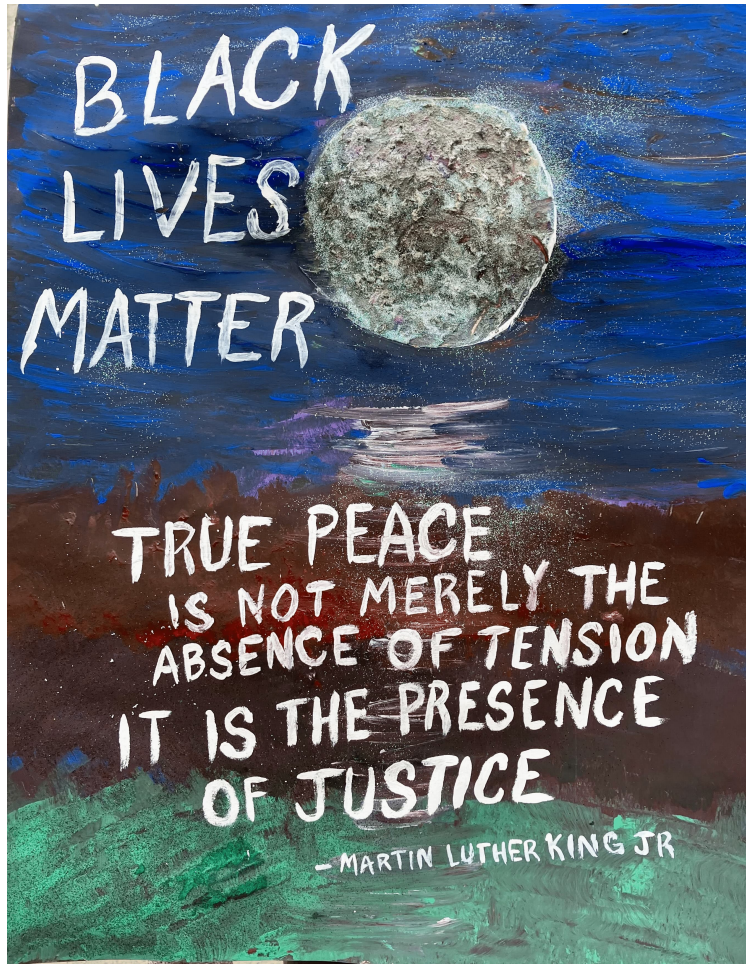


Embrace



January 22

This Week

Join us on Sunday as we continue our weekly gatherings that began 138 Sundays ago! The consistent presence of ARC on the post office steps has become part of the fabric of our town and an important reminder to our community of our commitment to justice. Whether you have joined us once, or 101 times, or have expressed your support with a honk or by subscribing to our newsletter, you have been an integral part of ARC.

Though there will be no formal programming this week, we look forward to time to interact with familiar faces and welcome new supporters. Some of our most memorable gatherings have been during these unstructured Sundays, so don't miss it!



Last Week

The biting wind chill did not prevent a number of activists from celebrating Martin Luther King Day on the steps of the post office last Sunday. Each participant chose an MLK quote from a container and discussed King's words in small groups for several minutes. We then took some time to share our quotes and comments as a whole group. Many reflected on the diverse range of issues Martin Luther King was involved in, including fighting to end poverty, decreasing military spending, improved access to health care, living in a materialistic society, and the dangers of capitalism.

"Our scientific power has outrun our spiritual power. We have guided missiles and misguided men." (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)

To close out our program, **Geoff Kaufman** sang two songs for us that were fitting tributes to this special day. We ended by joining in the chorus with Geoff and singing:

We're gonna make a house of dreams

Where everything is as real as it seems

Together we will make a house of dreams.

We meet every **Sunday from 11:00-1:00** on the steps of the Westerly Post Office on High Street. Join us anytime!

Empower



STATE SENATOR VICTORIA GU
WESTERLY TOWN COUNCILMEMBERS
TBA

Let's Talk about Shoreline Access

First 45 min: An update on state & town issues
Then: How to advocate for shoreline access

Town Hall Meeting

AT WESTERLY TOWN HALL



A 1.5 Hour
Discussion

Free &
Open to
the Public

Wednesday
Jan 25th

6:00 pm - 7:30pm
45 Broad St
Westerly, RI, 02891

With Special Guests



Topher Hamblett

Director of Advocacy
RI Save the Bay



Leah Feldman

Coastal Policy Analyst
Coastal Resources
Management Council

RSVP & submit questions: www.victoria4ri.com/town-hall

Town Hall Meeting Hosted by Senator Victoria Gu

Wed Jan 25th 6pm - 7:30pm

Open to the public at Westerly Town Hall, 45 Broad St

Please join RI State Senator Victoria Gu and several Westerly Town Council members for a town hall event to discuss shoreline access. It will take place Wednesday, January 25th, 6pm -7:30pm, at the Westerly Town Hall. The first 45 minutes will include updates on state and town issues and open Q&A, and then we will discuss shoreline access issues and hear from special guests Topher Hamblett (Director of Advocacy at Save the Bay) and Leah Feldman (Coastal Policy Analyst at the Coastal Resources Management Council).

Please note that the date in last week's newsletter has changed. The Town Hall Meeting will be held on Jan. 25.

Town Meetings

Westerly ARC encourages those who can to attend Westerly Town Council and School Committee meetings. Your presence and involvement is an important way to show our elected officials that creating a more equitable and inclusive town and school system must always be a priority.



January 23 Town Council Meeting, 5:30

February 1 School Committee Meeting, 5:00

February 13 Town Council Meeting, 5:30

February 15 School Committee Meeting, 5:00

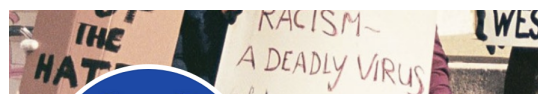
February 27 Town Council Meeting, 5:30

Here is the link to meeting schedules and agendas:

<https://clerkshq.com/westerly-ri>

Like, Subscribe, Comment, Share!

The ARC Steering Committee has been meeting to revise our goals for 2023. We look forward to sharing more about our work and how you can be involved.



Westerly ARC

275 likes · 343 followers



In the meantime, one of the most important actions you can take is to engage with us on social media. Like, subscribe, share, and comment on our posts on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) in order to spread the word about the positive impact ARC is having on our community. Make this your first [New Year's resolution](#) and start now! Thank you.



Act

Here are a few ongoing ways you can support the work of Westerly ARC.

[View our Calendar](#)



Share

Spread the news!
Forward this newsletter to at least one person you think might be interested in it. Ask them to sign up for our newsletter on the [Westerly ARC website](#).

Don't forget to like, subscribe, comment, and share on our social media posts!



Donate

ARC advocate Amanda Dunn continues to collect toiletries, personal care items, and non-perishable food to distribute to our community. Please bring your donations to Amanda at our Sunday rallies. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated.



Show Up

Stop by one of our weekly gatherings, join one of the events listed in this newsletter, attend a town meeting, etc.

"We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented."

— Elie Wiesel

Educate

RHODE ISLAND BLACK STORYTELLERS PRESENTS:

FUNDA FEST 25

JANUARY
14-29, 2023

A SANKOFA CELEBRATION OF BLACK STORYTELLING

HARRIET TUBMAN

A one-woman presentation by
JANICE CURTIS GREENE

Wednesday, January 25
South Kingstown High School
215 Columbia St, Wakefield, RI 02879
6 - 7:30 p.m.

In anticipation of
the PBS documentary
HARRIET TUBMAN
VISIONS OF FREEDOM

Airing February 12 at 9 p.m.
on WSBE Rhode Island PBS

fundafest.org



Funda Fest 25

Several tellers from South Kingstown's Jonnycake Storytelling Festival, including Len Cabral and Valerie Tutson, formed the RI Black Storytellers in the late 90s, beginning FUNDA FEST in 1998. And now FUNDA is celebrating its 25th Anniversary with an extra weekend of storytelling events and **three FREE storytelling events** in South Kingstown. All are open to the public.

Poetry of Langston Hughes

- UUCSC Sunday Service, **January 22, 2023, 10 a.m.**
- April Brown, Kai Cameron and Eugenie Rose Belony, Langston Hughes Center

Harriet Tubman: A one-woman show by Janice Curtis Greene

- Special production: Wednesday, **January 25, 2023, 6:00-7:30 PM**
- South Kingston High School See flyer directly below.

Brazilian-American storyteller Antonio Rocha

- UUCSC Sunday Service, **January 29, 2023, 10 AM**

A pass for all festival events and tickets for individual concerts/events, running January 14-29, 2023 can be purchased at fundafest.org. All ticketed shows are offered both in-person and live streamed.



Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America

ARC supporter Pam Young has recommended the Netflix documentary [Who We Are: A Chronicle of Racism in America](#). From the film website: “Former ACLU Deputy Legal Director Jeffery Robinson’s groundbreaking talk on the history of U.S. anti- Black racism is interwoven with archival footage, interviews, and Robinson’s story, exploring the enduring legacy of white supremacy and our collective responsibility to overcome it.”

Click the image above to watch a preview. Let us know your thoughts after watching the film!

Culture Calendar

January 22 – **Lunar New Year (China) and Tết (Vietnam)**

Chúc mừng năm mới Happy New Year!

While the Lunar New Year is celebrated in China and across many Asian cultures, the holiday is known as Tết in Vietnam. Due to some differences in the Chinese and Vietnamese zodiac calendars, 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit in China and the Year of the Cat in Vietnam. No matter which version you celebrate, this is a time for family gatherings and many specific traditions unique to each culture such as making offerings to ancestors. To learn more, read more about [Lunar New Year](#) and [Tết](#) at these links.



Up Next

Calendar of Events	
January 23	Town Council Meeting, 5:30 pm
January 25	Town Meeting hosted by Senator Victoria Gu, 6:00-7:30 pm, Town Hall
February 1	School Committee Meeting, 5:00 pm
February 13	Town Council Meeting, 5:30 pm
February 15	School Committee Meeting, 5:00 pm



Westerly Anti-Racism Coalition

Join our weekly gatherings

Sundays 11-1

Downtown Westerly Post Office steps

westerlyarc@gmail.com

You received this email because you signed up on our website or at one of our events.



[Unsubscribe](#)

