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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Kat Gruber, Brooke Curran, Andrea Stoddard, Leah Ramirez and Glen Stone pose for a RunningBrooke team photo at the finish line of the Marine Corps Marathon. This was Curran's 111st marathon raising money for several Alexandria children's charities. She finished the course in 3:58:50.

The Few. The Proud.

Local runners take top spots in 42nd Marine Corps Marathon.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
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for local children's services.

"This was my eighth marathon and fourth time running Marine Corps," said Wilson. "It wasn't my best time but given my training this year, along with the heat, I'm very happy with it."

Wilson, whose best time is 3:19, ran his first marathon in 2008 and has run one every year with the exception of election years.

In the pre-dawn hours of Oct. 22, Alexandria Vice Mayor Justin Wilson lined up with 30,000 other runners for the 42nd annual Marine Corps Marathon, crossing the finish line 3 hours, 33 minutes and 31 seconds later as part of the RunningBrooke team raising money

“My wife only lets me ‘run’ for one thing at a time,” Wilson joked. “I’ll probably take next year off given it’s an election year, but I’d still like to qualify for Boston one day. I probably need to get a bit older to make that happen.”

Wilson was part of the 15-member

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NEWS

In 42nd Marine Corps Marathon

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RunningBrook team, founded by Brooke Curran to raise money for children’s services.

“This was marathon number 111 for me,” said Curran, who has run a marathon in every state and on every continent since founding the nonprofit. “We had several first time marathoners on the team this year and everyone finished so I am super excited.”

Among Alexandria runners was 25-year-old Bethany Sachtelban, who shattered the MCM 10K course record for women with a time of 34 minutes and 6 seconds. The previous record was 34:43 set in 2010. She was followed by Julie Tarallo, 28, of Washington (38:00), and Amy Smith, 29, of Seattle (38:54).

Arlington runners led the way in both the men’s marathon and 10K race: 32-year-old Desta Beriso Morkoma of overtook Kieran O’Connor in the last mile to win the men’s title with a time of 2:25:13. O’Connor, who finished in 2:28:06, had led for 24 of the 26.2-mile course but fell to third place behind Morkoma and Wesley Turner of Danville, Va. (2:27:34).

In the MCM 10K race, Denzel Ramirez, 34, finished in 34 minutes and 16 seconds, followed by Craig Morgan, 26, (32:21) and



Lans Fofana, 39, of Alexandria, gets congratulated after completing the Marine Corps Marathon in 4:19:39.



Alexandria’s Matthew Cothron, 31, works his way through the finish line chute after completing the Marine Corps Marathon with a time of 3:50:56.

Bishop did find a babysitter for her 7-, 5-, and twin 4-year-olds. She crossed the finish line in 2

“Groundpounder” Al Richmond, 79, of Arlington, completed the marathon in 6:48:35. Richmond is

Erik McMillan, 20 of the US Air Force Academy in 32:49.

Sarah Bishop, a 35-year-old mother of four from Fairfax, was a last minute entrant into the women's division of the marathon. With just three days to go before the race, she had yet to find a babysitter.

"I had been training and knew I was in shape to do well," said Bishop, who finished fourth in last year's race through the streets of Northern Virginia and Washington, DC. "This race is my home turf and I really wanted to run."

hours, 45 minutes and 6 seconds to claim the women's championship trophy.

"By mile 13, I felt strong and knew I could do well at the finish," said Bishop, who missed qualifying for the Olympic trials by 6 seconds. "Sometimes you have the opportunity to do something and you just need to seize the day so that's what I did."

Bishop was followed by Meghan Curran of Fort Carson, Colorado (2:50:23) and Suzanne Hutchins of Gastonia, N.C., who finished third with a time of 2:53:35.

the last remaining runner to have completed every Marine Corps Marathon since its inception in 1976. Wilson, who typically trains in the early morning, is slowly recovering from Sunday's race.

"I'm almost back to walking normally," he joked. "It was certainly warm this year but I was glad to run as part of Brooke Curran's RunningBrooke team. She does great work for the kids in our city and I'm always happy to help her out." Complete race results can be found at www.marinemarathon.com.