



Collecting Gifts For ONC

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From left: Rocky Run eighth-graders Nirja Divekar, John Introne and Aisha Lekerova hold some of the items donated to Our Neighbor's Child's toy drive.

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CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 6

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



Helping Hands

Westfield High's Varsity Football players are perennial champions in the eyes of Our Neighbor's Child. For 15 years now, they've been unloading donated items brought on large, delivery trucks to ONC's warehouse. And that's exactly what they did, last Tuesday, Dec. 4.

ROUNDUPS

Coffee with a Cop

Local residents are invited to share coffee and conversation with Sully District police during a Coffee with a Cop event. The next one is slated for Tuesday, Dec. 18, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Chantilly Place Starbucks, 4412 Chantilly Shopping Center Road in Chantilly. It's a chance to ask questions, voice concerns and get to know the officers in the neighborhood in a relaxed, informal setting.

Food Donations For WFCM

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' food pantry needs donations of 1-2 pound bags of rice; fruit juice; jelly; red, white or black beans (can or bagged); canned vegetables (no green beans of corn needed); macaroni and cheese; can pasta; pasta sauce; and pasta (spaghetti, rotini, elbow, etc.).

Toiletries needed, which WFCM clients cannot purchase with food stamps, include diapers, toothpaste, shampoo and solid deodorant.

Bring all items to WFCM's food pantry's location at 4511 Daly Dr. Suite J, Chantilly from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

Contact Terri Kelly at tkelly@wfcmv.org if willing to coordinate a food drive.

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The Potomac Harmony Chorus entertained the crowd at WFCM's annual dinner.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

Sully District Boy Scout leaders after WFCM's dinner at the Westfields Marriott. From left are Dave Weisz, Dan Palenscar, Judy Gerlitz, Michael Adere, Hondo Davids, Carlos Vallejo, and Paul Taylor.

Making a Difference in People's Lives

WFCM honors Michael Adere during annual dinner.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

Western Fairfax Christian Ministries (WFCM) recently held its annual dinner and honored Michael Adere for his 14 years chairing the Sully District Boy Scouts' Scouting for Food program. First, though, WFCM Executive Director Rebecca Kolowé shared some of the past year's changes and successes.

Calling 2018 a year of growth and new partners, she said, "As our service area is growing and changing, so are we. But WFCM is still committed to its mission for 31 years — providing food and financial support to those at risk of hunger and homelessness."

Kolowé thanked WFCM's staff, saying the members "work tirelessly, out of a love for our community, God's creation and the cli-

ents we serve." And she praised the "many years of dedicated service" given by three, longtime members — Annette Bosley, Leah Ann Furr and Terri Kelly — who left this year.

She then noted the welcome additions of Client Services Director Grace Foust and Assistant Pantry Manager Deb Culbertson. "Grace's smiling face and calm demeanor make our clients feel comfortable, even when they're experiencing a crisis," said Kolowé. "And Deb's wisdom and light shine through, even in the most challenging circumstances."

Kolowé also expressed appreciation for some ongoing staff members, including Client Services Associate Lillian Diaz and Interim Pantry Manager Mary Patch-Johnson. Furthermore, she said, "Mary Ellen Walsh, our director of development, is responsible for many of our new business and community relationships," she said. "And as community outreach manager, Jennie Bush's re-



Rebecca Kolowé

lationships with the community and our partner churches continue to help us grow while providing much-needed continuity."

During FY 2018, said Kolowé, WFCM provided \$160,000 in emergency financial assistance to clients. "We're thankful for our partnership with Fairfax County in helping make this a priority," she said. "Often, our assistance is the difference between someone keeping their lights on or not, or between keeping our families in their homes or [their being] evicted."

WFCM also partnered with the county and other organizations to help after the May 2 fire at the Forest Glen Senior Apartments in Centreville. "Because of the community's generosity, we were blessed to provide over \$60,000 in fire-related assistance for those displaced," said Kolowé.

Proud, as well, of WFCM's food pantry, she noted that, in FY '18, it served 820 families, giving them 44,366 bags of food. "People are excited to come in and see fresh

meat, fruits and vegetables and be able to choose the food for their families, instead of just being handed an already-filled bag," she said. "And they can use the money they save to provide other things for their family."

But getting through the winter wouldn't be possible, said Kolowé, without the "tireless organizing of this year's honoree for our 2018 Service Award, Michael Adere." He heads the Boy Scouts' annual Scouting for Food effort in November that collects more than 60,000 pounds of food to WFCM's pantry. "Michael's community involvement includes school field trips, being a chaperone and booster with Centreville High's choral program, coaching youth sports, being active in his church and serving on his homeowners association's Board of Trustees," said Kolowé. "And as a Boy Scout mentor and leader, he helps the Scouts understand the values of service and citizenship."

Then during a video about the food drive, Adere explained how the Scouts sort the community-donated, nonperishable food into boxes, the way the pantry needs it.

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'The Need Is Becoming Greater and Greater'

Redskins veteran Ken Harvey speaks at WFCM event.

BY BONNIE HOBBS

Before speaking at Western Fairfax Christian Ministries' annual dinner, WFCM Board President Andrew Casteel had all the nonprofit's volunteers stand up and be recognized. Attendees applauded them loudly and enthusiastically.

"We're here tonight to show appreciation for you and to help others learn about WFCM," he said. He then presented some sobering statistics.

"One out of every 16 people in Fairfax County are living in poverty," said Casteel. "That means a family of four earning

\$25,000/year or less. And that's where WFCM comes in, providing food, plus emergency financial assistance for rent and utilities. We also offer teach budgeting for families in our Pathways program."

Dinner attendees then watched a video about a former client positively impacted by WFCM. Leah Martin, a divorced mom of two, young children, worked for a long time, but then found herself out of a job. Making matters worse, she'd just lost everything she owned in a fire when she became unemployed.

WFCM helped her pay an electric bill and gave her food from its pantry. And the WFCM volunteer accompanying her to the food pantry reassured Martin that things were "going to be all right."

"Working here is an extraordinary experience — seeing the feeling of relief wash over our clients' faces when we give them



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS

Former Washington Redskins linebacker Ken Harvey gives the keynote speech at WFCM's annual dinner.

help," said WFCM Director of Client Services Grace Foust, during the video.

"God put us on earth as servants, and WFCM understands that," said Martin. "If you're in [WFCM Community Outreach Manager] Jennie Bush's presence for five seconds, you know what a special person she is. The staff never looked down on me

— they cared and made me feel valued."

"Many people in Fairfax County work hard at \$9/hour jobs, and that's not enough to feed their families," she continued. She then urged others to donate to WFCM because "people are people. We all need to be needed and we all have hearts."

Former Washington Redskins linebacker Ken Harvey, a four-time Pro-Bowler, gave the keynote speech at WFCM's dinner. "Often, in life, we're given opportunities to do something to help others," he said. "And God keeps giving us this chance."

He played 11 years in the NFL. But before that, said Harvey, he was a high-school dropout. Then someone told him about a junior college in Oakland, Calif., so he went to school there.

"I later got a scholarship to the University of California in Berkeley and played

SEE HARVEY, PAGE 7

OPINION

Holidays Speed By Every year is Election Year in Virginia; sometimes every month ...

Our last live newspapers of 2018 will come out next Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 18 and Dec. 19. Editors are already working on hundreds of submissions for our Children's Connections, which will come out in the days between Christmas and New Year's. Our first regular newspapers will come out in the first week of January, 2019.

Don't miss our holiday calendars in these weeks, with so many local things to do.

Among things to do is to watch for a Special Election Day on Tuesday, Jan. 8, to fill the un-

expired term of the 33rd District seat in the Virginia State Senate, as Jennifer Wexton vacates that seat to head to U.S. Congress in Virginia's 10th District.

On Election Day polls are open from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. Joe T. May (R) faces Jennifer B. Boysko (D). If Boysko should win, another Special Election will be scheduled to fill her seat in the Virginia House of Delegates. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming

And later in 2019, every seat on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, every seat on the School Board, every seat in the Virginia House of Delegates and Virginia Senate, and more are

up for election. We already know that there will be significant turnover, with many new candidates to get to know. Primaries will likely be in June.

The 2019 session of Virginia's General Assembly begins Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2019.

For families, we can point you back to holiday happenings; breathe and enjoy some hot chocolate with your children and neighbors.

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EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Welcoming Amazon

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Amazon.

Welcome to Northern Virginia! As the timeframe for your decision on HQ2 drew closer, those of us who already call this region home began to think about how we'd welcome you to our community.

Community foundations have a more than 100-year history as community conveners and conversation brokers who work tirelessly to preserve, enhance and protect the quality of life for our neighbors. This role often places us directly in the middle of our community's most important decisions, most pressing issues, and most promising opportunities. Many in our community believe that your decision to locate HQ2 in Northern Virginia is the most impactful event to happen in each of these categories in a generation.

Your arrival will bring jobs, criti-

cal advancements in the quality of our public transportation, investments in technology education, and opportunities for small businesses that will serve you and the workers you attract — among many other things. Like you, we want our neighborhoods to be diverse and vibrant places to live and work. We want our economic development to be a rising tide that lifts all boats. Companies and community foundations have worked in tandem to address local issues for over a century. It is therefore our deepest hope that in partnership, we can reimagine solutions to workforce development, affordable housing and other social problems, perhaps driven by imaginative technology-dependent solutions not yet seen that we invent together.

Your arrival in Northern Virginia gives us all a chance to create a more regional, collaborative approach to local philanthropy that brings to bear the full capacity and weight of our nonprofit partners, our collective community knowl-

edge, and our shared impulse to help build community through philanthropy. We look forward to working with you, problem solving with you, and advancing our community's best interests, together.

Heather Peeler

President & CEO, ACT for Alexandria

Jennifer Owens

President & CEO, Arlington Community Foundation

Amy Owen

President, Community Foundation for Loudoun & Northern Fauquier Counties

Eileen Ellsworth

President & CEO, Community Foundation for Northern Virginia

Bruce McNamer

President & CEO, Northern Virginia Greater Washington Community Foundation

What's Good For the Country

To the Editor:

As someone who has lived in Fairfax County for the entirety of their life, the article "Advocating for Immigrant Protection" [Nov. 7] struck me deeply. While my own experiences within the county have certainly been diverse, hearing that the prevalence of ICE is a controversial issue surprised me greatly. Obviously, with this par-

ticular issue, there is a large division.

While both sides of the discussion hold extremely valid points, I believe the real problem within this issue is an individualistic mindset. What I mean by this is that for every person involved in this debate, the focus of each individual is on what best serves their needs. I firmly believe that for any change to occur within this issue, individuals should abandon this mindset and focus on the good of the county's population as a whole.

Certainly, we must also consider that this issue afflicting our county is a mirror image of the raging debate upon immigration at the national level. While I do believe this is an issue that will plague our country for the majority of our existence, the simplest steps towards resolution cannot be completed without abandonment of personal or party agendas, much like in our county.

Finally, while this is a pressing issue with regards to security, it can serve as a reminder to act as members of the global community first, and local communities second, as this is an opportunity to consider our fellow neighbor and do right by him.

Erin Snyder
Centreville

The writer is a freshman at James Madison University.

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

SOBER-RIDE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Free Sober Rides. 8 p.m.-4 a.m. daily, Dec. 14-Jan. 1. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a code in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home (limited quantities available). WRAP's Holiday SoberRide promo code will be posted at

www.SoberRide.com.

WHITE HOUSE ORNAMENTS

GFWC Western Fairfax County Woman's Club is selling 2018 White House Christmas ornaments. This year's ornament honors the 33rd President, Harry Truman. The two-sided ornament illustrates changes to the White House during the Truman administration, the Truman balcony, Presidential Seal and renovation of the Blue Room. 2018 ornaments cost \$22. Proceeds benefit charity. Order now by calling 703-378-6841 or 703-378-6216. It is possible to order previous years' ornaments.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TINA MORGAN

Aviary Helps Friends of Animal Shelter

Michael Frey (for whom Fairfax County's Animal Shelter is named) and Lindsey Kellogg (on the Friends of the Animal Shelter staff) received an \$800 donation from TC Feathers Aviary in Chantilly, which recently held a fundraiser for the Friends. From left are Frey, Carey Morgan, Kellogg and Tammy Morgan. The Morgans own the aviary.

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PHOTO BY HOME ON CAMERON

Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Old Town Alexandria suggests adding a decorative mirror for a quick bathroom update.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE WALKER

Potomac designer Anne Walker used Thibaut wallpaper to make the room a “fabulous, joyful place to visit,” she said.

Preparing for Holiday Guests

Sprucing-up a bathroom without a renovation.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Amid the tree-trimming, wreath hanging and stocking stuffing in an effort to deck the halls in anticipation of holiday guests, there’s one space that can be forgotten: the humble bathroom. While not as festive as hanging garland, a few simple tweaks can transform a bathroom from glum to guest ready.

“Hands-down, the easiest way to spruce up a bathroom with little or no expense is to de-clutter,” said Anne M. Walker of Anne Walker Design. “You’ll be amazed how beautiful your bathroom looks if you clear away all of the items sitting on the countertop and around the room.”

To help with that effort, Walker suggests investing organizational items such as Lucite or bamboo trays and drawer inserts so that personal items can be kept out of sight.

For those with a budget and time to allow for it, Walker suggests a fresh coat of paint or new wallpaper. “That can make a huge visual impact in a bathroom,” she said. “Since the space is so small, and it’s a room where you don’t spend long periods of time, you can have fun with interesting colors and patterns.”

Also think about painting just one wall as an accent or the ceiling,” said Todd Martz of Home on Cameron in Alexandria. “[Add a new] mirror, such as a decorative or colorfully framed mirror or one that runs from floor to ceiling, for a fresh look.”

He also suggests updating a bathroom’s lighting to make the space feel bright and airy.

Another practical tip that Walker offers is a good, old-fashioned scrub-down. “Clean like you’ve never cleaned before, she said. “Use a surface cleaner with bleach, like Krud Kutter, which is my personal favorite, a strong brush, and your elbow grease to remove dust, grime and dirt from tile grout, caulk, and cor-

ners of the room.”

Among the more mundane tasks is to visually inspect the bathroom’s grout to check for cracks and stubborn, unsightly mold. Re-grouting might be necessary, says Chuck Khriel, vice president of Fred Home Improvement. “When making a repair, it is very important to remove all of the cracked grout in the joint so that the full edge of the tile is exposed,” he said. “The new grout can then bond to the full thickness of the tile edge. Simply smearing a thin layer of new grout over old grout will not work.”

Once the room is sparkling clean and totally decluttered, Walker suggests adding display on a countertop or in a shower niche. “A vase full of bamboo, pretty soaps in a rattan basket or a Lucite tray filled with beautiful guest towels are just a few suggestions for fresh objects that will lend an air of tranquility to your bathroom.”

For guests who might cringe at the thought of shared guests towels, Martz suggests adding a tray of disposable hand towels. He also encourages engaging one’s sense of smell by, “adding some scented candles like those by Rigaud’s Cypres and Cythere.”

Another simple fix is to buy fresh new bath linens, says Walker. “No matter how hard you try, towels and shower curtains get dingy over time,” she said. “There are so many places to buy lovely linens, and many of them are very low cost.”

With the right accessories, even the most modest spaces can be made to feel like a spa, suggests Walker, recalling a bathroom in which she added a Turkish towel, striped shower curtain which became transformative. “Even though the bathroom, itself, is modest, the beautiful shower curtain makes it feel like a resort,” she said. “By adding just a couple of colorful accessories on the countertop, it pulls the whole room together.

Installing new fixtures such as a shower head can quickly transform a bathroom from outdated to updated. “There are many types of shower heads on the market these days,” said “Some offer a variety of water streams and different features, [and] most manufacturers make it so that changing a shower head is fairly simply.”

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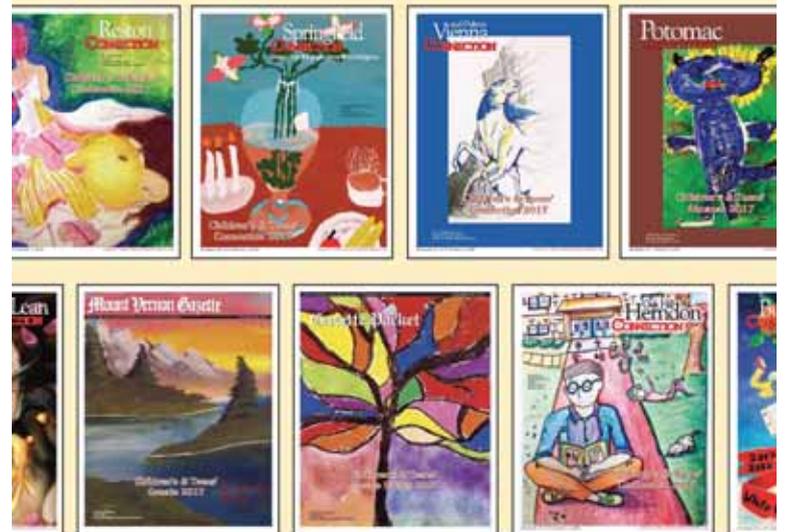
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NEWS



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

Members of Rocky Run Middle School's National Junior Honor Society, plus co-sponsors (standing, far left) Assistant Principal Christine Sciabica and math teacher Laura Hornberger, pose together after last Saturday's gift collection.

Collecting Gifts for ONC

From Dec. 3-7, Rocky Run Middle School's National Junior Honor Society members collected 250 gifts from their classmates for Our Neighbor's Child.

Then last Saturday, Dec. 8, they received 325 more donations from the community for a total of 575 Christmas gifts to be delivered to children in need in Centreville and Chantilly.



Eighth-graders Iniya Ravikumar (left) and Athira Ponneth help sort donated toys in Rocky Run's cafeteria.



Students load up ONC's truck with the donated toys and clothes.

Students braved the 29-degree temperature while waiting to fill ONC's truck with Christmas gifts for local children in need.



WFCM

FROM PAGE 3

Kolowé then presented him with a limited-edition, crystal, Tiffany, Christmas ornament saying “WFCM.”

Addressing the crowd, Adere first acknowledged the longtime efforts of someone else – Hondo Davids, who was Scoutmaster of Troop 893 when Adere’s sons joined the troop. Davids headed Sully District’s Scouting for Food and got Adere involved in it and to eventually become its chairman.

But, stressed Adere, “I am but a small part of this effort. I really want to thank the hundreds of Sully District Scouts and their families, the many other youth volunteers from Girl Scouts, local schools and church groups, and the many adult volunteers from all walks of life — including well over 1,000 WFCM staff and volunteers. They’re the ones who truly make this event the success it is.” He also thanked one of his co-chairs, Peter Reyda, and Corporate Office Properties Trust for allowing the Scouts to use the parking garage at one of its Chantilly buildings for the food drive’s sorting site.

“I believe Scouting for Food is one of the most important programs we do in all of Boy Scouts, throughout the country,” said Adere. “It gives Scouts of all ages the opportunity to truly learn about working with great organizations, such as WFCM, and about community service and giving back to our local community.

“I tell them the food we collect makes an immediate and impactful difference in the lives of so many people in need, right here in Centreville, Chantilly, Fairfax and Clifton – people who very well could be our next-door neighbors. Thank you very much for this great honor.”

Harvey

FROM PAGE 3

football there for two years,” he said. “One time, I missed my bus home and slept on the street to experience homelessness — and I was scared to death. Sometimes, we have a hard time empathizing [with others] or knowing that fear that someone’s going to kick you in the head and take your money.”

Harvey began his pro football career with Arizona, playing there for six years. Still, he and his wife weren’t immune to tragedy and were devastated when their firstborn child died of SIDS. “But God blessed us with two other boys,” he said. Eventually, Harvey came to Washington and played five years with the Redskins until leg and shoulder injuries forced him to retire.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to do, and I drifted for a while,” he said. “But God’s always on your side. I started reading about Moses and then started writing. We all have the ability to give. God asks, ‘What’s in your hand? What’s your gift? I can take whatever you give Me and multiply it.’”

“And it’s the same with WFCM,” continued Harvey. “The need in this world is becoming greater and greater, and we have an opportunity and a responsibility to do something about it and give.”

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Still Scared to ...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a follow up to last week’s column: “Scared to ...,” let me provide a bit more context for the fear and anxiety I wrote about; as well as some history for you readers to appreciate the emotional challenges some of us cancer patients experience.

It all began with the initial Team Lourie meeting on Feb. 27, 2009 when we met my oncologist for the first time.

After exchanging pleasantries, such as they could be, I was examined by my oncologist in an adjacent room. After he completed his exam, we all re-assembled in his office where he reviewed the results of my most recent medical history dating back to Jan. 1, 2010 when I first showed up at the Emergency Room complaining of shortness of breath.

Subsequently, there were two sets of X-Rays, one CT scan, one P.E.T. scan and then a surgical biopsy to confirm the previous findings. It was nearly eight weeks to the day that I learned my diagnosis: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV. And so my oncologist began to talk. I’m semi-quoting, but clearly remembering the substance:

I can treat you, but I can’t cure you. Your prognosis is 13 months to two years. The percentage of patients who live beyond two years is 2 percent. Could you be the one who lives beyond two years? Absolutely. This is extremely serious. You should begin chemotherapy as soon as possible. Next week if possible.

Then our questions began – after we gathered our composure that is. I mean, hearing these words directed at you is as surreal as it gets, and with limited knowledge on the subject and the circumstances, we had difficulty starting a conversation.

This is as much as I remember hearing that day. Could there have been more? I’m sure. Unfortunately, we were ill-prepared for the occasion.

Though there were three of us: my wife, Dina, my brother, Richard, and myself – collectively, what went in all of our ears went out in different directions.

What was said, what was heard, what was understood, what was remembered, was all a jumble. No one thought to take notes or bring in a recording device, two suggestions which have been subsequently made and that I now pass on to you.

My oncologist answered our questions about surgery, radiation, treatment, drugs, side effects, schedule, etc., all of which was difficult to absorb.

He then attempted to describe what my life would be like going forward, offering no guarantees of anything particularly hopeful, which now explains the reasons for these two columns: death and progression from dying/symptoms getting worse. He used a staircase as an example.

My health would steadily decline, as if walking down a flight of stairs. As my health deteriorated/symptoms manifested (down a couple of steps), he could stabilize me there by trying new treatment. But he could never bring my health back to its previous place. Then after a while the new treatment would become unsuccessful (down a few more steps), and again, he could stabilize me but he couldn’t bring me back. And on and on until ... I think I can remember another visual he offered: playing with a yo-yo as I descended the stairs; down, down, down.

Amazingly, this has not happened to me despite a week’s long hospitalization five-plus years ago.

HOWEVER, per my understanding of my condition (I wasn’t diagnosed as “terminal” for nothing), I anticipate stepping down at some point. And any time – every time – I experience symptoms uncharacteristic of my semi-normal existence, I ALWAYS wonder if this is the beginning of my end.

And as much as I want to stay one step ahead, it’s hard for me (practically impossible) to not think that when new symptoms occur, cancer is stepping up its attack.

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

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

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

PET ADOPTIONS

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 12-3 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Highway. Visit hart90.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Sundays, 1-4 p.m. at Petco, 13053 Lee Jackson Memorial Hwy. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit aforeverhome.org for more.

Adopt a Dog. Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at PetSmart, 12971 Fair Lakes Center, Fairfax. Adopt a puppy or dog. Visit www.lostdogrescue.org for more.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 12

Wagon Ride and Campfire Meal.

5:30-7 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Why wait for the weekend to have some fun? Feast on a turkey hot dog supper roasted over a campfire and hop aboard for a brisk wagon ride through the Rocky Run Stream Valley. Discover who Ellanor C. Lawrence was and learn about the area's local and natural history. Hot dogs, buns, condiments and s'mores are provided. Bring drinks and sides. \$10 per person. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Meet at Cabell's Mill. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 14-16

"An Invitation to Christmas."

Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, noon, 4 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon and 4 p.m. at Richard Ernst Theater, NOVA campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. The dancers of Encore Theatrical Arts Project are getting ready for their holiday extravaganza, "An Invitation to Christmas." The elves at the North Pole are super-busy and need extra help, so they send out invitations for children picked by Santa to attend Elf-Training School. However, one of the new recruits is a full-grown man, and his classmates wonder why he's there. He does, too, since he thought he was going on a job interview. \$19-\$26 via www.encoretap.org or 703-222-5511.

SATURDAY/DEC. 15

Sully Holidays. 4-8 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Enjoy a holiday celebration at Sully Historic Site – the gracefully decorated 1794 Lee home. Tour the historic house lit by natural candlelight, as it comes alive with recipes and stories of Sully's winter season. Be transformed by a puppet show based on Charles



Toy Drive

Members of the community are invited to drop off new, unwrapped toys at the company's sales offices. The toys will be delivered throughout the holidays in conjunction with local charities that assist financially and physically disadvantaged children. Through Friday, Dec. 14 at local Weichert, Realtors offices. To find a local office, go to www.weichert.com/offices/.

Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" with a Sully twist. See the Christmas tree, decorated just how a young girl named Minnie Middleton described it during her 1885 visit to Sully and meet a character from her past, who was dressed as Santa to surprise the children with gifts. Roast marshmallows outside and make a holiday ornament. Prepaid reservations may be made online for \$10 at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully.

age 4-adult. \$8 per person. Call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

FRIDAY/DEC. 28

IONA Brings Music to Sully

Historic Site. 1 and 2 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Each year, IONA performs for sell-out crowds at Sully. The musical program is designed for audience members age 5-adult. \$15 per person. Prepaid reservations are required. Limited seating is offered on a first come first serve basis. An optional house tour is included. Refreshments will be served in the original 18th century kitchen. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully/.

SUNDAY/JAN. 6

Winter Make 'n Take. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will celebrate the New Year with a Make 'n Take craft event. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

SUNDAY/JAN. 13

Game Day/Scavenger Hunt. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station

SUNDAY/DEC. 16

Victorian Tea. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Fairfax Station Railroad Museum will host a Victorian Tea to savor memories of bygone days. Enjoy exhibits and artifacts while sampling different teas and small sweets with friends and family. Reservations are not necessary. The tea is included in the regular admission price. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

SATURDAY/DEC. 22

Caroling Wagon Ride & Campfire. 4-5:30 p.m. at the Walney Visitor Center in Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, 5040 Walney Road, Chantilly. Join in song and exploration on a wagon ride, and then warm up with s'mores around the campfire. For participants



"Eclipse," a mixed media painting by Alice Nodine, is on display at The Gallery at The Church of the Good Shepherd (United Methodist) in Vienna through Dec. 16. Nodine will give an artist's talk on Sunday, Dec. 2 after the 10:15 a.m. worship service.

'Peace Like a River'

Exhibit of mixed media paintings by Alice Nodine, of Centreville. Nodine, a member of Good Shepherd, also will offer her paintings for sale at the conclusion of the exhibit. She will donate a portion of the proceeds to Columbus County Disaster Response, for flood recovery efforts in North Carolina, where she grew up. Through Dec. 6, gallery hours at The Gallery at The Church of the Good Shepherd (United Methodist), 2351 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Visit www.GoodShepherdVA.com for more.

Road, Fairfax Station. Come to the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum and play a Train Game or History Game as well as working on a Scavenger Hunt. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under, free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

free. Visit www.fairfax-station.org, www.facebook.com/FFXSRR, or call 703-425-9225.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 18-20

Home + Remodeling Show. Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. More than 300 companies will be on hand to showcase the latest products and services in home remodeling, renovation, home décor and redesign. TLC's Trading Spaces' John Gidding and HGTV Design Star's Tyler Wisler will headline the event. \$12 at box office; \$9 online, \$3 children 6-12, free for 5 and younger. Purchase tickets at homeandremodelingshow.com/show-features.

SUNDAY/JAN. 20

Garden Gauge (G Scale) Model Train Show. 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington, Virginia, and Maryland Garden Railway Society will hold their annual Garden Gauge Model Train Show at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. Ages 16 and older, \$4; 5-15, \$2; 4 and under,

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