

LOCAL

Multicultural Health Institute to screen 'Dark Waters' and host environmental workshops

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The Multicultural Health Institute will host environmental attorney Robert Bilotts and a screening of "Dark Waters" on April 24 at Fogartyville, 525 Kumquat Court, in Sarasota with a followup forum on April 25 at the Crosley Estate, 8374 N. Tamiami Trail.

The film highlights Bilott's successful lawsuit against the multinational chemical company DuPont. Bilott received the Right Livelihood Award for his decades of work.

"Dark Waters," a 2019 legal thriller, stars Mark Ruffalo as Bilott and was awarded Best Feature Film award at the Environmental Media Association Awards. It tells Bilotts' story of how he took great risks to uncover the connection between unexplained deaths and unregulated chemicals from DuPont, one of the world's largest corporations.

Following the screening, Bilott will lead a conversation to discuss the work that still must be done to protect the environment from dangerous pollutants. The forum at Crosley Estate will focus on the Florida Suncoast, addressing issues including increasing red tide threats. The panel will include attorney Justin Bloom, founder and board vice-chair of the Suncoast Waterkeeper; former three-time mayor of Sarasota Fredd Atkins; Kameron Partridge Hodgens of the Gulf Coast Community Foundation; Christine Quigley of the Sarasota Bay Estuary Program; and Tom Higginbotham, director of environmental health, emergency preparedness, and safety for the Sarasota Department of Health.

For tickets and more information, visit the-mhi.org.

Submitted by Alexandra Andrade