



Volume 1 | February 2019

There's More to a Marathon than Running 26.2 Miles

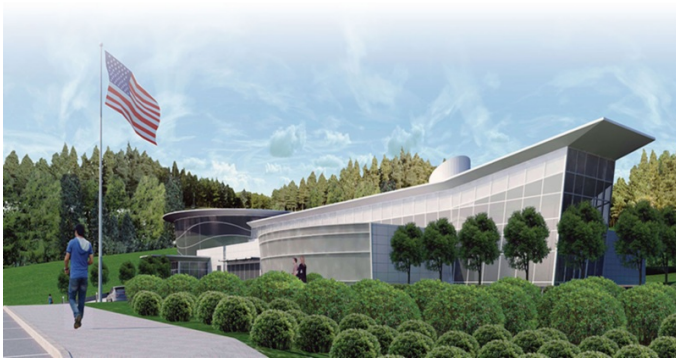


Friends,

Welcome to the first edition of the 26.2 Foundation's newsletter. You're receiving this because you may be a marathoner, are involved in race management, supported someone who's run a marathon, or because you simply appreciate marathoning as an example of the power of the human spirit. We thank you sincerely for your interest and engagement.

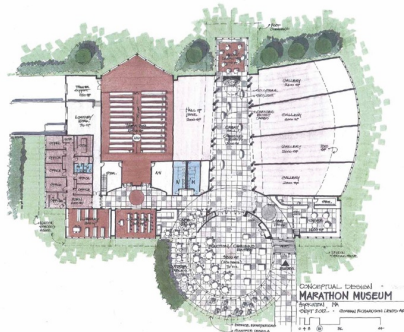
We like to say that there's more to a marathon than running 26.2 miles: inspiration, commitment, passion, preparation, courage, health, heritage, discipline and sportsmanship. We believe our dynamic programs, which are all designed to promote and support marathoning, reflect those qualities, and that they honor, celebrate and inspire those who run. Follow us and see what we mean. Thanks again for your support!

*Yours,
Timothy Kilduff, President*



Update: Advisory Council to Guide International Marathon Center plans

Our sincere thanks to the 40-plus individuals who convened recently for our inaugural Advisory Council meeting. Influential legislators, businessmen and marathoners are providing their perspective on, and guidance for, our biggest project yet, the development of an International Marathon Center (IMC), for which plans have been drawn and a site – on the Boston Marathon route in Hopkinton, MA – identified.



26.2 Foundation's 'Team Inspire' Runs for a Cause

Considered one of the most prestigious marathons in the world, the BAA's Boston Marathon has extremely challenging qualifying standards. Through the BAA's Charity & Community Partnerships program, which provides the 26.2 Foundation with invitational (non-qualifying) entries to the Boston Marathon, runners who might not otherwise be able to participate in the Boston Marathon have an opportunity to do so while fundraising for our organization. Our fundraising team, "Team Inspire," comprises 15 runners who combine their passion for running with a desire to support the programs and initiatives of the

The Council will be a powerful asset to the Foundation as we work to fulfill our comprehensive vision for the IMC, which will include a marathon museum, a hall of fame, and an auditorium and exhibition galleries, together with state-of-the-art conference and education facilities. Read more on our [website](#).

26.2 Foundation. We're excited to have runners from around the world – including China and Thailand and, of course, the U.S. – on this year's team. [Donate here](#).



Learn More at your Library (about marathons)

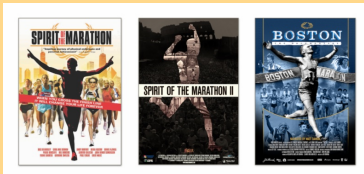
High school students in Hopkinton and Ashland, MA are helping to curate a new section of their town libraries that will be entirely dedicated to marathoning. Under the guidance of the 26.2 Foundation, students are researching books about marathons, contacting authors, and helping to secure and track the books as they come in. We look forward to celebrating these important additions to the Ashland and Hopkinton libraries in April 2019. Are you an author with a book about marathoning? Have a book you want to donate? Please contact us at jacquescaitlin@gmail.com.

Building Bobbi Gibb, Marathon Pioneer

A statue of Bobbi Gibb, the first woman to finish the Boston Marathon, is nearing completion – by Gibb herself, in her Rockport, MA studio. The 26.2 Foundation originally commissioned Gibb, a trained artist, to sculpt a statue of Joan Benoit Samuelson, but the two-time Marathon champion suggested Gibb would be more appropriate. Gibb completed her historic run in 1966, initially disguised and slipping into the race from bushes near the starting line in Hopkinton. It would be another six years – 1972 – before women were officially allowed to compete. The statue, which should be completed by fall, will be sited on the Boston Marathon course. (P. Bilodeau photo) [Donate here](#).



© David Watts, Jr.



Movies about Marathons

Jon Dunham's films, 'Spirit of the Marathon', 'Spirit of the Marathon II' and 'Boston', capture the true essence of distance running. For a minimum \$50 tax-deductible donation to Dunham's Filmmakers Collaborative, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, you'll receive the acclaimed film trilogy as a gift - all while helping fund Dunham's new project about Naples, Italy. [Donate here](#).

The 26.2 Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to promote and support the sport of marathoning, as well as health, wellness and economic-development initiatives through investments in innovative programs on local, regional, national and global levels.



