Oak Hill DD NIE(



Herndon High Fama Produces **F**welfth Night' News, Page 5

Helping Keep Homeless Warm this Winter News, Page 3

Renting Out Homes Through the Net News, Page 6

The Herndon High School Theatre team will show a production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" Nov. 10-18. Herndon High School Theatre sent its improv team to Mount Vernon High School for the first countywide improv competition of the year, and won.

November 8-14, 2017

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Week in Herndon

Garage Entrance Closure to Affect Commuters Nov. 10-26

Due to construction of the new Fairfax County commuter parking garage at the future Metrorail Silver Line's Herndon Station site, the access road from Sunrise Valley Drive to the Herndon-Monroe park and ride facility will be closed starting Friday. Nov. 10, through Sunday, Nov. 26, 2017.

Commuters who wish to use the existing Herndon-Monroe garage during this time will need to enter and exit the facility via the Dulles Toll Road (Rt. 267).

This detour will require drivers to pay a \$1 toll upon exiting the garage with an E-Z Pass or exact change.

Commuters can alternatively consider using the Reston South Park and Ride located at the intersection of Reston Parkway and Fox Mill Road (parking is free but limited); or the commuter parking garage located at the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station (parking costs \$4.95 per day, payable by SmartTrip card, or credit and debit card only.)

Due to the construction activities, Fairfax Connector passengers using routes that serve the Herndon-Monroe Park and Ride facility should expect significant delays. Also, the following bus stops on Sunrise Valley Drive - served by Routes 924, 926, 927, 937, 950, 951 and 551 will be missed:

♦ Stop #3495 at Colt Brook Drive

Stop #3541 at Milburn Lane

✤ Stop #3566 at Thunder Chase Drive

Commuters usually using the stops not served should board buses at the Herndon-Monroe Park and Ride facility. Pedestrians can access the bus bays by entering through the garage.

For more information on the service impacts of the construction project, commuters can:

♦ Call 703-339-7200, TTY 703-339-1608 (Monday - Friday, 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Saturday - Sunday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

Email fairfaxconnector@fairfaxcounty.gov



Anselene Receives Fellows Award

Herndon's former Town **Manager and Director of Parks and Recreation** Arthur "Art" A. Anselene, was awarded recently at the 63rd Annual Conference of the Virginia **Recreation and Park** Society (VRPS) in Hampton, Va. Anselene was awarded the Fellows Award for his outstanding leadership and commitment in furthering the goals of VRPS, contributing to the profession, and serving the community. Pictured here, Anselene and wife Susan at the ceremony.

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2 SOAK HILL/HERNDON CONNECTION SOVEMBER 8-14, 2017

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News

Helping Keep Homeless Warm this Winter

Hypothermia Prevention Program gearing up for 2017-2018 season.

By Andrea Worker The Connection

he first semi-cold snap just hit the region, but it's just a taste of colder days and wintery weather yet to come. It's also a reminder that some of people will be braving the season without the ability to simply turn the temperature up on a heating unit. In a region that is consistently described as having one of the healthiest economies in the country, there are still hundreds who are homeless in the Fairfax-Falls Church community.

Fairfax County and surrounding communities operate shelters for individuals and families year-round and serve a large clientele with their efforts, but when winter arrives, it becomes apparent that there are many more homeless throughout the area, and without the Hypothermia Prevention Program their lives would be in danger.

During the 2016-2017 season, Abby Dunner from the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness reports that at least 1,057 people utilized one of the shelters for at least one night.

THE PROGRAM is an integral part of the county's commitment to prevent and end homelessness, offering shelter - and more - during the coldest months of the year. The non-profits New Hope Housing (NHH), FACETS, Cornerstones and Northern Virginia Family Services operate the program under contract with Fairfax County, dividing their efforts and offerings into five service areas, with the help of some 44 faithbased communities who have volunteered not only their congregants to assist, but also offered their facilities as shelter venues during the program's season.

New Hope Housing handles the task in the South County Route 1 area, the Central area, including Annandale and Seven Corners, as well as within the City of Falls Church, in partnership with Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter.

In South County, NHH goes into high gear starting Dec. 1 with their overnight shelter program through the Ventures in Community Hypothermia Outreach Program (VIC-HOP) at Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church in Alexandria. An army of volunteers, many from faith-based agencies, assist staff with meal preparation and service for dinner and a to-go breakfast. NHH also offers housing assistance and employment skills at both shelters.

The City of Falls Church program will kick off on Nov. 15 and run through March 31, 2018 at the Falls Church Homeless Shelter at 217 Gordon Road. from 6 p.m.-8 a.m. daily. Like the South County facilities, case management services will be available, in addition to hot meals and a warm and safe sleeping environment.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



On a day like this, many appreciate that Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church in Alexandria offers their facilities to the homeless during the Hypothermia Prevention Program Season through their Ventures in Community Hypothermia Outreach Program, with New Hope Housing coordinating the services for the region.

Photos Contributed by Sherry Edelkamp



Thousands of volunteers make the Hypothermia Prevention Program possible each year, offering a warm meal and a warm place to sleep. A cheerfully decorated lunch bag from some of the region's youngest citizens, can help warm the heart as well.

Contact Information

How to make contact in your area to receive assistance or to offer it: South County -

- www.newhopehousing.org.
- City of Falls Church www.newhopehousing.org
- Central www.newhopehousing.org North County – www.cornerstonesva.org. To donate or volunteer, contact � Susan Alger at Susan.Alger@cornerstonesva.org.
- Western/Central www.facetscares.org.

In the Central region, from Dec. 1 through March 31, 2018, NHH operates their seasonal program out of the Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter (BCCS), starting at 4:30 p.m. Faith communities offer their facilities on a weekly rotation, enabling NHH to greatly expand the numbers they can assist. Clients can access meals, laundry, showers and cold-weather clothing and supplies at BCCS, before some are transported to a volunteering faith community for overnight accommodation in the care of NHH staff. Guests are then transported back to BCCS the following morning.

Cornerstones coordinates the efforts in the North County area, including Herndon and Reston, operating out of the Embry Rucker Community Shelter. The main Hypothermia Prevention Program opens at the North County Government Building on Dec. 1, where guests are directed after visiting the Embry Rucker facility. Case management, supplies, meals, showers, laundry, and even bus tokens are available to guests. During the 2015-2016 season, FACETS and their partners served 385 guests.

The Western and Central region, which includes Fairfax and Centreville, is operated by FACETS. Their prevention program begins on Nov. 26. Accommodations vary, as guests are hosted by various partnering faith communities. The first four weeks will be hosted at one site, then, beginning on Dec. 24, the program utilizes two community sites rotating each week. FACETS provides case management services at each location. FACETS also encourages community members to volunteer at a location, or to donate items like food and clothing. The organization offers volunteer and staff training sessions "with the goal of making sure everyone involved feels safe and confident in providing shelter to those experiencing homelessness this season."

IN ADDITION to offering accommodation and life skills services, the Hypothermia Prevention Program includes visits - at least once per week - to the venues by nurse practitioners from Fairfax County's Homeless Healthcare Program. Basic medical care can be offered onsite, and flu vaccines will be offered free of charge. Outreach personnel will also visit, helping to assist clients wishing to enroll into the Community Health Care Network's free clinics.

OPINION Be Part of Children's Issue 2017

Get creative and send art, poetry and more.

this newspaper devotes its pages to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families. Even readers without children of that age spend time admiring and chuckling over the issue. The annual Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette,

Editorial

Children's Almanac and Children's Centre View) is a tradition of well over a decade.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers. We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Some suggestions:

uring the last week of each year, your family, friends, pets or some favorite activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format. Photos of sculpture or larger art projects are also welcome.

Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents, family or friends any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be? What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming year? What is one thing that you would change about school? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good parent? What makes a good friend? Describe one of the best or worst things that ever happened to you? What is the best gift you've ever been given? Ever received?

Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, politics, etc.

- Poetry or other creative writing.
- ✤ News stories from school newspapers.

Photos and text about activities or events. To be published, we must have the full first Drawings or paintings or photographs of and last name of the student artist/writer.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Home schoolers' contributions are welcomed.

Please send all submissions by Friday, Dec. 1. The Children's Edition will publish the last week of 2017.

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD or flash drive to: Children's Connection (including Children's Gazette, Children's Almanac and Children's Centre View), 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Email submissions for the Children's Edition to the following editors:

For Burke, Clifton, Fairfax, Fairfax Station, Great Falls, Herndon, Lorton, McLean, Reston, or Springfield, email to Kemal Kurspahic at kemal@connectionnewspapers.com.

For Alexandria, Arlington, Centreville, Chantilly, Mount Vernon, or Potomac, Md., Steven Mauren email to at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

See last year's editions by visiting www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scroll down to Children's Edition.



Oak Hill & Herndon

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age temperatures, the annual community effort to protect and provide for Fairfax residents who are living in the woods, on the streets, in cars, and abandoned buildings

is gearing up. Since 2003, FACETS' Hypothermia Prevention and Response Program has provided a safe place to sleep and nutritious meals to men and women who are experiencing homelessness. This program is operated across Fairfax and Falls Church in partnership with the Fairfax County government and approximately 40 faith communities.

Planning starts months before as logistics needed to serve hundreds of guests. Throughout the winter, takes a week when they open their

By Joe Fay Executive director of FACETS he warm fall masks what's ahead: a cold winter that jeopardizes

the lives of those who have no home. Despite

the warmer than averserve.

our team at FACETS, a nonprofit that opens doors by helping those who suffer the effects of poverty in Fairfax, meets with faith community and county partners on the each faith community partner



Getting Ready for Company

doors to provide shelter. In anticipation, churches and temples are preparing their facilities to welcome people in need during the cold months ahead

- cleaning, getting supplies, and making fixes and upgrades. Other volunteers are

planning menus and meals to Over the years, the program has

evolved from solely offering a safe haven to also offering life-enhancing programs. The cold winter means demand for our services goes up. It also means we have the opportunity to address these needs in a very personal way as more people come in from the cold through our hypothermia prevention effort. We use these interactions to connect even more people with housing solutions and critical services.

Last year, we served nearly 300 guests through the hypothermia prevention program. In addition, our case managers worked with 125 of these guests to connect them with health, housing, and job placement services as well as veterans and Social Security benefits. In addition, we connected some

See Fay, Page 10

Poll Favors Housing

Voters believe people who work in their community should be able to find a home there.

By Michelle Krocker, Executive Director, Northern Virginia

Affordable Housing Alliance

he first-of-its-kind public opinion poll on housing was conducted recently by the Wason Center for Public Policy at Christopher Newport University to gauge Virginians' thoughts on policies and programs that address housing affordability in the Commonwealth. The poll was commissioned by the Campaign for Housing and Civic Engagement (CHACE), a statewide housing advocacy network led by the Virginia Housing Alliance and the Virginia Poverty Law Center.

A majority (54 percent) of respondents favor public sector opportunity); investment in affordable housing at the state and local gov- vor holding energy companies ernment level. That support includes maintaining and expanding the uses for the Housing Trust Fund, reducing

4 ♦ Oak Hill/Herndon Connection ♦ November 8-14, 2017

ing in place" modifications, and promoting energy efficiency in affordable housing. A summary of some of the more salient points raised in the

homelessness, facilitating "ag-

survey include: ✤ 82 percent of voters strongly believe that people who work in their community should be able to find a home there (economic diversity; access to opportunity);

✤ 56 percent of voters agree that housing affordability is vital to their community's economic success (economic competitiveness; diversity; access to opportunity);

✤ 58 percent of voters also ending believe that homelessness is an important government priority (access to

89 percent of Virginians faaccountable by requiring them to meet energy saving goals for

See Krocker, Page 10

News



From left, Hendon High students senior Elise Felming, sophomore Henry McCalf, junior Sean Sullivan, and junior Erin Maxwell will be in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" at Herndon High School. Show dates will be Nov. 10-18.

Herndon High Drama Produces 'Twelfth Night'

November developments for Herndon drama.

By Ryan Dunn The Connection

aphael Schklowsky's eyes are on the stage, which is transitioning to a new scene. Several students move scene pieces along the stage in a rehearsal. "Creating set transitions that are visually engaging so the audience does not check out can be a challenge," said Schklowsky.

This is his second year as director of the Herndon drama department, and the students and staff look forward to the November production of Shakespeare's holiday comedy "Twelfth Night, or What You Will."

"Shakespeare plays have often been done [here] in the spring, but I don't think enough people got to experience it, and I love the classics," said Schklowsky. "My goal is education, and Shakespeare is just as edgy as any contemporary writer."

This production has approximately 40 students involved in both cast and crew, and it will be entered for the Cappies competition. The Cappies (Critics and Awards Program) is a program for recognizing, celebrating, and providing learning experiences for high school theater and journalism students and teenage playwrights.

The November show is a double cast pro

See Twelfth Night, Page 9

More Details

Herndon High School Drama presents William Shakespeare's holiday comedy, "Twelfth Night." Performance Dates:

Friday, Nov. 10, 7:30-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, 7:30-10 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, 2-4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 16, 7:30-10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, 7:30-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, 2-4:30 p.m.

Performance Location: Herndon High School Auditorium, 700 Bennett St., Herndon (Enter the school through Door #6.)

Ticket Information: \$6/student and \$12/adult

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



This is the second school year since Raphael Schklowsky took the position as director of the Herndon High School drama department. The first production he directed last fall was "Inspector General," a play by Russian dramatist Nikolai Gogol.

Purchase at www.HerndonDrama.org Ticket Specials:

<u>Veteran Day Special</u>: The Saturday, Nov. 11 performance is free for Active Duty, Reserve, and Retired military and their immediate family members. Call Renee at 703-742-9395 for the promo code.

<u>Ticket & Talkback</u>: All tickets to the Sunday, Nov. 12 performance include an optional talkback session after the show.

<u>Half Price Ticket Night</u>: All tickets for the Thursday, Nov. 16 performance are half price. Parental guidance recommended — not suitable for audience members under age 13.



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NEWS

Renting Out Homes Through the Net

Proposed zoning rules would allow residents to operate short-term lodging as an accessory use of a home.

> By Ken Moore The Connection

ick Ploutis developed his backup plan during tough economic times when fewer people contracted him to paint their houses.

"It has saved me," said Ploutis of Springfield, a father of four who rented out his Alexandria property through a short-term rental platform. "Airbnb has helped me to pay my bills.'

Fairfax County Planning Commission held a workshop on Wednesday, Nov. 1 to address issues associated with allowing shortterm rentals, such as who can operate lodging, the number of days permitted, whether homeowners or occupants must be present during the rental period, fees and necessary permitting for registering homes for short-term rentals, and if a log of overnight adults guests must be maintained and available to county staff.

"I think a lot of [short-term rentals] are flying under the radar," said Dranesville District Commissioner John Ulfelder. "Technically, they are illegal right now."

Currently, short-term lodging is not a permitted use under the existing Zoning Ordinance.

Laurie Arrants, of the Mason District, expressed comfort that the county will examine this new rental industry before rushing ahead: "Adding risk associated with lodging into the residential communities is a huge paradigm shift," when local zoning code has protected residential areas from commercial activity, she said.

Right now, the county is considering limiting the number of nights in a range of 30 to 180 days annually; planners said they want the rentals clearly defined to be an accessory use, that the property's primary use will still be somebody's domicile.

Gail Henry of Fairfax asked why there would be a limit to the number of days residents could rent out home spaces. "I imagine there are many positives," said Henry, referring to widowers, military members, people laid off or underemployed, or trying to remain in an expensive county.

She voiced concern over a negative undertone she sensed in the county's initial discussions on the topic.

But planning commissioners have not taken any stand, said Planning Commission Chairman and Springfield District Commissioner Peter Murphy.

"No one on the commission is calling balls and strikes right now, we are simply asking questions," said Murphy, during the public workshop on Wednesday, Nov. 1.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING parking, noise, and insurance liability dominated the queries from the planning commissioners

6 * Oak Hill/Herndon Connection * November 8-14, 2017

Proposed Standards

Related to Operation:

- Short-term lodging allowed as accessory use to the primary residential use
- ~ Limited to overnight rentals of not more than 30-180 calendar days/year
 - Operator must be present during all rental period except for a maximum of 14-60 calendar days/year
- Limited to one contract per night
- A log of all overnight adult guests must be maintained & must be available upon request by County Staff
 - Indicates provision to be advertised with flexibility

Fairfax County Planning and Zoning

This chart shows a range of proposals for the zoning ordinance regarding short-term rentals.

Nick Ploutis,

Springfield



Julie Strandlie, Mason **District Commissioner**



Timothy Sargeant, At-large Commissioner Mount Vernon

to Department of Planning and Zoning staff during the two-hour meeting.

Liability insurance must be addressed, said Don Hinman, of Mount Vernon District, who spoke on behalf of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. The federation advocates that homeowners (or residents) must be present when renting out

"It will be next to impossible for condo associations and HOAs to amend documents if theirs do not already prohibit [short term rentals]."

- Julie Strandlie, Mason District Planning Commissioner



James Hart, **At-large Commissioner**



for short-term rental.

At-large Commissioner James Hart called the short-term rentals analogous to child care centers operating in people's homes.

He asked if inspections will be made, but county officials said they intend the responsibility to be placed on the homeowner or occupant hosting the short-term renter.

Regulating, **Permitting Short-Term Rentals**

Fairfax County is moving forward with a process to permit and limit short-term lodging like Airbnb and other platforms. This would regulate who can operate short-term lodging, impose limits on the operation and develop a permit process for seeking approval of short-term lodging as an accessory use to the occupancy of a dwelling.

The county's Department of Zoning Ordinance process allows time to fine-tune additional language of short-term rentals; the county will advertise public hearings to give all residents an opportunity to voice opinion. The county conducted an online survey and have conducted several public meetings already, including last week's public workshop at the Planning Commission.

For more, see

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/shortterm-rentals.htm and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/ shorttermrentals/shorttermrentalscalendar.htm.

"If we're approving a registry of these, maybe there's some expectation in the public that somebody at some point has checked to make sure there's a working smoke detector and that there's a fire exit that meets code," said Hart. "I hope that there's not a false sense of security by us approving a registry for these, that yes, you can sleep overnight there ... and we don't know if it's a firetrap or not."

Lee District Commissioner James Migliaccio would like to see "a more draconian approach" taken with violators.

"I'm looking to protect the neighbors a bit more," said Ellen Hurley, Braddock District Commissioner.

THE STRONGEST request came from Mason District Commissioner Julie Strandlie. She implored the county to conduct a survey of HOAs and condo associations

"I think it is imperative that we do a survey to find out what our communities existing HOA and condo language says," said Strandlie. "It will be next to impossible for condo associations and HOAs to amend documents if theirs do not already prohibit [short-term rentals]."

At-large Commissioner Tim Sargeant said he has concerns for small HOAs that might not have the resources to pursue legal costs should the need arise.

"We're not precluding any HOA in any way from saying no?" asked Commissioner Hart.

"That is correct," answered Lily Yegazi, senior assistant to the zoning administrator.

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Gail Henry, Don Hinman, Fairfax

Home LifeStyle Lighting Up the Season

Tastemakers create holiday trees, mantelpieces, wreaths and a menorah for charity.

By Marilyn Campbell

ome local designers are collaborating with patients at Children's National Health Center to deck the hall for charity. The tastemakers are creating holiday trees, mantle pieces, wreaths and a menorah for a community fundraiser called "Light Up the Season." The Creative & Therapeutic Arts Services at Children's National worked with the Children's Health Board to pair designers with patients for inspiration.

"We were very excited to learn about Light Up the Season and be able to take part," said Nadia Subaran of Aidan Design. "Over the years we've been regular participants in the DC Design House, another charity event benefitting Children's National. However, with this event we got the chance to interact and collaborate with the children that these events benefit. It's been a much more hands on experience for us. And who doesn't love decorating holiday trees?"

Subaran, along with Megan Padilla and Kelly Emerson also of Aidan Design created a holiday tree design called "A 'Wimpy' Tree - A Tree in Cartoons," which was inspired by a patient named Wesley and his favorite book series, "Diary of a Wimpy Kid."

"Our tree will explore a black and white theme in keeping with the graphic novel genre," said Subaran.

The design team says that they used 2- and 3-D interpretations of classic Christmas décor combined with "striking graphic visuals, pops of color, and a good dose of wit, the tree will be both a throwback to a simpler time and on trend for young readers."

"A Guiding Light" is the name of the mantel design created by Kelley Proxmire of Kelley Proxmire, Inc. and inspired by a patient named Cheyenne. In creating her mantel, the designer said that she, "tied in biblical references to light, which are shown throughout the display, and incorporated Cheyenne's favorite color: red for a red, white and silver-themed mantel."

Two sisters named Leilah and Ava were the inspiration for a tree design

called, "A Colorful Family Christmas" by Annie Elliott and Christy Maguire of Annie Elliott Interiors. "When asked what they liked best about Christmas, the girls agreed that being together with their entire family was tops," said Elliott. "In that spirit, they inspired our theme, 'A Colorful Family Christmas.' Playing board games, reading stories, sitting around a fire and decorating the tree also are favorite family activities. You'll see all of these

"....With this event we got the chance to interact and collaborate with the children that these events benefit. It's been a much more hands on experience for us. And who doesn't love decorating

- Nadia Subaran of Aidan Design

holiday traditions reflected in our tree's decorations." "Leilah and Ava have many favorite colors, but a winner for both is teal," added Maguire. "Therefore, teal drives the tree's color palette, and other of the girls' favorites, purple, blue, and green, also are included."

holiday trees?"



Christy Maguire (left) and Annie Elliott (right) of Annie Elliott Interiors, (pictured with Leilaha and Ava) will collaborate on a holiday tree for Light Up The Season 2017.

Other area designers include Lena Kroupnik of Lena Kroupnik Interiors, Allie Mann and Alexandria Hubbard of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc., Camille Saum of Camille Saum Interiors of Bethesda, Md.; Victoria Sanchez of Victoria at Home, Susan Nelson and Todd Martz of Home on Cameron, Ashley Greer of Atelier Ashley Flowers of Alexandria; Pamela Harvey of Pamela Harvey Interiors of Herndon; Josh

Hildreth and Tara Price of Josh Hildreth Interiors of Reston and Lisa Tureson of Studio Artistica in Oak Hill.

The holiday designs will be on display during a family-friendly community fundraising event to benefit Children's National at Four Seasons in Georgetown, 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW – on Sunday, Dec. 3 from 1-4 p.m. There will be activities for all ages, such as holiday cookie decorating, ornament making, a visit from

Santa and Children's National Dr. Bear mascot. musical performances and youth entertainers, silent auction, and light fare and libations. In addition, guests will be encouraged to write holiday cards for National patients. Children's Visit childrensnational.org/lightuptheseason for more.





Oak Hill/Herndon Connection & November 8-14, 2017 & 7

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

- "Aida" the Musical. Through Nov. 11, various times at Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods Village Center at 2310 Colts Neck Road. Reston Players presents "Aida" with music by pop legend Sir Elton John and lyrics by Tim Rice. Visit restonplayers.org/show1/. Art Exhibit. Through Nov. 18 at
- Greater Reston Arts Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Artist Sue Wrbican, bringing her most recent photographic series inspired by the landscape paintings of American Surrealist Kay Sage (1898-1963). Free. Call 571-267-5000 or visit restonarts.org.
- Cotton Collective Art. Through Dec. 2 at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Exhibit called "The Fabric of Families Center Street Cotton Collective." Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com.
- Reston Farm Market, Saturdays, through Dec. 9, 8 a.m. - Noon, Lake Anne Village Center, 11401 North Shore Drive, SNAP accepted, bonus dollar program. (CLOSED for
- Multicultural Festival Sept. 23) Herndon Farm Market, Thursdays through Nov. 9, 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Old Town Herndon, 700 Block of Lynn St., by the Red Caboose. SNAP
- accepted, bonus dollar program. Jazz in the City Exhibit. Various times at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Kristine Keller and Robert Gilbert paint with an interest in New York. Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 10

- Ice Skating Season Opens. various times at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Public ice skating and skate rentals every day, including all holidays. Also available are skating lessons, birthday parties, private and corporate parties. Call 703-709-6300 or visit restontowncenter.com/
- skating. Rock N Skate at the Ice Skating Pavilion. 8-11 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Live DJ, music, games and prizes; skating continues until 11 p.m. Continues every Friday until March. Call 703-709-6300 or visit restontowncenter.com/skating.

NOV. 10-12

Herndon High School Theatre presents "Twelfth Night." Various times at Herndon High School Auditorium, 700 Bennett St. William Shakespeare's holiday comedy set in the roaring '20s. \$6 per student and \$12 per adult. Visit www.HerndonDrama.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 11

- All American Concert. 4 p.m. at Hunter Woods Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. All the music in this patriotic concert has been written or arranged by American musicians. They include the legendary king of marches, John Philip Sousa and former Secretary of the Navy, J. William Middendorf, II. Call 703-476-4500.
- he Author Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Reston. Reading and signing with author Melissa Scholes Young of her book "Flood." Email info@scrawlbooks.com, call 703-966-2111, or visit www.scrawlbooks.com.
- Dancing with the Services. 7 p.m. at the Crown Plaza Hotel Dulles, 2200



Centreville Road, Herndon. The event, based on the popular television show Dancing with the Stars, will feature local DMV celebrities. Visit www.dancereston.com or call 571-306-7925.

SUNDAY/NOV. 12

- A Visual Journey Exhibit. 2-4 p.m. at Jo Anne Rose Gallery, Reston Community Center, Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. Photographs by Carla Steckley including infrared and the newest work, triptychs on canvas will be on display from Nov.1-27. Free. Email CPSteckley@aol.com or call 703-476-6016.
- **Teen Ensemble Audition.** 5-6 p.m. at RCP Rehearsal Hall, 266 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Dodgeball Theatre's Teen Ensemble, now in it's 10th year, is a performance art training program and devised work production company open to 13 -18 year olds of all backgrounds and experience levels. Email dodgeballdirector@gmail.com for

TUESDAY/NOV. 14

more information.

Bernice Lewis Concert. 6 p.m. at Amphora's Diner Deluxe, 1151 Elden St., Herndon. A Reston-Herndon Folk Club concert. \$10 Members, \$11 Non-members. Visit www.restonherndonfolkclub.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 16

Meet the Poet. 7-9 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. How to Prove a Theory event with poet Nicole Tong. Email info@scrawlbooks.com, call 703-966-2111, or visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

NOV. 16-18

- Herndon High School Theatre presents "Twelfth Night." Various times at Herndon High
 - School Auditorium, 700 Bennett St. William Shakespeare's holiday comedy set in the roaring '20s. \$6 per student and \$12 per adult. Visit www.HerndonDrama.org.

NOV. 18-19

- Children's Nutcracker. Noon, 2 p.m and 4 p.m. shows at the Classical Ballet Theatre, 320 Victory Drive, Herndon. The Children's Series "Nutcracker," is a condensed version of the popular holiday classic. The approximately 40-minute performance followed by a short question and answer session and memorable photographs with
 - dancers. Visit www.cbtnva.org.

Jo Anne Rose Gallery

Sunday, Nov. 12 take a visual journey, 2-4 p.m. at Jo Anne Rose Gallery, Reston Community Center, Lake Anne, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston. Photographs by Carla Steckley including infrared and the newest work, triptychs on canvas will be on display from Nov. 1-27. Free. Email CPSteckley@aol.com or call 703-476-6016.

Photo by Carla **Steckley in Teton** National Park



Art Exhibit

Wall hanging is part of a cotton collective art show on exhibit through Dec. 2 at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Exhibit called "The Fabric of Families Center Street Cotton Collective." Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com for more.

SATURDAY/NOV. 18

Herndon Turkey Trot 5K Race. 4 p.m. at the Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave. Runners and walkers, take your mark and get ready to conquer a fun 5K trail course, which winds around the Herndon Centennial Golf Course. Visit herndon-va/events

SUNDAY/NOV. 19

Gray Goose Studios Class. 2-4 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Children and teens can create art in the medium of their choice with assistance from the instructor as needed. Drawing, painting, collage, mosaic, and sculpture supplies provided. Artists can choose one medium or work in mixed media. \$25. Call 703-956-9560 or visit www.artspaceherndon.com.

Meet the Cat Expert/Author. 4-6 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. "Purrs of Wisdom" discussion and signing with author/ cat expert Ingrid King. Email info@scrawlbooks.com, call 703-966-2111, or visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 24

- Black Friday Brunch. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Community Canteen in Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Breakfast menu includes custom omelets, breakfast sandwiches, Belgian waffles, and more, plus freshbaked treats at the counter, Metropolis Coffee and Rishi Tea. Call 703-707-9442 or visit communitycanteen.com.
- 27th Annual Reston Holiday Parade. 11 a.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Day of holidav activities including tree lighting and singing. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restontowncenter.com. Meet the Authors. 11:30 a.m. at
- Scrawl Books, in Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Lezlie Evans and Joan Waites will be doing a storytime and book signing with their new Christmas books "Finding Christmas" and "An Artist's Night Before Christmas." Call 703-966-2111, or visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

NOV. 24-JAN. 4

Gingerbread Village. Various times at at the Hyatt Regency Reston,

Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. See the annual display in the hotel lobby. Call 703-709-1234 or visit reston.hyatt.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 30

Meet the Author. 7 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Poet Alan King will read from and sign his new book "Point Blank." Visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 2

- Meet the Christmas Author. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Sue Fliess will be doing a storytime reading and book signing with her new Christmas book "We Wish for a Monster Christmas." Visit
- www.scrawlbooks.com. Horse-drawn Carriage Rides. 4-9 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. \$5 per person; children 5 and under ride free with adult. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restontowncenter.com

SUNDAY/DEC. 3

- Run with Santa 5K. 8:30 a.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Jump into the season's spirit and wear the favorite holiday gear or costume. Free kids fun-run with finisher medals.Call 703-689-0999 or visit prraces.com/runwithsanta.
- Mini-Train Rides. noon-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restontowncenter.com

THURSDAY/DEC. 7

Meet the Author. 7 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Suzanne Scurlock-Durana will be doing a guided meditation/ reading/ book signing of her book "Reclaiming Your Body: Healing from Trauma and Awakening Your Body's Wisdom." Visit www.scrawlbooks.com.

SATURDAY/DEC. 9

- Meet the Author. 11 a.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Dar Williams will be at the store to sing and sign copies of her book "What I Found in 1000 Towns: A Traveling Musician's Guide to Rebuilding America's Communities — One Coffee Shop, Dog Run, and Open-Mic Night at a Time." Visit www.scrawlbooks.com.
- **Gray Goose Studios Class.** 2-4 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Children and teens can create art in the medium of their choice with assistance from the instructor as needed. Drawing, painting, collage, mosaic, and sculpture supplies provided. Artists can choose one medium or work in mixed media. \$25. Call 703-956-
- 9560 or visit artspaceherndon.com. Horse-drawn Carriage Rides. 4-9 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. \$5 per person; children 5 and under ride free with adult. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restontowncenter.com

SUNDAY/DEC. 10

- Mini-Train Rides. noon-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Proceeds go to local charities. Call 703-709-6720 or visit restontowncenter.com.
- Meet the Author. 2 p.m. at Scrawl Books, Reston Town Center, 11862 Market St. Alan Tom will be launching his new book "The Disgusting Adventures of Bugaboo and Buzz Buzz: Into the Toilet of Doom." Visit www.scrawlbooks.com www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

♦ Oak Hill/Herndon Connection ♦ November 8-14, 2017

NEWS

'Twelfth Night' at Herndon High

FROM PAGE 5 duction, with an evening cast that will do four shows, and a matinee cast which will do two shows. The students and crew have been rehearsing since September for this play. "This has been really fun," said senior Shivam Shrivastava, who is playing the character Malvolio. The play "Twelfth Night" centers on twins Viola and Sebastian, who are separated in a shipwreck. Viola (who is disguised as a man, Cesario) falls in love with Duke Orsino, who in turn is in love with the Countess Olivia. Upon meeting Viola, Countess Olivia becomes smitten, thinking

she is a man. In addition to studies and work on the "Twelfth Night" production, the Herndon improv team has been active. Herndon High School Theatre sent its improv team to Mount Vernon HS for the first countywide improv competition of the year.

"Not only did the team put forward a great effort after most of them had been pouring their hearts out in 'Twelfth Night' rehearsals, but they won the whole darn competition! I could not be more proud of the team, and more grateful for the dedication of the team's captains who have approached this year with a sense of purpose and leadership," said Schklowsky. One student on the Hendon improve team is junior Rose Bailey, who will play the witty jester, Feste.



The Herndon HS Theatre team will show a production of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" Nov. 10-18. HHS Theatre sent its improv team to Mount Vernon High School for the first countywide improv competition of the year, and won.

"It is really nice to work with a director with a different style," said freshman Ryen Weston, who will play Olivia in the matinee. This production is set in the Roaring 1920s, and will include some jazz background music and references to vaudeville theatre.

Freshman Leilani Johnson, who will play Viola in the matinee expects audiences will appreciate the pairing of 1920s jazz music with this Shakespeare comedy.

"The students work so hard and do so well together, they all chip in to make it happen," said Rene Maxwell, a drama booster and mother to junior Erin Maxwell. Erin has the role of the character Viola. "I am essentially playing two people, so it is interesting," said Erin.



Celebrating Independent Film for Eleven Years

November 9-12

AlexFilmFest.com #AlexFilmFest @AlexFilmFest

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& Oyster Bar, 2321 Dulles Station Boulevard, Suite C, Herndon, Fairfax County VA 20171 The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer/Mixed Beverage Restaurant On Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Carol S. Chung, Managing Member. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg





10 To Oak Hill/Herndon Connection Solvember 8-14, 2017

How To Handle 'Nightmare Scenario'?

By Stephen R. Ruth Schar School of Policy and Government Professor of Public Policy George Mason University

e should fear Artificial Intelligence. Not in the future but now. Ask Sheryl Sandberg, chief operating officer of Facebook. She announced that her company, with its over 2 billion users, built software it cannot fully control. "We never intended or anticipated this functionality being used this way," Sandberg said, "— and that is on us." Facebook's operating systems had allowed Russian operatives to create accounts and ads aimed at influencing the 2016 U.S. presidential election. The gigantic network seems to have created systems that are ungovernable.

Facebook's problem hints at the extreme dangers lurking within Artificial Intelligence as it grows throughout the world. AI Experts are already talking about a "nightmare scenario," where nations' AI systems could ignite real-time conflicts. Consider, hair-trigger AI systems could eventually control several nations' military responses' and some error in any one algorithm could possibly lead to a nuclear catastrophe.

Between the Facebook case and the nightmare scenario is the immediate problem of millions of people losing jobs. Around the globe, programmable machines — including robots, cars and factory robots - are replacing humans in the workplace. Automation threatens 80 percent of today's 3.7 million transportation jobs, one U.S. government report estimated, including truck and school bus drivers, taxi drivers and Uber and Lyft drivers. Another report indicates AI is threatening aspects of the many different jobs, including call center operators, surgeons, farmers, security guards, retail assistants, fast food workers and journalists. A 2015 study of robots in 17 countries found that they accounted for over 10 percent of the countries' gross domestic product growth between 1993 and 2007. Consider, a major supplier for Apple and Samsung cell phones and computers, China's Foxconn Technology Group, is planning to automate 60,000 factory jobs with ro-

Krocker

From Page 4

their customers (sustainability);

♦ 61 percent of those surveyed are also willing to pay a 50 cent surcharge on their utility bill to help fund weatherization and energy efficiency programs (sustainability).

The CHACE campaign was planned to coincide with the November 2017 elections for all 100 members of the House of Delegates and the Governor's race. We applaud this effort and hope it's the beginning of a multi-year endeavor to speak more broadly

Fay

From Page 4

guests with market-rate apartments or houses in the community, where they received rental subsidies and/or services that were tailored to their specific needs, including a caseworker to help ease the transition. Last winter, 34 hypothermia prevention program guests found a home through the interaction. Fairfax has the second largest population in the

region experiencing homelessness, a surprise for many who live in this county with so much abunbots, replacing its existing employees. Meanwhile, Ford's factory in Cologne, Germany, not only replaced human workers with robots but also on some jobs stations position robots beside human workers — they are called cobots.

But these employment issues, as troubling as they are, cannot compare to the dangers envisioned by Elon Musk and Stephen Hawking. They are among the dozens of thought leaders who signed a letter harshly condemning governments' increasing reliance on AI for military use. Their chief concern is autonomous weapons, another example of AI. The U.S. military is already developing armaments that do not require humans to operate them. These weapons are being created to offer battlefield support for human troops. Autonomous arms are dramatically easier to develop and mass-produce than nuclear weapons. They will likely to soon appear on black markets around the world, certain to be favored by terrorist groups. To quote from the open letter, the new autonomous weapons would be ideal for dark actions including "assassinations, destabilizing nations, subduing populations and selectively killing a particular ethnic group."

There are some economic optimists like MIT's Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee, who feel that AI will eventually bring long term prosperity to the world, but even they admit that finding common ground among, economists, technologists and politicians is daunting. Obviously, it will be very difficult to craft legislation about AI without more agreement about its potential effects.

We should definitely be fearful of artificial intelligence, not just because it is clearly destined to affect the number of available jobs, including those in middle and even upper middle class domains, but because its potential military use can lead to a perilous future, if not controlled. As the open letter signed by Musk and Hawking concluded, "Starting a military AI arms race is a bad idea, and should be prevented by a ban on offensive autonomous weapons beyond meaningful human control."

The author is director of the International Center for Applied Studies in Information Technology (ICASIT) http://policyicasit.gmu.edu/

and frequently about the community and economic benefits of housing affordability to the Commonwealth. We urge all housing and community development organizations and individual housing activists to promote this survey and utilize the messages incorporated by the CHACE campaign. It is only through our collective efforts that we will move the issue of housing to a higher priority in local and state government planning and resource allocation.

See the full survey results at chaceva.files.wordpress.com/2017/09/ chacesurveyreport.pdf.

dance. But we also have a caring, strong community filled with volunteers willing to give of their time and talents to make life better for all. These volunteers — who are cooking and cleaning to prepare for company that will arrive after Thanksgiving — are great hosts and an important part of our community's efforts to prevent and end homelessness.

To learn more or volunteer, visit us at www.FACETSCares.org.

Joe Fay is Executive Director of FACETS, a Fairfax-based nonprofit working to prevent and end homelessness. www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ORNAMENT FUNDRAISER

White House Ornaments Sale. Through Dec. 15, 2017 White House Ornaments available for purchase from Assistance League of Northern Virginia for \$22 per ornament. Proceeds benefit the nonprofit's children's programs. Local delivery can be arranged. Visit www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Herndon High School Library needs volunteers. olunteering at Herndon High School? The library loves volunteers. Training available to help with re-shelving books, pulling books for teacher use, helping to check passes, or other special projects. Email hhs_library@fcps.edu.

NOV. 10-26

Parking Garage Closing. Due to construction of the new Fairfax County commuter parking garage at the future Metrorail Silver Line's Herndon Station site, the access road from Sunrise Valley Drive to the Herndon-Monroe Park and Ride facility will be closed starting Friday, Nov. 10, through Sunday, Nov. 26. Commuters who wish to use the existing Herndon-Monroe garage during this time will need to enter and exit the facility via the Dulles Toll Road (Rt. 267). This detour will require drivers to pay a \$1 toll upon exiting the garage with an E-Z Pass or exact change. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for more.

DEADLINE NOV. 13

Apply for Fuel Assistance. The Virginia Department of Social Services is currently accepting applications for fuel assistance. To qualify for fuel assistance, the maximum gross monthly income for a one-person household must not exceed \$1,307. For a household of four, the maximum gross monthly income is \$2,665. Families and individuals can apply through their local department of social services office. To apply online or to check eligibility for services, visit the CommonHelp website at commonhelp.virginia.gov. Applications may also be submitted by telephone by contacting the Enterprise Customer Service Center, Monday-Friday, from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at 855-635-4370.

THURSDAY/NOV. 16

- Blood Donations Needed. 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Amazon Web Services, 12900 Worldgate Drive, Suite 800. With the holiday season comes a decline in donations. By giving blood or platelets, donors may give patients more time and more holidays - with loved ones. Make an appointment to give blood by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).
- DMV2Go at the Pavilion. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. With the DMV wireless office on wheels, apply for or renew an ID card and driver's license; get driving records; obtain vehicle titles, license plates, decals, order disabled plates, and more.
- Visit dmv.virginia.gov. **Public Hearing Planning Commission.** 8:15 p.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Government . Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Board of Supervisors authorized the consideration of a Comprehensive Plan amendment to restore inadvertently omitted noise impacts guidance into the Transit Station Areas section of the Reston Plan. The proposed amendment integrates the guidelines for these areas with the guidance for the Reston Transit Station areas that was adopted in 2016 at the conclusion of Phase I. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/fairfaxforward/pa/ restontsasnoise/.

NOV. 16-17

Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive. To support this year's Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive, confirm your donation commitment by Oct. 31 at www.cornerstonesva.org/donations/drives. Call 571-323-9569 or nate.king@ cornerstonesva.org.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Infusion Schedule is all Fowled Up



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Previously, chemotherapy only had anecdotally-described memory loss: "chemo brain" as proof of a missing fragment. Recently however, clinical studies have confirmed the link. Yet, I still feel as if I haven't forgotten that I don't recall any prior infusions occurring on the day after Thanksgiving, as my next infusion is presently scheduled. If I remember correctly, and there are occasional disputes, this would be the first Friday after a holiday when I've needed to be local, and infused. And yes, the Infusion Centers are open for business on the weekdays following major holidays.

Having recently had my quarterly, post-scan, face-to-face appointment with my oncologist and survived the ordeal, we moved on from discussing the scan results to being examined to scheduling future appointments - including a brain MRI and CT Scan, and of course, my next infusion. And looking at the calendar, Nov. 24 is that next date. Generally speaking, per previous conversations with my oncologist, rescheduling my infusions by a week or two, here or there, had not been much of a problem (my oncologist is a strong proponent of quality of life), and pretty much up to me. However, as I've gotten older and presumably wiser - and well aware of my creatinine level/kidney issues, my current infusion schedule is what it is for a reason - protecting my kidneys. Moving the infusion up a week or back a week is not an arbitrary, Kenny-made decision any more, despite my holiday wish least. Sure enough when I asked my oncologist if he had any thoughts on my possibly rescheduling my next infusion to five weeks or seven weeks (vs. the current six weeks), he had a specific preference: five weeks. This would mean infusing the Friday before the follow ing Thanksgiving Thursday (the effect of which would likely cause some eating challenges for yours truly - on my favorite meal of the year no less) rather than extending the infusion interval to seven weeks

His thinking, as he explained it to us was: he didn't want me to wait any longer for my infusion/medicine than was absolutely necessary. Not that I don't realize how precarious my situation is but I am sort of going merrily along of late. His rebuke, so to characterize, to me about not extending my next interval to seven weeks reminded me yet again of the seriousness of my underlying diagnosis. The last thing one can do is take cancer's inactivity for granted. Even though I've been stable for four years since I was last hospitalized in August 2013, I do have an incurable disease: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, and I was initially characterized as "terminal," so hardly am I "N.E.D.", no evidence of disease.

So my next infusion date is up to me, just not as 'up' as I thought it was/has been. Either I can keep my original six-week interval infusion appointment as currently scheduled or I can advance one week to five weeks (my previous regular interval). Extending it to seven weeks is not recommended. According to my oncologist, this is good news. Since my creatinine level/kidney function has not appreciably improved while extending the interval from five to six weeks, shortening the interval back to five weeks is not a concern to him which means my kidneys are up to the challenge, which is very reassuring since kidney damage is permanent.

And even though waiting a seventh week for my next infusion might allow my kidneys more time to filter the chemotherapy a bit longer, it might also give the cancer some time to activate and we certainly don't want that.

However, nothing lasts forever, and cancer cells in particular are pretty resourceful and often figure out what's being done to them and start doing something else which leads to different treatment. At the moment, the drug I'm infusing, alimta, is working miracles. Perhaps the next drug will be as successful, perhaps not; and that of course is the problem, the unknown.

What I do know is this: a definite is better than a maybe. If I infuse the previous Friday, I definitely won't feel like eating on Thursday. If I infuse on the Friday after Thanksgiving, maybe I won't feel like driving. So what! A bird in hand ...

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

Oak Hill/Herndon Connection * November 8-14, 2017 * 11

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