

Menu

**News**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STATUE OF FAMED GREEK RUNNER UNVEILED IN HOPKINTON AS A GIFT FROM NEW BALANCE**

*'Spirit of the Marathon' Celebrates Greek Runner Stylianos Kyriakides' Famous 1946 Win and Twin-city Relationship*

Hopkinton, Mass., (April 12, 2006) – New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc. unveiled the "Spirit of the Marathon" statue today in Hopkinton at the Mile One marker of the Boston Marathon. The statue celebrates one of the most memorable achievements in Boston history: the 1946 Boston Marathon win against all odds by famed Greek marathoner Stylianos Kyriakides. The statue is a gift from New Balance to the Hopkinton Athletic Association.



The "Spirit of the Marathon" is the one commissioned by the Greek city of Marathon as a point of the marathon during the Olympic Games in Athens. It stands on a plot donated by New Balance on only hundreds of yards of site of the 1946 Boston Marathon. The "Spirit of the Marathon" is a budding twin-city relationship between Hopkinton and Marathon, Greece.

"New Balance is excited to have this statue today in our own backyard. We will celebrate the "Spirit of the Marathon" with our associates, the town of Hopkinton, and Boston Marathon runners for years to come," said Tom Davis, Chairman and CEO of New Balance. "This statue is an appropriate symbol of the aspirational nature of the marathon event and its international appeal."

As the winner of the 50<sup>th</sup> Boston Marathon, Kyriakides used his triumph to raise awareness of the plight of his war and famine-ravaged homeland following World War II. He narrowly escaped execution during the Nazi occupation of Greece, Kyriakides fled to the United States several years when he came to Boston in 1946. Despite being told by doctors that he would never run, Kyriakides ended up recording a mythic performance, defeating the reigning champion, Bill Kelley. With victory as a public platform, Kyriakides then went on to serve as an ambassador for his country, raising money for reconstruction and strengthening ties between the United States and Greece.

"This statue is a long-lasting symbol of one of Hopkinton's greatest traditions, the Boston Marathon," Tim Kilduff, President of the Hopkinton Athletics Association said. "I would like to thank New Balance, Weston Nurseries and everyone else who helped make it possible to have this statue in Hopkinton."



historic landmark in our community."

Sculpted by Mico Kaufman, a fellow of the National Sculpture Society, currently being cast by New England Sculpture Service in Chelsea, Ma Tewksbury, Mass., has numerous ties through his work to Boston and communities, including commissions from the American Hellenic Educational Association (AHEPA).

###

#### **Past Headlines:**

- [Marathon Statue](#)
- [Weston's Best](#)
- [Weston Nurseries at 2005 Show House](#)
- [Weston Nurseries at the New England Flower Show](#)
- [Land Sale Seeds New Ventures](#)
- [Weston Nurseries to Donate Trees](#)
- [Expansion Planned for New England's Premier Nursery](#)
- [Hopkinton's Inaugural Farmers' Market Coming to Weston Nurseries](#)
- [Weston Nurseries to Install Green Thumbs on Next Generation of Customers](#)
- [Weston Nurseries of Hopkinton Introduces "Weston Collections"](#)
- [Wildflowers at Weston — Unique Offerings from Local Horticultural Landmark](#)
- [Metro West Powerhouses Join Forces to Offer Luxury While Plant Show](#)
- [Horticultural Landmark to Launch Second Location at Jr. League Show](#)
- [April 12 Proclaimed "Weston Nurseries Day" by Hopkinton Selectmen](#)
- ["Garden Guys™" to Represent The Weston Collections to Area Gardeners](#)

[Top](#)

[E-mail Us](#)

[\(508\) 435 - 3414](#)