

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

- [Livestock Veterinarian Shortage Situation Is Improving](#)

Efforts to ease the shortage of large animal veterinarians seem to be working. (Gary Crawford and Brad White)

Animal Rights Groups Want Dead Animal Payments Stopped

The Humane Farming Association is once again attempting to get the U.S. Department of Agriculture to stop payments to livestock farmers when their animals are unsheltered and die as a result of bad weather. Politico's Morning Agriculture Report says the group has sent a petition to Sonny Perdue ahead of his confirmation as Ag Secretary. Severe storms and heat have hit poultry and livestock hard in recent years. As an example, winter storm Goliath killed roughly 40,000 dairy cows in Texas and New Mexico in 2015 and 2016. The Livestock Indemnity Program paid out more than \$134 million to cover the deaths of 2.5 million poultry and 200,000 livestock from 2013-2015. The group thinks the USDA is giving out the money to compensate producers without requiring them to provide shelter and shade for their animals. The HFA says in its petition, "It's a disincentive to farmers and ranchers to take necessary steps to provide their livestock with adequate means of protection from bad weather." The group filed a similar petition in May of last year that didn't get the response they were hoping for.

Dean's Message, April 2017:

With the arrival of Picnic Day on April 22, now is a good time to reflect on what makes UC Davis so special. This beautiful, bike-friendly, collegial campus draws students from many different places for many different reasons.

Among my favorite places are the pathways of the Arboretum, the barns housing our draft horses, mules

and carriages, Shields Library, and the Student Community Center. I'm sure you could come up with your own list of what's special about your experience here.

[*Read more from Helene*](#)

Congratulations to plant pathologist Dave Rizzo, winner of the campus teaching prize

Plant Pathologist Dave Rizzo has received the 2017 UC Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement. The prize, funded through philanthropic gifts managed by the UC Davis Foundation, is believed to be the largest of its kind in the nation.

[*A prized teacher*](#)

Three recipients of the Walker Advising Award to be honored at May 2 reception

Departmental advisor Emma Martinez, professor Louie Yang, and peer advisor Carly Tyer are the 2017 recipients of the Harry and Eleanor Walker Academic Advising Award, which recognizes advising excellence in the college. The trio will be honored May 2 at a reception on campus.

[*Honoring top advisors*](#)

Topographical Lego map of California to

be featured at Picnic Day

A topographical map of the state of California, meticulously constructed out of 32,000 Lego bricks, will be on display for Picnic Day in the courtyard between Veihmeyer Hall and the Plant and Environmental Sciences Building. Recent graduate Chris Zaleski took on the task of building the map as an intern for the Department of Land, Air and Water Resources.

[A unique topo map](#)

A story to tell: HDL sugars may predict health risks—and more

High-density lipoproteins or “HDLs” are known as the good guys in the battle against clogged arteries and coronary heart disease. But a team of scientists, led by UC Davis researchers, has found that not all HDLs are alike and some can exert a powerful influence on the body’s inflammatory and immune responses.

[Predicting health risks](#)

Groups of fish eat harmful algae, protecting coral reefs

The social eating habits of fish may play a central role in protecting coral reefs, according to a study published April 10 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The study suggests that overfishing not only removes vital algae eaters but may also cause remaining fish to eat less.

[A critical environmental service](#)



A spring recipe from alumna's cookbook: fresh rag pasta with peas

Alumna Ann Evans has updated *The Davis Farmers Market Cookbook* with 75 seasonal recipes. A portion of proceeds from her book sales will support the CA&ES Dean's Circle Scholarship Fund, a program that provides essential support to our students. The book is available at regional stores, online at ucdavisstores.com, and at the Davis Farmers Market.

What's cookin' in CA&ES