

World War II and during a civil war in the mid-1940's.

"I first learned of Kyriakides from a series of stories in the Boston Globe highlighting the best races in the Boston Marathon," explained Tsitos. "The next weekend I flew to Greece and started interviewing his wife and children."

Tsitos, of Greek descent, said he was drawn to the Kyriakides story partly because of his families' personal experiences in Greece during World War II.

His mother and father both emigrated to the United States after the war and both had fought in the resistance. Though they never spoke of their involvement, Tsitos said he was raised to have pride in his heritage and in his community here in Winthrop.

"I had a real affinity for this story because my parents had lived in Greece during World War II," said Tsitos. "They're very humble people, but they saw a lot. They taught us to have respect for our community."

Tsitos' brother is local attorney Chris Tsitos. The two boys were themselves athletic standouts at Winthrop High. Nick captained the 1972 Winthrop High Boys basketball team, the same year that Mike Eruzione captained the Winthrop hockey team.

Nick now a teacher at James Otis Elementary School in East Boston is married, to Nitsa. The couple has one son, six-month old Constantinos.

"I think this was Boston's greatest race," said Tsitos of his decision to write the book. "But there is more to this book than that. The story is so entwined with Greece's history, that I don't think it is a book just for sports fans or running fans."

Greece lost 1/8 of its population during World War II a larger percentage than any other country that took part in the war.

Yet, Greece was also the first country to have a victory over the Axis powers, driving Italy from its land and becoming a thorn in the

FROM HOW WE H say that heroes fight like Greeks."

--Winston Churchill

"It was, without doubt, the most significant Boston Marathon of them all. His story, that of a hungry, impoverished Greek who journeyed thousands of miles to run a 26-mile errand of mercy, will be retold a century from now in Greece."

-- Jerry Nason, Sports Editor, Boston Globe, 1946

One such act occurred on December 13, 1943 at Kalavrita, when 1,621 Greeks were slaughtered by the Germans in retaliation for the deaths of five Germans soldiers days earlier.

Kyriakides himself was almost put to death twice by German death squads, but was allowed to go free, when the Germans saw his identification from the 1936 Berlin Olympics and dismissed him, even while they kept behind the people he had been with in each case.

"He wanted to come to Boston to run for food, clothing and medical equipment," explained Tsitos, of the 1946 trip from Greece to Boston. "On the day of the race, doctors told him he would not be allowed to run, because he was in such poor health. They told him he would drop dead on the route if he even attempted it."

Fortunately, Kyriakides had the aid of Massachusetts State Representative George Demeter, who had helped sponsor Kyriakides' visit. Demeter told the doctors that if Kyriakides died, the country of Greece would take responsibility and he was allowed to race."

Tsitos and Dabilis have crafted an excellent work that blends sport, history, heritage and a touch of fiction to offer us a novel that sings of the accomplishments of the human soul. With a brilliant foreword by Boston Marathon legend and personal friend of Kyriakides Johnny Kelley, the book paints a vibrant portrait of the man who ran with a nation's hopes.

"Running with Pheidippides" is now in its second printing through Syracuse University Press. It is available through most local bookstores and through Barnes & Noble Booksellers website, by going on-line at www.bn.com. You can also contact Syracuse University Press at 1-800-365-8929.

The book will also be a featured part of a special exhibit at the Sports Museum of New England on Monday, September 17 at 6 p.m.

At Logan, I was surprised to see virtually no traffic.

By then, I knew that the Federal Aviation Administration had frozen all air travel in the country.

I did not know that two of the hijacked planes had originated in Boston.

On the ground, from my vantage point atop a parking garage, I could see dozens, perhaps even more than a hundred empty aircraft sitting on the tarmac at Logan Airport.

the planes grounded and the passengers sent away, Logan was a relative ghost town.

At Terminal B, a young doctor from Maine, Hank Ford waited with his office staff and his sons, to find out when and if they were going to be allowed to travel on that day.

The doctor and his staff were headed to a medical conference in Orlando, Florida, which he'd hoped to turn into a vacation for his sons.

There were other people like Doctor Ford and his party, that were waiting, hoping for the best. But most of the travelers on Tuesday felt anything but safe at the airport. Most travelers left the airport as soon as they were told

more is learned about this most heinous crime, an attack upon America that is already being compared to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, as we learn more about the attack, our leaders will try to resolve the situation.

Perhaps retribution will be sought.

There will most certainly be mourning. And there will also be steps taken to try and protect us against this kind of attack in the future.

But the memory that will stay with me years from now, is of sitting at the Winthrop Arms, enjoying breakfast and company of my fellow businesspeople in Winthrop, with absolutely no knowledge of how the day would unfold.

Because everything that transpired at that breakfast and everything that went before it, was enveloped in serenity, a kind of peaceful knowledge that I was safe.

The other memory that is sure to stay with me, is the memory of looking out at Logan Airport from the top of a parking garage just a little before noon on a Tuesday, and wondering what had happened to the world I'd known.

Exhibit

Convention Center, Copley Place, the New England Aquarium, Seiji Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood and the proposed new Tower at South Station, just to name a few.

But Costantino's work has not been exclusive to the Boston and New England area. He has also worked on projects around the globe from The Art Institute of Chicago, to The Octagon Museum in Washington, D.C., and projects in Tokyo, Seoul, Berlin, Frankfurt and Lisbon.

He was also one of the founders of the American Society of Architectural Illustrators and has helped establish an international network throughout the US, Canada, England, Europe, Japan and other countries.

Despite the impressive resume that Costantino has developed over the years, he acknowledged that he had received no formal artistic training.

"I came from an architectural background," said Costantino.

Override

would have spent all of the allowable increase, even without employee raises.

Selectwoman Marie Turner, in an address to the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday morning, said that a one percent salary increase in the Winthrop schools alone would represent a cost of \$100,000 to the town. For town employees, a one percent raise would cost the town another \$70,000.

Most of the town's bargaining units recently settled on contract extensions that call for more than one percent annual increases in salary.

Joining the selectmen in their support of the override, State Representative Robert DeLeo this week said the future of the town hinges on passage of this override.

"Basically, I looked at this and said that this is one of the most important votes we as a community have had in some time," DeLeo said in explaining his decision to vocally support this override vote. "For that reason, I felt that it was important enough for me to will

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