



By LARRY PHILLIPS



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The winner of the 2011 Olney Pancake Day Race was Nikki Sallis, and the woman who finished second was Anna Hughes. Hughes also came in fourth in 2012 when running against then-first-time racer Devon Byrne. Tuesday, both women were shouting encouragement to their young daughters who were competing in the children's pancake racing along the Market Place.

After conversations and teasing with the women, who said they were not going to run this year, they put their heads together and said, "Why don't we run it three-legged?"

They started laughing and decided they would "give it a go."

“Let’s go see if we still have time to sign up,” Sallis said, and off they went.

As the ladies that were somewhat behind race winner Byrne, here came Anna and Nikki, their right and left legs respectively firmly tied together with two scarves. Remarkably, they finished 14th and 15th out of 25 women. Anna actually crossed ahead of Nikki, according to the identification chips each was wearing in the race. It was a new timing system being used this year by the Pancake Committee. The timing chip was in an adhesive strip laced through each runner’s shoelaces or Velcro straps.

When receiving congratulations, both women said, “We did it for you, Larry,” and headed off to the church for the Shricing Service – still tied together and laughing.

