



Photos by Paul W. Gillespie — The Capital

Jim Reilly, left, Phil Hundermann, Tom Suit, John Lonegran and Tom Crawford were the first group of fundraisers at the St. Baldrick's shave-a-thon held yesterday at O'Loughlin's in Arnold to raise money for children's cancer research. Teresa Bateman, left, Michelle Van Daniker, Mary Ann Davis, Marnie Fritz and Mary Hamer helped shave 67 heads for the event.

The bald and the beautiful

Hair-razing St. Baldrick's event raises \$65K for cancer research

By WENDI WINTERS
For The Capital

Judging from the full parking lot outside O'Loughlin's Restaurant in the Bay Dale Shopping Center in Arnold, one would think owner Tom Crawford was giving away free beer yesterday afternoon.

It was standing room only for the 300 people in the restaurant's two dining rooms and the bar — all there for the mane event. About 65 people sat on a small platform, and, as the crowd cheered, had their heads shaved.

Each had their personal reasons, but as a group they were raising money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation, a national nonprofit organization that donates the money raised to pediatric cancer research. Since St. Patrick's Day 2000, more than \$90 million has been raised at similar shave-a-thons across the country.

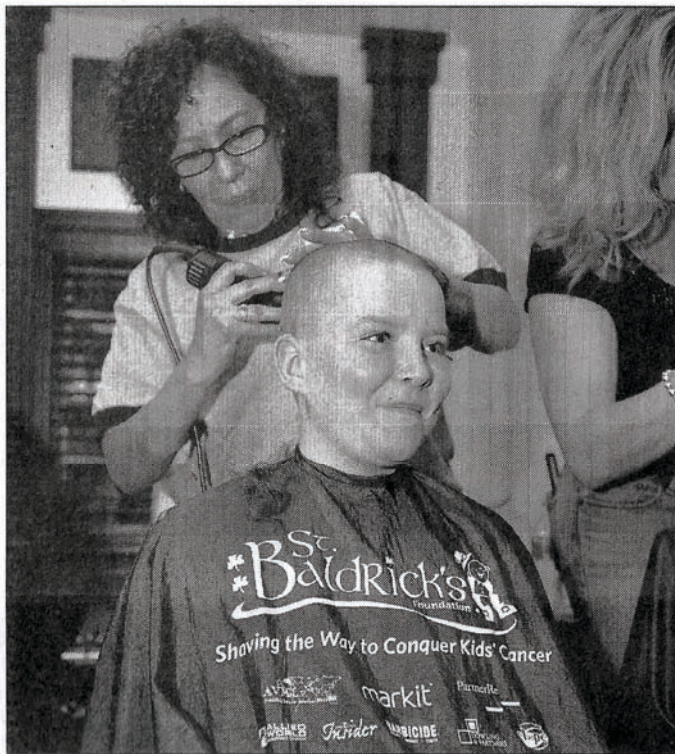
The St. Baldrick's event at O'Loughlin's yesterday raised \$65,000.

The event got off to a noisy start at 2 p.m. A fleet of county Sheriff's Office squad cars streamed off the Route 50 ramp onto Bay Dale Road with sirens screaming and lights flashing.

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Sheriff Ron Batemen high-fives honored guest Joey Sudo, 11, who has battled brain cancer twice.



By Paul W. Gillespie — The Capital

Hairdresser Mary Ann Davis shaves off 10-year-old Luke Boone's locks. He was among the participants who raised more than \$60,000 for children's cancer research at O'Loughlin's in Arnold.

BALD

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A superstretch limo was getting a rock-star escort to O'Loughlins. Joey Sudo, the guest of honor, stepped out, accompanied by his younger sister, Jessica, and his parents Joe and Suzanne.

Joey, a fifth-grader at Windsor Farm Elementary, has battled cancer twice. He returned to the Houston Medical Center today to discover if he has triumphed this time. When Joey is home, he often appears at events to help raise money for other children.

The Sudo family squeezed through the crowd to where county Deputy Sheriff Jim Eisenhauer, a cancer survivor, waited to proclaim Joey and Jessica as honorary deputy sheriffs.

T-shirts printed to raise funds for the event quickly sold out at \$20 apiece. On the white shirts, bold green

lettering above a cheerful shamrock proclaimed: **CANCER SUCKS**. Other participants dressed in emerald green shirts topped with strands of beads for a festive mash-up of Mardi Gras and St. Patrick's Day. Performances by bagpipers and The Rovers kept the mood lively.

Among the first shavees was Zachary Williams, a student at Magothy River Middle School returning for the third year in a row. He raised \$1,225 this year. With him were friends Ben Berquist, also of Magothy Middle, and Cape St. Claire Elementary School students Ethan Brown, Luke Boone and Michael Garlington, who, combined, raised \$2,540.

After his shearing, Ethan said: "Now I won't get my hair caught in my lacrosse helmet."

"I'm so proud of him," said his mother, Wendy Dell.

Crawford, O'Loughlin's owner, went under the razor

for the third time, too. Then he set about coordinating the service for the avalanche of patrons — some of whom were standing on chairs or peering around doors in order to get a better view of the flying wisps of hair.

Holding a plastic jug aloft, two men squeezed through the revelers gathering cash donations. John Lonergan, owner of Chesapeake Charter Bus Co., already had raised more than \$6,000 and had his head shaved. Now he was collecting more to shave his lush goatee and curly eyebrows. Ultimately, he looked like Mr. Clean.

"Joey rides my bus to school," Lonergan explained. Mark Johnson was another big donor, raising more than \$5,000.

Several middle school students, all members of a Broadneck Bays lacrosse team, gathered \$2,700 in donations. Showing off their new buzz cuts were Dylan Budroni, Tyler Martin and

Ryan Kennedy.

"We all looked like Justin Bieber before," said Tyler.

"Now we look better!" yelled one of the teammates.

Tyler added: "We wanted to help the kids with cancer."

The next local St. Baldrick's event will be held this Sunday at Fado Irish Pub, 1 Park Place in Annapolis. The event begins at 1 p.m. with "shavee" check-in and registration. Hair cutting begins soon after, continuing until 7:30 p.m. or until the last head is shaved.

For more information or to donate, visit www.stbaldricks.org and click through to the Fado Irish Pub event in Maryland, or call manager Bernard O'Brien at 410-626-0069.

Wendi Winters is a freelance writer based on the Broadneck Peninsula.