



January 19, 2010

## Marathon "race headquarters" announced

CUMBERLAND -- A mere 60.5 seconds will separate out-of-town runners from their bedroom pillows and the starting line of the second Mountain Maryland Marathon Festival in April.

That's about how long it takes to walk in a casual manner from the Cumberland Holiday Inn to the point on Harrison Street, where an estimated 700 people are expected to begin their journeys of 26.2 miles, 13.1 miles or 3.1 miles in the 5K for United Way, all scheduled for April 18.

The Cumberland Holiday Inn has signed on as official hotel of the marathon festival and will serve as race headquarters, beginning with the first of two nights of packet pick-up on Friday, April 16.

"We are very excited to be the host hotel for the Mountain Maryland Marathon Festival," said Kevin McPherson, director of sales at the Cumberland Holiday Inn, standing alongside General Manager Rick Brode and Samantha Capacchione, catering sales manager. "We are really looking forward to building a great and lasting relationship with the marathon."

For added convenience, race-day packet pick-up and registration at the hotel, located on South George Street along Queen City Drive, also will be available. The hotel also will serve as host of the pre-race dinner during the evening of April 17.

"It's great to have the Cumberland Holiday Inn on as a major race sponsor and as race headquarters," said Kevin Spradlin, executive director of the Mountain Maryland Marathon Club. "Last year, packet pick-up was at three different locations. The Cumberland Holiday Inn provides a single, very clear and convenient destination point to which runners and their families can be directed to rest up, eat up, sign up and then walk up to the starting line."





The Cumberland Holiday Inn is no stranger to the marathon festival, having provided runners a special rate in April 2009. This year, the hotel's commitment goes a step or two further.

"We are pleased and excited to foster this partnership," Brode said, "and go a step beyond last year. We felt a desire to provide our hotel as a host for this event to bring the activities of the marathon festival to Downtown Cumberland and benefit everyone."

The Allegany County-based Mountain Maryland Marathon Club serves as host of the area's largest single day of running and coordinates several other low-key running events throughout the calendar year. Many of those events benefit nonprofit organizations or other worthy causes and, in 2009, helped to raise more than \$8,500 that was distributed to County United Way and various other organizations.

For event information, visit [www.mountainMDmarathon.org](http://www.mountainMDmarathon.org) or call (301) 697-6035. For hotel information, contact (301) 724-8800.

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