

## High Mountain Coffee 10K set for Sunday

The annual High Mountain Coffee 10K road race set for Sunday, January 26, in Williamsfield, Manchester, has now emerged as one of the region's premier events, attracting thousands of visitors and participants from across the globe.

Started in 1983 by Paul McGowan of Belair High School and Jackie Minott of Jamaica Standard Products (JSP), it is now the longest-running road race event in Jamaica and has seen what one sponsor termed a "phenomenal" growth since. This year's event, according to coordinator Annette Salmon, is expected to outdo last year's staging, which was branded a major success for the Caribbean at the time, with participants from across the globe. Members of Sure Athletic Club, out of the United States, will be participating as well as conducting clinics for aspiring athletes at several local schools including Bellefield High School. While the race has opened doors and given exposure to participating runners, the small-business sector of Williamsfield and surrounding communities have reaped tremendous economic benefits from the event as well. The Mandeville Regional Hospital has also benefited from the race. Last year, the hospital received money from the race to assist with its dialysis unit. With \$300,000 in cash prizes and several trophies for winners, several sponsors have already jumped on board, including Lucozade, Power Services, Bullhead Water, Isratech Jamaica, and Jamaica Producers.