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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**McDonald's LPGA Championship® and Harford County
Office of Economic Development Donates \$45,000 Locally**

*"Taste of Harford" event raises money for Ronald McDonald House Charities®
Aberdeen and Bel Air High Schools*

Aberdeen, MD (October 1, 2008)—Students and administrators at Aberdeen High School's Science and Mathematics Academy, along with Bel Air High School officials representing Project Lead The Way, and representatives from Ronald McDonald House Charities®, assembled at Aberdeen High School today for a check presentation ceremony— all beneficiaries of the 2008 McDonald's LPGA Championship and The Taste of Harford.

McDonald's LPGA Championship Director of Business Development, Peter Wilder, and Harford County Executive, David R. Craig, along with Wini Roche, Harford County Tourism Director, presented each high school with a check for \$7,500 to support their science, math, and engineering technology programs. The tournament and county officials also presented Ronald McDonald House Charities with a check for \$30,000.

In attendance were: Aberdeen Principal, Thomas M. Szerensitis; SMA Coordinator, Donna Clem; Bel Air High School Principal, Joe Voskuhl; Bel Air Assistant Principal, Erica Harris; and Ronald McDonald House Program co-founder and Ronald McDonald House Charities representative, Jim Murray.

"Thank you , thank you , thank you," said Donna Clem (SMA Coordinator). "These funds will go directly into the classrooms with the purchase of technology that will be used on a daily basis by each and every student in the academy."

"This money will be used to fund the purchase of lap top computers for the students participating in our pilot program. We truly appreciate the generosity from the McDonald's LPAG Championship and everyone involved in this year's Taste of Harford event," said Joe Voskuhl, Principal Bel Air High School.

"Thank you Harford County and the McDonald's LPGA Championship. It is an honor to accept this check on behalf of RMHC. Harford County -- its people, its businesses, has been an outstanding venue for the golf tournament and epitomizes community and family—helping children and giving back to the community is the heart of the golf tournament, " said Jim Murray, Ronald McDonald House co-founder.

About the McDonald's LPGA Championship®

The Championship is one of four "majors" on the LPGA Tour and attracts over 90,000 spectators annually. It remains one of the country's top fundraisers for children around the world. Since its inception in 1981, over \$46 million has been raised for Ronald McDonald House Charities and other children's charities.

About Taste of Harford

A Harford County fundraising event, promoting area chefs and restaurants with all proceeds helping local community and charitable organizations.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities®

A non-profit, 501 (c)(3), that creates, finds and supports programs that directly improve the health and well being of children. RMHC fulfills its mission by creating programs that address targeted needs, and by supporting these programs through its global network of local Chapters in 51 countries and regions.

About Aberdeen Science & Mathematics Academy

A specialized program located in Aberdeen High School that includes the STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). This past year, students from the program were awarded over \$2 million in college scholarships to attend some of the finest institutions in the country. One of the many highlights of the program is the completion of a “Capstone Project” by each student during their senior year. These projects have been nationally recognized as the best of the best and have won numerous regional and national academic awards.

About Project Lead the Way

A pilot non-profit program at Bel Air High School that promotes engineering and technology courses for their students. In its second year, the program is already winning tremendous acclaim in the region.

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McDonald’s LPGA Championship – June 8-14, 2009

Bulle Rock golf course, Havre de Grace, MD

For additional information, visit tournament website: www.mcslpga.org





Jim Murray, Co-Founder, Ronald McDonald House Program (left)
Donna Clem, Coordinator, Aberdeen High School SMA (center)
Thomas M. Szerensitis, Principal, Aberdeen High School (right)



David R. Craig, Harford County Executive (left)
Erica Harris, Assistant Principal, Bel Air High School (center)
Jim Murray, Co-Founder Ronald McDonald House Program (right)