



Parkway Running Club

West Roxbury/Roslindale YMCA

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FAST, FESTIVE, FUN AND FOR A DEEPER PURPOSE!!!! THE PARKWAY RUNNING CLUB ANNOUNCES ITS 17th ANNUAL "WALTER'S RUN"

(West Roxbury, MA)... **Walter's Run**, a local 5K race, which raises money for local charities, will have its 17th annual running on Sunday, December 12th at 11 a.m. A Kid's Race will kick off the day's events beginning at 10:40. The races will start and finish at the West Roxbury YMCA, 15 Bellevue Street in West Roxbury.

Walter's Run is organized by the Parkway Running Club (www.parkwayrunningclub.org). Amenities include a wheel-measured course, large raffle, free running gloves and a swag bag to the first 250 entrants, post race feast provided by local merchants, trophies for the top finishers and medals for the top three runners in each age group.

"Walter's Run is more than just an athletic event, it's becoming a holiday tradition for the whole family", says Race Director Keith Shields, "Activities include a visit from Santa who will oversee our 1K Kids Race, Christina the Clown who will be making balloon animals for children of all ages and holiday temporary tattoos."

The Kids Race begins at 10:40 and is a non-competitive fun run for children ages 10 and under. All Kid's Race participants receive a ribbon and candy cane from Santa Claus.

This year, Walter's Run is proud to announce a partnership with a new youth empowerment program called **Girls on the Run** (www.girlsontherunboston.org). GOTR trains local girls ages 8-12 to run a 5K road race while teaching them valuable lessons in topics that range from body image, community service and the dangers of gossiping. This is Girls on the Run first year in Boston and they have chosen Walter's Run as the race they will be training for. "We were looking for a race with a focus on fun as well as service." Explains Jenn McNamara, a coach for Girls on the Run, "Walter's Run offers both with the holiday theme and the obvious passion the organizers have for the sport as well as the focus on raising money for charity. This race is the perfect place to celebrate the girls' growth and accomplishments of the season."

Walter's Run, formerly the Santa Scamper, is named in honor of Walter Burgess, who passed away suddenly in 2003 at the age of 40 and was an active member of the Parkway Running Club. He completed 26 marathons as well as the Great Floridian Ironman Triathlon., but Walter was known as much for his spirit and his love for the sport as he was his athletic accomplishments.

Walter's favorite charity was Globe Santa, the *Boston Globe's* annual program to provide presents during the holiday season for underprivileged children in the Boston area. Proceeds of the race will go to the Globe Santa, as well as the YMCA of Greater Boston's Reach Out Campaign, which provides financial assistance to families in need so that their children can have access to the YMCA's programs. Walter's Run also funds a Scholarship, named in honor of Walter Burgess, to send younger runners to a local summer Running Camp

Race registration is \$20. For more information on Walter's Run visit www.WaltersRun.org or contact Race Director Keith Shields at 617-594-3194 or racedirector@waltersrun.org.

Come Run with Us!
www.WaltersRun.org