







December 11 is **International Mountain Day**. The observation is an initiative of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization to highlight the importance of the world's highlands. Over 3 billion people rely on mountains for water, food and clean energy. The theme for International Mountain Day 2017 is **MOUNTAINS UNDER PRESSURE**: **Climate**, **Hunger**, **Migration**.



THE BLUE AND JOHN CROW MOUNTAINS CELEBRATES 25 YEARS IN 2018 – Managers of the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park, the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust, will launch the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of activities on International Mountain Day, December 11. The area was designated as a national park on February 26, 1993. Highlights of the anniversary calendar include:

- Peak Challenge Hikes starting January 27
- ABENG Symphony in the Mountains
- February 25
- Launch of the Junior Ranger Club for young visitors to Holywell – March 25
- Grand Opening of the new Visitors' Centre and Café at Holywell



**D&G FOUNDATION BECOMES A STRATEGIC PARTNER** – As part of efforts to broaden the scope and reach of Red Stripe's sustainability agenda, the D&G Foundation planted 150 saplings in October at Holywell and donated \$250,000 dollars to the JCDT. Close to 30 members of the D&G Foundation Club participated in the work day. "The tree planting exercise is a demonstration of Red Stripe's pledge to consistently protect the environment. The JCDT provided the perfect opportunity to deliver on our commitment at a national level," said Garth Williams, Red Stripe's Sustainability Manager.



JCDT CALLS FOR FOCUSED MANAGEMENT OF COCKPIT COUNTRY— [Executive Director of the JCDT, Dr. Susan Otuokon has applauded the Government of Jamaica's decision to officially designate boundaries for the Cockpit Country. She cautioned however that this was only the first step to protecting the area.] Dr. Otuokon stated that the JCDT would like to see more active, focused and strategic management of the new protected area which extends and consolidates existing forest reserves. She noted that a protected area is not simply about marking a boundary on a map, but critically, implementing conservation, education and sustainable livelihoods work on the ground.

SOURCE: Petchary.wordpress.com



## CHRISTMAS BREEZE - December 17, 2017

Mark your calendar for a family fun day at Holywell on Sunday, December 17. **Christmas Breeze** will treat patrons to guided trail tours, face painting and games. A highlight of the day will be craft sessions for children – where plastics and natural found materials will be used to make Christmas decorations. Refreshments will be on sale and there will be prizes and surprises. Admission is J\$1000 for adults and J\$500 for children. Activities start at 10 a.m.





Friends of the Blue Mountains

The Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park is managed by the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDT). The JCDT is a registered charity which receives part-funding from the Government of Jamaica. The remaining 70% of the park management budget is financed by grants and donations.

The **Friends of the Blue Mountains** programme is an opportunity for individuals and companies to support conservation efforts in the national park. All contributions are tax deductible. **Friends of the Blue Mountains** support the management of the national park through annual contributions in the following tiers:

INDIVIDUAL - J\$ 3,000
CORPORATE AGATE - J\$ 25,000
CORPORATE MALACHITE - J\$ 50,000
CORPORATE JADE - J\$ 75,000
CORPORATE EMERALD - J\$ 100,000

Complimentary JCDT membership is extended to *Individual-Friends of the Blue Mountains*. JCDT members participate in the decision-making activities that guide the work of the Trust.



## JAMAICA CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST

25 Eastwood Park Road, Kingston 10 TELEPHONE: 960-2848-9 / 920-8278/9 EMAIL: marketing@blueandjohncrowmountains.org