



TENTH ANNIVERSARY



BEST Updates - Our end of year round-up!

BEST celebrated its 10th anniversary with a tribute to Stuart Hayward for his unwavering advocacy for environmental sustainability in Bermuda. As BEST transitions leadership to Kim Smith, we want to thank Stuart for all of his work and devotion over the years.



BEST Christmas Gift Idea!



BEST fundraiser: in collaboration with the Bermuda Festival we are pleased to announce an authentically Bermudian cultural event will be held at the Earl Cameron Theatre in the City Hall on **January 31, 2018**. **The Uniquely Bermudian Musings of Jeremy Frith and Friends** will offer "uniquely Bermudian poetry, spoken-word and music by a gathering of generations of artists inspired by the beauty and complexity of their island home". Please join us in support of the Bermuda Festival and BEST. Purchase your tickets via this link:

bermudafestival.org/performer/jeremy-frith-friends

BESTNet

In October we told you about a new BEST initiative set up to empower communities to identify and report on any environmental concerns in their local areas. Increasing the level of our environmental awareness provides us an opportunity to make our concerns known to BEST who will then direct them on to the proper local authority to have them addressed.

Email: bestnet@best.org.bm if there is an issue of concern to you.

Every single person can make a difference, so imagine the difference we can make together!

Good News!

Southlands has been added to the list of National Parks!



Read more about it here:
www.royalgazette.com/news/article/20171206/southlands-added-to-list-of-national-parks

Active Campaigns

Planning Applications Review - BEST reviewed 28 files in September & October and submitted 8 objections. Development never stops in Bermuda and we do our best to ensure that all proceed with Bermuda's best interests at heart!

Botanical Gardens - Plans to build a maintenance yard at the site adjacent to the Botanical Gardens have been put on hold by the Government as they evaluate other sites with less potential for disruption.

Morgan's Point - BEST is currently contesting plans for development of an access road to be built through land zoned for agricultural purposes.

Rosewood Tuckers Point - the purchasers of Rosewood Tuckers Point (Gencom) seem to leaning more toward eco-tourism

Water Conservation - We are currently researching potential issues as they pertain to water conservation in Bermuda. Any persons with information they think might be useful for this research would be welcomed and should contact the BEST office at office@best.org.bm.

Railway trail ATV Proposal - We are monitoring plans to permit ATV tours along the railway trail in the West end. While we believe the public outcry against such plans has been clear, we are actively following the situation and will campaign against such plans.

Potential Future Campaigns

Marsh Folly - BEST believes the Pembroke marsh could be ideal for rezoning as parkland and to develop running paths and public spaces for the benefit of the community in the surrounding areas. Ideas for economic development of these areas could also be small concessions, coffee shops, or other artisanal outlets. There have been projects in the past to consider restoration possibilities along the Pembroke canal and we feel it worth our BEST efforts too.

Preservation of Land - It is critically important to maintain our open spaces and to ensure that lands already protected under conservation zonings (Open Space Reserve, Nature Reserve, Ag Reserve, Woodland Reserve) are actually protected. Evidence points to the gradual loss of open spaces due to continual rezoning. BEST believes it is important to stay vigilant on this topic!

Interested in Volunteering?

We are looking for individuals to join our Management Team! Any persons with an interest in the environment and the sustainable development of Bermuda should contact Kim Smith at the BEST office: by telephone 292-3782 or by email at office@best.org.bm

In closing we wish you a good year ahead and may your days be filled with peace, hope and joy this holiday season.

As always, thank you for your loyalty and support.

Sincerely,

All of us at BEST

