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## INAUGERAL GROUNDHOG MARATHON RUN FEBRUARY 2, 2013

Local Race Director Don Kern Introduces a New Kind of Marathon

Local race director Don Kern is introducing West Michigan to a new kind of marathon, the Groundhog Day Marathon. The event (marathon and half-marathon) is to be held on February 2, 2013 (Groundhog Day) at Millennium Park in Grand Rapids, MI. Inspired by the annual Groundhog Day celebration held in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania and the 1993 comedy film of the same name, starring actor Bill Murray, participants will run the same 4+ mile course 3 or 6 times (3 times for the half-marathon and 6 times for the full-marathon.)

The event is expected to bring over 500 local runners together for a unique race experience. In addition to running the full or half-marathon, athletes can participate in a groundhog costume contest, a Groundhog Eve two mile snowshoe run and a Groundhog Eve four mile traditional run. On Groundhog Day, Founders Brewery will serve beer to finishers of the half and full marathon.

Race Director Don Kern, known locally as "Marathon Don," is also the race director for the Metro Health Grand Rapids Marathon, which is held annually in October. He was recently interviewed in the January 2013 Grand Rapids Business Journal.

### USEFUL INTERNET SITES

[www.groundhogmarathon.com](http://www.groundhogmarathon.com)

[www.michigansnowshoe.com/](http://www.michigansnowshoe.com/)

<http://www.punxsutawney.com/>

[http://www.mlive.com/sports/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/01/founders\\_brewery\\_to\\_serve\\_pint.html](http://www.mlive.com/sports/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/01/founders_brewery_to_serve_pint.html)

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0107048/>

<http://www.grbj.com/articles/75961-for-this-ordinary-runner-the-adventure-continues>

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If you'd like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Don Kern, please call Don at 616-293-3145 or email at cooladventures@aol.com.