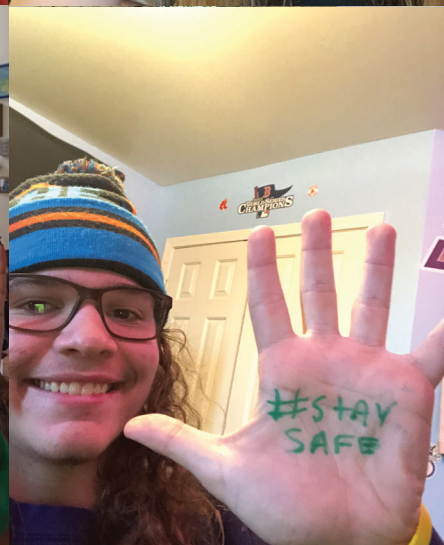


Banding together to flatten the curve

Experts and alumni in the medical field discuss
the facts and flattening the curve of COVID-19

Page 10&11





the bagpiper

NEWS SPORTS A&E FORUM FEATURES

Readers,

Welcome to our first digital issue of the *Bagpiper*. Due to COVID-19, commonly known as the coronavirus, our paper will be online for our last two issues. Although the circumstances are not ideal we still want to deliver relevant readings to our loyal readers.

In this issue we decided to focus on the coronavirus and how it is engulfing our country and our local community. In our stories we cover topics such as foreign exchange students stuck in America, the shutdown of major music festivals, the loss of senior sports seasons, and the pros and cons of participating in eLearning.

With these rays of hope and up-to-date facts we hope to help readers understand the seriousness of the virus and how we can combat it together.

If you have any suggested story topics or questions feel free to email us at bagpiper.fchs@gmail.com. Be sure to also stay up to date with our social media @fchsbagpiper on *Instagram* and @FCHSBagpiper on *Twitter*. Thank you for reading and we hope you enjoy this special issue of the *Bagpiper*.

Gracie Vanover, Editor-in-Chief

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Front cover:

[LEFT TO RIGHT] JUNIOR BRITTANY MILLER, FRESHMAN KENNA JACQUAY, JUNIOR WENKERS WRIGHT, JUNIOR CATHERINE AMOS, SPECIAL ED. FACILITATOR CHRISTINA MAYFIELD, SOPHOMORE CAMERON BAUMGART, SOPHOMORE RACHEL BOWLING, SENIOR LUKE SPINE, SENIOR HADYA MOURCEY, PRINCIPAL ROB WILLMAN, AND SENIOR ADAM WEISER show support for staying safe during COVID-19 with #staysafe. Photo edited by Gracie Vanover.

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SOPHOMORE BRADY MOORE dribbles around a Jeffersonville player in the sectional semi-final where the Highlanders won the rivalry matchup. Although the boys won sectionals, further state tournaments have been canceled due to the coronavirus. Photo by Brock Kennedy.

Coronavirus shuts down major music events

Destiny Love

A&E Editor

With Summer approaching fast, the season of large gatherings approaches too. But after COVID-19 hit the nation, many of these activities have been canceled.

To start, the pushing back of *Coachella* festival dates was a huge upset. Instead of its typical summer showcase, it will now take place during October. Other crowd attractions have also been postponed for the sake of "flattening the curve" of the spread of the virus.

"I had planned to attend *Bonnaroo* from June 13-16 in Manchester, Tennessee. *Bonnaroo* has not been canceled, but rather pushed back to dates in September," said senior Emily Butrum.

Many musicians have called off and

postponed tour dates in hopes that the virus will have since dissipated by the time they go on tour. Many artists have even postponed tours until 2021.

"I believe it is absolutely for the best though. Having large groups of people with no space between them is a great way to spread the virus," said Butrum.

Drum Corps

International [DCI]

also released a

statement saying

they were to cancel

the 2020 season

altogether. For those

who have reached their

last year, they have been given

the opportunity to perform

during the next season instead

of having to "age out" at 23

years-old.

"I was not shocked when I heard about the cancellation of DCI 2020 due to COVID-19. After the cancellation of WGI [Winter Guard Internationals]

"I wasn't surprised that the ISSMA contests were canceled, but it was saddening to think that I would never play in band again."

Stephanie Combs

senior

2019 alumna Molly Sobieski.

Another cancellation affected those who are a part of their school's performing arts program. ISSMA District and State level contests for all participating schools have been canceled for the safety of the performers.

"I wasn't surprised that the ISSMA contests were canceled, but it was saddening to think that I would never play in band again," said senior Stephanie Combs.

A cancellation that occurred in the middle of the performances was the cancellation of FC's Theatre Arts showcase of "Gypsy." The show was able to run its opening weekend, but was unable to

continue to finish the closing shows.

"Most people in the crew knew the show was on thin ice for whether or not it would run [both weeks]. [Director Robbie] Steiner sent out an email regarding the cancellation of the show and my heart just sank. The show that everyone worked so hard for won't even see the second week," said sophomore Ryan Gude.

With so many important dates being canceled and postponed, there have been many concerns from people who were not worried about the severity of the coronavirus at first.

"The coronavirus didn't feel real to me until the school year was canceled, *Bonnaroo* was pushed back, and graduation was in jeopardy," said Butrum. "These events relate heavily to young audiences and allow

us to not be desensitized to the virus."



Scarlett Hatton/The Bagpiper

Arts provide students comfort in quarantine

Scarlett Hatton
Assistant A&E Editor

While the rest of the world is unsettled, senior Ethan Hardin sits at his piano playing Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C# minor. He somehow manages to tune out the chaos and confusion of the world around him with the music he is playing and the passion in which he possesses.

Despite the hardships, quarantine has given students and teachers the opportunity to find new hobbies and rediscover old talents.

"It has not only helped me keep busy, but it has also allowed me to explore new interests and talents that I never knew I had," said freshman Jadyn Bowers.

While many people search for new forms of entertainment, others use their free time to develop familiar skills.

Junior Mark Lowney, who has been playing Animal Crossing New Horizons and writing a script for a movie, said, "This has helped me because I love Nintendo and screenwriting. Doing things you're passionate about is a great way to keep yourself entertained at home."

With more time to themselves than ever before, students and teachers seek any form of at-home entertainment.

"In the absence of social connections face-to-face, they are possibly searching for connections within themselves, and a way to express those connections is with visual art," said art teacher Theresa Applegate.

Applegate said that amidst

taking care of her two young children and converting her classes to an online format, she has been working on a wall mural.

People that would have never considered themselves to be artists are discovering creative talents during this time, too.

"I think people are bored and use art and entertainment to pass the time. Painting helps me pass time and is very relaxing," said sophomore Natalie Lukinovich.

While boredom could seemingly lead to inactivity, it has inspired creation and innovation.

"Art is a way to express your pent up creativity and energy, while entertainment simply helps keep you from being bored, which is very important," said Lowney.

During this time of quarantine, without entertainment and socialization, people could easily become anxious or stressed.

"Being trapped at home with no social interaction can be a really bad stressor in anyone's lives," said Hardin.

However, in the absence of a normally fast-paced life, students now have time to devote to themselves.

"Quarantine has given me a lot of time to relax, which has positively impacted my mental health," said Lukinovich.

In many cases, teachers and students use art and entertainment as an outlet from their hectic lives.

"Art keeps your mind and hands busy in a time when they may need extra help to stay 'quiet' because of anxiety," said Applegate.



ScarlettHatton/TheBagpiper

Using art to combat anxiety and stress is a useful tool and coping mechanism.

"The freedom of focusing on the process and just enjoying the doing without worrying if anyone will see or judge is a welcome release during uncertain times," said Applegate.

Art gives a person the power to block out the uncertainty of the outside world, while allowing them to focus on themselves.

"I've been able to block out distractions and drama so that I can focus on myself and what's truly important," said Bowers.

During this time of pandemic and isolation, students recognize the importance of self-care.

"I feel that a lot of people, like myself, can be stressed at times during this quarantine and try to look for some sort of positive escape during it," said Hardin.

While finding the bright side of this current situation is often difficult, students seem to have found their way through art and entertainment.

Hardin said, "Playing the piano has helped me not be as stressed during the quarantine and turn this bad situation into something positive."

Artistic quarantine activities

- Discover new music
- Paint by number
- Practice an instrument
- Try digital art
- Make a photo wall
- Play a video game
- Start a blog
- Use sidewalk chalk
- Write/compose a song
- Binge an old show
- Scrapbook



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Class of '96

"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."
-Benjamin Franklin

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Seniors look forward after loss of spring sports

With the IHSA's cancellation of upcoming sports many seniors reminisce over past years and what could have happened this season

Jadon Stoner

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Adam Hynes

Sports Editor

Meg Edwards

Sports Reporter

Brady Beam

Sports Reporter

In early April governor Eric Holcomb announced that Indiana schools were to halt in-person classes and the rest of the school year was to be completed online when possible via eLearning. After hearing this news, spring sport athletes assumed their worst fears had become a reality. This was soon confirmed when the IHSA released a statement saying that all spring sports had been cancelled about a week later.

Disappointment

While many students have two or three years left, seniors have lost their final seasons in their spring sports.

"The season getting canceled is heartbreaking because all of the seniors have worked for years just to play this season, but we won't get that," said senior outfielder Carson Stiller.

Most seniors see their final season as their last ride and a dream they have been waiting for.

"The season getting cancelled really sucks. I've dreamt about playing this year more than any other year," said senior pitcher Daly Skees.

For some their

passion is being ripped right out of their hands.

"I was personally very upset. My heart was truly broken because my first true love was taken from me and I couldn't do anything about it. I was so sad to see my senior year be taken from me," said senior center fielder Bailey McLean.

Senior outfielder and middle infielder Madison Bush was looking forward to special senior moments.

"The most upsetting part about not playing senior year is that I will never have my last game or a

senior night."

The sadness and shock continued on the hardcourts, as many senior girls' tennis players were looking to make one last run in their final year.

"This has probably been the hardest thing for me to understand upon everything else that's been going on," said senior Lindsey Dorsch.

Many seniors were not ready to give up hearing the cheers from friends and family.

"It all happened so suddenly, so I

wasn't prepared to process it all. It's really hard to know that I'll never again get to put on an FC uniform or hear 'get up Floyd' echoing across the courts," said senior tennis player Abby Jaminson.

Some seniors were also using this spring season to try out new areas on their respective teams.

"Since it would be my first year running distance, I was looking forward to running good times and beating them throughout the season," said senior Carley Conway

Expectations

With high expectations for the upcoming seasons, having them taken away suddenly hurts even more.

"I'm upset that the season was canceled. I was really looking forward to winning a lot of games this season because our team has bonded really well," said senior pitcher Madison Wathen.

Leadership

With seasons coming fast many

athletes had their shot at being leaders.

"I feel horrible," said senior sprinter Talon Hutto. "I was trying to be a leader on this team and it has just been ruined."

These leaders were also ready to see the hard work they poured into their sport blossom.

"We were going to be competitive this year with some teams we hadn't been with in the past," said Jamison. "I was super excited to see all of our hard work in the off season come to fruition."

Unfinished business

The basketball team ended up in a bit of a different situation than all of the spring sports. After running through Jeff and Jennings County en route to the first boys' basketball sectional title in 31 years, the upcoming regional and rest of the state tournament was canceled.

"I am obviously sad about the season being canceled, as it was a great opportunity for both our team and the school," said senior center Grant Gohmann. "I really felt this team was special and had a unique opportunity to not only win regionals, but make a deep run in the tournament."

Not only is losing a successful season hard but it is even harder for some students who wanted closure in their final games.

"It's definitely a rough feeling not getting any closure. We put in a lot of work for it to end the way it did," said senior guard Ben Purvis.

Senior guard Seth Burks



Scarlett Hatton/The Bagpiper

agreed with many of Purvis' and Gohmann's sentiments about the loss of the season.

"It is absolutely awful and I miss it every day. We didn't deserve this but there's nothing we can do about it."

Remaining positive

As all of us are trying to do during this time, these athletes attempt to look on the bright side and find something good in all of this. Star senior pitcher Max Meyer, though disappointed, is trying to focus on the positives.

"The good thing is that I have a lot of time to prepare and get ready for next year at Indiana State."

Other athletes are also using their positivity and time to train for future endeavors.

"I'm trying to keep a positive attitude. I am also continuing to train and hopefully will be able to run some races in the summer," said senior runner Sydney Liddle.

Senior infielder Joe Harrington is also trying to keep a positive state of mind to boost his attitude for the future.

"I'm basically just staying in a positive mindset and working hard every day to stay in shape for the next opportunity."

Senior sprinter and jumper Spencer Freiburger looks forward to her time as a college athlete in order to cope with these hard times.

"I will be competing as a heptathlete on the women's track team at the University of Louisville, so although my high school season is over, I still have to stay as active as possible to prepare for real competition."

Memories

Through the devastation and heartbreak this one-of-a-kind

event brings, the senior athletes look back on the memorable moments they made with their teammates.

"The memories made off the field made us come together more as a team on the field," said senior pitcher Joel Archer.

Senior long-distance runner Mandy Howe also has lots of positives to reminisce about from her time in track and field.

"A great memory I have is the one week we replaced maintenance days with games that involved running on the field. I will never forget the laughter and joy that brought me."

Despite losing her senior season, senior sprinter Chloe Loftus looks back with a smile on her high school career.

"Cross country camp is one of the best memories I have had with my team. Another memory I have is getting to run track state my junior year and placing 10th in the 4x800, missing the podium by one place and three seconds."

Senior tennis player Katie Weimer recalls some bizarre events off the court that bonded her team closer together.

"Some of my favorite memories were going to stay in hotel rooms and doing crazy things like ding-dong-ditching, or when we hit a deer on the bus."

Senior infielder Caleb Kimm also has remembrance of fun times off the field with his team.

"My favorite memory was when we stayed the night in Evansville after the Castle game. This was a fun, team-building night because we won the game against a very good Castle team and came back to the hotel and



Brock Kennedy/The Bagpiper

SENIORS SETH BURKS, GRANT GOHMANN, AND BEN PURVIS smile holding their sectional championship plaque on March 7. The boys won against Jennings County 70-33 and were on the road to regionals. Regionals was canceled due to the COVID-19 breakout.

ate pizza and hung out."

Moving forward

Although sports seasons ended as fast as they started,

some are ready for college athletics.

"The next step for me and for my softball career is playing

for University of Louisville this coming fall. I couldn't be more excited," said senior catcher Taryn Weddle.



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Sophia Perigo/The Bagpiper

FIELDS are left empty due to the cancellation of in-person meets for the rest of the 2019-20 spring sports seasons.

Underclassmen focus on being proactive

Jadon Stoner
Assistant Sports Editor
Gracie Vanover
Editor-in-Chief

When IHSAA canceled spring sports athletes were left disheartened. Hours of training for the season only for it to never come. Although this time may seem gray some underclassmen are using it as a chance to grow.

Although the athletes know the severity of the virus, it is still disheartening for them to lose a season.

"It was a real punch in the gut," said sophomore baseball player Rafe Swearingen. "I thought the season at worst would just be postponed but hearing it actually be canceled was not fun."

Though the news may be disappointing, many athletes understand that it is in the best interest.

"I was pretty bummed when

I heard our tennis season was going to be canceled, but I know it is definitely for the best in order to protect the health of our team and those around the state," said junior tennis Lauren Fancher.

While seniors have lost their last high school season, freshmen have lost their first high school season.

"It's very disappointing to not be able to run first track season in high school, especially after I've been training all winter," said freshman track runner Savanna Liddle.

Some winter sports athletes are also left with a feeling of discontent due to the lack of closure from the winter sports season.

"What I looked forward to the most was proving people [wrong] and showing that we were a way better team than what people expected," said junior basketball player Jake

Heidbreder. "Nobody expected us to do anything and we ended up winning the sectional."

While many athletes may be feeling down, some are looking at the positives of their training.

"During this period I'm keeping my head up by appreciating the time I got to spend with my teammates and senior runners before they go off to college," said junior track runner Wenkers Wright.

Although the season has come to a halt, many students have not let that get in the way of training.

"I run daily with my sister and do strength workouts five times a week," said Liddle. "I have also competed in some virtual track meets."

After the disappointment of this spring season, some students are even more excited about their future spring sports seasons.

"I just want to come in next

year and lead by example. [I want to be] the first one in the gym and [the] last one out and to just play as hard as I can at all times," said sophomore baseball player Brady Moore.

Even with setbacks due to COVID-19 all underclassmen

athletes can do is look towards the future.

Swearingen said, "[We need] to perfect some mechanics and techniques with all this new free time we've got. [I am also] conditioning and lifting with all the resources I have."

Websites for free at home workouts

- Fitness Blender
- Turbulence Training
- Do Yoga With Me
- Tone It Up
- Yoga With Adriene
- BeFit
- Yoga Journal

Source: makeyourbodywork.com

COVID-19 causes confusion and distress

Local experts and alumni in the medical field discuss facts and myths of the coronavirus and its seriousness

Chloe Love
News Editor
Shari Rowe
Assistant News Editor

The sidewalks are empty. People go to the store and stock up on canned foods and toilet paper. The streets and highways are empty, occasionally broadcasting a car or two. Even the school is empty except for a few patrolling the building like assistant principal Joe Voelker.

America is now in quarantine. The recent outbreak of coronavirus’s medical name is COVID-19. The COVID-19 virus is one of multiple coronaviruses, named for its discovery in 2019. The reason

this virus is more well known is because it is now a pandemic, meaning the disease has become widespread in the world.

COVID-19, as many people now know, popped up in China at the end of last year in Wuhan, then spread to other nations. This is when the World Health Organization declared that it became a pandemic.

“The coronavirus has impacted almost every aspect of my life. It has isolated me from people that I normally have daily interactions with. Beyond that, it has caused an intense separation in every individual,” said senior Emily Butrum. “It has caused a strain that has separated our neighbors, friends,

strangers, and even family.”

The coronavirus’s main symptoms are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. While these are mild symptoms for some, they can become deadly for others. The virus can develop symptoms such as trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, and bluish lips or face according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC].

Health centers are now in overdrive to contain the virus.

“Now, no visitors are allowed,” said speech language pathologist Breanna Ferguson, who works at a skilled nursing facility called Communicare

Health at Sellersburg Health and Rehab. “The outside personnel, so hospice nurses, the lobotomists, those are all restricted. There are very few people allowed in the building outside of employees. The employees that do come in have to come in one door and they have to leave one door. All the other doors are completely locked and there is no in and out. [We] have to wear a mask at all times.”

Once these symptoms appear, medical attention should be sought out immediately. COVID-19 is the most deadly for those whose immune systems are compromised.

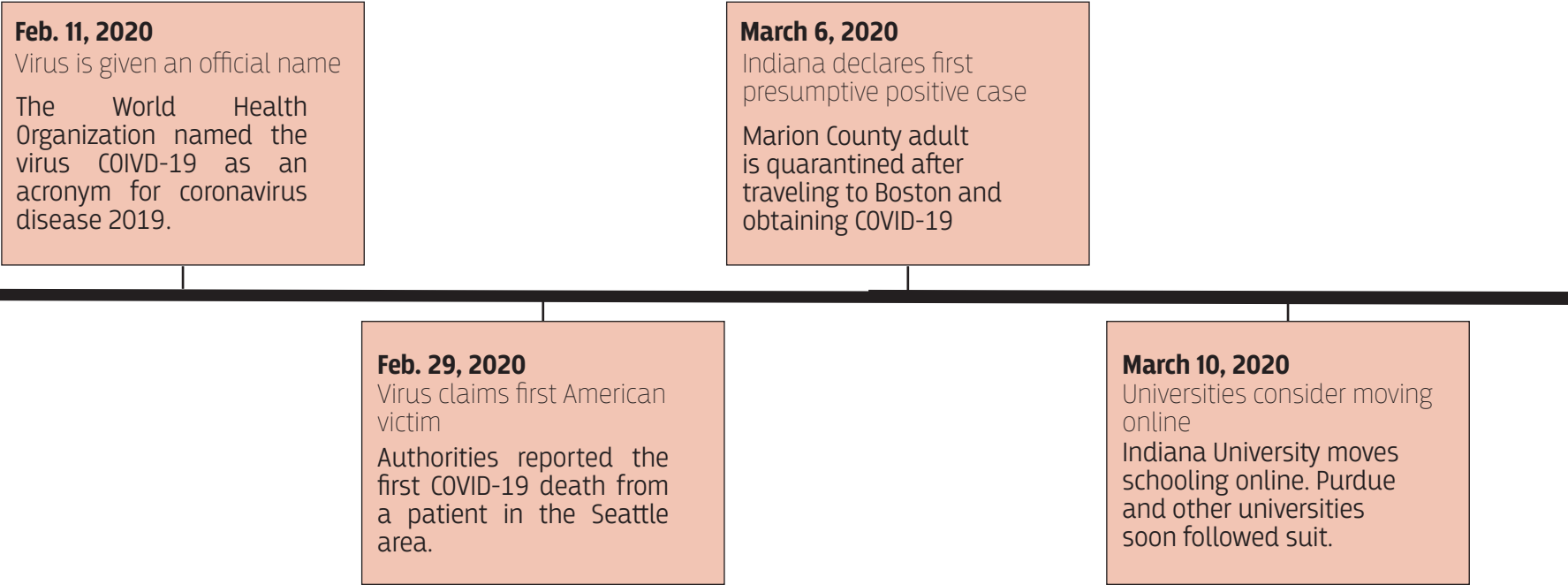
“Based on currently available

information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19,” said the CDC website.

This virus affects everyone, even those not at as much of a risk. Family members of those who are at risk have to be careful, and a growing number of people have already lost family members.

“I am most worried about my family. My grandma works in the ER and everyday I just hope for the best. I worry about the other families in the world who are laid off of their jobs or

Timeline of COVID-19 news locally and nationally in chronological order



have lost loved ones,” said junior Alex Barbee. “It breaks my heart I can’t imagine.”

The most dangerous aspect of the coronavirus is known as ARDS which stands for acute respiratory distress syndrome.

“And that’s really what’s killing people, is the acute respiratory distress syndrome because their lungs are getting fibrotic so their almost becoming leather and not able to expand and get oxygen,” said Class of 2016 alumna and patient care associate Delaney Schweinhart. Schweinhart was assigned to work on the COVID-19 unit at the Norton Women’s and Children’s Hospital.

For these reasons, facilities that hold elderly patients are on high alert.

“Today, they just came up and decided that for certain people the surgical masks that we have, that we’ve been wearing isn’t enough anymore,” said Ferguson. “So there are a couple people that are getting tested that they decided that unless you have one of the higher level masks that you get from a hospital, you are not allowed in that room.”

The pandemic has also caused schools in the U.S. to be closed down and the borders closed.

“The school in which I am going to is an international and global studies school. Depending on how long life is changed due to COVID-19, my career could be in major jeopardy,” said Butrum. “I haven’t been able to visit the campus due to the virus. All around, I genuinely is vital.

“That is honestly the biggest killer in this is the amount of false information out there and people not knowing how to look up credible information because there’s so many people trying to fear monger in this for personal or corporate gain that there’s just a lot of, and I hate to quote it, but ‘fake news’ out there...” said Schweinhart.

For now, those in their homes also face trying to stay busy as they are limited to them.

“Life has become incredibly mind numbing and the days seem to blur into one long day,” said Butrum. “Finding new hobbies and interests all day seems to be the only thing available for intellectual stimulation.”

As of right now many medical professionals are recommending basic procedures and tips such as avoiding close contact with others and to avoid frequent touching in the face region.

“The best way to protect yourself from the spread of coronaviruses is by avoiding close contact with people who are sick, washing hands frequently and avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands,” said Erica Kaufman West. West is an Infectious Disease Physician with Franciscan Physician Network. “That’s the biggest preventive defensive thing that you can do.”

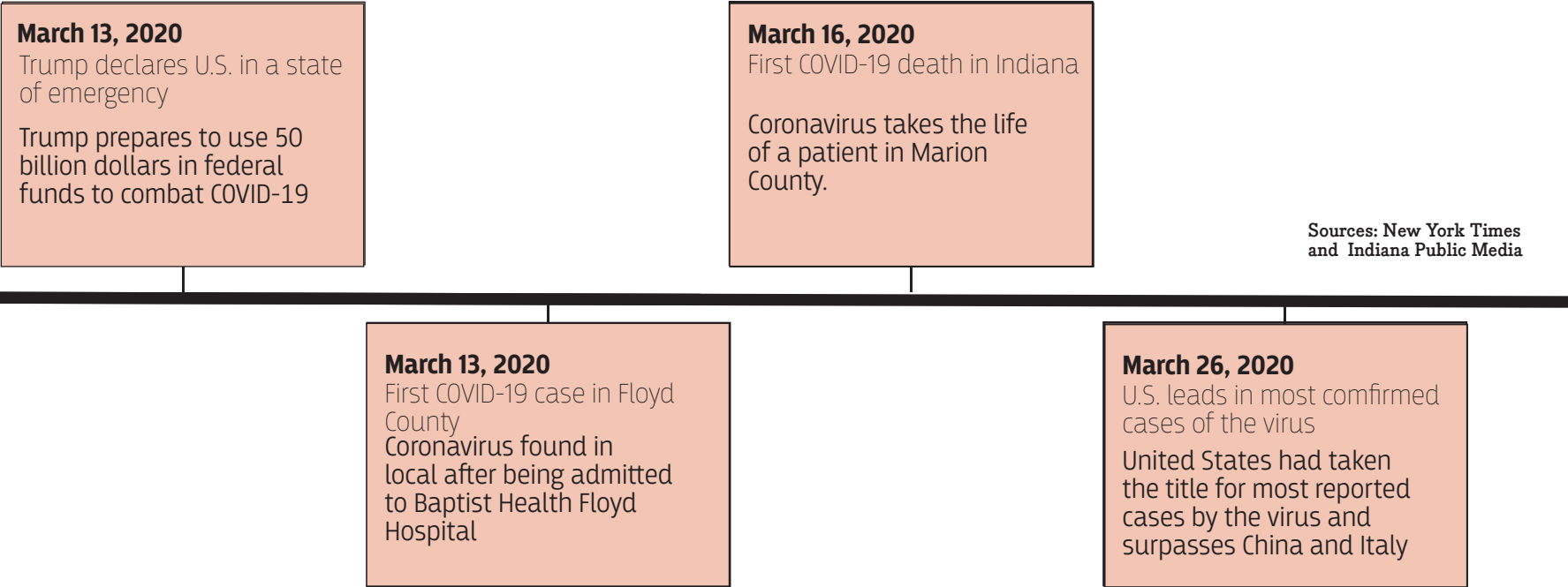
“

[...] There’s so many people trying to fear monger in this for personal or corporate gain that there’s just a lot of, and I hate to quote it, but ‘fake news’ out there.

”

Delaney Schweinhart

Patient care worker in the COVID-19 unit at Norton Women’s and Children’s Hospital



COVID-19 cuts learning expeditions short

Cara Akin

News Reporter

Dakota Bramer

News Reporter

With the school year being cut short, many exchange students traveled back home early having to leave their host families and friends sooner than expected.

“Returning home was both positive and negative. I got to see my family and friends again, but I had to leave my American family and American friends who I really miss. It

was hard to leave my host family so soon since we already had so many plans that we won’t get to do together, and I wasn’t ready to end my exchange year yet,” said Alma Gabriellsson.

This unexpected turn of events left many host families having to say goodbye much sooner than expected which changed plans for the rest of the time they should have had with their exchange student.

“It’s really hard because she is our family. We didn’t expect her to have to leave and it was all so sudden. It hurt a lot to see my whole family heartbroken and I miss her more every day. We didn’t get to do stuff we planned to do and it’s just not a good situation,” said freshman Jasmine O’Neal, whose family hosted Gabriellsson.

For other exchange students, while their school year is still cut

short, going home is not safe.

“I am staying in America and I don’t really know when I am going to be able to leave because the frontiers are closed so I don’t know if I will leave sooner or after the date, I was supposed to

“It’s really hard because she is our family [...] It hurt a lot to see my whole family heartbroken and I miss her more every day.”

Jasmine O’Neal
freshman

leave,” said junior Paula del Rey. Because of such an unexpected and monumental pandemic, many countries around the globe are dealing with the coronavirus in a different manner with different precautions.

“In Spain, they are doing a lot of things to stop the spread of the virus. They have been in quarantine for almost a month now and it’s illegal to get out of the house. They can only go to the grocery store, work or walk the dog. If they go to the grocery store they wear masks and gloves and keep a distance between each other,” said del Rey.

Sweden, unlike other European countries, has taken a different approach when it comes to dealing with the coronavirus.

“Sweden is really focused on not overflowing the health system, so they are going to wait until they are at the line and then they will stop everything so that they will have time to recover. They don’t think pandemics like this can be stopped, so they are just trying to make sure that as few people as possible die,” said Gabriellsson.

Since it is not safe for most exchange students to return home, they rely on their families for information about how life is back home amidst the pandemic.

“I call my parents every day, so all the information about the

situation over there is mostly based on what they tell me. Italy right now is in lockdown, [which] means that they cannot leave the house as they used to. Every time that

go out you have to bring a self-certification in case the police pull you over,” said junior Valentina Samsa.

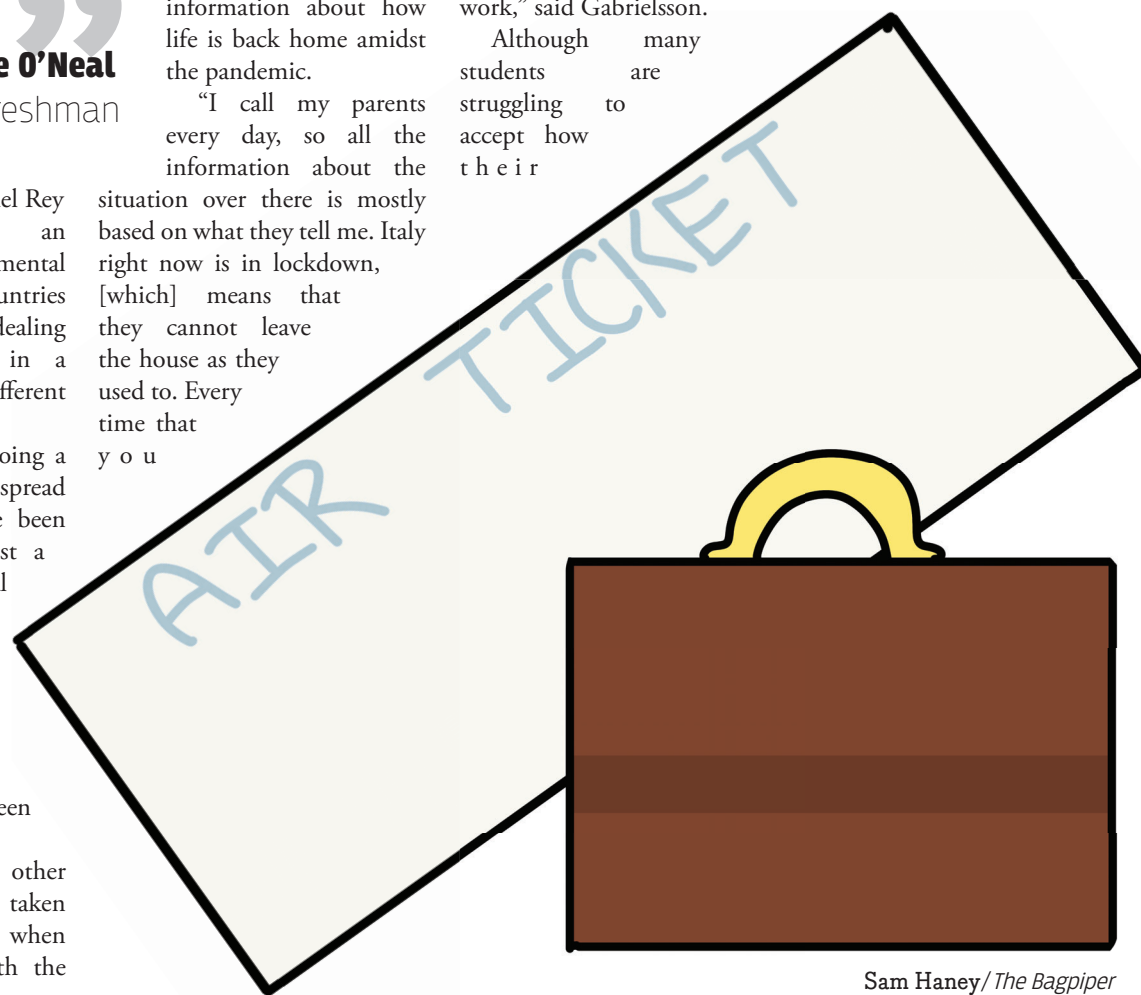
Different places around the world are taking different measures to stop the spread of the coronavirus.

“As I said, Sweden is not in quarantine because they have a different approach to handling the virus. For example, I am not in quarantine here, and even though high schools are closed, middle schools are still open and most people still go to work,” said Gabriellsson.

Although many students are struggling to accept how their

time as foreign exchange student ended, many are grateful for the opportunity and the memories.

“One thing I will miss from Floyd Central is the school spirit. It’s so different from my school in Sweden and it makes the school year a lot more fun,” said Gabriellsson. “My favorite experiences from this school year were probably all the American football and basketball games. We don’t have sports in school here, so it was a really fun and different experience.”



Sam Haney/The Bagpiper

Celebrity luxuries stay afloat during quarantine



I Will Rise

Morgan Walker

It is an incredibly hard time for everyone right now. COVID-19 has taken over the world and people are doing everything they can to avoid the virus. There have been over 850,000 confirmed cases in America alone and over 47,000 deaths.

The media largely focuses on how celebrities are coping when there are people struggling. During this time regular people need to hear other peoples' stories, good or bad. People need hope, but it is also important to know what we are really dealing with right now. Celebrities cannot give us the right hope we need because they are more privileged than we are and do not have the same worries.

The celebrities in their mansions with movie theaters, pools, and security could never have it harder than the people that are struggling to get food for their families. And celebrities could be helping so much. They have so much money they could use to help but donate so little.

Average people are possibly getting the virus because they are an essential worker but they need the money so they cannot quit for their safety and their family's. Essential workers struggle to get proper safety gear. Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos took a long time to get his workers masks, and only did something when too many of his employees contracted

the virus, even though he is the richest man in the world. Senator Elizabeth Warren wants Congress to enact a protective order for these workers so they can get the protective gear they need to protect themselves and their family. These people would have had protective gear sooner if this was enacted.

Some celebrities like Ellen and Wendy Williams are filming their shows from home. They are already fully stocked on food. For example when Kylie Jenner did her fridge tour it had everything she could ever need.

Seeing how celebrities are complaining about the simplest problems is annoying. These problems are something that most people wish they had to deal with. Most people are struggling to get food because everything is sold out. This is especially hard for homeless people who have nowhere to self-isolate.

A few celebrities have come out and said if they have the virus and some have come out and said they tested negative. Labs are testing 1 0 0 , 0 0 0 people per day, according to *USA Today*. It is still difficult for people to get tested for the virus. Celebrities are considered

important and are rich, so they would be the first to get the cure. They will also be the first

non-celebrity patient," said the president of the *National Center for Health Research*, Diana Zuckerman.

The media is making it seem like celebrities have more value than normal people. Normal people are equally important in our society. According to *The Atlantic*, celebrities only

make up 0.0086 percent of the population of the Earth. There are so many stories for the media to cover but the vast majority want to focus on the celebrities.

It does not seem like celebrities even realize they have it easier than the rest of

the world during this time. Sam Smith filmed a video of them crying because they are afraid of change and they were bored. Smith was filming in a 12 million dollar mansion. Celebrities feel like they have it just as hard as everyone else when they do not.

The media needs to be focusing on how regular people are dealing with this virus. This is a serious time and if people have tips and stories from people like them who are surviving this virus then the media needs to cover that. Regular people can not get tips from celebrities. Celebrities can easily quit doing their job to stay home because they have enough money to sustain themselves. It is time for celebrities to wake up and realize the world does not revolve around them.

“People need hope, but it is also important to know what we are really dealing with right now.”



Scarlett Hatton / The Bagpiper

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Social distancing is life saving

As we all know COVID-19 struck the Floyd County area in early March and since then it has grown fast. Although many of us have been respecting quarantine, some people in the community have fallen through the cracks.

When the editors of the *Bagpiper* digitally met to discuss this issue we all agreed that COVID-19 was a time for us to produce a “special” issue. With so many things changing in our society we need to acknowledge and guide each other to safety.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, six feet apart is the minimum

recommended distance people should have between themselves and others. At the six-foot distance most chances of being hit with large droplets from sneezes or coughs is minimal to none.

While many people follow this basic rule, many people also do not. Stanford researchers found that 52.4 percent of people from 18 to 31 reported not complying with the shelter-in-place order. That is a huge part of the population not complying with these state placed regulations.

While our age group may be at low risk for getting this virus we also have to be considerate of those around

us. Over 80 percent of the cases of COVID-19 are found in the elderly, which leads us to wonder; how many of those cases were caused by those ignoring the recommended regulations?

Stores are already doing their part by setting hours aside for immunocompetent and elderly people, so when are we going to do our share? If big corporations and sporting events will let themselves take financial hits, then why do we not take social hits to save lives?

Although 47.6 percent of us are doing our share it is not good enough. There are plenty of alternatives or ways to prevent even being within six feet of anyone.

Stores like Kroger have Click List or Amazon has their pantry section which delivers food or necessities to your front door.

If we band together, regardless of age, we can help decrease the number of new cases and deaths. The sooner we listen to the rules that are set the sooner quarantine and social distancing will be over.

So stay inside. If we all work together by staying away from each other it will be over sooner than we think. Now does that visit to your girlfriend's or best friend's house seem so important that you are willing to risk other people's lives?

The purpose of the *Bagpiper* is to truthfully report the news and to engage the audience in online and print media. We strive to provide the meaning and significance behind all news, making visual connections between events and the readers. Above all, we aim to uphold the ethical standards we see in the professional field while serving all faculty, staff, students, and the community.

Digital learning divides student population



My Stance on Life

Brianna Waggoner

With quarantine and social distancing becoming terms ingrained in our brains by now and the country going through many changes due to the dreaded coronavirus [COVID-19] pandemic, many of us have had to

switch gears and adjust to online learning. While this is a large and unusual change and is difficult to adjust to, online learning provides more opportunities for students, particularly those with cluttered schedules.

Online learning is especially strange at a time where children are required to take online classes

because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Students are having to quickly change habits and focus more on school so that they are not falling behind in class. Likewise, teachers are needing to make changes to lessons to accommodate for teaching online. In comparison to traditional schooling, online learning can be beneficial if students and teachers put in the proper work.

From personal experience, online learning has proven to be much better compared to traditional schooling, especially if a student's schedule is made up mostly of classes in which the entire year does not rely on time outside of class. With

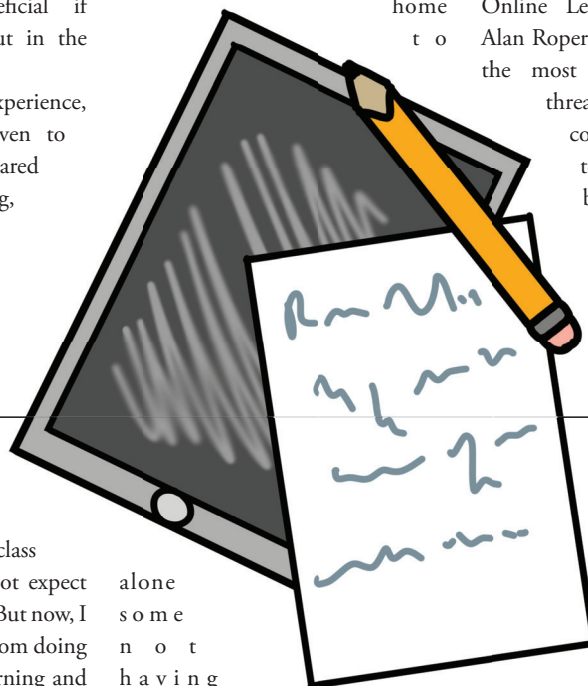
online learning, students are free to create their own personal schedules and adapt to changes easier. Though it takes more work to do compared to going to a physical school where schedules are already decided for students, if a child needs more time to complete classwork, he or she can take the extra time at his or her home

focus on the work.

Online learning does lack face-to-face interaction, unfortunately. Students and teens need social interaction and are more likely to understand a concept with face-to-face teaching. However, in an article on *EDUCAUSE* Review titled "How Students Develop Online Learning Skills," author Alan Roper suggests students make the most of online discussion threads in classrooms and communicate questions to teachers as soon as they begin to struggle. The article also mentions that participating in class discussions helped 52.6 percent of students understand a

topic, and that reading others' replies helped 15.8 percent of students.

When it comes to traditional learning versus online learning, the choice is dependent upon a student's skill set they have developed and the routines and goals they have created for themselves. Students taking online classes are recommended to set aside a specific amount of time daily to complete schoolwork and ask questions if needed. If a student chooses not to follow a routine, he or she risks losing valuable time in a day to effectively complete work, making online learning more difficult than if a set schedule was followed. In the end, though, online learning can definitely be a benefit to students with the necessary work and time put in.



Me vs. the World

Annalise Bassett

Instead of a school bell ringing overhead, we now hear a notification for an email from principal Rob Willman. It is the attendance email--now that we do not have physical classes, the teachers cannot take attendance.

eLearning is something new to all of us. It is not something we have fully done before. Sure, we have had *Google Classroom* for years, but that has generally been used to supplement in-class learning. While it is convenient and handy, teaching yourself via *Google Classroom* is just not the same.

And I get it, I really do. We have to do this right now. The outbreak of COVID-19 suddenly shut our school's doors--for the rest of the

year--without any of us expecting it. I did not expect newspaper staff meetings and band class on *Google Meet*. I did not expect clarinet lessons on *Zoom*. But now, I sit at the desk in my bedroom doing my schoolwork every morning and try to make it as normal as possible.

Using eLearning, it is difficult to teach ourselves. Some can do okay, but some cannot teach themselves online. Before break, I heard from several of my friends that they did not think they would pass all of their classes if we had eLearning. On my end, I worried about AP Biology--it is my most difficult class. So far it is not terrible to do online work, but we have only just started.

Some people do not have WiFi with a good enough connection to join video-chat lectures or to check *Google Classroom* for work, let

alone some not having WiFi at all. I

think it is awesome that the school has WiFi hotspots in the parking lot for students to use, and that *Spectrum* is offering free service for students right now. But what about the kids who live out of the range that *Spectrum* is willing to set up WiFi? What about the kids whose parents are working from home and cannot take them? What about the kids who do not have a license to drive up to school? It is not like we are supposed to have others take us places right now, so what happens with those kids?

Personally, my WiFi is not a

problem. Our WiFi is pretty fast, so I am able to work pretty easily over it. Unfortunately, I had to stop using my school iPad, because

there are so many connectivity issues on the school's end. Every time I get on my iPad, I find myself having to reset the WiFi every 10 minutes to get anything done. For assignments I can only do on my iPad, like *SmartMusic* assignments for concert band, this is a big issue for me.

Ultimately, I am not totally against eLearning. There are obvious issues with it, but I like being able to work in the comfort of my bedroom while wearing pajamas.

However, I miss having the

experience a classroom offers. It is important to be able to ask your teacher questions in real time, without having to wait for an email back. Some do not email back as quickly as possible, which is understandable, but waiting on an answer poses a challenge.

Some classes work well online, but some are just not set up for an online platform. Band cannot play together on a *Google Meet* call. *SmartMusic* does not allow me the feeling of playing in a group. But what else are we to do, if we must do something for credit?

Until next year, when, hopefully, school starts up again in-person, eLearning works. It is not the worst option, which is not having the rest of the year at all. But remember, when we do go back, that in-person schooling is much more effective than any form of eLearning.

Art by Sam Haney.

Newfound time brings forth new hobbies

Brianna Waggoner
Assistant Features Editor

Senior Trinity Vaughan pushes her younger brother on a swing set in the cool spring air as she enjoys another day at home with her family. She would not have expected that social distancing would bring her closer to her family, and yet she managed to make a positive outcome in a troubling situation. She spends more time with her brother than she did did before quarantine.

"I have gained the habit of sitting on the front porch and enjoying the breeze," said Vaughan. "Plus, there is the thing of hanging out with my younger brother more and just chilling with my family more as a whole."

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the requirement for everyone to socially distance, many students are feeling socially isolated, leading to various issues as they stay at home without much contact with their friends, extended family, or significant other.

"Humans, teens and adults alike, are social animals. We appear to be predisposed to crave attachment and connection to others and learn at an early age that being with others helps keep us safe,"

said psychology teacher Chad Clunie. "At the same time, psychology research has shown that social isolation can be very detrimental to a human's psychological well-being and development in general. In addition, peer relationships are extremely important during the teen years, maybe more important during these years than any other time in a person's life."

Fortunately, some students have turned this time of isolation into a chance to change. It has also provided a few issues and complications during this time, however.

"It's made me more observant, I think. I'm paying a bit more attention to when and what homework I do," said junior Zephen Martin. "I've had to work on my time management. Also, the fact that

people find hobbies to keep themselves happy and healthy. To name a few, students can pick up reading or baking.

"Positive hobbies are a great way to expand

your knowledge and abilities, become a more well-rounded individual and foster your creativity. Plus, they give you an opportunity to try new things that you've wanted to attempt but never had the time [to]," said Clunie.

For many introverted teens, though, the quarantine has little change in their day-to-day activities, besides not going to school at the moment. In some ways, it almost feels more comfortable for them.

"My normal schedule hasn't really changed that much. Things carry on as normal, albeit a bit more comfy," said sophomore Jeffrey Braden.

Martin advises everyone to stay inside because they are not

immune to the new virus, or any other illnesses that could be passed around to others. He also said that although students are separated physically, they can contact their friends through social media, which can be beneficial to their mental health and social life.

"I'd tell [students] that even though they may be isolated physically, there are so many people you can meet through media," said Martin. "There's a lot of terrifying things going on. Staying inside is so important, no one is immune."

Vaughan encourages students to keep a positive attitude while practicing social distancing. She

especially encourages seniors to continue pushing forward.

"It may get grim, but just keep swimming and have faith in yourself, and we will all get past this together," said Vaughan.

Art by Scarlett Hatton.



“It may get grim, but just keep swimming and have faith in yourself, and we will all get past this together.”

Trinity Vaughan
senior

I won't see any classmates until next year makes me angry."

Clunie suggested young

Students provide essential work during virus

Chloe Finn

Features Reporter

For the first time in the majority of American people's lives, the entire country has been shut down. COVID-19 has traveled to most of the world, and America is no exception. Although the crisis is serious, the world has to go on, and essential workers are a steadfast force in the face of a global crisis.

Junior Alivia Singleton works at Texas Roadhouse, which is essential because they provide food to the public. Her workplace has taken every step they can to ensure the virus does not spread.

"We have not allowed anyone inside the store. Texas Roadhouse is typically on a

three-hour wait, and so we haven't been having anyone inside. I think it's really weird. We have been taking precautions, we have timers set to constantly wash our hands, we wear masks, everyone wears gloves, we've taken a lot of precautions," she said.

Junior Aneesa Omar is another student working in a restaurant. Her job at the Spaghetti Shop has also undergone changes to make sure that nothing is contaminated or spread.

"People can still come in, but they can't sit down and eat, it's only carry-out. Everybody has to stay six feet away from each other, and all the employees have to wear gloves at all times, and we have to use hand sanitizer after every order that we take. We also only have three people working at a time," said Omar.

Restaurants are not the only places that have changed in response to the pandemic. Junior Jackson Ryan works at JayC Food

Mart, and the prevention methods for grocery stores are different than in restaurants.

"Just last week we put up a piece of glass between the cashier and the customer. We've been wiping off carts. The store has been offering gloves to the workers, and we've been wiping down the conveyor belts and our areas more often now," said Ryan.

Singleton said that the changes have made her job harder. Social distancing that makes it harder to serve food and the constant need to wash hands and sanitize all supplies after every interaction.

"Social distancing definitely makes it more difficult, because whenever we are trying to give people their food, we have to

sometimes do it through their trunk, but if their trunk has stuff in it, we have to hand it to them. Then we

instantly have to take our gloves off because they're contaminated, and we have to constantly use a sanitizing solution on the pens that people use and the card readers and stuff like that," said Singleton.

Omar has a different view of social distancing. She believes it makes her job easier than it was before.

"I don't think it's made it any harder. If anything, it made it easier. We don't have to wash as many dishes or close as many things since we're not using them anymore," she said.

With the dangers and changes that come with facing

the virus, it can be daunting to keep working through the epidemic.

"I feel like I have to [work] because I have to pay for my car and insurance and stuff. If I didn't have bills, I probably would have quit so I could keep myself safe, but since I do have bills, I have to go and work," said Omar.

Singleton said overall workers want everyone to feel and be safe during the crisis.

"I just hope that everyone is taking this seriously and that they're all using protective measures. I really hope everyone is staying safe."



Senior Tanner Striegel on being an essential worker

Bagpiper: What are your duties as a manager at Berry Twist?

Tanner Striegel: "I manage the girls I'm working with and the customers. So I deal with any problems a customer has. I make sherbet, change the flavors, and tell people what to do at closing time."

BP: What is the hardest part of working during a pandemic?

TS: "The hardest part has been satisfying our customers with all the changes that came with the pandemic. We have also been extremely busy, so it's been hard to keep the line down."

BP: What advice do you have for other essential workers?

TS: "My advice would be to keep a smile on your face and keep pushing through! Essential workers do so much for us in these times and I appreciate all of them."

Teachers unite and stay positive in quarantine

Faculty work to pull together an efficacious plan in order to help students during the transition to eLearning and continue productivity

Editor's Note: Journalism I students reached out to FC teachers and staff to see how they were adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine. One pattern emerged – they were all trying to find the positive and unite others, especially through their use of technology and advice for their students.

Heather Bradley, Spanish teacher

By Abby Hoffman

As the world spirals into uncertainty, Spanish teacher Heather Bradley does what she can to keep her students from spiraling with it.

"It's hard not to jump to the

worst case scenario from time to time. But I try to stay positive," said Bradley.

As she knows many students are struggling, she does her best to limit the amount of stress her class adds to their lives.

"I am trying to check in from time to time to make sure that those who feel overwhelmed have a lifeline." Her students know that she is one email away, ready and available to offer help in these overwhelming times.

Bradley has been able to stay in touch with her students by reaching out to them individually and hosting *Google Meets* for her classes.

Quarantine life has not been easy for Bradley, as she is a

mother with young children who are at risk.

"I have chosen to stay positive by being productive," she said. She has kept herself busy by sewing and donating masks to those in need, "being able to donate something to help has been good for my soul."

Angela Hampton, choir and handbells director

By Sydney Landrum

During this unprecedented time, we all have people in our lives who are still managing to bring in some positivity and normalcy. Choir director Angela Hampton has done just that.

Although Hampton admits that eLearning has had its struggles and challenges, she has found new ways to bring a creative learning experience for her choir students. She said that she had to ask herself, "What is going to work for my situation?" before creating her e-learning plan.

Historically at the end of a concert, the a cappella choir sings the Irish Blessing. This tradition began with former director Michael Neely. Since concerts are not an option during this time, Hampton took it upon herself to create a virtual choir recording of the Irish Blessing. She said that she was not looking for perfection with this choral project, but rather a comforting sentiment to the Class of 2020 as well as for the underclassmen. The historical significance of this song will



Kelly Bratcher/Self Submission

BUSINESS TEACHER KELLY BRATCHER shares herself being safe and promotes safety among students and faculty.

bring comfort to the students whose year was abruptly ended.

Students recorded the song in their voice part at home and submitted it into *Google Classroom*. Hampton took the recordings and entered them into a template on the app *Garage Band*. Both students and teachers have had challenges with implementing new technology into instruction and learning, but Hampton has embraced these challenges.

Although she says this is not an ideal way to teach, she does state that, "I hope students can learn time management skills as well as how to be individually responsible."

Kelly Bratcher, business teacher

By Meghana Mohankumar

The coronavirus has created

a new normalcy where schools have shut down and going out in public seems dangerous. Because of these changes, many teachers have shifted their focus from grades to connections with students. Business teacher Kelly Bratcher has training in instructional technology, and these skills have helped her find a variety of ways to continue her connections with students.

"Once a week I host an optional *Google Meet* where students can drop in to ask questions, or to just hang out and visit with one another. I have shared a *Google Jamboard* Bratcher.

Bratcher has also used technology to continue to encourage her students.

"I also use the private comment feature in *Google*



Heather Bradley/Self Submission

SPANISH TEACHER HEATHER BRADLEY poses with her #staysafe sign during quarantine.



Larissa Jerke/Self Submission

COUNSELOR LARISSA JERKE promotes safety during COVID-19 with her #staysafe sign.

Classroom to leave feedback for the students. I will sometimes ask them how they are doing or add a positive message to keep them motivated. At the end of the week, I post feedback for the entire class. Here I try to include a positive message and a fun bitmoji with a fun message, like 'You Rock,' said Bratcher.

Bratcher's efforts to encourage her students to stay connected and participate in eLearning have had extremely positive results.

"Through all of this, I have witnessed all of my students rise to the challenge and they continue to work hard and push through this rough time. I was blown away at the large percentage of my students that showed up and have been submitting quality work despite the challenges that eLearning poses," said Bratcher.

Because of quarantine, Bratcher has also started learning new skills with her family with the help of technology.

"I started learning piano with my kids. We followed a YouTube tutorial. We also found a karate class and a yoga class on YouTube. My family joined a Facebook group called *Painting with Purpose*," said Bratcher.

Being in quarantine has also taught Bratcher about the importance of human interaction.

"I didn't realize how much I valued human connection. It isn't the places we go or the things we do, but rather the people that really make you whole."

Just because we cannot meet in the classroom during the fourth quarter does not mean teachers are not here for their students.

Larissa Jerke, counselor By Claire Fumall

"We're in this together."

These are the words that ninth grade counselor Larissa Jerke said about the COVID-19 pandemic. Jerke has been using the ability of technology to reach out to students and staff to make a positive difference.

"I'm just trying to use my resources in any way that I can because I know that we're living in different times right now, and so to try to stay positive and to try to just keep our minds occupied in other ways instead of just being depressed; you know we don't want to go there."

Jerke said that one day she put on Google Classroom different colored hearts that had different meanings. All the students had to do was tap which heart they were feeling and she would know based on the color.

"So they didn't have to say anything and students reached out to me and we were able to have conversations. I actually called a couple of the parents and we were able to talk through things and just to provide some help that they need."

She said she has been doing her teaching and counseling online, which is completely new to her and very different from the normal face-to-face encounters she normally has.

"There is always somebody that you can connect with. I just don't want the kiddos or the staff to feel like they're alone. Just to reach out if they feel they need something or someone, whether it's an emotional need

or a physical need. Whatever it is."

Julie Hanen, social studies teacher

By Kennedy Page

When we are limited by physical barriers, sometimes encouragement can be monumental. With changing times, life can be unsure for many physically, but also mentally.

Social studies teacher Julie Hanen knows this and has taken action online. Her life has changed just like every other person, but also as an educator, mother, and a daughter. Other than helping her family that is at a health risk, she wants to reach out to those she wouldn't be able to help in the traditional sense during a pandemic.

"I try to encourage my students to keep up with the work being offered to them and to not get overwhelmed. I don't worry too much about being

goofy if I made a video because I am sure that I am silly in class, too," she remarked.

This is about maintaining a sense of support online. To continue to keep that hope gives hope to others by making sure they feel cared for.

"I hope that some students who may otherwise feel discouraged will read a post I make or a video I share and decide to keep working in my class and also in their others," said Hanen.

She keeps up positivity understanding that even with many missing elements of a normal classroom environment, students can still have hope. The goal is to create a learning environment that reassures the students when other things are so different.

When you have someone to tell you "you will get through this" when no one else is, sometimes that is all it takes.



Julie Hanen/Self Submission

ECONOMICS TEACHER JULIE HANEN supports staying safe during COVID-19.

1 in 1800: senior Spencer Freiburger

Annalise Bassett

Features Editor

Who came up with the idea to make homemade masks in bulk?

"My grandma came up with the idea to make these masks, because my mom works in the ICU, and my cousin is a nurse. My mom isn't getting the patients, but my cousin, they're getting all the COVID patients on her floor. They recently found out that there's a shortage in the surgical masks and the N-95 masks, so they were like, 'okay, well let's make homemade masks.'"

How many mask do you make a day and where do you send them?

"On average, we make about 50 to 60 masks a day. Our original goal was to only donate 200 per hospital that needs them, but we decided to start making 50 to 60, and we've [made] 1000. We've been sending them to nursing homes, hospitals, healthcare centers, urgent care, just your local areas that really, really need them, and donating them to people that are high-risk."

What is your favorite thing about what you're doing?

"Not only at times like these [when] you're stuck in the house, you're bored, it not only helps time go by, but it gives you something to do and really makes you feel good about what you're doing, because you're not just sitting here wasting time. You're sitting here, and you're saving lives, possibly."

What is it like to be you?

"Right now, there's not really much to do, besides keep myself busy. It's interesting. I've been staying up with school, and I've been finding activities to do, like coloring and making bracelets. Even just giving the bracelets up and putting them with the masks just to give away free bracelets. It's time consuming, but in the end, you feel good about it, and that's all that matters."

Mary Lou Freiburger/Freelance Photographer

To watch a multimedia video about Freiburger, go to fchsbagpiper.wordpress.com.