

Potomac  
Day 2021.

# Potomac ALMANAC

Potomac Day  
Is Coming  
Oct. 22

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How to Vote

PAGE 3

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:  
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REAL ESTATE, PAGE 2 ♦ KENNY LOURIE, PAGE 7

ALMANAC FILE PHOTO

OCTOBER 12-18, 2022

ONLINE AT [POTOMACALMANAC.COM](http://POTOMACALMANAC.COM)



Potomac REAL ESTATE

July, 2022 Top Sales

IN JULY, 2022, 58 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD  
BETWEEN \$3,500,000-\$370,000.



1 11804 Centurion Way  
— \$3,500,000



6 11008 Balantre Lane — \$2,320,518



4 9318  
Cranford Drive  
— \$2,580,000



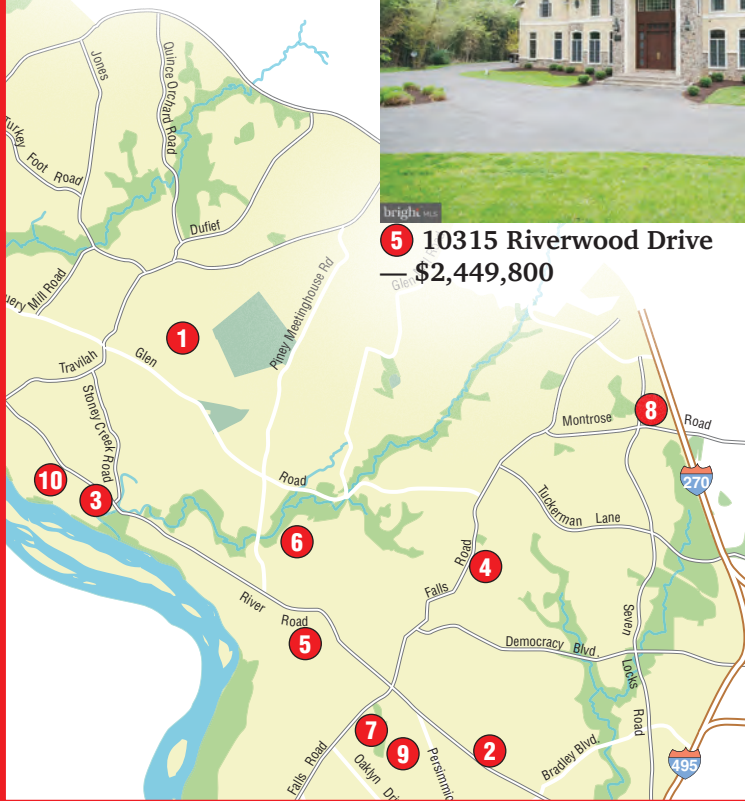
3 11601  
Springridge Road  
— \$2,600,000



5 10315 Riverwood Drive  
— \$2,449,800



2 9305 Belle Terre Way — \$2,625,000



Address.....	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City.....	Sold Price...	Type.....	Lot AC.	Postal Code ...	Subdivision.....	Date Sold
1 11804 CENTURION WAY	8	8	3	POTOMAC		\$3,500,000	Detached	2.00	20854	PALATINE	07/15/22
2 9305 BELLE TERRE WAY	7	7	3	POTOMAC		\$2,625,000	Detached	2.06	20854	FALCONHURST	07/29/22
3 11601 SPRINGRIDGE RD	8	6	1	POTOMAC		\$2,600,000	Detached	3.01	20854	POTOMAC	07/26/22
4 9318 CRANFORD DR	5	5	2	POTOMAC		\$2,580,000	Detached	0.50	20854	PINE KNOLLS	07/22/22
5 10315 RIVERWOOD DR	6	6	1	POTOMAC		\$2,449,800	Detached	2.59	20854	POTOMAC OUTSIDE	07/11/22
6 11008 BALANTRE LN	6	5	2	POTOMAC		\$2,320,518	Detached	2.02	20854	POTOMAC VIEW ESTS	07/29/22
7 9413 HOLBROOK LN	4	5	1	POTOMAC		\$2,100,000	Detached	0.37	20854	TIMBERWOOD	07/19/22
8 12500 PARK POTOMAC AVE#807N	3	3	1	POTOMAC		\$2,025,000	Unit/Flat/Apart		20854	PARK POTOMAC	07/14/22
9 9112 FALLS BRIDGE LN	6	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,900,500	Detached	2.13	20854	POTOMAC STATION	07/14/22
10 11609 LUVIE CT	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,900,000	Detached	0.79	20854	MERRY GO ROUND FARM	07/14/22

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HTTP://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/NEWS/2022/AUG/19/POTOMAC-HOME-SALES-JULY-2022/





ALMANAC FILE PHOTO

The Friends of the Potomac Library have participated in every Potomac Day. While the Potomac Community Library is closed for renovations right now, that's not why you're unlikely to see the Friends of the Potomac Library in this year's Potomac Day Parade. The Montgomery County Friends of the Library abolished all the local chapters earlier this year.



Fall colors are just beginning around Potomac, and will no doubt be more vibrant and abundant by Potomac Day, Oct. 22.

## Hard To Overstate How Important It Is to Vote

**W**ith the Primary Election for the top position in Montgomery County decided after painstaking recount weeks after the last votes were cast by 32 votes, there is no longer any excuse to believe that your one vote might not make a difference. Vote, it matters. And there is plenty of time. Election Day is Nov. 8.

**Election Day Is Nov. 8**  
**Early Voting - Oct. 27 - Nov. 3**

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/index2.html>

### Dropbox Locations

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/dropbox.html>

### Sample Ballots Available:

[https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2022/general\\_ballots/Montgomery.pdf](https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2022/general_ballots/Montgomery.pdf)

**Mail-in Voting Is Already Underway But It's Not Too Late To Request a Mail In Ballot**

Source: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/vote-by-mail.html>

To request a vote-by-mail ballot you must register to vote or be a registered Maryland voter.

To register to vote or update your voter registration please visit Voter Registration and Mail-in Ballot Request <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>

[voters.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1](https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1)

To check your voter registration status please visit Voter Lookup or text CHECK to 77788.

To learn more about voter registration please visit Voter Registration Frequently Asked Questions <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/FrequentlyAskedQuestions/voter-registration-faqs.html>

To request a vote-by-mail ballot online please follow the link Voter Registration and Mail-In Ballot Request or text the word VBM to 77788 <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>

To print a request for a vote-by-mail ballot, please follow the link Maryland Mail-in Ballot Request Form or Solicitud de Maryland para una papeleta para enviar por correo and return the completed and signed form to Montgomery County Board of Elections. [https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/documents/Mail-in%20Ballot%20Application\\_English.pdf](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/documents/Mail-in%20Ballot%20Application_English.pdf)

To request a vote-by-mail ballot in person, please visit Montgomery County Board of Elections, 18753 N. Frederick Avenue, Suite 210, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

A registered voter may request a mail-in ballot by submitting a written request and returning it to the Board of Elections, if it includes:

- the voter's name and residence address;
- the address to which the ballot is to be mailed, if different from the residence address;

voter's signature

Permanent Vote By Mail List

If you want to receive a Vote-By-Mail ballot for all future elections, you can sign up for the permanent vote-by-mail ballot list. Please just mark on your vote-by-mail application 'I would like to receive a mail-in ballot for all future federal and state elections'.

Once you sign up, we will send you your vote-by-mail ballot for each future election you are eligible to vote in, and you won't need to resubmit a request.

If you request a vote-by-mail ballot for one or all future elections, but later change your mind and want to vote in person, you will have to vote a provisional ballot at your polling place.

If you request a vote-by-mail ballot for one or all future elections, and you later move or change your mailing address or contact information, you will need to update that information at the following link Voter Registration Update or contact your local board of elections to update your records. <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/Voter-Search>

If you decide you want to vote in person instead of receiving a vote-by-mail ballot you will need to contact your local board of elections.

Deadlines to receive a request for a vote-by-mail ballot:

- Nov. 1: Deadline for a registered voter to request a mailed or faxed vote-by-mail ballot
- Nov. 4: Deadline for a registered voter to request an electronic vote-by-mail ballot

Official Ballot  
Gubernatorial General Election  
November 8, 2022  
State of Maryland, Montgomery County  
Papeleta Electoral Oficial  
Elección General Gubernamental  
8 de Noviembre del 2022  
Estado de Maryland, Condado de Montgomery

BS 1 - Page 1 of 3  
001-001

<b>Instructions</b> Instrucciones  <b>Making Selections</b> Como Marcar sus Selecciones   Fill in the oval to the left of the name of your choice. You must blacken the oval completely, and do not make any marks outside of the oval. You do not have to vote in every race. Llene el ovalo a la izquierda del nombre de su selección. Debe rellenar completamente el ovalo. No haga ninguna marca fuera del ovalo. No tiene que votar en cada contienda. Do not cross out or erase, or your vote may not count. If you make a mistake or a stray mark, you may ask for a new ballot. No debe tachar o borrar, o su voto no se contará. Si comete un error o hace una marca fuera, puede solicitar una nueva papeleta. <b>Optional write-in</b> Voto escrito opcional or write-in:  To add a candidate, fill in the oval to the left of "or write-in" and print the name clearly on the dotted line. Para añadir un candidato por escrito, llene el ovalo a la izquierda de "or write-in" e imprima el nombre del candidato en forma clara en la línea punteada.	<b>Governor / Lt. Governor</b> Vote for 1 Gobernador / Vicegobernador Vote por Uno <input type="radio"/> Dan Cox and / Gordana Schiffanelli Republican / Republicano <input type="radio"/> Wes Moore and / Ariane Miller Democratic / Demócrata <input type="radio"/> David Lashar and / Christiana Lagansmith Libertarian / Libertario <input type="radio"/> Nancy Wallace and / Patrick Elder Green / Verde <input type="radio"/> David Harding and / Cathy White Working Class Party / Partido de la Clase Trabajadora <input type="radio"/> or write-in: _____	<b>U.S. Senator</b> Vote for 1 Senador de los EE.UU. Vote por Uno <input type="radio"/> Chris Chaffee Republican / Republicano <input type="radio"/> Chris Van Hollen Democratic / Demócrata <input type="radio"/> or write-in: _____
	<input type="radio"/> David Harding and / Cathy White Working Class Party / Partido de la Clase Trabajadora <input type="radio"/> or write-in: _____	<b>Representative in Congress</b> District 8 Vote for 1 Representante en el Congreso Distrito 8 Vote por Uno <input type="radio"/> Gregory Thomas Coll Republican / Republicano <input type="radio"/> Jamie Raskin Democratic / Demócrata <input type="radio"/> Antigua Garcia Libertarian / Libertario <input type="radio"/> or write-in: _____
	<b>State Senator</b> District 14 Vote for 1 Senador Estatal Distrito 14 Vote por Uno <input type="radio"/> Alex Bieler Republican / Republicano <input type="radio"/> Craig J. Zucker Democratic / Demócrata <input type="radio"/> or write-in: _____	
	<b>Attorney General</b> Vote for 1 Procurador General Vote por Uno <input type="radio"/> Michael Anthony Peroutka Republican / Republicano <input type="radio"/> Anthony Q. Brown Democratic / Demócrata <input type="radio"/> or write-in: _____	

Vote All Sides  
Vote en ambos lados

Nov. 8: Deadline for a registered voter or voter's agent to request a vote-by-mail ballot in person at a local board



# POTOMAC DAY Potomac Day Is Coming



Grand Marshal Chrisselene Petropoulos.

**Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

**Enjoy some of the scenes  
from Potomac Day 2021**

**T**he joy of Potomac Day will begin with the parade that will kick off at 10:30 a.m.

Roads will close in Potomac Village at 10 a.m. and will reopen after the roads clear from parade activity, usually by noon.

The National Anthem will be sung by a student of Chrisselene Petropoulos.

There are more than 30 entrants in the parade, including HORSES from the Potomac Bridle and Hiking Trails Association <http://pbhta.org/> and the Park Police. In Potomac, horses make the parade.

After the parade, the Children's Fair with rides and games will be underway, along with the Business Fair with 68 Business fair partici-

pants.

Questions? Check in with Potomac Chamber of Commerce <https://www.potomachamber.org/>



Story book character Lilly appears with Friends of the Library Potomac.



Maryland mounted police provided the equine presence for this year's Potomac Day Parade.



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**USNews**  
2022-2023

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\*with purchase of new membership

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## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### USED BICYCLES CAN BE DONATED OCT. 14 IN ROCKVILLE

Bicycles that are no longer being used by some can make a big difference for others. The Montgomery County Department of Transportation's annual Bicycle Donation Drive on Friday, Oct. 14, will make it easy to donate previously owned bikes and ensure they will have a continued impact. MCDOT is sponsoring the collection of child and adult bikes in partnership with Rockville Bike Hub and Bikes for the World. From 7 a.m.-2 p.m. on Oct. 14, bikes will be collected (rain or shine) outside of the Montgomery County Council Office Building Garage at East Jefferson and Monroe Street in Rockville. For more information about the bike donation event, visit <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dir/BikeDrive.html>.

### SUNDAY/OCT. 16

**Waltz Dance.** At the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park. Featuring the ensemble Waltz Weavers playing a lively mix of folk waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambro, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka.

The 45-minute dance lesson begins at 2:45 p.m. with a half-hour introductory Waltz workshop and a more advanced move presented

the last 15 minutes. Social dancing follows until 6 pm. Admission is \$15, \$5 for full-time students with student ID. No partner required.

For more information, call Joan Koury at 202-238-0230 or Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222, go to [www.WaltzTimeDances.org](http://www.WaltzTimeDances.org) or e-mail [info@WaltzTimeDances.org](mailto:info@WaltzTimeDances.org). The Glen Echo National Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo, MD 20812.

### VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE NEARS

Montgomery County citizens who wish to vote in the 2022 Gubernatorial General Election need to submit their registration to vote or any update to their current voter record including mailing address no later than Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2022.

Registering to vote requires that you be a US citizen, live in Montgomery County, Maryland, and are or will be at least 18 years of age on or before November 8, 2022. Registered voters can review/update their voter record by texting CHECK to 77788, or <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch> or call 240-777-8500 to verify their voter registration using the automated phone system or for assistance.

Individuals who are not registered but have a valid Maryland Driver's license, Permit or MVA ID can register by texting VOTE to 77788 or at <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>.

Individuals without a Maryland Driver's license, Learners Permit or

MVA ID can visit [www.777vote.org](http://www.777vote.org) to download a voter registration application to mail to the Board of Elections or call 240-777- 8500 for assistance.

For more information on voter registration visit [www.777vote.org](http://www.777vote.org), the Maryland State Board of Elections' website at <http://elections.maryland.gov>, or follow the Montgomery County Board of Elections on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECREATION CELEBRATES FALL

Montgomery County Recreation is hosting family-friendly events for everyone to enjoy this fall season. From fall festivals to swimming with pumpkins, events will be hosted at community recreation centers, senior centers and aquatic facilities across the County throughout October.

Fall special events hosted by Montgomery County Recreation this year include:

**Saturday, Oct. 15. Noon - 3 p.m.** Chevy Chase Fall Festival, Jane E. Lawton Community Recreation Center, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase. Activities include a pumpkin patch, moon bounce, face painting, games, and more. This event is free for all ages.

**Saturday, Oct. 22. 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.** Fall Festival at North Potomac, Nancy H. Dacek North Potomac Community Recreation Center, 13850 Travilah Road, Rockville. Bring the family and celebrate our annual fall festival. Registration is required.

**Saturday, Oct. 22. 4 - 7 p.m.** Trunk or

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 7

*Starry Nights*

Waterfront Cabin on 3 Acre Spring Fed Lake



**Enjoy the quiet from the dock or from the Old Town kayak in the spring fed water**

at this serene lakefront cabin during the day or under starry skies on clear nights

Even throw a line for catch and release fishing

Vacation property borders Blue Ridge Parkway, Milepost 180, southwest Virginia, six hours from DC. Less than hour from Andy Griffin's Mayberry in Mount Airy, NC and Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

**Option for Larger Farmhouse Sleeps 10**

**Smaller and Cozy Lakefront Cabin Sleeps 5**

Or reserve both! Visit the web for more details and photos

**Search Mayberry Mountain Meadows at Airbnb and/or VRBO**  
<https://mmmlakere retreat.weebly.com/the-white-house.html>

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It's time to add your flower to the fight.



**WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S**  
alzheimer's association

JOIN US AT [ALZ.ORG/WALK](http://ALZ.ORG/WALK)

**Additional Walks available. Find one near you at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)**

**OCTOBER 23**  
**RESTON TOWN CENTER**

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# BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 6

Treat at Marilyn J. Praisner Community Recreation Center, 14906 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville. Join us for trick-or-treating, a costume contest, arts and crafts, and more. Planning to decorate your vehicle? Register by Friday, Oct. 14.

October. Floating Pumpkin Patch. Ever picked a pumpkin in a swimming pool? For \$5 per person, children ages 2 to 12 years will have the chance to swim around to pick a pumpkin and then decorate it! The event will take place at Martin Luther King Jr. Swim Center, 1201 Jackson Road, Silver Spring on Oct. 22 from 4:30 – 6 p.m., Olney Swim Center, 16605 Georgia Ave., Olney, on Oct. 29 from 7:30 – 9 p.m., and Eunice Kennedy and Sargeant Shriver Aquatic Center, 5900 Executive Boulevard, North Bethesda, on Oct. 29 and Oct. 30 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 28. 7 – 9:30 p.m. Upper County Costume Movie Night, Upper County Community Recreation Center, 8201 Emory Grove Road. Come join us for a night of fun and make sure to wear your favorite, family friendly, costume! Make sure to bring your own blanket or chair.

Saturday, Oct. 29 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Therapeutic Recreation Saturday Night Social - Halloween Howl Dance, Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Wheaton. It's our annual Halloween costume extravaganza! This special event for ages 15 and up with disabilities will feature a DJ, dancing, games, pizza and other refreshments. Pre-registration is encouraged.

Sunday Oct 30. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Masquerade Jazz Brunch, Bauer Drive Community Recreation Center, 14625 Bauer Drive, Rockville. Seniors come and enjoy a wonderful brunch at the Bauer Drive Community Center with a festive Halloween twist. Come dressed to impress and ready to dance as you will have an opportunity to enjoy the musical performance by Dick Kaufman and the Glenn Pearson Band. \$25 per person.

Monday, Oct. 31. 5 – 7 p.m. Bette Carol Thompson Scotland Fall Harvest Festival, 7700 Scotland Drive, Potomac. Join us for a costume contest, giveaways, arts and crafts and more!

Registration for events can be completed online at ActiveMONTGOMERY.org. Not all events require registration. Registration for fall programs is also currently underway.

## PUBLIC SAFETY CAREER FAIR ON OCT. 22

In partnership with Montgomery County's public safety departments, its Office of Human Resources will hold a two-session Public Safety Career Fair for job seekers 18-and-over on Saturday, Oct. 22, at the County's Public Safety Training Academy in Gaithersburg. The County is seeking to fill more than 100 positions across the County's public safety cluster.

The Public Safety Training Academy is located at 8751 Snouffer School Rd. in Gaithersburg. The Public Safety Career Fair will have a morning session from 9-11 a.m. and an afternoon session from 1-3 p.m. Registration is not required to attend, but attendees are encouraged to register in advance for the session of their choice at [www.montgomery-county.md.gov/JOBFAIR](http://www.montgomery-county.md.gov/JOBFAIR)

## WESTFIELD MONTGOMERY

### DEDICATES COMMUNITY SPACE

Westfield Montgomery is dedicating a community

space for Montgomery County Police officers to use as a resource room and space to interact with the center's visitors and members of the community. During the grand opening event, Westfield Montgomery will dedicate the space to Officer Dana Stroman. Stroman has served as the department's liaison to the shopping center. This project is an extension and expansion of Westfield Montgomery's long standing partnership with the Montgomery County Police Department. The community liaison room will provide an opportunity for visitors to the center to connect and engage with officers.

## MCPS HAS BEEN NAMED

### BEST EMPLOYERS FOR WOMEN

MCPS ranked No.146 of 300 companies on a list that was compiled by surveying 50,000 Americans—30,000 women and 20,000 men—working for businesses with at least 1,000 employees. The independent survey was conducted by Statista. Respondents were asked to rate their organizations on criteria, including working conditions, diversity and how likely they'd be to recommend their employer to others. Statista also asked female respondents to rate their employers on factors, such as parental leave, flexibility and pay equity, and to nominate organizations in industries outside their own. Representation at the executive and board levels were also factored into the final score.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY LAUNCHES

### 'REDUCING FOOD WASTE BEGINS WITH YOU' CAMPAIGN

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has launched an educational awareness campaign to provide residents, businesses and organizations with ways to reduce the estimated 124,000 tons of food scraps that are thrown away every year in the County. The "Food Is Too Good to Waste--Reducing Food Wasted Begins With You" campaign includes a public service announcement entitled Reducing Food Waste Begins With You.

Montgomery County is committed to reducing waste and recycling more as it aims for zero waste. Reducing food waste is a key objective of the County's Climate Action Plan, which includes preventing and lessening the amount of food waste created.

Food waste generally comes from:

Excess or unwanted food that can still be eaten but is not.

Food scraps generated as food is being prepared at home.

Food scraps generated as food is prepared at restaurants, cafeterias, hotels, hospitals and other businesses or facilities.

Food that is believed to be expired, or past its "sell by," "best by," or "best if used by" dates.

Foods that have marks or blemishes on them.

Unused food from farms such as unharvested crops.

Among the ways to reduce food waste are:

Plan meals in advance.

Make a shopping list and check expiration dates on the items purchased.

Cook the food you buy.

Cook smaller portions to cut down on the amount of leftovers.

Save extra food in reusable containers and add a label listing the contents and the date before storing in the refrigerator or pantry.

# POTOMAC ALMANAC

[www.PotomacAlmanac.com](http://www.PotomacAlmanac.com)

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# Time is Telling



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

After nearly three months of 24-7 focus on my brother's struggle to survive the effects of sepsis (and septic shock), the immediate, imminent danger seems to have passed. Passed into a daily grind of occupational, physical and speech therapies, all of which are monitored six to eight hours a day by a care giver who lends her assistance as well to assisting my brother with his activities of daily living. All of which are improving due to his commitment to get better. No doubt my brother has come a long way since his admission to SICU in mid-July and has progressed further and faster than those original doctors anticipated. Nonetheless, the path ahead is fraught with obstacles (not literally, although there are three sets of stairs inside his house and even two smaller ones outside just to get in).

My challenges are all too familiar to you regular readers: 13 years-plus living with non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV. Originally characterized as "terminal," changed approximately three years ago to simply "incurable" after my diagnosis changed to papillary thyroid cancer, supposedly the "friendly cancer" because of its curability. For my situation, not so much, however. I'll spare you the details, most of which I've relayed in previous columns anyway. Not that I ever expected a health guarantee but given my parent's long lives (both lived into their mid to late 80s), I kind of figured that I'd live into my 80s as well. That being presumed; it turns out the facts are somewhat different. Initially, in Feb. '09, I was "prognosed" for "13 months to two years." After my re-diagnosis three years ago, I was given a new lease on life, sort of, until a procedure to rid the thyroid cancer from my body was unsuccessful and so I received an amended timeline/prognosis: the prescription medication that I have been taking daily since Sept. '19 is effective for three years-ish. I'm now into the "ish" time.

But this is my obstacle, as it has been going on nearly 14 years. Nothing new, but it sure gets old, slowly. A cancer diagnosis upsets every thought/plan you had concerning your "road to find out," to quote Cat Stevens, concerning your future (heck, your present, too). And not that I didn't share this feeling with my brother, quite the opposite in fact. Other than my wife, Dina, he was my go-to resource. But now, given his own health challenges and his own cancer diagnosis to boot, we've sort of become equal partners. Not in crime, but in the methodology of surviving. Now, we're on the same team, if you get my meaning: both having been diagnosed with cancer. And it's this shared burden that binds us together more than we ever imagined. (When you've had two healthy parents who lived well into their 80s, you don't anticipate having your own health problems at younger ages than ever afflicted them. It's a presumption, sure, but doctors will often learn a great deal about your prospects by asking about your immediate family history: mother, father, siblings.)

Even though my brother is five years older than me, I never imagined him dying before me. As an older, big brother, I looked up to him. He took care of me. He couldn't possibly die before I do. This feeling became even more prevalent after I was diagnosed with lung cancer. Now I had a perfectly good explanation/understanding of why I was going to predecease him. Not that I was happy about it. Hardly. It just seemed the normal order of things, in my chronological life, anyway. Yet, after his recent health struggles and near-death experience (sepsis is very often a killer and extremely difficult to overcome), I'm forced to consider that my brother might die before my time, despite my issues. And this awareness/revelation has weakened me. Seeing him fight for his life every day in SICU as I did for nearly six weeks was a life-changing experience, especially as a younger brother who looked up to and was somewhat dependent on that older brother.

Now that he's home recuperating and rehabilitating as vigorously as he can, he is – to me, anyway, establishing his bona fides. He is not letting his recent health struggles/challenges negatively affect him at all. He has accepted his deficits and is working every day to overcome them. And even though he can't walk without the assistance of a walker, his goal is to do so. Though he may not be able "to leap tall buildings in a single bound" (or even walk up a few steps) he is my superman and I'm proud to share all our burdens together. And due to his tireless efforts to get better, once again, I don't feel as if he's going to predecease me; and in an odd way, that's extremely comforting to me.

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

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