

News Messenger

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Blacksburg

Christiansburg

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

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USPS 016-490

\$1.00



Montgomery Museum receives grant for concerts

The Montgomery Museum of Art and History is one of nine recipients awarded a grant through the International Bluegrass Music Association's Foundation (IBMA) via the Arnold Shultz Fund.

The museum was granted \$2,500 to develop a concert at the Moss Arts Center called, "Cultural Crossroads in Traditional Music." This concert program will explore interactions and intersections between bluegrass music and African American, Indigenous First People, Hispanic/Latino, and European cultures.

The concert will also include Junior Appalachian Musicians who will help celebrate the multi-cultural dimensions of traditional bluegrass through music, dance, and story-telling. The grant will fund additional staff time, travel stipends for committee

members representing various cultures, and a marketing plan to reach and engage an inclusive audience with emphasis on children and young people.

The concert date and time have not been scheduled yet, but the concert is expected to be presented in the fall of 2023.

"We are delighted and honored to be included as an awardee of the Arnold Shultz Fund," said Casey Jenkins, the Executive Director of the Montgomery Museum. "This grant will allow us to program and curate a very unique collaboration and blend of artists, cultures, and stories, that all intersect with traditional bluegrass music."

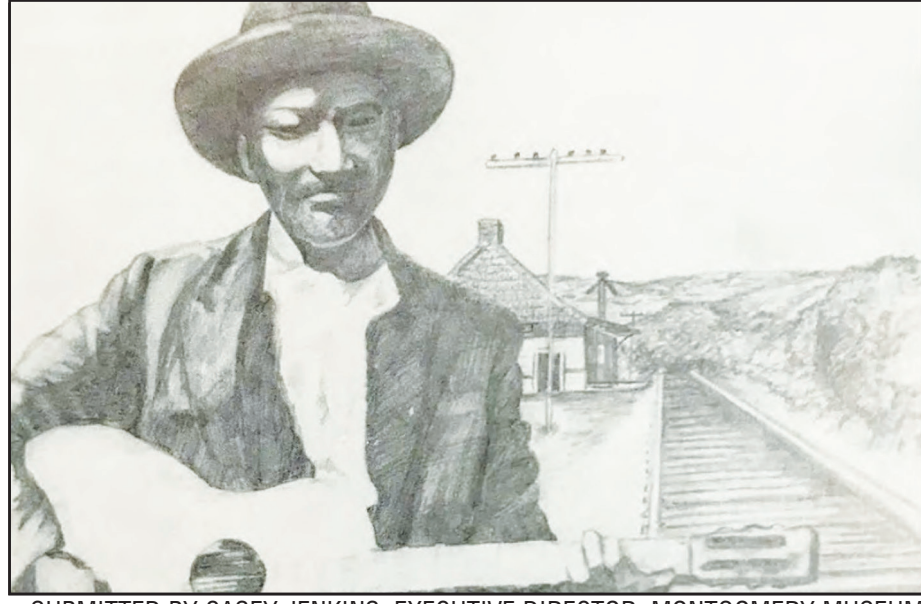
"We will also partner with other community agencies such as the Junior Appalachian Musicians of Montgomery County

as well as the Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation," Jenkins said. "These community partnerships will greatly enhance the concert program."

The Montgomery Museum was the only grant recipient in Virginia. Other individual and organization grantees were from Alaska, Texas, Arizona, Kentucky, Louisiana, California, and even two awardees from India and Kenya.

Arnold Shultz (1886 - 1931) was an African American musician from western Kentucky. Best known as an extraordinary guitarist and fiddle player, Shultz often played with Bill Monroe's fiddle-playing uncle, Pendleton ("Pen") Vandiver. At these gigs, Monroe met Shultz and began to emulate his backup guitar style.

Shultz was impressed enough with Monroe's



SUBMITTED BY CASEY JENKINS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MONTGOMERY MUSEUM OF ART AND HISTORY

An exceptional guitar and fiddle player from western Kentucky, Arnold Shultz played with Bill Monroe's fiddle-playing uncle, "Pen" Vandiver. Shultz hired Monroe to play guitar with him at dances, thus, in effect, giving Monroe his first job as a professional musician. Monroe credited Shultz with influencing his approach to playing music.

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thereby giving Monroe his first jobs as a professional musician. Monroe often

credited Shultz with influencing his approach to playing music.

A farmer's death sparks Hokie alumna's advocacy for wellness efforts in agriculture



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMY JOHNSON

Amy Johnson harvests potatoes with a youth in Peru while studying international agricultural practices.

In the summer of 2002, Amy Johnson was working as an EMT in between graduating from Virginia Tech and enrolling at Jefferson College of Health Sciences. She responded to a call on a farm outside Pilot where a farmer had been in an accident out in his fields. It had taken six hours

for his cries for help to be heard, and another hour passed before she and her team finally found the man, pinned between a fallen tractor and a hay cart.

She recognized him, a Hokie who had graduated with her just weeks before. Despite their best efforts, his injuries proved too severe,

and he passed away that night.

The experience never left her, and years later, as she pursued a Doctorate of Nursing Practice at Radford University, she knew where to go for her doctoral capstone. "I decided to meld

See **Agriculture**, page 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF ISIL ANAKO

Turkish Student Association members stand in front of a van packed with items for earthquake victims in Turkey.

Virginia Tech students organize donation drive to help earthquake victims in Turkey

It all started with a question: What was Virginia Tech doing in response to the deadly 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Turkey that left an estimated 14 million people homeless in the middle of winter?

"That's what really started it," said Shernita Lee, assistant dean and director of the Graduate School's Office of Diversity and Inclusion. "A colleague asked if I knew what was happening."

At the same time Lee was considering that question, Isil Anakok, a Ph.D. candidate in engineering

education and a Graduate School graduate assistant, was asking a slightly different one: What could Virginia Tech do?

She and Lee came to the same conclusion: "We can do something," Lee said.

Within days, thanks to Anakok's determination and Lee's network of contacts, a massive drive for donations to assist those victims netted a wide range of needed items that filled two rooms of the Graduate Life Center and were transported to the Turkish Embassy in Washington,

D.C. The embassy will fly the donations to Turkey.

For Anakok, this was a personal mission. A Turkish native and the daughter of a geography teacher, she knew the region hit by the earthquakes on Feb. 6 and in the weeks following. The area is riddled with major fault lines, making it susceptible to such quakes.

She recalled one in 1999 near Istanbul that registered 7.2 on the Richter scale and left 17,000 dead. The latest quakes hit 11 cities, killed

See **Turkey**, page 4

From March 27-31, Blacksburg's Clothesline Project raises awareness of gender-based and sexual violence

The Clothesline Project, an effort to raise awareness of gender-based and sexual violence, will present a workshop March 27, 28, 29, and 31 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 30 at the Women's Center, 206 Washington St. in Blacksburg.

Survivors of violence -- and friends and families of victims -- create shirts emblazoned with direct messages and strong

illustrations. The shirts demonstrate the pain and suffering of the survivors, aid in their healing process, and celebrate their strength and courage to overcome the past.

The shirts will be hung side-by-side on a clothesline as though the survivors were standing there themselves, shoulder

See **Clothesline**, page 4

Virginia's public bathrooms rank among America's worst

A recent poll of 3,000 public bathrooms by Lavatory Lab delivered a nasty truth when Virginians gave their public restrooms an average score of 4.7 out of 10, the 13th worst in the country. Overall, Americans rated their public bathrooms with "an abysmal" score of 5.2 out of 10.

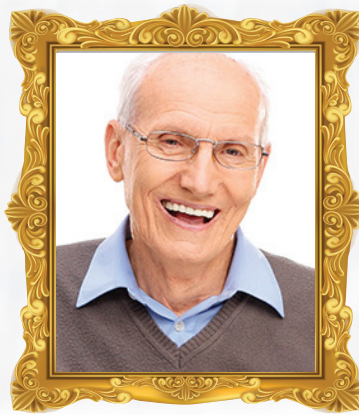
But why are they so bad, you may ask?

From dingy gas station restrooms to overcrowded airport

See **Bathrooms**, page 4

Grandpa's Coming Out of the Closet....

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, March 9:

River City Quilt Guild
The River City Quilt Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Grove United Methodist Church, 1020 Tyler Ave., Radford. The guild welcomes all skill levels of quilters. For more information, call Anna Handy, 540 320 7791.

Women's leadership Conference
At the Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center. Register at <https://montgomerychamber.com/eventregistration/register/9932>. at <https://montgomerychamber.chambermaster.com/eventregistration/register/9932>.

Community quilting bee
At the Blacksburg Library; 10 a.m. to noon. Participants can bring their supplies and join in some quilting, sewing, and conversation.

Talking about Books: "Raising Lazarus"
At Meadowbrook Library; 11 a.m. to noon. To be discussed is "Raising Lazarus" by Beth Macy. Call (540) 268-1964 for more information or to reserve a copy.

Pokemon palooza
At the Blacksburg Library; 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Pokémon trainers can come hang out with their cards and games to trade, battle, or just show off their collection. All ages are welcome.

Friday, March 10:

Luther Memorial Lutheran Church hosts Mr. Jefferson's Bones Trombone Quintet
Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 600 Prices Fork Rd., Blacksburg, will host a special concert by Mr. Jefferson's Bones, a professional trombone quintet at 4 p.m. The New River Valley community is invited to attend.

Saturday, March 11:

"Seth and the Secret of the Butterfly"
At the Radford Public Library; noon to 2 p.m. Author Sally Chinn and Illustrators Harriet Anderson, Carolyn Turner, and Cindy Moore will sign books and speak informally about their new book "Seth and the Secret of the Butterfly." Sally is a former middle-school English teacher. Harriet is a biology professor at New River Community College. Together and with the help of illustrators Turner and Moore, they have published a book about children with disabilities and the many gifts they have despite challenges that face them. This is a free event, and participants can learn how this book was brought together. The encouraging message from this gathering is to love the gifts that make you YOU. Books will be available to purchase for \$12 (Cash or Check only).

Grownup board game club
At the Radford Public Library; 2 to 4 p.m. Participants can bring a friend and a board game, or themselves to get some board-gaming time in at the library, which has its own collection of games on hand, but participants are welcome to bring their own games from home.

Kitchen supply swap
At Meadowbrook Library; 1 to 3 p.m. At the library's kitchen supply swap, participants will meet up, give away items they no longer need, and find items that need a new home. This event is free and is open to anyone in

the community interested in contributing to sustainable living. Participants can bring any kitchen items, utensils, gadgets, and thingamabobs that are in good condition, clean, and usable to swap for other items. They may also bring some recipes to share.

Any leftover items will be donated to the Eastmont Thrift Store, a part of the Eastmont Community Foundation.

Monday, March 13:

Radford Community Garden sign-up
Radford Community Garden will begin sign-up for the 2023 season on March 13, 2023, in the City Administration Building. Previous gardeners will have priority for a plot. A 20' x 20' plot costs \$20; a 10' by 20' plot costs \$10.

Radford City Council meeting
The Radford City Council will hold its regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. in council chambers at the Radford Municipal Building, 10 Robertson St., Radford. See the agenda at www.radfordva.gov.

Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting
Public meetings are the second and fourth Monday of each month at the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke St. in Christiansburg. Closed sessions begin at 6 p.m. if needed. Open sessions begin at 7:15 p.m. Citizens are invited to attend and allowed to speak at each meeting. All regular meetings of the Board of Supervisors are rebroadcast on Montgomery County Comcast and Shentel Channels 190 daily.

Virtual Author Talk with David Epstein
On-line event; 1 – 2 p.m. What's the most effective path to success in any domain? It's not what you think. You're invited to find out during a conversation with New York Times bestselling author David Epstein as he chats about his most recent book, *Range: Why Generalists Triumph in a Specialized World*. Register now! <https://libraryc.org/radfordlibrary/24580>.

Starlight Storytime
At the Radford Public Library; 6:30 – 7 p.m. Stop by the library for an evening children's storytime! Wind down for the day with stories and friends at the library. Pajamas and stuffies encouraged!

Tuesday, March 14:

Sons of Confederate Veterans meeting
The Sons of Confederate Veterans, Stuart Horse Artillery Camp 1784 will meet at 7 p.m. at Aly's Italian Family Restaurant at 3204 Riner Rd. Members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) are also invited to this meeting. If Montgomery County Public Schools are closed on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week due to weather, the meeting is cancelled. For further information, please call 540-320-4315 or 540-239-9864.

Blacksburg Town Council meeting
Town Council meets in regular session the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Roger E. Hedgepeth Chambers of the Blacksburg Municipal Building, 300 S. Main St. These meetings are open to the public and televised live on WTOB Channel 2.

Christiansburg Town Council meeting
Regular Town Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers of Town Hall (100 E. Main Street).

Buddy King: My favorite songs

I think I have mentioned before that one of my daughters gave me a Christmas present a few years ago called "Storyworth."

I don't know what you would call it (a software program?), but it sends me a new topic every week by email to write about and then submit somewhere in the cloud, where the piece is stored until I click on a magic button and the Storyworth folks will send me as many bound volumes as I want to pay for. A wonderful and thoughtful gift and one that gives me a way to preserve my feelings and experiences for my kids and grandkids.

My great friend Gary is now doing the same thing, but he says, "You know they'll never read these stories."

Oh, ye of little faith, Gary. I write every piece with the thought that they'll be read by someone in the family, maybe everyone. If not, it's still fun and a good place to collect the columns I write for this newspaper, as well as those pieces by A Cat of a Certain Age. She and I are still negotiating royalties.

Some of the Storyworth submissions are a little too personal for general publication, but often they provide a dual purpose that allows me to kill two birds with one stone, another chapter for the family book and a column for my tens of fans in Montgomery County. This week's topic is "my favorite songs."

As usual, I want to expound beyond a mere list and write about feelings and emotions the songs evoke. So, here goes.

1. "Mr. Touchdown USA." Unusual, eye-catching? When I was a young child growing up on Cherry Lane, my Dad bought a record album of college football fight songs done by Percy Faith & His Orchestra. He would play it on Saturday mornings in the fall before he climbed onto the roof and redirected our antenna so that we could get the college football game of the week on Channel 6 out of Bluefield.

As if this wasn't memory enough to include this song, I used to sing it to my daughters in their crib on fall Saturdays (no longer having a turntable to play the record album). I would change the lyrics to "They call her Mrs. Touchdown, they call her Mrs. T."

My girls probably don't remember, but the memory makes my eyes misty.

2. "Jimmy Mack." Martha Reeves and the Vandellas, classic Motown song of the 60's, but my memories are from the 1980's, when I used to dance with my daughter Beth in the front hall of our old house on Johnson Avenue. Loved the rhythm and the words were easy. Just yell "Jimmy Mack when are you coming back?" every 30 seconds and spin Beth around.

3. "I Loved her First." Heartland (?). Danced to this song with daughter Laura at her wedding. When she asked me to pick a song for the Daddy-Daughter dance, I remembered this tune from the radio. I really didn't know that it had probably become trite by the time we danced to it, but the words are so perfect for the occasion, how can you not go with it? My great friend Hank videoed the dance.

4. "Small Town Southern Man." Alan Jackson. The lyrics are so perfect for kids who grew up in Christiansburg in the 60's and 70's (and probably beyond). It so much fit the lives of my Dad and so many of the other fathers of that era. "He bowed his head to Jesus and he stood for Uncle Sam and he only loved one woman and was always proud of what he had. He said his greatest contribution was the ones he left behind."

5. "Maggie May." Rod Stewart. I think the first time I heard this song was the day I moved into the dorms my freshman year of college. It was blaring from an open window of Tuttle House, and I remember it as the introduction to this new stage of my life. I also remember it as the first time I had ever seen a girl in a halter top. Rod and the Faces played a concert at the U. a few weeks later.

6. "Take Me Home, Country Roads." John Denver. Having lived most of my adult life in West By God Virginia, you might guess that is why it's listed. It is in part, as West Virginia has been great to me, but my first memories of Country Roads also go back to my first year at UVA. My late, great friend of that time,

George Cooley, of the Hillsville Cooleys, was also in his first year and had a car (I did not), and he would drive us home on weekends, up 64 and down 81, and we would sing "I belong in Southwest Virginia." I like to remind my West Virginia friends that John thought he was in Virginia and was actually in western Maryland when he got his inspiration, and he only used "West Virginia" because it fit the tune better. But what the heck, it became the anthem of my adopted state. (The Blue Ridge Mountains aren't in West Virginia either.)

7. "Wang Dang Doodle." The Grateful Dead with Chuck Berry. What more do I need to say?

8. "Wabash Cannonball.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend, with a citizen hearing time reserved at each meeting for residents to bring any matter they desire before the entire council.

New Tuesday Night Zumba Class
Blacksburg Parks and Recreation is now offering a new Tuesday night Zumba class with Jui-Ling. Classes will begin March 14 and continue through April 25 and will be from 6-7pm. Passes can be purchased at the Blacksburg Community Center and cost \$35 for residents and \$45 for non-residents. Passes are good for 13 visits and are interchangeable with morning and evening classes (excluding Yoga Flow). For more information, call 540-443-1142.

Saturday, March 25:

Spring Children's Consignment Sale
Blacksburg United Methodist Church will hold its spring children's consignment sale on 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the Whisner Building at the Church Street campus, accessed through the rear entrance at Lee and Penn Streets. Families will be able to get great deals on seasonal kids' clothes and shoes, toys, books, baby gear, sports equipment, maternity clothing and more. Many items are like-new (some even brand-new). Some items will be half-price between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. but you will want to shop early for the best selection! Cash or checks only. No card or electronic payments.

On-going:

Lifeguard training
The Christiansburg Aquatic Center is hiring high school students aged 16 and above for the summer season. A lifeguard training course is mandatory and will be held March 17- 19. If hired, the training class is free. Enroll at www.cacpool.com.

Cap and Gown Drive
The Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Office is partnering with Blacksburg High School and Sustainable Blacksburg to encourage re-use of previous years' graduate gear for the 2023 senior class. Gowns (blue only - from 2018 and later), caps, stoles, and cords are accepted. Donations can be made between 8:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday at the Main Entrance of Blacksburg High School. It is appreciated if materials are dry-cleaned, but not required. For more information, contact the Town of Blacksburg Sustainability Office at 540-443-1617 or sustainability@blacksburg.gov.

Blacksburg 2023 Citizens Institute
Want to learn more about the Town of Blacksburg? Are you a new resident, retiree, or just someone who wants to get involved in the community? Join us for the 2023 Citizens Institute to meet town staff and to learn about the functions of your local government. Classes will be held on Monday evenings beginning April 6, from 6 – 8 p.m. Participants must be 18 years of age or older, and residents of the Town of Blacksburg. Space is filling up fast! To register, call the Community Relations Office at 540-443-1090 or email cro@blacksburg.gov.

Free GED Classes
New River Community College is offering free GED at the Meadowbrook Library every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 5 – 8 p.m. The classes began on Tuesday, Jan. 17 and end on Thursday, May 11. For more information or to sign up please call the Meadowbrook Library at 540-268-1964.

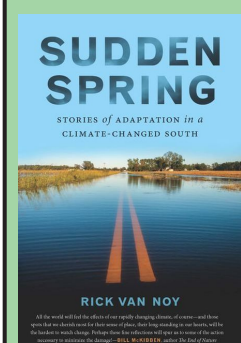
Book talk + Q&A with Dr. Rick Van Noy

"Sudden Spring: Stories of Adaptation in a Climate-Changed South"

Tuesday, March 14
6 p.m.
NRCC Library



NEW RIVER
Community College



Roy Acuff. I think Roy made it famous, but my memories are of the great pitcher Dizzy Dean after he became an announcer on baseball's "Game of the Week" in the early 60's. Late in the game, particularly if things were boring, Dizzy would launch into an off-key version of this song and then laugh his great laugh. I read many years later that his performances were usually fueled by the Falstaff Beer he hawked between innings.

9. "Crystal Blue Persuasion." Tommy James and The Shondells. This comes from September of my junior year of high school. It was the second week of the football season and we were playing the Dublin Dukes, the preseason favorite to win the district. I had not played much in the first game but had a great week of practice and was sent in the last four minutes of the game when Dublin was driving towards a winning score. Coach Rusek told me to blitz every play. I discovered that Dublin's first-team offensive line was far superior to our second-team offensive line I had looked so good against in practice. But we held on and won. The night before the game I drove over to my great friend John's house (He did the filming of our games.), and he asked if we had a chance against the Dukes. I remember feeling extremely confident and "guaranteed" John we would win (It was the same year Joe Namath guaranteed a Super Bowl win - my motivation?). I remember we listened to "Crystal Blue Persuasion," a new song that John had just heard. The next night I fell in love and heard the song again.

10. "Sweet Caroline." Neil Diamond. Fenway Park bleachers on Friday night. Nothing better. Written about President Kennedy's daughter. Not sure I would love the song as much as I do except for its being the Red Sox's 8th-inning anthem.

11. Honorable mention to "Dirty Water by the Standells," played after every Sox win.

12. "Smalltown America." Brian Evans. Sent to me a couple of years ago by my friend Dennis (part of the Dublin win by the way). The perfect anthem for the Christiansburg we grew up in. Listen to it.

13. "Beginnings." Chicago. Reminds me of the unrequited loves of my high school years.

14. "Down at P. J. Kelly's Bar." Jule Carenbauer (of the Wheeling Carenbauers. I think Jule was 1 of 10). He wrote and recorded this song about my old favorite watering hole. You can find it on Spotify, and Jule still does a Facebook concert every Wednesday night. The song is about open- mic night at Kelly's in the 90's.

15. All songs by Jimmy Buffett. Particularly, "A Pirate Looks at Forty," "Coast of Carolina," and "Come Monday."

16. "Those Were the Days." Mary Hopkin. The perfect theme for the old gang of friends from my youth: the Gregs, John, Bo, Jay, George, Bobby, and Bob. "We'd sing and dance forever and a day. We'd fight and never lose. Those were the days; we thought they'd never end."

I could go on and on, but I have hit my writing wall. I hope this stirs up some fond memories for you.

Evans "Buddy" King is a proud native of Christiansburg, CHS Class of 1971. He resides in Clarksburg, WVa., where he has practiced law with the firm of Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC, since 1980. He can be reached at evans.king@steptoe-johnson.com.

OBITUARIES

Flythe, Mildred Fugate

Mildred Fugate Flythe, 91, of Blacksburg, passed away Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023, at her home.

She was born in Williston, Fla., on April 12, 1931, to the late Frances (Fannie) Clark and Joshua Hawkins Fugate. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Mary Elizabeth Jones; and brothers, J. B. Fugate, George Fugate, and

Julian Lamar Fugate.

She loved working in flowers, gardening, quilting, sewing, art, and reading books. She is survived by her daughters and sons-in-law, Debra and Rick Hurley, and Dolores and Dan Stegall, a son and daughter-in-law, Buddy and Gail Flythe.; grandchildren Kimberly Hurley and Sarah Beth Radar; great-grandchildren

Alexia C. Radar, Madison Radar, Devin Rader, Conner Matthew Cobb, Kierra Cobb, and Cara Cobb; her brother, Keith Fugate; and special neighbors and friends who were always there when needed, John and Karen Myers, Judy and Larry Fielder, Beth and Bob Francis, and Willis Alls. Services will be held privately.

Housel, Elizabeth "Beth" Sluiter

Elizabeth "Beth" Sluiter Housel, 43, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023.

She was preceded in death by her father, Andrew Sluiter.

Beth is survived by her husband, Elijah Housel; son, Sawyer Housel; mother and stepfather, Valerie and Bryant Brooks; brothers and sister-in-law, Travis Sluiter, and Todd and Kristen Sluiter, along with their daughters, Claire and Millie; sister Ashley Brooks;



brother-in-law Joseph Housel; father and mother-

in-law Charles and Mary Jane Housel; and many other relatives and friends.

A memorial service was held on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 1 p.m. at the Old Brick Presbyterian Church in Radford with pastor Robert Morris officiating. The family received friends prior to the service. Burial was private.

The Housel family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Sutphin, Allen Dale

Allen Dale Sutphin, 75, passed away Saturday, March 4, 2023, at his home in Radford.

He was a member of First Baptist Church and retired after 36 years from Lynchburg Foundry.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Roba D. and Opal Pauline Sutphin; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Gene and Violet Kingrea; two brothers-in-law and three

sisters-in-law.

Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Mary Lou Kingrea Sutphin; sons Mark Sutphin, Matthew Dale, and Stacey Sutphin; a granddaughter, Taylor Nichole Sutphin; granddogs Winston and George; a brother and sister-in-law, Donnie Ray and Sherry Sutphin; and many other relatives and friends.

The family would like

to give special thanks to Seth, Misty, and Kelli with Lincare and to Carilion Hospice for the wonderful, loving care they gave Allen.

Graveside services were held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, in West View Cemetery in Radford with the Rev. Kent Taylor officiating.

The Sutphin family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Hughett, Danny Elliot

Danny Elliot Hughett, 63, of Radford, passed away on Thursday, March 2, 2023.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Kaviller Charles and Nola Collins Hughett; and his brother, Gary Hughett.

Survivors include his brothers and sisters-in-law, Roger and Patricia Hughett and Larry and Dawn Hughett.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. today, Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at the Mullins

Funeral Home in Radford with Pastor Timothy Worles officiating. Interment will follow in West View Cemetery in Radford.

The Hughett family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Stevens, Ginger Aust

Ginger Aust Stevens, 59, of Pulaski, passed away Friday, March 3, 2023.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Ann Aust.

Survivors include her

husband, John C. Stevens; her son and daughter-in-law, John Robert and Stacy Stevens; a brother and sister-in-law, Bryan and Amy Aust; nieces Madelyn and Elaina; and many other relatives and

friends.

In keeping with Ginger's wishes, no services will be held at this time.

The Stevens family is in the care of Mullins Funeral Home & Crematory in Radford.

Houseman, Mary Louise

Mary Louise Houseman, 77, of Lynchburg, formerly of Christiansburg, passed away Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

She was the wife of Thomas Andrew Houseman for 49 years.

Born January 14, 1946, she was a daughter of the late Mary Lillian Washington Dyson and John Dyson.

In addition to her husband, Mary is survived by her daughter, Rachel Wheaton and her husband,

Joseph and their children, Jasmine, Ivy, and Aeris.

Tharp Funeral Home & Crematory, Lynchburg, is assisting the family. To send condolences, please visit tharpfuneralhome.com.

POLICE REPORT

MONTGOMERY COUNTY JAIL ARREST LOG - 02/18/2023 - 02/24/2023

BANDUCCI, MATTHEW COMMIT DATE 02/18/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

ZOUINE, ADAM COMMIT DATE 02/18/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

MENESES, GASTON COMMIT DATE 02/18/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

HUFF, JESSICA COMMIT DATE 02/18/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession

DANG, MITCHELL COMMIT DATE 02/18/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

WILLIAMS, JONATHAN COMMIT DATE 02/18/2023 OFFENSE Traffic: Reckless driving; 20+ miles per hour over speed limit; endangerment: disregard of police command to stop; failure to appear to felony/misdemeanor summons

SIMPSON, AARON COMMIT DATE 02/18/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

DUNCAN, GARNETT COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession

ROARK, BRITTANY COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

DECKER, ISABELLA COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

AMIRI, ARIF COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE DWI (first conviction) Influence of drugs

YACAVONIS, BENJAMIN COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

OROURKE-RUSSELL, KELLY COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE DUI (first conviction) BAC > .20

SCHAUFFLE, COLLIN COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE DWI: Person younger than 21 driving with BAC .02 to .07

LAFRATTA, ANDREW

COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

DOMINGUE, JOHANNES COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Convicted felon Carrying concealed weapon; possession of a firearm with intent to transport; intentional vandalism of property/monument >=\$1000

WEBSTER, JORDAN COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Traffic: driving with a revoked operator's license (first offense)

GILLISPIE, RONALD, JR. COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation

ROOP, CECIL, JR. COMMIT DATE 02/19/2023 OFFENSE Larceny shoplifting by altering price tags < \$200 (first time)

HICKS, MARVIN, JR. COMMIT DATE 02/20/2023 OFFENSE Simple assault against family member

WICKHAM, LAURA COMMIT DATE 02/20/2023 OFFENSE Possession Schedule I/II drugs with firearm (3 counts); possession of firearm by convicted felon (non-violent); possession with intent to transport firearm; narcotics possession with intent to sell and/or distribute; narcotics possession

BRAXTON, NDIA COMMIT DATE 02/20/2023 OFFENSE Protective parole violation; endangering child

WALKER, DANIEL COMMIT DATE 02/20/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession; narcotics possession with intent to sell and/or distribute

WALKER, MELISSA COMMIT DATE 02/20/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession

PASCOE, CHRISTOPHER COMMIT DATE 02/21/2023 OFFENSE DWI (first conviction) Influence of drugs

SCHLANG, ELIZABETH COMMIT DATE 02/21/2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation

HUFF, JUSTIN COMMIT DATE 02/21/2023 OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

LEMON, OLIVIA COMMIT DATE 02/21/2023 OFFENSE Simple assault against family member

JOBE, KENNETH COMMIT

DATE 02/21/2023 OFFENSE Convicted felon Carrying concealed weapon; possession of weapon other than firearm

HENDRICK, MORGAN COMMIT DATE 02/21/2023 OFFENSE DWI (first conviction) BAC .15 TO .20

WORKMAN, JEFFREY COMMIT DATE 02/22/2023 OFFENSE Larceny: unauthorized use of animal, auto, boat, worth \$200 or more

DOWDY, CARA COMMIT DATE 02/22/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession; possession of controlled paraphernalia

JONES, MICHAEL COMMIT DATE 02/22/2023 OFFENSE Larceny: \$5 or more from person; simple assault; intention vandalism of property/monument >=\$1000; kidnapping by force without justification

SMITH, MELISSA COMMIT DATE 02/22/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession; (3 counts) larceny shoplifting by altering price tags < \$200 (first time); obscenity; drunk in public; profane language; larceny less than \$200 not from person

SOWERS, BLAKE COMMIT DATE 02/22/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession (four counts)

FLINCHUM, DANNY COMMIT DATE 02/22/2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation; narcotics possession

HUFF, JASON COMMIT DATE 02/22/2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation (two counts)

CAHILL, JEREMY COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Failure to appear to felony/misdemeanor summons

THOMPSON, MICHAEL COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 00:51 OFFENSE Felony probation violation

MAUK, DAVID COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession with intent to sell and/or distribute

FLORA, AUSTIN COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation

SAUNDERS, ROBERT COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Possession of schedule I/II drug with firearm (three counts); narcotics possession

IVEY, JENNIFER COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession

LEE, BRADLEY COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Failure to appear in court for misdemeanor offense; traffic: reckless driving; disregard of police command to stop; endangerment

JOHNSON, JAMIE COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Felony probation violation

SMITH, ANTHONY COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession (2 counts)

MARTIN, ERIC COMMIT DATE 02/23/2023 OFFENSE Simple assault against family member; simple assault

ANTHONY, NOSILA COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession

HAWES PARNELL, ANTHONY COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Possession of controlled paraphernalia

BEISECKER, MATTHEW COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023

OFFENSE Obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

DUNCAN, CHRISTOPHER COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession (three counts); DWI (first conviction) influence of drugs

BUCKLAND, RENEE COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession; possession of controlled paraphernalia; narcotics possession with intent to sell/distribute

LOPEZ, RASHON COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE DWI (first offense)

SMITH, TERESA COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Narcotics possession; failure to appear to felony/misdemeanor summons

LAL, CUNG COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Vandalism; intentional damage to property/monument >=\$1000 (2 counts); burglary; possession of burglarious tools; possession with intent to sell stolen property

value \$200 or more conspiracy to commit larceny \$200 or more not from person; conspiracy to commit vandalism to property/monument >=\$1000; resisting arrest; obstructing justice w/o threats of force

INTHISANE, SOMSAY COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Resisting arrest; obstructing justice w/o threats of force; traffic: reckless driving endangering life or limb (three counts) traffic: reckless driving, disregarding police command to stop; endangerment

BONDS, STEVEN COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 18:23 OFFENSE Arrests (for use by state police) felony arrest without warrant; obscenity; drunk in public; profane language

PALMER, DERRICK COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Good behavior suspended sentence violation misdemeanor

THOMAS, JACOB COMMIT DATE 02/24/2023 OFFENSE Good behavior suspended sentence violation misdemeanor

THE NRV MPO SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE VISCOE ROAD CORRIDOR STUDY

Find out about the study and potential safety improvements along Viscoe Road in Pulaski County. The meeting will be held at the Pulaski County Innovation Center in the New River Room located at 6580 Valley Center Drive, Suite 305 in Fairlawn on March 22, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. In addition to the in-person meeting, public meeting materials can be found on the New River Valley's website at www.newrivervalleympo.org. It is also available for review at the offices of Pulaski County and the New River Valley MPO. Give your written comments at the meeting or submit them via USPS to the NRV MPO's office, located at 755 Roanoke St. Ste. 21, Christiansburg, VA 24073. You may also e-mail your comments to viscoeroadstudy@rkk.com. Please reference "Viscoe Road Study" (Pulaski County) PH Comments in the subject line. Comments for this study will be received until 5:00 PM, March 31, 2023.



This public notice and opportunity to comment on the Viscoe Road Study meets the program of projects requirements as established by the FTA pursuant to 49 U.S.C. Section 5307(c). The NRV MPO ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact Dan Brugh at: brughjd@montgomerycountyva.gov or 540-394-2145, TTY/TTD 711.

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Agriculture from page 1

the two worlds of agriculture and health care," she said, "focused on farm injuries and farm safety. And that's how the rest of my life began."

Johnson grew up on her family farm in Highland County, giving her early hands-on experience with the agricultural world. Her interest in the field grew as she got older, and by high school, she was involved in livestock judging competitions through her local 4-H Club.

The experience solidified her passion for animal science, and Matthew Miller, then a graduate student in the animal science program at Virginia Tech and the coach of the Virginia Tech Livestock Judging Team, mentored her path to the program.

"It requires a tremendous amount of public speaking and quick decision-making. I watched her gain a lot of confidence over the course of the program," Miller said. "Amy seized every opportunity for success and advancement and appreciated all the opportunities that livestock judging presented her."

Now a Virginia Cooperative Extension agent, Miller kept in touch as Johnson started her studies at Virginia Tech, and he is currently her colleague at the Virginia Farm Bureau.

"He always expected the best from me, wouldn't accept anything less," Johnson said. "His support and his confidence were huge for me."

At Virginia Tech, she saw similar support and guidance from her professors, who encouraged her to approach problems

creatively and to attempt things that were out of the ordinary.

The summer before her sophomore year, the organization she was working for had a shortage of medical staff, and she began EMT courses. Returning to Virginia Tech, she joined the Christiansburg Rescue Squad where she stayed a member through graduation.

She pursued stints as a paramedic and both emergency room and forensic nursing while continuing her education at Jefferson College of Health Sciences and Radford University. "I always told my mom growing up, I was never going to be a nurse," Johnson said. "And so I ate a lot of crow when I graduated, but I loved every minute of being a nurse."

At each stop, however, she found she didn't have the autonomy she felt she needed to optimally treat her patients. "I decided I was going to finish out with a terminal degree, to be able to provide the absolute best care to my patients," she said.

While working on her capstone, she interacted with the Virginia Farm Bureau staff as she conducted her research. The bureau's safety coordinator had recently left his position, and Johnson ended up giving his safety presentations to local farming communities.

After graduating with her doctorate, she quickly found work as a nurse practitioner, but she remained involved with the farm bureau. "I worked at the grassroots level to demonstrate to Virginia Farm Bureau the value of the safety programs, of

having a dedicated safety coordinator within our organization," she said.

Soon after joining the Virginia Farm Bureau, she met Megan Seibel, a faculty member and the inaugural director of the Virginia Agriculture Leaders Obtaining Results Program (VALOR) at Virginia Tech. Also a graduate of a nursing program before pursuing a doctoral degree in agricultural and Extension education, Seibel quickly became a mentor to Johnson.

As Johnson worked on her first safety initiatives for the farm bureau, she talked with Seibel about her goals and the steps she was taking to accomplish them. "It was exciting for me to have those conversations with her, seeing her develop and articulate her ideas for her data collection and research," Seibel said.

Johnson's work led to the creation of the Safety Advisory Committee, an organization that brings in members of the industry from around the state to develop an evolving safety program. These members go out into the community — sitting on task forces, presenting at conferences and meetings, and seeking training to improve the support they can offer local farmers. They also created a website that provides their farmers with guidelines, resources, news, and alerts to help them stay on top of their mental and physical wellness.

-By Joshua Sweeney

Turkey from page 1

at least 45,000 people, and left tens of thousands homeless in the middle of winter. Aftershocks have compounded the damage.

Anakok was recovering from illness and watching a news channel when the earthquake hit. "I literally nonstop watched the news," she said. "I tried to contact people in Turkey, but the Internet was going down because people were trying to reach out to each other. One of the ministries was live on TV, and they declared a Level 4 alarm condition, which means they are seeking international help. ... I wanted to do something."

She connected with fellow Turkish students, all of whom recognized the suffering in their home country. "We felt very heartbroken," Anakok said. "The only thing we could do was try to get donations."

Anakok said the Turkish Embassy in Washington, D.C., had posted a list of needed items. She met with Lee, with whom

she works at the Graduate School, and asked about organizing a donation drive. "We also contacted the embassy and asked about a timeline for the donations," Anakok said. They settled on a 10-day drive, Feb. 7-17.

Anakok said at least 20 volunteers from the Turkish Student Association worked daily on the drive, organizing, sorting, and storing donations. Steven White, whose Doodles capture life at Virginia Tech for the university's Daily Email, created a drawing to attract attention to the drive.

The university community immediately responded, filling bins with needed sleeping bags, blankets, clothes, hygiene products, diapers, flashlights, hundreds of pocket warmers, canned and other nonperishable food, three propane camp stoves, and more.

Faculty members, staff, and students all participated as well as the surrounding community, including local Boy Scouts, the Blacksburg Baptist Church, and neighbors who came by to drop off donations. Lee and Anakok created an Amazon wish

list so people could purchase needed items online, which were shipped to Lee's house.

"More than 130 items were ordered and delivered," Lee said. Donations quickly filled the graduate students' office in the Graduate Life Center. Steve Buchner, who manages the Graduate Life Center, opened a meeting room for the drive, and it quickly filled as well.

"Overall, about 300 bags of donations were collected," Anakok said.

The Graduate School paid for the fleet vans used to transport the items to the embassy. Organizers made two trips, on Feb. 17 and 22, filling two vans each time.

For Anakok, the drive was a tribute to her father, who passed away in February 2022. "My dad taught me to help people secretly," she said. "My motivation was how I learned from my dad, how I wanted to do it, because this was the first time I was able to help and give back to the community."

-By Cathy Grimes

Bathrooms from page 1

lavatories, public bathrooms in the United States have a reputation for being, well, pretty terrible.

First and foremost, the issue of cleanliness is a major problem in public restrooms. From dirty toilets to overflowing trash cans, it's not uncommon to encounter a bathroom that looks like it hasn't been cleaned since the Wild West. And let's not forget about the infamous "bathroom odor."

Another issue with public bathrooms is the lack of privacy. When it comes to stalls, there's often a fine line between "just enough privacy" and "none at all." Case in point: the ubiquitous gap at the bottom of the stall door that allows everyone in the bathroom to see your shoes.

Of course, the lack of privacy isn't limited to stalls. Sinks and mirrors are often situated in full view of everyone in the bathroom, meaning that you're forced to engage in a game of "who can avoid eye contact the longest" while you're washing your hands. And don't even think about trying to change a baby's diaper in a public bathroom. You'll be lucky if you can find a changing table, and even luckier if it's not covered in a suspicious sticky substance.

Clothesline from page 1

to shoulder, bearing witness to the violence committed on a daily basis. The shirts are color-coded: white for those who have died from violence; yellow or beige for survivors who have been battered or assaulted; red, pink, or orange for those raped or sexually assaulted; blue or green for survivors of incest or child sexual abuse; purple or lavender for those attacked because of their sexual orientation; and black for survivors disabled by violence.

The Clothesline Project's goal is to educate the public about the scope of gender-based violence and the impact it has on individuals, their families and friends, and the community. The project encourages survivors to come forward to break the silence by creating shirts to share their stories.

Survivors should create their own shirts in a quiet, comfortable environment by dropping by the Women's Center

Another issue is the lack of supplies. Have you ever entered a public bathroom only to find that there's no toilet paper? Or, even worse, what about a bathroom where the toilet paper dispenser is empty and there's no spare roll in sight? These are the kinds of situations that can make a person feel like they're stranded in the middle of nowhere.

And let's not forget about the toilets themselves. From faulty flushing mechanisms to unsanitary seat covers, public toilets can be a source of constant frustration. Some restrooms even feature toilets with dual-flush systems, which can be confusing for those who are used to a traditional flush. (Do you press the button for number one or number two? The answer, of course, is that it depends on the restroom.)

When broken down nationally, public bathrooms in Wyoming were ranked as the worst in the country. Respondents there rated their bathrooms at 3.5/10, followed closely by those in Virginia who gave a score of 4.7 out of 10. In fact, according to the survey, public bathrooms in Virginia came in as 13th worst overall. However, reviews from residents of Vermont were very positive: They ranked their public bathrooms at 8/10.

at Virginia Tech (206 Washington St. Blacksburg) anytime during the four-day workshop's hours (9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) on March 27, 28, 29, and 31 and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on March 30. All materials will be supplied free of charge.

This local Clothesline Project was initiated in 1994 by the Montgomery County chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). More than 630 shirts made by New River Valley residents are currently on the line. Local sponsors include Montgomery County NOW, the United Feminist Movement, the Women's Center at Virginia Tech, and the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley.

Sponsors encourage community members to view the display on the Drillfield at Virginia Tech from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on March 28. (The rain location is Squires Student Center.)

News Messenger

Established 1869

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The News Messenger is a newspaper of, by and for the people of Montgomery County. We encourage letters from our readers on topics of general interest to the community and responses to our articles and columns. Letters must be signed and have a telephone number where you can be reached for verification. All letters will be verified before publication. We reserve the right to deny publication of any letter and edit letters for length, content and style.

The News Messenger (USPS 016-490) is published twice a week for \$45 a year in Montgomery County, \$54 elsewhere in Virginia, and \$58 out of state by Virginia Media Inc., P.O. Box 429, Lewisburg, WV 24901. Periodical postage paid at Christiansburg, VA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEWS MESSENGER 1633 W. Main St., Salem, VA 24153.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. European Common Market
 - 4. Poetic go quickly
 - 7. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
 - 10. Pigeon pea
 - 12. Sao __, city in Brazil
 - 14. Longest division of geological time
 - 15. __ Alto, California city
 - 16. Small terrestrial viper
 - 17. Coming after all others
 - 18. Penetrate with a sharp fork
 - 20. Still-hunt
 - 22. Chinese frying pan
 - 23. Cave-dwelling salamander
 - 24. Any thick messy substance
 - 26. About the moon
 - 29. AKA Tao
 - 30. Jet cabin requirement
 - 35. Prince Hirobumi, 1841-1909
 - 36. An easy return in a high arc
 - 37. Italian commune
 - 38. L. Comfort's illuminator
 - 44. Foot digit
 - 45. Minute tunicate genus
 - 46. Green regions of desert
 - 48. Direct a weapon
 - 49. __ de Janeiro
 - 50. Equestrian animals
 - 53. Acrez Tomei
 - 56. Head of the RCC
 - 57. Twines
 - 59. Scientific workplace
 - 61. Minerals
 - 62. Hypothetical original substances
 - 63. Hit with the open hand
 - 64. Political action committee
 - 65. Winged goddess of the dawn
 - 66. W. states time zone
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Electronic data processing
 - 2. Man or boy (Br.)
 - 3. W. African nation
 - 4. Fault's incline from vertical
 - 5. Method of birth control
 - 6. City founded by Xenophanes
 - 7. Legumes
 - 8. Beckham's spice girl
 - 9. Explosive
 - 11. 1936 Nobel winner Otto
 - 12. Greenbay teammate
 - 13. Brass that looks like gold
 - 14. School graduates
 - 19. Lively, merry play
 - 21. Make indistinct
 - 24. Egyptian mythological figure associated with floods
 - 25. Washing sponge
 - 27. Old name for nitrogen
 - 28. Impounds for lack of payment
 - 29. Radiotelegraphic signal
 - 31. MN 55731
 - 32. Sun in spanish
 - 33. Helps little firms
 - 34. Cease living
 - 39. Flames up
 - 40. Egyptian sacred bull
 - 41. To wit
 - 42. Mire
 - 43. Bring two objects together
 - 47. Filths
 - 50. Israeli dance
 - 51. Oil cartel
 - 52. A particular instance of selling
 - 53. Microelectromechanical system
 - 54. Var. of 45 across
 - 55. Goat & camel hair fabrics
 - 56. Soda
 - 58. A firm's operational head
 - 60. Seaport (abbr.)



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Legals - City of Radford

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Legals - City of Salem

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the Board of Zoning Appeals of the City of Salem, Virginia will hold a public hearing, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2309 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, on March 23, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 North Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, to consider the following applications.

Request of the City of Salem, property owner, and Roanoke County, project administrator, for a variance from Section 106-226.7 of the Code of the City of Salem, to allow construction of the greenway trail, extending from the existing trail on Salem City owned property (Tax Map # 178-4-1) near Kingsmill Drive to the Roanoke County owned property (Parcel ID # 056.01-01-17.00-0000) near Riverside Nursery. Section 106—226.7(A) states that no new construction shall be permitted, except where the effect of such development on flood heights is fully offset.

Request of the City of Salem, property owner, for a variance from Section 106-226.7 of the Code of the City of Salem, to allow the bridge widening of Apperson Drive Bridge along with incidental greenway trail work on and near the 1600 block East Riverside Drive (Tax Map # 259-2-1). Section 106—226.7(A) states that no new construction shall be permitted, except where the effect of such development on flood heights is fully offset.

At this hearing, all parties in interest will be given an opportunity to be heard, present evidence, and show cause why such requests should or should not be granted. For additional information, contact the Office of the Zoning Administrator, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia (Phone 3753032).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS OF THE CITY OF SALEM

BY: Mary Ellen H. Wines, CZA, CFM
Zoning Administrator

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Legals - City of Salem

Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that the City of Salem

Planning Commission, at its regular meeting on March 15, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:
1. Consider the request of Michael O. Garst and Alan L. Garst, property owners, for rezoning the property located at 907 Florida Street (Tax Map # 185-5-9) from HBD Highway Business District to RSF Residential Single Family.
2. Consider the request of Daniel N Suggs Excavating & Grading, Inc., property owner, and AM Transportation of Roanoke, LLC, contract purchaser, for the issuance of a Special Exception Permit to allow a truck parking facility on the property located at 2730 West Main Street, (Tax Map # 174-5-1).

Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY: James E. Taliaferro, II
Executive Secretary

Notice

is hereby given to all interested persons that the Council of the City of Salem, at its regular meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 114 N. Broad Street, in the City of Salem, Virginia, will hold a public hearing, pursuant to Sections 15.2-2204 and 15.2-2285 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, to consider approval of the following requests relative to the CODE OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA:
1. Consider the request of Michael O. Garst and Alan L. Garst, property owners, for rezoning the property located at 907 Florida Street (Tax Map # 185-5-9) from HBD Highway Business District to RSF Residential Single Family.
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Copies of the proposed plans, ordinances or amendments may be examined in the Office of Community Development, 21 South Bruffey Street, Salem, Virginia. At said hearing, parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard relative to the said requests.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALEM, VIRGINIA
BY: H. Robert Light
Clerk of Council

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Legals - Montgomery County

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Virginia Department of Transportation and the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery County, in accordance with Section 33.1-70.01 of the Code of Virginia, will conduct a joint public hearing in the Montgomery County Government Center, 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia at 7:15 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 2023. The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public comment on the proposed Secondary Six-Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2023/2024 through 2028/29 in Montgomery County and on the Secondary System Construction Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/24. Copies of the proposed Plan and Budget may be reviewed at the Christiansburg Residency Office of the Virginia Department of Transportation, located at 105 Cambria Street, Christiansburg, Virginia or at the Montgomery County Government Center located at 755 Roanoke Street, Christiansburg, Virginia. All projects in the Secondary Six-Year Plan that are eligible for federal funds will be included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which documents how Virginia will obligate federal transportation funds. Persons requiring special assistance to attend and participate in this hearing should contact the Virginia Department of Transportation at (540) 381-7201. Persons wishing to speak at this public hearing should contact the Montgomery County Government Center at (540) 382-6954.

Legals Town of Vinton

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Town of Vinton is accepting SEALED BIDS from interested landscaping contractors to perform mowing, general landscaping and snow removal services for the Vinton War Memorial. The term of the mowing contract shall be for one year, with the option to renew for an additional four (4) one-year term. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Vinton War Memorial, C/O Chasity Barbour, 814 E. Washington Ave, Vinton, VA 24179, on or before Monday, April 3, 2023, at 3 p.m. Bids must contain the Bidder's company name and address, and be signed by the appropriate company representative. No bids will be accepted after said time and date. Bid opening will occur after 3 p.m. at the Vinton War Memorial, 814 East Washington Ave, Vinton, VA. Bid information can be acquired by contacting the Town Manager at (540) 343-1508. The Town of Vinton reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Town also reserves the right to award an individual or company who is not the low bidder if in its judgment, it would be in the best interest of the Town to do so.

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Joshua Ward takes first place in Giovanni-Steger Poetry Prize Ceremony

Hunched forward in his seat, Joshua Ward waited with hands clasped as Nikki Giovanni, a renowned author, University Distinguished Professor Emerita, and the founder in 2006 of the poetry prize competition, read the names of the night's winners of the 17th annual Giovanni-Steger Poetry Prize competition. When she called his name, he looked surprised. Then, he burst into a smile as he rose to collect his prize and shake the hand of a legend.

Ward took first place for his poem "The Drawing Night" at the 17th annual Giovanni-Steger Poetry Prize Ceremony held Feb. 21 in the Anne and Ellen Fife Theatre in Moss Arts Center.

Ward, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in fish and wildlife conservation and a minor in creative writing in December, was awarded \$1,500 and will receive "The Steger," a piece of art that this year was crafted by Virginia Tech students at the Kroehling Advanced Materials Foundry on campus.

"It blows me away, to be honest," he said of his win. "At first, I was very hesitant to submit a poem. Like a lot of people, I didn't think I would get very far. But I just thought, 'Let's do one last wild thing. Let's just shoot for the moon.'"

Ward said he has loved the outdoors since he was a child and hopes to become a nature writer.

His award-winning poem was inspired by a night that he spent meditating in Caldwell Fields, a camping and recreation area near Blacksburg.

"To say that I was influenced by my major and by my passions is an understatement," Ward said. "Nature needs assistance. It needs help. And it needs that in all fields of work. If a piece of nature poetry can win a competition like this — that's another step."

The \$800 second-place prize was awarded to Makenna DeTorres, a creative writing major, for "Read. Unread." Rowan Lacey, a psychology major, and Kayla Bourret, a creative writing major, tied for third place with their poems



PHOTO BY LESLIE KING FOR VIRGINIA TECH.

Nikki Giovanni (at center) with finalists of the 2023 Giovanni-Steger Poetry Prize Ceremony.

"Seaweed Green" and "Doing and Undoing," respectively. Both were awarded \$500.

This year, the competition teamed with Artemis Journal, a poetry publication that will publish the winning poems in an upcoming edition.

"We want to be No. 1," Giovanni said. "And in order to be a national poetry prize, we have to have a national view. And in order for that to happen, we have to keep reaching out."

She ended the evening with "A Toast to Poetry," an ode to the ways poetry helps readers feel less lost and alone and celebrate the wonders of life.

"Let's raise our glasses for how wonderful it is that poems take such good care of us," Giovanni concluded.

Other finalists included:

Kaitlyn Grube, a creative writing major, for "Softer this Time"

Joe Hughes III, a creative writing major, for "I die on your screen"

Shruthi Manimaran, an English, creative writing, and

professional and technical writing major, for "Refugees in Martha's Vineyard"

Nya Nesbit, a psychology major, for "Fifth Chair"

Grace Turner, a creative writing major, for "Intrauterine by Design"

Maria Ziu, a physics major, for "Bunu"

Honorable mentions went to:

Calvin Brown, an aerospace engineering major, for "Sleep Evades Me"

Reid Burton, a marketing major, for "The Lake Isle of Tennessee"

Eira Calderon, an industrial design major, for "The Glass Door in My Kitchen"

Cassandra Cogan, an international relations major, for "Blacksburg, September"

Grace Daniels, an English, creative writing, and professional and technical writing major, for "My Mother's Quilt"

Emelia Delaporte, a professional and technical writing and multimedia journalism major, for "Strawberry Plains"

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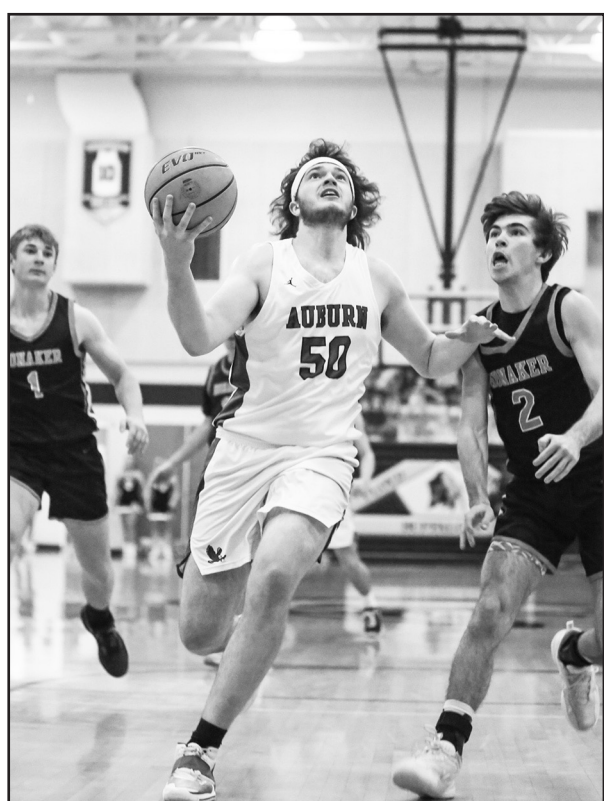
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MONTGOMERY SPORTS

Auburn boys advance to state Final Four



Bryce Gill finished with 12 points for Auburn which is now 24-6 after the 79-46 win over Honaker in the Class 1 state tournament quarterfinals. The Eagles will play fellow Mt. Empire member George Wythe for the fourth time this season Monday night at Floyd County High School.



Auburn's Nick Millirons connects on a jumper inside the paint during the State Class 1 quarterfinals versus Honaker. He finished with six points.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY AKERS
Brady Hale scored six points for the Eagles who defeated George Wythe in the Class 1 state tournament to advance to the Final Four.

Bobcat wins state long jump title



PHOTO COURTESY OF RHS
Radford High School's David Woodward is the new Class 1/2 indoor state champion in the long jump with a distance of 22'-1". Woodward also placed second in the triple jump.

RU's Traylor named Big South Freshman of the Year

The Big South Conference Tuesday afternoon released its end-of-season awards list, which included Ashlyn Traylor being named the Big South Freshman of the Year and Vanessa Blake earning all-academic honors. Traylor's freshman campaign with the Highlanders will be one not easily forgotten. The Franklin, Ind., native was named the Freshman of the Week seven times this season with five of those awards coming during Big South play. Traylor thus became just the fourth-ever Highlander to win the Freshman of the Year award and the first since 2005. Her Freshman of the Year title won't be the only hardware Traylor takes home this season, as she was also named to the conference's all-freshman team and received second-team all-conference honors. During Big South action this season, Traylor finished the season with top-ten conference totals in points (13.4 ppg), assists (62), steals (39) and free-throw percentage (75%). She also led the team in points (368), assists (95), and steals (60) while ranking second on the team in rebounds (170). Blake was also named to the conference's all-academic list after a stellar year on and off the court for the Highlanders. In her sophomore season, Blake accumulated a 3.83 GPA as a marketing major and served as one of the women's basketball representatives on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) at Radford. On the court, Blake was a premier threat for the Highlanders averaging 8.6 ppg and 5.4 rebounds per game while leading the team in offensive rebounds with 80.

Tech guard Georgia Amoore wins ACC tournament MVP

Marty Gordon
NRVsports@ourvalley.org

Virginia Tech's women's basketball team won their first championship of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Sunday by defeating Louisville 75-67 Sunday at Greensboro Coliseum and is now headed to the 2023 NCAA basketball tournament, possibly as a number one seed. But that will not be known until the seedings are announced later this week.

This is the Lady Hokies' third straight appearance in the NCAA tournament. VT head coach Kenny Brooks and the Hokies will be part of the live broadcast of the NCAA Selection Show from Cassell Coliseum on Sunday, March 12.

Doors will open at 7 p.m. with the event beginning at 7:30. The Selection Show will air live on ESPN at 8 p.m.

Coach Brooks and his team will host NCAA action in Blacksburg for the first time since 2004. The Hokies are expected to be playing at home during the postseason.

In the finals against Louisville, Georgia Amoore collected 25 points and Elizabeth Kitley added 20 to lead the Hokies to the tournament crown and the clinching of an automatic bid for the NCAA Tournament.

The Hokies (27-4) entered the tournament as the No. 3 seed and defeated Miami (Fla.), Duke and Louisville enroute to the league tournament championship. Tech's defense was fantastic yet again, holding Louisville shooters to only 37.3 percent from the field.

The Hokies never trailed after taking a 21-14 first-quarter lead. Amoore, Kitley, and Taylor Soule combined to account for 77 percent of the Hokies' points.

Virginia Tech had a 35-34 edge on the boards in the win and got a team-high seven rebounds from Cayla King.

Amoore made 14 three-pointers during Tech's three games in Greensboro, setting a new tournament record and clinching tournament MVP honors.

The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced the five finalists for the 2023 Lisa Leslie Award, and for the second straight season, Elizabeth Kitley was a finalist.

Named after three-time All-American, 1994 National Player of the Year, and Class of 2015 Hall of Famer Lisa Leslie, the annual award in its sixth year recognizes the top centers in women's NCAA Division I college basketball.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Virginia Tech guard Georgia Amoore made 14 three-pointers during Tech's three games in Greensboro, setting a new ACC tournament record and clinching tournament MVP honors. She showed off the MVP trophy with several fans from the New River Valley after the game.

The other four finalists are Mackenzie Holmes (Indiana), Monika Czinano (Iowa), Jessika Carter (Mississippi State), and Aliyah Boston (South Carolina).

Kitley was named the ACC's Player of the Year for the second consecutive season, the conference office announced Tuesday evening. She became the tenth woman in ACC history to win the award in consecutive seasons.

The Summerfield, North Carolina, native ranks fourth in the conference in scoring per game (18.78), second in field-goal percentage (.569), first in rebounds per game (10.74), first in blocks per game (2.3), first in double-doubles (18) and is the only athlete in the conference to record a 20-rebound game.

She won ACC-Player-of-the-Week honors four times, the most of any athlete, including each of the last two weeks as she has recorded four consecutive 20-point double-doubles while shooting 60.2% from the field.

Four Highlanders named All-Big South

The Radford University men's basketball team has racked up four Big South All-Conference honors for the 2022-23 season. DaQuan Smith was named Second Team All-Big South, Bryan Antoine was given an Honorable Mention nod, Kenyon Giles made the All-Freshman team, and Shaquan Jules earned a spot on the All-Academic team.

Smith played in all 31 games this season, starting 30 of them. As Radford's most dangerous player most nights, the redshirt junior guard averaged 13.5 points, 3.4 rebounds and 1.7 assists per game while also grabbing 32 steals and coming up with

10 blocks.

He shot 42.1% from the field, 38.5% from three-point range and 82.1% from the free throw line in an extremely efficient effort this year. Smith was honored twice during the season as the Big South Player of the Week.

Antoine stayed healthy for the vast majority of the season and was able to show off his highly touted ability, starting all 26 games he played in. The Tinton Falls, N.J., native was huge on both ends of the floor all year, averaging 11.2 points, three rebounds and 1.3 assists per game while leading the Highlanders and ranking second

in the league with 1.7 steals per game. He shot 46.5% overall from the floor, 40.7% from three and 93.8% at the charity stripe.

A four-time Big South Freshman of the Week honoree, Giles came out of the gates on fire. His impact was felt immediately, even against the biggest of opponents, and he finished the season averaging 9.1 points, 1.2 rebounds, and 1.1 assists per game with 32 steals for the season. He scored 10 or more points in 13 different games and 20 or more points on three occasions.

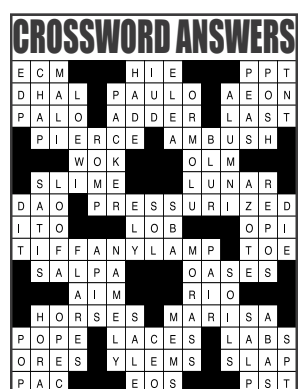
Jules made the Big South All-Academic Team for the second straight

season. When he wasn't throwing down monster dunks on the court, he was excelling in the classroom to the tune of a 3.27 cumulative grade-point-average as a communications major. He boosted his GPA with a standout fall semester, earning a stellar 3.53 to begin the school year.

The Highlanders went 18-13 overall this season with a 12-6 record in Big-South play.

--RU Athletics

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Tech alumnus walks across U.S., through Italy for charity



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEBASTIEN JACQUES

Sebastien Jacques enjoyed the moment when he finished his nearly 1,200-mile walk through Italy, soaking in this amazing sunset along the Adriatic Sea on the final leg of the trip.

A chance meeting with a famous Italian blogger ended up leading Sebastien Jacques '11 to attempt a long-range feat with his feet.

In 2017, Jacques, a former Virginia Tech men's tennis player from Magog, Quebec, walked across the United States from Virginia Beach to Santa Monica, Calif., to raise awareness on the power of persistence and taking each day one step at a time, two lessons he learned while recovering from a risky surgery performed by a Santa Monica doctor who removed a pineal cystic tumor from his brain.

On an Arizona highway during his walk, Jacques met Giulia Valentina, an Italian model who shared his story to her social media following of nearly 950,000. As a result, the Italians started urging him to walk across their country.

So, in mid-November, he did.

"In my mind, I was doing the States and that was it," Jacques said. "I said then that it was a one-time thing. It's hard enough physically and mentally. I just wanted to do it once and try to make a difference in people's lives, and that's it."

"But years went by, and I guess you kind of forget the pain and the suffering of those adventures, and I kept receiving messages from the Italians," Jacques said. "So yeah, I just decided to say, 'Why not?'"

Jacques graduated from Virginia Tech's Pamplin College of Business with a marketing management degree. He decided to use the walk across Italy to spotlight the great work being done by the CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation, a nonprofit organization in Montreal dedicated to providing the highest level of health care to children and mothers. He simply asked his followers on social media to donate to this foundation.

On Nov. 16, Jacques began his journey, leaving Turbigo, Italy, near the country's border with Switzerland. He walked 47 "marathons" each day, saying he averaged 26 miles per day with his longest walk being 30 miles. He built in three rest days during his journey.

Fifty days and nearly 1,200 miles later, Jacques arrived in Santa Maria di Leuca, a small town on the southern Italian coast. For a better perspective, the town represents the geographical "heel" of Italy.

Jacques arrived tired, sore, and ecstatic. He said the Italians treated him wonderfully, and at last count, he said he had raised approximately \$40,000 for the CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation.

"I decided to run the last two to three kilometers just to make sure I arrived before the sunset," Jacques said. "I just wanted that moment by myself, and I wanted to really touch the Adriatic Sea at the southernmost tip. I stayed on the rocks for about an hour admiring the sunset."

"Your initial thoughts are the injuries you suffered, the rain, the hard times, the people you met, the lives you tried to touch, and it's just such a mixed bundle of emotions all at once that comes out," Jacques said. "I was grateful to be there. You're sad at the same time because it's over, but you just realize how it was all worth it. You're sitting there, and you're like, 'Wow, we did it.'"

Jacques works as the general manager of a private tennis club in Montreal, and an incredibly busy summer schedule affords him free time to travel during the winter. He trained for the Italy trip by walking every day in different terrains with a backpack. He used his backpack to carry his essentials because the terrain prohibited the use of a stroller.

He decided to stay with friends or in hotels instead of camping and used friends or ride services to get back and forth from the trail. He originally allotted 30 days to complete the walk. But his Italian friends warned him not to walk in Italy's city streets because of their narrowness. Thus, he decided to take the Via Francigena, a former pilgrimage trail route that runs from Canterbury England, to Apulia, Italy, a region on the country's southeast coast.

"You had it going from north to south finishing exactly where I wanted to, so I said, 'Okay, perfect. I'll take that route,'" Jacques said. "Then when I started calculating all the mileage, instead of 30 days, that's where the 47 days came about. I was like, 'Oh boy, it gets a lot longer.' But then I had already announced that I was doing it [the walk], so I couldn't really go back on that one."

He nearly elected to terminate the journey following day No. 6 after suffering tendonitis in one of his ankles. A combination of rain and the hilly terrain left him swollen and in pain. Rather than back out, though, he treated the tendonitis as best he could, dulling the pain with a steady intake of ibuprofen. As he traveled farther south, the trail became easier and the weather nicer, and his body adapted to the repetition of getting up and walking each day.

His daily routine during the journey reflected his philosophy on life: put one foot in front of the other and live each day for itself.

"Whatever I'm going through, if it's hard times, I just want to accomplish something," Jacques said. "I'm like, 'OK, let's do it. Let's just do it today. Just do it today, and we'll think about tomorrow, tomorrow.' And that's how I do those walks."

"A lot of people feel like I have a secret behind these walks, but it's as simple as trying to have a very short memory and not thinking about tomorrow," Jacques said. "It's pretty impressive what we're able to overcome or accomplish when we look at life that way."

Jacques said he drew inspiration from the messages he received on Instagram during his walk across the United States and recently through Italy. He said people left him messages about being depressed or being suicidal or dealing with serious health issues, and his journey motivated them to keep moving forward.

Therein lay the primary purpose of Jacques's walks. Media accounts often focused on the miles walked, the days on the trails, or the money raised for CHU Sainte-Justine Foundation. But Jacques wanted to influence, embolden, and inspire.

"To me, I find it a humbling thing," he said. "I consider myself the most average, normal human being ever, and to be able to receive messages where you don't necessarily feel like you're saving their lives, but you do find that you're able to help another human being, to me, that's the most beautiful thing or gift that we can do as humans."

"To me, the walk is as if we're all holding hands together and moving forward together," Jacques said.

Jacques returned to Canada following the conclusion of his Italy adventure. Despite the pain, he said he wouldn't rule out another challenge and mentioned perhaps walking across Chile's Atacama Desert, one of the driest places in the world. He said he would need to put together a team to accomplish this, given the conditions and the remoteness.

"We'll see," Jacques said. "If not, I'm happy. I could just finish my adventures now. I don't consider myself an adventurer. It's just something that I feel deep in my heart that I want to do to help people."

"But to me, we're able to do that every single day also with the way you treat people or listen to someone. So, whether I keep pursuing these walks or not, I'm still going to try to help people."

-Jimmy Robertson, VT Athletics



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