



Sister Cities News

Prime Minister Stuart Designates National Park in Official Ceremony



The establishment of a system of parks and open spaces in Barbados was made official during a ceremony held at the offices of the National Heritage Department in [St. Thomas Parish] on June 1. A major goal of the new system is to protect and conserve the natural resources of the island while supporting the social and economic development of the existing communities with the parks boundaries. Prime Minister Stuart delivered the keynote address.

The National Park will include Harrison's Cave, Codrington College and Flower Forest stretching from St. Lucy to St. Philip. The park parameters also include the Scotland District and Mount Hillaby, the highest elevation on the island. During the Colonial Period, the British thought the area with its rolling hills resembled Scotland and the parish was named St. Andrews - patron saint of Barbados, Scotland and several other countries. The district is actually the summit of an elongated submarine mountain range that is several hundred kilometers long. Barbados is the only location between Trinidad and Puerto Rico where the mountain range is above water. The Scotland District has been under consideration to become a UNESCO world heritage site since 2005.

Bellairs Research Institute, an affiliate of McGill University [Canada] located in Hometown, expects to continue providing technical assistance and research on the sustainability of the protected areas. The institute has been operating on the island since 1954 and is open to all academics and researchers interested in tropical terrestrial or marine environments.

Photo credit: Nation News

Why On Earth Do You Want to Become a Teacher?



Allison Lloyd, a graduate student at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, spent a month this spring teaching math to New Horizons middle school students in San Pedro. In order to capture the experience of studying abroad, UNCW students are encouraged to maintain a blog.

With Allison's permission, we selected some of her reflections to share with you. Prior to entering the Master's program in teaching at UNCW, Allison spent time living and working in Japan.

...People choose or end up in the teaching profession for a slew of reasons, but for me when I finally ended up on this path I truly saw no other way. I moved to Japan to teach because I had a little bit of teaching experience and wanted to explore the world after graduating college in a manner that was feasible and safe. What I did not expect was to fall in love with teaching. There is nothing like having students that become "yours," and becoming an influential role in their lives, learning and development. In Japan you are a sensei, which is an honored and revered position in

Japanese society. After a year and a half working with Amity corporation and teaching English conversation lessons in a small private school I decided it was time to return to the states. Eventually, I concocted a plan to attend graduate school and earn my teaching license. I was not done with my role as an educator.

Little did I know how overwhelming the teaching program would be when I began the long, arduous journey. However, I applied to sojourn and teach in Belize for the last month of my field experience knowing the trip to Central America would be an incentive and light at the end of the tunnel that is the horror of graduate school. I had been to third world countries before on a backpacking trip through Southeast Asia and slightly knew how to prepare myself to work in another country and travel in a place with little resources or money.

Now, reflecting on my experience in Belize, I am revisiting the culture shock I had when I returned to the states after 19 months in Asia. I also can feel the change in myself as a teacher and know I have grown professionally and personally with this experience. One major thing I learned is the vast difference between teaching in a country with resources and structure, like the United States and Japan, and teaching in a country with almost nothing in comparison such as Belize. The school shares one projector and doesn't have air conditioning in 90% of the rooms. I have also never taught middle school students and most certainly never taught math! What had to change to cope with my new situation was not to change my situation at New Horizons, but to change my perspective. I became flexible and learned to adapt and aid with what I could instead of complaining and trying to change what I could not. Instead of lightening your load sometimes you just need to strengthen your back to carry it.

Now we know why Allison wants to teach. To follow Allison's blog - www.allieismakingwaves.weebly.com

Photo credit: Allison Lloyd

First Brit to Win The Masters in 20 Years



There's more than a bit of South Yorkshire pride in the Sheffield/Doncaster region. Local pro-golfer Danny Willet and new father to Zachariah James won The Masters this April. He claims that if their child was not born before the game, he would withdraw and luckily for all the Willet household, his son was born on March 29. Willet's odds going into the tournament were 125/1 at the start, and he went on to achieve a final round score of 67. Bogey free five under par return sealed his first major title placing him in the top ten in the world.

Willet was born and raised in Sheffield. His dad was a local vicar and his mom taught mathematics. He spent his early years on a Sheffield municipal golf course where his Dad dropped him off with lunch money while he went to tend to parish affairs. He left school at sixteen but then was offered a golf scholarship from Jacksonville State University in Alabama [US] which he accepted. He stayed for two years but left despite achieving the 2006 Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the year.

Willet turned pro in 2008 at 19 years old and made the cut in 2015 to play The Masters where he tied for 38th place. It's no wonder he wasn't favored to win in 2016 but he defied the odds and left wearing green. There are reports that he has used the golf simulator at the Doncaster Golf Range. Southern Yorkshire has certainly earned its bragging rights on the golf circuit.

Photo credit: CNN

Wilmington City Council Declares July 15 International Day

Sister Cities International Day will commemorate sixty years since the organization was founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Sister Cities International began with the mission to create more community-led global relationships so that people of different cultures could appreciate their differences and build partnerships that would lessen the chance of new national conflicts.

The City of Wilmington passed a resolution at its June 21 Council meeting to join hundreds of cities around the globe in celebrating this day as a major milestone for world peace. Wilmington formed a sister city commission in 1986 and has since partnered with Dandong, China; Doncaster, England; Bridgetown, Barbados; and San Pedro, Belize.



Connect with the Best Educators in the World August 2

Edmodo is a web-based platform that provides a safe easy way for teachers and students to connect, collaborate and share content. For educators interested in elevating global learning the EdmodoCon 2016 is coming up on August 2-3. Registration and participation are free. If you are not familiar with Edmodo, it is an educational technology tool that offers the option of creating a blended learning classroom around the globe. Hoggard High School math students used Edmodo when collaborating on a geometry project with classrooms in China and Poland.

Wilmington to Offer International Protocol Training this October

Sister Cities and its partners, the UNCW Office of International Programs and the Consulate General of Belize, are planning a full day program focused on the rules of international protocol between governments, institutions, as well as between companies and their representatives.

The training will be held on Thursday, October 13 from 8 AM to 4 PM in the Fisher University Union on campus. The facilitator/trainer is Lawrence Dunham, an associate with The Protocol Partners in Washington DC. Mr. Dunham served as the US Assistant Chief of Protocol for the State Department for 16 years before joining the firm. More information and how to register will be available in September.

The training will cover everything from formal ceremonies and diplomacy to what to wear and dining etiquette. Attendees will have an enhanced ability to work in international environments and understanding key elements of cross-cultural communications.

Sister City Commission

Harriet Smith recognized young artist Madelyn (Madie) Schider at the June 21 City Council meeting and presented her with a check for \$150. Madie is a junior at Hoggard High School in Wilmington. Her graphite drawing, titled "Woman", was submitted to the national organization [SCI] in May to compete at the international level. The grand prize is \$1,000 and a sponsored trip to the Youth Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. The finalists and winning art will be on display at selected locations throughout the year.

When asked what inspired Madie's art, a portrait of her mother, she responded with the statement, "My mother is beautiful and peaceful." The competition theme for 2016 was peace through people.

Citizen to Citizen Diplomacy Honor Roll

SCAW attempts to involve as many people and institutions as possible to achieve its mission in Wilmington and the international community. We want to recognize the individuals and groups that have made a contribution in the past calendar quarter through their active participation or support of a Sister City program activity.

Fenton Maxwell
Marilyn Cantarella
Allison Lloyd
Tracy Corle

Scott Czechlewski
Chad Fan
Maria Goudiss
Harriet Smith

Upcoming Events

July 13-17 (Wed-Sat) The SCI Annual Conference will be held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC. Pre-registration required at www.sister-cities.org

Aug 2-3 (Tue-Wed) EdmodoCon 2016 Join a live stream conference for educators to share best practices in global learning. Free but preregistration is required. For more info and to register - www.edmodo.com

Sept 6 (Tue) Join city leaders in welcoming in the UNCW incoming international students during a reception at City Hall from 5:30 - 6:30 PM. Following the reception students will choose between a guided tour of the historic downtown or attending the City Council meeting. This is a '**member only**' event.

Oct 13 (Thur) Protocol Training – Full day of training designed to help attendees with the basics of international protocol between governments, organizations and business entities. UNCW Fisher University Union (parking Lot M) Time: 8-4. Cost for the day includes lunch and all materials \$45 SCAW or NCFTPC members/\$55 non-members. Questions – membership@scawilmington.org

Oct 30 (Sun) Peace through Music Concert at the Basilica Shrine of St. Mary on Fifth Ave. Doors open at 5 PM. Program 5:30-7:00 PM. Family friendly, free - donations accepted.

Nov 10 (Thur) Filmmaker's Luncheon Join us at Riverboat Landing as we welcome international visitors to Cucalorus over lunch and hear about their films which are being screened over the 4-day festival. Cost: \$12 Time: 11:45 to 1:00 PM. Pre-reservations required – membership@scawilmington.org