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Welcome to Boston, Team Inspire!

Runners from seven countries will make up the 26.2 Foundation's Team Inspire this year at the 126th running of the Boston Marathon on April 18th. Thailand, Indonesia, Canada, France,



the UK, Bosnia and, of course, the U.S. will be represented, with Americans hailing from nine different states.

Every one of them has a compelling story about how they got here and what running means to them, but we extend a special shout-out to Samantha Roecker (photo) of Philadelphia.

Samantha is not only a registered nurse at Penn Medicine and a Master's degree candidate at UPenn, but also an Olympic Trials qualifier who regularly clocks marathons around the 2:30:00 mark (2:29:59 at the Marathon Project in Chandler, AZ, 2020; 2:32:49 at the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru, 2019; 2:30:23 at the U.S. Marathon Championship in Sacramento, 2018).

She's also raising funds through her running for the American Nurse's Foundation, to support the mental health and wellness of RNs across the country. She'll be sponsored at the Boston Marathon by start-up [Moxie Scrubs](#), makers of medical apparel, and will be trying to break the world record for running the fastest marathon run in a nurse's uniform.

We extend a warm welcome to the entire team, and thank them for their generous support.

The International Marathon Center in Motion



We're happy to report significant progress on the Foundation's signature project, the International Marathon Center (IMC). In the last 18 months, we have:

1. Signed a 99-year lease with the Town of Hopkinton for a 19-acre site on Route 135 on which to develop the IMC. News of the lease was **announced** by the town in May.
2. Contracted with **ConsultEcon** of Cambridge, MA, who validated the 26.2 Foundation's vision and plan by formulating a rigorous economic impact analysis.
3. Worked with **GRL Architects** of Hopkinton, drawing up plans (*see image*) for the state-of-the-art, 25,000-sq-ft facility that will include a world-class museum and hall of fame, 11,000 sq ft of dedicated exhibit space, an auditorium, library, conference, and educational space.
4. Collaborated with **HealyKohler Design** of Washington, D.C., to design a world-class, interactive visitor experience intended to maximize repeat visitation and sustainability.
5. And we are completing site due-diligence and permitting as we write, with the work being led by the Southborough, MA civil engineering firm **Beals + Thomas**. Watch this newsletter for more developments on the IMC.

Celebrating 50 Years of Women Running Boston

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of women running the Boston Marathon, the 26.2 Foundation has commissioned artist



Buff Spencer to design a commemorative poster. Spencer, a Hopkinton, MA resident, has created an extensive range of Marathon-related art, including posters for the 25th and 40th anniversaries of women running Boston. We have a limited supply of signed posters and will make one available to the first 50 individuals who contact us. Email Meghan Dulac at mdono11@gmail.com; please put 'Poster' in the subject line.

Marathoner IPA Now at Start Line

Among the many things Ted Twinney of [Start Line Brewing](#) in Hopkinton, MA does annually for the Marathon and the town is craft a limited edition of 'Marathoner IPA'. Available at the brewery from Wednesday, April 19th, the beer ('drinkable, hazy and mildly hopped') recognizes an individual who's made significant contributions to the Boston Marathon. This year's edition recognizes 26.2 Foundation founder and president Tim Kilduff. Start Line generously donates proceeds of the Marathoner IPA sales to the Foundation every year. Thank you, Ted!



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.

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