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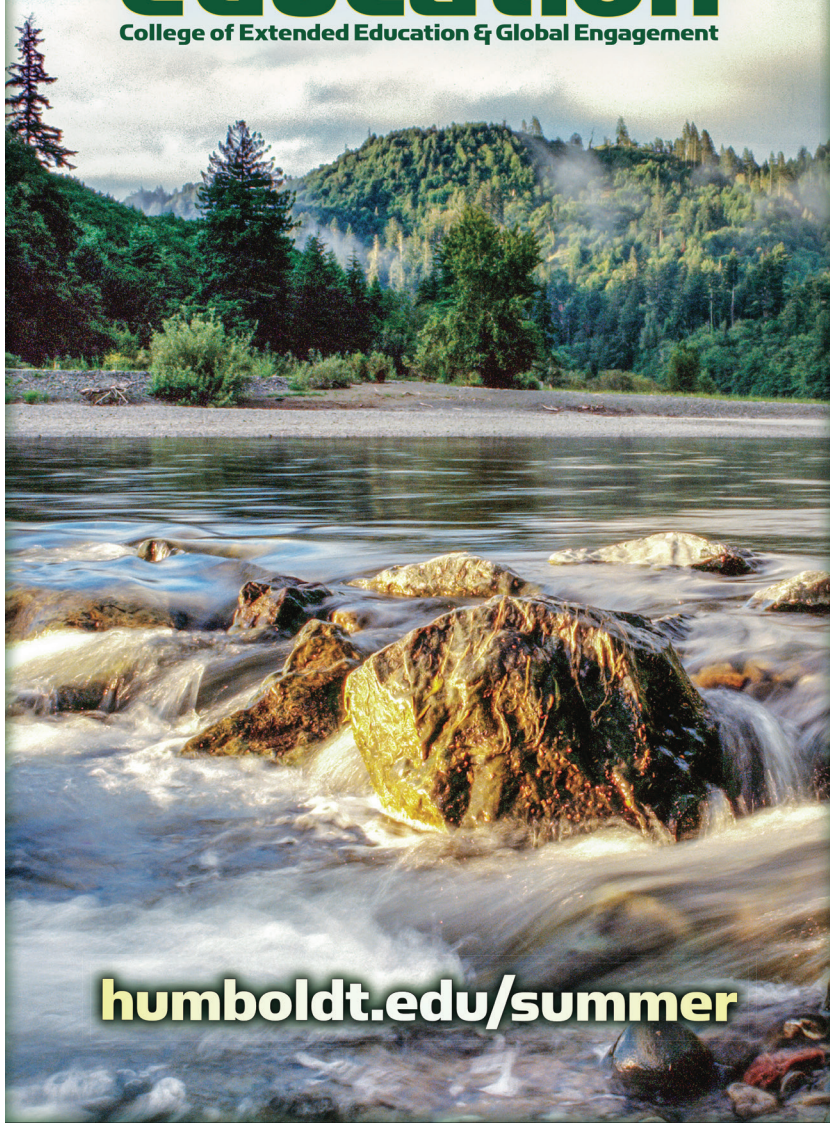
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Staff recipe:

awesome avocado pasta

Pasta, the go-to, easy-to-do meal, but with avocado



Photos by Skylar Gaven

by Skylar Gaven

Directions:

- Dice the onion along with three cloves of garlic.
- Grab a medium sized pan, coat it with a tiny amount of olive oil and turn on the burner. Once the pan is hot, add in the diced onion and garlic. Cook until the onion is caramelized. Once caramelized, turn the heat off.
- Grab a blender. Slice and open the 2 avocados. Scoop the avocados in the blender, then transfer the cooked onions and garlic from the pan to the blender. Add 1/4 cup of olive oil and 2 teaspoons of lemon juice and blend until the sauce looks smooth and creamy.
- Once the sauce is ready, start the pasta. Grab a pot and bring the water to a boil. Add in your pasta and follow the directions on the box.
- After the pasta is cooked to your liking, drain and put back in the pot. Take the avocado sauce from the blender and spoon in to the pot of pasta.
- Add in spices to taste and stir (remember to taste as you go).
- Once it's seasoned to your liking, get a bowl and enjoy!

Ingredients:

- 2 ripe avocados
- 1 whole yellow onion
- 3 cloves garlic
- 2 teaspoons of lemon juice
- 1/4 cup of olive oil
- 1/2 a box of penne rigate or regular spaghetti (more or less depending on how hungry you are)

Seasonings:

- Salt
- Pepper
- Oregano
- Basil leaves
- Cayenne pepper

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Rent strikes are on the rise during pandemic

What are rent strikes and why are they building during a pandemic?

by Jen Kelly

Almost a third of Americans have not paid their rent for April, a significant increase from this time last year. In the weeks since the shelter-in-place order, many people have lost their jobs, either temporarily or permanently. Many are wondering how they're

going to pay their rent if they don't have jobs, but some tenants are wondering why they should have to pay rent at all. You may have seen calls for a rent strike circulating online, but what does that entail?

A rent strike involves a group of tenants organizing and withholding rent until a set of demands are met by their landlords or government. They can be an effective way of improving the conditions of living spaces, lowering rent or creating political change. They have a wide variety of potential benefits as well as risks.

The goal of organizations like Rent Strike 2020 is to freeze rent nationally for the next few months. Although many local governments,

including Arcata's government, have taken measures against evictions due to the pandemic, renters still owe money. The goal of a rent strike would be to eliminate the need to pay while under a shelter-in-place order entirely.

Rent strikes require neighborhood coordination and organization. If one or two tenants in a neighborhood decided to strike by themselves, they are still vulnerable to eviction after a lift on eviction freezes. For a rent strike to be effective, they need to be well organized.

With almost 80% of Americans living paycheck to paycheck, a few months of sheltering in place may mean tenants cannot pay, strike or no strike.



Illustration by Jen Kelly

HSU FROM PAGE 1

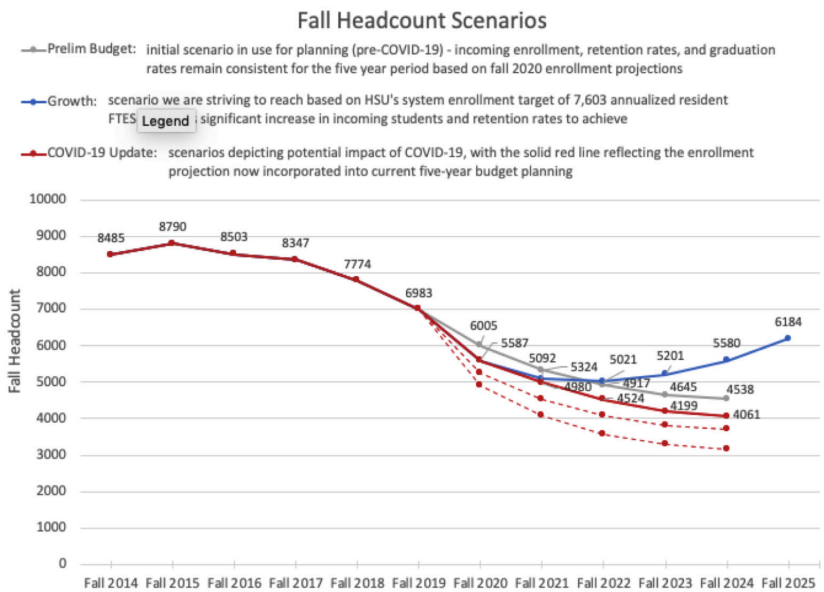
If Humboldt State University was a ship, it would be sailing straight into uncharted seas, thick with fog.

Atop the tallest mast, HSU administrators spy an enrollment drop of around 20% for the fall semester, mainly due to COVID-19. Administrators project a resulting budget cut of around \$7.4 million for the next school year and \$20 million in the next two years, according to HSU's most recent enrollment report and webinars held April 13 and 15.

Faculty and staff are scrambling across the deck to reorganize HSU's academic departments.

Vice President of Academic Affairs and Interim Provost Lisa Bond-Maupin said HSU's colleges are looking at combining department staff and faculty and adjusting fall course schedules for a smaller student population.

"Those are the strategies we're looking at—combining staffing where it makes sense and combining chair leadership where it makes sense," Bond-Maupin said via Zoom interview. "We're not do-



A chart from Humboldt State's April 7 Enrollment Management report showing student population projections.

ing away with academic programs."

A proposed plan emailed to department chairs of the College of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences divided CAHSS departments into four schools, each of which would have one chair. The presumed thinking behind the plan would be to eliminate the need for each department to have its own chair and free up chairs to teach more courses—reducing the number of other needed faculty.

Bond-Maupin said that exact proposal probably would not move forward. Bond-Maupin said she and the deans of the HSU colleges are still

figuring out what they will do.

With department reorganizations and course offerings expected to be adjusted for the fall, lecturers will likely end up with fewer courses to teach. Bond-Maupin said schedules for a reduced number of students inevitably affect the availability of work. In other words, if all of a lecturer's courses are pushed off the fall schedule, they would be thrown overboard too.

Bond-Maupin did assure that HSU has no plan to cut any academic departments—but semester course offerings will depend on what students need.

"As enrollment changes, we

need to sort of follow the needs of the students," Bond-Maupin said.

Over 2,000 individuals signed a change.org petition asking for HSU tuition to be reduced for the spring. Bond-Maupin said a change in tuition would come from the California State University Chancellor's Office, not HSU.

Tuition reduction or not, HSU faces serious challenges. In an April 13 webinar HSU held on the enrollment decline and budget cuts, Vice President of Enrollment Management Jason Meriwether delivered dire news on enrollment.

"If the CSU is in a recession for enrollment, Humboldt State needs to worry about being in a depression for enrollment," Meriwether said. "I hate to use those terms, but it just forecasts the impact HSU could face in the terms of COVID-19."

HSU has refunded nearly \$2.5 million to students for housing, parking and dining and projects to lose around \$7 million by the end of June.

Vice President of Administration and Finance Douglas Dawes emphasized the importance of the campus understanding the need to make quick budget cuts. Dawes said HSU is looking into a mix of measures, including hiring

chills, spending freezes and retirement incentives.

These hits to the hull come despite progress HSU made before it entered the murky waters of the pandemic—208 local students accepted the Humboldt First scholarship, up from 32 local students per year for the last three years.

Both Meriwether and Bond-Maupin said details of the fall semester remain uncertain and hinge on public health recommendations. Bond-Maupin said HSU is preparing for a variety of potential scenarios, from remaining online to opening partially.

"We are hearing from the governor that there may be some return to being together but with some new social distancing parameters—so that's possible," Bond-Maupin said. "We might work with spacing. We also may look at timing. One scenario I can think of is that we are delayed in going back fully to face-to-face, so we begin online. I think we just have to plan for all those scenarios."

The Lumberjack requested an interview with HSU President Tom Jackson multiple times for this story, but he could not be reached. HSU Communications Specialist Grant Scott-Goforth cited an "incredibly busy time."

BUDGET FROM PAGE 1

Executive Director of AS Jenna Lund is heavily involved in the committee.

"It's interesting that there is not a lot of money compared to the big budget, but what I've realized over the past couple of years is because they are so visible, people react to them very strongly," Lund said. "IRA is less than \$500,000, and compared to the campus budget that's just drops in the bucket. But because it means whether or not a group of students can go compete, or do something, they feel it directly."

IRAs are limited to those that are disciplined, department-based and sponsored, and are integral to formal instructional offerings. They are intensive, structured activities that reflect active rather than passive student involvement. They are considered essential to the quality of an educational program and an important instructional experience, and they demonstrate skills derived from intensive coursework. They include everything from The Lumberjack newspaper to club sports, and almost everything in between.

Made up of majority student

voters, the IRA Committee has been meeting to re-evaluate their funding guidelines, based on the Education Code, their current IRA funding guidelines and memos between the AS president and HSU president from the 2019-2020 academic year that outline the direction they were headed. Sandy Wieckowski is currently the longest-acting board member.

"This is the same thing we hit last year," Wieckowski said. "We had conflicting pieces of arguments that said, 'You do this, but you don't do that in these cases,' which makes it very hard to evaluate who's gonna be in and who's gonna be out."

Lund blamed the rotating chairs for inconsistent goals.

"This current model has annual turnover," Lund said. "It's new faculty on this committee every year, and it's often new student leaders every year."

On top of HSU having new administration for the past three years, AS has had four presidents in three years. With administrations in a constant state of change, it's much more difficult to accomplish progress.

"I've been on the committee four years and we've done it different every year," Wieckowski said.

Board members were assigned budget applications from IRA groups to review in advance of their April 7 meeting. During the meeting, the board looked at each application and adjusted the proposed budgets where they saw fit. As Lund scrolled down the list of submissions, board members weighed in with their recommendations.

One significant impact look to be the denial of a budget for the campus sexual assault prevention program, CHECK IT, as the "swag" the budget was requested to pay for wasn't considered a priority. The Lumberjack newspaper faces over \$8,000 in cuts from a budget of around \$28,000 and Osprey magazine faces about \$4,000 in cuts from a \$10,000 budget. The KRFH student radio station also faces a \$5,000 cut from their budget of \$10,000. AS Public Relations Officer Cassaundra Caudillo suggested the cuts.

"All of the publications on campus tend to over-print," said Caudillo. "I think all of the publications could probably take a little bit of a cut because of that."

Despite the budget crunch, the IRA committee managed to make room for programs that did not receive IRA funding in the 2019-2020 academic



Photo by Dakota Cox

The empty University Center quad on April 10. The IRA budget faces significant cut-backs due to the continued declining enrollment of HSU.

year, including \$2,500 for the Youth Educational Services program, \$5,000 for reserve library textbooks and \$3,000 for the Society of American Foresters Quiz Bowl. The IRA budget recommendations have been finalized, but they currently have an open appeals period before the budget will be sent to HSU President Tom Jackson by April 30.

A potentially significant factor in next year's budget is possible carry-over from money that didn't get spent in the 2019-2020 academic year. That amount, for now, is yet to be known. However, the IRA Committee felt comfortable over-allocating about \$25,000 they expect to gain in roll-over.

"We have all these potential expenses out there that we need to get covered and tidy up before we try and allocate that money to next year," Lund said.

In the past, AS has put in place a contingency plan to allocate money based on a projected headcount in case there is money left over from the previous school year's budget.

"If money were to roll forward and be available in addition to what we're looking at today, then they gave three priorities, and that was already voted," Lund said. "So, it made it a pretty clean process for us if there was funding there."

Humboldt State violated California public meetings law

HSU briefly required registration for two public webinars

by Grace Caswell

Editor’s note: Grace Caswell is a student in Journalism Department Chair Vicky Sama’s media law course. Almost the entire staff of The Lumberjack has also had Sama as an instructor in journalism courses.

Humboldt State University hosted a public meeting via Zoom to inform the public about its projected enrollment decline and budget cuts. However, under the guise of a security measure protecting the university from “Zoom bombings,” HSU enacted mandatory registration requirements prior to entering the meeting.

“Zoom bombings” describe a new term for an infiltration or hijacking of a Zoom session with the intent to harass and disrupt the session. With an increase in Zoom users, from 10 million in December 2019 to more than 200 million in March of 2020, Zoom CEO Eric S. Yuan released a statement April 1 detailing additional measures being taken to enhance Zoom security over the next 90 days.

HSU Vice President of Enrollment Jason Meriwether claimed HSU has experienced Zoom bombings and enacted the registration as an additional security measure. The additional measures required the public to respond twice via Google forms before being sent the Zoom meeting

invitation, basically giving the administration, a government body, the power to sift through and deny public access.

HSU Chair of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication and media law professor Vicky Sama alerted and engaged with HSU administration, specifically Meriwether, on the violations being committed.

“Using “security” reasons to require the public additional registration to access a public meeting on the people’s business does not satisfy the openness and liberties that our Constitution provides,” Sama said in an email. “In addition to violating state law that I explained in my earlier email.”

Sama said the additional requirement requesting the public to register prior to receiving an invitation was tantamount to reviewing their qualifications.

“The email did not justify the registration nor did it outline its purpose, raising suspicions that the university doesn’t want certain people to attend or know what is going on,” Sama wrote. “The unintentional message is that some people are not welcome and/or we at HSU don’t want the public to know what is going on.”

Specifically, HSU’s actions against the public violated the Brown Act and Bagley-Keene Act. Both California state acts provide assurance of rights to the public. Sommer Ingram Dean, staff attorney for the Student Press Law Center, explained how these security measures directly conflict with both acts.

“Section 54953.3 of Brown says ‘A member of the public shall not be required, as a condition to attendance at a meeting of a legislative body



Photo by Thomas Lal

A sign outside of the Redwood Bowl informs the public of the campus closure due to COVID-19 on April 13.

of a local agency, to register his or her name, to provide other information, to complete a questionnaire, or otherwise to fulfill any condition precedent to his or her attendance,” Dean explained in an email.

Additionally, Dean cited the Bagley-Keene Act and the measures it provides ensuring the public rights.

“Section 11124 of Bagley Keene says ‘No person shall be required, as a condition to attendance at a meeting of a state body, to register his or her name, to provide other information, to complete a questionnaire, or otherwise to fulfill any condition precedent to his or her attendance,’” Dean wrote.

Sama informed Meriwether of the illegal activity violating both the Brown and Bagley-Keene Acts April 13, citing the specific sections mentioned above. In response, Meriwether continued with the registration in place and adjusted the meeting by

“The unintentional message is that some people are not welcome and/or we at HSU don’t want the public to know what is going on.”

-Vicky Sama
Journalism department chair

offering a public link.

“Since this issue was just raised today, it appears to me that the best thing to do is to move forward with today as planned,” Meriwether said in an email. “We will also explore hosting a third event. We will provide both the option for registration and the public link for the already scheduled event on Wednesday. The entire point of having these events was to be transparent.”

Since then, the links to the April 13 and 15 meetings went public. However, the concern more surrounds HSU’s

decision to filter through the public’s right to access a public meeting regarding matters directly impacting them.

The registration requirement, Sama wrote, amounts to intimidation and goes against the spirit of openness and transparency, and “reeks of sneakiness.” In a time of crisis, government bodies can use the mirage of security to deny the public their right to voice their opinions. Ultimately, it amounts to an abuse of power against the public.

Raise your hand if you’re here for the 2020 census

Everything you might want to know about the 2020 census

by Collin Slavey

The United States Census Bureau has fulfilled the constitutional obligation to count every human in the country since 1790. Every home in the United States should have received an invitation to participate in the 24th United States census by April 1.

“The census tells us who we are and where we are going as a nation,” the Bureau’s website said.

The census is a measure of what’s going on in American communities. The data collected from the census helps communities determine where to build infrastructure, from schools and supermarkets to homes and hospitals. Beyond that, California District One (Humboldt County included) House Representative Jared Huffman said it’s a fundamental element of the United States.

“The significance of everyone participating goes so far beyond that,” Huffman said in an email through his spokesperson. “Having a complete picture of the people in communities across the country determines how folks are represented and makes sure everyone has a voice in the decisions their government makes. That’s the foundation of our democracy.”

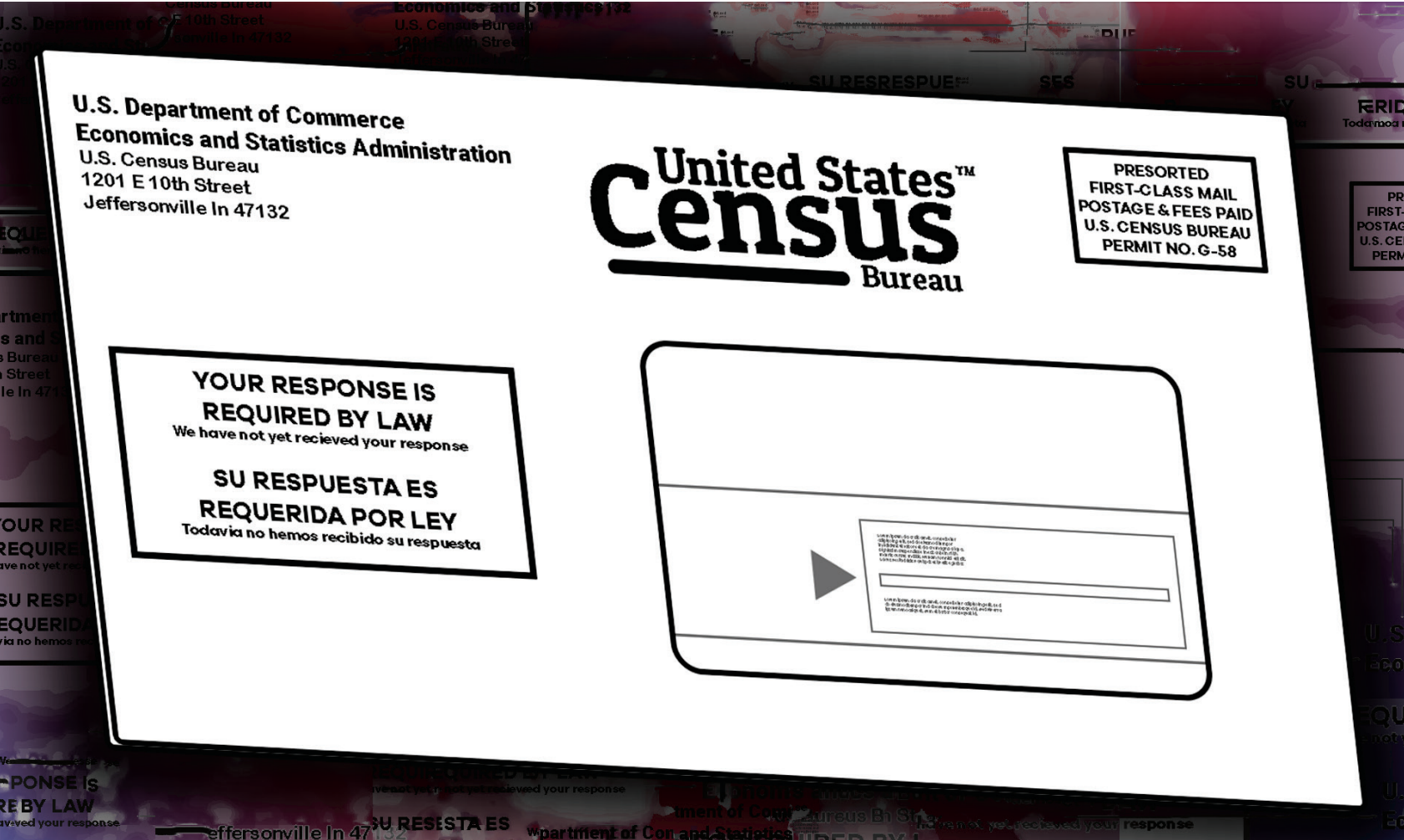


Illustration by Sam Papavasiliou

In the past couple of years, the Trump administration tried to politicize the census as they pursued the addition of a citizenship question, but they failed. To be clear, there is no citizenship question on the 2020 census.

John Meyer, chair of the Humboldt State politics department, explained how an accurate census requires trust between the federal government and residents.

“The goal of the census was an accurate count of who residents are and where they live,” Meyer said. “The citizenship question discouraged that.”

Meyer said answering the census should have no personal impact on respondent’s lives, and that there should be no arrests nor barriers to voting following a response. Meyer said immigrants from other countries, especially those with authoritarian, surveillance-heavy governments were often wary of answering the questions for fear of retaliation.

The U.S. Census Bureau has been politicized in the last few years, but the law prevents the Census Bureau from sharing information with law enforcement. The information is supposed to be kept strictly confi-

dential.

“It is in the interest of powerless people to answer the census,” HSU American government Lecturer Nicola Walters said. “Students today are the most diverse demographic, and if you’re not counted, other resources will not follow.”

Walters said she would have liked to see the citizenship question on the census. The census is a rare opportunity for scientists like her to collect data on the entire population, rather than just the samples she’s used to. Nonetheless, she is looking forward to the results of the 2020 census.

According to the Census Bureau’s website, many of the planned elements of getting a full count, including door to door interviews, will be postponed.

“The 2020 Census is underway and the most important thing you can do is respond online, by phone, or by mail when you receive your invitation,” the Census press kit said. “Responding now will minimize the need for the Census Bureau to send census takers out into communities to follow up.”

Students struggle to stay motivated in online courses

COVID-19 rages as students struggle with online schoolwork

by Sarah Blunt

Humboldt State University transitioned to online instruction for the rest of the semester on March 26. Since then, some students have had a hard time staying focused and motivated in online classes.

Deana Lopez, a third-year zoology major at HSU, admitted that this hasn't been an easy transition.

"I feel overwhelmed with the amount of emails professors and instructors are sending, and everything seems all over the place," Lopez said. "I have been neglecting my school work so much that I forget that I still have classes. I've missed quizzes and assignments already because it's so easy to forget that I have to do them without a professor reminding me."

Third-year psychology major Madeline Baker said she was having a tough time staying motivated without face-to-face instruction.

"Not being able to have classes in person further discourages me," Baker said. "Holding classes through Zoom has been easier for me in contrast to pre-recorded lectures, but they still aren't the same. Not having that in-person con-

nection alters the learning environment in a way that makes me feel disconnected from my overall learning experience."

Not only are students dealing with the move from face-to-face instruction to online classes, but they also have to manage the stress of living in a pandemic. With many students moving back home, there's added family stress as well.

Lopez was feeling pressure from school alongside tension from life in general.

"I know I can find the motivation, but everything is hectic at the moment," Lopez said. "My grandma recently passed away so there was that on top of the COVID-19 situation, and a lot of family problems have occurred as well. I'm trying to get myself and my surroundings organized before I can actually put all of my focus into school."

No matter how good a job professors are doing, online education doesn't appear to be the same. For the students, it's not just the classes they feel they're missing out on, but the whole college experience.

Meanwhile, the state of the world may be taking a toll on student mental health.



Illustration by Phoebe Hughes

"The resource I would like to use most right now is CAPS," Baker said. "Before all of this happened, I finally decided to go in and begin appointments, something I feel like I've needed to do for a while now. I feel like that has now been interrupted for me. I had a private safe space provided to speak with someone and learn to cope with things. Given my current housing situation, I do not have a private enough space in which I would feel comfortable confiding in

someone and work through my personal feelings and issues over the phone or video. Not only do I feel like my beginning of therapy has been interrupted, but the full college experience for this semester."

Many students are also dissatisfied about paying full-price tuition for resources they won't be able to access for the rest of the semester.

Kayla Rodenburg, a third-year English major, thinks the tuition price doesn't add up with all classes now online.

"I do feel like the tuition price is too high for online classes," Rodenburg said. "Online university is dirt cheap and we are paying CSU prices for that which is kinda ridiculous in my opinion. I'm pretty sure many parts of our tuition fund things on campus that we now don't have access to, so I hope some type of refund happens, even though it's kind of a stretch."

A student's tale of surfing from heaven to quarantine

An account of one HSU surfer's last breath of clean, fresh air

by Dakota Cox

When Humboldt State University forestry major Gavin Schreiner set out on a 10-day surf trip over spring break, he had no clue what he would return to.

Planned months in advance, Schreiner wasn't going to let a virus stand in the way of his vacation. Packing over 50 pounds of food and supplies, he and a friend hiked nine miles up the coast of California. Schreiner stopped along the way to admire otters, countless shells and of course, to surf.

"Surfing is obviously my favorite part and that's the drive to go, but I love camping anyway," Schreiner said. "I'm an avid backpacker. I've been through the Trinity Alps and definitely backpacked into So-Cal a bunch."



Photo by Cullen Wigger

Gavin Schreiner packs his board through the Lost Coast fog March 23.

A territorial surfer, Schreiner requested the location not be named, especially after this trip. Between spring break and COVID-19, the waves were packed.

"It was the most crowded anyone has ever seen that spot," Schreiner said.

Fortunately for those adventurous enough, there are nine miles of coast to surf on the way.

"There's the main surf spot

out there, but there's countless other waves along there," Schreiner said. "It's like a wave park. There's so many different types of waves and different spots you can surf, and all offer different excitements."

Time between surf sessions consists of eating, sleeping and battling the elements to stay comfortable.

"On the coast the weather changes super quick, so you have to be shedding layers,

putting layers back on and also watching the waves 24/7 to make sure you get the best seshes [sessions] in," Schreiner said.

This is the longest trip Schreiner has taken so far, but he wants to break the record.

"If we could spend a month, I would be in for that," Schreiner said.

At 20 years old, Schreiner has been surfing over half his life.

"Surfing and the ocean is my number one priority," Schreiner said. "It's definitely my life path to surf until I die."

When he returned from his 10-day trip, Schreiner was greeted by strangers wearing masks and businesses with closed doors. The virus was not a factor in the trip. Surfers treated each other with the same brotherly love and competition. Schreiner would've stayed longer if it weren't for school.

"We kinda knew a little bit going into it that shit was going crazy," Schreiner said. "The only thing we reconsidered was whether or not we could stay indefinitely and figure out a way to complete homework assignments out there."

Now that he's back home, he tries to surf every day to take advantage of the opportunity.

"I know a lot of my friends down south can't surf because they're closing the beaches, so I definitely feel super blessed to be up here right now," Schreiner said. "I can follow social distancing and still go out every day."

FIRST FROM PAGE 1

Science students feel they aren't getting the education they paid for. Science and freshman botany professor, Mihai Tomescu, admits some of his students are struggling

with the online format.

"Just recently I had a student emailing me and she was a really good student until COVID hit," Tomescu said. "She was really involved in class, really liked the material, was there in lectures all the time, worked in the lab really hard, she really enjoyed it. She missed an assignment and I checked in with her to see

how things were going and she told me that she has really big problems with the internet."

Tomescu admits that he can't directly do anything about the situation or to help in any way with the problems his students are facing, such as internet access.

"It's either slow or not available or spotty. Parts of lectures will stop and she'll have to wait

for the internet to come back on and stuff like that," Tomescu said. "That's very worrisome, especially when you see that in a student that was doing really well in class and she was excited. I don't want it to be a missed opportunity."

Doing school from home can be frustrating, difficult and demotivating. At times, it's inaccessible for people that don't

have the resources they need to complete the work. Not only are students missing opportunities on campus or in classes, but they're also missing out on social opportunities they'll never get back.

"It's really frustrating because I'm not getting the material for my classes," Diaz said. "There's just a lot of stuff I'm missing out on."

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What it's like living on campus after the exodus

Despite Humboldt State University going digital, campus housing remains open

by Sophia Escudero

Humboldt State University President Tom Jackson announced via email March 18 that the school would be going entirely online, and he encouraged students to vacate campus housing if possible.

“It is important we reduce the number of people on campus,” the email read. “We encourage students who can return to a home off-campus to do so. We will not displace students who are facing housing insecurities or homelessness.”

Freshman Calista Tutkowski was among those who decided to move back home after learning that classes would transition online. Tutkowski considered her choice the right one for her own physical and mental wellbeing.

“It felt like things were just going to get worse and worse on campus and around the world, so if I was going to be doing online classes, I wanted



An empty desk and bed after moving out of an Humboldt State dorm in late March 2020.

Photo by Sophia Escudero

to be home with my family,” Tutkowski said.

Tutkowski was frustrated with the sudden notice from the school. By the time the school sent out the notice that they were going online and encouraging students to leave the dorms, she had already

gone home for spring break and was out of state. Like many other students, she had to return to campus to pick up her things, potentially putting herself and others at risk by traveling.

“They should have just made the choice before people

left for spring break to keep it as safe as possible,” Tutkowski said.

Some students are still on campus. Emma Bradley-Solis is one of those who elected to remain in campus housing despite virus concerns.

“I live in Washington and it

is a lot worse there,” Bradley-Solis said. “I thought it would be smarter for me to self-quarantine here.”

According to an April 7 Enrollment Management report, about 300 students remain on campus. Most of the campus facilities are closed, including the library, computer labs and University Center.

With the severely reduced numbers of students left behind, pickings are slim. There isn’t much variety left in the food selection, and many staples such as rice, pasta and fresh fruit are out when Bradley-Solis goes to the marketplace. For students who rely on J-points to eat, this is both a serious problem and a waste of the money spent on their meal plans.

“I feel like they could take care of the students still here better—like better food,” Bradley-Solis said. “We paid a lot of money for J-points.”

REVIEW

Half-Life: Alyx makes virtual reality worthwhile

Half-Life: Alyx is the first properly high budget virtual reality effort from a major studio

by Sam Papavasiliou

The previous game in the Half-Life series ended on a cliffhanger, and since then, the franchise sat in limbo for over a decade. By the time Half-Life: Alyx was announced, most had given up hope of a sequel. The inflated expectations for a new Half Life game made constructing a sequel too daunting a task for developer Valve to ever release anything, but now they have. Does it live up to the hype?

For the most part, yes.

With the majority of people currently stuck inside, virtual reality is one of the best ways to pretend you’re not. The problem is the high price point. Currently the barrier for entry for a VR headset is a minimum of \$400, and that doesn’t include a gaming PC that meets the hefty requirements of VR. Those PCs generally start at \$600. Up to this point, small-scale games made up the majority of the VR catalog. VR lacked a system seller to justify the high price point.

Luckily, Half-Life: Alyx is an incredible game. It takes what made the older Half-Life games great on a 2D screen and translates them to the 3D space with an incredible amount of polish.

In Half-Life 2, your main method of interacting with the world was the gravity gun, the weapon that could pick up and manipulate nearly any object in the world around you. In Half-Life: Alyx you have gravity gloves.

These gloves let you aim your hands at nearly any object, press the grab button and flick your wrist to bring that item towards you. It’s an action so simple and satisfying to perform that since playing I have on several occasions found myself with the urge to perform it in my day-to-day life.

The game’s story is excellent, but can feel sparse at times. Some chapters should have more dialogue than they do, but the writing and performances that are there



Philosophy and psychology double major Karl Fisse plays Half-Life: Alyx for the first time April 13.

Photo by Sam Papavasiliou

are excellent.

During those few encounters with human characters I was in awe at how life-like they were. If there’s anything about the game that is a disappointment, it would have to be the lack of melee weapons. You

can pick up almost anything in the environment, but none of it can actually harm enemies. Half-Life is known for having the crowbar as a weapon, so it’s weird to not have that in this game.

These are all nitpicks

though. Half-Life: Alyx is proof that VR as a medium can work. It’s proof that virtual reality can be its own storytelling medium, with its own stories and experiences and that gets me excited for the future of gaming.

REVIEW

Revamped Resident Evil 3 radiates nostalgia

20 years later and Resident Evil 3 still feels just as good

by Alberto Muro

The Resident Evil franchise began as a survival horror video game that rose to fame in the 90s and has continued with a series of sequels and film adaptations. This is a brief, spoiler-free review about the recently released Resident Evil 3.

Twenty years ago, I embarked on one of my many video game binges. This included playing Resident Evil 3: Nemesis. It was the first time I learned about the anxiety of being chased by the video game’s antagonist, Nemesis. On April 3, I relived that experience, thanks to Capcom delivering on the Resident Evil 3 remake.

The plot of the video game



Image courtesy of Capcom

features protagonist Jill Valentine, a returning character from the first game’s story line, which saw the Special Tactics and Rescue Service members trapped in a mansion fighting for survival against nightmarish creatures. In Resident Evil 3, the fight for survival takes place in the streets in the fic-

tional Raccoon City.

In the remake, the game’s mechanics have changed slightly, giving you the ability to dodge more efficiently, as opposed to the original, in which you had to rely on frantic button-pressing and leaving it to chance. Another returning feature is the ability to

craft ammunition, giving the player a fighting chance as increasing difficulty makes items more scarce.

Although the game was a perfectly rendered remake, I do have some complaints that affected my nostalgia. Let me start off with the main concept, which is encountering Nemesis. In the original game, you had to fight your way through the city, and upon arriving at the police station, you had to fight for your life.

In the remake, that suspense is taken away when you encounter Nemesis at the start of the game. Adding on to that complaint is the use of cut scenes in which Jill Valentine runs away from Nemesis. In the original it was solely up to you, the player, to control Valentine in hopes that you can fend off the creature.

Another grievance focuses on the locations in the game. The remake felt shorter than

the original and that’s because the creators decided to cut down the time it took for the player to explore certain parts of the game. Originally it took hours of exploration to acquire items for progression through areas, but by taking that out, it felt more like a rushed experience.

Other than those issues, the game is worth trying out. With Valentine and Nemesis as the main features of the game, it did radiate the nostalgic feeling I had when I first played 20 years ago. Capcom really went above and beyond to deliver another quality product similar to their Resident Evil 2 remake which launched last January.

Whether you are a lifelong fan or new to the Resident Evil series, I assure you the recent remakes are worth the purchase, especially for the revamped story line.

Memes, genocide and teaching in a pandemic

With life disrupted, lecturer Kerri Malloy perseveres with flexibility and humor

by James Wilde

A professor noticed students often left Kerri Malloy’s class laughing. One day the professor asked what he was teaching.

“Oh, that’s my genocide class,” Malloy said.

Malloy teaches courses in the Humboldt State Native American studies department on colonialism and genocide. With such somber subjects, Malloy relies on humor and honesty to engage students. Now that classes have gone online during the pandemic, Malloy has employed those traits, alongside plenty of flexibility, to keep students connected.

“The hurdle is going to be maintaining that connection with the students,” he said.

He created class blogs for students to post what they want—questions, memes, dog or cat or reptile pictures. Glance through Malloy’s Instagram, Twitter or Snapchat accounts, and you’ll find lots of memes, like one he posted April 3 on Instagram:

“The year 2020. Brought to you by the letters W, T & F.”

“I love a good meme,” he said in one of two Zoom interviews. He sat in his home office. Behind him, family photos and a Star Wars Yoda action figure topped a bookshelf. He wore glasses and a button-up shirt.

Memes dominate Malloy’s social media accounts, but there’s more to the accounts than humor. They make him accessible to students. He receives messages on those accounts about class, and he replies happily.

“There are times where I’m like, ‘Why am I doing this?’” he said. “And then I realize, I’m getting to see a different side of students, and my colleagues, too.”

Malloy also emphasized the importance of flexibility.

“I think you have to walk into it—at least my plan is to walk into it—with an incredible amount of flexibility,” he said. “And let them—let the students—help guide where we’re going to go.”

...

Yurok and Karuk by heritage, Malloy was born on the Oglala Lakota Reservation in South Dakota, but he grew up on the Quinault Indian Nation Reservation in Washington.

Marlon Sherman, chair of the HSU NAS department, knew Malloy from working together for the Yurok tribe. Sherman and Malloy have a family connection, as Sherman grew up on the Oglala Lakota Reservation where Malloy was born.

After working together for the Yurok tribe, Sherman and Malloy parted. About six years ago, Sherman asked Malloy to come to HSU to teach two courses for a semester.

Shortly after Malloy came on board, Sherman had to take time off. He had cancer. Sherman returned in about a year, but Malloy became program leader and helped steer the department. Sherman said Malloy basically did all the work and helped the department hire two professors.

“If it wasn’t for Kerri, there might not be a NAS department right now,” Sherman said over the phone.

Malloy said Sherman was too generous, but there’s no doubt that Malloy works, a lot—so much so that Sherman joked it might be illegal.

Malloy wakes up around 4:30 a.m. every day. He gets up so early partly because he



Lecturer Kerri Malloy sits on a bench near the University Center Quad April 19. Malloy teaches in the HSU Native American studies department.

finds those early hours productive, and partly because his back is built on metal rods and pins that make lying flat for too long unbearable. He’s not exactly sure how he damaged his back—maybe a car accident—but he had to have surgery that put him out of commission for three years.

He estimated he’s on eight to 10 HSU committees, from the University Resources Planning Committee to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. Malloy does this while teaching multiple classes as a lecturer—a position with an uncertain future amid HSU’s projected enrollment decline and budget cuts. He joked when asked how he has the time.

“People usually don’t like my answer,” he said. “How do I have the time? A calendar.”

Kumi Watanabe-Schock, a 23-year HSU employee, works in public programming and as the library media coordinator. She first met Malloy when he was an HSU student getting degrees in economics and Native American studies.

Since then, Watanabe-Schock has worked with Malloy on committees and for classes. Every time she talks to Malloy, he seems to be attending workshops or giving talks around the world. She praised his willingness to help out.

“He’s not good at saying, ‘No,’” she said over the phone. “I don’t know if he’s that way with everybody, but when you ask him to do a favor he always follows through and he always says, ‘Yes.’ So I really am appreciative, yeah. He’s a good person.”

When not working, Malloy is more private. He has a husband and three dogs. He has two sisters and 14 nieces and nephews he tries to see every year. Around 8 p.m. every night, he tries to unwind. Maybe he’ll watch some TV, or maybe he’ll read a book about genocide. Fun.

...

While COVID-19 has pushed teaching online, Malloy has found his courses as relevant as ever.

A key concept in Native American studies is survivance, a portmanteau of survival and resistance. Survivance is about the living of Native American lives in the present tense. By surviving, Natives resist, and by resisting, Natives survive.

Malloy said people must fight right now to have their voices heard, like many Natives must do at all times. He said individual voices human-

ize current events and prevent people from kicking the ball of reality down the road.

On that note, Malloy told a story. Last summer, he taught Native history in a program that spent two days in Auschwitz I, the main site of the Nazi concentration camp. One day he stopped and looked out a window. The bizarreness of the situation dawned on him. Here they were, decades later, standing in a place of horror and trying to learn from it.

Later that night he received an email from then-HSU President Lisa Rossbacher. She was checking in, so he wrote back.

“If we can educate in such a place of incredible horror and death, we have the ability to change the world,” he remembered writing. “We really do. If

had Malloy for a 9 a.m. general education course. Once she got to know him, she tried not to miss his class. Since that first course, she’s tried to have a course with him every semester.

Navarette’s appreciation of Malloy goes beyond the classroom. She said she was losing her job last semester due to discrimination from her boss. She didn’t know what to do, so she went to Malloy.

“He sat me down and was like, ‘You know what, this is just a portion of how life is,’” she said. “‘You’re gonna have these obstacles all the time.’ And he told me, like, ‘You can’t let the system fuck you up and throw you down.’”

When she thinks of Malloy, she remembers his honesty.



A window at an Auschwitz Nazi concentration camp site on August 20, 2019.

we can actually go into these places and find this incredible darkness and turn it into something that allows us to reach out to other human beings and get us to talk to each other and push the things that really don’t matter aside, I think we can do this.”

To get people to talk, Malloy uses humor, which he said can get us past anything—and Malloy does seem capable of getting past anything. It seems strange to call research on genocide a passion, but Malloy approved the descriptor.

“Passion’s a good word for it, actually,” he said. “You’ll find that for those of that this is what we do, it is a passion.”

...

Every student interviewed for this story agreed on a few descriptions of Malloy. He’s open and funny, they said, and he can be brutally honest. They warned against getting into an argument with him.

“If you’re gonna have an argument with him, you better have good stats and have all your ducks in a row, because you’re not gonna win Kerri in an argument—I’ve tried,” HSU biology major Michelle Navarette said over the phone.

Navarette, a senior, first

lamophobic,” he said.

The student thanked him and decided to shop elsewhere. Malloy remembered that as a success.

“It’s when you see those little things, you’re like OK,” he said. “Even at some small level, we were able to plant some idea, some seed that is getting people to think differently, or at least question.”

...

Like many of Malloy’s students, Joshua Overington, an HSU environmental science senior, only took Malloy’s introductory Native American studies course for a general education requirement.

The class was so good Overington signed up for more. He eventually worked with Malloy on the Northwest Genocide Project, an online archive Malloy manages.

Overington also worked with Malloy on a research project on Tuluwat Island for HSU’s IdeaFest, which led into a research paper Overington is now finishing.

“He is incredibly passionate in what he does and he is uncompromising in his views,” Overington said over the phone. “If Kerri feels something or has an opinion, he always speaks his mind and really, he’s always the one who’s honest and puts himself out there. And that’s not something I see at all in other teachers.”

Malloy likes to tell people teaching about genocide is fun. People usually give him a blank stare and change the subject. But if asked, Malloy will elaborate.

“And what it means is not fun as in, ‘Yay, happy stuff.’ It means that it’s fundamental,” he said. “Atrocity is a fundamental part of the human existence. Peace is a fundamental part of the human experience. It’s understandable—we can understand why it happened, how it happened, what needs to be done to prevent it. And it’s necessary.”

Malloy knows most people don’t want to talk about atrocities all day. To get past that, Malloy said we have to be willing to look at ourselves.

Malloy tries to relate concepts directly to his students. He sometimes asks if students curate their social media profiles—do they post every photo they take? They admit they do some curating, and he suggested history books do the same.

“If we can make those connections on that level, this is much more understandable,” he said. “And then we get to be more willing to go, ‘Alright, maybe I need to look in the mirror.’”

...

Malloy teaches because he believes we’re all here to learn. He admits his own ignorance and encourages others to do the same. That openness to learning is perhaps what makes Malloy love his job. His willingness to let students guide his classes is perhaps what makes students love him.

“I tell my students this directly: ‘This is not my class,’” he said. “‘This is yours. You guys are the ones who are paying for it. I am just the tour guide on this expedition.’”

Malloy always ends each of his classes—each chapter of the expedition—with the same message.

“Go out and learn something,” he tells his students. “Go out and breathe.”

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OPINION

If it wasn't already obvious, we need universal healthcare

The U.S. healthcare system isn't built to handle a pandemic because it's not built to help everyone

by Rachel Marty

A 17-year-old boy from Lancaster, California died in March due to COVID-19 complications. After having serious respiratory problems the boy went to an urgent care facility. The facility denied care due to lack of insurance. While en route to the closest public hospital, the boy went into cardiac arrest and died hours later.

“But by the time he got there [the local public hospital], it was too late,” Lancaster Mayor R. Rex Parris said.

After the boy passed, doctors confirmed he had COVID-19.

The tragic death of this 17-year-old boy shows the obvious divide and unfair treatment within the U.S. healthcare system. If the boy had been insured or affluent enough to pay upfront for whatever treatment he needed, he would have received care and possibly still be alive.

There are 6,146 hospitals in the United States. Some are community owned, some are owned by the state or government, and some are privately owned.

According to 2018 data from the American Hospital Association, 58% of community-owned hospitals in the U.S. are non-profit. Out of all U.S. hospitals, 21% are for-profit.

There is a distinct separation in our healthcare system, but it's not just about where hospital funding comes from and goes. Hospitals also differ when it comes to if patients actually receive healthcare.

In 1986 Congress passed the Emergency Medical and Treatment Labor Act, which restricts all hospitals from denying care to patients based on a lack of insurance or ability to pay. But this hasn't stopped privately owned hospitals from denying care to uninsured patients. In a pandemic, this can have deadly consequences.

Universal healthcare works to prevent these situations. The Netherlands has universal healthcare and is taking a completely different approach to dealing with COVID-19.

March 16, Netherlands Prime Minister Mark Rutte made an address to the nation.

“The reality is that in the near future a large part of the Dutch population will be infected with the virus,” he said.

He went on to introduce a concept called group immunity.

“Those who have had the virus are usually immune afterwards,” he said. “Just like in the old days with measles. The larger the group that is immune, the less chance that the virus will jump to vulnerable elderly people and people with poor health. With group immunity you build, as it were, a protective wall around them.”

This is similar to what United Kingdom Chief Science Adviser Sir Patrick Vallance calls herd immunity. Herd immunity is the idea of letting the population be exposed and eventually become immune.

Although the Netherlands has closed some facilities like schools and restaurants, that



Graphic by Chelsea Wood

might not be the case for long. Rutte believes a lockdown will not stop COVID-19. He also has much more confidence in the Netherlands' hospitals and healthcare system than the U.S. has in its own systems

“We build immunity and ensure that the healthcare system can handle it,” Rutte said. “With the aim that nursing homes, in-home care, hospitals and especially intensive care units are not overloaded. So that there is always sufficient capacity to help the people who are most vulnerable.”

“We cannot and will not close our eyes to the econom-

ic consequences of this crisis,” Rutte said near the end of his speech.

Rutte is obviously concerned with the economy of his nation, but he also seems relatively confident that the Netherlands healthcare system could support their entire population if infected by the virus. It's important to note, the Netherlands pays for their universal healthcare services through taxes as well as a monthly premium paid by individuals.

This is very different from the current situation in the U.S. By all accounts, our

healthcare system couldn't handle the whole population getting infected by the coronavirus. Hence the need to flatten the curve.

Even with social distancing rules in place, cities like New York are struggling to find personal protective equipment or have enough intensive care unit beds for infected patients. Whether or not herd immunity is an effective or morally acceptable approach, the U.S. healthcare system isn't built to handle it because it's not built to help everyone.

OPINION

Even if you're sick of them, don't take your partner for granted

Social distancing has strained my relationship, so be grateful if you're still with your partner

by Alexis Parra

Social distancing life isn't much different from my usual life. I'm not physically going to school or work anymore, but I'm doing my assignments in bed like I normally would. My free time before quarantine would consist of doing homework, eating, watching movies with my roommate and spending time with my partner. There's only one of those things that I can't do anymore—spending time with my partner—and it's the one that hurts the most.

Life was busy before the days of sheltering in place, and I hadn't seen my partner much. We vowed after spring break we would spend more time together since I was going to be leaving after graduation and they will be staying up here. But now it looks like our long-distance relationship has started a lot sooner.

Some of my friends have said they were tired of being quarantined with their partner because they were getting on their nerves and they just needed space. When social distancing started, there were a lot of memes going around about how women trapped their partners in their houses with them so that they can talk about their issues and the partners can't go anywhere. That's funny, but you shouldn't need a quarantine to finally talk about your issues. You should be able to do that all the time.

China reported a spike in the divorce rate and the same is expected for the United States. Due to the quarantine, peo-



Graphic by Chelsea Wood

ple's daily lives have changed and they aren't used to being stuck with their partners all day. Which is understandable, but also sad. I would love to be stuck inside with my partner during this quarantine. We've talked a lot more which is nice, but actually having them under the same roof as me would hit differently.

If you find yourself being

in quarantine with your partner, but want to get away from them, there are little things you can do for some space. Maybe put yourself in another room if you have another room—but if you don't, maybe take a nice long shower.

Instead of both of you going to the grocery store together, make a list and have only one of you go. I would hope that

you wouldn't need to distance yourselves and that this time would be enjoyable for you two, but maybe that's just because I wish I could be watching movies or getting creative with my partner.

If you're stuck with your partner and are getting annoyed with the way they do the dishes or something small like that, well, get over it. Ei-

ther tell them it bothers you or take over the task. There are so many people out there, like myself, that would rather be stuck in a room with their partner no matter how much they annoy them, not to mention all the single people that wish they had a partner to be quarantined with.

MEET THE LUMBERJACK STAFF



JAMES WILDE
Editor-in-Chief

The last two semesters working on The Lumberjack have held some of the best times of my life—even with the blackouts and the pandemic. In The Lumberjack I found a family of fellow dedicated media makers. I had no idea what I was getting into joining a student paper, but as a graduating senior, I'd recommend it to anyone. Thank you to everyone I've worked with on The Lumberjack. Special thanks to the following folks (apologies to anyone not getting a shout out): Adviser Deidre Pike, for endlessly supporting all of us and pushing me to do more and do better. The semester-long production crew: Collin Slavey, for redefining deadlines. Jen Kelly and Sam Papavasiliou, for making everything we did look better. Grace Caswell, for making me laugh and killing that calendar. And to Chelsea Wood, for being a kickass managing editor I could rely on the whole semester. I'll miss the paper, sure, but much more than that, I'll miss these lovely people.



CHELSEA WOOD
Managing Editor

The last three semesters on The Lumberjack staff as a reporter, video editor and now managing editor have been an amazing learning experience. Because of this publication I had the opportunity to explore and establish new skills through storytelling and education. One of my favorite things of this experience was connecting to the HSU campus through my advice column, Ask Evergreen. The staff is a wild bunch who always make things entertaining and exhilarating. While we faced blackouts and pandemics, nothing stopped us from getting our job done. I'm very fortunate for my time with The Lumberjack and look forward to the continuation of the next chapter.



JEN KELLY
Photo Editor, Layout Editor

Being an editor on The Lumberjack gave me the chance to throw my creative products out into the world. I've learned that I can think about what I'm doing for months and go over every possible reaction I might get from people, but I'll still never have any idea of where most of it lands. I just need to miss the neighbors window. The reactions I got this semester were overwhelmingly good and constantly remind me that it's worth doing what I do. I've had people tell me they worked up the courage to get an STD because of an article I wrote. That blew me away. I get so happy when people tell me I introduced them to a new perspective on an issue they cared about. But of course, what is positive for one person can be negative to another. I'll never have every person's perspective. I need to be cautious, but putting anything of yourself out in the world is always a risk. This semester proved to me that it's worth it for me. I'll be back next semester in some way, shape or form, so I'll be seeing ya.

Science Editor



COLLIN SLAVEY

As science editor, I had the privilege to record the words of bright minds. Brilliant biologists, awesome ornithologists and creative geologists all have something neat to say. When I was welcomed into journalism, my colleagues were patient and funny. They showed me the tone of The Lumberjack was friendly, and set to the tempo of laughter. In my own writing, I try to set a friendly tone and punctuate my own with laughs. I think I made people smile bright smiles.

Layout Editor



SAM PAPAVASILIOU

Working on The Lumberjack has been a lot of fun. I've done layout, made graphics and written a couple stories. It's tough at times but it's a lot of fun getting to see everyone's hard work come together on each finished paper.



SETH FINNEGAN
Web Editor

Hi! I'm Seth and I'm the web editor for The Lumberjack. That means that I'm in charge of putting up the majority of stories onto our website and making sure they're all tagged and look pretty.

This has been my first semester with the LJ and I have loved it. The people here are passionate about what they do and always willing to help out newcomers. Plus there's almost nothing better than working on a story, going through the interview and editing process and then finally getting to see your name in the paper and knowing you helped supply the news to the Humboldt community.

I highly recommend joining the LJ team!



RACHEL MARTY
Social Media Manager

I'm happy to say that this is my second year writing for The Lumberjack and my first year serving as the social media manager. The Lumberjack is an amazing and welcoming environment for writers to explore their skills and expand their journalism interests. I love engaging others through local news and sharing the extraordinary stories of Humboldt State students. The weekly paper that we produce is always a prized work of art with hours of hard work packed onto every page. I look forward to discovering the endless stories and perspectives Humboldt State has to offer and continuing my work for The Lumberjack.



BEN ZAWILSKI
Video Editor

I'm Benjamin Zawilski, and I officially served as video editor for this semester. I got to help produce for The Lumberjack's YouTube channel, both applying and improving my skills that I've learned in my career as a film major at Humboldt State University.

In addition, I've also achieved several milestones in my endeavors as a journalist this semester, writing articles and taking photos for important topics to help inform and inspire our readers. It's been endlessly compelling to work with such brilliant people as our staff, and I am so incredibly grateful for the dedication and innovation I've observed in them this semester

MEET THE LUMBERJACK STAFF



GRACE CASWELL
Life and Arts Editor

The Lumberjack is truly an unforgettable experience. After three semesters working as a reporter and life and arts editor, I continue to commit to wanting to do more. The freedom within the newsroom is unlike any space on campus. It truly is a homey hub for igniting creativity and bouncing ideas off of fellow staff brainiacs. Although this semester was faced with trial and tribulation, after repeated blackouts and the current pandemic state, the staff remained committed to serving our student body. That kind of selfless commitment to continue under these difficult circumstances was extremely empowering and inspiring as a journalist. This kind of close, interconnected family atmosphere makes it hard to let seniors go. I cherish every late production night on Tuesday, where delusional memories make history (and the quote wall). It was an honor working alongside this staff, I have learned so much and grown immensely as a journalist and for that I am so thankful.



THOMAS LAL
Sports Editor

When I agreed to be the Sports Editor for The Lumberjack, I never expected that all sports would be canceled in the middle of their seasons. Even with just this short time though, it has been an absolute privilege to cover the teams on campus, and I feel very lucky to have been able to get to know our student athletes while sharing their stories. From being posted up under the basketball net to dodging foul balls on the softball field, covering athletics here is one of the most rewarding things I've done. Thank you to the writers who I worked with this semester, and of course a big thank you to James and Chelsea for keeping us going through it all!



WALKER B. TRUE
News Editor

My first semester on The Lumberjack has been historic, both in its content and its meaning to me. I found comradery amongst my fellow newsies and a place to call home in the editing room.

I joined as news editor with no experience editing, or managing, or really anything that qualified me for this position, but quickly I found expertise through experience. My fellow editors, I appreciate each and every one of you for allowing me to share space and ideas with you, and for laughing at 40-60% of my jokes, respectively.

I think the most momentous lesson for me is that I still have so much to learn, to improve on and to work towards. Thank you for crushed deadlines, caring community and cold, calculating, alliterative

Opinions Editor



ALEXIS PARRA

I was questioning myself and my work a lot, and ever since I joined The Lumberjack, I never questioned myself again—which is nice since I'm graduating. I've learned so much from my peers, our amazing advisor Deidre, and surprisingly myself. I'm so grateful to have been able to put out a paper with people I adore and who are just as passionate as me. The work I've done for The Lumberjack this semester as a writer and the opinion editor has been some of my favorite work. I can't wait to take everything I've learned wherever I write next.

Layout Editor



ASH RAMIREZ

Hello!
My name's Ash and I'm a layout editor for The Lumberjack. I have had a great time being a part of such an amazing newspaper and would like to thank everyone who helped along the way. Whether it was helping out with pages, or even just saying the funniest things that brighten the mood, you all made staying up until 10 p.m. bearable (yes, I know I'm a total grandma). Wish everyone the best in the future and in health!



SOPHIA ESCUDERO
Copy Editor

This past semester I have been a copy editor at The Lumberjack. As a person who liked English class a bit too much as a kid, I've enjoyed the experience of correcting people. The work has been pretty easy in my opinion, just looking things over for spelling and grammatical errors, and it hasn't been too time-consuming. Honestly, I find it relaxing. I would recommend this to anyone who's good at spelling and punctuation and likes having something to do.
I have struggled somewhat with writing my own articles this semester. It has been difficult to keep up with it on top of other work. I am also a perfectionist, and will often not complete things on time or at all if I cannot be satisfied with them. Overall, I would say that I have enjoyed this semester and intend to come back next year.



SKYLAR GAVEN
Copy Editor

I was very happy to be back on The Lumberjack this semester—let's just say it was full of surprises.

This semester on LJ I was assigned as a copy editor. Most of my homework was reading all of the eye-catching stories our writers produce. Copy editing has given me skills I can take with me as I continue my career in journalism. I've realized how crucial it is for each story to get a thorough edit and how little mistakes can be found anywhere.

The LJ had to adjust quickly this semester. Though challenging, I believe this pandemic made all of us even stronger as journalists. As I continue with LJ next semester, I will miss all the graduating seniors. I want to express my utmost gratitude for making my journalism experience at HSU



JESSICA LEWIS
Copy Editor

I say go for it. Even if you're a little unsure like I was when I responded to a department-wide email about staff openings for The Lumberjack. Yes I had to do my own miniature crash course on AP Style, but it was definitely worth it. Being an English major, and I'm sure others can relate, I got used to being able to do things at the last minute. Need an eight-page essay written four hours before 11:59 p.m.? I'm your girl. But seriously, working as a copy editor for The Lumberjack helped me combat this habit because if I slack off it impacts others who are just trying to do their job. Overall, it was a great opportunity and I'm happy I took the leap.

Meet Humboldt State's new athletic director

Jane Teixeira begins new position as head of Humboldt State athletics

by Thomas Lal

Humboldt State has a new permanent athletic director for the first time since 2016 in Jane Teixeira, who officially started the job April 6. With COVID-19 ending all sports at HSU for the semester, Teixeira has been adjusting to the area and the position as much as she can.

“I’ve enjoyed my time exploring as much as I can under the circumstances,” Teixeira said. “It was an interesting drive up here to try to make the change in location in these unprecedented times. Beautiful landscape coming up here, and I’m really happy to be here. Every morning it’s nice to hear the chickens that are across the street and be a



Photo courtesy of HSU Athletics

part of this great community.” Even without the luxury of meeting people in person, Teixeira has hit the ground running and is doing her best to make connections with

people and learn more about the athletics department and where it fits into the university. “A lot of my two weeks have been built upon building relationships,” Teixeira

said. “Getting to know what the staff needs, what they want. Where our gaps are, where we stand financially—obviously in these times things are difficult—and how can athletics contribute to getting better under the circumstances with the university as a whole.”

With the loss of football still recent in people’s memories and budget management on the horizon, Teixeira said interacting with the community around Humboldt State and listening to what they have to say will be important for her.

“I’m willing to listen,” Teixeira said. “I may not have the answers, I may not be able to give them what they want right away or at all, but I’m willing to listen. And I’m willing to take their points and understand them and say, ‘Hey, have you thought about this?’ or, ‘That’s a great point. I’ve never thought about that, let me see what we can figure out with that.’ We’re looking forward to working hand in hand and side by side with the Humboldt County community

and all of our alumni.”

Teixeira also aims to focus on bringing in more quality student-athletes and using athletics as a way to bring more students to Humboldt State and give them opportunities.

“It’s all about opportunity,” Teixeira said. “Because you never know when that one opportunity happens for a student that may change their life forever. It can happen just like that. And that’s why I’m in this business.”

For Teixeira, the roster expansions would be a chance for student athletes who may get overlooked to have a chance to showcase themselves.

“You never know when you get that one student who the lightbulb goes off for them and it changes their whole entire world. So giving them an opportunity if we expand our rosters a little bit, you never know. You may get that diamond in the rough.”

Coach continues creating community

Arcata High School’s computer science teacher creates community for videogamers

by Walker B. True

Jason Sidell is an Arcata High School teacher responsible for their Makers Program and esports team. The Makers Program is a curriculum written by Sidell, designed to engage computer skills, wood shop tools and various other equipment to make anything the students want to create.

This year Sidell coached the Arcata High School esports team that played their first season this spring. Fisher Boroughs is one of the team’s League of Legends players who just started playing the game this season.

“He [Sidell] doesn’t know much about League of Legends,” Boroughs said. “He knew as much as me, which is basically nothing when it started.”

Sidell says it’s a lot more like an organized sport than people would imagine. It has all of the same stakes of ranking, a team name, regular practices and all of your fellow gamers sitting right next to you.

“It’s been more intense than I thought it would be,” Sidell said.

Anthony Womack is a senior on the Rocket League team and is in his second year of the Makers class. He describes the Makers class as an incredibly open environment where Sidell encourages students to follow their own ideas as well as giving those less inspired something to begin with.

“You’re just making your own independent projects,” Womack said. “That’s pretty much the only assignment, just make something.”

He recalls building an electric guitar from scratch as being his most impressive project he’s completed in the class.

“I would spend every single lunch inside the class,” Womack said. “I wouldn’t even eat most of the time because I would just be busy working on stuff.”

Sidell graduated from Loyola University in Chicago with a degree in biology but wasn’t sure what direction to take it. On a whim, he took a



Photo by Walker B. True

(From Left) John Gerving, Jonah Moore and Seth Simmons playing Rocket League on Feb. 20. Coach Jason Sidell watches intently from behind.

vacation down to Baja with a childhood friend of his, but when he drove his friend up to Humboldt County, he never left.

“I love the Pacific Northwest and the environment up here,” Sidell said. “I just fell in love with it.”

Like many others moving to Humboldt, Sidell had trouble finding employment. He first landed a dish washing job at Golden Harvest Cafe, then found work through AmeriCorp for two years.

“I made a lot of connections in education that way,” Sidell said.

He would lead backpacking trips on the Lost Coast Trail and can remember the positive impact it had on the youth who had never left the Northern Humboldt metropolis of Arcata and Eureka. Sidell began work on his Master’s in education focusing on curriculum writing. At the same time he began part-time work at another non-profit run by Carol Newetts, called Tiffany’s Garden for Children.

The program he headed was called CyberTribe. It was set up as a youth-run computer business where teens would teach each other how to use certain programs including graphic design and fixing computers. They would take on paying jobs from the community like graphic design and web design work.

“It was 20 years ago, but I still remember all those kids’ names,” Sidell said. “It was a really empowering experience.”

Sidell taught a variety of programs to the youth at

CyberTribe, but a program that could be used to make video games became very popular. After seeing the interest, Sidell told his boss that he thought that it could be taught as a high school course. His boss agreed and Sidell created a six week module for the video game development course that he began teaching across the county.

“I think I’ve taught at just about every high school in Northern Humboldt,” Sidell said. “I remember one year I would teach in the morning at McKinleyville High, and then a class at Eureka High and then I’d end up at Fortuna High in the afternoon.”

After 15 years of work all around the county, Sidell settled down at Arcata High School where he wrote the curriculum for the Makers program after finding a grant focused on encouraging STEM at the high school level. The funding he secured solidified his own place at Arcata High, assuming that interest remained.

“It was a great feeling,” Sidell said. “Especially because I had been struggling year-to-year to maintain my job.”

Sidell believes he was meant to be a teacher and is passionate about creating a space that welcomes and respects his students. He believes that the best way to positively impact the world and leave a good mark on it is through teaching.

“If you can teach someone an idea and give them skills,” Sidell said, “that knowledge and information can be passed on through history.”



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THE DUMBERJACK

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President Tom Jackson’s abduction

BY WELSEA CHOOD

Humboldt State University President Tom Jackson vanished earlier this semester before the COVID-19 outbreak. However, not due to preemptive protection planning against the pandemic, but because of an alien abduction.

It appears President Jackson fell, or rather ascended, off the face of the Earth. In an exclusive interview with The Dumberjack, we’ve gathered statements from his colleagues.

Dr. Anon Y. Muss, from the HSU Conspiracy Department, weighed in on the event and the probability of his resurface somewhere near the melting of ice sheets in Antarctica with Nicaraguan president, Daniel Ortega.

“As our nation’s president would put it, ‘We’ve never seen anything like this before,’ and it’s true,” Muss said. “We’ve

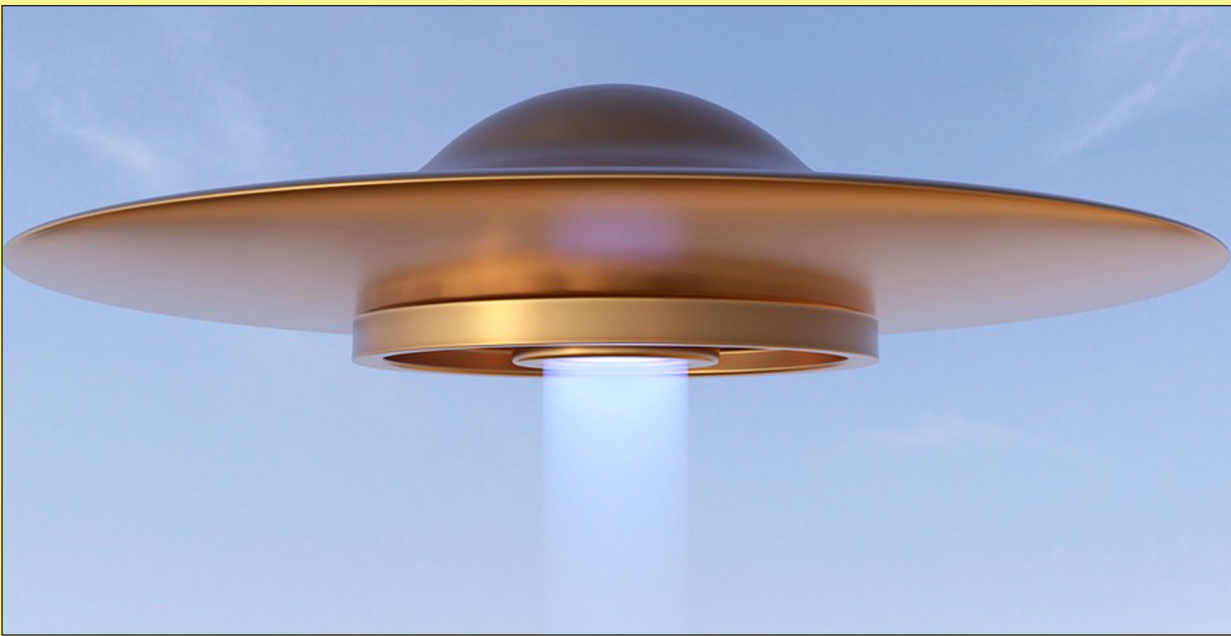


Photo courtesy PixaBay.com

never experienced an interstellar encounter with such hard evidence before.”

Muss highlighted the facts as to Jackson’s potential return occurring in the middle of nowhere. “He’ll either show up in Antarctica or the American Dakotas as they correlate with similar astral alignments, according to my calculations,” Muss said.

President Jackson’s abduction was recorded

on campus security cameras earlier this semester, however, UPD failed to notify campus. Jackson was last seen walking to his car in the secret, underground parking garage reserved for him and HSU board directors located under the now football-vacant Redwood Bowl.

Humboldt State police denied commenting on the matter. Rumors of Jackson’s

disappearance circulated, including those of ideas that he escaped to Cuba to visit Elvis and Tupac as well as thoughts of him being locked in the Founders Hall basement as punishment for improper seismic retrofitting on behalf of the Geology Department.

“I can assure you we do not have Tom in our basement,” Rick Terscle, HSU’s esteemed crystal healing geology

professor, said. “However, I cannot comment on whether or not there are bodies in the basement.”

Regardless of the outlandish rumors, Tom Jackson’s evaporation has left shockwaves throughout campus.

Stewart “Stew” Dent, a first year minecraftology student, commented on the effects of Jackson’s absence. “I was really looking forward to interacting with Tom more this semester. I really just wanted to pick his brain, mine it for inspiration,” Dent said.

The Dumberjack will soon release the surveillance video of President Tom Jackson’s abduction after our checks for doctoring are complete. Until then, stay home and stay un-abductable.

. . .

#Wherespresidentjackson

Pokémon run rampant in the streets across the globe

BY CAKOTA DOX

When the wonderful world of Pokémon was first brought to life with Pokémon Go in July 2016, no one could have anticipated the impact of the COVID-19 quarantine.

Without any trainers to capture them, Pokémon populations have already begun to incline. The most significant impact has taken place in Italy, where the quarantine has been in place since the 23rd anniversary of the death of The Notorious B.I.G., and poison-type Pokémon currently overflow the streets.

Apparently immune to COVID-19, Pokémon have their own virus, known as Pokérus. Similar to COVID-19, the virus appears out of nowhere and spreads like wildfire once it’s been contracted. Unlike COVID-19, Pokérus brings substantial health benefits to the host, with no drawbacks. Professor Oak explains the effect of the virus.

“When you level one of your Pokémon up by battling, their stats will increase higher than usual,” Oak said. “The reason for this is because the Pokérus doubles the Effort Points you’ve obtained.”

Pokérus, paired with increased populations has provoked unusual behavior in the Pokémon kingdom. Tentacool are washing up on the East Coast, in the thousands, due to overcrowding. Empty plains of the Midwest have become polluted by Galarian Meowth. And here, in Humboldt, we have seen an unprecedented migration of everyone’s favorite Pokémon, Zubat. The HSU dorms are an exception, as a massive pack of Cloyster have already claimed the territory. We sat down for an exclusive interview with Team Rocket Grunt to discuss how this will impact their organization. “These damn bats are

are everywhere,” Grunt said. “We can’t get a fucking thing done!”

Unfortunately, by the very nature of common Pokémon, they are most impacted by the quarantine lifestyle. With high production rates and no trainers to keep them in check, common Pokémon have begun to take over the world.

We’ve had reports of hostile Pikachu, throughout the states, in packs as large as several hundred. Jigglypuff is also beginning to pose a serious threat, putting entire cities to sleep, as herds make their way across the states, in thousands.

“I was out for like a week,” Grunt said. “When I woke up I was in the middle of the street in nothing but my briefs. On top of that, I think I lost like 10 pounds.”

Non-confrontational in nature, Jigglypuff, like many Pokémon, were forced



Photo courtesy of the Pokémon Go Press Kit

out of their homeland by the rapidly-expanding Eevee population. Having quintupled twice over since the pandemic first began, the Eevee population is currently more than double that of any other Pokémon, soon to be triple. As a result of the massive growth of the Eevee population, amongst other Pokémon, the Pokémon formerly known as Mr. Mime has gone extinct. Saffron City Gym Leader specializing in psychic type, Sabrina, was devastated by the loss.

“I was just scrolling the Gram when I found out,” Sabrina said. “It was like when Bella hit Dobby with that knife.” This, unfortunately, does not appear to be an isolated case. With the massive introduction of new common Pokémon to the population, many rare Pokémon have been forced to seek refuge in isolated regions of the world. At the current rate of population growth, however, it appears to be only a matter of time before we say goodbye to another beloved Pokémon.

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THE DUMBERJACK

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Brutally honest 2020 astrology

BY ELASMO JELLY

Aries: Your stars have plans for you. Unfortunately for you, your stars are idiots. They mean well, but they’re the type of stars to die of something unfathomable like getting a natty light lodged in their aorta. How did it get there? No one knows. At their funeral, their bros all solemnly pour one out for their lost homie. A natty light, to be specific. The shear volume of natty light destroys the flora of the graveyard for generations to come. So good luck with those divine plans.

Taurus: As the oldest sign, you have an old soul. You have wisdom beyond your years. Unfortunately for you, souls age as humans do. Badly. Your soul is starting to die. You will live the rest of your life as a soulless husk. This is great news! Perhaps consider this the push you need to switch over to a business major.

Gemini: You will take up an interest in astrology. It’s a fate that’s drowned many brave souls

in the waters of pseudoscience, but Gemini are adaptable to extreme situations. You will learn about rising signs, cylinders, angles, operandum, , aspects, rays, axes, and whatever else. If you can tell me which of those words doesn’t apply to astrology, the darkness has already grabbed ahold of your flailing limbs.

Cancer: The adult human body averages out at about 65 percent water by weight. That’s around 14 gallons of water on average. Scientists of the future will be baffled by how you will manage to cry 20 gallons of water per day for the next year. You should be left a shriveled corpse, waiting for the wind to simply batter you into a fine powder. But somehow you will live on. Congratulations!

Leo: Happiness awaits you. You won’t find it today and it won’t be here tomorrow. It won’t be here next week or next year. The far future looks bleak too, but the distant future? Looking up.

Virgo: I’m sorry. Not for you, but for everyone around you. I would ask you to support them in this difficult time, but you’re why they’re having a difficult time.

Libra: You’ve been weighing a difficult decision lately. It could have horrible consequences if you chose the wrong path. One path will lead you to a life of fulfilment. The other path will lead you into a hellish dimension of complete chaos.

Scorpio: I know what you did. It’s bad and you know it’s bad. You thought you couldn’t sink to that deep a level, but you’re a Scorpio—of course you could. You’ll never change, but you’ll get better at hiding the consequences of simply being who you are. Don’t worry, only the stars know. And since the stars know, I know. And I write for a newspaper.

Sagittarius: Your next trip is going to be bad. No matter what kind of trip you apply that to.

After said bad trip, absolutely do not convey your experiences in any way. The consequences will be immediate and horrific. Not because the universe will smite you for revealing its dark secrets, but because everyone’s bored of you.

Capricorn: We all like to bully the odd Virgo here and there, but you are truly the worst of the signs. Coming to terms with how awful you are is the secret to your success. Once you move past your inherent unlikability, the real work can begin.

Aquarius: Your life will be a series of ups and downs. Successes and failures. Loves and losses. In the end, you will be glad to have lived it. You’ll be able to let go in the end. What comes next is what bothers me. The stars usually can give me a pretty good picture of life after death, but the stars can’t see where you go. Huh.

Pisces: Oh god, you should get that looked at.

Paranormal infection plagues Aracta’s Elm Street

The stay-at-home orders spur paranormal activity for the Arcata residents of Elm Street



Photo Courtesy of Pixabay

BY RVAN IAMIREZ

Lizzie Towntowns was in her bathroom. The windows started closing by themselves. The door shut suddenly. She didn’t know what to do. The shelter-in-place order has dramatically impacted residents of haunted houses. Paranormal activity has been more commonly reported. The spirits want the house to themselves. The quarantine is not allowing them to have that. Towntowns is a Humboldt State University student who recently rented a house before the quarantine happened, but she didn’t think it would be haunted. She only liked it because it was cheap.

“I didn’t believe in that stuff,” said Towntowns. “People warned me that the house was haunted but I rented the house because it was cheap. I used money that I got from Oh Snap to pay for it.” Towntowns explains that it happened when she started singing in the shower. “People always told me I sucked at singing,” said Towntowns. “I didn’t believe them, but after I started singing in the shower the house came alive.” Robert Bobbypins is Towntown’s neighbor. Bobbypins has lived in the neighborhood since 2008. He explains that the entire block is haunted and that it is very easy to anger the spirits. They live on Elm Street in Arcata.

“I’ve been here for over 10 years and I love the ghosts,” said Bobbypins. “It’s easy to get them angry. I just tell them to get out of my house, then everything starts to move. I don’t know—we have this weird relationship.” Bobbypins explains with the quarantine in effect, the spirits have been more active. “I’m always home all the time. They hate it. They always move my shoes and change the channels on my tv. I love it so much,” Bobbypins said.

Jasmine Bubbles is the oldest living tennant on Elm Street. Bubbles explains why the block was originally haunted and why they are so active now. “When I was a little girl, all the homeless people raided the houses on the block. One of them didn’t know how to use the oven and burned down a house. A tree caught on fire and it spread to the entire block. My family was the only one alive. They’ve since rebuilt all the houses on the block.”

The residents of Elm Street may be safe from COVID-19 in their homes, but are left vulnerable to ghostly infections.

Do-it-yourself 5-step hazmat fashion

BY ELASMO JELLY

Spring is in the air and summer is almost here which means it’s time to take your outfits up a notch! You might have heard about something taking the fashion world by storm recently. That’s right, it’s not just spring that’s in the air, it’s the corona-virus! It’s a hot new trend, and I wouldn’t want anyone to miss out on the fun. Here’s a fab new outfit for the season that you can make at home. Brush up your DIY skills with this new pandemic flip!

1. To start out you’ll need a hazmat suit. Make sure you get the right one for you. Level A is preferable, but Level B might be all you can get. Whatever you do, make sure it’s fully encapsulating. You want the splash protection at the very least.

2. Now here’s the fun part. We’re taking this one piece bore and turning it into a trendy two

piece. You’ll need scissors capable of piercing the vapor protecting material of the suit, some elastic and some fabric glue!

3. Cut the hazmat suit in half at a bit above belly button level, then turn the pants portion inside out. Roll down the cut edge of the pants portion as if you were rolling up a sleeve, then glue it down to make a gap all around the top edge of the pant for the elastic.

4. Thread the elastic through the gap and glue it together to make a snug ring around the waist.

5. Repeat with the bottom edge of the top part.

And there you have it! Rock your two-piece hazmat suit with confidence. Will it protect you from airborne pathogens, deadly gas, toxic chemicals, or flames? No! But think about what kind of person you want to be. I’d rather die fab and trendy than live in the world of yesterday’s fashion.



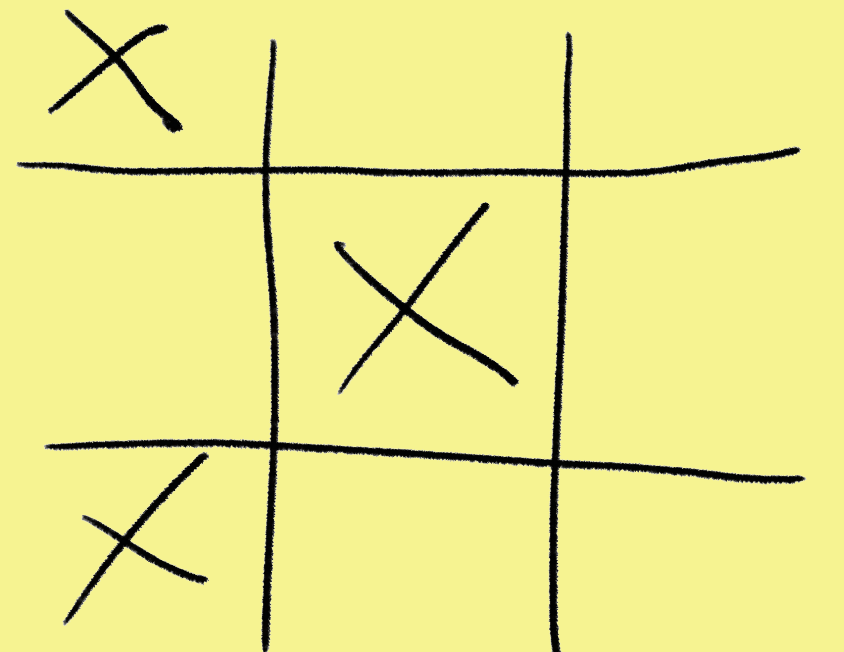
Illustration by Pam Sapavasilou

Play Tic-Tac-Toe With The Dumberjack

Our moves have already been filled in!

By Pam Sapavasilou

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