

OCTOBER 2026

Notable Notes

Notable Works Publication and Distribution Co., Inc.



Audubon Society
of Rhode Island



Photo by Kelsey Alpaio

Birds and Brews

*Audubon Nature Center and Aquarium,
Bristol, RI*

October 24, 2026; 4:00-7:00pm

Sip, savor and celebrate fall with Audubon! Meet Audubon's owl and hawk ambassadors as you enjoy a wicked fun evening of live music, local brews, food trucks, and s'mores around the fire. Proceeds support Audubon's bird conservation programs. Must be ages 21 or older to attend.

Learn more and purchase tickets through the events calendar at asri.org/calendar.



WOONASQUATUCKET RIVER
WATERSHED COUNCIL

Nuestros Bosques Forest Care Days

[Register for updates and locations.](#)

Sat., Oct. 3rd (Rain date Oct. 4th)

10AM to 2PM 90 Salmon St., Prov., RI

Join us for **Nuestros Bosques Forest Care Days**, a series of community volunteer days dedicated to caring for neighborhood trees and green spaces in Providence. Throughout the season, we'll travel to different sites across **02909** and **02908** to support the health of our growing urban forest. These gatherings bring neighbors together to care for the trees that shade our streets, cool our neighborhoods, and make our communities stronger. Volunteer tasks will vary by location and need. Together we may remove invasive plants, pick up litter, water young trees, spread mulch, and help maintain the spaces where our trees grow. Events are free, bilingual (Spanish and English), and open to everyone.

For WRWC events visit: www.wrwc.org/events

Notable Works' Upcoming Events

"Discover What the Pawtuxet River Authority is Up To"

Saturday, October 17, 2026 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Warwick Public Library 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI 02889

Robert Nero, Chairman of the Pawtuxet River Authority and Watershed Council, will share an inspiring look at the Pawtuxet River—its history, importance, and the ongoing efforts to protect and restore it.

Learn how the Pawtuxet River Authority supports river cleanups, fish passage, recreation, conservation, education and volunteer efforts—and how you can help.

The program will also feature readings by poets: **Tarshire Battle, Marjorie Leary, Karina Lutz, Diane H. Silva Pimentel, JoAnne Preiser, Seth Rafal and Fran Webber**, with artwork by: **Melissa Guillet, Seth Rafal, Mary Ann Rossoni and Ann Rozhon**, from Notable Works' new book **Voices of the Earth: The Future of Our Planet IV**. This initiative centers on the theme "Bridging the Divide and Coming Together for A Common Goal." Guests will also view the video ***Building Innovative Bridges for Tomorrow***, highlighting **Stormwater Innovation Center's** work to improve Rhode Island's water quality. Come and enjoy complimentary pizza from Dimitri's Pizzeria, punch and dessert and door prizes at this free event.

"Songs and Poems for the Earth and The Season"

Saturday, November 21, 2026, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the

North Providence Union Free Library, 1810 Mineral Spring Ave., No. Prov.

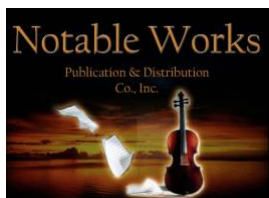
This free event features a presentation entitled "Intersection at the Intersection" by **Alicia Lehrer, Executive Director of the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC)**, highlighting the newly opened section of the Woonasquatucket River Greenway that now connects Olneyville to downtown Providence. There will also be music by the Notable Works' Ensemble, and readings from Notable Works' new book **Voices of the Earth: The Future of Our Planet IV** by poets: **Bill Carpenter, Sara Letourneau, James Manchester, Patricia McAlpine, Colleen Kelly Mellor, and Nina Quaratella**. The video ***Building Innovative Bridges for Tomorrow*** will also be shown and enjoy complimentary pizza from Santoro's Pizza, other refreshments, raffles and door prizes. ****At both upcoming events, it would be great if you would bring hats, socks, or gloves for Notable Works' "Love Warms the Homeless Heart" Winter Tote Bag donation bin. Donors will receive a chance to win a door prize. For more information, visit www.notableworks.org.**



Free Public Stormwater Walking Tour — Oct. 15, 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Tour green infrastructure sites in RWP and learn about SIC, stormwater, water quality, and volunteer opportunities. Meet at the Seal House. Register: [Walk-Tober: Free Stormwater Innovation Center Tour](#) Flyer: [Walking Tour Flyer](#)

A Day in the Life of a SIC CAGO Volunteer — Oct. 20, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Join a 3.2-mile walk around the RWP ponds to look for Canada geese and learn about the CAGO project and volunteer opportunities. Register: [Walk-Tober: CAGO Volunteer Walk](#) Flyer: [CAGO Volunteer Walk Flyer](#)

Group Watershed Walk — Oct. 27, 1:00–3:00 p.m. Take a relaxed 3.2-mile walk around RWP, stopping at watershed signs to learn more and access additional art and information. Register: [Walk-Tober: Group Watershed Walk](#) Flyer: [Watershed Walk Flyer](#)



www.notableworks.org

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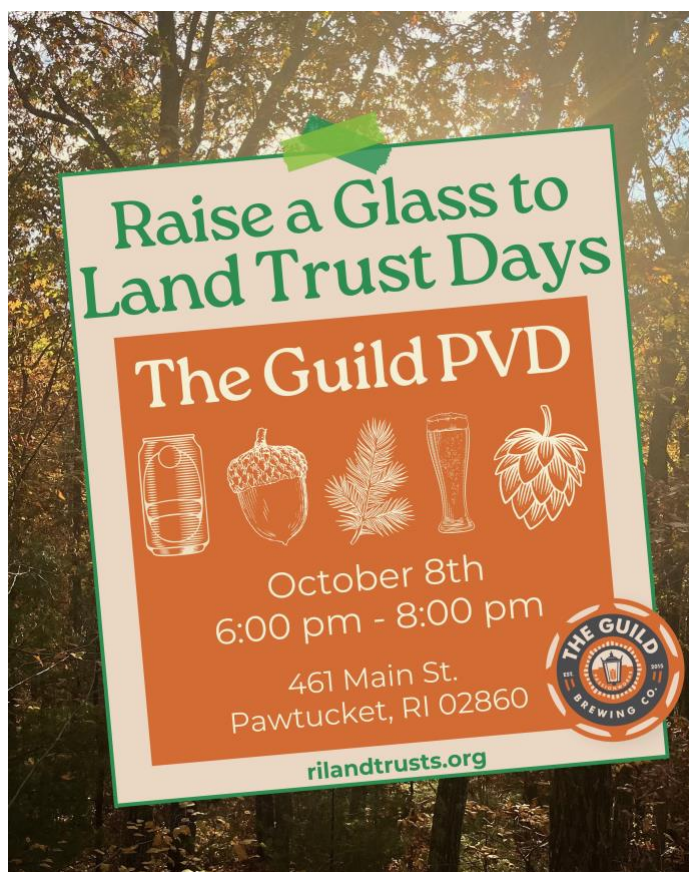
Audubon Society of Rhode Island,
Dimitri's Pizzeria, Lang's Bowlarama,
Stop and Shops of Warwick and
North Providence, Shaw's of North
Providence, Santoro's Pizza and
Texas Roadhouse of Warwick



**Combining Art & Science
To Save Species
Tuesday, October 20
@ 7:00 pm
Barrington Public Library**

Wildlife populations are declining around the world because of human impacts, and yet too few of us are part of the solution. **The Barrington Land Conservation Trust** invites you to attend a free presentation by **Dr. Lucy Spelman**, founder of the local organization **Creature Conserve**. She will offer a behind-the-scenes look at how combining art and science can bring us together to save species. The event will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 7 pm in the Salem Family Auditorium at the Barrington Public Library, our partner in the **Learning Series**. To register, go to www.blct.org.

"Dr. Lucy" believes that we need a more inviting and inclusive approach to wildlife conservation, one that is open to diverse perspectives from the arts, humanities, sciences, traditional ecological knowledge and beyond.



Be Part of an Unforgettable Night!

This year's **Neighbors Helping Neighbors** is more than a fundraiser—it's an opportunity to be part of a remarkable milestone. *Join us **October 8 from 5:00-7:30pm** and be among the first to experience an exclusive preview of our new **Health & Housing Apartments** before we officially open the doors.*



Together, we'll celebrate the completion of Rhode Island's first permanent supportive apartment community designed specifically **for medically vulnerable adults experiencing homelessness**—an innovative model that combines stable housing with connections to health and mental healthcare partners.

All proceeds support Crossroads' essential programs—permanent housing, temporary emergency shelter, case management, and education & employment services—which helped nearly 4,800 men, women, and children through our housing and supportive services last year. *Don't miss out—[secure your spot today](#) to enjoy meaningful connections and inspiring stories.*



RIEEA AWARDS CEREMONY

Join the Rhode Island Environmental Education Association (RIEEA) as we recognize and celebrate the 2026 Environmental Education Award Winners - **Lara Haggerty, Layla Farahbakhsh, Avery Walsh, and Save The Bay** - at a ceremony on **Wednesday, October 21, 6:00-8:00pm**, at the Save The Bay Center in Providence. There will be an open bar with wine, beer, and soft drinks, delicious refreshments served by local caterer More Than A Meal, and a short program in which the winners will accept their awards. It's a wonderful event you won't want to miss! Tickets are on a **sliding scale** to ensure everyone can access the event. Purchase tickets at <https://www.rieea.org/programs/environmental-education-awards/>

Newport, Bristol and Barrington Residents! Join the curbside pickup composting program!



Sign up today and
receive:

- Discounted rate
- FREE bin
- WEEKLY pickup
- free bag of compost each spring.

Composting your food scraps can
reduce your household trash by up
to 40%.



Global Environmental Initiative



Nano- Bubble System

Click the Link to View on You Tube

https://youtube.com/shorts/2Dm_q7VqjwY?is=eug5qn13lqPTVCPw

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Land Title of Peace and Plenty Community Garden Transferred to Southside Community Land Trust in Garden Ceremony

At the height of the growing season, on Monday, August 31, 2026, ownership of the Peace & Plenty Community Garden in Providence was permanently transferred to the [Southside Community Land Trust](https://www.southsideclt.org). The 1/3 acre, 55 plot garden was the site of the actual title transfer by Paolino Properties CEO and former Providence Mayor Joseph Paolino Jr. with Mayor Brett Smiley being the witness for the transfer. The deed then was given to Margaret DeVos, Executive Director of the Southside Community Land Trust, a local non-profit that has managed the space for nearly 40 years. The transfer permanently protects the garden plots from future development, guaranteeing that local neighborhood residents can securely grow food in the garden for generations to come. <https://www.southsideclt.org>.



Rhode Island Nature Video Festival

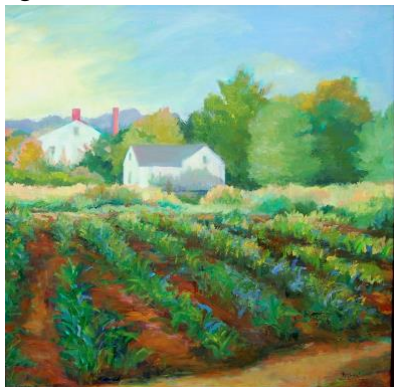
Each year the **RI College Environmental Club**, the **RI Natural History Survey** and **Friends of the Moshassuck** put out a call to all Rhode Islanders to submit short (less than 7 minutes) videos on nature in Rhode Island. We have been doing this for about 10 years. We have a short list of requirements, including the video be your own work, that you do not violate copyright laws with the music in the video, and that it be filmed in RI or adjacent waters. No pets or killing animals. This fall we shall put out a call for the submission of videos. We ask that the link be sent to gerritt@mindspring.com (where you can also direct questions) and that the videos be on a publicly accessible video platform so we can easily download them to use in the festival. There is a more extensive list of rules,(you can request them) but this will get you started. Videos should be submitted by January 15 2027.

The **video festival** will take place on a Saturday afternoon in February, date still to be finalized, at Rhode Island College, where we show all the videos and have video makers take questions from the audience. We encourage everyone to submit videos and to attend what has developed into an excellent afternoon of entertainment and education about the wild in Rhode Island.

Joshua's Garden

By JoAnn Preiser

My son kneels by an old fence
digging holes in hard packed dirt,
unearthing roots, twisted and tough,
shards of glass, buckets of stones.
He adds compost, and fertilizer, handfuls
of mulch for the hundreds of plants
he's selected. *Only native*, he lectures.
They might have a chance
against deer that wander
from the town forest each night
to savor his labors— the deer's tariff—
one for him, a few for them.
It's a battle he relishes, searching
new strategies to hold them off:
Wild Ginger, Christmas Fern, Lamb's Ear,
and Coneflowers for color,
most survive the week; the Hosta's I dug
from my garden, transplanted to his
suffer some casualties, but with patience,
a new fish-line fence, they'll resurrect
next spring. Patience. How did it grow
in this boy who ran from sport to sport
from major to major- even his favorite
video games did not endure?
But there he is, every night after dinner,
night after night until dark, honing his garden
waiting for summer's bloom.



"Jeff's Farm" Painting by Ann Rozhon



Greetings, Creatives and Supporters! The next Words on Fire Open Mic takes place from 6:00-7:30 PM on Wednesday, October 7 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!

"Letters to Boulders: Every Rock Has a Story" takes place at the William Hall Library on Wednesday, October 14 from 6:30-7:30 PM. Join poet Karen Donovan and geologist Dr. Beth Laliberte for a poetic look at the Rhode Island landscape. [More information and registration are available on our website.](#)

The Crisis⁴

By Jack Cooper

My fisherman friend
who picks up trash
as he bathes in the wilds
and puts the fish he hooks
back in the river
can't stop it

Another who hounds city hall
sends outraged letters to the paper
rides an e-bike
heats his house by sunshine
and refuses to eat meat
can't do enough

My neighbor who once ran a business
selling old lumber and tools
to save others
from falling more trees
and topping more hills
couldn't get it done

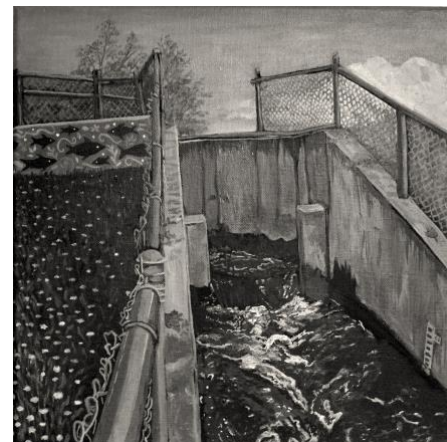
I have friends who farm
friends who march
friends who steal your breath
with their good works
and everyone around me
votes like there's no tomorrow

No one should doubt how much
power
we give to helplessness
how much sadness
we have wrought
how much love it will take
to keep the sun on our side



The **RI Writing Project** will be hosting our Fall Conference with the theme "Old School Literacy" on Saturday, Oct. 24, at Alger Hall from 8:30-12. Here's the description: Step back to the 90's with your baggy jeans, flannel shirts, bandanas, and combat boots in the pre-NCLB, pre-CCSS, pre-HQC, and pre-AI era. We are offering workshops in ELA,

history/social studies, and science focused on interactive, culturally responsive, and joyful learning experiences. Explore what brought you to teaching, what makes you stay in the field, and what gives you the energy to keep going. Talk with colleagues about writing workshops, Dungeons and Dragons, using literature circles, seeing the wonders of the outdoors, and so much more. Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/ZEcWd2FLVSCBXVqG7> Rhode Island Writing Project. RIWP.org [Want to sign up for our mailing list? Sign up here!](#)



"Fish Ladder"

Painting by Melissa Guillet

*Both Poems and Artworks
Published in Notable Works'
**Voices of the Earth: The Future
of Our Planet IV***

*To order your copy visit:
www.notableworks.org*

**Midterms Are Coming Up.
Your Vote is your Voice.**

Quote of the Month

"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"

By Mary Oliver

This popular quote became a kind of rallying cry, for on its own it leaves the reader zealous: Seize the day, it seems to say. Get up and go! But taking it from its place, at the end of Mary Oliver's poem "The Summer Day," alters its meaning. In context, it is decidedly against ambition; the poem describes a day alone in nature. The speaker, described as "idle and blessed," observes a grasshopper, kneels, strolls, and simply pays attention. "Tell me," she asks, "what else should I have done? / Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?" Perhaps the key to understanding the poem is in reading the phrase "what is it you plan to do" as ironic. Life, Oliver suggests, is inherently "wild and precious." **Our job is simply to pause and notice it is so.**