



## ***HOPKINTON RUNNERS FESTIVAL FACT SHEET***

The *Hopkinton Runners Festival* is a week-long series of events in conjunction with: a celebration of the 2,500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Marathon; the sister-city relationship between Marathon, Greece and Hopkinton, Massachusetts; and the 114<sup>th</sup> BAA Boston Marathon.

This unique opportunity is sponsored by a number of Hopkinton community organizations and businesses. To date those partner organizations and businesses include:

### **PARTNERS (As of March 3)**

Ciao Time	Hopkinton Independent
Colella's Super Market	Hopkinton Marathon Committee
Corporate Communications	Hopkinton Parks and Recreation Commission
Enter Stage Left	Hopkinton Athletic Association
GRL Architects	Hopnews.com
HCAM TV	Hopkinton Public Library
Hopkinton Drug	Marathon Restaurant at North Pond
Hopkinton Chamber of Commerce	Nurturing Touch
Hopkinton Gourmet	The Rhythm Room Band
	Zio's Bistro

### **HOPKINTON'S TIES TO GREECE**

Hopkinton's ties with Marathon, Greece were formalized with the unveiling of the Mico Kaufman sculpture honoring the 1946 Boston Marathon win of Stylianos Kyriakides and the signing of a sister-city relationship between the two cities.

In 2008 Hopkinton welcomed the *Marathon Flame*, which traveled from Greece with Marathon Mayor Spyros Zagaris and was held high at the start of the Boston Marathon.

This year, consistent with the wishes of the Mayor Zagaris, Hopkinton has become a focal point for the celebration of the 2,500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Marathon. Fought in 490 BC, the Athenian victory is considered one of the worlds most significant military battles in history.