TAKE ON TUITION
Virginia Sen. Bill DeSteph
State senator proposes changes to cost of public universities in letter to the editor

OPINION
10

CHECK OUT THE PURPLE & GOLD SOCIETY MAGAZINE INSIDE!

SPORTS
24

SOFTBALL STRONG
Blake Pace
8-year-old cancer patient signs with JMU softball team

CULTURE
20

Shared art journals from across the world on display at Roop Hall

Abby Church

COLLECTIVE CREATIVITY

Vol. 96, No. 18
Thursday, January 25, 2018
breezejmu.org
Live life at Fox

Spacious 4-Bedroom Furnished Townhomes with Two Full Baths • Pet Friendly Washer/Dryer • Some Units with Unfinished Basements Gym Membership Included • Electric w/Cap, Water, Cable & Internet Included

(540) 432-5525
foxhill@umicommunities.com
1627 DEVON LANE | HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY UMI COMMUNITIES

Go Dukes!

breezejmu.org
Upcoming Events

Friday
- Call To Artists - Regional Juried Show at Larkin Arts 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- JMU women’s basketball vs. Hofstra at Convocation Center, 7 p.m.

Saturday
- Dip Off! Recipe Contest at Friendly City Food Co-op, 2 - 4 p.m.
- Ice Bowl Disc Golf Fundraiser at Westover Park 9 a.m.

Sunday
- JMU women’s basketball vs. College of Charleston at Convocation Center, 2 p.m.
- Hands-on Education: Explore More Discovery Museum caters to kids with interactive exhibits at Convocation Center, 7 p.m.
- Dip Off! Recipe Contest at Friendly City Food Co-op, 2 - 4 p.m.
- Ice Bowl Disc Golf Fundraiser at Westover Park 9 a.m.

NEWS

EXPLORING MORE DISCOVERY
Explore More Discovery Museum caters to kids with interactive exhibits

APOLCALYPSE ANGST
Columnist analyzes public’s reaction to Netflix’s new series ‘End of the F---ing World’

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
MATT WEYRICH
breezeeditor@gmail.com

MANAGING EDITOR - ONLINE
BENNETT COXEN
thefoonee@gmail.com

MANAGING EDITOR - PRINT
CARRIE DOMENIC
thefoonee@gmail.com

ART DIRECTOR
ALEX THOMPSON
breezeartdirector@gmail.com

PHOTO DIRECTORS
JAMES ALLEN & ALEXIS MILLER
breezephotography@gmail.com

VIDEO EDITORS
MATT CALLAHAN & HYUNJI PARK
breezephotography@gmail.com

COPY EDITORS
VIOLETTE KELLEHER, CARRIE DOMENIC & SABRINA MORENO
breezecopy@gmail.com

NEWS EDITORS
EMMA KOZIOLEK & MADISON HAYNES
breezeneews@gmail.com

CULTURE EDITORS
NATALIE LAVEXY & JOANNA MCNEILY
thebreezeculture@gmail.com

OPY EDITORS
SHANNA KELLY
breezeopinion@gmail.com

SPORTS EDITORS
KEVIN HASWELL
breezesports@gmail.com

Hand in hand with Student Affairs

FUND ONE

Finance & Funding Solutions for YOUR Student Organization

Your student organization could receive a $1,000 endow-MINT! Visit cofcu.org/fundone to learn more.
One house, 133 years

Local organization works to preserve centuries-old home rooted in Harrisonburg

By MADISSON HAYNES

The Breeze

The year was 1885 and Ambrose and Reuben Dallard were beginning their new journey as freed slaves. Searching to reclaim their lives, they settled in Northeast Harrisonburg, formerly known to many as the thriving and vibrant area of Newtown.

The couple, once bound and enslaved, vowed to create a life for their daughters that they never had. The Dallard-Newman house was a result of that, built for their daughter, Lucy Dallard, and her husband, Charles Cochran.

The history of the house’s occupants runs deep through Harrisonburg’s roots. Once Lucy and Cochran moved out of the area, Mary Dallard, Lucy’s sister, and George Newman, Mary’s husband, moved in. Newman originally moved to the area to serve as the principal of the primarily African-American schools, a role he fulfilled for 25 years. All the while, the Dallard-Newman house remained standing.

Each generation marked different turning points in Virginia, when times of struggle turned to new prosperity. During the 1950s and ’60s, urban development became increasingly popular in Harrisonburg, but somehow, the Dallard-Newman house escaped demolition.

“It wasn’t deemed a home that would be a blight on the community at that time, and I think because of that — because of the occupants of the home throughout the previous decades prior to urban renewal had kept the home looking hospitable — that it escaped what was nothing less than a systematic destruction of primarily a vibrant and thriving black community,” Steven Thomas, organizer for the Northeast Neighborhood Association, said.

Since then, the house has served the community as a reminder of the Dallards’ journey. NENA is working toward turning the home into a museum, library and office containing countless pieces of history revolving around the area of Newtown.

Karen Thomas, Steven’s mother as well as the founder and president of NENA, believes that talking about what was once in the area is an important aspect of moving forward.

“I’ve worked on this project for about a year now, trying to get it out and getting more people in the community involved,” Karen said. “So it’s very important to me that we will have a place where we can share our history and tell our history and preserve it, because if we don’t, we will lose Newtown.”

Both Karen and Steven are passionate about the work they’re doing with NENA. Through community outreach and weekly meetings, NENA hopes to raise enough funds to start the renovation process.

Karen believes the Dallard-Newman home is a strong historical landmark, as evidenced by its now-official landmark registration.

The Dallard-Newman house is one of the last standing structures from the 1800s. The home survived urban renewal projects throughout the years and is now a landmark for many in the Northeast Harrisonburg area.
“NENA was recently able to get it on the Virginia landmarks registry, and also the national registry of historic places,” Karen said. “So we’re really excited about that…We figured that this would be the best place for it. It’s a historic home, it’s been in the community since [1885], so what better place to preserve our history to be in this home?”

The process of making the home into a museum is slow one, but the Harrisonburg government has shown its support through the process. “I was born and raised in this community,” Harrisonburg Mayor Deanna Reed said. “It’s very important to me on different layers. One being that I’m a native, this is my hometown, this is my community. It’s going to tell those families’ stories, my family’s stories, in this museum. And also as a city councilwoman, I am very supportive in making sure that this museum gets up and running not only for the citizens of Harrisonburg, but also for the students, our children, to hear those stories that need to be told by this community.”

NENA is constantly looking for volunteers, donations and support in order to get the project up and running. “We need a lot of help,” Karen said. “We need donations, we need any kind of services. A lot of community members have come out and have started renovating things… it’s a lot of work to be done. To Reed, it isn’t just the local area that would benefit from this museum. “It’s not only going to be special to the community, but it’s also going to be special to the city,” Reed said. “For those people who just moved here to Harrisonburg, they’re going to know the rich history that’s in this community.”

The Dallard-Newman home marks decades of rich history both in Harrisonburg and in surrounding areas. The people who make up NENA wholeheartedly believe in bringing history to the forefront of the community. “It can’t be overstated how important this home is to this community and to the African-American history of this community,” Steven said. “We’re talking about a structure that was built by people who were formerly held in bondage. I personally believe that there’s really no monetary value that you can put on this home. I think it’s essentially and fundamentally priceless given the very hands that constructed it.”

**CONTACT**
Madisson Haynes at breezenews@gmail.com. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.

Members of the local community as well as the Northeast Neighborhood Association are working toward the common goal of preserving this historic home.
If we want children to come and be engaged and want to be here, they have to see something that's fun.

Lisa Shull  
Executive director, Explore More Discovery Museum

From a giant set of teeth and accompanying toothbrush to the fuselage of a Beechcraft King Air 90, each step through the Explore More Discovery Museum leads to something new. Disguised as a child's playground, the museum serves as a place for kids to learn outside the classroom.

From 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, the museum is filled with kids engaging with the various exhibits. The museum has grown into a two-floor experience that hosts 65,000 visitors each year. What started as a grassroots organization without a permanent location is now a mainstay of downtown Harrisonburg.

“About 15 years ago, when we started, the downtown was really not developed,” Lisa Shull, executive director, said. “As a group, our organization said, ‘We want to be that catalyst.’”

Focused on what Shull calls “experiential learning,” the museum draws children in with eye-popping exhibits and then slips in opportunities for learning throughout the experience. Whether it be through written information posted on the attractions, features incorporated directly into the experience or hands-on learning, Shull always tries to translate fun into education.

“The kids really bring the imagination to the table,” Shull said. “So if you have a huge airplane in there, that’s going to be the attraction — run to the airplane. But when they’re in the airplane, that’s when the literacy’s taking place, the language. They’re talking about where they’re going to fly, they’re collaborating with another person … As we develop that exhibit, we’re going to be looking at things like the physics of flying and laying in those types of concepts.”

While the kids might find themselves reading about dental health, Shull says it’s not because they’re told to. The museum tries to get them interested for themselves.

“When you go to the dental exhibit, for instance, the kids are really loving to be that dentist,” Shull said. “But if you walk around the perimeter, you’ll see a lot of interesting information, facts about dental health.”

Right next to the dental exhibit, there’s a large operation board for kids to perform their own version of surgery; there’s even a life-sized ambulance sticking through the wall with an official Office of Emergency Medical Services Vehicle Permit.

“It’s important for the displays to be able to grab attention,” Shull said. “If we want children to come and be engaged and want to be here, they have to see something that’s fun.”

The museum also offers scheduled programs and classes for families looking for more organized learning. However, the primary focus is to allow kids to come and engage freely with the exhibits to learn without a rigid structure.

“In a way, they often don’t have any idea they’re learning while they’re here,” Shull said. There are features designed to accommodate children of a wide age range. Toddlers to early teens can discover new interests and simply play with things they don’t have at home.

“There’s so many things for them to do and they can play independently,” Marcy Weaver, member of the museum and parent of three girls aged 1, 3 and 6 years old, said. “They have a lot of imaginative play, so even with the same toys, they can do different things each time.”

There’s a farm area featuring a life-size cow that kids can milk. A near-exact replica of the local WHSV television station gives children a chance to live out their big-screen dreams. Vocational exhibits are interlaced throughout, one of which is a mechanic station that features a realistic car for kids to work on.
For attendees nearing or beginning their teenage years, there’s a separate area that provides them with more advanced tools and toys. “Maker City” gives children 8 years and older a chance to create things using sewing machines, a 3-D printer and many other devices — provided they sign a waiver and are under adult supervision.

“It feels fun and rewarding to go through the process of making something and get your final result,” Anish Aradhya, a 12-year-old visiting the museum, said. “But also a lot of the time, you’re learning how to work with the material or do something.”

The same principles still apply to Maker City. The gadgets and tools attract them, but once the kids engage, the learning begins. The Explore More Discovery Museum is just that — a place for exploration and discovery.

“I believe that children learn through hands-on [experiences],” Shull said. “I could say go read a book about golf, but until you go and you actually pick up the clubs and you feel the ball and you do it, it’s not going to be as positive a learning experience.”

**CONTACT** Thomas Robertson at rober3tl@dukes.jmu.edu. For more coverage of JMU and Harrisonburg news, follow the news desk on Twitter @BreezeNewsJMU.
Proposed bill places animal abusers on official registry

By TRAVIS VALLE
contributing writer

The state motto “Virginia is for Lovers,” doesn’t just apply to people. At the 2018 session of the Virginia General Assembly, Senate Bill 32 was proposed to protect local animals from those who’d harm them. The bill, proposed by Republican Sen. Bill Stanley, would require anyone convicted of felony animal cruelty to be added to a public state registry.

“The senator is very concerned regarding the safety and abuse of animals,” Phil Rapp, a legislative staffer for Stanley, said. “He is an advocate of the animals and feels that, you know, that we have that responsibility to take care of [them].”

The bill targets individuals who are found guilty of the state’s current animal abuse laws, which outline the terms of animal cruelty, animal fighting, willful injury to animals and injury toward police animals. Currently, first-offense convictions are considered Class 1 misdemeanors that often result in some form of anger management or psychological counseling, as well as a fine. Subsequent convictions elevate the crimes to Class 6 felonies, which could result in a maximum imprisonment of five years and a fine of $2,500. Willful injury to a police animal, however, is automatically treated as a Class 5 felony, resulting in a maximum imprisonment of 10 years and the same monetary fines.

The Rockingham-Harrisonburg SPCA has responded positively to the proposed bill and believes it’ll help with their efforts of finding safe homes for pets.

“It would be a good resource,” Anne Anderson, executive director of the RHSPCA, said. “The way the code now is written, people have to testify by signing a statement saying that they’ve never been convicted of animal cruelty, neglect or abandonment, but shelters and rescue organizations have no way of verifying that information.”

The bill requires the Department of State Police to establish a registry by 2021. People found guilty of felony animal abuse after the July 1, 2018 start date will be included on the registry. They’ll also be required to pay a $50 fee upon conviction for the registry’s maintenance. If they’re not found guilty of any additional animal cruelty-related felonies after 15 years, their names will be removed.

The Rockingham-Harrisonburg SPCA believes the proposed bill, allowing the creation of a registry, will make the process of pet adoption easier. The registry could also make the vetting of adoptees more efficient.
If passed, Virginia would be the second state in the U.S. to adopt a statewide animal abuse registry, following Tennessee’s example, which began Jan. 1, 2016. Stanley proposed a similar bill on Jan. 24, 2018 in Virginia, but it wasn’t passed due to budgetary reasons. The $50 maintenance fee outlined in the current bill, which was absent from the previous iteration, is designed to help curb that problem.

Outside budgetary concerns, there appears to be little opposition to the bill. However, Anderson expresses concern that it may not be strict enough.

“[Names] would be deleted in 15 years if the individual hasn’t been convicted of anything else, and that causes concern,” Anderson said. “Personally, I think when you’ve abused an animal or neglected one, it should be for a lifetime.”

Wayne Pacelle, CEO of the Humane Society of the United States, had a different opinion about such legislation. In 2010, following the creation of a county-wide animal abuse registry in Suffolk County, New York, Pacelle wrote about his reservations on having such a registry open to the public on the organization’s website.

“Shaming them with a public internet profile is unlikely to affect their future behavior — except perhaps to isolate them further from society and promote increased distrust of authority figures trying to help them,” Pacelle said on the Humane Society website.

Pacelle hasn’t responded to multiple attempts to contact him.

This wouldn’t be the first instance in which criminals are denied certain rights — such as the right to privacy — upon conviction of felony crimes even after serving time in prison. Public registries have been established before to protect the public from offenders of specific crimes, such as sex offenders. Felons also aren’t permitted to vote or purchase firearms after they’ve been released from confinement.

In contrast to Pacelle, Rapp believes having a public registry is a fair and necessary penalty for being convicted of such crimes.

“If you do the crime, with it comes consequences,” Rapp said. “If you’re in that bucket and you’ve been tried and convicted, then, you know, that’s part of what happens.”

Anderson agrees that it’s in the public’s best interest to be able to identify individuals convicted of animal cruelty so that people can screen who they allow to interact with their pets.

“I think having it open to the public is a good idea because the pet shops could use it, animal welfare organizations, individual breeders, even your ‘whoops’ breeders or your backyard breeders — it would be a useful tool,” Anderson said.

Maeve Reynolds, a sophomore justice studies major at JMU, has seen the effects abuse has on animals after she and her family adopted three dogs from rescue shelters. She believes the potential benefits the registry can provide to the animals are paramount.

“I feel like there’s going to be a lot less animals that have to either be in the shelter or put down or taken away if they’re able to determine who they’re giving an animal to,” Reynolds said. “You have more of an idea what you do and do not want to get into with a certain situation.”

The bill is currently being reviewed in the Finance Committee, where the previous iteration was halted. From there, it’ll be decided whether or not it moves forward to be introduced to the floor of the House.

**Arrest Reports**

46 arrests including:

- 7 assault and battery
- 6 public swearing and intoxication
- 2 larceny or theft
- 1 probation violation
- 1 destruction of property

Data from Jan. 15-21
SEN. BILL DESTEPH  letter to the editor

Last year, almost two dozen colleagues from both sides of the aisle and both Houses of the General Assembly came together to support the idea that a degree from one of Virginia's public colleges or universities shouldn't come with a virtual lifetime of student debt.

We also called for more accountability and openness with respect to tuition decisions, and said it wouldn’t be out of order to listen to what Virginia's students and their parents thought about the spiraling cost of a degree.

It didn’t take long for our state-funded colleges and their lobbyists to rush to Richmond to paint yet another rosy picture, offer promises to contain costs and do better and suggest yet another study.

A year later, the paint has peeled, promises have been broken and another study is collecting legislative dust.

Along the way, Virginia families and bright kids who want and deserve an affordable education are being priced out of the academic marketplace we fund with our tax dollars. Multiple studies conclude the high-tuition, high-aid model of the academic marketplace we fund with our tax dollars actually hurts low-income students.

Now, a “business group,” which serves as a front for the same public colleges and universities, is headed back to Richmond to lobby the General Assembly to loosen the reins and reject requirements for financial accountability. Yes, really.

Administrators and boards of visitors have become dangerously focused on expanding the budgets of the universities they run, often at the expense of the students they are meant to serve. Examples abound, but here are two.

Last month, the University of Virginia's Board of Visitors voted unanimously to raise tuition for nursing students by almost 18 percent. That decision comes precisely at a time when there will soon be a shortage of nursing professionals as demands on the healthcare industry increase. And given the resources at that university’s disposal, that makes absolutely no sense.

Over 15 years, tuition and fees at the College of William & Mary have increased 344 percent, while the consumer price index went up only 35 percent. There's something predatory about the costs of a degree rising at such an astronomical rate.

It's been said that our colleges and universities are among Virginia’s greatest resources, and we would never dispute the need to invest in their futures. At the same time, we have a greater obligation to ensure that Virginia's children can actually afford to use them as pathways to brighter futures. This year, we're not alone.

During the recent gubernatorial election, both candidates made clear their concerns about the escalating cost of a college degree, and our next governor has already committed to holding tuition steady for Virginia's full-time, in-state students who attend a four-year school.

That's an important first step — if he follows through. But we need to do more for the 252,000 students who attend Virginia's community colleges. There are people of all ages and all walks of life who are just as motivated as their four-year brethren.

Community college tuition can be just as daunting a challenge that stands between a two-year degree or a certificate attesting to training and a skill. Depending on the school, tuition has increased from 246 to 349 percent over the last 15 years.

And as we seek to re-energize our economy and create broadly-based opportunities and jobs, community college and four-year degrees should be financial realities for all Virginians. That's why I introduced three senate bills (SB 565, SB 377, and national average wage index SB 577) to address tuition affordability. The bills essentially prohibit any percentage increase in in-state tuition that exceeds the annual percentage increase of the Average Consumer Price Index (SB 373), median household income in the Commonwealth (SB 377), and national average wage index (SB 577).

We need you, the students of Virginia's public colleges and universities, to speak out and get loud. Please call your state senators and delegates to express your desire for tuition reform. As we've seen over the past year, when citizens organize and mobilize, they can be powerful drivers of change.

It's simply wrong for Virginia's students and their families to continue bearing the burden of unconscionable tuition increases — at precisely a time when college affordability should be a basic economic imperative. The General Assembly has a clear and obvious responsibility to meet these concerns.

This year, we can do better. And must.

Sen. Bill DeSteph is a state senator representing the 8th District in Virginia’s General Assembly. You can email him at contactbill@billydesteph.com. Discover your state senator and delegate at whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SEN. BILL DESTEPH

OPINION
EDITOR Shanna Kelly
EMAIL breezeopinion@gmail.com

Letter to the Editor Virginia needs tuition reform now

“As we seek to re-energize our economy and create broadly-based opportunities and jobs, community college and four-year degrees should be financial realities for all Virginians.”

Sen. Bill DeSteph
End of the world, beginning of an era

BECCA ROITHMAYR | friend to friend

If the realization hasn’t sunk in yet, “The End of the F---ing World” reminds us that we all have some unresolved teen angst. Adapted from a book by Charles Forsman, this Netflix original series has been made to fit screens used for our binge-watching pleasure. Ever since viewing has been available, there’s been controversy over whether the show is appropriate to watch — shocker. In an age when accessible technology allows exposure of the unknown, it’s a shame viewers continue to only seek comfort.

The scandal revolves around two 17-year-olds who stumble upon little tokens of wisdom while rebelling against their suburban roots. Initially forming a friendship with less than holy intentions, James and Alyssa find an unfamiliar easiness with each other. Not bad right? Well, here’s the kicker: James is going on this adventure in hopes of murdering Alyssa. Because of this, the most controversial part of the show stems from the inner workings of James’ mind. He seeks to go beyond the harming of innocent, small animals and take the life of someone his own size. Spoiler alert: he changes his mind. The shift in perspective is arguably the most significantly underlooked part by those critiquing the series.

Furthermore, the lack of sympathy for James is a shocking reflection of the misjudgment our society pins on others. Instead of focusing entirely on why a person’s actions should be disciplined and ridiculed, look for the reason why they happened in the first place. A majority of the time, the people who seem most intimidating and harmful to us are the ones who’ve been through devastating trauma. Instead of offering support and guidance, we reject these people and cause further isolation.

After witnessing his mom commit suicide at a young age, James finds himself fascinated by death. It’s no wonder a young child who’s witnessed the unspeakable becomes frustrated and confused. If his mom purposely died, why should other things live? Is the key to reaching fulfillment letting go of your natural living life? These types of questions are ambitiously difficult to answer, let alone for a child. How does one understand the psychological impact of seeing a parent commit suicide without experiencing it? Criticizing James for growing up confused and frustrated is an example of our inability to accept the raw and messy aspects of life.

In our defense, we’re constantly given the photoshopped version of reality and have become shocked by others who reveal vulnerabilities because of it. “The End of the F---ing World” is supposed to make viewers uncomfortable. James’ character isn’t meant to be the role model of our nation’s youth, but rather an unmasking of the less explored side of human nature. Ultimately, the lack of understanding of why they’re stuck experiencing a life of hellish events leads James and Alyssa on this adventure. They’re purposely running into the unknown in hopes it’ll be even a small step above their current reality. The mutual need to escape warrants a naïve nature of unearned trust, and both of them dive recklessly into a pool of snap decisions.

As the episodes progress, James and Alyssa become increasingly impulsive in hopes of feeling something. By using each other’s company to fulfill their own selfish needs, the two begin to innocently appreciate their idiosyncratic friendship. Working through a messy entanglement of the consequences that follow their actions, James and Alyssa begin to unconsciously depend on each other. It isn’t until they become frustrated enough to spend time apart that they realize how much they value being together.

Overall, some viewers may find this show outrageously inappropriate and question the influence it has on young and seemingly impressionable teens. Although this concern is valid, it overlooks the main purpose of the series, James and Alyssa are the type of characters one relates to in a nearly uncomfortable way. Understanding how their erratic and illogical behavior is ultimately a response to the less-than-fortunate series of events known as their lives is the first step to creating empathy.
Religious mission misdirected

RISHMITA AICH pride and prejudice

“Can I ask you something really quick?” is a question to which most of us, out of politeness, would say “Yes.” And so did I when a student stopped me as I was making my way through campus.

But as she began inquiring about some stuff such as my “ultimate goal in life,” I smelled it as one would smell a thunderstorm coming. Within minutes, she was quoting a passage from the Bible, which followed a long description of her beliefs in “helping me through the Lord.”

I twisted and turned and even tried to squeeze in the fact that I grew up as a Hindu in between the times she halted to take a breather. But nothing worked.

Finally, the one-sided conversation ended with a rather sly transaction in which I was excused to go, but in exchange for my contact information for more on her beliefs. Not only did I feel offended, but I felt vulnerable and victimized due to her obvious neglect toward my religion.

In 1990, when a high school senior sued the school district for refusing to officially recognize his school’s Bible Club, for the first time in American history, the Supreme Court loosened the strings on religious freedom. Now, under the Equal Access Act, religious organizations are officially recognized and allowed to meet, reach out and advertise their clubs on public school premises.

More importantly, it’s allowed both secular and religious views to thrive and propagate in educational institutes, and this is where I felt deeply undermined in my encounter with this religious student.

As soon as she became oblivious to my existence, I was the superior, where she was the inferior. The grand chasm between us, where she was the superior, I was the inferior. A divide was erected in which the listener ends up feeling overwhelmed and forced to accept such views. This includes bombarding somebody through more personalized forms of communication like texts, phone calls or stopping people on-the-go, solely for the purpose of dispersing a religious message. But it crosses the line to coercion as soon as students already voice their disinterest, but are still persuaded to follow the religion.

Moreover, when talking about religion to friends or peers, one should never start out by assuming they don’t already possess a set of beliefs. A preconceived notion like this could lead to targeting specific communities like international students to spread “the message” of one’s faith, not to inform, but rather to manipulate. I see a religious message as information that should be equally dispensed to all, but not focused on certain groups. It’s possible to approach people with the intention of educating them about one’s religion by civilly proposing their ideas, considering the views of others and having a discussion rather than teachings.

In a cultural melting pot like the United States, it’s futile to put up a guard against beliefs, traditions and cultures, but it’s also important to protect ourselves from manipulation. In this melange of a multi-faith environment, there’s a lot to embrace and learn, and it should never occur at the cost of one’s own beliefs and more importantly, freedom. Otherwise, it’s just bad theology.

Rishmita Aich is a senior media arts and design major. Contact Rishmita at aichrx@dukes.jmu.edu.

END | People react to original series

The series gives viewers insight into how a complicated upbringing can result in an unorthodox view of life.

from 11

Once viewers push down their own protective gear and address the murky parts of human emotion, Alyssa and James don’t seem as delusional as the Netflix description leads one to believe.

Before exiting out of the show and returning to the safe arms of a familiar comedy, push yourself to understand the characters’ decisions. Start by welcoming the acceptance of an alternative mindset. Melt into the emotions of two people who’ve been put through hell and are still fighting to understand the point of suffering.

Netflix has started a fascinatingly beautiful trend of using shows to depict the marginalized and misrepresented demographics of human existence. By openly revealing the dark paths some people are led down, there’s room to be inspired by a person’s ability to overcome barriers. By the end of season one, James prioritizes Alyssa’s safety over his own and realizes he’s overdue for some psychological guidance rather than murder. Perhaps the most common mistake people have when feeling frustrated with this show is that they stop watching once they’re uncomfortable rather than wait to see how it gets better.

Becca Roithmayr is a senior communication studies major. Contact Becca at roithmrk@dukes.jmu.edu.

DARTS & PATS

An “are-you-kidding” dart to myself for picking a major that makes me take 22 credits. Yeah, you read that right. 22. From a freshman who really loves music but hates all the work it takes.

A “thank-you-so-much” dart to UREC for making part-time students with under seven credits pay for a membership.

A “thanks-for-nothing” dart to PC Dukes for putting jalapenos on my quesadilla when I asked for a few.

A “thanks-so-much-JMU” dart to the fire marshall team for putting our campus beautiful.

A “that-just-made-my-day” pat to my screensaver for making me happy every time I look at my computer.

A “this-is-amazing” dart to the weather for being so nice this week.

A “this-is-amazing” dart to the weather for being so nice this week.

From a student who’s scared for it to get cold out again.

From a student who loves her adorable puppy.
School of PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

SPIA SPRING 2018 SYMPOSIUM

presents

FREEDOM OF SPEECH
ON THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS:
Implications for Students and Faculty

Jon Alger, President, James Madison University
Tammy Castle, Associate Professor of Justice Studies
Brad Jenkins, General Manager of The Breeze
Bob Roberts, Professor of Political Science
Roger Soenksen, Professor, School of Media Arts and Design

Wednesday, January 31, 2018
Madison Union 404, 4:00PM

for more information please contact Melinda Adams
adams2mj@jmu.edu
Accusations against Ansari call for women to use their voices...

HANNAH ROBINSON | medicine for the soul

The words “sexual misconduct" were smeared across the face of actor and comedian Aziz Ansari on Jan. 14 after an anonymous young woman spoke out about a date gone wrong with him last year. The website Babe — a spin-off of The Tab — published the 23-year-old photographer’s story last Sunday under the pseudonym “Grace.” In the account, she describes an evening spent with the star back in September, which she claims ended in him repeatedly pressuring her to have sex.

In the interview, “Grace” appears to regret engaging in consensual sexual acts with Ansari, stating she felt forced to do so — a fact she failed to tell Ansari until the next morning. The young woman’s story was met with a wide range of reactions; many stood in solidarity with her story, labeling her a victim of sexual assault, while others criticized Babe’s authenticity and the story in general, arguing there’s a difference between sexual assault and the mere fact that “boys will be boys.”

Although this story is extremely complex, the theme is made abundantly clear — in all sexual encounters, communication is key. With the #MeToo movement in full effect, victims everywhere are finding a space to speak out against their offenders, building a community of survivors who refuse to remain silenced by fear. Victims of sexual assault are courageously collecting the fragments of their painful experiences and transforming the pieces into empowerment and strength. This act of fearlessness deserves nothing less than reverence and support. However, with the momentum of the movement at its peak, it’s time we engage in a hard conversation. Many supporters believe this case to be a major setback for the #MeToo movement, claiming that what “Grace” experienced was closer to a bad date than assault. Feminists everywhere are finding themselves pitted against each other on either side of the argument — leaving the unity that supported the movement to crumble.

Before delving into the highly nuanced nature of Ansari’s situation, I’d first like to preface what comes next by stating I wholeheartedly believe sexual assault and rape are never the victim’s fault. In any situation, spoken consent must always be provided before proceeding with any sexual act, and failure to do so must come with consequences.

In “Grace’s” account of her date, she recalls that she felt comfortable spending time alone with him and even describes enjoying herself. The date went south, “Grace” reported, when Ansari began to make verbal sexual advances toward her. She recalls turning the actor’s advances down numerous times, and he eventually stopped.

In her interview with Babe, “Grace” stated she felt extremely uncomfortable, but failed to share this with the actor. From the account, it seems as though Ansari failed to pick up on her non-verbal communication, but did take “no” as an answer when she spoke up.Screenshots were later released showing Ansari checking up on “Grace” the next morning, when she confided that she felt violated from the previous night. Ansari followed her text with an apology, stating that he understood their encounter to have been consensual and meant no harm.

According to her story, no matter how uncomfortable she felt by Ansari’s advances, she didn’t leave his apartment when he performed oral sex on her. She also didn’t resist when asked to perform oral sex on him — twice. After reading the details, it seems as though on her date with Ansari, “Grace” was
... and stop tolerating this behavior

relying heavily on two hopes: one, that Ansari could sense her discomfort without it being verbally stated, and two, that he’d be able to decode her body language.

Unless I’m mistaken, there are no known mind readers to date and even the best communicators have trouble decoding nonverbal cues. Because of her inability to speak up and stand for what she wanted, the line between assault and a bad date became extremely fuzzy. Those siding with “Grace” are calling attention to the fact that many women feel incapable of voicing their concerns to men in sexual encounters due to the shame they often receive after the fact. This aspect complicates the situation tremendously when the issue of whether consent must be verbally given is discussed.

No matter the confusion, it’s important to note that “Grace” isn’t to blame in this encounter. Her inability to speak up and fear of refusing to engage in any form of sexual acts with Ansari comes from an age-old gender structure. This broken societal system raises young boys to assume a sort of “right” over a woman’s sexuality, while teaching young girls and women that they have no sexual autonomy of their own — stealing away their authority and voice.

Stories like this unveil the problem clearly. With the rise of movements like #MeToo and #TimesUp, we need to be especially careful to distinguish the boundaries between sexual misconduct that’s criminal and that which is just inappropriate. A woman being raped is a criminal act. Ansari making continuous sexual advances uncovers just how urgently men must be educated on this issue. Men must realize what things make women uncomfortable in regards to sex and what lines they shouldn’t cross, a realization that can only come from open and honest communication between the two individuals involved.

Gender communication in sexual environments and issues of sexual assault are equally as important to the #MeToo movement, as the first affects the second. As a society, we must work to clarify the difference — where one is about education, the other is about civil rights. As long as we fail to raise young boys with respect and knowledge of a woman’s right to say “no,” sexual harassment and rape will continue to be an issue. Just as teaching young boys and men the importance of consent and their role in the perpetuation of rape culture is imperative, so is teaching young girls and women that they must speak up in situations that make them uncomfortable. This won’t be easy. Women have been entrenched in a system that’s silenced our voices for generations, making it almost impossible to find our footing in a sexual terrain ruled by men. However, movements like #MeToo are making it easier to stand up and be heard. If we, as a society, begin to destroy careers based on believed consensual sexual acts, where will we draw the line? As humans, all we have are our voices to communicate what we want and don’t want, and if we refuse to use our voices to vocalize our concerns, we can never expect someone else to understand what’s happening in our minds.

Boys will be boys as long as we continue to aid appalling behavior — reducing violating acts to a cliché remark flippantly made at playgrounds and court rooms. Boys will be boys as long as we continue turning our cheeks to microaggressions and sexist remarks, instead of refusing to tolerate inappropriate behavior so deeply entrenched in our psyche that it feels normal. In order for encounters like the one that happened to “Grace” to be prevented, we must teach boys what’s right, just as we must teach young girls to speak up when something feels wrong.

Hannah Robinson is a senior communication studies major. Contact Hannah at robinshl@dukes.jmu.edu.

*COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Large 2 Bedroom Units

*10 Minute Walk on South Main Street

*Fully Furnished

*Pet Friendly

540-435-1752

540-487-4057

WALK TO CAMPUS
Many people walk away from a yoga class with feelings of serenity, relaxation and happiness. On Saturday, the Rockingham-Harrisonburg Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is adding its own furry, adoptable addition to the list of takeaways — cats.

After seeing other shelters nationally who were doing a similar kind of cat yoga event, Jo Benjamin, the adoption and rescue coordinator at the R-H SPCA, brought “Meowmaste Cat Yoga” from concept to reality. She approached Veronica Whalen Jones, a fitness and health educator at The Center, a yoga and pilates studio in downtown Harrisonburg, to see if she was willing to help out.

Jones completed her 200-hour teacher training back in 2010 at Charlottesville Yoga School. Since then, she’s taught over 1,000 hours of yoga and holds the designation of Experienced Registered Yoga Teacher through the Yoga Alliance, a non-profit membership trade and professional organization for yoga teachers. Although she has no experience teaching this type of yoga class, Jones is eager to participate.

“If I can use my ability to teach yoga in a way that helps other humans and animals, then I feel honored to do so,” Jones said.

The class is offered in two separate hour-long sessions. It’ll focus on alignment-based yoga and is open to all levels of ability. Depending on the amount of foot traffic at the start of class, cats will either be wandering around the room or brought in shortly after.

“Participants should expect to stretch, move and possibly have some laughs,” Jones said.

There’s no experience necessary, so beginners, pros and everyone in between are welcome.

“It’s basically meant to be fun,” Benjamin said. “We’re just going to have participants interact with the cats and feel free to do as much or as little yoga as they’re able to during the session.”

While fun and light-hearted in nature, this type of adoption event has a strong impact that goes beyond yoga.

“They’re good at bringing awareness to shelters because I’m sure a lot of people that go to the event might get hooked into adopting a cat or something like that — an animal that’s in need — so I think it’s important for the community,” Olivia Szendey, a senior psychology major, said.

By the end, anyone can walk away with a new furry feline addition to their family. When it comes to the age of the cats, there’s no discrimination. Whether participants are looking for a kitten or a senior cat — what the R-H SPCA classifies as seven years or older — they’ll find them roaming around the room and playing together.

“If folks are so moved and they bond with the cat, they can bring their cat home and choose to do their own ‘meowmaste’ yoga at home with the cat that they adopt,” Benjamin said. “At the moment we don’t have a type of special adoption price that goes with it, but what we’d like to do is kind of get this first event under our belts and see if it drives some traffic to the shelter.”

Since the entire process from application to adoption takes as little as 20 minutes, participants can realistically walk away with a cat that day. If interested, they’ll be asked to fill out a one-page application where they’ll answer a series of questions related to other pets in the home and their current living situation.
“The No. 1 reason we get animals into the shelter is because people are moving or they have issues with the landlord where they’re living,” Benjamin said.

“So we want to make sure that the animals get to be welcome in the home where they’re going to.”

If participants choose not to adopt, they’ll still leave with positive memories and a state of total relaxation.

“People should expect to have fun and come out relaxed and I think the combination of the animals and yoga will have the desired effect of doing both of those things; giving them a little bit of fun and helping them kind of go into the rest of their day a little bit more relaxed and happy,” Benjamin said.

Since there are many benefits to pet ownership, pairing animals with yoga makes sense.

“Having animals in general reduces anxiety, it increases endorphins and happy hormones that run through your body,” Benjamin said. “I’m sure there’s lots of more technical things that people could say about health benefits of animal ownership, but even just interacting with pets and petting an animal or just sitting quietly with them can have health benefits in terms of lowering blood pressure and just increasing happiness in general.”

Both sessions on Saturday booked up quickly, but there’s talk of hosting the event again in the future so all animal lovers can get in on the action.

“One of our rescue partners actually has rabbit yoga going on so maybe we can do it with different animals going forward, so if someone’s a particular cat lover, dog lover, has an allergy to one or the other,” Benjamin said. “We want to make sure everybody has a chance to come in and have some fun.”

**CONTACT** Ali Gips at gipsar@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.
**Tunes through time**

**JMU a cappella group The Overtones hosts reunion concert**

The a cappella group plans on performing familiar tunes accompanied by choreography. The Overtones alumni will sing alongside to celebrate the great amount of success they’ve had over the years.

By LEERYAH JACKSON
The Breeze

When listening to music, typically the first thing heard is the instrumentation. For JMU a cappella, voices become instruments and create a sound that brings people together and is unlike any other.

Celebrating its 20th year at JMU, the co-ed community hosts auditions to acquire new members who enhance its sound.

Since its debut in 1997, The Overtones have had over 100 vocalists throughout the years. They’ve also recorded multiple EPs and singles along with eight full albums.

“As a self-regulating group, we get to choose the music we want to perform and how we want to perform that, as opposed to a class for academics or a classical ensemble,” Bryant Leonard, president of The Overtones, said.

Besides being one of the two co-ed a cappella groups on campus, The Overtones have been recognized nationwide. In 2009, their song, “Ghost” was featured in the "Best of College A Cappella" album and in 2006, 2010 and 2014 their songs appeared on the “Voices Only” a cappella compilation album.
When preparing music for performances, The Overtones use its own resources. Current members or alumni arrange the songs, which creates a sound unique to the group and JMU.

“What is so incredible about this group of people is whether we’re on a stage, or in a rehearsal or just hanging out — we are a family,” Leonard said. “They have seen me at my best and my worst, and have affected my life in immeasurable ways. I’m so indebted and grateful for The Overtones and everything it has given me.”

This will be its first reunion concert since its 15th anniversary in 2012. Especially since not everyone can make it to homecoming, the anniversaries provide an opportunity for alumni to reconnect and meet with newer members.

“Being able to see what has happened since then is really exciting for me as an alum to see where the group is going,” Chris Little, an Overtones alumnus (’13), said. “Having an extra event that’s tailored specifically for this group and not for the school as a whole really allows for some interesting reconnections, interesting networking capabilities and interesting relationships that I think can carry on further down the road.”

For the concert, The Overtones will be performing the ballad, “Say Love” by JoJo, a song that’s been sung by generations past.

In contrast with years before, when a cappella was more of a standstill performance, The Overtones are excited to sing “Uptown Funk” by Mark Ronson and Bruno Mars.

“We have choreography and Justin Evans, the soloist, brings the song to an entirely different place than the original,” Leonard said. “To me, that song brought JMU a cappella to entirely new level.”

Each era of The Overtones alumni will also be performing two songs from their repertoire during the reunion concert. From old-school a cappella to hip-hop and pop, there’ll be something for everyone.

“A cappella has transformed a lot during the years,” Ellen Atwood, the music director of The Overtones, said. “It’s gonna be really fun to compare the groups and see how we’ve morphed into what we are today.”

CONTACT Leeyah Jackson at jacksold@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.
Diary of art
‘tet[R]ad: Draw & Play Here’ encourages artistic collaboration

It begins with a 4-by-6 notebook with empty pages. As the notebook travels around the world, collaborators add their own art, whether it be drawing, painting or writing. With each collaborator comes a new response to the artwork preceding it, creating an everlasting process of engagement and an artistic community.

These books are the basis of JMU alumnus David Modler (MFA ’09) and Samuel Peck’s immersive exhibit, “tet[R]ad: Draw & Play Here,” which will make an appearance at JMU from Jan. 29 to March 23 in Roop Hall.

The exhibit will be held through JMU’s Institute for Visual Studies. Run through the College of Visual and Performing Arts, Daniel Robinson, IVS’s visual director and a friend of Modler’s, explains that the program focuses on interdisciplinarity by offering courses, workshops and events like “tet[R]ad.” “We are all about bridging the gaps between disciplines across campus, that’s really our mandate,” Robinson said.

For the past 20 years, Modler has kept visual journals and met Peck when he came to one of Modler’s workshops. The pair hit it off and soon began a project in which they were trading journals with 20-25 people. When a member was done adding their artistic contribution to the journal, they’d mail it on to another person to add their response, whose address they were assigned.

After a while, the journals stopped coming, so Modler and Peck began trading books among themselves and a few others. From there, they got the idea to start a project where artists could join their collaboration and created “tet[R]ad.” Modler and Peck came up with a name for their project that was tongue-in-cheek to poke fun at the stuffiness often found in the art world. The word “tetrad’ means something that comes in fours, and the capital “R” stands for the four words that make up their name: Rhizome Research & Resource Rangers.

The concept of the rhizome is pertinent in the project, as collaborators branch out and make connections.

Since “tet[R]ad” began in 2012 and officially launched in 2013, it’s expanded to include presentations and workshops. Modler and Peck even received a sponsorship from Artist and Craftsman Supply, which donated 12 books to the project. Modler now trades visual journals with around 180 people.

“It just harkens back to the idea of the pen pal,” Modler said. “I think in our culture right now we’re all so tied up with social media ... It just seemed like a way to kind of re-engage and reconnect with something in a more traditional fashion.”
Since the project began, collaborators have grown to include Modler and Peck’s own students, including a colleague’s students from Australia and people in the South Pacific, Southeast Asia and Europe. What makes “tet[R]ad” unique is its emphasis on creating a community conversation between artists. Based off the idea of creating a forum, Modler explained that creating the community is just as important as the art itself. As these collaborators work in the sketchbooks, they create their own connections and expand “tet[R]ad” even further. “The project has got a very large scope,” Peck said. “It’s stepped outside of what’s happening here in the states and we have people who contribute to the project who have traveled all over the world and then built connections themselves … they’ve built their own web of interconnections and roots that allow them to have fellow artistic accomplices in other countries, other continents and allows them to build a dialogue that is larger than just what happens with Dave and I and how we understand the project.”

To Modler and Peck, art is about accessibility for everybody. Through their project, they preach the idea that anyone can get involved. “Our project is sort of like, ‘No, everybody can have access to this idea, this idea of expanding your realm of influence and getting ideas from other people, and having artistic dialogue,’” Modler said. “They don’t have to have read 15,000 pages of French philosophy to have this conversation, because everybody has their own experiences that they can talk about and everybody’s experience’s just as important as anybody else’s.” The exhibit at Roop Hall will include visual journals that have traveled around the world and Modler and Peck’s own artwork. The theme of collaboration continues into the gallery. Notebooks will be provided for visitors to add their art to. One of Modler and Peck’s biggest goals while curating the exhibit is to change the definition of what constitutes art.

“[Art] doesn’t just have to be something that’s put in a frame and hung on a wall,” Modler said. “We need to think about what it is we want our art to do and I see that what we’re trying to do with ‘tet[R]ad’ and I think we’re accomplishing is we’re bringing people together. We’re getting people to put their phone down, we’re getting people to come out of their studio and interact with others and not work so autonomously and on their own.”

With the exhibit coming to JMU, Modler says it’s bringing him back to his creative roots. “If I had not had those three years working on my MFA at JMU, I don’t know if I would’ve gotten to a place theoretically and critically thinking about my work to see something like this happen,” Modler said. “This is the place where I came and I really got started on something, and now that something has become something else and it’s coming back to its origin in a way to show everybody like, ‘Hey, look at this, this is something that got started because of my experience here, and now it’s all over the world.’”

CONTACT Abby Church at churchae@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.
The JMU Music Academy gives the community a chance to learn how to play the guitar and piano in group lessons provided during a 12-week course. The class will teach a variety of music genres.

By JAZMINE OTEY
The Breeze

A myriad of individuals go through life wishing they’d learned to play an instrument, especially since there’s an entirely different beauty found in creating music as opposed to listening to it.

Nevertheless, such a complex skill isn’t gained by dwelling on it. The School of Music is offering the community a break from their comfort zones to take on an interest in music through a program called the JMU Music Academy. For the next 12 weeks, JMU students, faculty and local adults can register for 12 one-hour sessions of either group guitar or piano lessons for $250. This fee covers the lesson itself, books and the instrument.

These classes are for beginners who want to take on a new skill as well as those who want to touch up on what they already know. The class takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays and the respective times can be found on the website.

Natalie Doughty, a JMU alumna ('17), was invited to take over the program soon after she graduated and is proud to lead the music academy during the 2017-18 school year.

“I was contacted by some JMU students who were interested in the class because they like the relaxed, no-pressure environment,” Doughty said. “I think for students, it’s a good outlet for when you’re stressed out in school just to have a place where you come and learn something for fun.”

She explains that the group music lessons could make the experience less nerve-wracking than one-on-one lessons would. They’ll have the opportunity to play in a pressure-free environment with other individuals who are beginners as well.

“I feel like people really feed off the energy of being around other people,” Doughty said. “I think that’s why a lot of people love playing these little instruments in a group or singing in a choir because they love that music brings people together.”

Candace Bush is the piano instructor for the JMU Music Academy. As a part-time JMU professor in keyboarding and private instructor within the Harrisonburg community, she’s enthusiastic about teaching piano at the academy.

“It’s just a great thing to help your memory skills and your coordination, all of that,” Bush said. “I mean, there’s benefits beyond just what we hear ... when we see somebody playing, we don’t realize all the benefits that come with it.”

She claims that while students will be given free range to play what they’re interested in, they’ll also be required to play from piano course books to gain a basic understanding of music. Regardless, Bush tries her best to make sure each lesson is doable for everyone.

“The course book that I use has theory in it as well, which I really encourage the theory to be read once a week because it helps students understand,” Bush said. “We do maybe a page or two a week, nothing too overwhelming, and then the rest of the time we’re playing.”
Daniel McCarthy, the guitar instructor for the JMU Music Academy, has taught JMU undergraduates how to play the guitar since the 2016 fall semester. He hopes to make the new learning experience as entertaining as possible.

“It’s really fun getting adults in there who maybe haven’t played guitar since they were a kid or haven’t played an instrument altogether,” McCarthy said. “I think it’s a great opportunity for the JMU community at a really affordable rate.”

He feels that students shouldn’t be intimidated by the course material, but also doesn’t want it to be so easy that they’re “bored to tears.”

“This class is more geared toward pop, rock, folk, country, more popular styles,” McCarthy said. “What we do in the beginning is cover fundamentals, but we get playing as soon as possible. For the most part, I just want the students to be playing songs that they want to play.”

The School of Music is looking forward to providing a resource to those who are interested in learning a new instrument or further molding their craft. Through the program, a new door is opened to those who never had the chance to take music lessons in the past.

“We’re just trying to reach out to more people,” Jeffrey Bush, the director of the School of Music, said. “A lot of people come to our concerts in Forbes, but we turn away half of the people that want to be music majors. This allows us to reach out to people other than music majors and act as more of a service for the university, community and beyond.”

Through the JMU Music Academy program, students and faculty are given the chance to take on their dream of playing an instrument. Not only can they look forward to a relaxed environment, but they can also anticipate instructors molding their teaching styles based on what’s more comfortable for the students.

“It’s never too late,” Doughty said. “Scientifically, it’s proven that playing an instrument is good for your health and it’s good for your brain. It just takes willpower and motivation … It’s never the end for you. So be one of those people that proves everyone else wrong.”

CONTACT Jazmine Otey at oteyj@dukes.jmu.edu. For more on the culture, arts and lifestyle of the JMU and Harrisonburg communities, follow the culture desk on Twitter @Breeze_Culture.

Franco’s
PIZZA • PASTA • SUBS

GO DUKES!

LUNCH SPECIALS

2 Slices + 1 topping               $4.25
Steak & Cheese Combo w/ Fries and a Drink   $7.99
Garden Salad & 1 Slice Cheese Pizza w/ Drink $5.80

Prices exclude tax | Not available on Sundays

CALL AHEAD FOR QUICK PICK UP
540-564-0105
225 Burgess Road
In the Walmart Shopping Center

Sun-Thurs 11am-10pm
Fri-Sat 11am-11pm
‘Be as strong as her’

JMU softball signs 8-year-old leukemia patient to National Letter of Intent

When 8-year-old McKenzie Woods was brought to Augusta Health on Sept. 25, 2017 to check up on injuries sustained after a playground accident, the doctors presented the Woods family with something far worse than cuts or bruises. Diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, McKenzie would not only be taken away from school with her friends and classmates, but she’d also have to stop playing her favorite sport: softball.

Nevertheless, through the pairing of JMU and Team IMPACT, a nonprofit organization that connects children facing chronic illnesses with local college athletic teams, McKenzie was given the opportunity to become a Duke and with local college athletic teams.

“Team IMPACT connects children such as McKenzie Woods with colleges from all over the U.S. to form bonds that will benefit both the child and team involved. The JMU Dukes jumped at the chance to participate,” said Michala Pellegrino, JMU softball’s head coach.

When presented with the opportunity to bring McKenzie in as a Duke, there was no hesitation from the players and coaching staff. Individuals lined up to do their part and reach out in order to make an impact on something larger than the world of sports.

“I’ve always wanted to do something more than just softball,” sophomore outfielder Michala Pellegrino said. “And this gave me an opportunity to do something more with my life than to just play softball.”

The team hasn’t only welcomed her into the softball program physically, but they’re making sure to let McKenzie know she’s not just a teammate and Duke, but a sister among their softball family. A number of the players keep in touch with McKenzie daily through Snapchat and FaceTime and love communicating with her throughout the day. The players and LaPorte also keep in touch with her mother Heather Woods and grandmother Carolyn Gordon through email on a regular basis.

“It’s been awesome being able to go through this journey with her,” Pellegrino said. “It’s brought a lot of joy to everyone in this program.”

Not only is the team leaving a lasting impact on McKenzie and her family, but she’s also changing the lives of each player in the locker room for the better. The group, even before being connected with her, established the team word for the season — “strong.” The Dukes spend each practice, workout and class living through that motto and exemplifying strength, making the presence and connection with McKenzie even more important.

“The word ‘strong’ is McKenzie,” freshman infielder Lynsey Meeks said. “She’s so young and already going through this hard time, but every time you talk to her, she’s the happiest and acts like she’s not even going through anything. It really inspires me to be as strong as her.”

McKenzie’s family was contacted for an interview, but they declined to minimize any stress put upon McKenzie in light of her condition.

Inspired by her journey and strength, the players and coaching staff will be wearing two bracelets in support of McKenzie: one orange, elastic bracelet with the word “#KenzieStrong” and the other a thin, black string bracelet with a silver medallion tied into it reading the word “strength.”

“It’s just a nice reminder when things get hard to just look down at the bracelets,” LaPorte said. “It’ll help us get through it.”

Following a 52-8 (18-2 CAA) record last season, the Dukes are fresh off a CAA Championship and trip to the NCAA Regionals. As if they were lacking any bit of motivation for the 2018 campaign, the Dukes have just that in a little girl sitting in the stands.

“To be able to have her with us at practice and in the dugout or at the game, it’s just going to be very inspiring for both ends,” junior infielder Paige Mitchell said.

As for McKenzie, she’s most excited to go to the games and cheer her team on each and every day.

“Just being able to see her up in the stands and knowing that we’re not just playing for the girls on the field but we’re playing for one up there too makes all the difference,” Meeks said. “Letting her know that she’s part of this win or everything that we’re doing will make this season that much more special.”

CONTACT Blake Pace at paceba@dukes.jmu.edu. For more softball coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.
# SCOREBOARD

## MEN’S BASKETBALL
(6-15, 2-6 CAA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATEST RESULTS</th>
<th>NEXT GAMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WIN VS. DREXEL 75-73</td>
<td>TODAY AT UNCG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIN VS. ELON 85-74 (OT)</td>
<td>SATURDAY AT COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
(11-7, 7-0)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATEST RESULTS</th>
<th>NEXT GAMES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WIN VS. UNCW 63-49</td>
<td>FRIDAY VS. Hofstra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIN VS. COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON 67-45</td>
<td>SUNDAY VS. COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SWIMMING & DIVING
(7-2-4-0)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATEST RESULTS</th>
<th>NEXT EVENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WIN VS. BUCKNELL 155-88</td>
<td>FEB 2 AT VIRGINIA TECH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FEB 3 JMU DIVING INVITATIONAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## TRACK & FIELD

JMU COMPETES IN KEYDET INVITATIONAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LATEST RESULTS</th>
<th>NEXT EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A CAREER BEST TIME AND THREE TOP-10 FINISHES</td>
<td>FEB. 2 AT PENN STATE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**SELECT FLOOR PLANS ALMOST SOLD OUT!**

**SIGN TODAY TO SECURE YOUR SPACE**

- **JOE COFFEE BAR WITH COMPLIMENTARY STARBUCKS**
- **24-HOUR JIM FITNESS CENTER WITH YOGA STUDIO**
- **RESORT-STYLE POOL WITH PLUSH POOLSIDE CABANAS**
- **PET FRIENDLY WITH DOG PARK**
JMU head coach Louis Rowe grabbed every player he could find at the Convocation Center. The scoreboard read 85-74; JMU had just defeated Elon after rallying from a 10-point deficit in the final two minutes. "Way to fight; great win; huddle up," Rowe shouted.

As the victorious Dukes met at midcourt to commemorate their victory, Rowe ordered the players to lock arms. Swaying back-and-forth while the Marching Royal Dukes blared, Rowe noticed freshman forward Dwight Wilson didn’t have his arms intertwined with a teammate. What simply slipped Wilson’s mind didn’t get past Rowe. "The five-foot, second-year coach immediately shouted over to Wilson and made sure he locked arms with his nearby teammates.

After the circle disbanded, the players walked down the alley between press row and the first row of fans, high-fiving everyone in purple and gold. That’s become a ritual under Rowe, and it doesn’t matter what the score is. "I took this job to mentor these young men, and that’s the truth," Rowe said. "I want to give them a bit of an example of how to compose themselves. I am a representation of JMU."

During the games, Rowe is a gamut of emotions. He’ll bury his bald head into his hands after an errant turnover. He’ll quietly walk the length of the bench after a foul call that he disagrees with. Even when he takes his suit jacket off, it’s rarely out of frustration.

Ejected after a come-from-behind win over Drexel in the opening round of the 2017 CAA Tournament last season, Rowe said, "We can’t let our emotions boil over, and that starts with me."
Everything he does is about setting an example for the guys, including his energy level. He’s so active in a huddle during a timeout, you’d think he’s the one bringing the ball up the court.

“I always try to remember how I was as a player,” Rowe said. “Sometimes it’s direction, sometimes it’s telling them to pick up their energy. The big thing is that they hear something and they know that I am there for them during the game.”

Redshirt senior forward Ramone Snowden regularly talks with Rowe one-on-one. Now that senior guard Joey McLean has missed significant time due to an apparent ankle injury, Snowden is the lone senior on the floor. The Snowden-Rowe interactions pay off. In the Elon victory, Snowden blocked the potential game-winning 3-pointer as time expired. In the 75-73 win against Drexel, he took a charge that led to the game-winning layup. Snowden gives all the credit to Rowe.

“Since day one when I met coach Rowe, he brings so much energy to the table,” Snowden said. “I can talk to him as a person, as a coach or even as a player. [On Saturday], I had a few turnovers, but he grabbed me and said, ‘Keep fighting. Keep fighting.’”

Keep fighting, because that’s what Rowe does despite the Dukes constantly being on the wrong side of losses or final-second thrillers for the Dukes, Rowe will be a constant cheerleader for his program before and after games. That’s just who he is.

CONTACT Harry Holtzclaw at holtzchw@dukes.jmu.edu. For more basketball coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.

---

**Performace Opportunities for Ballet Dancers**

- Free classes for qualified candidates
- Possible compensation for highly qualified candidates
- Dance with professionals from acclaimed companies

**You don’t have to stop dancing because you graduated high school!**

**Contact:**
rockinghamballettheatre@gmail.com
www.rockinghamballettheatre.com

---

**Rockingham Ballet Theatre**

is a 501(c)(3) ballet company funded, in part, by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.
ORDER ONLINE.
IN NO TIME. EVERY TIME.
ORDER at
DOMINOS.COM
CREATE YOUR PIZZA PROFILE FOR
FASTER, EASIER ORDERING.

Any delivery charge is not a tip paid to your driver. Our drivers carry less than $20. You must call for this limited time offer. Minimum purchase required for delivery. Delivery charge and tax may apply. Prices, participation, delivery area and charges may vary. Offered online, along with the store’s maximum allowable internet check fee. Offer restricted or prohibited by law. ©2014 Domino’s IP Holder LLC. Owners®, Domino’s Pizza® and the related logos are registered trademarks of Domino’s IP Holder LLC.
By BLAKE PACE
The Breeze

Before blessing the JMU field hockey team with her undeniable talent and charming personality, senior Hannah Hall climbed the ranks in high school as a four-year varsity player for Ocean Lakes High School in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and the Saint Hockey Rocks club team. Hall, a First Team All-State honoree as a junior and senior in high school, knew colleges at the Division I level would be clamoring to have her suit up for them, but her decision regarding where to play came down to something much greater than a coaching staff or program.

"I was looking for a school that I could excel at academically and athletically," Hall said. "It's important when looking at schools to find a place you would want to be whether you were playing that sport or not and the overall atmosphere at JMU is what really sold me."

With her sights set on joining JMU nation, Hall set out to Harrisonburg in 2014 as a health sciences major with a concentration in pre-occupational therapy and a minor in special education. Her impact on the field hockey program didn’t take long, as Hall added an immediate boost to the Saint Hockey Rocks club team. Hall, a First Team All-State honoree as a junior and senior in high school, had left her mark on the JMU field hockey program. She’d further cement her legacy in her senior campaign when she became the 25th player in JMU history to hit the five-assist mark for a season. Hall had three assists and earned CAA All-Rookie Team honors for her excellent play, setting a foundation for years to come, Hall noted the challenges in making the jump from high school to college.

"It was a really big difference," Hall said. "Jumping in there as a freshman and playing against people that are 22 when you’re 18 was a big culture shock, but it taught me how to deal with adversity and how to be comfortable with the uncomfortable."

Building on the foundation she set during her freshman year, Hall amped up her game as a sophomore — starting in all 20 games again and totaling five goals and four assists. And while her play earned her All-CAA Second Team honors, the Dukes fell just short of a CAA Championship in a 2-1 loss to the Delaware Blue Hens in overtime. Despite the heartbreaking defeat, the coaching staff knew this would be an amazing learning opportunity for Hall.

"The greatest lessons are in defeat," head coach Christy Morgan said. "That was a stinger because she was the leader and that will live with her for a long time. She’ll make changes in her life based on that experience."

Just as Hall improved her game from her first to second season, she turned things up a notch yet again in her junior campaign — taking collegiate field hockey by storm. Scoring 11 goals, a team-high nine assists and five game-winning goals, Hall was awarded as an ECAC All-Star and made the All-CAA First Team, VaSID First Team All-State and NFHCA First Team All-South Region. In spite of these amazing accolades, her most prestigious recognition came when she was named a NFHCA Third Team All-American, an honor Hall claims as her greatest athletic accomplishment.

"That’s just an achievement that every athlete strives for," Hall said. "I think it takes a lot of work and not work done by just me, but by my teammates as well. Being able to play and start in almost all of my games my freshman year is what really set me up for success as an upperclassman."

While the Dukes fell to Delaware for the third year in a row in the 2016 CAA Championship, Hall had left her mark on the JMU field hockey program. She’d further cement her legacy in her senior campaign when she became the 20th player in JMU history to hit the 20-assist mark for her career before totaling 25 in her four years to go along with 22 goals and 3,924 minutes played. While the Dukes never won a CAA Championship during Hall’s career, she enjoyed a 31-27 record (18-6 CAA) and four CAA tournament berths.

"Hannah’s a great field hockey player," junior forward/midfielder Miranda Rigg said. "She has a high hockey IQ and knowledge of the game and she always brought that to practice and the game. As a person, she’s just super helpful always. She’s always willing to be there for everyone — whether it’s giving people rides or having team dinners at her house — she was just always willing to help out."

As for what she’ll take away from her time here at JMU, Hall’s willingness to dive headfirst into uncomfortable situations is something that’ll help her immensely past her time as a Duke.

"I think in any situation I get thrown in — whether it be in the workforce or life in general — being an athlete has taught me to be OK with the uncomfortable, to be OK with working out in 30-degree weather for three hours, to be OK with having little fights with your teammates and then resolving those issues even though it may be uncomfortable," Hall said. "Just doing things that you’re not used to doing."

CONTACT Blake Pace at paceba@dukes.jmu.edu. For more field hockey coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter at @TheBreezeSports.
Good out for season

Senior Megan Good will return in 2019 after redshirting this season due to injury.

The JMU softball program announced Wednesday that senior pitcher/infielder Megan Good will miss the entire 2018 season with an undisclosed knee injury. Good will use the 2018 season as a redshirt and be back for the 2019 campaign.

“I love our team, and it’s hard for me to think about not playing with them this season,” Good said to JMU Athletics. “But, I’ll still be an active part of the team all year with the goal of another CAA Championship and NCAA bid, and I can’t wait to be back competing with my teammates in 2019.”

Good, a native of Mount Sidney, Virginia, was named both the CAA Player and Pitcher of the Year last season, leading the Dukes to a 52-8 (18-2 CAA) record. She finished with a 38-3 record, 0.63 ERA in 244.2 innings in the circle, while hitting .383 with 12 home runs and 58 RBIs.

The Dukes not only lose Good for the upcoming season, but will also be without former head coach Mickey Dean, who left the program to become the next head coach at Auburn on Sept. 14.

Head coach Loren LaPorte and Co. will kick off their 2018 season Feb. 9, when they travel to Puerta Vallarta, Mexico, to play Nevada.

Contact the sports desk at breezesports@gmail.com. For more softball coverage, follow the sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports.
King Crossword

ACROSS
1  “Mamma Mia!” group
5  Apprehend
8  Colorful fish
12  Clay-rich soil
13  Blunder
14  Portrayal
15  Democrat or Republican
17  Radiate
18  Faucet
19  Arouse
21  Fireworks reaction
22  Delany or Carvey
23  Venomous vipers
26  Zodiac cat
28  Passenger
31  Prosperous time
33  Knock
35  Pepsi competitor
36  Soothe
38  Tatter
40  Actor Danson
41  A long time
43  Bugging device
45  Tranquil
47  Pencil end
51  Impulse carrier
52  Multiple marriage
54  Expectorate

DOWN
1  Swiss peaks
2  Animated
3  Java neighbor
4  Chihuahua
5  “— a borrow...”
6  Ailing
7  Malaria symptom
8  Occurring naturally
9  Oklahoma city
10  Untouchable
11  Chopped
12  Curved path
13  Wide
14  Rowing need
15  — out a living
16  Implement
17  Card game
18  Betty
19  Lawyers’ org.
20  Scale member
21  Bikini pattern?
22  Elliot
23  Hawaiian chum
24  Edwin Land’s company
25  On in years
26  Primary color
27  30-Down
28  Purplish
29  30-Down
30  Green
31  Indian city
32  Brownish tone
33  30-Down
34  Kneecap
35  Longing
36  World’s fair
37  Back talk
38  Wise one
39  Ostriches’ kin
40  Delilah loaves
41  Heathen
42  Ton
43  Heathen
44  Hair
45  Back talk
46  World’s fair
47  30-Down
48  Wise one
49  Ostriches’ kin
50  Delilah loaves
51  Heathen
52  Hair
53  Hair
54  Heathen

© 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.
SIGN AND GET
UNLIMITED UTILITIES

+ AMAZON FIRE STICK
LIMITED TIME ONLY

LIVE BETTER
LIVE THE HILLS
SIGN TODAY

540.432.0600 | live-thehills.com
Celebrating 13 Dukes who live Madison's 'Be the Change' vision
Live life at Fox

Spacious 4-Bedroom Furnished Townhomes with Two Full Baths • Pet Friendly Washer/Dryer • Some Units with Unfinished Basements Gym Membership Included • Electric w/Cap, Water, Cable & Internet Included

(540) 432-5525
foxhill@umicomunities.com
1627 DEVON LANE | HARRISONBURG, VA 22801
PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED BY UMI COMMUNITIES
We're here to help

Printing, graphic design, shipping, passport photos and more...

You can count on us for the products and services you need such as printing, document finishing, passport photos, packing, shipping, notary services and more. Visit our locally owned location for more information.

**united problem solvers™**

**The UPS Store**

- **JM Square**
  1322 Hillside Ave
  (Across from JMU, next to Starbucks on Port Republic Road)
  Harrisonburg, VA 22801
  540.434.9400
  store6595@theupsstore.com

**Hours:**
- Mon - Fri: 8:00 AM - 6:30 PM
- Sat: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Sun: 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

The UPS Store locations are independently owned and operated by franchisees of The UPS Store, Inc. in the USA and by its master licensee and its franchisees in Canada. Services, pricing and hours of operation may vary by location. Copyright © 2016 The UPS Store, Inc.
influence

n. ~the capacity or power of persons to be a compelling force or produce effects on the actions, behavior, opinions of others.

Executive Editor Sammy Criscitello
Editor Nastacia Nickolaou
Managing Editor Julia Moore
Creative Director Aubree Daniel
Photographers Megan Toomy, Hannah Abeel, Sarah Melendez
Articles Editors Malcolm Anderson, Ian Munro, Liza Frasier
Senior Editors Lindsey Doyle, Sydney Gaines, Alyssa McBeth, Liza Frazier, Victoria Dravis, Jamie Simpkins, Hannah Long, Sarah Melendez
Copy Editor Hannah Long
Publicity/Marketing Lindsey Doyle, Ian Munro
Adviser Brad Jenkins

The Purple & Gold Society 2018
6 Curt Dudley
The voice of JMU sports.

10 Sina Shah
Pioneered the east coast sweetwater brand, 95 to Infinity.

14 Trai Sharp
Number one on the football field, number one in the community.

18 Mike Dolzer
Founder of current events talk show WXJM 88.7, JMU’s student-ran radio station.

20 Chervon Moore
Assistant director for multicultural Greek life at James Madison University.

26 Meg Rich
Named a finalist for “Ms. Madison” and with good reason.

28 Art Dean
Works in JMU’s Office of Access and Inclusion to make campus more inclusive and diverse.

32 Emie Moore
Experiencing her mom’s cancer, led her to do positive things for others.

34 Lauren Hughes
President of CARE (Campus Assault Response).

38 Bill Evans
A psychology professor, making his students’ days worth while.

42 Caoimhe O’Sullivan
Pioneered a virtual reality and 3-D modeling company named Canvex LLC.

44 Maddie Pfaff
Dedicates her free time to helping those with special needs.

48 Nasser Al Saadun
JMU professor who not only teaches Arabic, but helps refugees like him adjust to American culture.

The Purple & Gold Society
is a joint publication produced by SMAD 421: Magazine Production and The Breeze advertising staff. The goal of this magazine is to highlight some of the many people at JMU who are living up to the university’s challenge to “Be the Change.” We were looking for less-obvious candidates, students, faculty and staff who often achieve great things outside the spotlight. In that way, those featured reflect James Madison, our university’s namesake, whose vision was instrumental in our nation’s founding, yet who is often not as well-known as the other Founding Fathers who get the spotlight. To find the people we featured, we informally surveyed JMU community members and then picked 13 to feature in today’s publication. We hope you enjoy meeting some of JMU’s remarkable people.
For JMU football fans, the hoots and hollers cast throughout Bridgeforth Stadium mark the sounds of fall. Breaking through the roars of fans, broadcaster Curt Dudley’s booming voice reverberates throughout the confines of the stadium.

Dudley, the voice of the Dukes since 1988, didn’t discover his passion for broadcasting until he attended Bridgewater College. Dudley hung up his dreams of medical school after he was assigned to a work-study position as a sports information director.

When Dudley first came to JMU, he was the only one who knew how to run the radio operating board so he took on the job of doing JMU radio shows and filling in as an announcer when needed; he slowly transitioned into focusing solely on broadcasts. Now, around campus, Dudley is one of JMU’s most celebrated personalities. He takes pride in getting to know every athlete on every varsity team at JMU by attending practices, games and press conferences to meet the students he talks about every week. Dudley created and directs MadiZONE HD SportsNet, JMU Sports’ live-streaming site, where his play-by-play commentary is broadcasted for the majority of home games.

“It’s strategic and takes effort to get to know all of them,” Dudley said. “When I started working more football and basketball games I had an epiphany where I realized it wasn’t the sport that I was enjoying, but the work that the individual student athletes produced.”

As technology has developed, Dudley has had to find better ways to reach people. He discusses JMU sports on his radio show, for instance, but understands that a large portion of JMU fans may not be tuning in at 7 a.m. So every morning Dudley writes an email to all of his contacts about JMU sports’ updates and history, too.

Dudley’s goal to connect with each student stems from his days as a student, when he noticed that one of his professors wrote birthday cards to each of his students. Dudley adopted this habit when Facebook came around.

“Something as simple as a happy birthday is a way to keep in touch and connect with people,” Dudley said. “It doesn’t matter what time of the day, I always get around to it.”

Additionally, whenever a new student athlete commits to JMU, Dudley extends a warm welcome by congratulating the student and explaining who he is and what he does for athletics at the university.

“We’re trying to make it the best possible experience for the student athletes,” Dudley said. “It’s the behind-the-scenes work that props up and supports student athletes to be successful. They still have to perform, but we put them in a position to be successful with everything that we do.”

Outside of the press box, Dudley teaches a sports broadcasting course at JMU as a part of the sports communication minor. He also offers practicum and internship opportunities for aspiring broadcasters. For Dudley, it’s like coaching his own team.

“I realized the other day that that’s what I was doing,” Dudley said. “I’m coaching [students] and training [them] how to do these skills.”

For senior SMAD major Sammi Seaton, Dudley has been her greatest mentor at JMU.

“He’s given me the skills and I’ve learned what it takes to be in this business,” Seaton said. “It’s not easy and I don’t think people realize how much work goes into doing a broadcast and researching teams to be able to talk about them for multiple hours.”

Dudley recommended Seaton to broadcast...
the 2017 CAA Softball Championships with him. Working as a commentator for over eight hours on back-to-back days made Seaton aware of how much attention to detail she had to give the task. Amid the grueling work, Seaton would smile every time she heard Dudley interject a random fact on the air.

"He really wants to pass on his experience to us," said David Kraft, a senior sports recreational management major and sports communication minor. "He constantly jokes but is so professional at the same time."

Even when Kraft has flubbed a line on air, Dudley has his back. Dudley encourages learning from mistakes, and laughing off on-air miscues after the broadcast.

"He keeps an open line of communication with teams at all times," Kraft said. "He really wants to know everyone on a personal level, it shows how great his work ethic is."

Dudley uses his own pride to support the JMU and sports community. He recalls times when people in town have recognized and thanked him for his work.

"There's a lot of satisfaction knowing that you have served and touched the lives of people by connecting them to sports," Dudley said. "You're building the stories as they happen, but also bringing back the past and that enhances the whole JMU nation feel."
Stop by today for a tour or give us a call for rates!

Enjoy Life at the Top with our conveniently located premier student housing! **865 East** offers tenants the means to escape the stress of student life through amenities such as our Rooftop Lounge, Game Room, Fitness Center, and much more!

865 East Port Republic Road  |  (540) 442-8885
Daymond John spent months attempting to influence LL Cool J to sport a shirt he designed. John, the founder of streetwear brand FUBU, would visit music video shoots and wait outside LL Cool J's house until the rapper finally caved, accepting the various clothing items from a virtually unknown brand.

In 1999, retail store GAP invited LL Cool J to take part in a commercial — however, no one involved in the advertisement happened to notice that the biggest name in hip-hop was wearing a FUBU hat while filming. When the commercial aired, John and his brand instantly reaped the benefits of a $30 million ad with $0 invested — all in part to John's perseverance.

"People don't get as lucky as often as you think," said Sina Shah, a JMU senior who pioneered the East Coast streetwear brand 95 to Infinity. "Luck is the product of hard work."

And for Shah (formally Shahcheraghi), hard work was nothing new. A lifelong entrepreneur, Shah began his journey selling anything from lemonade to computer software until his brother helped him find his passion for selling apparel.

A brand inspired by street art and the underground hip-hop culture native to the East Coast, 95 to Infinity holds individuality to a high degree. Shah's designs clearly reflect such ideals, with prints that read mantras like "bEAST coast" written in gold on a set of teeth, or through collaborations with photographers to capture the flavor of urban locales.

Flipping through his worn Moleskine notebook, Shah only had a handful of blank pages left in the back, begging to be scrawled upon. The rest of the sheets were filled with notes from guest speakers he had seen, his daily schedules and ideas for his brand. For easy access, he'd leave it on his bedside table in case he woke up in the middle of the night with a thought worth writing down. His book wasn't filled with scribbles of luck. It was occupied by marks of effort, tenacity and tirelessness.

"The coast acts as a vein of the east, bringing together the various cultures of renowned cities," Shah wrote. "What ties it all together is Interstate 95, hence 95 to Infinity."

The company's first headquarters was stationed in the trunk of Shah's black 1999 Toyota Corolla his senior year of high school, selling shirts with only one design out of a cardboard box. His friends would send him pictures of themselves wearing the shirt around Washington, D.C., giving the brand its first taste of exposure.

Now, four years later, publicity comes naturally to the label, which has grossed five figures since its inception. A website (entirely made by Shah) was created, photo shoots were scheduled and shirts were hand delivered to celebrities, one of which included Floyd Mayweather.

"If the creator isn't insanely obsessed and passionate, that won't shine through in the clothing," said Brooke Schedler, a JMU senior finance major and 95 to Infinity model. "His personality comes through in his products."

During an unusually warm day last March, Shah, Schedler and a couple of other JMU students headed toward Kline's Dairy Bar downtown. Although the day was perfect for a scoop of ice cream, Shah had other plans. With 95 to Infinity's "COWard Vines" shirt tucked into her light wash jean shorts, Schedler posed in front of the shop with a towering vanilla cone in her hand as the ice cream...
dripped down her hand. Shutters of a camera were faintly heard as Shah directed Schedler to move to her left, tilt her head down and allow the ice cream to drip a little more. Shah completely directed the shoot, although he was open to collaborative ideas.

“It makes me feel like if he can make his dreams a reality then anything is possible if you put in the effort,” Schedler said.

Over the summer, Shah participated in a JMU-run accelerated program for entrepreneurs. Patrick McQuown, the director of the Center for Entrepreneurship, worked closely with Shah, and agreed with Schedler.

“He puts himself out there and he works hard to represent his brand and himself,” McQuown said. “Sina doesn’t feel anyone owes him anything, and he makes his own destiny.” Accomplishment stems from intrinsic motivation and inspiration — something both Daymond John and Shah have in common. The saying “stay in your lane” — to only pay mind to your own success rather than others’ — has influenced Shah throughout the years, although he didn’t fully understand the phrase until being thrown into the fire.

“You just have to stay focused and do your thing and not let those distractions get to you,” Shah said, the confidence in his voice unflinching and strong. “Cause once you put that hard work in, you’ll eventually start to see results.”
Peace Love & Little Donuts
865 Port Republic Road, SWEET 107
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

BUY TWO GET TWO WITH THIS AD
Dukes to go delivery & jac cards accepted

GETTING THE DUKES WHERE THEY NEED TO GO

DUKES SPECIAL $19.99
OIL CHANGE PLUS:
*36 PT INSPECTION
*TIRE ROTATION
UP TO FIVE QUARTS REG OIL ONLY, NOT COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFER
OFFERING JMU DISCOUNTS ON ALL OTHER SERVICES

692 E. Market Street, Harrisonburg, Va
540-217-5178
No. 1 on the JMU football team is also No. 1 in the hearts of many in the Harrisonburg community. Trai Sharp, a junior political science major, is one of JMU’s two primary running backs. While fans of the Dukes are getting used to seeing Sharp celebrate in the end zone, it’s his desire to help others that will leave a lasting impact in the Valley.

Sharp helped the Harrisonburg community by dedicating his last summer to helping kids as a camp counselor at Mountain View Elementary School, and when hard times fell on Sharp, the community was there for him.

In the fourth quarter of the Dukes’ Sept. 16 matchup against Norfolk State, Sharp learned that his father had died. Prior to leaving the game in the second half, the Greensboro, North Carolina, native ran one of the strongest games of his career, rushing for 130 yards and scoring a touchdown.

"I’m really proud of Trai," JMU head coach Mike Houston said. "He is a tremendous young man, and he had a great day today and he’s having a tough day today. We look forward to him working through this, and we’ll all be there right beside him.”

Although JMU notched a commanding 75-14 victory, there was no celebrating in the locker room post-game. While many fans wondered when Sharp would return to the Dukes, Sharp was on the field for the first snap of the Dukes’ next game.

“It was tough emotionally, but it was kind of fulfilling to come back and keep playing after that and to be back with my teammates supporting me through everything,” Sharp said. "It was a little comforting to think that my dad’s last memory was of me having one of my best games.”

For Sharp, his teammates are family.

“I can call any player on this team if I want someone to talk to or need to go somewhere,” Sharp said. “I even got a letter from Bryan Schor’s grandparents after my dad passed away.” (Schor was the Dukes' quarterback this season.)

Sharp learned how to play football when he was just 7 years old and first realized his big-league dreams when he traveled with his brothers to their basketball tournaments. He attributes his football skills and knowledge to his dad, who was always teaching and encouraging him.

“Football in my life represents my dad,” Sharp said. “All the effort and the time that I’ve put in — I’ve created bonds that will last forever.”

It wasn’t until his sophomore year at Carrboro High School that Sharp realized his talent could put him on the national stage. Despite enduring a few injuries his senior year, he had three Division I football offers. After seeing JMU’s campus and meeting members of the athletic department, he committed to JMU immediately.

“My family and education push me to keep pursuing football,” Sharp said. “I mean, it’s given me the opportunity to go to college and able to graduate.”

If Sharp hadn’t had the opportunity to dedicate his time to helping the Dukes on the field, Sharp says he would’ve dedicated his time to becoming even more involved with helping and teaching kids in the community. While some sports teams require volunteer work in the community, Sharp’s dedication to the helping others this summer was a choice he made completely on his own.

“I really love kids,” Sharp said. “I had workouts in the early mornings and then I would go to the camp. We had a lot of fun..."
like slip ‘n’ slides, pool days and bowling.”

The kids loved him so much they even showed up for “Meet the Dukes” day to see “Mr. Trai,” as the kids say, and get his autograph. He still has papers and drawings from some of the kids who wrote him a goodbye letter to thank him for being such an involved counselor.

Sharp’s favorite memory as a volunteer is comparing his favorite childhood memories to theirs.

“I would just be myself around them and be goofy,” Sharp said. “They talk about all these new cartoons and don’t understand any of my SpongeBob references.”

He attributes his desire to help others to the lessons he’s learned as a member of the JMU football team. When giving back, Sharp feels that he’s a part of something that’s “bigger than himself.”

“JMU has taught me that the more you put into something, the more you’ll get out of it,” Sharp said. “Whether that’s on the field or in the classroom, being here has made me more of an unselfish person. I’m mentally tough and try to react the best way I can in any situation.”

Sharp’s exceptional football skills illustrate that. Last year, Sharp was one of the key components to their wildcat trick play where Taylor Woods threw him a touchdown pass. Just one of the many games to remember from last season leading up to them winning the FCS national championship.

“Seeing the confetti fall while we were on that stage … you think about all the work you put in throughout the year, through summer training or when I was seven and started playing football,” Sharp said. “All those times in workouts where you just don’t know if you’re going to make it or you’re just trying to fight one more rep, it was all worth it.”
BRIX & COLUMNS
VINEYARDS

LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY,
ONLY FIFTEEN MINUTES FROM HARRISONBURG

RELAX WITH OUR DELICIOUS WINES
AND ENJOY THE STUNNING VIEWS.

1501 DAVE BERRY RD, MCGAHEYSVILLE, VA 22804
(540) 421-0339
BRIXANDCOLUMNS.COM
“Roadside Blasphemy” isn’t just what you’d call cursing the day on your drive home. It’s also the name of Mike Dolzer’s popular current-events talk show on WXJM 88.7, JMU’s student-run radio station.

Through the FM radio waves, Dolzer can be heard scouring over political headaches and breaking news every Thursday at 6 p.m. As a senior at JMU and the general manager of WXJM, his duties at the radio station consist of co-hosting and overseeing the interns, but his mission runs much deeper.

“I’ve really done my best and put my best foot forward in terms of creating a space for people who are on the margins,” Mike Dolzer said. “People of different races, religions and sexual orientations, which is the one that I align with. I’ve really tried to tell stories of people who otherwise, their stories wouldn’t get told.”

This past year has been a busy one for WXJM as it worked toward getting back on the air after being removed due to too many potential FCC violations. Having listened to more than 100 hours of music to comply with FCC’s regulations, Dolzer has worked relentlessly to compile a database of clean songs. To motivate others, he awards concert tickets to those who review the most CDs.

“It got to the point where he recognized that people aren’t going to do this type of thing unless you individually reach out, so he came up with an incentive program,” Cecily Thomas, co-host of “Roadside Blasphemy,” said. “Calling people in instead of calling people out I think is really important, and he recognizes that wholeheartedly.”

Dolzer’s enthusiastic attitude is what makes him more of a leader rather than just a boss.

“I don’t do what he says because I have to; I do it because I respect him as a person,” Thomas said. “I think that holds true to people in general. People generally follow him and do what he says. People want to be friends with him because they respect him as a person.”

Dolzer’s influence extends far beyond the radio station into the JMU community. Nominated for Mr. Madison, he was one of four candidates. While he did not win the title, Dolzer is touched by being considered for such an honor.

“It has meant the world to me because I definitely don’t feel like I’m stereotypically popular,” Dolzer said. “I wanted to leave the school better than how I found it, which is something that...they mentioned and I took it to heart.”

Behind the voice that many have come to know and love on the radio is a smile; a smile that you will always see on his face even when life gets tough.

“Even when things are terrible, he always tries to see the good thing about it,” Melika Rahmani, Dolzer’s roommate, said. “That’s really helped me a lot. I found myself being very pessimistic freshman year. But I tried to have his mindset, tried to see the good things. He’s really influenced my perspective.”

For Dolzer, his bright attitude is shaped by dark circumstances. Before Dolzer was born, his father was diagnosed with antiphospholipid antibody syndrome, a rare autoimmune disease that causes antibodies to attack organs instead of diseases. Growing up with the challenges of constant hospitalizations and uncertainty, Dolzer was inspired to live life to the fullest.

“Ever since then, I’ve made it a point to make every day count and to make sure no matter who I am, I leave a mark,” Dolzer said.

By Jamie Simpkins

“I’ve really tried to tell stories of people who otherwise, their stories wouldn’t get told.”
Exclamations of “Good morning!” and “I like your outfit!” greet JMU students as they enter the Center for Multicultural Student Services on any given weekday. Plum-colored leather couches are littered with students catching a break between classes, getting in last-minute studying for exams, and socializing with their best friends. A 52” flat screen television is mounted on the wall with CNN streaming quietly in the background. Desktop Dell computers line the make-shift room divider in the center, allowing students free access and printing. CMSS feels like home.

Around the corner in CMSS is a series of three small offices. The one in the middle belongs to Chervon Moore, the assistant director for multicultural Greek life at James Madison University. Dim lighting greets you as you set foot into her quaint, tucked away space. Sorority memorabilia and accomplishments line the magenta walls, and faux ferns and ash trees garner a cozier, lived-in feel. Moore says she tries to make students feel comfortable to open up to her, and her office is just the stepping stone to for these open conversations to ensue.

Moore has played a major role in the lives of numerous minority students on campus. With her involvement and passion, she has served as a liaison between students and campus administration, as well as been a mentor and confidant for organization executive members.

“Chervon is one of the most caring and genuine people I have ever met, and she has changed my life in so many ways while I’ve been at JMU,” said Kaila Anderson, a JMU senior who attributes most of her college successes and accomplishments to Moore.

“She convinced me to find my place here at JMU,” Anderson said. “I will be eternally grateful for everything she has done for me.”

With this job, it is Moore’s duty to oversee all programs and events within the multicultural Greek community, as well as advise the leadership teams in all organizations.

“I make sure that organizations are in compliance academically, and that they are also meeting their mandates and requirements that their national organization has required them to do,” Moore said.

At a glance, some might believe this passion for being a helpful figure at JMU comes from her love of working with students. However, Moore feels it stems more from her love of JMU. After graduating from JMU as an undergraduate in 2010, and again in 2012 as a graduate student, Moore has had plenty of time to acquaint herself with how the campus operates. Her college experience at JMU has aided her ability to successfully help students today.

“Though it’s been several years since I’ve gone to JMU, the climate hasn’t changed that much,” Moore said. “Students still have to navigate the same way that I had to. My experience here gives me more of a framework.”

Moore also believes that her JMU experience makes students more comfortable when coming to her with their problems.

“With students, I think it’s helpful too because they think, ‘She gets it. She gets the JMU way,’” Moore said.

As an undergraduate student at JMU, Moore never saw herself becoming involved in student affairs. With an undergraduate degree in communication studies and a minor in human resource development, Moore found herself in Northern Virginia once she finished up her master’s degree in 2012. She got a job straight out of graduate school, and worked as an instructional design consultant the consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton. Moore then realized after two years that the corporate life was not for her.

 MOORE

By Sydney Alysse

“With students, I think it’s helpful too because they think, ‘She gets it. She gets the JMU way.’”
"I was passionate about the education piece," Moore said. "I wasn’t passionate about being at a computer all day everyday and not getting to interact with the people."

Upon returning to JMU for good in 2013, Moore seized the opportunity to interact with others by becoming an advisor for the Lambda Iota chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority. The service-based sorority was in need of an advisor, and Moore filled the void. Little did she know, this opportunity would give way to her current career.

"It was very large shoes to fill, but it was one of the best decisions I ever made because it propelled me to want to eventually go into student affairs, and more specifically into Greek life," Moore said. "I just really wanted to impact students in a different kind of way."

Though Moore has guided countless students in various organizations, one student in particular stood out to her. Saidah Taylor, a 2014 JMU graduate, looked to Moore to help her decide whether to join an on campus beauty pageant.

Moore said go for it. "To see her win was incredible, especially when I could see the insecurities and vulnerabilities prior to the process," Moore said. "That was super rewarding because she gave me privy to those types of conversations."

Moore also encouraged JMU senior Pedro Baiza to run for Mr. Madison this year, which he would eventually go on to win. "Chervon definitely gave me that push to apply (for Mr. Madison) and gave support during voting," said Baiza.

Moore prides herself in being able to build personal relationships with her students. She finds it important to allow students to open up and feel comfortable around her, as she always makes sure to listen, and put herself in the students’ shoes.

Kaila Anderson, one of Moore’s sorority sisters and advisees, further explained the impact that Moore has had on her life. With Moore’s help, Anderson has been able to work with Female Institute (a summer JMU program which mentors high school-aged girls), attend a national conference for minority students, study abroad in South Africa and become the president of the Lambda Iota chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority.

"None of this would have been possible without her," said Anderson. "From her, I’ve learned not to settle for anything in life, and to continue to do what I love."

When Moore was told she was named as one of JMU’s most influential people by student writers at The Breeze, the primary influence in her life fluttered to the front of her mind. "I have a lot of people who have influenced me, but first, I would definitely have to say my mom. My mom is extremely strong and has been through a lot of interesting life challenges, but has still had a smile on her face and did the very best that she could do despite the circumstances."

When Moore was just 3 days old, her biological father passed away. With a newborn baby in tow, the new mother and now widow had to leave the hospital to plan her husband’s funeral. In addition, Moore’s mother is also a breast cancer survivor of ten years. But despite the trauma and trying times that she faced in her life, she remained positive throughout everything.

"Her mantra is that you can get through anything by faith," said Moore. "She’s an inspiration to me because she models this everyday."
NOW ANY WAY YOU ORDER EARN POINTS TOWARD FREE PIZZA

CHOOSE ANY 2 or MORE MEDIUM 2-TOPPING PIZZAS FOR $5.99 EACH and start earning points.*
Way to go, Purple & Gold!

BUY ONE GET ONE

FREE! Cajun Filet Biscuit

2 Pc. Chicken Dinner $2.99
Includes One Fixin' and Made From Scratch Biscuit

Offer valid in Harrisonburg, Charlottesville, and Winchester, Virginia locations only!
Expires: February 28th, 2019
IN THE HEART OF THE ACTION

Get off the bench and follow The Breeze’s sports desk on Twitter @TheBreezeSports for the latest updates on JMU.
There’s no question as to why Meg Rich was named a finalist for “Ms. Madison.” The senior international affairs and Spanish double major has devoted her collegiate years to educating and serving the Harrisonburg community both in and out of the classroom.

As the service chair of Alpha Phi Omega (APO), a service fraternity, Rich acts as a liaison between APO and the organization they are serving.

“My favorite part of it is the opportunities that I have been given through the organization,” Rich says APO has opened so many doors for her and is ‘in shock’ she is a part of an organization that contributes so much service in the community.

APO led Rich to Skyline Literacy, an organization that teaches English and citizenship classes to those in need in the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County area. Rich plays her part in Skyline Literacy by teaching U.S. citizenship classes in Spanish.

“That is by far the coolest thing that I have ever done in my life. Most challenging, but 100 percent the most rewarding.”

Rich says that working with APO has given her the confidence needed to seek out important service opportunities and the courage to step up and lead in different areas on campus.

Rich is also very passionate about a program on campus started by President Jonathan Alger, the Valley Scholars Program. The program provides eighth grade students who will be first-generation undergraduates the opportunity to receive full tuition and covered fees to attend JMU.

The participants have to meet rigorous requirements, such as maintaining a certain grade point average and are provided with mentorship. Rich serves as a translator for those involved in the program. She translates different resources into Spanish to make the program more accessible.

“For example, we send out a voicemail before every program saying when to be there and those kinds of things. It’s really cool that I can get the word out about a program that really just needs JMU’s love.”

After college, Rich wants to give back to JMU for all that the school, its community and many organizations have given to her. She hopes that as an alumnae, she can either mentor students or give back financially. She also hopes to work for an organization that allows her to use her second language to help others.

“It is so important to use this skill to bring people and communities together who wouldn’t normally have known each other,” said Rich. “I just hope to give back in some way, either professionally or philanthropically.”

Rich says her best memory at JMU was being nominated as a Ms. Madison finalist. She was in awe at the impacts made by the other finalists and felt it was unbelievable to be standing beside them on the field. Besides meeting President Alger, she had the opportunity to watch the Homecoming football game on the field, and witnessed a touchdown develop right in front of her.

“I don’t even like football and it was the coolest thing I have ever seen!” said Rich.

While football may not be her forte, Rich is no stranger to the field. She currently serves as captain of the JMU women’s rugby team and served as the president last year. For her, the team is what makes JMU so special. Rich says she learns from each teammate, on and off the field. To her, they are family.

“They keep me humble, they really do. They put me in my place,” Rich said. “I know a lot of people, but I don’t know a lot of people as well as I know that team and as well as they know me.”

Rich currently serves as the head captain of the team and served as the president last year.

“It’s not just an organization to me. It’s something that has always been a part of me,” said Rich.

When she started playing rugby, Rich resembled a gymnast. Given her small stature, those around her thought she was crazy to play such an intense sport. But she knew deep down she wanted to prove everyone wrong and show that it doesn’t matter what you look like. If you want to play: play.

Rich says the best part is its inclusiveness and diversity. According to Rich, there are no tryouts and everyone is encouraged to be open and supportive. To her, it’s empowering.

“It is so important to bleed purple and gold not only for your four years here, but for forever,” Rich said.

---

**RICH**

By Hannah Long

“It is so important to bleed purple and gold not only for your four years here, but for forever.”
Tucked away in a corner of the newly renovated Madison Hall, Art Dean and his team are working to direct JMU toward a more diverse and inclusive campus.

“Every faculty member or student, no matter who you are, you should feel safe,” Dean said. “At JMU, you should be comfortable to be who you are.”

Through JMU’s Office of Access and Inclusion, Dean collaborates and provides support through initiatives aimed toward deeper understanding of individuals and the struggles they face.

“Because we work with a variety of initiatives, there’s not a group across campus we don’t end up interacting with,” Dean said.

Dean and his office are shining a light on tough conversations and giving a megaphone to those who feel silenced.

“We want to make everyone aware,” Dean said. “Maybe aware of things they weren’t or to allow people to share their perspectives that could benefit the collective.”

Through creating conferences, awarding grants and other programs Dean hopes to reach students, staff, professors, future applicants and the Harrisonburg community.

“I look at my role as, not only because of my title, but because of who I am as a person, as supporting the underdog,” Dean said. “I want to make sure that all groups of people feel heard, supported and valued at JMU.”

Surrounding the freshly painted walls where Dean’s office resides pieces of vinyl letters that read quotes from influential historical figures such as JFK, Jacqueline Woodson and others.

When asked why the quotes were chosen Dean explained that they included “diversity in gender, race, age and experience to hopefully inspire and encourage people.”

Hoping to encourage more meaningful and intimate conversation among JMU’s campus, Dean knows that the work the office aims to do is plagued by the challenges of communication.

“You can think you’ve communicated with someone, but did you really?” Dean said. “There’s this illusion you’ve communicated, but it takes time to say, ‘Now I understand.’”

Working mostly behind the scenes, Dean and his office have helped launch a variety of programs through seed money that pays an expenses needed for the program to get going.

“We’ve had the Innovative Diversity Effort Award which provides seed money to faculty, students and staff to create opportunities,” Dean said. “One thing that came from this was money to do wheelchair basketball.”

Madison Hall may be new to Dean, but JMU isn’t. Three out of four of Dean’s siblings attended JMU, he met his wife on his second day at JMU purchasing books from the bookstore and now has a daughter who attends. This connection makes him passionate about giving back.

“The simple way of looking at it is that I had such a phenomenal experience at JMU,” Dean said. “It was so beneficial to my development as a person and as a leader.”

After working at JMU for 25 years, Dean thinks people are key.

“You have to recognize that doing this type of work takes lots of people,” Dean said. “So how do you build collaborations and coalitions across all groups of people? You have to make that happen.”

Stepping through the second door on the left within the office is the wizarding world of Harry Potter, also known as Kim Moubray’s office, teacups decorated to mimic the novel cover a far cabinet.

By Julia Moore
“They’re fabulous people... they really are,” Moubray said. “Everyone is family-oriented, easy to work with, even when we get busy keeping up with everything.

Dean’s supervisor, Donna Harper, is a part of JMU’s Senior Leadership Team and believes that Dean and the office are giving JMU a needed education.

“They’re also helping to prepare themselves for after college,” Harper said.

The topics and challenges presented to both Dean and the Office of Access and Inclusion don’t always have clear or easy solutions, but Harper has full confidence in Dean’s abilities.

“Art has a knack, in terms of being able to listen to someone’s issues and concerns or dreams and ideas, and listen to someone else’s issues and help those two individuals figure out what their commonalities are and what they can learn from each other,” Harper said.

Dean and the office recently received news regarding their work across all efforts including demographics, initiatives and their reach from the national publication INSIGHT Into Diversity.

“Not only did we win the award, but they came back and said because your work was so good, we want you listed as a diversity champion,” Dean said.

The success of the office is just beginning as a constant flow of new and challenging problems face JMU’s future, but Dean warns that ignoring all there is offered at JMU and in Harrisonburg will hurt individuals’ futures.

“I think the biggest thing that could happen for all people, is that you can come to JMU and get stuck in your JMU bubble and never experience things you’re unfamiliar with,” Dean said.

“For someone who did that, I came to JMU and got in my bubble, I didn’t attempt to interact with a lot of people in depth as much as I could of, I didn’t take time to take it in."

Dean hopes that students, faculty and staff will all look up and around themselves for what really matters.

“We all feel so busy, so rushed, but do you take time for the people around you and those most important to you?” Dean said. “Everything is really all about people if you just listen.”
With blockchain what comes first, opportunity or threat?

ey.com/betterworkingworld #BetterQuestions

The better the question. The better the answer. The better the world works.
With an emergency room doctor for a dad and a mom who had dreams of dental school, it only seemed natural that Emie Moore would follow her dreams of pursuing medical studies. She remembers running around the hospital as a child, where she would deliver cards to her dad’s patients.

With a love for science and children, Moore, a senior, aspired to become a pediatric oncologist. When she came to JMU, she thought it was only natural to follow in her parents’ footsteps and become a biology major just like them.

Moore has become involved in several organizations during her time as a Duke, including Camp Kesem, a free program that supports children whose parents are affected by cancer. During the week-long camp the counselors held an “Empowerment Ceremony” for the campers. It was Wednesday and Moore sat in the dead-silent circle among the campers that ranged in age from six to 14.

After Moore told her story, she tossed a ball of yarn to who would share next. The campers caught on and opened up to each other about their parents’ struggle with the disease. By the end, there wasn’t a dry eye in the group, and a spiderweb of yarn connected them all not just physically, but emotionally.

For Moore’s mother, dealing with cancer has become all too common. She has been diagnosed three times. First it was thyroid, then abdominal and most recently breast cancer. During her senior year of high school, she would head straight from school to the hospital with her grandmother so they could be there for her mom.

Moore recalls not having friends that could understand what she was going through. So, when she found out about Camp Kesem, she knew she would be able to relate to the campers.

“I was one of those kids, I just didn’t have a camp for it,” Moore said.

After the Empowerment Ceremony, Moore knew she no longer wanted to pursue pediatric oncology, but decided to stay a biology major.

Given Moore’s passion for being a part of the JMU community, one of her friends reached out about founding a new club. Love Your Melon is a national apparel brand that aims to give a hat to every child fighting cancer in America and donates 50% of their profits to non-profit partners in pediatric oncology. Moore and the other founders realized how much of an impact this organization could make and applied to establish a chapter at JMU.

When their bid was approved, the crew started to recruit members to be a part of a group that would dress up as superheroes to visit local children’s hospitals. Moore was the organization’s first secretary and now leads as president.

“She is so great with kids, and with anybody with cancer because she has such a personal tie to it,” said Lara Garzilli, the vice president of Love Your Melon at JMU. “She’s so passionate about it that I could see her doing something like being one of the regional managers for Love Your Melon and helping other crews.”

Moore has seen cancer from all sides. Her mother’s battle and her work for various organizations while at JMU have only made her want to work behind the scenes that much more. Her decision to keep her major as biology will only strengthen her work in that she will have a better understand of cancer’s grim effects on the human body.

“I have a very unique perspective of every aspect of how cancer can affect a family … or anyone around you,” Moore said.

By Lindsey Doyle

“I have a very unique perspective of every aspect of how cancer can affect a family … or anyone around you.”
Compassionate. Devoted. Selfless. These three words were used to describe Lauren Hughes, the President of CARE (Campus Assault Response), and offer an accurate and appropriate sketch of the woman that she has grown into within her community at James Madison University.

For Hughes, CARE is much more than just a hotline to call. It is a system for growth, and for many, it is the building blocks to a brighter future.

Hughes, a senior justice studies major from Manassas, Virginia, has been faithfully involved with CARE since she first came to JMU. After experiencing a “feminist awakening” in high school, Hughes felt compelled to take action. She became particularly passionate about the topic following what she believes to be JMU’s poor handling of a Title IX dispute around four years ago, about the time she was accepted to JMU.

CARE is a student-run group that focuses on supporting survivors of sexual assault. They have training for those who would like to work the helplines, which run in 24 hour shifts, seven days a week. Hughes has been a supportive friend, mentor, leader and model for members of the organization. She is considered a comforting voice for many students during a difficult or scary time in their lives.

“People get trained, but you’re not required to take calls,” explained Hughes. “You have to be in a really healthy place.”

Hughes is proud of the program, and says that it is undoubtedly an example for other institutions looking to create something similar. “She’s a good leader in that she’s not loud or bossy, she’s very open minded and willing to look at other new ideas, and takes in everything everyone says,” said Alexis Schneider, a sophomore biology and psychology double major from Winchester, Virginia. “She’s always willing to hear out other opinions. Not necessarily the loudest voice in the room, but always a comforting person.”

She took on her role in CARE with immense respect and determination for what the organization stands for, which was showcased when she began her training sessions to work on the helpline as a freshman. Wanting to feel like she was making an impact quickly, Hughes began taking calls right away.

Following this step, she trained to facilitate presentations for CARE around campus, before becoming treasurer, and now president.

Schneider also praised Hughes’s devotion to the organization. Whether it be her choice to take over the phone lines during homecoming weekend, dedicate hours to SafeRides to prevent drinking and driving or excusing herself during a dinner with a speaker to take a call for the helpline — it is clear that she is compassionate, devoted and selfless when it comes to her contributions to CARE.

Hughes spends a significant amount of time focusing on reaching communities that may be experiencing sexual assault at higher rates. She has partnered CARE with minority groups like the Black Student Alliance, and plans to partner with others. She has an innate ability to turn comments into constructive conversation and her determination to better this community and this organization shines through in the level of work that she puts in.

“She does all these amazing things,” said Schneider. “She’s an amazing human, she’s just so open and accepting. I don’t think I’ve ever heard her say anything negative.”

“Each interaction affects me in some way or shape,” said Hughes. “Things come up that I’ve never really thought about. Working in the helpline has helped me appreciate others.”

_by Liza Frazier_

“Each interaction affects me in some way or shape...The day you stop being upset about what you hear is the day that you have to quit.”

_by Liza Frazier_
When we have people [that contact the helpline] that don’t fit the [stereotypical college student] mold, it challenges me.

In regards to the prominence of sexual assault on campus, Hughes points out just how big of a problem this is at universities across the nation.

“Some parts of JMU’s culture make it difficult for survivors,” Hughes said. “It’s perceived in a different way, but at the same time I meet a lot of people that are very progressive. I do think JMU has very good resources and people.”

In regards to where JMU stands in comparison to other universities and the prominence of sexual assault, Hughes feels that they are “average,” but was quick to add that average isn’t good enough — it is still very high.

“She’s done a lot of really good work for the community on campus that people don’t really think about,” said Schneider. “You don’t always think of sexual assault survivors, of their needs. She is here for them. She wants to make their college experience count. She’s very aware socially and very ready to reach out and lend a hand to whoever.”

“CARE is where I’ve learned from the most,” Hughes said. “Right now it’s really taught me to value interpersonal relationships. Through CARE I’ve learned a lot of value and appreciation for individuals impact.”

She attributes her personal growth to spreading herself among other organizations as well that are aimed to help students and give her a wider stage. She is the only member of CARE who is also a member of Safe Rides. She also follows her other passions by participating in a pre-law fraternity.

“Being a part of different circles and diversifying the groups you’re in and bringing awareness to them, making connections and getting out of your own social bubble is important and impactful,” Hughes said.

The biggest lesson that Hughes has taken away from her time with CARE, is that people are coming to her at their toughest time. There is a need for empathy in our complex society, and she feels she can’t lose that edge and become numb to the stories that she is hearing.

“The day you stop being upset about what you hear is the day that you have to quit,” Hughes said.
SIGN AND GET
UNLIMITED UTILITIES

AMAZON FIRE STICK
LIMITED TIME ONLY

LIVE BETTER
LIVE THE HILLS

SIGN TODAY

540.432.0600 | live-thehills.com
Reaching out for the Starbucks cup, Maggie Wallace’s right hand closed around the cardboard sleeve. A quick thanks was given to her psychology professor, Bill Evans, as she accepted the drink from him and continued her conversation with another TA in the classroom.

Every Wednesday morning, Evans and his TAs for the job prep course he teaches — a class that focuses on servant leadership abilities in the workforce — get together for a meeting. And every Wednesday morning, each TA can expect a cup of their favorite coffee, courtesy of their professor.

“When he’s in a conversation with you, he’s really intentional and is paying attention,” Wallace, a senior psychology major, said of Evans. “He’s not just working to get a salary. He’s working because he likes it, and he values education and values his students.”

Evans’ exposure to his mother’s bipolar disorder piqued his interest in psychology and counseling in high school. As an undergraduate, he took a different route studying religion and, in 1984, he became a chaplain in the Air Force, serving for more than 25 years. During his time in the Reserves, Evans obtained a master’s degree from Duke, an Ed.S. degree for marriage and family therapy along with a doctorate at the University of South Carolina. He opened his own private practice and pastored a church for over a decade, and he was called up to active duty three times.

JMU provided a number of firsts for Evans — the university allowed him to teach psychology classes full time; introduced him to his best friend Mark Warner, the senior vice president of student affairs; and granted him and his wife Cindy the opportunity to lead study abroad trips to Italy and Austria. On the other hand, Evans has contributed to many of JMU’s firsts as well, like beginning the first JMU psychology program established in Italy 14 years ago.

On a Sunday evening this past summer, Evans and Cindy stepped out of Hotel Fortuna in Perugia, a small Italian city two hours south of Florence. As the couple made their way toward the ornamented Catholic church in the center of the piazza, they were followed by a cluster of JMU students. The pair invited those participating in the cross-cultural psychology program to a service exclusively spoken in Italian.

Niki Clemmer, a senior kinesiology major, fell into step next to Evans, the two actively avoiding loose cobblestones coating the street. Almost instinctively, Evans began to take an interest in Clemmer’s life, making it a point to get to know each and every student on the trip. He spoke to her about his outlook on the meaning of time, as Evans believes an individual should not measure it by hours in a day but, rather, the moments you spend doing the things you love.

“That really hit a chord with me,” Clemmer said, mentioning another instance when Evans had commented on the fact that we are called human beings, not human doings. Spirituality plays a large role in the Evans’ identity, which shines through in both study abroad programs (students visit Holocaust concentration camps in Austria and about 15 cathedrals in Italy) and his teaching. Introducing leadership into the psychology department, Evans credits Jesus Christ as a perfect role model for servant leadership — to lead from behind.

“More than ever, we need servant leaders to lead in all aspects of leadership,” Evans said. There are recurring events that Evans experiences regularly. He leads trips to Italy and Austria every summer. He meets with his
TAs each week and never fails to bring them a drink. And every month, he, Mark Warner and two other professors make it a point to get together for breakfast at the on-campus Chick-Fil-A. 7:30 a.m. sharp.

Cracks of bright sunlight were emerging from behind the crests of the Blue Ridge Mountains, gradually warming the dewy October grass. Main Campus was briefly bathed in a pale pink shadow before a clear sky broke through, casting a light on Evans and Warner making their way toward the fast-food restaurant to meet their counterparts inside. They share stories, and Warner listens to his friends’ accounts of being in the military.

"Bill is always the glue that holds us together," said Warner. "He provides humor for us, but then he also provides the depth and sensitivity and caring. It's just his consistency throughout."

Consistent he is, as Clemmer recalls a moment in Italy where the class piled onto a ferry, carrying the students to Passignano sul Trasimeno, a small lake town. Normally, Evans and the other professors on the trip participate in whatever the group is up to, but sometimes a break from 35 college students is needed. "They were all on the dock waving goodbye like we were their children," Clemmer laughs at the memory, knowing fully well that Evans would be a part of the next activity. "There’s nothing that he ever asked our group to do that I didn’t see him doing himself. I think that shows a good leader is somebody who people trust."
THIS YEAR, JMU WILL SEND

OVER 1,300 STUDENTS
ON 80 PROGRAMS
TO 50 COUNTRIES

WHERE WILL YOU GO?

THE WORLD IS YOUR CLASSROOM...
Find out more information about study abroad by visiting www.jmu.edu/global

CENTERS FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT
For Caoimhe O’Sullivan Roche, a trip to Cartagena, Columbia, in 2016 inspired her to pioneer a virtual reality and 3-D modeling company. Roche was working on a project for a cross-collaborative course through JMU X-Labs. Roche and her team members used a drone to take pictures of deteriorating limestone walls that posed a threat to the community. With these photos, the team created three-dimensional models of the walls to be used for a restoration project.

“That was the catalyst for starting the business,” said Roche, senior WRTC and Industrial Design major. “We got back, and people were saying ‘You know, you can do this as a [career].’”

Thus Canvex LLC was born.
Roche and JMU alumnus Nicholas Sipes co-founded the company in April 2017.

“Our focus is to become the sole virtual reality and 3-D touring and modeling company,” Roche said.

Sipes says the chemistry he and Roche have makes them ideal partners.

“We’re like minded-enough to where we can finish each others sentences and know what the next move is going to be,” Sipes said, “but different thinkers enough that we’re approaching problems with creative mindsets.”

They had the opportunity to grow Canvex when participating in the JMU Center for Entrepreneurship fellowship program during the summer of 2017.

During the fellowship, they began working on the “Picturing Harrisonburg” exhibit, which raced the city’s history since 1828.
Roche and her business partner worked on a 3-D model of the city municipal building for the exhibit. The finished product was a model of the building from the late 1800s, early 1900’s and one within the last two years.
“Symbolically, it’s this representation of how Harrisonburg has developed and how what we value has developed as well as how we categorize our history,” Roche said.

She explained that the new City Hall adjoins a Bluestone building that used to be a schoolhouse, which the city council talked about knocking down for several years.

“That’s the story of Harrisonburg and that’s the story of that exhibit,” Roche said. “We knocked down a lot of buildings that would now be so incredible to have and we turned them into parking lots.”
Roche has grown fond of Harrisonburg.
She says she has become fascinated with the preservation and historical relevancy of the city. She is writing her senior thesis on urban planning in Harrisonburg.

When she was a sophomore, she began helping JMU Alumna Louise Whitmer (’43) write a memoir.

“It was the biggest part of college for me for a really long time,” Roche said.

Over the two years she helped Whitmer with the memoir the two developed an incredible relationship.

“I learned so much about the town,” said Roche. “I think that’s why I became so passionate about Harrisonburg.”

When she’s not running her business, she can be seen practicing with her fellow JMU women’s rugby players — in which she previously served as captain. She has dabbled in freelance web writing, historical conservation and was a designer for the non-profit Local Environmental Agricultural Project Inc., which provides fresh produce to areas in the greater Roanoke area.

“She is out there in everything she does, she just goes for it,” said Roshna Wunderlich, women’s rugby head coach. “She’s the lead-by-example type.”
Roche graduated in December.

“Building a startup at the end of my college career and having something to go into is this really incredible thing,” Roche said. “Autonomy gives me the ability to craft my life the way I desire.”

Roche says she is lucky to have found her niche.

“There’s something to be said about having a feeling of purpose in what you’re doing.”
If you've ever met Maddie Pfaff, you probably see her as the life of any party. What most of her fellow JMU students may not know is that for the past eight years, she has dedicated the majority of her free time to helping those with special needs.

"I don't do this for recognition or so people can think I'm good," Pfaff said. "It's just what I love to do."

In her hometown of Westminster, Maryland, Pfaff helps a 22-year-old girl named Madison DeFeo, who was diagnosed with cerebral palsy and intellectual disabilities. DeFeo is non-verbal and benefits from the help of Pfaff. After spending two years together, Pfaff doesn't see herself as an aid, but as a sister.

"Just because she's different in a certain way doesn't mean she doesn't want to do normal 22-year-old things," Pfaff said. "The point is to help her have her best life."

Pfaff is inspired by DeFeo's mother who preaches the importance of treating her daughter the same as she would anyone else. According to Pfaff, it's important to be inclusive with Madison. Sometimes Pfaff will even take her out to the bar and share appetizers.

"I know as much about her as I do myself; she's nonverbal but I've learned all her ticks and cues," Pfaff said. "I'm able to communicate with her just as well as anyone else."

For Pfaff, the most rewarding part of the job is when they finally understand something that you've been working so hard to teach them. Even something as simple as saying thank you. Over the summer Pfaff went on vacation with DeFeo's family to be there for her at all times. Pfaff admitted she became frustrated with Madison's stubbornness towards the end of the week.

Working with people with disabilities can be tough at times but that never stops Pfaff. She was trying to aid DeFeo to the bathroom but she refused to listen to her. Eventually DeFeo's dad came through and helped her while Pfaff went to go make breakfast. Soon enough, DeFeo reappeared with her dad where he asked her to thank Pfaff for making her food. For the first time in the two years that Pfaff has known DeFeo, she said Pfaff's name out loud and actually thanked her.

"In that moment I wasn't angry anymore; it made the frustration worth it," Pfaff said.

Pfaff has been working with Best Buddies, a program that pairs students with individuals who have disabilities, since her freshman year of high school. Since then, she knew she wanted to be an occupational therapist. Today, Pfaff is the vice president of the Best Buddies program at JMU and often travels to Guatemala to aid those in need.

Her leadership is amazing because she makes sure we have fun, involved activities and speakers," said Lauren Airey, the secretary of Best Buddies at JMU. "Her dedication inspires others to reach that level as well."

Pfaff's buddy is about 70 years old but that doesn't stop Pfaff from making a strong bond; others in the club look up to their friendship. Airey, a sophomore, gushed over how strong of a person Pfaff is. She explained that you can tell Pfaff tries her best every single day and pushes herself on every level.

A few years ago, Pfaff decided she wanted to find a mission trip that was heading somewhere to help those with disabilities. Her own church happened to be going to Guatemala for 10 days to help at the Down Syndrome School in Guatemala, the only special needs school in the country. She couldn't stop gushing over how she views the country as a second home; this past summer was her second time going back. While her original draw to the program was to help kids with special needs, Pfaff discovered her passion to help others had no boundaries.

"She told me it was the most rewarding experience of her life," Airey said.

Her mission trip also had visits to the Hope and Future home, a safe house for girls who had been abused or had escaped human trafficking. Pfaff found herself deeply drawn to connecting with the girls that lived there. This is where she met Gabby, a young teenage girl who grew up with an abusive mother, surrounded by drugs and violence. Pfaff became very close with Gabby and spent most of her time keeping her company.

Pfaff is doing the best to stay in touch with her and writes letters that she sends to Guatemala. She hopes to continue her studies in occupational therapy with grad school and dreams of one day living and working in Guatemala.
SPIA SPRING 2018 SYMPOSIUM
presents

FREEDOM OF SPEECH
ON THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS:
Implications for Students and Faculty

Jon Alger, President, James Madison University
Tammy Castle, Associate Professor of Justice Studies
Brad Jenkins, General Manager of The Breeze
Bob Roberts, Professor of Political Science
Roger Soenksen, Professor, School of Media Arts and Design

Wednesday, January 31, 2018
Madison Union 404, 4:00PM

for more information please contact Melinda Adams
adams2mj@jmu.edu
For some people, moving across the world means they need a few months to adjust themselves to their new life. JMU professor Nasser Al Saadun took less than two weeks before helping other refugees adjust to their new American life.

“Taking care of the community is the message; I like to help people,” Al Saadun said.

The Arabic professor’s office lies within JMU’s Maury Hall. Beyond his passion for educating JMU students, Al Saadun works to promote equality and understanding toward people of all ethnic backgrounds in the Harrisonburg community.

“We [refugees] are not as they portray us,” Al Saadun said. “We need to be part of the community.”

Al Saadun arrived in Harrisonburg in 2008, and while he is known for being a JMU and Bridgewater College professor, he also helps volunteer for various English-Arabic programs, some of which he started, and owns a local grocery store.

Due to his involvement with the various communities of Harrisonburg, he doesn’t have much free time. His role in the community comes from his message. As a refugee, Al Saadun knows the difficulty in getting adjusted to life in the Valley.

One of the ways Al Saadun often helps fellow immigrants is with immigration paperwork.

“I’m helping them because it’d cost them a lot, so I’m doing that for free,” Al Saadun said.

Every day, Al Saadun wakes up at 6:30 a.m. to get his eldest of four children to the bus stop. He then drives 20 minutes to Bridgewater to begin teaching Arabic at 8 a.m.

At noon, Al Saadun pulls open the glass doors of Babylon on South Main Street in Harrisonburg. He is the owner and manager of the restaurant, which features Middle Eastern cuisine. He checks in on his business between teaching classes at Bridgewater and JMU.

“It is something very special,” Liana Al Saadun, his coworker and younger sister said. “Some people, they don’t know Arabic and they don’t know anything about the Middle East. [I want] to talk to them and make conversation about the food and everything in here.”

Zohaib Afridi, a sophomore Computer Science major, is one of 40 students in Al Saadun’s Arabic 101 course at JMU. Afridi has been able read Arabic since childhood, but is new to the speaking and writing in the language.

“He’s really good at explaining [Arabic] and that’s what kind of brings me back to the class. Otherwise I’d be like ‘This is impossible to learn.’” Afridi said.

Despite Al Saadun’s busy schedule, he never fails to make time for his students.

“Whenever I need to go see [him] it’s not too much of like a hassle,” Afridi said. “I even bump into him in town more than usual.”

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Al Saadun goes to the Lucy P. Simms Continuing Education Center in Harrisonburg to run the Kids’ Arabic Program—an after-school Arabic program he created. Since its humble beginnings, the class size has grown exponentially, and the program is offered through Harrisonburg’s Parks and Recreation Department.

“It is just here to help the community, the migrant community, to keep the culture and language and that will help enriching the U.S. community here,” Al Saadun said.
However, Al Saadun’s work with the Harrisonburg migrant community doesn’t end there. Al Saadun also works with the English language program sponsored by the Islamic Center of Shenandoah Valley.

“We are taking care of others — they’re for all Muslims and non-Muslims,” Al Saadun said.

The program, also sponsored by the Church World Service Immigration and Refugee Center, helps to teach native Arabic speakers English with the aim to increase their involvement within their new community and to help open better employment opportunities.

“The beginners are in need of knowing English grammar in Arabic,” Al Saadun said. “Then we can have them studying English. The first level, essentials, are critical.”

In an era when cultural division is promoted by our country’s leadership, it is imperative for people like Al Saadun to continue to work to foster equality in their community.

“We want to show that we are here to live, to look for education, we have something to do, to give to the community here,” Al Saadun concludes.
SELECT FLOOR PLANS
ALMOST SOLD OUT!

SIGN TODAY TO SECURE YOUR SPACE FOR FALL 2018

FULLY FURNISHED

JOE COFFEE BAR WITH COMPLIMENTARY STARBUCKS

24-HOUR JIM FITNESS CENTER WITH YOGA ROOM

PET FRIENDLY WITH DOG PARK
Discover The Best Kept Secret In Banking

Online & Mobile Banking  Visa® Debit and Credit Cards  Savings & Club Accounts

55,000+ No-Fee ATMs  5,000+ Shared Branches  Auto Loans & More

Experience the Better Way to Bank at CommonWealth One
Visit cofcu.org/jmuplan today!

CommonWealth One
Federal Credit Union
Your Lifetime Financial Partner

Madison Union Branch (Next to the Post Office)
Mon-Thurs: 9:00am-5:00pm • Fri: 9:00am-5:30pm • (800) 424-3334
Federally Insured by NCUA. Equal Opportunity Lender.