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Arts & Leisure



"Running with Pheidippides"

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It was 1946. World War II was over, but much of a devastated Europe was starving. As part of his efforts to help rebuild the continent, President Harry Truman called on Americans not to overeat, to plant vegetable gardens, and never throw away a piece of bread.

"Running with Pheidippides", partial cover

There was one Greek man who decided to take matters into his own hands, or in this case, his feet. Stylianos Kyriakides was a runner who decided that, against all odds, he was going to travel to Boston, win the Boston Marathon, and in so doing, save the lives of his countrymen. Boston Globe reporter Jerry Nason wrote at the time that the 1946 race was "the most significant Boston Marathon of them all."

When Kyriakides returned to Greece after winning the 1946 Boston Marathon, he was greeted by 1 million of his countrymen. He died in 1987, a national hero.

The story of Stylianos Kyriakides is told in the new book, "Running with Pheidippides."

Guest:

Andy Dabilis, Co-author, "Running with Pheidippides."

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