PM to 3:45 PM

This free public program requires no registration, and will meet outside the Welcome Center ten minutes prior to the walk. In the event of inclement weather, an announcement that day will be made on our website determining whether the walk will continue or not.

Norman Bird Sanctuary,
583 3rd Beach Rd, Middletown, RI 02842
Phone: (401) 846-2577
www.normanbirdsanctuary.org

The new publication **Voices of the Earth: The Future of Our Planet IV** is on schedule and will be released at a special event on **Saturday, June 27, 2026 from 11 AM to 1 PM** in the William Hall Library Auditorium. Notable Works is proud to include approximately 70 original poems and artworks inspired by the Theme: "Bridging the Divide and Coming Together for a Common Goal" and a listing of local environmental agencies in Rhode Island and the surrounding areas.

This June 27th celebration event will feature a special presentation by **Sara Sampieri Horvet**, Stormwater Outreach and Engagement Program Manager (Audubon Society of Rhode Island). Also, six of the poets whose works will be included in the new book will be featured. In addition, The Notable Works' Ensemble will premiere newly created music by composers **Noreen Inglesi** and **Mary Zema** highlighting the great efforts of Stormwater Innovation Center at Roger Williams Park.

Roger Williams Park, known for its chain of ponds and great cultural events, serves as a site for testing stormwater management and green infrastructures. **The Stormwater Innovation Center**, established in 2020, leads outreach, education, and research. And over 30 green infrastructure projects (*two pictured below*)—including bioswales, rain gardens, infiltration basins and the Stormwater Treatment Train—have been installed to redirect stormwater runoff, filter pollutants, and support wildlife habitat while they are improving water quality in the ponds and lakes.



Treatment Train

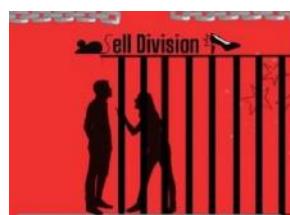


Redirecting Stormwater Through Infiltration

Scene from *Sell Division: Breaking the Chains of Perception*

Notable Works announces that a scene from the musical ***Sell Division***, by Bina Gehres, Noreen Inglesi, Marianne Quinn, and Mary Zema, will be featured during **G Cole Theatrics' presentation of *Footloose***. Performances are Friday, February 27 at 7 PM, and Saturday, February 28 at 2 PM, at Warwick Veteran's Middle School, 2401 West Shore Road, Warwick, RI 02889. Tickets are \$22 (cash only, sold at the door).

"***Sell Division*** is a powerful, relevant piece with an intelligent book and unique score, tackling themes like **Prejudice and Stereotyping** (explicitly shown in the

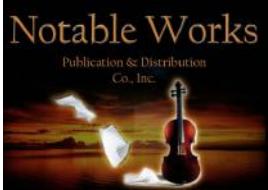


conflict between **Cecelia** and **Valerie** and the song ***Ten Thousand Reasons***). We chose scene two from 'Sell Division' for its strong drama, wit, and musicality, which we believe will attract industry attention and support further development."

Gladys Cole, Artistic Director,
G COLE THEATRICS Inc.



Register now for the RIEEA Annual Summit!



www.notableworks.org

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Join the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association on Saturday, March 14, for the 2026 Annual Summit - *Education Through Cultivation: Rooting Teaching, Farming, & Healing in Relationship to the Land*. Keynote speaker Sienna Viette from Open fArms Retreat will share her experience working across Rhode Island to strengthen local food systems, position farms as centers of community learning, and improve student nutrition. The morning will also include facilitated small-group discussions, cross-sector networking, and resource-sharing that highlight effective practices in environmental education, agriculture, traditional ecological knowledge, and land stewardship. Participants will enjoy a full, hot breakfast, along with a fun raffle and door prizes. Learn more and register at: bit.ly/RIEEA-Summit



How often do you see geese at Roger Williams Park (RWP)?

Canada geese were once mostly migratory, but resident populations became established in Rhode Island in the 1950s. Their numbers have grown steadily thanks to few predators, ideal park habitats, and regular feeding by people.

Since January 2025, 20 community science volunteers have been surveying the park monthly as a part of the Canada Goose Survey. They record goose numbers near or in the ponds, as well as feeding activity, to track populations and their potential impact. High goose numbers can impact water quality and public health by contributing to algal blooms, spreading pathogens, and causing shoreline erosion. Reach out to Malia Cafasso (mcafasso@asri.org) if you would like to learn more about the program and become a volunteer!

Our new survey dashboard lets you explore the data collected so far. We hope that it will guide public education efforts, such as improved signage, discouraging feeding, and engaging park-goers in more community science monitoring!

Use the link below to view the dashboard:

<https://psic.maps.arcgis.com/.../1b52c94622eb48e6a07dd0db...>



Canada Goose Survey in Roger Williams Park



Land Trust is Holding
History Walks
for Country's 250th
Anniversary

**Walk Back in Time with Family History Walk
at St. Andrews Farm**

The next History Walk led by the Barrington Land Conservation Trust is designed especially for families with children of all ages. The event will take place on **Thursday, Feb. 19, at 10 am at St. Andrews Farm** (101 Middle Highway, Barrington, RI) in conjunction with town-wide celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Each History Walk will present elements of Barrington's history in connection with the location you are visiting. They are held in collaboration with [Barrington 250](#).

All events are free and open to the public, regardless of where you live. All ages are welcome. To register for any of the Land Trust's History Walks, go to www.blct.org/events.

The St. Andrews Farm Family History Walk, scheduled during February school vacation, will feature a hot cocoa station, old-fashioned outdoor games and snowman building (if there's snow). While the kids play, the adults can learn about the history of this special property. Once a working farm, St. Andrews Farm is now one a popular spot for walkers. The event will last about an hour.

St. Andrews Farm is a town-owned conservation property, once the property of St. Andrews School. In 2000, the McAdams Charitable Foundation, through the generosity of Norman and Dorothy McCulloch, purchased the property from St. Andrews School and donated it to the Town of Barrington.

Future history walks include:

Saturday, March 7, 10 am – History Walk to Allin's Cove.

Wednesday, April 22, 1 pm – Earth Day History Walk and Cleanup at Osamequin Nature Preserve.

Thursday, May 14, 4 pm – Evening History Walk at Sowams Woods.

Sunday, June 7, 1 pm – Summer History Walk at Johannis Farm Wildlife Preserve.



Children enjoy the snow at a Land Trust event at St. Andrews Farm.

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2026 Land & Water Summit
March 21st at URI

Registration now open!



Scan QR code or go to rilandtrusts.org/2026-summit.

Register by February 17th for Early Bird pricing!

Rhode Island Nature Video Festival

The Rhode Island Nature Video Festival will be held on Saturday February 21 at 2 PM on the Rhode Island College campus. It is jointly organized by the Rhode Island Natural History Survey, RI College, and Friends of the Moshassuck. Nature Lovers from throughout Rhode Island offer up short videos of wild animals and plants for a 90 minute show including an opportunity to ask the filmmakers about their videos. The show is FREE. Registration is not required but we do ask people to register at the RI Natural History Survey Website <https://rinhs.org> so that we know how many cookies to bring for the after showing reception, and can let folks know if we have to use the snow date. *Click the link to view video of a Great Horned owl mobbed by crows.* https://youtu.be/He7Hr30_xFo



Upcoming Event

FEBRUARY In *Lessons from My Teachers*, a book of short essays, famous playwright Sarah Ruhl describes the impact of educators throughout our lives. The stories and vignettes honor classroom teachers, mentors, children, and friends, as she reflects on the roles of student and teacher. **Please join us over Zoom on Thursday, Feb. 12, from 4-5:30** to discuss your favorite essays from the book and how they connect to your personal and professional life. You can buy the book at [Bookshop.org](#), order from your favorite bookseller, or get it from the RI library system.

Register for the book club [at this link](#).

An Indeterminate New Day

By Noreen Inglesi

When brilliant sun gives way
to dark and misty night
when sweet mirth
acquiesces to bitter dolefulness
tuck inside like tortoise
with camouflaged resistance
recharging and gathering inner strength
'til circle dancing midst vibrant sky
within boundless walls
until mighty enough to face
whatever lurks outside
whether tender breeze
or ferocious storm
basking in the armored glow
of accumulated
and reinvigorated passions
until amassing the energy
to revitalize
and to launch
into an enduring
and indeterminate new day

*Previously published in Notable Works'
Voices of the Earth: The Future of Our Planet II.*



Greetings, Creatives and Supporters! The next Words on Fire Open Mic takes place from 6:00-7:30 PM on Wednesday, February 4 in the William Hall Library Auditorium. If you haven't yet signed up to read and/or watch, there's still space available! [More information and registration are available on our website.](#) We hope to see you there!

4

Little Sigh

By Aubrey Atwater

I want to breathe a big long
full warm
sigh of relief but I can't
because that is something you do when it's
all over
and everything's all right
but it's not all over
although for the time being
everything is all right.
So perhaps instead I'll breathe
one of those little sighs
that you breathe from time to time
In your life when things
for the moment
are OK.

*Previously published in Notable Works'
Love Warms the Homeless Heart II*

A green rectangular sign with a white border. At the top, it says "USDA U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service". In the center, it says "Conservation Easement Boundary". Below that, it says "Private Property". The sign is hanging from a string against a background of green trees and a blue sky.

A logo for the Aquidneck Island Land Trust. It features a stylized green triangle with three white leaf-like shapes inside, with the text "Aquidneck Island Land Trust" below it.

A logo for the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District. It features a stylized green 'E' shape with a white 'R' inside, with the text "Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District" around it.

A logo for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). It features a green circle with a white 'U' and 'S' inside, with the text "USDA NRCS" below it.

EASEMENT WORKSHOP

EASEMENTS FOR YOUR WORKING LANDS

Learn from representatives of the Eastern Rhode Island Conservation District, USDA NRCS, and Aquidneck Island Land Trust about voluntary easement programs to protect your farm, forest, or other working lands.

SAVE THE DATE

February 11th, 2026
6 PM - 7 PM
Portsmouth Public Library
2658 E Main Rd
Portsmouth, RI 02871

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to participate in this meeting should contact Kat Zuromski at 401-786-1389 or kathryn.zuromski@usda.gov, or 7-1-1 to access telecommunication relay services.

A QR code located in the bottom right corner of the slide.

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Register with the QR code: