

USC, KPMG in the Dutch Caribbean collaborate

PHILIPSBURG--KPMG in the Dutch Caribbean (KPMG DC) is the newest corporate partner of the Unified St. Maarten Connection (USC). The two are moving forward on two events to be planned each half year for students and young professionals in the Netherlands.

USC, which is preparing to launch an on-island chapter soon, is working with KPMG DC to host a project management workshop and a tax workshop, the latter of which is being handled in a dual-collaboration with sister organisation Meijburg and Co Caribbean.

Since 2012, USC has been working hard to bring students and young professionals from St. Maarten closer together during their time in the Netherlands. Future cooperative opportunities on different themes will follow, but KPMG DC and USC will start by providing workshops.

USC provides information, hosts events and promotes early networking and professional education for their supporters in the Netherlands. Through its Corporate Partner Programme (CPP), USC aims to develop closer ties between the private sector and St. Maarteners in the Netherlands who are considering a return to the island, it was stated in a press release.

USC has previously held a tax workshop to introduce student workers and new professionals to the procedures and benefits of filing their tax returns in the Netherlands.

Meijburg and Co Caribbean, as a sister company to KPMG DC, assumed joint responsibility for this event, which will take place during the upcoming FRED Expo in Rotterdam in May. Both companies will be present



Senior Manager KPMG DC Eline van den Berg, Chairman, KPMG DC Raymond Begina and Executive Board Member USC Melissa Gumbs.

at the FRED Expo, which targets young professionals from the Dutch Caribbean and Suriname regions for vacancies in the six Dutch islands and Suriname.

KPMG DC will co-host a project management workshop in the Netherlands for USC followers, providing students with the opportunity to improve their knowledge or learn the skill for the first time. Also, these workshops give the possibility to build more enthusiasm for students and young workers to return to St. Maarten. "We found it important to provide those interested with the ability to learn or advance a skill that helps them manage their goals, whether personal or professional," USC board member Melissa Gumbs said.

"We as KPMG Dutch Caribbean, are very pleased with the establishment and the work USC is doing for our students and workers in the Netherlands, who are willing to come back to our respective countries. We as a firm are proud and happy to contribute to our communities in the way we agreed with USC by delivering education and training on a regular basis," it was stated.

"Also, we are very pleased that Meijburg and Co, our

sister organisation active on the same islands and Suriname is willing to cooperate with us with USC," said Senior Manager at KPMG DC St. Maarten Eline van den Berg.

"The need to get our young talent to come back to our islands is a long-running, but still strong desire. We also experience this as an employer in this region. We constantly look for young talent with local roots, as they speak the same language as our clients do," Chairman of KPMG DC and Suriname Raymond Begina said.

"And as we are in a people business, we need to have people servicing other people that connect well and understand each other well. Therefore we are very passionate about this partnership with USC, as we do believe these initiatives will push and support our young professionals abroad to dare to take the step to come back home. At KPMG we also believe in sharing our knowledge and with this partnership we are again able to do this."

Students and professionals interested in these events may follow the USC Facebook page at www.facebook.com/UnifiedSXM for more information and registration details.



A fire truck is seen at the top of the hill in St. James. Smoke is coming from a smaller wooden house (not in view) behind the house in the photo.

Afternoon fire destroys

Continued from page 1.

al Police were also present. This fire once again underscores the difficulties the Fire Brigade faces in getting access with their hoses. The fire was located around 500 metres up a very steep concrete road. Two fire trucks, one behind each

other, were able to get as close as they could on the steep incline.

A third fire truck remained on the main road transferring water to the other two from the nearest fire hydrant located a long way further down Rue de Hol-

lande, opposite the street Voie no. 14. An Annicette Water Truck was also on standby if needed.

Rue de Hollande was closed to traffic causing a long tail back of cars coming into Bellevue.

Curaçao Jew lady main character in new novel

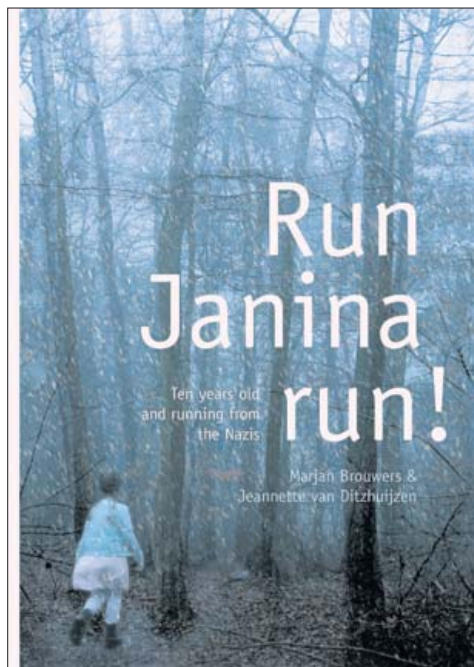
AMSTERDAM--Curaçao resident Janina de Marchena-Katz is the main character in the biographic novel *Run Janina, Run!* In the book, written by Marjan Brouwers and Jeannette van Ditzhuijzen, ten-year-old Jewish girl Janina is running from the Nazis.

Run Janina, Run! is about the war years of De Marchena-Katz, born in 1932, now residing in Curaçao. Janina's mother helped her escape deportation to an extermination camp. In the novel, Janina's youth and that of her family in the Jewish town of Chorostków are brought to life again.

Her initially happy childhood full of Jewish traditions and a loving family is gradually overshadowed by anti-Semitic threats from both Poland and neighbouring Germany. Then the Russians occupy Chorostków, followed almost two years later by the Germans.

One by one Janina loses her relatives, until she is all alone. Ploughing through the snow and freezing cold, she has to look for a safe shelter. The novel tells the tale of how she had to struggle to survive on her own.

Dutch authors Brouwers and Van Ditzhuijzen, who



The cover of *Run Janina, Run!*, the novel about the war years of Janina de Marchena-Katz who resides in Curaçao.

have worked in Curaçao for multiple years, investigated the background of Janina's moving story and wrote a novel around it. They spoke at great length with Janina and researched her past and her family. All major characters in this book are genuine.

The novel contains Janina's family tree and several

illustrations. It is published in English and Dutch by LM Publishers, and was made possible with the financial support of the Prince Bernhard Culture Fund for the Dutch Caribbean. The 216-page book is available on Amazon.com for US \$24.95 at www.amazon.com/dp/9460224261.

FIT?
We Live Fit!
 Come and train with Desiree
 Desiree: 5247700
 Manual Therapy: 5278936

Hospital Visiting Hours
 Medical/Surgical, ObGyn and Pediatric wards
 11:30am-12:30pm
 3:30pm-4:30pm Children may visit
 6:00pm-7:30pm
 Intensive Care Unit
 10:00am-10:20am
 3:00pm-3:30pm
 8:00pm-8:20pm
 S M
 M C
 We Care Together!
 Tel: 543-1111 | www.smmc.sx

 Date: 22-04-2016	Pick 2 1st 91 2nd 23 3rd 18 win \$40	Pick 3 1st 891 2nd 423 3rd 518 win \$500	Pick 4 1st 0891 2nd 6423 3rd 9518 win \$4000	SECOND PRIZE
				THIRD PRIZE