

# Honoring Former AHS Student: Samantha Blackwood

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On Oct. 15, the unexpected death of former AHS student Samantha Blackwood, after sustaining injuries from a car accident on the I-10 freeway, shocked friends and family members. The 20-year-old was driving a 2006 Scion XB when she accidentally hit a guardrail, according to the California Highway Patrol. As reported by the Desert Sun, authorities have stated that they did not suspect intoxication or drug abuse as contributing factors.

Though not a graduate of AHS, Blackwood was a student here for three years before transferring to the Ramon C. Cortines School of Visual and Performing Arts her senior year to pursue acting and singing, where she participated in the school play "Cannibal." During her time here at AHS, Blackwood was in the Thespians Society as well as AVID. Her brother Phalann Blackwood also attended and graduated from AHS.

"Samantha was an absolute delight to have in my journalism program. Always happy and inquisitive, she was a real joy

and had a smile that lit up the room. I'm saddened that she is no longer with us physically and my thoughts and prayers

A funeral mass was held for Blackwood on Oct. 24 at the Saint Thomas More Church in Alhambra. It was there that her

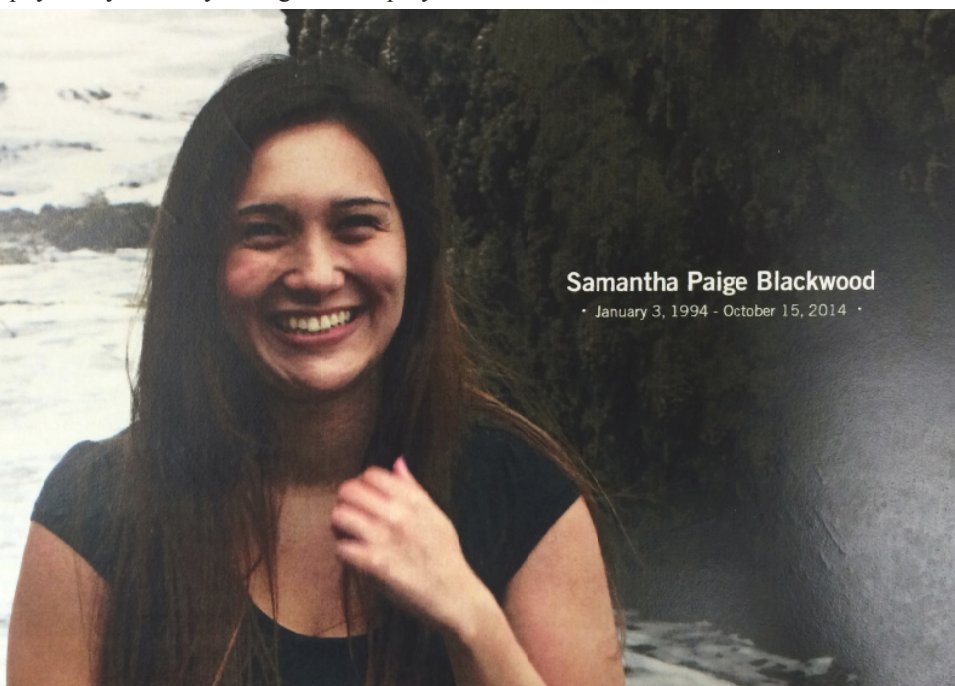
reminded about her life.

"It is a joke in our family that we should have named her Grace as she [was] always tripping and clumsy. This is also the little girl who claimed that her shadow tripped over her," her mother, Pamela Blackwood, said.

Blackwood wanted to become a lawyer and, specifically, pursue a career in family law. According to her mother, she had become very close to two children she babysat over the past year and a half and knew firsthand the impact of divorce on children. As such, she decided that she wanted to work with children, especially those in such a crucial time of need.

Though the sudden passing of Samantha Blackwood remains tragic and heartbreaking, she is succeeded by her family, friends and community members. Her memory is remembered, honored and cherished in the hearts of all those who had the fortune of meeting her.

"Sam touched so many lives in the 20 years we had her," Pamela Blackwood said. "Phalann and I would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of support and sympathy in memory of Sam. Please just keep praying for us as we lost her so unexpectedly."



**Samantha Paige Blackwood**  
January 3, 1994 - October 15, 2014

**A MOOR LOSS** Samantha Paige Blackwood, an AHS alum, recently passed away due to a car accident on Oct. 15.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID JAREGUI

go out to her family," English chair Mark Padilla said.

friends and family remembered Blackwood and honored her memory as they

## Food Fair Returns Preceding Long Weekend

**JANET GUAN**  
Copy Editor

On Nov. 6, the Quad, at first empty, quickly filled up as the final bell rang and students trickled in. It was the first Food Fair of the school year, as well as the second time it has taken place, following its short ban in 2012.

Food fairs used to take place during lunch. However, it was canceled early 2012 by the Alhambra Unified School District, with concerns about nutrition, food preparation and handling as well contractual agreements with the cafeteria. By law, consumable items have specific nutritional guidelines regarding fat and caloric intake for student's weekly intake and the foods sold in previous food fairs exceeded the permissible levels, compared to cafeteria food, which followed USDA regulation.

The event returned last year, taking place after school on Sept. 17, where it would not conflict with cafeteria food. However, this year, professional development not only provided an opportu-

nity for the food fair, but also for food trucks to come on Nov. 7 as well.

"This food fair we saw a particularly large increase from last year, as last year [we] only had around 12-15 [clubs.] This year, we had about 28

participating clubs, from small snacks like brownies and cupcakes to heartier dishes such as Vietnamese sandwiches and fettuccine alfredo.

Many students expressed their interest, evident from the long lines at most of the booths available.



**FOOD FAIR RETURNS** In the first Food Fair of the year, AHS students gathered at the Quad to sell food in order to fundraise for their respective clubs.

MOOR photo by CINDY LUO

clubs participating," Director of Clubs David Huang said.

Clubs participated in a raffle to determine what they were selling, with ASB's approval. 24 booths were present at the food fair. The fair displayed an array of foods and drinks from the

"There's a lot more clubs here this year, more of a variety to choose from this year," junior Pauline On said.

However, others were dissatisfied with some aspects of the food fair.

"The lines seem pretty long for obtaining the tickets. It was a hassle to get tickets but I understand why [ASB] have to take the necessary precautions," senior Macy Chung said.

With moderate success, ASB looks forward to hosting at least one more food fair this school year.

"Since this our first food fair, we wanted to see how well we would do, and find out what we could improve for next time," Assistant Director of Clubs Agatha Angelica Liem said.

## Middle Class Scholarship Extends Deadline to June

**SARA HERNANDEZ**  
Staff Writer

Scholarships serve the purpose to help students relieve their future debt, but scholarship programs like Middle Class Scholarships are not flooded with applications.

The Middle Class Scholarships is a recent program meant to provide scholarships to students who are applying to the University of California (UC) and the California State University (Cal State) systems with a family income of \$80,000 to \$150,000, awarding \$750 to \$2000 depending on whether students would be attending a UC or Cal State. According to the Los Angeles Times (L.A. Times), students were required to file federal application forms by early March of 2014; however, the Middle Class Scholarships only gave out about half of their \$107 million scholarship budget this year.

The program is extending their deadline in order to give out more of the scholarship budget and to attract more students who can take advantage of scholarship opportunities, as stated by the L.A. Times.

"I think it's good because from personal experience, teenagers procrastinate, and extending [the deadline] would give students who procrastinate another chance to apply," senior Raymond Chau said.

However, some students are against the deadline extension.

"I think extending the deadline is unnecessary because if the student really wanted the scholarship [he or she] should have applied before the deadline," sophomore Jacy Zeng said.

## IN OTHER NEWS

**MAN DRESSED AS TELETUBBY ARRESTED FOR STEALING CHINESE FOOD**

**RARE DEER WITH FANGS SPOTTED FOR FIRST TIME IN OVER 60 YEARS**

**MAN ARRESTED FOR TAKING CLEANER'S MOP AND AGGRESSIVELY MOPPING HOTEL FLOOR**

**PREGNANT WOMAN IN COMA AFTER BEING HIT BY TRUCK GIVES BIRTH**

**MAN ROBS FOUR SUBWAYS AT GUNPOINT AFTER FAILING TO LOSE WEIGHT ON STORE'S DIET**

**LOS ANGELES ZOO SEES FIRST HIPPO BIRTH IN 26 YEARS**