



# NEWSLETTER

## SUMMER CAMP FROM EARTH ANGLE

Humane Inclusion Summer Experience at the Virgin Islands Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped July 11th to July 26th 2016

*Humane Inclusion Camp Mission is* "to implement and conduct ability inclusive camp experiences to change lives!" <http://earthangle.weebly.com> Please visit this website.



Our Library was home to a summer camp. They began each day at the Library and then they were in the field the rest of the day. During the time onsite they would color, listen to talking books about woolly mammoths and plants. They listened and viewed a Braille/picture book about a runaway slave who literally shipped himself North to freedom in a large box during the period of slavery in the United States.

The rest of the time was outside exploring the environment and these were just a few of the experiences. They took a comfort dog named Pluto to have medical exam at a local vet. (Continue on Page 2)

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## SUMMER CAMP

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The students met with an archeologist Alicia Odewale a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Tulsa. One of the major subject of the two-week camp was archeology. Some of the related activities was a mock dig and the celebration of an Archeology Day on July 20th where they met up with others in the field and saw artifacts from archeological digs on St. Croix.

They visited a goat farm, historical sites, rode horses, kayaked and ended with a trip to Buck Island. It was an outdoor camp and they went to beaches more than once. They visited St. Botanical Garden and did watercolor paintings of the natural environment. The campers were of varying abilities and disabilities and the idea was to find a way to include everyone in the camping experience.



## NEW LIBRARIAN OF CONGRESS CONFIRMED

Dr. Carla D. Hayden has been confirmed by the U.S. Senate as the new Librarian of Congress. Dr. Hayden is the 14th Librarian of Congress and is the first woman, the first African-American, and only third librarian to head the institution in its 216-year history.

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**CONSUMER ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE**

The Council has been doing a great job in supporting our Library. They meet every month and have managed to sponsor an Open House in April 2016 during National Library Week. They put together a public relations video that was shown at the event. It was well attended even though the Council members were disappointed with the lack of response from some invited community members.

Due to the generosity of the *VI Association for Independent Living* the St. Thomas branch they were able to enjoy the presence of Mr. Edwin Penn from St. John and Mr. Henry Smith from St. Thomas. They hope to have both of them become official members of the Council in the near future. They are also seeking to recruit another Council member from St. Thomas. The present Council members are Casandra Paul, President, Mr. Eric Francis, Vice President, Ms. Mabel Powell, Ms. Beverly Benjamin, Ms. Keturah Jeffers, Ms. Sylvia Florent and Mr. Gerard Evelyn. Ms. Gittens serves as an ex-officio member of the organization. The group is moving ahead with trying to become a nonprofit organization and to develop by-laws.

The primary focus of the Council has been public relations to publicize the Virgin Islands Regional Library. They have worked with Mr. Douglas Canton an independent media person to create the Open House video and Public Service announcements. They have other events planned to include others in the community especially the patrons of the library.

**Some of the members and friends of our Library's Consumer Advisory Council**



### HIGH VOLUME PLAYER AND HEADPHONES

NLS has developed a high-volume version of the digital talking-book machine (DTBM) for use by patrons who are hearing impaired. The high-volume player, which is paired with headset, is available as a standard or advanced (DS-1/DA-1) model that has been programmed to have an amplified volume up to 120 dB. It can be issued only by NLS and will bear a warning label. The high-volume feature only works with the set of stereo headphones that NLS provides. The pairing replaces the amplifier/headset accessory.

To receive a high-volume player and headset, a patron must provide certification of hearing impairment by a physician or audiologist. An agency may assist an eligible patron with obtaining a high-volume player and headset by downloading a high-volume player application from [www.loc.gov/nls/pdf/hvp.pfd](http://www.loc.gov/nls/pdf/hvp.pfd) and returning the patron's completed and fully signed application to NLS equipment control officer (ECO) via email at [nls-eco@loc.gov](mailto:nls-eco@loc.gov) or fax at (202) 707-0712.

Lending agencies are required to retain the original completed applications and will continue to provide services to patrons with high-volume players. Patrons are asked to return their current player upon receipt of a high-volume player and headset. A return label will be included with the high-volume player.

### DO YOU WANT AN A AUDIO BIBLE?

The Aurora Ministries is an organization devoted to providing Bibles to people who have a hard time reading print. They have five English translations: King James, New King James, English Standard, International Children's Bible and the World English Bible. In each of these versions, both Old and New Testaments are on a single digital cartridge, just like the ones we send you. Aurora is giving you the first Bible for free but if you want more it is \$10.00 per cartridge. For more information call (941) 748-3031, visit the website at <http://audiobiblesfortheblind.org> or call the Virgin Islands Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped at 340-718-2250.

## MICROSOFT'S DISABILITY ANSWER DESK

Microsoft offers a Disability Answer Desk (DAD) to assist individuals of all abilities who utilize Microsoft products. The DAD team consists of Windows and Office specialists who can provide assistance to those with disabilities or otherwise using accessibility settings on Windows products or within Microsoft Office programs. Types of assistance provided include use of screen magnifiers, speech recognition software and Microsoft devices with accessibility features. The DAD help desk is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and can be reached at (800) 936-5900. An online chat option is also available at <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/answerdesk/accessibility#>.



For those who use American Sign Language, communication by videophone is offered from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Central Time by calling (503) 427-1234.

## IBLINK RADIO APP

The iBlink Radio app offers radio stations, podcasts and reading services of special interest to individuals with blindness or visual impairments. Each station offered is part of Community Radio and/or operated by persons with limited-to-no eyesight. Music offered spans various genres from classics of the 1950s to modern alternative rock. Reading services offered by the app include thousands of narrated newspapers, magazines and periodicals, including the Wall Street Journal and New York Times. The available podcasts are produced by blind or visually-impaired individuals on a variety of topics, including technology, independent living and travel. iBlink Radio can be downloaded from the Apple App Store for iPhone and iPad, Google Play for Android devices, Amazon App Store for Kindle Fire and the Mac App Store for Apple computers.





The Virgin Islands Regional Library has been in the Virgin Islands since 1968 and was started in St. Thomas. It was relocated to St. Croix first in Frederiksted and then, in 1992, to Christiansted at its present location. The Library is part of the Library of Congress Network of the Libraries for Blind and Physically Handicapped persons. It provides audiotaped digital books and downloadable books free of charge to persons who are unable to utilize traditional books. The Library has transitioned to the digital age with the introduction of digital players, books and related technology, like "apps." The Library of Congress/National Library Service came into existence in 1931 for blind residents in the U.S. but over the years has expanded its size and scope of services.

The Library's local administrative agency is the Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums in the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands.



### WE WANT OUR BOOKS BACK!

Our records show that some of you have **overdue materials...**

- Borrow cassette books for 6 months. Borrow digital books for 1 month.
- Be a good neighbor; share your good reads.
- Please return books on time.
- Magazine cartridges (Red case Blue cartridge, White case Peach

cartridge) must be mailed back.

- Don't want to bother with due dates? Download!

We can teach you how...**BARD** (Braille and Audio Reading Download) offers digital books and magazines to borrow as long as you like. BARD has added Braille books, magazines and music.

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### That All May Read

#### Staff

LETITIA G. GITTENS,  
REGIONAL LIBRARIAN



LLOYD "SONNY"  
BARNES, LIBRARY AIDE



ULA FRETT,  
LIBRARY COORDINATOR



NINA GARCIA,  
LIBRARY TECH II

