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### El Leñador, April 2020

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# ◊ *El leñador* ◊

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Vol. 14 Edición 3

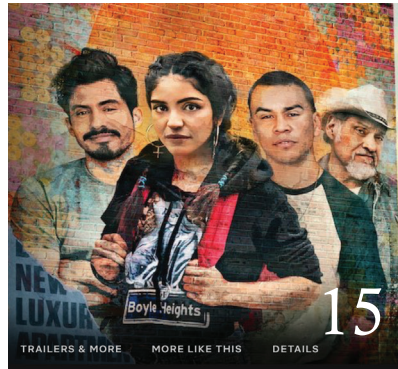
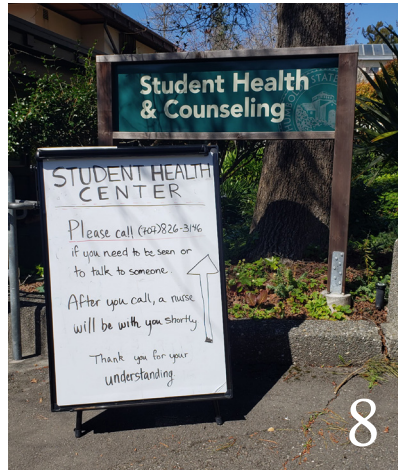
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# El Leñador

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Alejandro Arredondo

Foto de la portada por  
Alejandro Arredondo

## MISSION STATEMENT

El Leñador is an English and Spanish newspaper produced by Humboldt State University students. Our staff cover and provide news to Latinx and other diverse communities on campus and in Humboldt County. We are committed to providing relevant news and expanding the representations and stories told about people of color and other marginalized groups. Our work helps create more social, political and cultural diversity in local media.

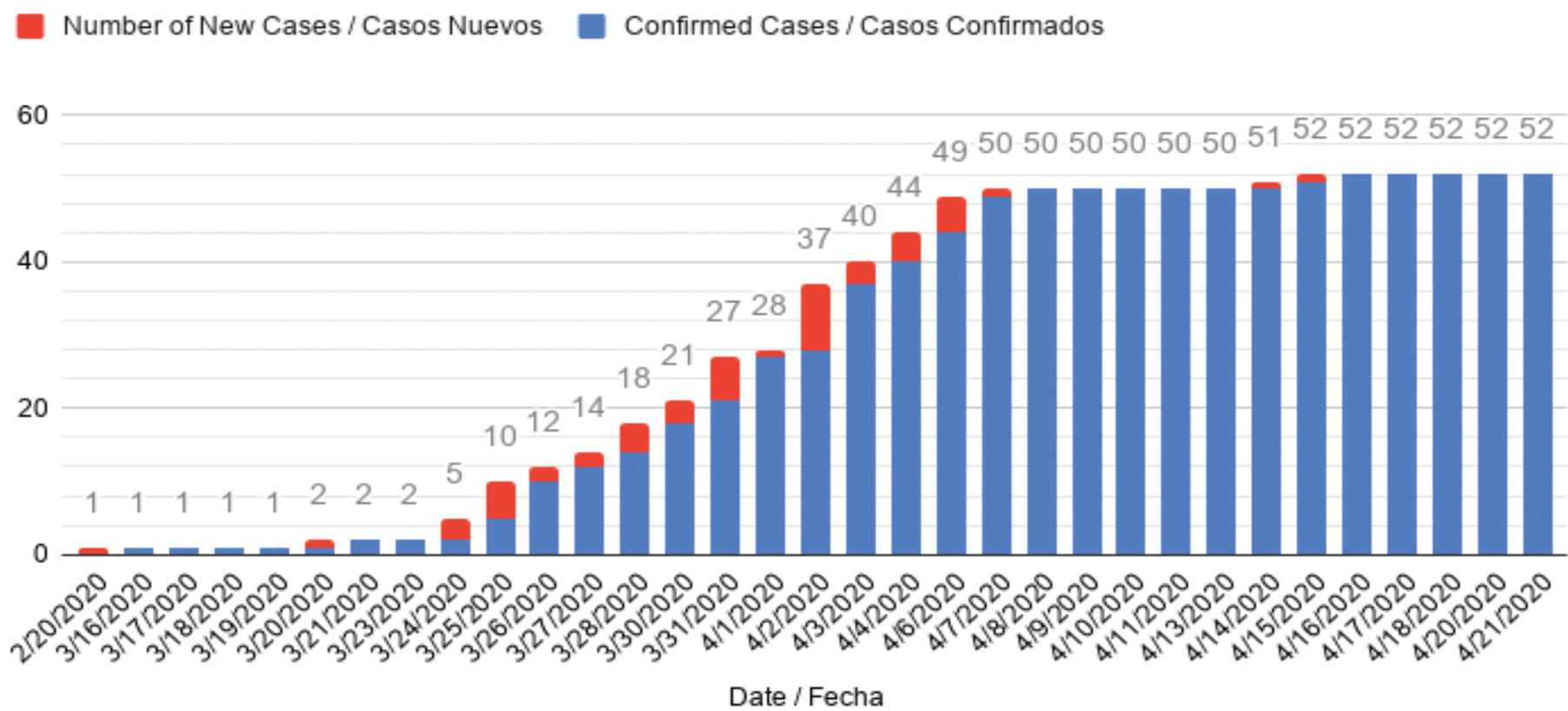


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# Total Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Humboldt County

## Total de casos confirmados de COVID-19 en el condado de Humboldt



Source: "COVID Test Results." Humboldt County, [humboldt.gov.org/2707/COVID-Test-Results](http://humboldt.gov.org/2707/COVID-Test-Results)

All data was provided by the Humboldt County DHHS, and made available online at [humboldt.gov.org](http://humboldt.gov.org). Image is current as of April 21, 2020. | Graphic by Sam Ramirez

# Tracking COVID-19 cases in Humboldt County

by Sam Ramirez

The Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services reported the first case of COVID-19 on February 20. The second case was reported a month later on March 20.

As of April 21, there are 52 confirmed cases in Humboldt County, with no new confirmed cases since April 15.

This infographic tracks the confirmed number of COVID-19 cases in Humboldt County from February until present, as reported by the Humboldt County DHHS.

Since then Humboldt County has tested 1700+ people as of April 20.

The data is constantly changing, and El Leñador is committed to providing our readers with the most up to date data.

To keep updated, scan QR code below.



## DSSH de Humboldt ofrece un correo electrónico, línea telefónica para preguntas de COVID-19 en español

por Nancy Garcia

El Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (DSSH) del condado de Humboldt tiene disponible un correo electrónico y línea telefónica en donde se están recibiendo preguntas en español y inglés de la comunidad sobre COVID-19.

Recibimos esta información por medio de un correo electrónico de Meriah Miracle, oficial de educación pública con el DSSH, y un correo electrónico de Humboldt Health Alert.

El correo electrónico es [covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us), y el numero de telefo-

no es 707-441-5000. Puede llamar de lunes a viernes de 8 a.m.- 7 p.m., sabados de 10 a.m-2 p.m., y estan cerrados los domingos.

Para consejo médico o preguntas sobre pruebas, llama 707-445-6200, la interpretación al español también está disponible para este número.

Se puede encontrar información en español del Centros para el Control y Prevención de Enfermedades sobre COVID-19 en <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index-sp.html>



# Comida gratis en el Condado de Humboldt durante COVID-19

por Jasmine Martinez y Lupita Rivera traducido por Lupita Rivera

Centros comunitarios, bancos de comida y la Universidad Estatal de Humboldt estarán proporcionando asistencia de comida gratis para miembros de la comunidad y estudiantes por igual en respuesta a la pandemia COVID-19.

Los horarios y las ubicaciones de estos recursos varían en todo el condado de Humboldt, con servicios de recoje y entrega a domicilio en ciertas áreas.

En seguida se especifican organizaciones que proveen ayuda durante la cuarentena de COVID-19 (desde 4/8/20):

## Food for People (Comida para la Gente)

Food for People, el banco de comida para el condado de Humboldt, ha agregado un enlace en respuesta a la pandemia que se encuentra en su sitio web oficial.

“Muchos están sufriendo en la comunidad con el llamado a quedarse en casa — desde las familias en casa con los niños, a gente mayor sin poder salir de sus casas, o aquellos que han perdido sus ingresos,” lee el sitio web. “Nuestro personal está trabajando para asegurar que podamos proveer comida de manera sanitaria a los que la necesiten.”

Unos métodos de prevención que han tomado para evitar la propagación del virus incluyen, pero no son limitados a, empaque de comida en bolsas, la entrega de comida

en su coche, la desinfección de utensilios y aumentando espacio para que gente practique la distancia social.

**Ubicación y Horario:** Actualmente Food for People tiene despensas en Arcata, Blue Lake, Bridgeville, Eureka, Ferndale, Fortuna, Garberville, Loleta, McKinleyville, Orick, Scotia, Trinidad y Willow Creek. La información más actual de los horarios y las ubicaciones de las despensas se encuentran en su sitio web oficial.

Food for People también tiene el Programa de Entrega en Casa para aquellos que no pueden salir de su casa por razones médicas. Los detalles de la aplicación se encuentran en su sitio web o pueden llamar a (707) 445-3166, ext. 309.

**Actualización:** La organización también tendrá una distribución auto-servicio el viernes, 10 de abril de 2 a 4 p.m. fuera del estacionamiento de Sear's en el Bayshore Mall, cerca de Bayshore Way.

El auto-servicio está destinada para ayudar a aquellos que tienen dificultades financieras durante este tiempo, y los voluntarios cargarán alimentos directamente en los automóviles para ayudar a minimizar el riesgo de exposición.

Para preguntas, pueden llamar a la línea directa de Food for People al (707) 445-3166.

## Centro Comunitario Jefferson, Eureka

El centro seguirá ofreciendo su servicio gratuito de frutas y verduras los sábados a las 10 a.m., estarán afuera siguiendo reglas sanitarias y practicando la distancia social cuando la gente recoja sus productos.

Jenny Martinez, líder del programa juvenil, dijo que estarán abiertos al público ofreciendo productos como lechuga, zanahorias, papas, cebolla, etc. Servirán por orden de llegada, sin embargo, dijo que no habrá límites y darán lo que tengan.

Heidi Benzonelli, directora del Centro Comunitario Jefferson, dijo, “en casos limitados, estaremos entregando a domicilio, solo en situaciones necesarias.”

Servicios a domicilio serán solo para los residentes de Eureka que estén enfermos o aquellos que no puedan salir de sus casas, sin embargo, el público general podrá recoger los productos en persona. Benzonelli dijo que han estado sirviendo de 10 a 20 personas diarias.

**Ubicación y Horario:** El Centro Comunitario Jefferson está ubicado en 1000 B St, Eureka, CA 95501. El número telefónico primario es (707)- 497-6280.

De lunes a viernes, se les dará almuerzo y cena gratis a jóvenes de 18 para abajo. Almuerzo es de 11 a.m. a 1 p.m., cena es servida de 3 p.m. a 5 p.m. Los niños tendrán que comer en el sitio.

La comida se separará individualmente en cajas de bento, y se servirá en mesas con distancia y desinfectadas después de cada uso.

## Oficina de Educación de Humboldt County

Horarios y ubicaciones para recoje de comida de escuelas públicas de K-12 son disponibles en su sitio de web.

## OhSNAP!

OhSNAP! está ofreciendo comida pre-empacadas gratis dos veces por semana a estudiantes matriculados de HSU.

**Ubicación y Horarios:** Se encuentran en el primer piso del Jolly Giant Commons. Miércoles de 10 a.m. a mediodía, jueves de 1 a 3 p.m. Si hay conflicto con estos horarios, los estudiantes pueden mandar un correo electrónico a mira@humboldt.edu y pedir un tiempo que trabaja mejor.

El programa seguirá asistiendo al público general con preguntas sobre CalFresh y Medical, hospedando horarios de oficina virtuales los martes y viernes de 2 a 4:30 p.m. en <https://humboldtstate.zoom.us/j/104376654>. Para hacer cita, manden un correo electrónico a ravin@humboldt.edu.

Recaudación de fondos:

## Fondos para Séptima Generación de Gente Indígena, Inc.

La Séptima Generación de Gente Indígena está pidiendo “apoyo para comunidades indígenas impactadas por el crisis” a través de un “Flicker Fund.” La beca proporcionará comida, agua, productos de higiene y otras materias esenciales para gente indígena afectada por COVID-19.



Food for People, located on 2112 Broadway in Eureka, has been offering food resources to those in need during the COVID-19 quarantine. | Photo by Lupita Rivera



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## HSU housing remains open during quarantine

by Lupita Rivera

Humboldt State University residence halls are open and will remain available for students until the May 16 move out day. Housing staff is doing their best to accommodate all students still on campus and those who are looking to move out.

Director of Housing Operations Todd Larsen stated over the phone that Humboldt State housing staff are doing their best to provide support for students who remain in the dorms. Larsen confirms 300 students are still living in the residence halls with the number getting smaller as the May 16 move out day approaches.

"A lot of students have determined they want to stay here in Humboldt versus staying at home," Larsen said. "We have worked with folks that want to move out, those that want to stay and just sort of opened it up to whatever they need."

Larsen acknowledges that being back home might not be the greatest place for some students. Resident Advisors are still available for concerns, emergency response and lockouts.

Housing is refunding rent and meal plan fees for students choosing to move out. Once

students turn in their keys, housing will prorate housing fees including any meal points that are left. They have processed about 1100 move outs already and are prepared to best help students through this process.

College Creek resident Madison Benson decided to stay and said she was thankful that the university did not force students to leave the residence halls. Benson said those around her in the residence halls were most concerned with not having a place to stay.

"A lot of people I went to high school with had to go back regardless of if they wanted to, they just weren't gonna provide them housing on campus anymore," Benson said.

There is no handbook on what to do in these kinds of situations, but Larsen and his team are ready to answer any questions students might have, especially with room registrations for next semester opening up.

"Every day is a new adventure," Larsen said. "We're writing the rules as we go."

The housing front desk will be open Monday- Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. with calls being routed to available staff that are working from home. They will respond to any questions or concerns via email at [housing@humboldt.edu](mailto:housing@humboldt.edu).

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Fall 2020 semester

◀ *El leñador* ▶



# COVID-19 related xenophobia hits Humboldt County

## Humboldt's Asian Community Experiences Racism and Xenophobia amid COVID-19 Pandemic

By: Nancy Garcia

Humboldt County may be behind the rest of the country in terms of the number of COVID-19 cases, but like the rest of the U.S., there have been instances of racial discrimination and xenophobia directed against the Asian community.

A report from the Federal Investigation Bureau's Houston Office is predicting that the U.S. will see an increase in the number of hate crimes against Asian Americans, according to an ABC article. This prediction is based on the association that people have been making between COVID-19 and Asian Americans.

Some residents of Humboldt are beginning to see anti-Asian discrimination come true. Humboldt State University senior and Asian Desi Pacific Islander Collective (ADPIC) President and Coordinator Tammy Prakonkham is one of these people.

Phrakonkham said that ADPIC held a meeting in January when COVID-19 was first detected in the U.S. In that meeting, she said that a lot of members shared that they felt like they were experiencing misdirected racism just for being Asian.

Phrakonkham said that she experienced this kind of discrimination on multiple occasions. One was during a class discussion where students were making racist comments about why the coronavirus originated in China. She says that the professor failed to step in and say anything, so she ended up dropping the class.

"I was just like, this isn't a class that I really want to be sitting in... And I was the only Asian person in that class, and I just felt super uncomfortable," Phrakonkham said.

Another incident occurred when she was on a packed bus on her way to school. She said she had an open seat next to her and offered it to an older man, but he refused to sit next to her and then started to go on a tangent about the coronavirus.

"I feel like you should definitely not let someone be racist or just, you know, xenophobic or any kind of ism to somebody else," Phrakonkham said.

Douglas Smith, coordinator for the African American Center for Academic Excellence, also believes that it's important for people to step in when witnessing discrimination.

Smith witnessed an exchange between an Asian student who he recognized and another student. The other student was



The typically buzzing Arcata Plaza is quiet on day five of the shelter-in-place ordinance that started midnight on March 20. | Photo by Lupita Rivera

asking the Asian student things that Smith said qualified as microaggressions, which are subtle or unintentional statements or actions of discrimination against members of marginalized groups. Smith waited until fewer students were present and then went to talk with the student who had asked the questions.

While he didn't think their intention was to be harmful, Smith explained to the student why the questions they asked were problematic.

Smith also noted the deeper consequences that these acts of racism and xenophobia can have.

"Historically, referring to people as less than human, the use of otherization and scapegoating, have been the first steps towards forced removals, concentration camps, internment camps, lynchings and genocide," Smith said via email.

This topic has been prevalent on social media as well.

People have shared their stories about COVID-19 related discrimination that they've experienced due to their race. Some people have even managed to capture these moments on video and have posted them online.

Residents of Humboldt have also taken to

social media to share their experiences.

On the Facebook group Humboldt County On Alert, member Mai Conway shared her own experiences of how others have treated her.

"It's ridiculous I can't go out in public without being told to get away from someone because I supposedly have the coronavirus...", Conway said in her Facebook post.

Phrakonkham said that when people like President Donald Trump use language like the "Chinese virus," it can give the public someone to blame and cause misdirected anger and fear.

However, it's not all bad. Phrakonkham said that one positive that has come out of this situation is that Asian communities have come together due to an "us against them" mentality.

She also noted that she's seen a lot of non-Asian people trying to support Asian business. Ultimately, she hopes that everyone can support each other.

"I understand that, you know, people are scared and angry, and it's really uncertain right now," Phrakonkham said. "I know that a lot of people have lost a lot of jobs with the shutdown. But I just hope, you know, that we can all just be nice to each other."

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**"I feel like  
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let someone  
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xenophobic or  
any kind of ism  
to somebody  
else."**

---

-Tammy Prakonkham, ADPIC President  
and Coordinator



# DHHS vamps up efforts to help county residents

by Carlos Holguin

The Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has created a COVID-19 webpage to help direct people to available services, community resources and to answer questions while the shelter-in-place order is in effect.

DHHS has also established the Community Mental Health Line during this time. Residents within the county can call 707-268-2999 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to talk to mental health representatives in both English and Spanish.

A Mental Health Resources page has also been established if “you are feeling anxious, worried, or depressed related to the current health crisis and need someone to talk to.”

Testing for COVID-19 needs to be requested by a health care provider, said DHHS Spokesperson Christine Messinger in an email.

“Once the provider collects the specimen, they send it to either the local Public Health Laboratory or an out-of-area commercial lab for processing,” Messinger said.

“If an individual does not have a primary care provider, they can contact their local emergency department for guidance.”

Part of the need for a health care provider to send a request is an effort to slow the spread, or as the CDC has called it “flatten the curve.” This refers to the attempts to minimize the number of patients that are tested and seen to prevent the thinning of resources within hospitals and stop the number of cases from expanding.

One of the locations that individuals may be tested is St. Joseph Hospital in Eureka, which has been designated as a COVID-19 testing center by the Providence medical group.

In addition to onsite testing, the hospital has also created a link to an assessment tool. The online tool can also be used to answer some questions that the public may have, such as ways the virus spreads and what common symptoms are.

Both St. Joseph Hospital and DHHS are reminding citizens to follow all quarantine orders and to avoid unnecessary travel during this time.

## DHHS plantea esfuerzos para ayudar a los residentes del condado

por Carlos Holguin y traducido por Alexandra Gonzalez

El Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos del Condado de Humboldt (DHHS) ha creado una página web sobre COVID-19 para ayudar a dirigir a las personas a los servicios disponibles, recursos comunitarios y responder preguntas mientras el orden de refugio en el lugar está en efecto.

DHHS también ha iniciado la Línea de Salud Mental Comunitaria durante este tiempo. Los residentes dentro del condado pueden llamar al 707-268-2999 de lunes a viernes de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m. para hablar con representantes de salud mental en inglés y español.

También se ha establecido una página de Recursos de Salud Mental si “se siente ansioso, preocupado o deprimido relacionado con la crisis de salud actual y necesita hablar con alguien.”

Las pruebas para COVID-19 deben ser solicitadas por un proveedor de atención médica, dijo la portavoz de DHHS Christine Messinger en un correo electrónico.

“Una vez que el proveedor recoge la muestra, la envía al Laboratorio de Salud Pública local o a un laboratorio comercial fuera del área para su procesamiento,” dijo Messinger. “Si una persona no tiene un proveedor de atención primaria, puede comuni-

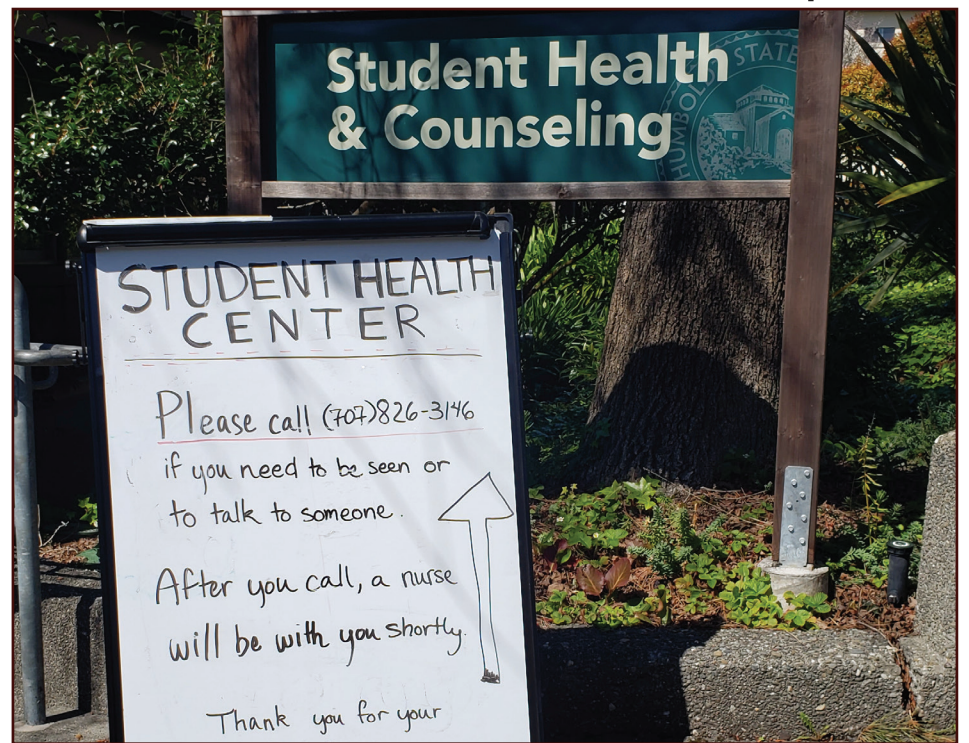
carse con su departamento de emergencias local para obtener orientación.”

Parte de la necesidad de que un proveedor de atención médica envíe una solicitud es un esfuerzo por frenar la propagación, o como los CDC lo han llamado “aplanar la curva.” Esto se refiere a los intentos de minimizar el número de pacientes que se prueban y se ven para evitar desperdiciar los recursos dentro de los hospitales y detener el expansión de los número de casos en la comunidad.

Uno de los lugares que las personas pueden ser analizadas es St. Joseph Hospital en Eureka, que ha sido designado como un centro de pruebas COVID-19 por el grupo médico Providence.

Además de las pruebas in situ, el hospital también ha creado un enlace a una herramienta de evaluación. La herramienta en línea también se puede utilizar para responder a algunas preguntas que el público puede tener, como las formas en que el virus se propaga y cuáles son las síntomas comunes.

Tanto el Hospital St. Joseph como el DHHS están recordando a los ciudadanos que sigan todas las órdenes de cuarentena y eviten viajes innecesarios durante este tiempo.



A sign outside of the Student Health and Counseling building at Humboldt State informs those still on campus of the new procedures. | Photo by Carlos Holguin

## Student Health Services adapts to quarantine

by Carlos Holguin

In order to maintain both the physical and mental well-being of students and staff currently residing here on campus during the shelter-in-place order, Student Health Services has modified some services online and has reduced hours for in-person visitation.

According to Administrative Analyst Jennifer Slye Moore, Student Health and Counseling has changed its hours of availability and is asking students to call ahead of time to schedule appointments and have limited the number of face-to-face appointments.

“In order to continue to safely serve students, we have expanded our services to offer telehealth and Zoom appointments with medical providers,” said Slye Moore. “We were able to quickly transition to the telehealth format without much difficulty and students have been responsive to the service.”

The Student Health Services website states that the offices are open Monday to Friday from 9:15 a.m. to noon for phone calls and teleservices. Physical services include the pharmacy, lab services and in-person appointments from 1 to 4:15 p.m. Slye Moore asks students to call ahead of time in order to schedule an appointment to be seen.

“The Student Health Center is still also offering limited in-person acute services,” said Slye Moore.

According to her this includes but is not

limited to “...treatment of minor injuries, mental health, respiratory illnesses, COVID-19 screening, STI treatment, other acute medical conditions and pharmacy services.”

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) has moved into an online capacity as well, with teletherapy sessions via Zoom or by phone call. In addition to group and individual sessions, CAPS is also hosting a variety of workshops that students can access through Zoom.

While some of the workshops like “Managing Social Isolation & Anxiety in Crisis” and “Staying Healthy (Body and Mind) While Quarantining” have been created specifically to help during the epidemic, CAPS has also worked to get pre-existing events like the African American Center for Academic Excellence’s Talking Drum Circle to an online format.

Slye Moore said over email that the online additions have enabled them to continue caring for students even from afar.

“Telehealth has enabled us to continue to provide patient care to students that are currently living out of the area and also enabling local students to receive care while sheltering in place,” said Slye Moore.

Students can check for dates and times of all currently planned workshops at <https://counseling.humboldt.edu/groups-during-coronavirus> while appointments with CAPS can be made by calling (707) 826-3236 or email at [hsucaps@humboldt.edu](mailto:hsucaps@humboldt.edu).



# Centro del Pueblo supports Latinx community amid COVID-19 outbreak

by Alexandra Gonzalez

Taking into consideration the needs of the local Latinx community, Centro Del Pueblo, a local grassroots organization, held a virtual town hall meeting on April 3 where members of the community expressed their concern about the lack of information available to Spanish speaking families in Humboldt county.

Currently, there are no Spanish television channels in Humboldt county and only one Spanish radio channel.

"As someone who had to leave Michoacan because of violence, to come here and see the hardship in this community, it gives me courage," Brenda Perez, a key organizer for Centro del Pueblo said.

For Centro del Pueblo, it is imperative to help the undocumented families in the local community who will not be eligible for a federal relief check, cannot file for unemployment and as a volunteer pointed out, are generally afraid of seeking help due to the unfairness associated with their legal status.

So far, the organization has raised almost \$5,000 on GoFundMe for undocumented families who will not be getting a relief check. They delivered packages to seven Fortuna families from Mexico on April 12.

Packages included hand sanitizer, food, and flyers in Spanish with information about free food resources, renters relief, mental health and the legal rights of undocumented people.

There are also plans in place to deliver more of these care packages to the Spanish speaking community living in RV and trailer parks in Eureka. The Facebook page, Centro

del Pueblo, is regularly updated with useful information for the Latinx community.

Centro del Pueblo hopes to let the community of undocumented immigrants know that although they may not have the support of the government, they have the strength of their families and the local community.

"I owe the source of all my dreams to my Latin American culture and its people. It is their light which gets me through tough times of tears and allows me to feel sentiments of beauty not translatable in English," Octavio Acosta said, a volunteer with Centro del Pueblo.

It is this endearment for the Latinx community that keeps him and many others involved in the empowerment of Indigenous immigrant communities.

Perez recalls living firsthand the necessities of being an immigrant in this country and understands the worry that many Spanish speaking families feel as they are left in the dark without information.

"These people are not the same ones I experienced fighting against violence in Mexico, but they have become that for me," Perez said.

With all the fear and uncertainty in the local communities, Centro del Pueblo marches on.

"Be careful," Perez said as she and many others continue to support the Latinx community, "Better times will come."

More information can be found on Centro del Pueblo's website [www.cdpueblo.com](http://www.cdpueblo.com), by emailing [cdphumboldt@gmail.com](mailto:cdphumboldt@gmail.com) or visiting [www.facebook.com/centrodel-pueblo/](http://www.facebook.com/centrodel-pueblo/)



| Logo courtesy of Centro del Pueblo

## El Leñador editor wins Society of Professional Journalists' Award

by Cara Peters

Editor-In-Chief of El Leñador, Carlos Holguin, won a Mark of Excellence award from the Society of Professional Journalists for best general news reporting on March 25.

The award was for Holguin's news series on the investigation of HSU Police Chief Donn Peterson, which was published in El Leñador in 2019.

The SPJ Mark of Excellence Awards are presented annually, honoring exceptional student journalism around the country. The awards are first given on a regional level,

where winners then advance to the national competition.

Holguin's award automatically enters him into the SPJ national competition, where he competes against 11 other regional award winners.

"I am incredibly honored to receive this award," Holguin said. "I joined El Leñador to help make a difference in the community, and moments like this only reaffirm that I am doing the right thing."

Holguin served as El Leñador's news editor in the fall 2019 semester before taking on the role of editor-in-chief this spring. He

transferred to HSU from Cerritos Community College in Norwalk, California, where he earned his associate degree in journalism and wrote for the school's newspaper, Talon Marks, for four semesters.

In February, El Leñador also took home a dozen awards from the California College Media Association statewide awards competition, including third place for best newspaper in the state; first place for Best Non-Breaking News story, Best Front Page Design, and Best Inside Page/Spread Design.



# HSU provides information in Spanish about COVID-19

## Faculty volunteers to provide information in Spanish for community and parents

by Nancy Garcia

Humboldt State University now has a list of contacts available to Spanish speaking students and their families so that they can call and ask questions they might have.

The service is being done on a volunteer basis by several professors and faculty and is part of HSU's attempt to keep students and their families updated amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

This effort is being led by Edelmira Reynoso, Ph.D, the interim executive director of the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Rosamel Benavides-Garb, Ph.D, the interim dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Science.

Reynoso said that the issue of not having information in Spanish available to students and their families was brought to her attention by El Leñador's advisor, Andrea Juarez.

The service first became available around the beginning of March when the school made the decision to move online.

According to Reynoso, people can call anyone on the contact list and ask about anything related to the university.

Reynoso noted that as a Hispanic Serving Institution, it was important for HSU to have this service available.

"In the same manner that we know that

parents or maybe other people are going into the [HSU] website to make sure that they have up to date information for their students," Reynoso said. "The same thing would be available to those who felt more comfortable reading that in Spanish."



The HSU campus notorious for not being able to find parking has empty parking lots following campus closure in precaution of Covid-19 contagion. | Photo by Lupita Rivera  
El campus de HSU notorio por no poder encontrar estacionamiento tiene estacionamientos vacíos después de la cerradura del campus sobre la precaución del contagio de COVID-19. | Foto por Lupita Rivera

# HSU proporciona información en español sobre COVID-19

## Voluntariados de facultad proporciona información en español para comunidad y padres

por//traducido por Nancy Garcia

La Universidad Estatal de Humboldt ahora tiene una lista de contactos disponibles para estudiantes y sus familias que hablan español para que puedan llamar y hacer preguntas que tengan.

El servicio se está haciendo de manera voluntaria por varios profesores y facultad y es parte del intento de HSU de mantener a los estudiantes y sus familias actualizados en

medio de la pandemia de COVID-19.

Este esfuerzo está siendo dirigido por Edelmira Reynoso, Ph.D, directora ejecutiva interina de la Oficina de Equidad, Diversidad e Inclusión y Rosamel Benavides-Garb, Ph.D, decana interina del Colegio de Artes, Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales.

Reynoso dijo que la problema de no tener información en español disponible para los estudiantes y sus familias fue traído a su atención por el asesor de El Leñador,

Andrea Juárez. El servicio se hizo disponible a principios de marzo cuando la escuela tomó la decisión de mudarse en línea.

Según Reynoso, las personas pueden llamar y preguntar sobre cualquier cosa relacionada con la escuela y pueden llamar a cualquier persona en la lista de contactos.

Reynoso notó que, como institución de servicio hispana, era importante que HSU tuviera este servicio disponible.

"De la misma manera que sabemos que

los padres o tal vez otras personas ingresan al sitio web [ de HSU] para asegurarse de que tienen información actualizada para sus estudiantes", dijo Reynoso. "Lo mismo estaría disponible para aquellos que se sintieran más cómodos leyendo eso en español".



# Alumni crosses borders, continues teaching during pandemic

by Diego Linares

## A letter goes a long way

Humboldt State University alumni Alejandro Arredondo was in Shanghai, China teaching the English language three months ago before seeing the effects of a pandemic that has affected the world.

Arredondo received his bachelor's degree from HSU in 2017. He studied here as a psychology major with a minor in Spanish.

During his time at Humboldt State, Arredondo contributed to radio station KRFH as well as El Leñador as a writer and translator.

Rosamel Benavides-Garb is the former chair of the department of World Cultures and Languages who advised Arredondo to minor in Spanish. Benavides-Garb is the current interim dean.

He said by email that he saw Arredondo as a student who understood the linguistic sociology of California in being a bilingual person.

Arredondo was able to translate, interpret and teach Spanish within Humboldt County while taking field experience classes with Benavides-Garb.

"Alejandro quickly became an outstanding student in these classes," said Benavides-Garb. "... I was witnessing his development and transformation, and naturally, I became his mentor. Through this process, he also became a leader in the class and the community."

Arredondo credits a letter of recommendation from Benavides-Garb with him getting a job overseas.

"Living in China, having exposure to the language and culture of our Chinese brothers and sisters is transformational in many positive ways," said Benavides-Garb. "I knew this experience was going to be a marking experience in his development."

In August of 2017, Arredondo began his journey halfway around the world after seeing an ad for a company called English First that was hiring teachers.

At the time, Arredondo had recently

graduated from HSU, and was looking for work in the Tijuana, Mexico or San Diego areas as a teacher.

The HSU alumni says that one day he submitted an application through the English First website because he felt his paperwork was ready after attempting with the company before.

EF is a company that hires people to teach English as a second language abroad in Asian and European countries.

Arredondo said that this time he got a phone call two hours after turning in his paperwork, but still felt sceptical of the whole thing. The company scheduled an interview for the next day and offered him a job thereafter.

"I think maybe at the moment it was a little impulsive, just because I wanted to do something, but couldn't find anything to do here (Tijuana)," said Arredondo.

## From California shores to Shanghai skyline

Within a matter of months from applying for the teaching job, the new teacher was in Shanghai, China.

He said that when it came to the flight, he was used to the long travel since he would drive from the Tijuana/San Diego area to Humboldt County.

During May of 2018, Arredondo arrived at his hotel and was expected to start the training for work the very next day.

Newly arrived in Shanghai, Arredondo began visiting someone he knew in the area, trying out the local food and learning how to get around the city.

"I ate a lot of dumplings, and a lot of noodles," said Arredondo. "There's so much food, but they also have a lot of international restaurants."

Shanghai's population was more than 24 million people as of 2019. The big city is known for its skyline, shopping, active art scene and several sports teams.

Arredondo experienced the ups and

downs of being a teacher in a foreign country, from communicating with parents to being able to bond with some of the students.

He was working in Shanghai for over a year when Arredondo's contract with English First was up, and he had two weeks off.

So, he decided to return to the Pacific Coast for the first time since arriving in China. He went to San Diego and then to Tijuana to visit family in December of 2019.

During this time in December, China was treating people with a respiratory illness, which researchers then identified as the 2019 novel coronavirus.

When Arredondo returned to Shanghai for work in January, that's when he heard of the illness.

## Pandemic

A version of the coronavirus was originally found in bats that live in the Yunnan Province of China. The Yunnan Province is around a thousand miles away from the city of Wuhan in the Hubei Province.

As of now, researchers have not found how the virus was transmitted to humans.

The first death that was connected to the coronavirus was recorded by the Chinese state media on Jan. 11. This came less than two weeks before people were set to celebrate a new year on Jan. 24.

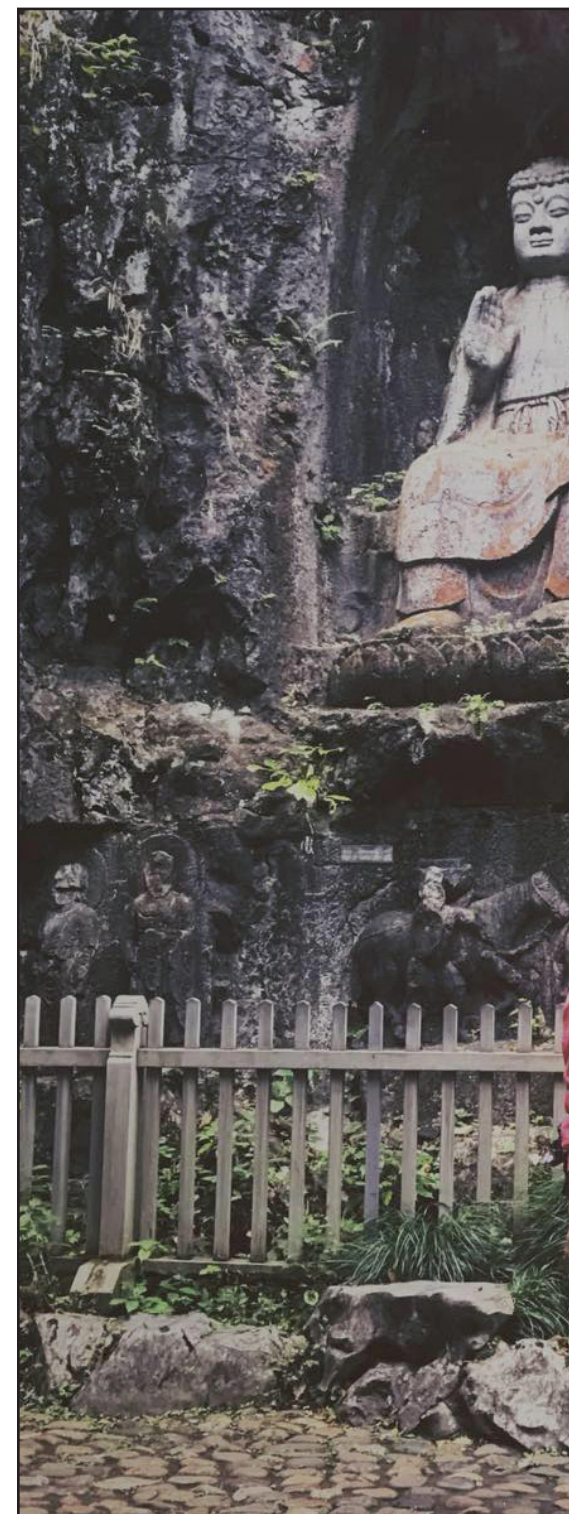
Arredondo said he still felt the virus was far from where he was in Shanghai during January, even though he knew it was a threat.

On Jan. 30, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus an emergency of international concern.

Arredondo said that's when he started to see changes in Shanghai. He began to look for respirator masks, as he started to see everyone donning one.

"Everything stopped," said Arredondo. "I wasn't working. I was getting a new visa (at the time), and the process was put on hold."

Arredondo said that he saw Shanghai,



From left to right: HSU alumni Alejandro Arredondo in Ha  
l Photo courtesy of Alejandro Arredondo

the most populated city in China, as a ghost town when he would go outside.

Since many people in Shanghai already do most of their shopping on the online market platform Taobao, Arredondo said the transition wasn't too hard for him.

He said that on his trips out, he would either use DiDi, an Uber-like service, or his bike.

The HSU alumni said that he didn't feel the transition to having to teach students online with a new company was hard. There were even perks, like being able to teach while still being in his pajamas.

It was during February that Arredondo's

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Hangzhou, China circa 2018 and then in Shanghai, China during the quarantine in 2020.

er announced his wedding.  
 fresh off the highs and lows of his  
 r's wedding, Arredondo began to feel  
 e of what to do.

### t obstacle, getting home

Arredondo said that he contemplated  
 g in Shanghai when he got a phone  
 a going-away party saying that his  
 o Los Angeles had been cancelled.  
 e then rearranged things for a later  
 Arredondo said he was having his  
 rature checked while having to also fill

out a questionnaire up to the time he had to  
 board his flight back to the United States.

While back in L.A., Arredondo stayed at  
 a hotel and then made his way to San Diego,  
 with the intention of heading to be with his  
 family in Tijuana.

That's where he faced a new issue.  
 Arredondo said that he was detained when  
 officers at the U.S. Customs and Border  
 Protection – San Ysidro Port of Entry were  
 telling him that he was the first person com-  
 ing into Tijuana who had been to China.

After another set of questions and receiv-  
 ing gloves and a mask, they let him go.

Since then, he says he feels like the

“...Living in China, having exposure  
 to the language and culture of  
 our Chinese brothers and sisters is  
 transformational in many positive  
 ways.”

-Rosamel Benavides-Garb, Interim Dean



social distancing measures have been really  
 taking a toll on him physically and mentally.  
 He notes that there are people in the U.S.  
 who have been following these measures  
 since late March, while he's been abiding by  
 these rules since early February.

Arredondo is now with his family in  
 Tijuana. He said that he's had time to think  
 about the decision he made to leave.

“At first I was being a little hard on  
 myself,” said Arredondo. “I felt like a part  
 of me gave up on my people, on China, stuff  
 like that. But then I decided to look at it  
 positively and be more optimistic. This isn't  
 the end, I'm just moving into a new phase of

my life.”

He said that a positive thing about being  
 in Mexico is that he is with family

Benavides-Garb said in an email that he  
 is happy to know where Arredondo is, and  
 that he wishes to continue seeing his former  
 student make a difference in the world.

“I always imagine him learning at every  
 juncture, and working with people who are  
 doing amazing things in invisible ways,” said  
 Benavides-Garb. “I want to say to him that  
 my own life was enhanced by his positive  
 spirit when he was at HSU, and this I will  
 eternally treasure.”



# B1G \$UAV:

## an HSU student bringing a message through his music

by Silvia Alfonso



José Juan Rodríguez Gutierrez, also known as B1G \$UAV, is a rapper and Humboldt State University Student. Photo courtesy of Gutierrez



José Juan Rodríguez Gutierrez, also known as B1G \$UAV, is a rapper and wildlife major at HSU. His music meshes together his passions by rapping about social justice and the environment. Gutierrez was set to open for 21 Savage in late April on campus, but due to COVID-19, the show was cancelled.

### More About Him

This HSU sophomore is building his name and a following in the local scene. Gutierrez has the kind of energy that bounces off him and onto other people, and it's that energy that is played out through his music. He has a big personality in a form that becomes contagious, and he lives by his motto of, "as long as I'm breathing, I'm smiling." It's that type of positive attitude that rubs off on the people that know him and listen to his music.

"'B1G' because you've gotta do it big, '\$UAV' - make it smooth," Gutierrez said about creating his name.

### Opening for 21 Savage

Before he was set to open for 21 Savage, he performed at The Depot on campus and it proved to be a success. The Depot Coffeehouse concert was a big step for B1G \$UAV and putting his name out.

"I can't have the 21 Savage show. It was an honor to get that show, but you'll still see a lot of me," Gutierrez said. "When I

performed [at The Depot] people had their flashlights out and they wanted an encore. All I can do is be grateful for the opportunity that I did get."

Since his name was recognized after that concert, Gutierrez got in contact with Center Arts at HSU and secured his spot on opening for 21 Savage. Shortly after, people lined up outside Center Arts to get their tickets for the concert.

"Just having my name on the concert tickets was amazing," Gutierrez said.

### Music Inspirations

In an industry that tends to be money hungry and superficial, Gutierrez has the goal of making his mark and turning into something more.

"I started making music because I was mad at who was being represented," said Gutierrez when talking about the start of his music career.

Gutierrez said that his inspirations in music have been J. Cole, Biggie and Tupac, and artists that try to make a stand in their music.

Moving from Long Beach to Humboldt was a huge inspiration for his music, and being outside in the woods has been his muse. Gutierrez started making music when he was a junior in high school. He got a sense of activism when he moved up here, and that turned his music to rapping about social justice and climate change.

"I love hearing things that we can

disagree on, we should look at the world and be mad, and want change," he said.

### More Aspirations

It's not often that we see science, humanities and music combined together for one goal. Gutierrez admits that he is a mix of many things and that is seen in his academics and music.

Gutierrez found a love for animals at a young age, and throughout his time in high school discovered that he wanted to pursue that. This influenced his decision in becoming a wildlife major, and with his love for public speaking he became a communications minor. A big thing that he's taken away from conversations and climate change and environmental justice is that "to help animals, you must influence the people."

The music that he's been working on always has a positive message, but Gutierrez has been working on incorporating bigger topics.

"There's progress to be made around the world, and I'm fighting for people to focus on my content, not on me," said Gutierrez.

Gutierrez makes an effort to maintain a positive outlook on everything. Despite missing out on opening for 21 Savage, he really expressed his gratitude for the show that he was able to have at the Depot. Gutierrez tries to apply this positive mentality in every aspect of his life, and he explained that he had a big influence from

“

There's progress to be made around the world, and I'm fighting for people to focus on my content, not on me.”

—B1G \$UAV

his mom.

### Future Goals

He's planning for future events in his hometown of Long Beach, as well as more local events in Humboldt. Despite everything happening with COVID-19 right now, Gutierrez continues to write music and is planning to release even more music for the rest of this year.

B1G \$UAV's music can be found on Spotify, Soundcloud, and Apple Music. He can be found on Instagram under @b1gsuav.



# B1G \$UAV:

## un estudiante de HSU traendo un mensaje con su música

por Silvia Alfonso // traducido por Silvia Alfonso

José Juan Rodríguez Gutiérrez, también conocido como B1G \$UAV, es un rapero con especialización en vida silvestre que estudia en HSU. Su música combina sus pasiones al rapear sobre la justicia social y el medio ambiente. Gutiérrez estaba listo para abrir el concierto de 21 Savage a finales de abril en el campus, pero debido al COVID-19, el concierto fue cancelado.

### Mas Sobre El

Este estudiante de segundo año en HSU está construyendo su nombre y seguidores en la escena local. Gutiérrez tiene el tipo de energía que rebota en él y en otras personas, y es esa energía que se reproduce a través de su música. El tiene la personalidad grande y en una forma que se convierte contagiosa, y él vive con su lema de, “mientras respire, sonrío.” Es ese tipo de actitud positiva que se contagia a las personas que lo conocen y escuchan su música.

“B1G porque tienes que hacerlo grande, ‘\$UAV’ - hazlo suave,” Gutiérrez dijo sobre creando su nombre.

### Abriendo para 21 Savage

Antes de abrir para 21 Savage, él tenía un concierto en The Depot en el campus de HSU y resultó ser un éxito. El concierto de HSU Depot Coffeehouse fue un gran paso para B1G \$UAV y en sacando su nombre.

“No puedo tener el show de 21 Savage. Fue un honor tener ese concierto, pero todavía van a ver mucho de mí,” dijo Gutiérrez. “Cuando canté [en el Depot] la gente tenía sus linternas encendidas y querían que cantara de nuevo. Todo lo que puedo hacer es estar agradecido por la oportunidad que me dieron.”

Como su nombre fue reconocido después de ese concierto, Gutiérrez se puso en contacto con Center Arts en HSU y aseguró su lugar para abrir para 21 Savage. Poco después, la gente estaba en fila afuera de Center Arts para agarrar sus boletos para el concierto.

“Sólo teniendo mi nombre en el boleto de concierto fue asombroso,” Gutiérrez dijo.

### Inspiraciones de música

En una industria que tiende ser avaricioso y superficial, Gutiérrez tiene el objetivo de dejar su huella y convertirse en algo más.

“Empeze hacer música porque estaba

enojado con quien estaba representado,” dijo Gutiérrez cuando hablaba sobre el comienzo de su carrera en música.

Gutiérrez dijo que su inspiración en la música han sido J. Cole, Biggie and Tupac, y artistas que intentan tomar una posición en su música.

Mudarse de Long Beach a Humboldt fue una gran inspiración para su música, y estando afuera en el bosque ha sido su musa. Gutiérrez empezó hacer música en su tercer año de la escuela secundaria. Desarrollo un sentido de activismo cuando se mudo aquí, y eso lo influyó para rapear sobre la justicia social y el cambio climático.

“Me encanta escuchar las cosas en lo que no estamos de acuerdo, deberíamos ver al mundo y estar enojados, y querer cambio,” él dijo.

### Mas aspiraciones

No es frecuente que veamos ciencia, humanidades y música combinadas para un solo objetivo. Gutiérrez admite que él es una mezcla de muchas cosas, y eso se ve en su mundo académico y musical.

Gutiérrez encontró un amor por los animales a una edad temprana, y durante su tiempo en la preparatoria descubrió que quería perseguir eso. Esto influyó su decisión en estudiar una especialización en vida silvestre, y con su amor por hablar en público también se decidió en estudiar comunicación como especialización secundaria. Una gran cosa que se ha llevado de las conversaciones sobre el cambio climático y la justicia ambiental es “para ayudar a los animales, debes influir la gente.”

La música en la que ha estado trabajando siempre ha tenido un mensaje positivo, pero Gutiérrez ha estado trabajando en incorporar temas más grandes.

“Hay progreso en todo el mundo, y estoy luchando para que la gente se concentre en mi contenido, no en mí,” dijo Gutiérrez.

Gutiérrez hace un esfuerzo para mantener una actitud positiva en todo. A pesar de perderse el concierto con 21 Savage, él realmente expresó su gratitud por el show que pudo tener en el HSU Depot. Gutiérrez trata de aplicar esta mentalidad positiva a todos los aspectos de su vida, y explicó que su mamá ha sido una gran influencia.



José Juan Rodríguez Gutierrez, también conocido como B1G \$UAV, es un rapero y estudiante en la Universidad Estatal de Humboldt. Su EP, “PENN1ES & D1MES,” es su lanzamiento reciente | Foto cortesía de Gutierrez

### Meta para el futuro

Está planeando para futuros eventos en su ciudad natal de Long Beach, así como más eventos en Humboldt. A pesar de todo lo que está pasando con COVID-19, Gutiérrez sigue escribiendo música y está planeando en lanzar

aún más música durante este año.

La música de B1G \$UAV se puede encontrar en Spotify, Soundcloud y Apple Music. Se puede encontrar en Instagram también con el perfil b1gsuav.



This profile is part of El Leñador's Soy Artista Series courtesy of Diana Renoj.

For the second artist of our series, check out Zeke Martinez, 22, a printmaker majoring in fine arts.

Scan the QR code below for videos on Zeke and B1G \$UAV!



Spotlighting artists of HSU.





# Live from Humboldt County, it's local events online!

Local venues and haunts makes the jump to online for the virtual entertainment



Arcata Theatre Lounge marquee goes from displaying films to displaying a precaution | Photo by Carlos Holguin

by Sergio Berrueta

While everything has seemed to stop in the world of events, local places are taking advantage of live streaming platforms. This comes after many in the country have started using Facebook Live and Instagram Live to broadcast what they normally do in person.

Humboldt is no different, as well-known local events have started to make the jump to the platform.

Local DJ Lorna Brynat, who regularly performed at The Griffin in Arcata, has made a transition to streaming via Facebook.

"Vanessa, the owner of The Griffin, was preparing a live DJ event for the place with to-go menus. I decided I'll do it from my living room," said Bryant. "I'm allowed to still share my love for music and my love for interacting with people. All while in slippers!"

Bryant has done events alongside The Griffin including a Sunday Brunch event back on March 29. Bryant is happy about the response as well.

"I usually start early to get people coming in and each time it keeps growing. It's cool that I could be the backdrop or the soundtrack for someone's day or their walk," Bryant said. "People are looking for joy and happiness in between all the pain and illness. If I could just do a little bit to help them, then I'm doing pretty okay."

Bryant does face a challenge streaming on Facebook due to copyright issues. "The greatest challenge is Mark Zuck-

erberg and Facebook and Instagram. They will bring you down for copyright unless you are Questlove or D-Nice."

"I found a workaround to it for more popular songs," Bryant said. "I added taiko drums to change the beats and it worked. I was able to mask the copyrighted material a little bit. It was all beatmatching."

The Arcata Theater Lounge began to live stream its schedule as well. Owner Joe Ostini was quick to make the transition by hosting live DJ events on Facebook and YouTube.

"For me it was within the matter of a week. It took a little bit thinking about the logistics of it and if it was something we could feasibly do with the theater. I had never done live streaming before. I researched how to do it and had help from local places," Ostini said.

The atmosphere has changed from the usually packed venue to near-emptiness.

"It's been interesting to bring in the DJs and the dancers to an empty room. There are few of us walking around while listening to them. However, Ostini found a benefit from it all.

"When it's a bigger event, I'm usually running around, but now I get to sit and enjoy it. It's really cool to have them there and the space for them," Ostini said

Yet, Ostini hopes things will turn out better as time passes.

"For us, it is still a little uncertain as we move forward in

time seeing as there have been no real updates to businesses like us that rely on gathering," Ostini said.

"I don't see any plan in place to lift the order. We are optimistic and hopeful, but we are not sure how this will affect our business. It's gonna be trying to say the least."

Ostini said the next event that would take place at the Lounge if it reopens is their Fuego event which is a night of dancing, reggaeton, cumbia and bachata.

Bryant hopes things do get better as well with a nice celebratory end of sorts.

"I would love for it to be a big party. I don't know what the next is. I can't wait to get back into The Griffin," Bryant said.

"It's a safe space and I love being there. It's run by powerful badass women. These badass women have a beautiful passion, a love for each other and a love for the community."

Word Humboldt is another event that made the transition from coffee shop open mics to Instagram Live open mics, with many sharing their poetry via the app and Zoom video calling.

"It has connected people all across the world so far and allowed us to continue to have a space for expression for our community every Tuesday still," Dylan Collins of Word Humboldt said.

The transition to live events has not been the easiest, but local performers and venues are still willing to share a form of entertainment and normalcy.



# ‘Gentefied’ Review: What to watch during the social distancing era

by Isabel Beer

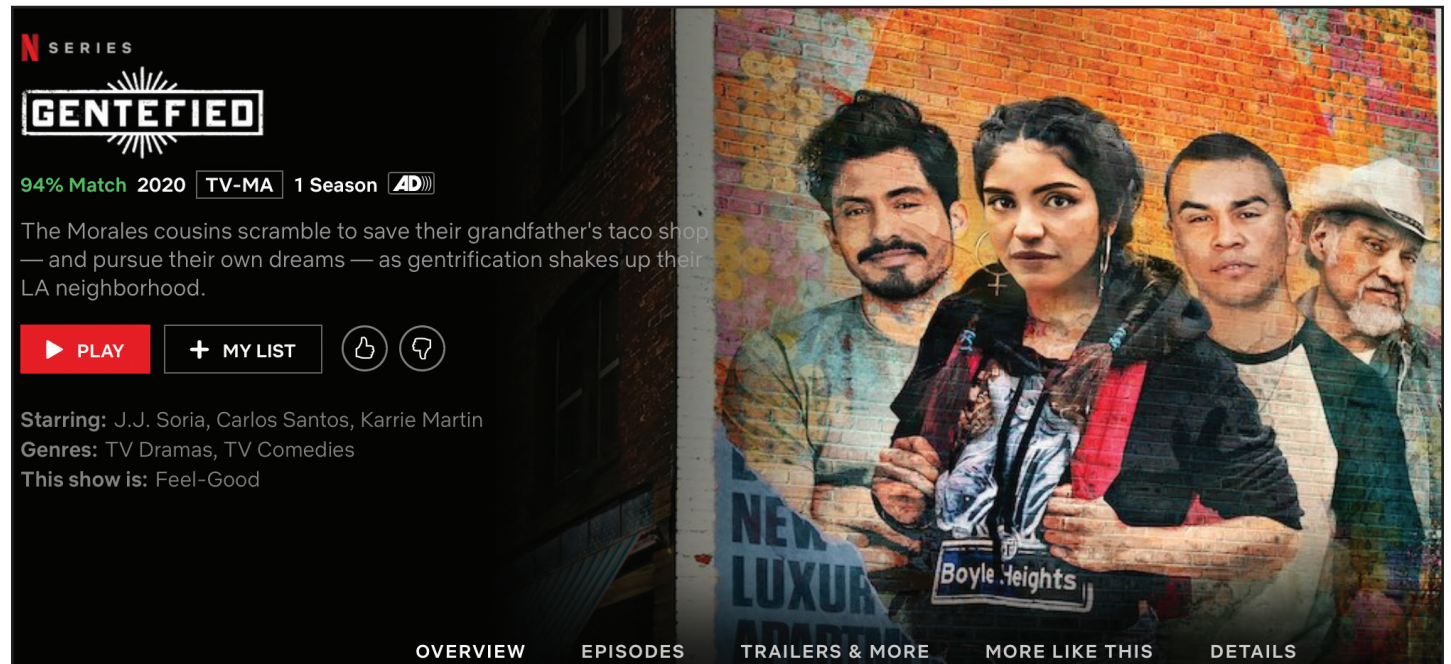
During these increasingly unsettling times, it is more important than ever to use this time to remind ourselves of our humanity and to be gentle with ourselves. Netflix debuted the comedy “Gentefied” over a month ago on Feb. 21, which explores the many multicultural communities that coexist in Los Angeles today.

“Gentefied”, created by Marvin Lemus and Linda Yvette Chaves, follows a Latinx family in a Boyle Heights neighborhood in Los Angeles. Having lived in the area for decades, the show explores the financial struggles the Morales family undergoes in order to keep their business alive while maintaining their cultural identities.

“Gentefied” follows four central characters in the family. Casimiro Morales (Joaquín Cosío) is the family patriarch struggling to keep the family taquería open despite a steadily increasing rent and corporate interest in the property. His grandson, Erik, played by JJ Soria, is also interested in keeping the family business afloat but is motivated by his girlfriend’s pregnancy to succeed financially.

Erik’s cousins Chris and Ana (played by Carlos Santos and Karrie Martin respectively) are both pursuing careers in the arts, and are dedicated to becoming relevant artists in their own rights while still maintaining their cultural integrity.

“Gentefied” makes for an excellent commentary on community gentrification that so many diverse communities have been experiencing. Businesses and families that



The Netflix banner for ‘Gentefied’, a series based in Los Angeles that explores the difficulties of family and life in a Mexican American neighborhood. Photo by Isabel Beer

have been pillars of their communities for generations are being pushed out of spaces because of increasing rent prices.

When communities become potentially profitable areas of real estate for newer, larger companies, many families are at risk of compromising their livelihood in order to survive.

In the era of COVID-19, it is hard to find anything to occupy your thoughts for long enough during social distancing. However

relevant the issues discussed in “Gentefied” are, the writers and producers - lead by executive producer, America Ferrera - are experts in using humor to make the topics both understandable and unifying. So many communities in the US are familiar with the concept of gentrification, and now especially with COVID-19, many community establishments aren’t going to be able to continue to financially sustain themselves.

“Gentefied” continues to amplify the

voices of historically silenced communities. By providing a platform in the form of the Morales family, “Gentefied” shows the emotional strain families go through to compete with bigger, established companies.

It also shows how far people will go to defend and protect their cultural identities. In a time where nothing is guaranteed, and we are united in our homes, stories like “Gentefied” remind us what we have to fight for when all of this is over.

## Critica de ‘Gentefied’: Series claves durante época de distancias sociales

por Isabel Beer y traducido por Ulyses Dorantes

Durante estos tiempos inquietos, es más importante que nunca usar este tiempo para recordarnos de nuestra humanidad y mantener la autocompasión. El 21 de febrero, Netflix debutó la comedia “Gentefied”, que examina las varias comunidades multiculturales que conviven hoy en día en Los Ángeles.

Creado por Marvin Lemus y Linda Yvette Chaves, “Gentefied” sigue una familia Latinx viviendo en un barrio de Boyle Heights en Los Ángeles. Residentes del barrio por décadas, el programa explora las luchas financieras de la familia Morales,

quienes batallan para sostener su negocio vivo mientras manteniendo sus identidades culturales.

“Gentefied” demuestra los cuatro personajes centrales de la familia. Casimiro Morales (Joaquín Cosío) es el patriarca de la familia esforzándose para conservar a su taquería, aunque la renta y los intereses de corporaciones se siguen aumentando en su propiedad. Su nieto Erik (JJ Soria) también se esfuerza por conservar al negocio, especialmente después del embarazo de su novia para tener éxito financieramente.

Sus dos primos Chris y Ana (actuado por Carlos Santos y Karrie Martin respectivamente) persiguen carreras en las artes, y se dedican a ser artistas distinguidos mientras manteniendo su integridad cultural.

La serie “Gentefied” hace buen comentario sobre la gentrificación que varias comunidades diversas han vivido. Negocios y familias que fueron pilares de sus comunidades por generaciones han sido desplazados de sus barrios por los aumentos de renta.

Cuando las propiedades de una comunidad se hacen más lucrativas para nuevas compañías más grandes, muchas familias corren el riesgo de perder o tener que comprometer sus maneras de sostenerse para sobrevivir estos cambios.

Durante la época de COVID-19, es muy difícil encontrar algo que nos puede entretener los pensamientos por mucho rato. Por todo los temas serios representados en “Gentefied”, los escritores y productores - dirigido por productora ejecutiva America Ferrera - son expertos en usar el humor para

convertir estos asuntos en cosas comprensibles y con potencia de unirnos.

Tantas comunidades en los Estados Unidos conocen el concepto de gentrificación, y especialmente con lo de la pandemia, muchos establecimientos comunitarios no podrán continuar manteniéndose financieramente.

“Gentefied” continua a amplificar las voces de comunidades que históricamente han sido silenciados. Dándoles una plataforma en la forma de la familia Morales, “Gentefied” muestra la presión emocional que familias aguantan cuando son forzados a competir con compañías grandes.

También nos demuestra el esfuerzo intenso que gente pone al defender y proteger a sus identidades culturales.

En un tiempo cuando nada está garantizado, y estamos unidos en nuestras casa, historias como “Gentefied” nos recuerdan que tenemos qué seguir luchando cuando esta situación se relaje.





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Condado de Humboldt  
Departamento de  
Salud & Servicios  
Humanos



# Editorial: Journalism in the new normal

Since last March, journalists have been working effortlessly to bring readers continued coverage of the world around them. As others slowly adjusted to the new ways of life, the staff of this paper was working tirelessly to bring you the information you needed. Now with a moment to reflect, these are the testimonies of their new lives in quarantine.

**Carlos H.:** “For others, it is so easy to turn off the news while isolating. Don’t have to panic, or see the numbers rise. We do, because we choose to keep the public informed of the hard truths. As editor in chief of this paper, I see the work that we are doing together, and for the briefest of moments I’m not afraid. I’m proud of it, encouraged to keep going.”

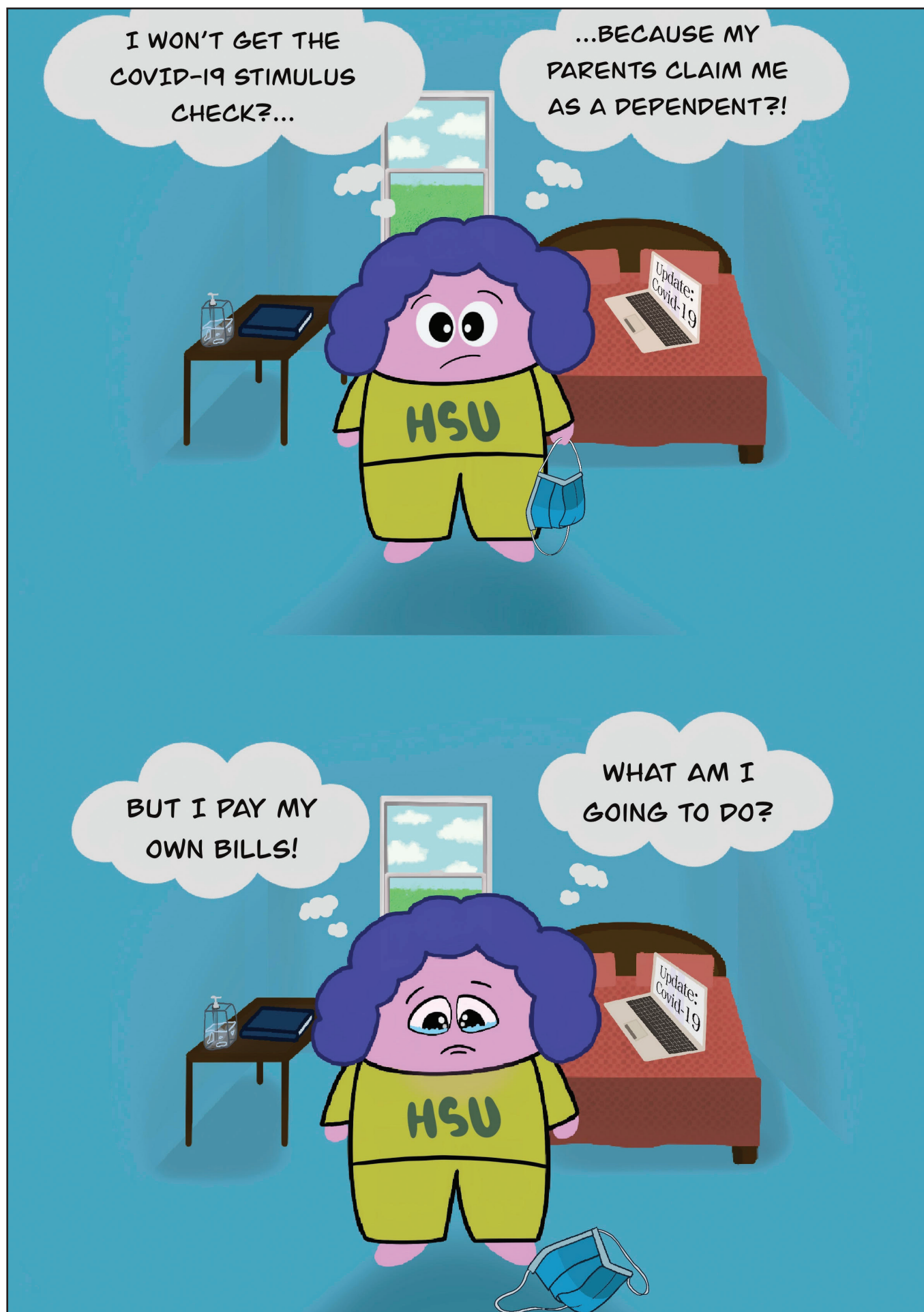
**Silvia A.:** “I feel like I’m being challenged in so many ways. As someone who loves to take a chill day at home, I’m finding myself getting more and more stir crazy. I am someone who feeds off of social interaction and really looks forward to seeing different people every day of the week, so it’s hard not having that anymore. I really try to have a more positive outlook on things but it has become ”

**Jasmine M.:** “Reporting while being 667 miles away from HSU and dealing with the overall chaos and anxiety in and outside my home has been a challenge, to say the least. As student journalists, we are taught and reminded to adapt to our situation and do the best we can to provide content for underserved communities. I’m grateful for the El Leñador staff staying connected and pushing through our individual barriers.”

**Sergio B.:** “It’s difficult to be the Life and Arts editor when both have come to a standstill. My anxiety has been up; my fears at an all-time. I’m miles from any family and friends in self-isolation. It’s been a struggle and I’m just one of many out there feeling the same. Yet, I find comfort in my El Leñador family for being there. I hope you find some comfort in it too.”

**Nancy G.:** “Life as we knew it has changed so quickly over these last few months. During these uncertain times, it’s easy to feel pessimistic but I hope our publication brings you some comfort like it has for me.

**Continued on page 18**



| Illustration by Cassandra Rice



Continued from page 17

Even though the pandemic has forced many of us to adapt to a new way of life, just remember that this won't last forever."

**Isabel B.:** "Right now, there is a global health crisis. We are being encouraged to stay at home, do nothing, and to not interact with other human beings as much as possible. These practices are frightening and foreign to many of us, but I hope that this publication reaches you and uplifts anyone who needs it. We are here together with you, even though we may be apart."

**Brenda S.:** "I honestly never imagined myself living in a pandemic, ever. My life has changed so much in so little time. It's been difficult, nerve-racking, and simply fearful. There are just too many unknowns. As much as I want to

turn off the news and go offline, I feel like it's important to stay updated and informed. Here in El Leñador we're still writing, still putting content out there, and I think that's something truly rewarding to be part of in a time like this. We're here for you and most importantly we're all in this together."

**Lupita R.:** "I was unprepared and for the first time ever it wasn't my fault. There is a lot of pressure right now to perform as best we can under circumstances no one was ready for, but diamonds are created under pressure so 2020 be damned. 2021 is gonna be full of diamonds and all the bread everyone made during quarantine."

**Elena B.:** "Experiencing life during this pandemic has certainly been difficult and confusing for me as well as for many other people. I am still having trouble adjusting to

this new reality, but it has also made me feel really grateful for a variety of reasons. I think this publication does a lot of important work for the community, and I hope it provides a much-needed resource for people during this time."

**Diego O.:** "It's bizarre to have to write about the human experience while having our interactions limited to telecommuting. I'm someone who appreciates the face-to-face meetings for an interview or shooting photos for a story. So, the social distancing measures really grind my gears. I also miss being able to go by myself to one of the local beaches. I would park my car, and walk along the coast alone with a few cameras and a tripod. Now, everything's changed."

**Tanya P.:** "Living through a pandemic has turned my life around. Having to do school

and work from home feels more tiring now. Emotionally, it has also been very straining. I like to keep myself busy to numb my feelings and uncertainty about this. I have learned that we should just all do our best to encourage one another and stay positive during these times and El Leñador is best at that."

**Alexandra G.:** "Being on staff for this newspaper during a global pandemic has definitely been uplifting and challenging at the same time. Uplifting because in a time of reflection and solitude there is a community here working to help our Latinx community, and challenging because well, we're working during a global pandemic. These last few weeks have been interesting but nevertheless very eye-opening and a blessing in terms of being able to make it through the tough times."



From left to right: Andrea Juarez, Jasmine Martinez, Sergio Berrueta, Carlos Holguin, Lupita Rivera, Isabel Beer, Cassandra Rice, Nancy Garcia, Silvia Alfonso, Alexandra Gonzalez, Diana Renoj, Diego Linares, Cara Peters, Brenda Sanchez and Elena Bilheimer during a class Zoom meeting. | Photo by Jasmine Martinez



# Commencement cancellation affects more than students

by Brenda Sanchez

“I told you ma that because of everything going on in our world, my graduation was eventually going to get cancelled,” I say to my mom as my voice begins to crack from the tears I am holding back.

“Oh nooooo! I am so sorry mija,” my mother says. “Cry if you need to, please do,” she tells me.

“I know how important this was to you, I know how hard you have worked to get here, but I need you to understand that at the end of the day you have earned this degree whether you get to walk the stage or not and that the important thing here is to remain strong and to understand that your feelings are valid,” she reminds me as tears begin to run down her freckled cheeks.

As much as I wanted to break down and cry, I couldn't. I grew numb, it was such an indescribable feeling. Nothing broke my heart more than seeing my own mother in tears while still trying to hold me up.

I knew she was right in everything that she had said. This was my realistic tragedy. As the COVID-19 crisis grew worse and social distancing became more of a reality, I knew that this was coming. Was I prepared to face it? No. I don't think anyone could be.

I understand that it is for the best and for the safety of our people, I just truly wish this was not the reality we were all living in.

Being a first-generation student and the first to go off to college, I am not going to sit here and say that my college journey has been easy, because it hasn't. It's actually been quite difficult. It's brought out some of my worst but also best traits and characteristics. It has tested my ability and patience.

More importantly it has turned me into a strong, passionate and independent woman. And even though many have told me to “just withdraw from the school year and finish off when you can walk the stage to graduate,” I don't think that is the problem here.

The problem is actually deeper than that. The unfortunate reality here is that many folks like myself, who come from families with a rough past, whether that is being first-generation, a minority, low income, etc., will not be able to live and share this moment that they have worked so hard for due to the pandemic we are experiencing.

“The unfortunate reality here is that many folks like myself, who come from families with a rough past... will not be able to live and share this moment that they have worked so hard for due to the pandemic we are experiencing.”

Right: Brenda Sanchez dressed in traditional cap and gown while holding up a 2020 tassel. Illustration by Sam Ramirez

Even with countless struggles, in the blink of an eye, the pandemic took something so meaningful away from all of us.

The only reason I have even made it this far is because of the help and unconditional support from my parents. My parents did not come to this country to bring drugs or crime like our president likes to say. They for sure are not rapists either. My parents came to this



country with nothing, but gave us everything. My immigrant parents crossed the border over several days in the hot sun with very little water in hopes of seeking a better life and future for their two girls. The two girls they were supposed to watch walk across the stage the weekend of May 16.

So, with that, I want to finish off by acknowledging anyone feeling hurt or even

disappointed about commencement being cancelled due to the pandemic. You are not alone. Your feelings are valid, your sacrifices and hard work are not defined by whether a graduation ceremony happens or not. Your diploma is yours because you have earned it. I too feel you on this. #staystrong.



# Directory

## Resources for the Latinx Community | Recursos para la comunidad Latinx

### Bilingual News

#### El Leñador

HSU student bilingual newspaper;  
distributed in Fortuna, Eureka, Arcata,  
McKinleyville and Trinidad  
**Address:** 1 Harpst St., Arcata, Gist Hall 227  
**Phone:** (707) 826-3259  
**Website:** [www.ellenadornews.com](http://www.ellenadornews.com)

#### Radio Centro - KZZH 96.7 FM.

A local Spanish radio  
Every Tuesday & Thursday at 7 a.m.,  
Wednesdays at 2 p.m. and Saturday &  
Sundays at 1p.m.

### Health/COVID-19

#### COVID-19 Updates

Humboldt Health Alert:  
on Humboldt.gov.org

#### Infographic by El Lenador

[www.ellenadornews.com](http://www.ellenadornews.com)

#### Humboldt County Department of Health & Human Services

**Email:** [covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us)  
**Phone:** 707-441-5000.

Call Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.- 7 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m-2 p.m., closed on Sundays.  
For medical advice and testing questions, call 707-445-6200, Spanish interpretation is also available for this number.

#### El Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos (DSSH) del condado de Humboldt

**Correo electrónico:** [covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us)

**Numero de telefono:** 707-441-5000.

Lunes a Viernes desde las 8 a.m - 7 p.m y Sábados desde las 10 a.m a 2 p.m. Estan cerrados los Domingos.  
Para consejo médico o preguntas sobre pruebas, llama 707-445-6200, la interpretación al español también está disponible para este número.

#### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Information about COVID-19 at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index-sp.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index-sp.html)

#### Centros para el Control y Prevención de Enfermedades

Se puede encontrar información en español del sobre COVID-19 en <https://espanol.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

### Legal Services

#### Legal Services of Northern California

Serving clients with health related legal issues in acquiring and keeping health-care services

\*Office is closed to walk-ins due to COVID-19, open for phone calls during normal business hours\*

Open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
& 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
& 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Phone:** (707) 445-0866

#### California Indian Legal Services

\*All CILS offices are currently closed to the public. Will continue to accept and return calls from new and existing clients.\*  
**Phone:** (707) 443-3559

#### Scholars Without Borders

Club at HSU to support AB540 students

\*For virtual updates due to COVID-19 go to [@swb\\_hsu](https://www.instagram.com/swb_hsu) on Instagram\*  
**Phone:** (707) 826-3368

#### HSU Student Legal Lounge

Center for peer mentoring and legal resources for academic, activism, discrimination, housing, Title IX and DACA.  
**Email questions to:** [studentlegallounge@humboldt.edu](mailto:studentlegallounge@humboldt.edu)  
**Website:** [studentlegallounge.humboldt.edu](http://studentlegallounge.humboldt.edu)

#### Employment Development Department

Can find job services, file an unemployment insurance claim, and manage tax accounts.  
**Website:** [www.edd.ca.gov/](http://www.edd.ca.gov/)

### Social Services

#### 24-Hour Mental Health Crisis Line

Assessments, referrals and emergency services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
**Phone:** (707) 445-7715.

#### Seventh Generation Fund

Devoted to Indigenous peoples self-determination and the sovereignty of Native Nations

\*Offering virtual programs, head over to their facebook page @7genfund for updates\*

**Phone:** (707) 825-7640

#### Centro Del Pueblo

A safe space for the raza/indígena community to prosper culturally, politically, and practically on the North Coast.  
**Regular Latinx community updates:** [www.facebook.com/centrodelpueblo/](https://www.facebook.com/centrodelpueblo/)  
**Email:** [cdphumboldt@gmail.com](mailto:cdphumboldt@gmail.com)

#### Humboldt County's Information Line

**Phone:** 2-1-1  
**Hours:** Monday - Friday 9am-4pm

#### 24-Hour Mental Health Crisis Line

Assessments, referrals and emergency services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
**Phone:** (707) 445-7715.

#### 24-Hour Child Welfare Crisis Line

**Phone:** 707-445-6180

### Food Resources

#### Food for People

Offers food assistance programs including food pantries, produce markets and food programs for children

**Address:** 307 W. 14th St., Eureka

**Phone:** (707) 407 0447

#### Food for People - Comida para la gente.

Servicio de comida gratis. Sin documentos  
Dirección: 2112 Broadway St. Eureka  
**Con cita llame al:** (707) 407 0447 (sólo le piden su nombre y fecha de nacimiento para reservarle comida)

#### Humboldt Senior Resource Center

Provide take-out meals available via drive-by pick-up only. Meals are available by reservation only for those age 60 and older. Reservations must be made no later than 7 days prior to pick-up day.

Call to make reservations.

**Arcata:** 707-825-2027

**Eureka:** 707-442-1181

**Fortuna:** 707-725-6245

#### St. Joseph Parish

All church related weekend and weekday masses and services, spiritual meetings, group activities, RCIA, CCD classes, adult catechesis, parent catechesis, confessions, funerals, etc., are cancelled.

\*Food pantry is open during the COVID-19 crisis.\*

**Open:** Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 10:00 AM to Noon.

**Address:** 2292 Newburg Road, Fortuna, CA

**Phone:** (707) 725-1148

#### Cooperation Humboldt

Will help run errands and deliver food and supplies to those self isolating. Services available in both English and Spanish. Register in advance.

**Website:** [cooperationhumboldt.com/](http://cooperationhumboldt.com/)

Ayudará a hacer mandados y entregar alimentos y suministros a aquellos que se aíslan. Servicios disponibles en inglés y español. Regístrese por adelantado. No preguntan por ningún documento.

**Sitio web:** [cooperationhumboldt.com/](http://cooperationhumboldt.com/)

**Telefono:** (908) 422- 8538

### Ethnic Markets

#### Little Japan

2848 F St., Eureka

**Open:** Friday & Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m

\*Updated hours due to COVID-19\*

**Phone:** (707) 798-6003

#### Oriental Food & Spice

306 W Harris St., Eureka

**Open:** Mon.-Sat. from 9a.m.-5 p.m.

**Phone:** (707) 445-3398

#### La Pasadita Market

**Address:** 420 N St., Eureka

**Open:** Everyday from.10 a.m.-9 p.m.

#### El Pueblo Market

312 W. Washington St., Eureka

**Open:** Everyday from 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

**Phone:** (707) 444-0952

#### La Chaparrita Market

**Address:** 520 Summer St., Fortuna

**Open:** Everyday from. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

**Phone:** (707) 617-2570

#### El Buen Gusto

**Address:** 802 Broadway St., Eureka

**Open:** Mon-Fri from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. **Phone:**

(707) 798-6290

**Fortuna Address:** 1640 Main St.

**Open:** Mon-Fri from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

**Phone:** (707) 725-8880