

## **By Jan Schultz, The Imperial Republican News Editor**

With last year's Boston Marathon bombing fresh in our minds as the 2014 race approaches on Monday, once again, the unafraid Boston residents and runners from around the U.S. and world are showing that a few terrorists aren't stopping them.

It isn't a surprise to me to see that 36,000 runners are registered for the April 21 race, 9,000 more than last year. That certainly doesn't show fear, does it? While there will be more safety measures employed for this year's race for those lining the streets to cheer, I'm guessing the spectator numbers will also eclipse last year.

While I'm not a distance runner myself, I have a daughter who is and she's run the Boston Marathon three times. I see it in her nature, that drive to improve and there's not many people who can tell her she can't do a certain distance, or a more difficult race.

That's kind of how runners are, and it's showing up so much more this year in Boston.

While last year's bombing killed three people and injured 260 others, these runners aren't thinking that something like that will happen again. Rather, they are saying with their registration numbers that they aren't going to be run off.

And leading up to Monday's race, there have been so many efforts to help those who were injured. One huge effort just ended Sunday in Boston. One Run for Boston involved 2,000 runners who participated in an uninterrupted relay that started in Santa Monica, Calif., on March 16. Each runner completed seven to 20 mile segments, as they crossed 14 states en route to Boston. That event alone raised \$425,000 for people directly affected by last year's bombing. Way to go Boston! While some of us won't be running in the marathon Monday, we all can give our support to such great American traditions as the Boston Marathon. It's a true American event, showing that ever-hopeful and determined character we in this country have always possessed.