FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Exploring Indigenous Ecological Wisdom and Tradition

Peace Dale — February 2025— The deep and enduring relationship between the Narragansett people and the natural world takes center stage in **"Our Beloved Relations: The Narragansett Connections to Plants and Water."** In a two part lecture series hosted and sponsored by the Social and Racial Justice Group at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County, 27 North Road, Peace Dale, Indigenous educators from the Tomaquag Museum, share their ecological wisdom, tradition, and the ongoing efforts to protect our planet, These compelling presentations highlight the sacred and practical roles that plants and water play in Narragansett culture, tradition, and everyday life.

On March 3, 2025, 7PM, Silvermoon LaRose will guide us through **"Ohkehteau Unnehtongquatash Plant Stories"**, an exploration that reveals the timeless narratives connecting people to the gifts of our ecology. Through storytelling and cultural insights, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how these living entities are cherished as relatives in the broader fabric of life.

"We are honored to share our deep-rooted connections to the land and water, which have always been central to our way of life," said Silvermoon LaRose, Museum educator. "This initiative is not just about history; it's about how we continue to uphold and protect these relationships for future generations."

On March 24, 2025, 7 PM, Chrystal Mars Baker presents **"Water is Life."** She will discuss the vital role of water in Indigenous culture, its cultural significance and the Indigenous-led movement to protect it. Water that quenches and cleanses, that heals and destroys, is an essential component of Indigenous foodways, technology, medicine, ceremony, and spirituality. "Water is life and that is why we fight to protect it," Chrystal Mars Baker

Through storytelling, historical knowledge, and contemporary perspectives, **"Our Beloved Relations"** series seeks to foster a greater understanding of Indigenous ecological wisdom and sustainable practices. This initiative emphasizes the importance of preserving natural resources, honoring ancestral knowledge, and continuing the traditions that have sustained the Narragansett people for generations.

These events are offered free to the public through a generous grant from the Carolyn C. Hurdis Fund for Racial Justice at UUCSC. To register please visit uusouthcountyri.org.

Event Details

Location:

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County 27 North Road, Peace Dale, RI 02879

Dates & Times:

- Monday, March 3, 2025, 7PM Silvermoon LaRose "Ohkehteau Unnehtongquatash Plant Stories"
- Monday, March 24, 2025, 7PM Chrystal Mars Baker "Water is Life"

About the Social and Racial Justice Group at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County

At the heart of our work is a commitment to social justice, environmental stewardship, and the celebration of diverse cultural narratives. Through events like these, we strive to honor Indigenous traditions and promote a deeper connection to the natural world, encouraging collective action to safeguard our shared environment.

Join us as we explore the connections that bind us to our land and water, reaffirming our responsibility to protect these cherished relationships for generations to come.

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