



The Era of Digital Legacies: Afterlife Online

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Editor in Chief

In today's technology-dependent society, it becomes a necessity to check one's emails and Facebook newsfeeds on a daily basis. The Internet has integrated itself into the daily routines of adolescents and adults alike. However, what happens to these online investments after death?

Facebook, currently the world's largest social network with over one billion registered members, connects distant friends, families and even strangers. Facebook notifies users about birthdays and other day-to-day updates. Similarly, Facebook can also be a platform for grieving loved ones.

In the case of Anthony Dowdell, a New Jersey native who committed suicide in July 2012, many of his friends and family were unaware of his passing. According to Huffington Post, most discovered

his death through a post on Dowdell's Facebook wall. A friend had confirmed Dowdell's death and wished to inform his other geographically-scattered friends. Although many of them didn't know each other, Facebook allowed them to mourn together.

"Whenever [people are] feeling sad or missing the person, they can always go to their page and look through photos, videos, or posts to [reminisce] their beloved friend or family [member]," freshman Xena Huang.

According to Time magazine, Yale's Director of Center for Cultural Sociology, Jeffrey Alexander, stressed that society's modernization has individualized the grieving process as loved ones scatter across the globe. However, unlike most tangible items, the online community is convenient and does not require packaging.

"While not a replacement

for a funeral, online memorialization can help people work through their grief after the funeral," Jessica Koth, the spokesperson of

Facebook provides a unique option that memorializes profiles of deceased users. To memorialize a profile, a family member

affiliations, but confirmed friends and family are still allowed to visit the profile and post comments.

"I can see [Facebook] as a place you can go to and reflect [on] the memories you have with someone who passed away," junior Anthony Amato said. "There are some things found on Facebook like photos [and] videos that hold a lot of meaning."

Other sites, such as Yahoo and Google, follow privacy rules, even after death, but these rules can be overridden with court orders. Currently, few laws explicitly concern the handling of digital assets.

However, New Hampshire State Representative Peter Sullivan recently proposed legislation that gives the executor of an estate—the person named in the deceased's will to administer the will and ensure their final wishes are respected—control over all Internet accounts. According to ABC

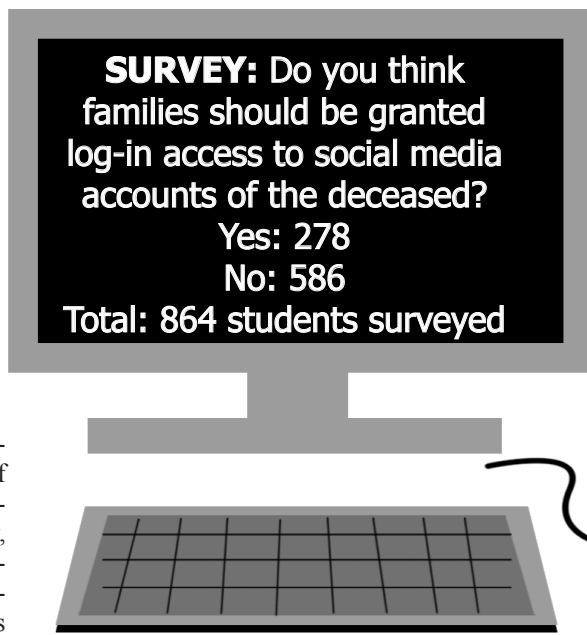
news, similar legislation has been adopted by Rhode Island, Idaho, Oklahoma, Indiana and Connecticut.

Through websites, such as Legacy Locker, The Digital Beyond and Death-switch, a person's digital life can be handled after death. These sites allow users to set up online wills that designate which beneficiaries inherit their online accounts, such as usernames and passwords after death.

Although online wills provide convenience, the more traditional form of handwritten wills have not become obsolete.

"People should [also] create a traditional, written will with their online information attached. A traditional will is more sentimental and provides any thoughts from the person to his friends and family," junior Jeff Liang said.

MOOR graphic by
ARELI ARELLANO



the National Funeral Directors Association, told CNN. "Expressing one's grief online is an outgrowth of what's happening in other areas of our lives."

or friend must fill out a form and submit evidence of death, which Facebook staff reviews. Memorialization disables features, such as status updates and group

Super A Closes, Imminent Construction of Residential Buildings

JENNIFER THAI
Staff Writer

Super A Foods is a privately owned franchise that was first established by Louis Amen in 1971. A store was built in Alhambra just a decade later. After 32 years of business, Alhambra's Super A closed its doors on Feb. 3.

More than a year has passed since new designs for Alhambra were proposed in place of Super A. According to the Alhambra Source, Super A no longer had its lease since January. Details were announced at the Jan. 14

City Council meeting. The vacancy lot is going to be converted for mixed-use development; the city advocates the construction

of more residential apartment complexes and a new commercial market for the area has been scheduled for March. Construction of the new structure will take approximately two years.

"I used to do my grocery shopping [there] before the kids got out, since it was more convenient.

I need to find another place [to shop] now," Alhambra resident Lynn Tran said.

Many are still confused about

signer Simon Lee and Associates Architects, and the final plan was approved in 2013. The city council members of Alhambra made

the decision to construct new homes and a new commercial market. Super A was located in central Alhambra,

which was easily accessible and affordable for both students and parents.

"I'm going to miss the fact that we used to go after every practice

to get an Arizona [tea]," senior Wai Sett said.

Recently, there have been rumors of a Trader Joe's opening as the market in place of Super A. According to a Trader Joe representative, there is nothing stated in their one-year plan about opening a store in Alhambra.

Regardless of what building will be launched, Super A Foods will remain a part of Alhambra's history.

"I'll miss the convenience of having a supermarket next to the school," sophomore Jeffrey Weng said.

**"I'll miss the convenience of having a supermarket next to the school."
-Jeffrey Weng**

why the renewal of Super A's lease was not approved. The residential and commercial plan was proposed in 2011 by developer Pacific Plaza Investment and de-

Switched at Work: Assistant Principals Rotate Positions

NEWS BRIEF

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AHS takes numerous administrator to run successfully. Recently, Assistant Principal of Business and Activities Phuong Nguyen and Assistant Principal of Guidance Jeremy Infranca have switched positions.

The decision for the switch

was made to ensure that Infranca and Nguyen would be able to learn new skills in order to be more prepared and be successful for future positions.

"Mr. Walsh has given us the opportunity to diversify our backgrounds, ultimately preparing us to become school principals," Infranca said.

Infranca and Nguyen have a

myriad of duties every day.

After the switch, Nguyen now oversees sports, clubs, the physical plan of buildings and the finances of the Associated Student Body (ASB) amongst other obligations.

Infranca's responsibilities currently include tasks such as class scheduling, testing, registration and special educa-

tion.

"Even though [we're in] different offices, I [...] can work closely with Infranca and [we can] assist each other," Nguyen said.

Though their roles have changed, the assistant principals feel as if their positions will be the same because of their continued support and cooperation. In

addition, the change is occurring in the middle of the school year, when it is not as hectic as opposed the beginning of the school year because schedules have already been solidified.

"As an administrative team, we stick together. It's really made our team stronger to know different roles," Infranca said.

PREVIEWS

3

OPINIONS

Discover how employers are opposing the Obamacare mandate.



4

FEATURES

Learn about different disabilities and how they affect our daily lives.



7

SPORTS

Discover why AHS' varsity basketball teams have had to forfeit games.

