



Volume 11 | October 2020

## **Team Inspire and the Boston Marathon Virtual Experience**



### **Taking it to the streets**

We like to say, 'There's more to a marathon than running 26.2 miles' – desire, dedication, commitment, passion, resilience...

Our Team Inspire runners proved that when nearly two-thirds of them – 38 – signed up to participate in the B.A.A.'s Boston Marathon Virtual Experience, held September 5-14.

Undaunted by 2020's race cancellation, they elected to cover 26.2 miles in one continuous run on a course or route of their choice to earn their B.A.A. unicorn medal and be recognized as a Boston Marathon finisher.

We celebrate, in no particular order, a few of them here (top-bottom, l-r): Alison Hickey of Easton, MA, who ran from Hopkinton to Boston; Robyn Godfrey of Wilmington, North Carolina, who traveled to Sandpoint, Idaho to complete her marathon ([read more](#)); Ashish Chaughule, who ran the Chester Valley Trail outside Philadelphia, a portion of it with 26.2 board member Stephanie Whelan; and Trevor Hoyle of Newcastle, England, whose FedEx colleagues formed his support team. Read more [here](#).



Congratulations, team, and thank you for your support of the 26.2 Foundation!

## IMC: One more step forward



The 26.2 Foundation's goal to build an International Marathon Center in Hopkinton took another step forward on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Hopkinton annual Town Meeting, when residents voted 'yes' to grant the town's Select Board authority to finalize the lease for the Center's proposed site.

The 19-acre site is located on East Main Street (Route 135) near the Mile 1 marker of the Boston Marathon route. Plans for the Center include world-class education and conference facilities, an interactive Marathon museum and hall of fame, auditorium, event space and research facilities.

Once lease negotiations with the Select Board are completed, the Foundation will launch a capital campaign to begin raising the private funds needed for development. The Foundation hopes to complete the first phase of the IMC by 2024. Read more [here](#).

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## Wreathed in recognition

Every year since 1984, the Greek Consul General in Boston has presented traditional olive wreaths, gilded in gold, to the four winners of the Boston Marathon to recognize the historical ties and democratic ideals of Athens and Boston. In recent years, the wreaths have been donated in memory of Stylianos Kyriakides, to honor his heroic 1946 Boston Marathon win.



But the tradition, first established by a team comprised of the Alpha Omega Council, the B.A.A., elected officials and then-Marathon race director Tim Kilduff, required a different approach when the 2020 race was cancelled.



Instead, Greek Consul General Stratos Efthymiou and Alpha Omega Council president Nick Ypsilantis recently presented golden winner's wreaths to Joann Flaminio of the B.A.A. (shown), to the Sports Museum of Boston, to the Greek Consulate, and to the 26.2 Foundation, for permanent display and educational use.

Thank you, all! We plan to display our wreath proudly in the International Marathon Center once it's completed. Watch more from CBSN Boston [here](#).

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[Donate to Team Inspire runners](#)

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*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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