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Blizzard Mystery Solved: Man Who Shoveled Marathon Finish Line Revealed

The mystery has been solved.

By ANASTASIA WILLIAMS and MICHELE MCPHEE

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Boston Shoveler Says Finish Line 'So Much More Than That'

Chris Laudani discusses why he decided to shovel the Boston Marathon finish line during a recent blizzard.

— -- The mystery man who was photographed as he shoveled snow off the iconic [Boston Marathon](#) finish line during Tuesday's raging [blizzard](#) has been identified as bartender Chris Laudani of Back Bay Social, a neighborhood restaurant.

Boston Police released photographs on social media of the man as he stoically shoveled snow from the route on Boylston Street. Using the hashtag #WhoShoveledTheFinishLine, Boston Police asked the public to help solve the mystery of the hardy soul.

Laudani, an avid runner, said he left his bartender shift at Back Bay Social at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday and helped his coworkers shovel the snow form around the bar, after which he decided to continue shoveling in another spot.

"I decided I'm going to go dig up the finish line because I love that race and everything the city stand for. I love the city, I love the Boston marathon," Laudani told ABC News.

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He said he ran the Boston Marathon in 2011.

The Boston Marathon finish line is his "favorite place in the entire city," he said. "It doesn't deserve to be covered in snow because it is a symbol of Boston and our community."

Laudani said he was shocked by all the media attention and doesn't want to be hailed as a hero. He said he "wanted to do a good deed for the community because I love Boston."

It took him about 20 minutes to shovel the line, after which he went back to the bar, dropped off his manager's shovel, and went home, he said. It wasn't until today that he realized that someone took a photo and people wanted to talk to him.

The finish line has special significance as the site of the twin bombings at the Boston Marathon that killed three people on April 15, 2013.



The Boston Athletic Association, which organizes the annual marathon, applauded the deed.

"For someone to brave the winter blizzard to clear our finish line for us is yet another statement as to what our event means not only to runners but also to Americans," Executive Director Tom Grilk said in a statement. "We, at the Boston Athletic Association are the organizers and are responsible for the management of the Boston Marathon, but an act like we see depicted here proves that -- in Boston -- everyone owns the Marathon."

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