

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

# Notable Notes

**Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co., Inc.**



*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](http://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](http://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 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>  
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.normanbirdsantuary.org](http://www.normanbirdsantuary.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 27<sup>th</sup> 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*

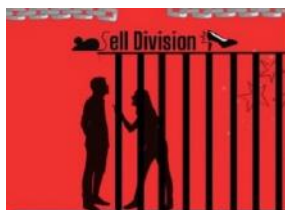


*Redirecting Stormwater Through Infiltration*

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

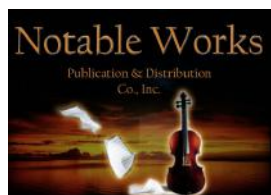
**Notable Works** announces that a scene from the musical ***Sell Division***, by Bina Gehres, Noreen Inglesi, Marianne Quinn, and Mary Zema, will be featured during **G Cole Theatrics'** presentation of ***Footloose***. Performances are Friday, February 27 at 7 PM, and Saturday, February 28 at 2 PM, 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 THEATRICALS Inc.



[www.notableworks.org](http://www.notableworks.org)

### Thank You to

### Notable Works' 2025/26 Sponsors:

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### Register now for the RIEEA Annual Summit!

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](https://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](mailto: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 250<sup>th</sup>  
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 250<sup>th</sup> 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](http://Barrington250.org).

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](http://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.*



**2026 Land & Water Summit  
March 21<sup>st</sup> at URI**

**Registration  
now open!**



Scan QR code or go to  
[rilandtrusts.org/2026-summit](http://rilandtrusts.org/2026-summit).

**Register by February 17<sup>th</sup>  
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](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](http://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!

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## 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*

**Conservation Easement Boundary**  
Private Property

**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 11<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:kathryn.zuromski@usda.gov), or 7-1-1 to access telecommunication relay services.

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Register with the QR code: