

## **Transportation cancellation results in icy journey**

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*By MARCUS RAUHUT Staff writer*

CHAMBERSBURG - Donna Runshaw is grateful for the good Samaritans who helped her reach her dialysis treatment, as well as for her 17-year-old grandson, who pushed her wheelchair a mile over ice to get her there.

Runshaw normally has a friend drive her to a dialysis clinic on Fifth Avenue, Chambersburg, where she undergoes treatment three times a week.

On Tuesday, she couldn't reach him, and county transportation services were canceled because of the weather. Her daughter, with whom she lives, does not have a car.

That's when her grandson, Malcolm Miller, who had a snow day off from school, volunteered to take her there.

"I said 'I can't go to my dialysis.' He said, 'I'll push you. You can't miss that,'" Runshaw said.

She bundled up under a coat and two blankets and they set out from their South Fourth Street home about 8:30 a.m. for the 9:30 appointment.

By then, it had stopped sleeting, but sidewalks were still treacherous.

"It was hard trying to navigate because there was still a lot of ice on the sidewalks. We were getting stuck, so I had to push her onto the road," Miller said. When they got to the split at Lincoln Way and Queen Street, a Pennsylvania State Police trooper passing by stopped traffic and helped her across the street and onto the sidewalk.

They continued on Fifth Avenue. About the time they reached TB Wood's Inc., a woman who worked in a building next to

the dialysis clinic stopped and gave them a ride the rest of the way.

"I just said, 'Thank you,' because I didn't know their names," Runshaw said.

After the dialysis clinic heard about her experience, the staff was able to get her a ride home in a taxi, using emergency assistance from the American Kidney Fund. Her grandson was able to help her in and out of the cab. Runshaw had lived in a nursing home until she moved in with her daughter and grandson the week before Christmas. She has to undergo dialysis treatment three times a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Miller, a student at Manito Alternative School, didn't mind braving the elements to help his grandmother.

"I help her out wherever I can. I'm her grandson. It's my duty," he said.

The entire trip would have been about a mile. Both said they were thankful for the people who helped them on Tuesday.

"I think people lately don't show the kindness they could, but today they actually showed they care," Miller said.