Japanese stilt grass, also known as Nepalese browntop, quickly crowds out and destroys native species.

Beware Invasives

Profile of an Entrepreneur

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Candidates in 8th Congressional District

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Elderly in Place
Eric Stewart, a real estate broker will share his strategies at the April 14 Potomac Community Village meeting for keeping one’s home easy to manage, and a place of comfort, familiarity and safety. The program, “How to Stay in Your Home As You Age — and What to Do if You Can’t,” is free and open to all. While admission is free, tax-deductible donations are very much appreciated.

With a lifelong commitment to community and social good, Stewart has founded the non-profit, WidowCare, serving widows and widowers in distress. He also draws on his over 28 years of experience for his listeners on WMAL radio every Sunday morning. PCV’s April 14 meeting takes place from 7-9 p.m. at The Bolger Center’s Franklin Building, 9800 Newbridge Drive, Potomac. Use Parking Lot #1.

Potomac Community Village is a non-profit all-volunteer network of neighbors and friends that enhances quality of life for older Potomac residents by creating social connections and providing services such as transportation, computer assistance and simple home repairs. For more information, to volunteer or to get volunteer help, contact info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org.

JACKETS WANTED
Fleeces or Hoodies. Spring is here, but the nights are still cold. If you have clean, gently used fleeces or hoodies suitable for men, Bethesda Cares requests that donors bring them to 7728 Woodmont Ave. Tax receipts are available for donations. Visit bethesda cares.org/ or call 301-907-9244.

THROUGH APRIL 18
Tax Preparation Assistance. The Montgomery County Volunteer Center’s RSVP/AARP Tax-Aide Program is providing free tax preparation assistance. This service is available to low- to moderate income taxpayers who live or work in Montgomery County. Appointment required, at www.montgomeryvrcs.org/aarp-tax-aide/overview or call 240-777-2577.

THURSDAY/MARCH 31

SATURDAY/APRIL 2
Amateur Radio Classes. 9 a.m.-noon at Science Center, room SC 463, Montgomery College, 51 Mannaaker St., Rockville. The Montgomery Amateur Radio Club is offering a free amateur radio technician class Saturday mornings from through May 7. Free. Register at www.marclub.org/mwv/edu/education/classes/index.html. Contact David Bern, W2INX, at education@marclub.org or 240-242-5660.

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Contact announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.
David Trone: Potomac Resident and Entrepreneur

And one of nine seeking Democratic nomination in 8th Congressional District.

By Susan Belford
The Almanac

David Trone, co-owner and president of Total Wine & More, is an entrepreneur known for his community involvement and philanthropy, as well as his candidacy for U.S. Congress.

He is also a committed dad whose volunteer activity over the years has been coaching his children’s sports teams. “In one single year I coached 13 teams,” he said with a grin. “Each of my four kids played on baseball, softball, soccer or lacrosse teams. I volunteered to coach them because I love working with kids and seeing them learn a sport while having fun. I wasn’t the type of coach who worried about winning — I just wanted each child to have a chance to play all the positions, to learn teamwork and sportsmanship. For me, it was relaxing and fun.”

Born in Cheverly, Md., Trone and his family moved to a 200-acre farm when he was 11 to raise chickens, hogs, corn and wheat. For a year, the farm had no indoor plumbing. Since their father had little farming experience, David and his brother Robert often carried the load of selling eggs and cleaning the hog pens and chicken houses.

The Trone farm fell into insolvency and his father filed for bankruptcy in 1983. Trone graduated from Furman University and earned an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. While in graduate school, Trone bought a beer and wine store in Delaware. “It was a good time to enter the business of retailing beer and wine,” he said. “There wasn’t a lot of competition at the time.”

He acquired more small beer and wine stores and in 1991, he and his brother Robert purchased five Total Beverage stores. The business name was changed to Total Wine & More. It is now the largest privately owned retailer of beer, wine and spirits in the U.S. and has expanded to 21 states.

“Owning a business is a lot of hard work, perseverance and determination — but we also share our luck. When we opened, we were selling beer and wine — probably more beer than wine. That same year, ‘60 Minutes’ aired a story which hailed wine over beer. I am not sure that we had to quickly learn. Our wine business has grown and grown — and we feature wines from many states in addition to 112 foreign countries,” said Trone.

The Trones moved to Potomac in 1999 from the Pittsburgh area. “June fell in love with the beauty of Potomac, the good schools and our temple, Beth Ami,” said Trone. “We chose the Cabin John Mall as our first office space — the shortest commute ever for me. We just recently opened an expanded headquarters on Rock Spring Drive in Bethesda.”

Although the Trone’s children are now young adults, Trone still places a priority on mentoring young people. He has made certain that his business focuses on providing internships and educational scholarships. His employees can earn their GED at company expense, and a new program is currently being tested to provide opportunities for employees to earn a four-year college degree with company help. The company has also given significant donations to a wide range of nonprofits which support the humanities, health services and education. Trone serves as a trustee on the Bullis Board of Directors, leading their strategic campaign for the new state-of-the-art STEM building. The building will provide specialized classrooms for science, technology, engineering and math classes as well as for programs in leadership and entrepreneurship.

Working with the ACLU, the Trones recently gifted $15 million to establish the Trone Criminal Justice Center. Trone is passionate about restructuring U.S. prison programs to focus on rehabilitation rather than punishment. He believes incarceration programs should concentrate on improving the mental and physical health of prisoners and teach them job skills to lower the rates of recidivism: “The current system severely reduces the chances for those who have served their time to start a new life after their release.”

The Trones also donated funds to establish the Trone Family Public Policy Initiative Fund at the Wharton School to “provide funding for research and other critical support, promoting clear, fact-driven accessible knowledge to stimulate policies that will benefit the American Public.”

About the 8th Congressional Election

The presidential primary is April 26, with polls open 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.


Democrats

David Anderson
Kumar Barve
Dan Bolling
Dan Cox
Jeffrey Jones
Ana Sol Gutierrez
William Jawando
Kathleen Matthews
Liz Matory
Aryeh Shudofsky
Jamie Raskin
Joel Rubin
David Trone
Shelly Skolnick

Republicans

Early Voting

Early voting starts April 14. For those registered to vote, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is mailing a personalized sample ballot, along with all of the information needed to vote in the 2016 Presidential Election, depending on which political party one is registered with and where one lives. The sample ballot is an 8 and a half x 11 booklet and has information on Early Voting locations on the front cover and Election Day polling place on the back cover.

Review the sample ballot for the following information:
❖ The locations of the Montgomery County Early Voting Centers where one may choose to cast a ballot between April 14 and 21.
❖ The location of the assigned polling place on Election Day – April 26.
❖ Instructions on how to use the new paper based, digital image scan voting system.
❖ Directions on how to review the choices previously made.
❖ Pictures of the actual ballot.

To facilitate the voting process, the Board of Elections encourages voters to mark the sample ballot in advance and take it with them.

The county’s Early Voting Centers will be open from Thursday, April 14 through Thursday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. During Early Voting, the Board of Elections encourages voters to visit its website – www.77vote.org – to view the wait time scroll bar and for voting locations and information.
Bamboo

Many of you may already be aware of bamboo’s vigorous growth habits. It spreads rapidly by rhizomes and in one day can put on up to 3 feet of growth. There are two types of bamboo that originate in Latin America, the Caribbean and Asia: running and clumping. Running bamboo may act as a great privacy screen, but its deep, near impenetrable roots make it next to impossible to remove. Yes, it may make a great natural screen, but before you know it, the plant will be encroaching on you and your neighbor.

English Ivy

English Ivy is not from England, but from Eurasia. It is a stunning groundcover, but once it starts to climb, this evergreen vine smothers branches, girdles trees and slowly kills them. In trees, the vine produces toxic berries that when eaten by birds, causes them to vomit them out, seeding the invasive species everywhere. Waxy leaf surfaces make it impervious to herbicides and it can sprout from any rooted section.

Porcelainbain

This Asian vine, greatly admired for its multi-colored berries, easily climbs over shrubs and trees, eventually strangling and killing them. The leaves resemble grape leaves, but the bark does not peel. The vine will invade in sunny or partially shaded areas. In Maryland, it is slowly taking over the local forest understory.

Japanese Honeysuckle

This beautiful vine was first introduced in 1906 from Japan to the United States as an ornamental plant. Fast growing, with showy, fragrant flowers it was an instant hit among gardeners. Highway planners began using it to control erosion. Unfortunately, the vine has now become aggressive and is engulfing trees and shrubs, shading much of the natural forest understory and choking out many native species.

Japanese Stilt Grass

If you’ve been hiking on the towpath lately, you may have noticed dense stands of a small, green-leaved grass with bright green elongated leaves.
Churchill Boys’ Lax To Compete in Bel Air Tournament

The Churchill boys’ lacrosse team will play two games on Saturday at Bel Air High School. The Bulldogs will take on Franklin (Reisterstown) at 10:45 a.m. and face Bel Air at 5:45 p.m.

Sports Briefs

The Bulldogs will travel to face Springbrook at 7:15 p.m. on Monday, April 4 and host Poolesville for their home opener at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6.

The Bulldogs opened the season with an 11-10 victory over The Heights on March 23.

Troop Honors New Eagle Scout Ian B. Granthon

Ian B. Granthon from Troop 944 recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He is the troop’s 126th Eagle Scout since the troop’s founding in 1968. Troop 944 is sponsored by St. Raphael Catholic Church in Rockville.

He completed 27 merit badges — six more than the 21 required for Eagle. His project he built a soccer field in his old elementary school Fallsmead with his Scout Troop 944 and friends.

The school has many children who wanted to play structured soccer but couldn’t because there were no fields or goals. Measurements and corners were made according to MSI Regulations for children, and those same homes will benefit from their proximity to your home. In a market evaluation, this phenomenon is called the negative effect. As a home buyer, it’s incredibly important to be informed and educated in home value trends and the real estate market, especially in light of the turbulence of recent years. Every home is an investment, so make sure you engage the services of a professional Realtor® to help you make an informed, well-planned decision and don’t forget to keep the secret of successful buying in mind as you tour your potential dream home.

For professional advice on all aspects of buying and selling real estate, call: Michael Mateus Long & Foster Realtors 301-806-6829 mike@michaelmatese.com
Thang Ta.

**VisArts Cocktails and Canvas**

Adult Single Night.

6 p.m. at Benny’s Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. As an artist and filmmaker, Cathy Cook is inspired by nature. “Cranes in Motion” aims to promote public interest, awareness, and appreciation of crane culture through a multifaceted portrayal of the natural history of this species. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**Art Exhibit: “Cranes in Motion.”**

Through April 24, gallery hours at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. As an artist and filmmaker, Cathy Cook is inspired by nature. “Cranes in Motion” aims to promote public interest, awareness, and appreciation of crane culture through a multifaceted portrayal of the natural history of this species. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**Art Exhibit: You and Me, You and I.”** Through April 10, gallery hours at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Artist Calla Thompson examines culture through visual art. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**Rendering The Spirit:** The “City Scapes.”

or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Include date, time, location, description to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Email community entertainment events at at Benny’s Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. As an artist and filmmaker, Cathy Cook is inspired by nature. “Cranes in Motion” aims to promote public interest, awareness, and appreciation of crane culture through a multifaceted portrayal of the natural history of this species. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**The Yellow Barn Studio and Gallery presents “Dancing Lights”** with original art by Potomac artist Martha Lechner Spak and 20 of her landscape painting art students April 9-10. The original landscape oil paintings are of the Mid-Atlantic region, including the Potomac River and canal. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. reception on Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday at Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Free. Call 301-469-0189 for more.

**Chocolate Factory Tours.** Fridays and Saturdays, 2-5:45 p.m. at SpanVGOLa Chocolaterie, 361 Main St., Gaithersburg. Take a short tour of The Truffle Factory facilities. Free. Visit [www.spanvgolva.com](http://www.spanvgolva.com).

**Glen Echo Park Films.** Saturdays and Sundays, Arcade Building, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Films about the Park’s history are shown on rotation in the lobby. Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**SilverWorks Studio & Gallery.** Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. SilverWorks Studio & Gallery is a working silversmith studio and includes an ongoing exhibition, as well as sales of work of artist-in-residence Blair Anderson. Free. Visit [www.silverworksgechenopark.com](http://www.silverworksgechenopark.com).

**Art Glass at Glen Echo.** All day Wednesdays, Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sundays, noon-4 p.m. Art Glass Center, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Ongoing exhibitions feature work of Resident Artists. Sculpture, vessels, functional art and jewelry for sale. Classes are taught year-round for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Visit [www.artglasscenter.org](http://www.artglasscenter.org).

**Camps, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

**Art Explorers Open Studio.** Every Saturday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Candy Corner Studio, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Art activities for parents and children. Activities change weekly and there is no pre-registration. $10 per child. Contact event host Randy Hoffman at 412-983-5411 or wrandyhofman@gmail.com.

**SATURDAY/APRIL 2**

**Wines & Equines.** 6 p.m. at Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Potomac. Days End Farm Horse Rescue, a non-profit equestrian and rehabilitation organization, is hosting its “Wines & Equines” event, featuring wine sampling and paired dinner, live and silent auction, live music. Tickets are $80. Visit [www.defhr.org](http://www.defhr.org) for more.

**Lord Nelson Maus.** 8 p.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore, 3301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda. Philharmonic Orchestra and Choral perform Haydn’s “Lord Nelson Mass.” The concert will feature the National Philharmonic’s nearly 200 voice choral, as well as soloists Danielle Talamantes (soprano), Magdelena Wie (mezzo-soprano); Robert Baker (tenor); and Kevin Deas (bass/baritone). Tickets start at $29, free for children 7-17. Visit [www.nationalphilharmonic.org](http://www.nationalphilharmonic.org).

**SATURDAY/APRIL 2-3**

**Open Studio Weekend: A Festival of the arts.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Washington Artworks, 12276 Wilkins Ave. Rockville. Over 70 artists create work in studios at Washington Artworks in sculpture, painting, glass, fiber, jewelry, photography, and more. Visitors can shop, watch demos, and network. Also find a variety of food trucks and live music. Free. Visit [www.washingtonartworks.com](http://www.washingtonartworks.com).

**SUNDAY/APRIL 3**

**Panel Talk with Artists, Scientists, and Curators: “Cranes in Motion.”** 1 p.m. at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St. Discussion of artist Cathy Cook’s “Cranes in Motion.” Free. Visit [www.visartsatrockville.org](http://www.visartsatrockville.org) for more.

**Waltz Dance.** 2-4:30 p.m. lesson, 3-3:30 p.m. dance at Spanish Ballroom, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The ensemble Devine Comedy plays a mix of folk Waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, and Polka. Tickets are $10. Visit [www.waltztimesdances.org](http://www.waltztimesdances.org).

**TUESDAY/APRIL 5**

**Book Club: “The Language of Music.”** 7 p.m. at Westmoreland Congregational UCC Church, 1 Westmoreland Circle, Bethesda. Minkowskis will perform a program of clarinet music by Robert Schumann, op. 6 by Robert Schumann, Hungarian Rhapsodies No. 1 and 2 by Franz Liszt, Sonata in a minor, Op. 164 by Franz Schubert. The program will conclude with Tannetells from “Annees de Pelerinage” by Liszt. Following the concert, the audience is invited to a wine reception with Minkowskis in the lower-level Social Hall of the church. Visit [www.washingtonconservatory.org](http://www.washingtonconservatory.org) for more.

**FRIDAY-SATURDAY/APRIL 1-2**

**St. Francis Thrift Sale.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday at 10033 River Road, Potomac. Visit [www.stfrancisdc.org](http://www.stfrancisdc.org) for more.

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 1-3**

**Broadway Biosk.** 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at The Wright, 8011 Wooten Waith St, Bethesda. A local community theatre company presents excerpts from a variety of musical revues. Tickets are $12 for children, $15 for students and adults. Visit [www.fedesp.com](http://www.fedesp.com).
**APRIL 8**

**FRIDAY**

Art Reception: “Intimate Landscapes.” 6-8 p.m. at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway, Bethesda. Tree top views of the land, making an impact in the fight against hunger. Tickets are $75. Visit www.mannafood.org for more.

**SATURDAY**

Library After Dark. 30 p.m. at Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave., Rockville. Library After Dark is held in celebration of National Library Week to recognize the library staff, volunteers, donor and community leaders. Tickets are $75. Visit www.filmsc.org for more.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 9**

Art Exhibit: “Dancing Lights.” 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and 3.5 p.m. reception on Saturday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Sunday at Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery, 7000 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. The Yellow Barn Studio and Gallery presents “Dancing Lights” with original art by artist Martha Lechner Spak and 20 of her landscape painting students. Free. Call 301-469-0189 for more.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 14**

Tech N9ne Independent Powerhouse Tour. 8 p.m. at the Fillmore Silver Spring, 8656 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. The tour features six acts from Strange Music, an independent hip-hop label: Ces Cru, Steve Stone, Mr. Daday, J’nizza, Krayza Kalka and Tech N9ne. Tickets are $25. Visit www.fillmoresilverspring.com.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 15-17**

Sugarloaf Crafts Festival. A 10 a.m.–6 p.m. good time every day at Sugarloaf, 18000ards Highway, Gaithersburg. In addition to shopping, guests may also visit with expert craftspeople, who will explain their processes. Admission is $8 for adults when purchased online, $10 at the door, and free for children under 12. Admission is good for all three days of the festival. Visit www.sugarloafcraftsfestival.com for more.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16**


**APRIL 18-24**


**APRIL 21**

Zero: 2016 Gala. 6 p.m.–9:30 p.m. at Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Convention Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, North Bethesda. The Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless honors Father John Enzler of Catholic Charities for his work with the homeless. The Gala, tickets are $150. Visit www.mccf.net for more.

**APRIL 24**

March for Babies. 9:30 a.m. at Mattie Stepanek Park, 1800 Piccard Drive, Rockville. Walk three miles to benefit community children. Registration is free. Visit www.marchofdimes.com/marylandmetrofor more.

**APRIL 29**

Heartsongs Luncheon. 11 a.m.–1:15 p.m. at Bethesda Marriott Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road, North Bethesda. Children’s National Health System honors and recognizes nurses and survivors. Tickets are $100. Visit www.heartsongfund.org for more.

**Movie Screening: “The Martian.”** 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Comics & Games, 1315 Falls Road, Bethesda. Watch the film starring Matt Damon. Tickets are $5, adults only. Register in person at the center or at ActiveMontgomery.org under course #17744.

**APRIL 30**

Gardening Expo. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. at the Silver Spring Civic Building, 1 Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring. Find information on how to make the most of gardening. Also find activities for children. Free. Visit www.extension.umd.edu/ag/locations/montgomerycounty/master-gardeners.

**Montgomery County GreenFest.** 11 a.m.–4 p.m. at Takoma Park Community Center, 7000 Maple Ave., Takoma Park. The 2nd annual Montgomery County GreenFest is a family-friendly festival with music, films, speakers, exhibitors and workshops all focused on building community and educating on our environment. Free. Visit www.montgomerycountygreenfest.org for more.
For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

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Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com

No Real “APPtitude”
By KENNETH R. LOURIE

Or interest, either. However, unless I get in the game somehow, I fear I’ll likely be tossed and/or discarded into the dumpster, along with the pay phone, pay toilet, land line, and of particular relevance to me: the flip phone, a.k.a. “the stupid phone,” as my wife, Dina, is fond of calling it (not a reflection or characterization of the user, though). But of course, that’s the problem. I don’t have a “smart” phone any more than I am a smart user. So apps are not exactly in my current vocabulary, although they are used to in my pre-Connection Newspapers world.

The paper on which answers to questions were written for an insurance company/home office to consider was called an application, commonly referred to as an “app.” Perhaps you can appreciate my confusion at not being able to integrate such new technology. After all, I am an old dog; it is not easy to teach an old dog new tricks – regardless of whether you change their food.

Nevertheless, I suppose the most important part of the future (not a cancer reference or column-to-be, by the way), I can’t hold onto the present so tightly and I definitely need to let go of the past. When I watch “smart” phone users – including my wife, scroll their “smart”-phone screens and then stop on an “app,” it all seems easy and sensible. I don’t imagine, however, that in my hands, with my brain, with my lack of intuition and instincts for such technological two-steps (or one step) the scrolling would get me anywhere. But it does appear as if it would get me there quickly.

I have to admit, I am a bit envious of the scrolling and access to the internet/information “smart” phones seem to offer. What, where, when and why intrigue me. It’s the learning curve for the device which intimidates, though. Sure, I’d love to be one touch or a few swipes away from the answers to any and all questions, but it’s the learning curve for the device which scares me. In taking on this task, I feel as if I’ll become a modern day Sisyphus – of Greek mythology. But instead, I mean, I’m not a complete moron. (Why, are there five sim-poly, landing on my home screen rather than "app". After repeated failures, no doubt I’ll stop on an “app,” it all seems easy and sensible. I don’t imagine, however, that in my hands, with my brain, with my lack of intuition and instincts for such technological two-steps (or one step) the scrolling would get me anywhere. But it does appear as if it would get me there quickly.

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If only I could receive round-the-clock training (actually, I am about 9 pm); I’d like to think that with that kind of coaching, I would begin to assimilate the device into my waiting hands, with my brain, with my lack of intuition and instincts for such technological two-steps (or one step) the scrolling would get me anywhere. But it does appear as if it would get me there quickly.

Nevertheless, I suppose the most important part of the future (not a cancer reference or column-to-be, by the way), I can’t hold onto the present so tightly and I definitely need to let go of the past. When I watch “smart” phone users – including my wife, scroll their “smart”-phone screens and then stop on an “app,” it all seems easy and sensible. I don’t imagine, however, that in my hands, with my brain, with my lack of intuition and instincts for such technological two-steps (or one step) the scrolling would get me anywhere. But it does appear as if it would get me there quickly.

I have to admit, I am a bit envious of the scrolling and access to the internet/information “smart” phones seem to offer. What, where, when and why intrigue me. It’s the learning curve for the device which intimidates, though. Sure, I’d love to be one touch or a few swipes away from the answers to any and all questions, but it’s the learning curve for the device which scares me. In taking on this task, I feel as if I’ll become a modern day Sisyphus – of Greek mythology. But instead, I mean, I’m not a complete moron. (Why, are there sim-poly, landing on my home screen rather than "app." After repeated failures, no doubt I’ll begin boiling over my level of incompetence. A “smart” phone needs to be in competent hands, mine are anything but.

If only I could receive round-the-clock training (actually, I am about 9 pm); I’d like to think that with that kind of coaching, I would begin to assimilate the device into my waiting hands, with my brain, with my lack of intuition and instincts for such technological two-steps (or one step) the scrolling would get me anywhere. But it does appear as if it would get me there quickly.

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