

CONNECTING CUTE CATS WITH CARING COMPANIONS

HSU students are giving their time to help get cats adopted at local shelters

by Gabe Kim
SEE CATS • PAGE 3



Fourth year HSU student Jesse Morales holds Teddy, a 9-month-old adoptable cat while volunteering at the Humboldt Animal Rescue Team in Eureka on March 13. | Photo by Gabe Kim

HSU students start in-person activities

Some face-to-face classes and labs on resume on campus

by Gabe Kim

For many majors across campus, in-person engagement has been a pipe dream. Yet for some majors, particularly ones in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics-related fields, the experience of seeing classmates and professors in a physical classroom or lab setting is now a reality. Lasting until the end of the semester, these courses and activities are being offered on a limited basis.

Ayse Macknight is a senior oceanography major and a scientific diving minor. Macknight is a teaching assistant for the scientific diving program and assists where she can. The diving program meets once a week in-person to do exercises in the HSU pool.

"I'm helping mainly with skills," Macknight said. "I'm helping out with all the other diving classes."

Macknight is satisfied with the way that the diving program is handling all of this with major coronavirus safety measures being enacted.

"When the students first arrive, they meet outside and they brief and then they go into the pool through one door and they pick up their gear and they put it down, and then they go outdoors," Macknight said. "It's kind of like a circle -- everyone's always going one direction so it's like minimize chances of running into each other. Afterward, we disinfect all gear that anyone's put their mouth on or anything."



Angela Edmunds on a Scientific Dive.

Photo courtesy of Hannah Johnston

Senior forestry major Sarah McGee is involved in more hands-on classes. She is doing both individual and group activities.

"For my soil fertility class, we're doing experiments in the forestry greenhouse and so we've been assigned two to three 30 minute time slots a week where we can go into the greenhouse by ourselves and conduct our own experiment that's soil fertility-related," McGee said. "For my soil microbiology class, we are doing some algae experiments in the soil lab."

McGee is excited to be back in person doing things rather than staying at home sitting in front of a screen all day.

"It's a lot more motivating and it's a lot easier to stay on task and be accountable when you're meeting up and doing

things in person, I think," McGee said.

Not all in-person classes and labs are STEM-focused. A few other majors like film are also conducting face-to-face instruction. Kylie Holub is a junior and a film major currently in Film 2 where she is learning about lighting and audio. She reiterated the significance of being in-person for film projects.

"Seeing the equipment and being able to have different students have the ability to check out the equipment and then test it out and things like that and to learn about it," Holub said. "So it's definitely, I think, very important to have these face-to-face opportunities, plus film is super collaborative so like getting to know your classmates and just like vibing with people is kind of important."

HSU nears decision on \$11 million of CARES funding

by Poppy Cartledge

In the upcoming week, Humboldt State University is expected to communicate where the remaining \$11 million from the second round of CARES funding will be allocated after receiving over 200 submissions from campus input.

HSU's communications specialist, Grant Scott-Goforth, said that although the university planned to seek input through Feb. 26, the university is still finalizing the allocations and expects to announce them this week.

"The President's administrative team is currently reviewing the input and working to prioritize allocations," Scott-Goforth said.

The University obtained the input via individual submissions, as well as from various meetings, such as the University Senate, Associated Students, and the University Resources & Planning Committee.

Individual submissions were sent through a questionnaire on the University Budget website that posed the following question: What are the top three investments the University should make to successfully adapt to the impacts of COVID-19 and enhance the educational experience of our students?

In an open forum held by the URPC on March 5, James Woglom, an associate professor in the art department at HSU, opened the meeting by addressing all the people that are currently working on budget plans for the future of the university.

"We have 19 incredible people really informing our conversation and we're also looking to expand that conversation," Woglom said. "We've reached out since the fall to the CFA in thinking about trying to get a CFA representative on the URCP so that those perspectives can also be shared."

The committee's desire for CFA input comes as the CFA chapter at Humboldt State has put pressure on the administration in response to pandemic-related layoffs that the university deems necessary.

On March 10, the House passed the American Rescue Plan. The plan is a \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill that also includes nearly \$40 billion for higher education. This would provide HSU with additional one-time resources on top of the remainder of unallocated funds from the second round of stimulus funding.

The CFA chapter at HSU has specifically mentioned that additional funding could be headed our way throughout this next academic year.

"The CSU is about to receive \$800 million in COVID-19 stimulus money. Spend it on the people providing the coursework, the people most responsible for student success," the CFA Faculty association commented on the CFA Humboldt Facebook post on March 12.

As HSU communicates the allocation of the remaining \$11 million in funds from the second package this week, we are likely to see another round of stimulus funding come our way in the coming weeks.

<div>Index</div> <div>News.....3</div> <div>L&A.....4</div> <div>Science.....5</div> <div>Sports.....6</div> <div>Opinion.....7</div>	<div>TikTok Positivity</div> <div>pg 4</div>	<div>Green Burials</div> <div>pg 5</div>	<div>March Madness</div> <div>pg 6</div>	<div>Privatized Vaccines</div> <div>pg 7</div>
---	--	--	--	--

THE
LUMBERJACK

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
THOMAS LAL

MANAGING EDITOR:
JEN KELLY

NEWS EDITOR:
GABE KIM

LIFE & ARTS EDITOR:
BECCA LAURENSEN

SCIENCE EDITOR:
ELISE FERO

SPORTS EDITOR:
JUSTIN CELOTTO

OPINION EDITOR:
DAKOTA COX

PHOTO EDITOR:
ELLIOTT PORTILLO

COPY EDITOR:
SOPHIA ESCUDERO

LAYOUT EDITORS:
JEN KELLY
DAKOTA COX
SAM PAPAVALIOU
ELLIOTT PORTILLO
ELISE FERO

WEB EDITOR:
SAM PAPAVALIOU

VIDEO EDITOR:
SKYLAR GAVEN

DELIVERY DRIVER:
KRIS NAGEL

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER:
GRACE CASWELL

FACULTY ADVISER:
DEIDRE PIKE

CONTRIBUTORS:
POPPY CARTLEDGE
WHITNEY MCCOY
BRIANNE BERONILLA
IAN VARGAS
KIERA PRICE
DOBBY MORSE
GABRIELLE STURM



@TheLumberjack



@hsulumberjack



@HSULumberjack

ADVERTISE WITH US:

Do you want to purchase
an ad with the Lumberjack?

Contact us:
Email: lumberjack.ads2@gmail.com
Or visit our website for more info.



COAST CENTRAL CREDIT UNION

Check Out Our
NEW Debit Card Styles
Pick the Design that Fits YOU!

FREE with our checking accounts.
coastccu.org/join

Belonging Never Felt Better®
Coast Central Credit Union

2 BURRITOS \$15
3 TACOS \$6
&
TACO TUESDAY
\$1.45 TACOS

Library

Online &
We Ship to You!
library.humboldt.edu

Mission Statement

The Lumberjack is a student-run newspaper that reports on the campus and community. We strive to report with accuracy, honesty and originality. We hold ourselves accountable for errors in our reporting. We invite all readers to participate. Views and contents of The Lumberjack are those of the author and not those of Humboldt State University. Unsigned editorials appearing in the Opinion section reflect a two-third majority opinion of the editorial staff. Advertising material is published for informational purposes and is not an expressed or implied endorsement or verification of such commercial ventures of The Lumberjack, Associated Students or Humboldt State University.

CONTACT US:
CONTACTTHEJACK@GMAIL.COM



» El Leñador «

Need Housing? We've got it!



KIC | kramer investment corporation
707-444-2919 www.kkramer.com

Home Away From Home and Equity Arcata host a free supply distribution event for HSU students

by Ian Vargas

Home Away From Home and Equity Arcata held a free food and supply distribution event for HSU students on March 15. The rainy event was catered by Roman’s Kitchen and included free food and free bags of supplies like gift cards, shampoo, hygiene products, and more. Equity Arcata hosts events like these a few times a year to help give college students the chance to save some cash on some of the expensive items they’re going to need to live on their own.

Equity Arcata, the group that hosted the event, is a collective of volunteers that organizes various work groups in order to put together events that help make Arcata a more racially equitable community. These groups help to address the potential barriers that can make life difficult for people trying to make their home in Arcata. According to Cati Gallardo, chair of the Equity Arcata communications working group, these work groups focus on things like housing, student safety, and more.

“We have several working groups all focusing on various kinds of racial equity in Arcata,” Gallardo said. “Specific to housing, police and student safety, or ongoing learning which offers racial equity training for community members at HSU and also at K-12 schools.”

This specific distribution event was done by Home Away From Home, a group of volunteers that helps to get food and supplies to college students

and to help them feel welcome in Arcata while they choose to live here. This year the event was catered by Roman’s Kitchen, who gave out free sandwiches and burgers, but under normal circumstances, the event would be a potluck where students can come in and get some free food and a free goodie bag of all of the things an underfunded student may need.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this year and last, that couldn’t be done, but regardless, Home Away From Home member Gillen Martin says that this is the third event done under quarantine and hopefully they can do another around finals week.

“This is our third distribution like this, we did one in October, one in December, and this is our third.” Martin said “Hopefully we get another grant to do another one around finals week. We always like to hold one kind of in honor of finals week too because students are kind of dealing with some stuff, so they don’t have to worry about it.”

The distribution events mainly bring in students from HSU in Arcata but also from any of the surrounding colleges, and are open to any students who could use something to eat and some free stuff. A lot of students are led to the event by one of the many other projects that all dedicate time and effort to helping Arcata and Humboldt as a whole be a more welcoming and safe community.



Photo by Ian Vargas
Bags prepared for distribution at the Home Away From Home distribution event on March 14.

CATS

FROM PAGE 1

Cats are no strangers to the Humboldt County streets. They can be found roaming around but not all of them are tamed. Oftentimes, these animals are stray and even pregnant, in some cases. They are usually brought to shelters like the Humboldt Animal Rescue Team in Eureka.

Accepting cats from a variety of different circumstances, this volunteer-based group aims to nurture them until they can be adopted.

It is standard procedure at the shelter to isolate the newer, more frazzled cats upstairs where they can acclimate to their new environment without worrying about interacting with any people. But getting them to actually come out of their shells is where HSU students factor in.

Many of the cats that are brought into the shelter are shy and not sociable enough to be adopted by anyone yet. Rose Kessler is a lead volunteer that oversees the other HSU student volunteers. She is very in-tune with how the cats evolve emotionally over time during their stays at the shelter.

“When they first come in, a lot of these cats are angry,” Kessler said.

Kessler is extremely grateful for the Humboldt State students that come in every week and help care for the cats that could not otherwise volunteer at other shelters around the county.

“Right now, a lot of the rescues, from what I hear, they’re not accepting volunteers right now because of COVID,” Kessler said. “And we are.”

Jesse Morales is a fourth-year communication major. They are very experienced with cats and have been regularly volunteering at the shelter since 2019. Now, it is virtually second-nature to them interacting with the cats to the extent that they do.

“We just kind of come in and show that people aren’t gonna hurt them and get them used to us,” Morales said.

Volunteers begin the process of getting the new cats comfortable by first sitting in a room with the cat. From there, they gradually try to physically engage the cats more and until the cats warm up to them enough that they can be moved downstairs.

Lexi Cortez is a sophomore and one of the newest volunteers at the Hum-



Above: Sophomore child development major Lexi Cortez attempts to take a photo of herself with one of the cats as it lies on the throne that is her back on March 13. Below: Sophomore Lexi Cortez struggles to maintain the upper hand with one of the cats on March 13. Photos by Gabe Kim.

boldt Animal Rescue Shelter. An avid cat lover, Cortez has always enjoyed working at shelters with cats.

“I’ve always wanted to work at shelters and stuff -- just being able to help them,” Cortez said, “I’m glad I get to do it now.”

Kessler has been working with Cortez and from what she has seen, is impressed with the work Cortez has done.

“They don’t know her, so they’re a little bit shy,” Kessler said. “I can tell they like her but they’re watching her.”

One of the cats that found a home, albeit temporary, is Oliver. Morales is currently fostering him but it took a lot of patience to ground him in the confines of the shelter and then eventually in their home.

“He definitely was not the nicest cat here and he did not get along with other cats,” Morales said. “And I just steadily worked at him, continuously, until a couple months when I started fostering him.”



TikTok positively impacts HSU students

Many find reassurance in their ‘for you’

by Brianne Beronilla

TikTok videos are becoming much more than just entertainment by helping students with their mental health, body positivity and more.

The app has become one of the most popular of our generation. Its main feed, or the ‘for you’ page, is geared towards each individual’s interests.

Molly Crandell is a junior in the LSEE program. She admits she spends more time on TikTok than she really should. She has been inspired, however, by its empowering videos.

“My for you page is filled with content where people seem to genuinely feel confident and comfortable being their true selves, or as true as they are portrayed,” Crandell said. “There’s lots of humor regarding real life situations, body types, and even friendships and relationships.”

Crandell has specifically been affected in terms of body positivity. She’s noticed how authentic TikTok is compared to the social norms people feel they have to follow on other apps like Instagram.

“Since I’ve downloaded TikTok, I think it’s definitely changed my per-

spective on the various forms of body shaming that happen, and helped me to realize that so many people are affected by their own insecurities,” Crandell said.

Crandell often sees Lizzo on her for you page and enjoys the content she puts out into the world.

“She’s constantly coming across my for you page with body positive content and recipes,” Crandell said. “In addition, Babyeagan is another influencer I see a lot of. She constantly talks about how she is perceived, whether it be about her body after two kids or the stigma of being a young mom.”

With being in a global pandemic while balancing 19 units this semester, Crandell has leaned on TikTok to relieve some of her stress.

“Watching my for you page is an easy way to take a break or 10 from distance learning,” Crandell said. “It’s humorous and positive content that’s pretty uplifting when there’s not much to do but stay at home.”

Nyah Guynup is a senior psychology major who is new to TikTok, but has already been positively affected by it.

“[TikTok] does seem to spread body positivism when people of all body types and skin color are embracing themselves,” Guynup said. “The app seems to definitely generate my interests well, which can be a negative factor because I’m not being exposed to other perspectives and lifestyles. The ‘for you’ primarily pertains strictly to you.”

Despite being new to TikTok, she has found ways the app brings positivity

into her life.

“TikTok has definitely allowed me to laugh more and to be exposed to different perspectives and issues that aren’t typically presented to the public,” Guynup said.

AJ Alberino is an incoming freshman who is going to major in business administration and management. TikTok has allowed her to have a break from the noise of the world and just scroll through entertaining and empowering videos.

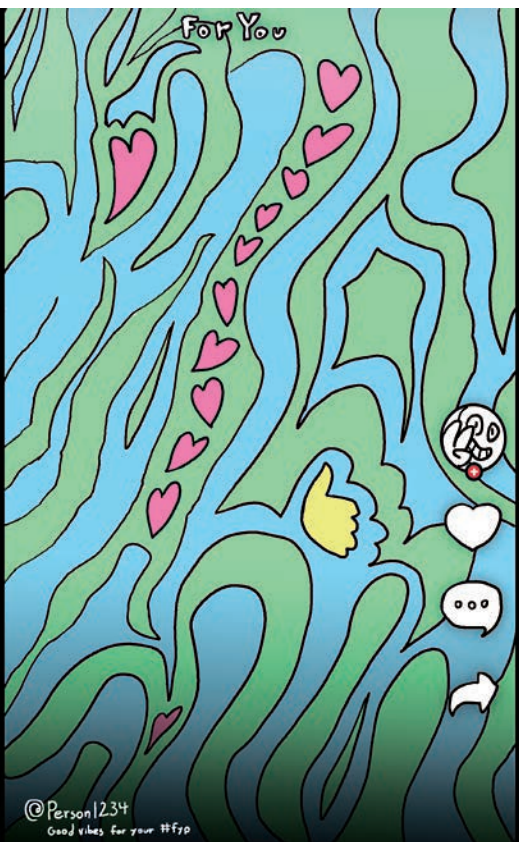
“My TikTok for you page has impacted me positively, with the world being in its current state,” Alberino said. “It’s helped connect me to new friends, and gave me a smile when I needed one.”

Some of her favorite influencers are Spencewuah, Ballehurns, Skincarebyhyram, Wisdm8 and Brittany_broski.

“These people have such an impact on me, whether it’s by making me smile or showing me a new outfit,” Alberino said. “[They] empower women, talk about the LGBTQ+ community and even social injustice. They not only make me feel better, but they also educate, and I think that’s super important and one of the best products of social media today.”

Delaney Hughes is in her first year of the Masters program in kinesiology who is also on TikTok. She tries her best to avoid the unhealthy culture of the app.

“Sometimes there’s too many ‘what I eat in a day’ videos, which get me too into my head with food,” Hughes said. “But I really only react and like and fol-



Graphic by Sam Papavasiliou

low positive videos.”

TikTok influencers that Hughes watches include Sarah Rae Vargas, Remi Jo, Raeann Langas and Samantha Jo.

Every type of social media has its own positives and negatives but for Alberino, the app has helped her in more ways than one.

“TikTok has impacted my mental health mostly,” Alberino said. “It has its good and bad, but for the most part, it has given me inspiration, knowledge, confidence and smiles.”

Beans or Leaves?

Coffee or Tea, what do Humboldt State students prefer?

by Kiera Price



Photo by Elise Fero
A warm cup of tea on a winter's day on Dec. 24,

As students of Humboldt State University face the middle of the semester, it can be a stressful and busy time for many. Many college students love

to drink coffee or tea in order to give them an energy boost as they manage all of their exams and homework for this semester. While some students prefer coffee, it seems as if many Humboldt State students find tea to be more soothing and helpful to the soul.

“I like chamomile, turmeric ginger, lemongrass and lavender for the taste, health benefits and for improving mood,” said Mandy Hackney, a student at Humboldt State University.

It is important to take care of one’s health as students handle the stressors of school.

“It is doctor’s orders, I have a few mild stomach conditions like acid reflux and IBS that are maintained by diet,” Hackney said.

Hackney prefers tea over coffee because of her experiences at Lavender Ranch and the KitTea Cat Cafe.

“It was really pretty to see the lavender fields and the gift shop smelled great. The owner showed us her stash of brewed lavender tea so my friends and I bought some, took it home to Chico, and steeped it. It was delicious!” Hackney said.

“I used to get sushi with my dad and we would drink green tea so tea brings up nice memories for me.”

-Olivia Kakacek, HSU student

On Hackney’s birthday in 2019, she had the opportunity to further enjoy the pleasant taste of tea.

“At KitTea Cat Cafe, you could have a cup of tea while you get to play with cats and some of them were even up for adoption. The herbal teas were very tasty,” Hackney said.

Ruby Bailey, another Humboldt

State student, seems to agree with Hackney’s love for tea.

“Peppermint tea has always been a comfort drink for me,” Bailey said. “I would drink it whenever I was sick as a little kid because it made my throat feel better.”

Tea isn’t just a comforting drink and beneficial to the health but it also seems to bring up great memories for Humboldt students.

“I like chai because it tastes like fall in a cup and I love fall. My earliest memory of having chai was in line to see the midnight showing of The Hunger Games,” Bailey said.

“I used to get sushi with my dad and we would drink green tea so tea brings up nice memories for me,” said Olivia Kakacek, another HSU student.

With the great memories of friendships, new experiences and benefits to one’s health, it seems like tea for Humboldt students is a must rather than coffee.

“The reason why I like tea is because of the several different flavors you can try, it’s simple to make, it’s very soothing and relaxing.” Kakacek said.

New phones take an old era aesthetic approach

Will they compare and should Apple be worried?

by Whitney Mccoy

Recent phone releases in the tech world will have your ears perked and eyes peeled. Both of these take a nostalgic approach in the way we use our phone yet are strikingly different in their branding, operations and appeal.

Released in mid February the Samsung Z Flip made its first debut as it unfolded, becoming a mini tablet device. With a versatile split screen feature, users can watch YouTube on the top while replying to emails on the bottom. This is the first flip phone of its kind with a folding glass screen.

The Light Phone, what they’re calling a credit-card size, low-tech tool, was initiated on Kickstarter in a successful crowdfunding campaign in 2015 and later launched in 2017. However, their

second edition and newest release has began to receive attention from social media users. Light advocates their phone is “designed to be used as little as possible.”

The company has stripped the phone of any and all social media. We’re talking email, apps, games, music and more. They are encouraging users to use the phone as a tool rather than a tool for distraction.

Dominic Rushe, a reporter for The Guardian decided to try the phone for himself. What he gained in his experience shocked him in ways he didn’t see coming.

“I used to draw a lot,” Rushe said. “I am drawing again. By midweek, I’m also writing more. At least these thoughts and drawings, however scattered, are my own. Maybe a new me is emerging, or an old one. One that draws and thinks for himself rather than following Silicon Valley’s addictive maze.”

However, a question worth asking is whether this is sustainable for a 21st century individual, one with emails to

be answered and important tasks and reminders from classes, colleagues or employers, or those who truly rely on their phones for a means of income such as those working for Uber, Door Dash, or similar apps.

Julia Jacobo, ABC News reporter in a 2019 study concluded unsurprisingly that students spend an increasingly large amount of time on screens, not including screen time used for schoolwork.

“Teens spend an average of seven hours and 22 minutes on their phones a day,” Jacobo said. “When figuring in activities such as reading books and listening to music, the numbers jumped to nine hours and 49 minutes.”

Chance Callahan, an HSU natural resources graduate contemplated whether or not he felt he would be able to go entirely without all media apps, such as the Light phone.

“I’d still probably prefer my phone,” Callahan said. “But I’d be willing to try the Light phone for a week trial to see what it’s about. It would be good to

take a break for a while but it’s hard to say if I could go without social media entirely.”

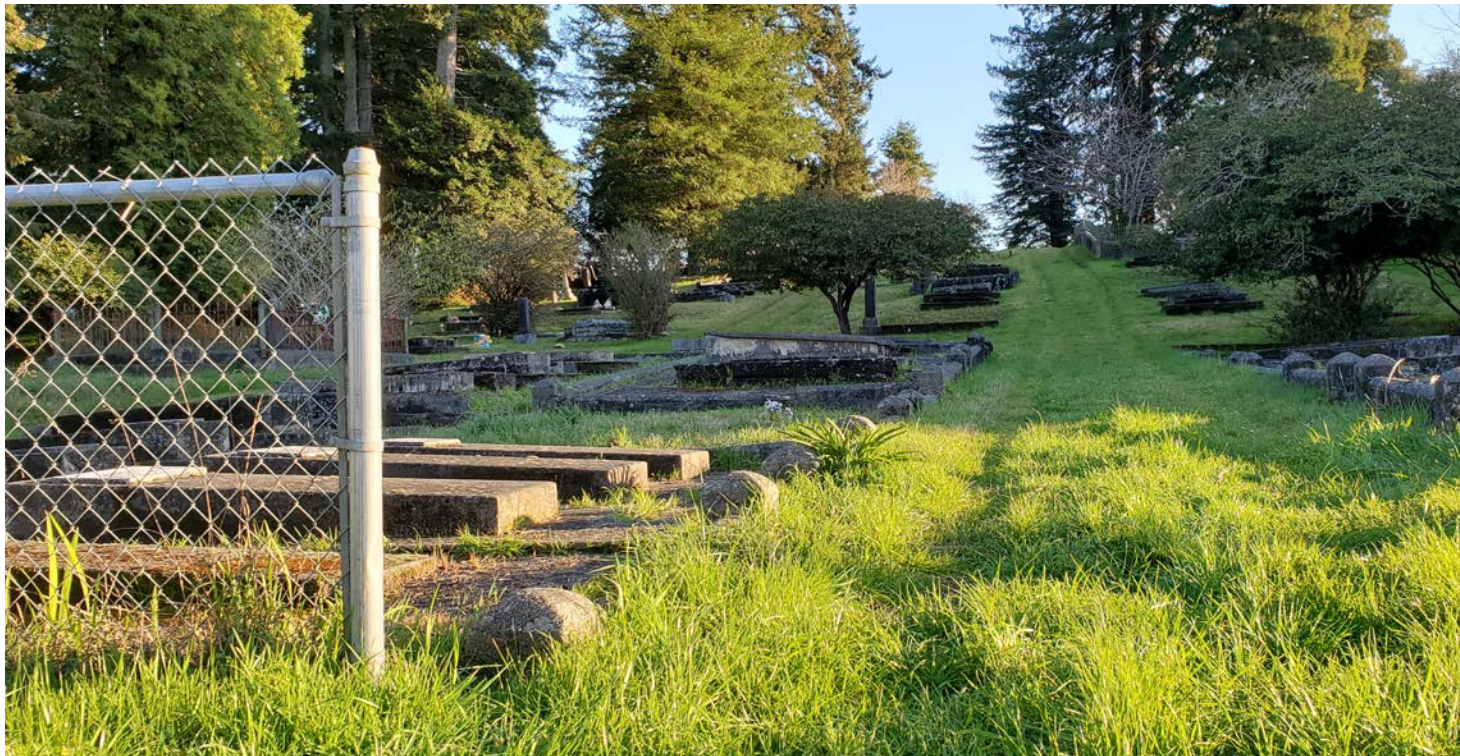
Courtesy of Samsung



Dying a conscious death

Sluggo's love story

Your dead body might be bad for the environment



Photos by Jen Kelly
Daffodils in bloom at the Blue Lake Cementry on March 12.

by Gabrielle Sturm

As a young and seemingly invincible college student, one presumably does not put much thought into their inevitable death. However, if you are eco-conscious, perhaps it is time to start planning ahead.

The need to preserve one’s lifeless beauty for just a little bit longer has grave consequences for the earth. When a person dies, it is common for their body to be pumped with an embalming fluid that contains a mixture of toxic chemicals in order to postpone their inevitable decomposition. They are then placed in a casket that is likely made up of inorganic hardwood, copper, bronze, and steel. Their toxic body encased in a casket of unsustainable materials will eventually be lowered into the ground in a concrete crypt.

Green burials are a sustainable alternative to this contemporary western burial method. They may also be called “natural burials,” and the process does not involve any inhibition of decomposition. Instead, the body in its natural state is placed into the soil so that it can be recycled into the earth and help to nourish the land, as most decomposing life does. The body is wrapped in a biodegradable shroud or casket and then buried shallow enough to decay in a way that is similar to composting.

Craig Benson, an environmental science and management lecturer, said that the funeral and cemetery industry

already appears to be responding to increasing requests for green burials.

“I would like to see more conservation burial options like the Prairie Creek Conservation Cemetery near Gainesville, Florida,” Benson said. “This is where old restoration ecologists, like me, could make a last ditch effort— pun intended— at creating a contiguous savanna habitat and providing lots of underground munchies for the microfauna and microflora. Why have a feast at your funeral when you can be one!”

In the United States, cremation has recently become the most popular choice for those who pass away. While the ashes of our loved ones harbor sentimental value, this way of honoring the dead is unfortunately still harmful to the environment. Cremation leads to release of harmful toxins into the atmosphere, including carbon monoxide, fine soot, sulfur dioxide, heavy metals, and mercury emissions.

When asked about the environmental impact of cremation, Jennifer Kalt, the director of Humboldt Baykeeper, gave insight on the atmospheric consequences of the practice.

“I noticed that the Los Angeles Air Quality Board recently lifted the limits on cremations temporarily due to the number of COVID-19 deaths,” Kalt said. “I’ve read that cremation is a significant source of mercury pollution. Once it’s released into the atmosphere, it gets re-deposited by rain and fog. All

that does make me wonder why people think cremation is a better option. My understanding of the green burial concept is that it prohibits embalming, but human bodies still have contaminants that we store up over lifetimes.”

There are a few local options for those who choose to give their body back to the earth. Cemeteries in Loleta, Fortuna, and Blue Lake all offer natural burial options. However, Blue Lake Cemetery is the only place that does not require the body to be contained in a concrete crypt.

Environmental conflict resolution lecturer Natalie Arroyo said that, in her personal opinion, green burials seem like a great end-of-life option for those who would like to practice sustainability even after they die. However, it is important to note that how humans deal with death is wholly intertwined with their cultural, religious, and personal values.

“I would say as a community member and lecturer who has read and heard a little bit about this, that green burials seem like an excellent alternative with environmental benefits,” Arroyo said. “But they may not fit with people’s religious and cultural values, and they may not suit every circumstance. For example, my own father died far away from home, and his body was cremated due to the low cost and need to transport the remains easily over a long distance.”

by Slug Girl



Once upon a time lived a kind and courageous banana slug named Sluggo. Sluggo loved to go on adventures and travel around the world, which for them meant about six feet.

Sluggo was wandering one day when they came across a beach, one full of sand and salt water like most beaches.

This was new to Sluggo, and very much intimidated them. Yet something pulled Sluggo in the direction of some tide pools.

There was a lone tide pool, far from the water next to a cliff covered in trees. Sluggo wanted to see what was in the water.

That’s when they saw Slugaroo.

Slugaroo was a sea slug, brilliant blue and content as can be.

Sluggo had to meet them.

“Excuse me! My name is Sluggo and I believe I traveled all this way... just to find you,” Sluggo said.

At first Slugaroo found this very creepy, I mean a random land slug shows up and is already in love?

“That came off weird... Hi. I’m Sluggo,” Sluggo said.

Ah yes, that’s better, less creepy. Good job, Sluggo.

The two chatted for quite some time, until the sun began to set. They had fallen in love. Sluggo didn’t want to go, but they knew it was time.

The next day Sluggo returned, and the next and the next.

But then, Slugaroo was gone. The tide pool was dried up. The other tide pools were too dangerous for Sluggo, so they came back the next day to check again, and again and again.

But Slugaroo was gone.

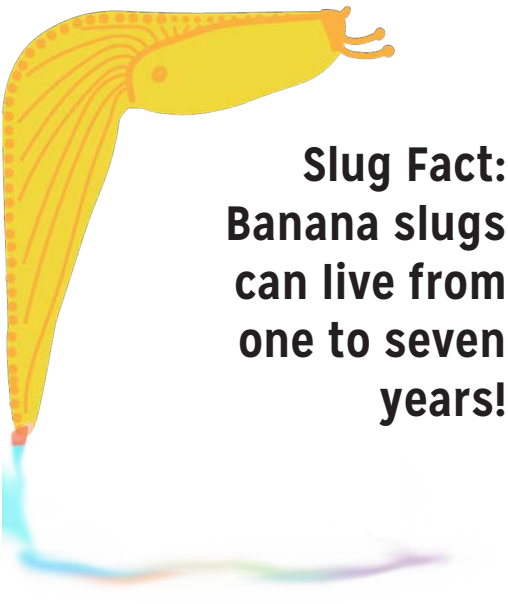
Sluggo was sad. Their new lover was gone. But they weren’t going to give up yet.

Sluggo returned for every day of their life, until the last day when Sluggo was a grandpa, Slugaroo returned.

“Sluggo! I love you!”

“I love you, too.”

They then stayed together and watched their final sunset together.



Slug Fact:
Banana slugs
can live from
one to seven
years!

Would you like to contribute to The Lumberjack?

There’s more going on in our community than a small group of student writers could ever hope to cover. If you’re a member of the student body we serve, you have a valuable perspective that we’d like to help you share.



Step 1: What’s your idea?

Do you want to write a story or opinion? We’d also be happy to publish your artwork, photography, comics, or poetry.

Step 2: Contact us.

We can be reached at contactthejack@gmail.com. We can help you write your first story or make sure your art is ready for print.

Step 3: Publish!

When your work is ready we can finally publish. Depending on your idea, it could end up here in this paper, on our website, or both!



Lumberjack's March Madness Bracket Challenge

Do you think you could be this years winner?

by Whitney Mccoy

It’s March! So you know what that means. Yes I know what you’re thinking too, but no, it’s not the fact that it’s the pandemic’s anniversary. No, also not that St. Patrick’s is coming up so we all need to be sure to wear lots of green. March is every NCAA fans dream. This means it’s time for March Madness and to make your bracket selection picks for this years tournament.

Rather than scratching our heads trying to find some sort of highly calculated and analytical approach to the absolute guessing game that is March Madness. We thought, why not ask for your input. Genius, we know. So grab your party snacks and get comfortable because in this weeks issue, we’re spilling the tea on all things selection picks from Humboldt’s own NCAA fans.

Chance Callahan, an HSU alumni with a degree in natural resources, gives us behind the scenes insight into how he makes his final bracket selections for the tournament.

“Well it has to do with the teams that I watch over the year,” Callahan said. “And also going with a gut feeling on the ‘no name teams’ for upsets — there’s really no method to the madness. I’ll watch the conference tournaments though to get a better idea of how the teams play. And I’ll typically favor teams with highly anticipated NBA prospects.”

Dante Cappellano, a Kinesiology major at HSU, admits to looking to underdog teams he may favor.

“I normally just pick the teams that are ranked higher unless I like an underdog matchup or I’ve heard that the lesser ranked team is better.” Cappellano said.

Graham Kothman, a College of the Redwood’s graduate and now music business major at Belmont University, adds that he too feels the methodology in making March Madness judgement calls isn’t as simple as one might think. Claiming to have very little strategy, if any.

“I may look at the teams records and odds,” Kothman said. “But even going strictly off of those it’s impossible to keep a perfect bracket. Upsets are a part of March Madness.”

Kothman also admits to being in-

fluenced by NBA prospects in his selection picks.

“I absolutely am,” Kothman said. “And they usually coincide with teams that have the odds but that doesn’t mean they’ll go all the way.

Callahan, Cappellano and Kothman each touched on how they think this may or may not effect players given the pandemic.

“I think it will be a different dynamic and some players will perform better without the distraction of a loud crowd,” Callahan said. “I hope COVID doesn’t impact the tournament more than it already has and will.”

“I think the players will already be used to playing with no or very little crowd presence so it won’t be much of a factor just all out good basketball,” Cappellano said.



Graphic by Jen Kelly

Who to watch in March Madness

What teams could give you the best chance of coming out on top in a bracket challenge?

by Justin Celotto

With March Madness ensuing, over 64 teams are chomping at the bit to play for the national championship. The first games will begin this Thursday on March 18 and proceed until the national championship on April 5. For the teams, this may be the most painful and nerve racking time as they wait until they play their games. But for the fans, this time is the most exhilarating as people try to build the “perfect” bracket. Building the perfect bracket not only makes you feel like a genius, but also a master at the game of basketball. But how do you build the perfect bracket? Well, first things

or for those who want to see Gonzaga complete what the 2007 New England Patriots couldn’t, a perfect season. Thankfully there will be nobody named Eli Manning playing against them.

2. The Three Ball- (1 South Region) Baylor

Baylor started the season off strong being undefeated through their first 18 games, eventually losing to (17) Kansas. Baylor’s been living by the methodology of 3 and D this season. The Bears have made the most 3’s with an astonishing rate of 48% made when attempted during the regular season. While they are draining 3’s on one end they are also holding the opposing team to under 70 points. This is my favorite pick for the tournament and the only team I could see defeating a Gonzaga firing on all cylinders.

3. Pac 12- (5) Colorado, (6) USC, (7) Oregon, (12) Oregon St

Although these teams are teams that most would not take a second look at, they are highly competitive and it was proven in this year’s Pac 12 tournament. USC, although ranked lower than Colorado, is the underdog that I would watch to win a few games. It is hard to pick another team when USC contains a possible top five NBA prospect in Evan Mobley. However, Colorado holds a higher rank because of their win against USC in the PAC 12 tournament and this shows that they can beat a team with that talent. The same goes for Oregon St. who beat the latter and Oregon to win the whole Pac 12 tournament. The only reason I have Oregon on here is because they always go on a run in the March Madness tournament no matter how good of a team they have, which is something to always account for.

4. The Under Underdogs- MT. St. Mary’s

This is the Cinderella of all Cinderella teams. Mount St. Mary’s has made it past the first play in games before, but it will be hard for them to do it again this year. Still, if they happen to win, there is a chance that they could go on a magical run. You never know what could happen in the world of March Madness but if you’ve been looking for the team that could pull off the miracle, you’re looking at it.

The day that the sports world stopped

A sports fan recalls the day that COVID made it to the big leagues



Graphic by Dakota Cox

by Liam Warner

The day was March 11, 2020, and it was shaping up to be a normal Wednesday. It was my final semester at HSU. Class had been cancelled for the day, and I was looking forward to finishing up some homework and then sitting down for a packed night of sports. My beloved hockey team, the San Jose Sharks would be in Chicago that night to play the Blackhawks, and then right after that, basketball would follow with

the New Orleans Pelicans going to Sacramento to take on my Kings. I was looking forward to finishing my work early and getting in front of my TV to watch sports, pretty much like any other day.

At that point in the year, COVID-19 was something I was aware of, but it was still in the back of my head. It was just another piece on the news that would not affect me, or any of the sports teams I love so dearly. Or so I thought.

The first part of the day went as normal, I finished up my schoolwork and I settled in to watch the Sharks game. They were having a rough season in 2020 and the game did not go well for the Sharks in the Windy City as they lost 6-2. Disappointed by the result as I was, I looked forward to a better result in the Kings game later.

Little did I know at the time, the night would take a very unexpected turn.

There was a little gap in time between the Sharks and Kings games, so I went back to my room to kill time. As I was making my way back to the TV to turn on pregame coverage for the Kings, my brother ran up to me and gave me news that I was not expecting

to hear that night.

“They just postponed the NBA season.”

My reaction was one of disbelief, and to be honest, I didn’t entirely believe him. I grabbed the remote and turned on ESPN to see the headline graphic on the screen scream at me: “NBA SEASON POSTPONED.” I would soon learn that just before the Utah Jazz took on the Oklahoma City Thunder, there was a long and strange delay to the tip-off of the basketball game. Jazz center Rudy Gobert had tested positive for COVID-19 leading to an evacuation of the arena in Oklahoma City. The NBA would soon make the announcement that the season would be postponed and I realized I would not be watching the Kings game that night.

I had no idea at the time that this would merely be the first domino to fall in the sports world.

Spring Break was coming up, and the next day I was on an Amtrak bus to the Sacramento area to visit family. As I scrolled through social media on that six hour bus ride, the bad news kept coming at me over and over again. Major League Baseball had cancelled the start of its season, the NHL had

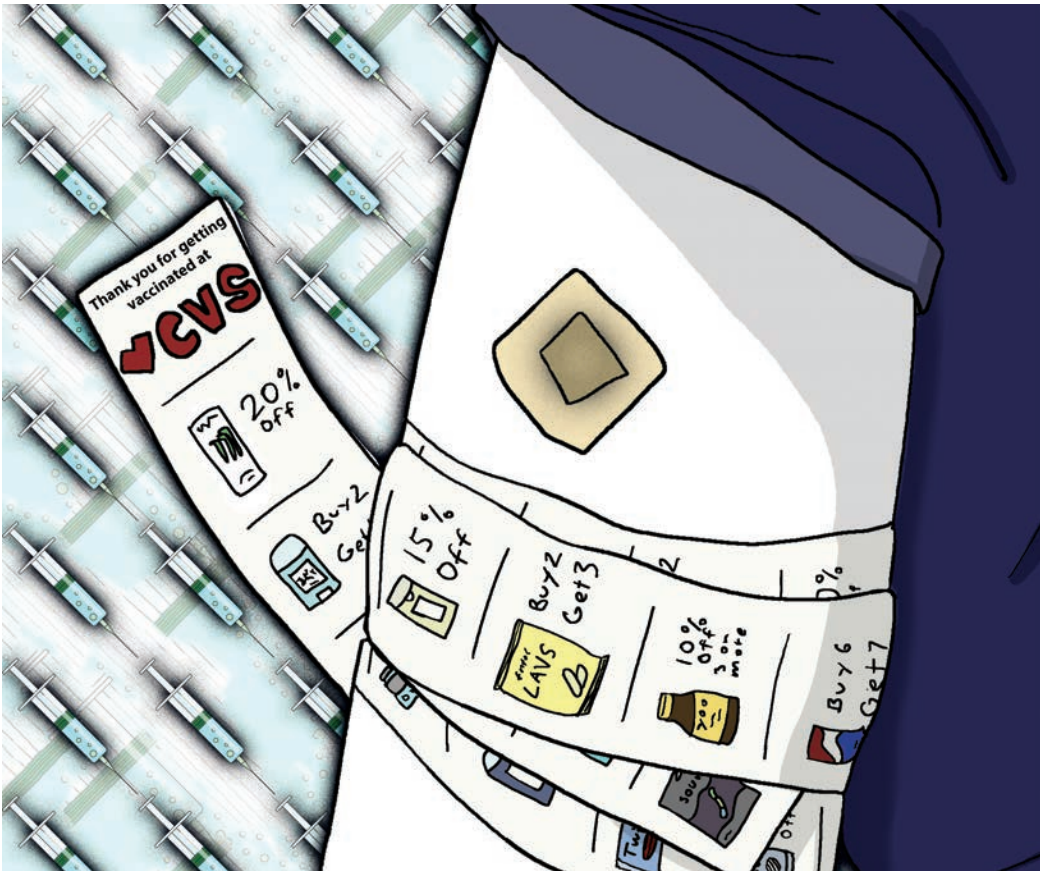
suspended its season, a planned series for HSU softball had been cancelled and the rest of the HSU sports schedule would follow. As a sports fan it felt like a nightmare that was never-ending.

It was as if Thanos had snapped his fingers and each of the sports that I loved watching every day was vanishing into thin air. Even though much more important things in the world were happening, it sort of felt like my world was falling apart. In what felt like an instant, arenas, ballparks, and playing fields across the country were empty.

Sports in America have endured world wars, natural disasters, and terrorist attacks. Never did I think at any time in my life I wouldn’t have sports to watch on a daily basis. It made me realize how much I took sports for granted, and I made a promise to myself that once sports came back I would never take a game for granted again.

A year later, the sports world has cautiously made a comeback, albeit with little to no spectators. It will still be a while before things are completely “normal”, but with vaccine distribution ramping up across the country, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

Corporations and vaccinations



Graphic by Sam Papavasiliou

by Sam Papavasiliou

I spent most of last Monday refreshing the CVS website. The site showed seven days of potential vaccination appointments and four of them were already greyed out. So naturally, I clicked one of the remaining three and then clicked again to schedule a time, except it wouldn't show any available times. It did this for all three days. One of my coworkers had apparently got in after repeatedly reloading it, so I did the same. After three hours of trying, the site showed only one day left. In my frustration I cursed CVS and their website, but it got me thinking. Why was I making this appointment on CVS' website to begin with?

Back in October 2020, the Trump administration announced that they had brokered a deal with CVS and Walgreens to distribute the vaccine to se-

niors in long term care facilities. This deal later expanded to include in-store vaccinations.

Around the same time, the federal government released its guidance on who was going to be first to get the vaccine and in what order the people would follow. This was passed on to county health departments with the understanding that each county would modify it based on their population and who was most at risk. With that being the majority of the guidance counties received, the message from on high seems to be, "Do whatever you think is best, except you must work with CVS or Walgreens." But what if you don't think working with a private company is the best way to accomplish a public goal?

Companies exist to make a profit. While they may accomplish other things along the way, the end goal is

still to make the most money possible. The vaccine may be free at a CVS or Walgreens, but when you go for your vaccination, you're still a body through their doors. You could go and only get your vaccine with no additional purchases and that would still be a win for them. In fact, that's exactly what they're counting on. From that day forward, that's no longer just another chain pharmacy location, that's the CVS where you got your COVID-19 vaccination!

In Walgreen's case, you have to create a Walgreens account to even schedule an appointment. If you don't already know sorry to ruin it for you, but store rewards programs exist to track your purchasing habits. That data is then sold to advertisers.

It would then stand to reason that it's in these companies best interest to get as many doses of the vaccine as possible. With the limited numbers being produced, they're in direct competition with the county health departments. Private companies don't pick locations for how they will best serve populations, they pick them for how they will best reach people willing to pay. They don't structure their stores around getting people in and out, they structure their stores to sell products. At every step of the way profit is the number one motive. If you think that will change because of a global pandemic, you're sorely mistaken.

This purpose built less efficient profit machine is being pitted against our actual health services and the profit machines are much better at competing. Even if you think your county health department sucks, the way to fix it is not by giving it competition. Maybe in the next global pandemic I can struggle to schedule a vaccination with a government website, knowing that at least the government won't give me a 4 foot string of coupons with my vaccine.

Grave Thoughts Headstone cleaners wanted

by Dobby Morse

Grave cleaning is a lost art. When the professor of Death, Dying and The Afterlife, a religious studies class that invites students to contemplate their own mortality, suggested it as an extra credit opportunity, I initially worried that the groundskeepers would get upset with me for doing their job. But, according to Professor Hart, they rarely clean the cemetery themselves.

At first sight, the cemetery appears well-maintained. Artificial flowers adorn most graves, even older ones from the 1920's. Headstones don't look dirty, they just look like stone. But upon touching one, my hand comes away with streaks of dirt.

I set out with an unused white sponge, a box of baking soda, and a bowl of water, with two water bottles to supplant it if necessary. You don't want to bring in any cleaning chemicals that would damage the stone.

My first grave belongs to Silva Henry Genzoli, a private in the US army during WW1. They lived from 1894 to 1976, dying at 82.

It's interesting, out of all aspects of life, Silva chose to commemorate their service in the army. Why did they define themselves by the military? Googling their name comes up with nothing but family trees and the burial directory. So this is really all that is left of poor, dead, Silva.

The sponge comes away grey, and turns the water dark. The stone itself is dark with water, the inscription a bit clearer.

My next grave is a bit fancier, a cross standing up, rather than a standard plaque. It reads "ths" in between the arms of the cross. The bottom reads "Maria Soares, 1904-1929, Rest In Peace." There is now a battered white circle where presumably a photo once was. She was 25. I'm 22. I'm going to die someday.

Her name is still a common one today, with links coming up for various social media profiles, and the website of a producer who came to NYC from San Paolo with no English speaking ability. Nothing about our dead Maria of the 1920's.

Graves are futile. Sure, we have names, birth dates, death dates, a photo if you're rich and lucky, maybe something about acts of service, relationships, or where they were born. (There's a lot of "natives of Italy" inscriptions.) But what really remains of the person? Wouldn't you prefer to have stories told about you, have people 100 years from now read your writings, or walk through a forest you dedicated yourself to preserving?

The next grave belonged to a child. George Roberts Simmons was born Feb 7, 1921 and died April 29 of that year. He has a small standing headstone, with the inscription "There are no partings in Heaven."

His grave is fancier than most adult graves that only have a plaque. Were his parents super rich? Was he an only child and his parents felt the need to be the best parents they could be for the final time? Or did he perhaps have siblings, and his parents felt that having this dedication would help them process his death?

I genuinely don't understand the desire to do toxic things to your loved one's body and cramming it into a small stone room. Cemeteries are cool, relaxing places to just take a walk in and contemplate mortality. But despite the serenity and open air, embalming fluid is leaking out beneath your feet, endangering the local groundwater.

This is a topic that recently came up in death class, and while eco-friendly ways to process your body were brought up, some had the dissenting opinion that this is a chance to pour your love into the final memory of your loved one, with a carefully wrought description, photographs or artwork.

The post-death process is expensive and leaves people vulnerable. The casket shop will offer you a menu of expensive options that often lead to debt. But for some, this is a symbol of devotion.

A redistribution of wealth is in order

It's time to seriously consider a universal basic income

by Dakota Cox

Since the dawn of mankind there have been the rich and the poor – in order for a few to thrive, many must suffer, or so it goes.

March 16 has marked the anniversary of the first shelter in place orders being put into effect in the United States. Millions of breadwinners remain out of work as different regions of the country continue to loosen and tighten restrictions on businesses according to their COVID-19 threat level tier.

This month's stimulus distribution brings the total up to only \$3200 of support the government has provided each qualifying non-dependant since COVID-19 first spread to the States, with an additional \$2500 for each dependent of their own.

With the median American household annually earning \$68,000 and the 29% of Americans that make up the lower class earning \$25,000 a year, it's clear that the compensation offered by the American government is both inadequate and unsustainable. The solution to so much of the suffering that exists in the world today is excruciatingly simple, if only we made it a top priority: We need a universal basic income.

Nearly one third of the wealth in America is currently concentrated among the top 1% of the population, with the majority of that existing in the top .01%. The bottom 50% of America's population, meanwhile, lives almost exclusively paycheck to paycheck, owning only 2% of the country's collective wealth.

The income inequality gap in American is undeniably disgusting with billionaires collecting fortunes in interest they'll never spend while millions of Americans walk around hungry and hundreds of thousands go to sleep without a roof over their head. The reality outside of our cushy first world existence, however, is even more disturbing. As of 2017, 1% of the human population officially owns over half the wealth in the entire world.

The problem with economic sys-



Graphic by Dakota Cox

tems is that it's impossible to create a separation of money and power. Those who have one have the other and almost without exception, they have no intentions of letting them go. This creates a litany of problems, as it becomes impossible to make objective decisions when you have a personal investment in the outcome. In the same vein of thought, it's much easier to ignore issues when they don't pertain directly to your life. This results in our world's leaders sweeping many of our most pressing issues under the rug while contributions from corrupt corporations to political campaigns all but ensure a system that operates to serve the rich and ignore the poor.

Instituting an aggressive tax strategy on high income earners to establish a universal basic income would go beyond mitigating much of the suffering experienced by low-income individuals, potentially restoring some balance to the powers at be. By stripping the rich of some of their wealth and redistributing it to those in need, more people will have reasonable access to

the opportunities this country claims to offer, creating a greater potential to achieve the "right" kind of progress. Unfortunately, in America especially, progress is sought out for the mere sake of progress, or more likely, motivated by monetary gains. Too often, people are blinded in the pursuit of power and lead away from their intended paths. By limiting returns on investments in the highest tax bracket, millionaires and billionaires would become encouraged to seek progress in other areas of their lives, potentially creating a more well-rounded and generally happier population.

Humankind is doomed to exist in a perpetual state of inequality. There will always be a rich population among us, however, that doesn't mean millions must continue to suffer as a result. The time has come to abandon the every man for himself attitude that plagues our world. Every human being deserves an opportunity to pursue the life that makes them happy and no one man hoarding a fortune should stand in their path.

Community artist submissions



Local students and community members showcase their work

by Cory Dick

My name is Cory Dick and I'm a graduate student in the Fisheries department working on a thesis project using DNA to analyze predation rates of invasive fish in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta. Throughout my travels with biology work, I have been fortunate enough to visit some beautiful places and started shooting photos to document both my trips and the scenes in front of me.

I fell in love with wildlife photography while working in Yellowstone for 6 months and plan to continue pursuing this hobby throughout graduate school and one day start a small business with it. For now, I'll continue to capture images in stunning Humboldt County! If you'd like to see more, feel free to check out my gallery at www.corydphotography.com.



The Lumberjack is always looking for submissions from members of the local campus community. If you have art or photography you would like to see in our print or online issues, please contact our photo editor at ejp56@humboldt.edu with a sample of some of your work. If you have a story idea, please submit queries to contactthejack@gmail.com

