PUHS Grads Receive 337K In Scholarships and Awards
An Outpouring of Scholarships and Awards For PUHS Class of 2015

The Patagonia Union High School Class of 2015 received an amazing number of scholarships and awards, both from local organizations and outside institutions. Among the local organizations giving awards were:

Patagonia Community Garden and Borderlands jointly gave Verena Miller $500
Elgin Community Club gave Carlos Mingura and Verena Miller Fern Collie Scholarships of $500 per semester.
St. Therese of Liseux Parish gave the Henry “Hank” Amado award of $1,000 to Jose Vasquez, for two years.
Sandra Powell awarded the Henry Behrens Memorial Scholarship of $1,000 to Carlos Mingura.
Mountain Empire Rotary gave $1,000 a year for two years to Verena Miller and Carlos Mingura.
The Patagonia Woman's Club awarded Savannah Foster $1,000 a semester for four years.
Sulfur Springs Valley Electric Company gave $1,500 each to Savannah Foster, Carlos Mingura, and Grace McGuire.
Patagonia Union High School - The Principal’s “Pay it Forward” awards went to Savannah and Verena Miller -- $1,000 each.
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools awarded Grace McGuire and Verena Miller $1,000 each.
The Santa Cruz County endowed scholarship of $1,000 was given to Grace McGuire.
Patagonia Regional Community Foundation gave scholarships of $1,000 a year for four years to Carlos Mingura and Verena Miller.
Anne C. Stradling Equine Foundation in Sonoita awarded Savannah Foster $1,000 per semester for two semesters.
The Santa Cruz Institute of Cosmetology is giving Mariah Skinner a $1,000 scholarship.

There were several scholarships given from organizations at the state level:

Arizona 4-H Foundation awarded the Mary and Arthur Faul scholarship to Savannah Foster. She will receive $2,100 a year for four years.
Northern Arizona University gave three Lumberjack Scholars Awards to Iliana Castro, Savannah Foster, and Grace McGuire. They will each receive $9,120 a year for four years.
The University of Arizona gave three awards: two for Wildcat Excellence to Savannah Foster and Grace McGuire, and one for Arizona Excellence to Verena Miller. Foster and McGuire will receive $10,000 a year for four years and Miller will get $16,000 a year for four years.
Arizona State University gave a Provost Scholarship to Grace McGuire for a four-year total of $32,000.

The Awards Ceremony included several other citations:

Savannah Foster and Jose Vasquez received ARMY Scholar Athletes Awards.
The Office of Congressman Raul Grijalva recognized Carlos Mingura with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for his community service.
Patagonia Regional Business Coalition gave two youth citizenship awards to Carlos Mingura for $500 and Calvin Whitcoe for $1,000.

Congratulations to all the young men and women who worked so hard to earn these awards.
Keep Patagonia an EMP-Free Zone

We were in Patagonia last week enjoying looking at properties for sale. We were very interested in what we found there, but then so disappointed to read in your PTR newspaper later that another communication tower is being installed on Red Mt soon. Until my husband and I read this news, we were excited that we’d just discovered that Patagonia and outlying parts of Elgin and Sonoita were very close to being a rare bonefide electromagnave – an EMP Free Zone. In our world travels we had only run across such a “pure” EMP-free place once before, and that was in the eco-pristine jungles of Costa Rica. This discovery in your area was very exciting to us, and just such a place we’d hoped to find to relocate our home - my husband, an Electrical Engineer, who retired to become involved in EMF Personal Protection (from such wireless technology as celltowers, WiFi, power lines etc), and me, a health research writer and author of 22 books dealing with personal health and well-being issues. We are ALL sensitive to EMF to one degree or another, because wireless communication interferes with the normal electrochemical signals within every cell of our body and brain, and disrupts function. Worse, it damages our DNA irreparably, and has been linked with so many serious diseases that in 2011 the WHO (World Health Organization) classified cell phone radiation (one example of the same types of wireless communication causes we are talking about here), as a Class II Carcinogen (in the same category as lead and DDT).

Wouldn’t you think that a precious low EMF environment (without wireless communication towers) would be worth protecting as much as a riparian water shed?

Trish and Chris Young, www.emf-experts.com

Divisive Labels

I enjoyed Martin Levowitz’s essay “Here, Now” in the May issue, but all those labels are so divisive. What’s that old joke about the food truck hot dog sales guy saying to the the Zen monk, “One with everything”? We’re all “tourists” and if a guy wants to avoid the psychotic commercialization of everything in this culture, he better create his own little niche of reality, invitation only. Come to think of it, that would be my characterization of Sonoita, not really a town, but a crossroads; a collection of people who have created a bunch of niches that connect, sometimes very obscurely, but well enough to make the whole thing work. That’s what I like about it.

— Doug Morris

Errors & Omissions

Our May article about Friends of Sonoita Creek was credited to Allyson Armstrong, but should have been credited to Lynn Davison. The following corrections were also requested by Allyson Armstrong: 1) Not all public land has been leased for grazing, and each agency, bureau, department etc. has its own grazing protocol. 2) Annette Koweek of Elgin School was the first teacher to participate in Project WET with Friends assistance.

We also included a photo of the tower being built in Red Mountain, and incorrectly attributed the road that was built to access the tower as having been done by the Forest Service. The road was built by DM Engineering, through a contract with the tower project.

PRT has been advised that a few people found the graphic of Elvis superimposed on a figure of The Virgin of Guadalupe, which accompanied the short article on Velvet Elvis Mexican Wednesdays, to be offensive. We apologize for any ill feelings this may have caused.
The unique sound of a steel band playing “Pomp and Circumstance” heralded the beginning of the PUHS graduation ceremony on Friday evening, May 22, at the school gymnasium. Family, friends, and well wishers filled the seats, and as the senior class made their entrance, their faces radiated with excitement and pride. The eight boys and eight girls entered in pairs, led by Valedictorian Grace McGuire and Carlos Mingura, and took their seats, the girls in apricot-colored gowns in front, the boys behind them, in black robes.

This small graduating class was awarded $337,000 dollars in scholarships and awards—a remarkable achievement. High school counselor Rosann Clark greeted the seniors, saying that she had never known such a wonderful group of students. As the ceremony continued, the individuality of this group, and their appreciation of one another, was apparent.

Salutatorian Savannah Foster and Valedictorian Grace McGuire each gave a carefully crafted speech. Savannah recalled how difficult math was for her and how much support she got from her teacher, Gilbert Melanson. Her message was that failure and mistakes are often our best teachers. “Don't be afraid to fail,” she exhorted her classmates, “and never forget to laugh.” By singling out each member of the class and thoughtfully describing their strengths and character traits, Grace’s speech demonstrated how closely connected this group of young adults is and how much fun
PUHS Class of 2015!

they have shared over the years.

Dean Fish, who has a long history of community involvement with young people in the county, gave the commencement speech. After explaining that his high school counselor had advised him not to try to go to college, the rancher with a Ph.D. told the students he had worked hard, gotten some lucky breaks, and found a field of study that he loved. He encouraged them to be grateful, to learn, to set long-term goals, and not to believe that money is the key to happiness. He stressed the importance of good habits, kindness, and hustle. “Dreams are free,” he said, “but hustle is sold separately.”

Following this was a slide presentation, with a narrated visual profile of each graduate, starting with a photo from childhood. Each student’s voice accompanied the images with a short description of his or her favorite things and plans for the future.

There was a short pause in the ceremony when it was discovered that the diplomas were not on stage and had to be retrieved from the office, but this was just a small blip in the otherwise well-planned and -executed evening. When all 16 diplomas had been handed out, confetti rained down, the graduates hugged and jumped up and down, and the audience cheered the class of 2015. PRT congratulates the new grads and wishes them the best of journeys in their lives ahead.
Montessori School Holds Graduation Ceremony  
By Jessi Beebe

The Patagonia Montessori School held its end-of-year ceremony on May 21 at the Tin Shed Theater. Congratulations to the three students—Keenan Cantu, Sylas Lattanzio, and Iolani Saiz—who completed the Montessori Primary Program and were promoted into elementary school.

The class of 2015 eighth grade graduates are Aspen Miller and Aaron Cruz. Aspen gave a touching speech about her middle school years. Nick Botz, Quinn Chrisemer, and Chesed Chap also spoke about their year at Montessori, paying tribute to the graduates.

In addition to the primary moving up ceremony and eighth grade graduation, the school recognized the teachers, board members, volunteers, and parents for all of their support in helping provide quality Montessori education in Patagonia.

Each year, the school recognizes a person who dedicates his or her time and energy to making the school great. This year the Lamp of Learning award was presented to Jerrin Beebe for his hard work and dedication to the school.

SCFPA Concert Benefits Lochiel Schoolhouse  
By Herman Quiroga

A benefit concert, sponsored by the Santa Cruz Foundation for the Performing Arts on May 2, raised $803 for The Patagonia Museum. Held at the home of Cheryl Toth, the concert featured performances by Trio Allegretto, which consists of Christina Wilhelm, Dr. Pat Watrous, and Ann Weaver. Murphy Musick presented a slide show of photos from the museum's Lochiel Schoolhouse workdays. Bonnie Maclean, owner of Ovens of Patagonia, provided refreshments, with assistance from Cornelia O'Connor and Bob Ollerton. Bob Bergier and Ken Morrow provided shuttle service. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success!
George Swan, a frequent visitor to Patagonia, is an amateur audio engineer who enjoys recording unique sounds. In March, he was visiting at Kathy and Ken Morrow’s house up on the mesa and he recorded a sound clip of hummingbirds at their feeder.

He has submitted the clip to thetouchofsound.com, an online site that offers such sounds from around the world. To go with the sound of hummingbird wings, he has written the following: “One of the best kept secrets among bird watchers, is the Southeast Arizona corridor where the Sonoita and Harshaw Creeks nestle between the Santa Ritas and the Patagonias. If you travel south from Tucson on Arizona 83 into Santa Cruz County, or north-northeast from Nogales on Arizona 82, you will find Patagonia, where, during the hummingbird migration, you can visit the Audubon Hummingbird Center, or if you are lucky and have friends who live up on the mesa, you can sit and sip a late afternoon beer and watch the hummingbirds sip at the feeders. In late March, the broad-billed, broad-tailed, magnificent, black-chinned and Costa’s hummingbirds can be thick at sunset—sometimes seeming to line up like planes at a busy airport....”

“...hummingbirds can be thick at sunset—sometimes seeming to line up like planes at a busy airport....”

“There are always one or two birds that seems more smart-alecky than the rest, unwilling to wait their turn to feed, challenging with a loud chirp or chit and driving away the more delicate and peaceful of the family Trochilidae. While the chits are infrequent, the soft humming is almost constant. Hummingbird wings move at typically 50 flaps per second. Their hover is distinctive, and they can fly backwards at up to 15 m/s (34 mph). To conserve energy at night they may go into torpor, a state similar to hibernation with a metabolic rate $\frac{1}{15}$ of normal rate.”

When George’s clip is posted, you can find it at thetouchofsound/sounds/hummingbirds-migration-arizona-usa/. It will probably be in the Natural Sounds section. Just visiting this site opens a whole world of sounds that we often take for granted or may never have the chance to hear ourselves.

**By Ann Katzenbach**

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Flat Tire Burns 2,023 Acres
By John Fielding

It all started with a flat tire. A vehicle hauling a pop-up trailer pulled out from the Border Patrol Inspection Station and headed up Highway 83 towards the pass. The tire came off and he was soon driving on his metal rim. Sparks were flying everywhere. Fire was engulfing the wheel well and the undercarriage of the vehicle.

The driver soon realized he had a problem, and looked for a place to pull over. In the meantime the sparks were starting little spot fires along the highway. Realizing there were no pull-offs coming up, he pulled over by the side of the road. The flames were being whipped by the high winds and sparks started igniting the dry grass next to the car. The flames were soon out of control.

That’s how the ‘Oak Tree Fire’ started May 20.

The Border Patrol and firefighters from the Sonoita-Elgin Fire District were the first on the scene. The vehicle fire was quickly extinguished but the grass fire was out of control and heading north east across the foothills of the Coronado National Forest.

Oak trees, manzanita, pinyon pines and junipers were now on fire. The highway was closed by DOT. Emergency crews from Patagonia, Whetstone, Tubac and Green Valley joined the fight. From further away came fire crews from Palominas, Picture Rocks, Pearce and even Eloy.

The Santa Cruz County Emergency Management and the Arizona State Forestry Division came to organize the battle and set up their planning command post at the fairgrounds in Sonita. Firefighters rested and slept overnight at the fairgrounds as the fire continued through the night.

Caterers arrived to feed the weary crews. Some equipment and personnel from Sonoita stayed all night at the fire scene to protect the local residents.

By Sunday, it was all over. 2,023 acres had been burned, which included 1,715 acres of Coronado National Forest, 305 acres of state land, plus private and BLM land. Sonoita-Elgin Fire District Chief Joseph DeWolf and the fairgrounds played an important role in the successful termination of this wildland fire. Local residents were very thankful that their town was spared and that the winds blew northeast and not to the south.
One of Patagonia’s most successful businesses, High Spirits Flutes, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Originally based in California, the business moved to Patagonia in 1996. Owner Odell Borg says that “the climate, the grasslands, the mesquite groves, the wildlife, and the community” that drew him here have inspired many of the flutes he sells today.

From its origins as a primarily Native American tribal instrument, the native flute has grown in popularity and become a mainstream musical instrument, used in nearly every form of music. The craftsmanship of Borg’s flutes—and his business savvy—have contributed to as well as benefited from that evolution.

The High Spirits Flutes website contains a broad selection of flutes and related instruments, a blog with tips and lessons for new players, CDs, and, in honor of the anniversary, a “Flute of the Month” offer, in which selected flutes are available at reduced prices. The anniversary also inspired Borg to write monthly musings on his development as a flute maker. The May entry explains why he attributes the sound quality and durability of his flutes in part to his “unibody” construction method, which eliminates seams that can be affected by moisture, and a boring process he developed that provides greater precision and tonal consistency.

One reason that this type of flute has gained popularity is its relatively short learning curve. Although it is used by experienced musicians who have mastered complex progressions and melodies, the flute can also be played by novices who find that they can produce lovely simple tunes with little or no instruction. At Creative Spirit Artists Gallery in Patagonia, which carries a selection of High Spirits Flutes, it is not unusual to hear someone pick up a flute for the first time and be amazed at the sounds they can produce.

Borg notes that the native flute has also become a part of programs employed by therapists, ministers, and teachers who use it in hospitals, hospice facilities, prison outreach programs, 12-Step recovery programs, retirement homes, and children-at-risk programs. He sees the native flute’s future as one of continuing integration into the world of music, education, healing—and by people who just want to have the joy of music in their lives.

Says Borg, “Its melodic voice engages the heart, brings the joy of musical creation, and touches the spirit of all who play it . . . anything with so much positivity, soul, and power will be with us forever.”

Photo by Walter Andrew

Odell Borg in his work shop

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I have always loved paper pages, cover art, and the heft of a book in my hands. At least twice in my life I thought about opening a book store, but somehow the moment was never quite right. Then, in 2001 I found myself working one winter in a wonderful place that sold used books. It was temporary and part time, but I have never known happier employment.

William James Bookseller in Port Townsend, Washington, was known far and wide in the northwest because it had quality books—lots of them. The owner, a serious, kindly man whose name was Jim Catley, was a bit compulsive, which is a good trait for someone in the used book trade. He was in the store on Tuesdays and Thursdays buying books, but on the other days the shop was entrusted to two women, me being one. Jim came in at night so as to have uninterrupted time shelving the many books he purchased each week. All were alphabetically arranged in their appropriate section—there were thousands and thousands in a large space with 12-foot ceilings. Jim always checked the day’s receipts, and somehow, even with an ever-evolving inventory, he usually knew where every book was.

He never bought books that weren’t in good condition, and he could smell mold and tobacco smoke as soon as a polluted box of books came through the door. He knew important copyright dates and could spot a valuable book, be it about history, religion, boat building, art, fishing, or gardening. Watching him buy books was fascinating. He would go through a box or bag of books, dividing them into three stacks: the ones he wanted to buy, the ones he didn’t want, and the ones he needed to think about or check on the—then nascent—internet. When he’d made his decision, which did not take long, he would offer two prices—one if you wanted store credit, the other if you wanted cash. The store credit amount was higher. Most people in town chose credit, and each of them had an index card on file that showed the waxing and waning of their book credit. People would sometimes stop in just to ask how much credit they had and then go away without getting a book. It was sort of like money in the bank. Then, too, people would just wander off for years on end, some never to return. Their index cards would sit and wait. Jim never tore one up.

If the owner didn’t want to haul away the rejects, we would put them on the sidewalk for anyone to take away. Free! People loved that you could get a free book right in front of a book store. You might find a copy of *Huckleberry Finn* that had been read in the bathtub or a book of amazing photographs by someone you’d never heard of. There were old dictionaries and dog-eared mysteries, dated cookbooks, and many hardback editions that Jim knew wouldn’t sell if the paperback version had been published.

On weekends I opened and closed the store. I vacuumed before I opened and after locking the door each evening, I carefully lined up all the books that had gotten moved about during the day. I have to say that being alone with all those books was sometimes a little spooky. I always put on good dancing music to enliven the silence of the books and the ghosts of their previous lives. During the day I was busy selling books—often way over a hundred a day. Sometimes customers would want to tell me why they were buying a particular book. It was by a writer they loved, or their father would love the book about planes, or a first edition of *Cannery Row* was irresistible. People who came into the bookstore, or picked up a free book on the sidewalk, felt uplifted, thought their day was better because of a book. The gray and chilly days of winter never seemed too bleak when viewed from inside William James Bookseller.

Just before we left Port Townsend, ever-escalating rent and the sale of used books on the internet forced Jim to try to sell the business. For awhile it looked hopeless, but at the last minute, a man who loved books and didn’t care so much about the bottom line, came forward and saved this special place. It is still doing business, not a small feat in these electronic times. If you are ever in Port Townsend, be sure to pay a visit.
Much is made of this town’s sociability, and nowhere is it more evident than at the post office: a town center of sorts. You’re almost sure to meet someone you know. Before you’ve finished greeting him or her, another friend or two show up. It’s not uncommon for small groups to hang around, catching up on what’s new, especially the gray-haired crowd who don’t have too much else to do. Putting that bench in the lobby was an act of social genius. If you’re not in a hurry, you can spend hours schmoozing, even if you really only came to get your mail.

And then there’s the bulletin board, a steaming trough of information, ranging from upcoming clinics, classes, concerts and dances to notifications of town business, job opportunities (scant), and more. There are ads for bicycles, bedpans, trenchers and tractors, homes for rent, homes for sale, firewood, house and pet-sitting gigs, yoga retreats, etc., many with those cute little tear-off phone number tabs to help you call later, from home, but more likely discovered weeks afterward, crumpled in a corner of your wallet, when you can stare at them without memory or comprehension.

It is surprising, then, in the midst of this heart-warming scene, to find artifacts of small-mindedness or bigotry. Several times, over the years, I’ve come upon racist, inflammatory literature purposefully set out on the sorting tables or on the bulletin board. The target has always been either Jews or Mexicans. This week’s offering, a modest, brown paper square of 2.5 inches, tacked to the bulletin board apparently was clipped from an old newspaper:

Pretty scary, huh? After 95 years, they’re still at it! Circle the wagons! No less of an authority than Sacha Baron Cohen, in his scholarly treatise Borat, instructs that Jews, like cockroaches, can squeeze through openings as small as one quarter of an inch. OMG, no one’s safe!

There are young crazies and old crazies. It’s safe to presume that this particular villain is a senior bigot, though. Jews? Communists?1920? How old-fashioned is that? The world’s moved on to ISIS, doncha know? Would someone please wake grandpa up, he’s drooling on his shirt!

Bigotry is the low, dank swamp where fools and desperadoes dwell. There’s something pathetic about those who, in order to feel good about themselves, need someone on whom to look down. If you’ve got to be racist at all, Mr. Zit, at least target individual Blacks, Jews, Mexicans, or Unitarians who have done something specific to earn your contempt. Your one-size-fits-all tar applicator identifies you as a dunce. Please, learn to love yourself a little more. Perhaps, then, you won’t feel the need to slander other folks.

Discerning readers may know from his name, ample snout and rabbinical beard (see photo) that this writer, himself, is a Jew. Quelle surprise! You can use that quaint fact to dismiss everything he has said, if you are so inclined. Although, if you do, your logic’s circular, a little like that timeworn gag we heard in grammar school: (Q) “Why do elephants paint their testicles red?” (A) So they can hide in apple trees.”Have you ever seen an elephant in an apple tree?” “No, never.” “See? It works !!”
The Plate

by Cassina Farley

Patagonians like to party. There seems to be a party every weekend in some way or another and the invite always reads “potluck.” There’s a few folks who bring their “A” game and some folks not so much (you know who you are). As a matter of fact, did you know the infamous quinoa-kale salad was born right here at a Patagonia potluck? (OK, not really but it seems plausible). So needless to say, I’ve attended my fair share of potlucks, do my best to bring my “A” game and I even have a plate for it. This plate is the ugliest plate I own, given to me as a gift by a well-meaning friend and there’s a reason I won’t describe it. I have been running from it for years.

When I received this plate I immediately decided this would become my potluck plate. I could take my goodies to the party and not care if it ever came back to me. It always comes back. I have taken this plate to what seems like hundreds of parties, memorial services and weddings with the intention of leaving it behind and with any luck, never seeing it again only to find it sitting all washed and clean on the seat of my truck or handed to me by some well-wisher.

Why not break the plate or give it away you might ask? Well, some time ago, it became a game. How long could I run from this plate? How long before it found me? It took a week and a half one time and I was sure it was gone. Then I got the phone call, “Hello, Cassina, I have your plate. Can I drop it by your house later?” Are you kidding me? I thought I was so careful. I do the check list in my head: came in the back door. Check. wrapped the entire plate in tin foil to disguise plate. Check. took no credit for delicious brownies. Check. Somehow the plate comes back. On its last outing it proved to have supernatural powers. (The details of this event have not been exaggerated.) After following all proper plate protocol (see check list above), I deposited the plate on the potluck table and made my way to my chair. To be extra certain no one would connect me to the plate, I didn’t eat. Furthermore, I made no eye contact with the plate as I exited the building approximately one hour later. After the first week I was sure it would return and as week two closed in I had actually forgotten about it which makes this next part even creepier. I was alone, closing up the art center after an evening performance. As I walked through the building, turning off lights and straightening up chairs, there it was, sitting on a bench. It knew where I worked. To say I was uncomfortable standing there with that plate, in the dark, is an understatement. I took it home and marveled at how it had once again found me.

Last week I went to a party and of course I took the plate. The plate likes to go to parties. It does not like to get left behind. Point taken. (Cue spooky music)

A Study In Misrepresentation

by Kathy Noaker

Wildcat Silver Corporation’s latest news release states that as a result of it’s recent drilling operations on its private land in the Patagonia Mountains it has found significant zinc-lead-silver sulfide mineralization. On May 13, an article in the Bulletin referred to that zone of mineralization as a “significant high-grade ore body”. But a zone of mineralization and a high-grade ore body are two different things. Unlike a solid ore body, (highly concentrated mineralized rock), mineralized zones are intervals of mineral-bearing rocks within areas of rock containing little or no minerals.

In Wildcat’s press release, they show drill depths of this mineralized zone ranging from 500 - 3400 feet, and within that range, there are zones with little to no minerals present or the grade is too insignificant to have value. The disadvantage of mining mineralized zones is that a lot more rock has to be processed. That means higher costs, lower return per ton of rock, and a lot more waste rock dumped into Corral and Goldblauam Canyons. Referring to a mineralized zone as a high-grade ore body suggests a promising outcome for Wildcat’s investors, but is very misleading. It harkens back to the call, “Thar’s gold in them there hills!”

In the same Bulletin article it also stated that “Wildcat representatives have said in the past that "area residents should support its plan of operations, mainly because of the hydrological study the mining company plans to conduct and even pay for." This hydrological study comprises numerous drill holes that surround the proposed project area. The study will determine water flow rates, depth and quantity. This information might be useful to add to a complete study of the Town of Patagonia’s watershed, which comprises over 80,000 acres. However, in and of itself, the study’s data would not be sufficient to contribute to a comprehensive analysis of the town’s watershed. Wildcat Silver is doing this hydrological study because they need the data for the Mine Plan of Operation that they have to file with the US Forest Service in order to move forward with their open pit mine.

Wildcat’s claims about its recent discovery of high grade ore are farfetched and say nothing about the cost of extracting these deposits. In much the same way they have promoted the hydrological study by saying it will serve Patagonia, when, it too, will provide no more than a small piece of the watershed picture.

Wildcats’ tendency to provide disingenuous information in order to boost investment capital is not unlike many other companies who make unrealistic claims about their product in order to boost sales. Informed consumers protect their interests by reading the fine print.
After nearly seven years sitting idle, Patagonia's Misión San Miguel will again open its doors.

The forerunner of the Misión was built in 1915 as a private home. In the 1930s it became a cowboy tavern, where an occasional patron would ride his horse through the front doors and fire a few bullets into the ceiling. For many years it operated as the Big Steer Saloon, earning a reputation as a rowdy bar with good dance music.

The Big Steer closed in 2001. In 2004 it was purchased by Cecilia San Miguel, who also owns and operates Velvet Elvis Pizza. She restored and rebuilt the structure, adding a concert stage, interior court with fountain, wine cellar and long bar, murals and antique architectural elements, all of which contributed to a uniquely appealing atmosphere. Its exterior appearance was transformed from cowboy saloon to Spanish mission.

La Misión opened in 2004 and once again became a popular place for locals, as well as patrons who came from as far as Green Valley and Tubac to enjoy the live music offered on weekends—including rock, flamenco, and blues groups from Tucson. But the business did not succeed financially and closed in 2008. The closure was a disappointment for many town residents, who enjoyed the musical performers, the striking murals, and the long, welcoming bar. Now, San Miguel is hoping to breathe new life into the landmark structure she restored, with scheduled events once again centered around musical performances.

The first will feature “flamenco nouveau” guitarist Robert Earl Longley. Longley, who refers to his style as “old world exotic, Latin, funk, blues, and Americana,” will perform songs chosen from his ten albums. His music has been described as “powerful, passionate and memorable.”

In addition to Longley, Dan Simonis, host of Arizona’s Americana Music Festival and the man behind the West Texas Millionaires, will preview tunes from his soon to be released new album. Songwriter/guitarist Roger Thoreson will also make an appearance.

The performance will be held on June 13. Doors open at 5 p.m., and food, catered by Velvet Elvis, will be available from 5 to 7 p.m. Beer and wine will also be served. The show will start at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $10.
By the time May’s warmer weather comes around, KPUP Annual Fundraiser Luau always enjoys a good exception. About 100 people, decked out in tropical, which were held at Patagonia Plaza. Inside the courtyard, they gathered at tables, conversing and enjoying cocktails from the bar, until the food line opened. The menu included chicken skewers, asian salad, beans, and a coconut dessert. After dinner and an introduction by KPUP Director Jeff Latham, The Flashbacks took the stage, and the dance floor was soon filled. This year’s luau, combined with sales of Hawaiian shirts the two previous weekends, brought a little over $6,000 into KPUP’s coffers. The station hopes to use these funds to renovate and expand its production space.
everyone is ready for an outdoor party, and the KPUP Annual Fundraiser Luau always enjoys a good attendance. This year's event on May 9 was no exception. About 100 people, decked out in tropical shirts and flowers, attended the festivities. In the courtyard, they gathered at tables, conversing and enjoying cocktails from the bar, until the food line opened. The menu included pulled pork, chicken skewers, asian salad, beans, and a coconut lemon cake from Ovens of Patagonia for dessert. Director Jeff Latham, The Flashbacks took the stage, and the dance floor was soon filled. This year's luau, combined with sales of Hawaiian shirts the two previous weekends, brought a little over $6,000 into KPUP's coffers. The station hopes to expansion space.
www.LaFronteraAZ.com

Homes, Land & Ranch Properties throughout Sonoita, Elgin, Patagonia, Lake Patagonia, Tubac & the extended environs of Santa Cruz County

23 SONOITA DRIVE (Redrock Acres) at the SE edge of PATAGONIA

Red Rock retreat w/innumerous rural & village benefits & custom features. C.1987, a 3,972sf architect-designed modernist home atop 5 acres; a find for its integrity! 3Be/2.5Ba main res + attached/separate 2Be, 1Ba guest qtrs w/sit. area, kitchenette & patio. Beautiful pool/garden areas fully fenced; artist's studio w/patio; 2-car garage. TAR/MLS #21426634, $439,000

14 JANE LANE in SONOITA

Impeccable Santa Fe Contemporary w/in easy walking-bicycling distance of restaurants & area festivities; premier wineries are just beyond. Master-built, gracious 2,477sf split-plan (on 1.75ac) includes 3Be/3Ba/GrtRm, FamRm, Den/2G; gourmet Kitchen; concrete flrs, soaring ceilings, o/s windows, designer details t/o. A tremendous home/value.

TAR/MLS #21512178, $429,000

18 JANE LANE in SONOITA

Impeccable Santa Fe Contemporary w/in easy walking-bicycling distance of restaurants & area festivities; premier wineries are just beyond. Master-built, gracious 2,534sf split-plan (on 1.75ac) w/2Be/2Ba/2G + GuestQtrs-Studio w/Ba & pvt entry. Chef's Kitchen w/island; concrete flrs, soaring ceilings, o/s windows, designer details. A tremendous home/value.

TAR/MLS #21512182, $429,000

23 SONOITA DRIVE (Redrock Acres) at the SE edge of PATAGONIA

Red Rock retreat w/innumerous rural & village benefits & custom features. C.1987, a 3,972sf architect-designed modernist home atop 5 acres; a find for its integrity! 3Be/2.5Ba main res + attached/separate 2Be, 1Ba guest qtrs w/sit. area, kitchenette & patio. Beautiful pool/garden areas fully fenced; artist's studio w/patio; 2-car garage. TAR/MLS #21426634, $439,000

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TAR/MLS #21512182, $429,000
LIBRARY NOTES

By Janet Winans

A Summer Event

The Friends of the Library are pleased to announce that they will be hosting an author event showcasing H. Alan Day and Lynn Wiese Sneyd. The two wrote *The Horse Lover: A Cowboy’s Quest To Save the Wild Mustangs*, his story of turning a 35,000-acre ranch in South Dakota into a government-sponsored sanctuary for 1,500 wild mustangs and 2,000 head of cattle. For 40 years Day has managed the 200,000-acre Lazy B cattle ranch in Arizona and New Mexico, where he grew up (as did his sister, retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor). He then acquired the acreage in South Dakota that became Mustang Meadows Ranch. In 2014 the University of Nebraska Press published *The Horse Lover*, recounting his venture. The book has been selected as 2014 Southwest Book of the Year and also received the New Mexico-Arizona Book Award for Best Memoir.

On Saturday, July 18, the Friends will host the two authors at a book talk and dinner at the Spirit Tree Inn. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. and the talk at 7. There will be a traditional chuck wagon meal, including carne asada and vegetarian options. A portion of the proceeds will go to help support Day’s Mustang Rescue Project at Mustang Meadows Ranch. A limited number of tickets will be sold in advance for $50.00 per person. If a storm rolls in, the event time will be adjusted accordingly.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jill and Alex Johnson for their winning submission of a logo for Patagonia’s Semilloteca. Watch for our seed lending library logo, as it will signify coming gardening programs, identify our forthcoming Community Garden plots, and appear on our seed envelopes. If you plan to plant a summer garden, please stop by the library and select your free, locally adapted seed from our varied circulating collection.

ABOVE: The winning entry for Patagonia’s Semilloteca logo, submitted by Jill and Alex Johnson

Rising To The Challenge of Vivaldi

by Reed Mencke

When Christina Wilhelm told me that the Santa Cruz Singers would perform Vivaldi’s Gloria in D major, I had contrasting emotions. Mostly, I felt delight. The Gloria is one of the most beautiful compositions in the classical choral repertoire. It is one of my favorite pieces of music. I knew I would deeply enjoy working on it, and I knew Christina would make it a comfortable, enjoyable experience.

But, along with delight also came a bit of terror. Could we produce a convincingance of this challenging masterpiece? A community chorus like Santa Cruz Singers is open to anyone who likes to sing. Therefore, no one had to “try out,” prove they had a great voice, or demonstrate that they read music. We all just showed up for the first rehearsal. While we have a few members who might be considered semiprofessional musicians, for the most part we are just people who love to sing and have sung in other nonprofessional choral groups, such as church choirs.

The first rehearsal was pretty horrible. Christina put on the orchestral accompaniment, and we did our best to sing the piece. Our best was far from good enough. We missed entrances, sang many bad notes, and sometimes got so lost that we had to stop the recording and start over. When I’m struggling with new music I tend to bellow. The poor alto in front of me actually had to ask me to sing more softly so she could hear herself. “Sorry, can’t do it today,” I apologized.

Christina was unruffled by our cacophony. “Now you know what you need to work on,” she said. “Go home and practice with your CD.”

I missed the next two rehearsals because of illness. When I returned the difference was amazing. We sang the first movement, and it was actually pretty good. People were getting their notes. That included the guy next to me, who does not read music but learns his part by rote. To my surprise, he was getting just about all of his notes. Christina congratulated the group on the hard work they had done at rehearsal and at home. It seemed that the Santa Cruz Singers were on a roll!

By dress rehearsal we knew it would be a good performance. The chorus felt secure with the notes, and all were working hard to get their eyes out of their music. The soloists (all members of the chorus) were singing some pretty difficult music and doing it convincingly. Christina was busy making music, and we were her instrument. She was getting convincing changes of dynamics, cleaning up a few entrances, putting on the polish.

And then on May 7 we performed in front of a full house at Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church in Sonoita. The audience offered the kind of support you only get from good friends and, in this case, the welcoming congregation of Our Lady of the Angels. I savored every note of Vivaldi’s beautiful composition and felt pleased with our group’s accomplishment.

This fall we will do it all again. If you love to sing good music please consider joining the Santa Cruz Singers! Call 520-394-0129 for information.
Patagonia Visitors Center
Featured on NPR

Patagonia's new Visitor Center was recently featured on National Public Radio through Arizona Public Media. In the short segment, reporter/producer Tony Paniagua interviewed PRT coeditor Ann Katzenbach, who talked about the way that the center has become a hub for information and noted that by recording the number of visitors who come in with questions, and inquiring as to where they are visiting from, the center has established just how many people come to Patagonia as tourists—from all parts of the United States and abroad. The segment can be found online at https://news.azpm.org/p/state-and-local/2015/5/20/64199-town-of-patagonia-opens-center-to-draw-visitors/

Conference On Aging

SEAGO Area Agency on Aging will hold the Region 6 Conference on Aging “Respecting our Aging in 2015” on Saturday, June 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In partnership with the Desert Southwest Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association, the conference will feature Terri Waldman, Director of Geropsych at Tucson Medical Center, presenting “Alzheimer’s Behaviors and Communication” and Kelly Raach, Southern Arizona Regional Director for the Alzheimer’s Association Desert Southwest Chapter, presenting “Alzheimer’s; The Basics”. The afternoon agenda includes brief presentations from the SEAGO Area Agency on Aging Ombudsman, Matter of Balance/Healthy Living, and the SHIP/SMP program coordinators, with a lively panel discussion at the end of the day.

The focus groups for our conference will be caseworkers, caregivers, their families, and the general public.

An invitation has been extended to groups and organizations in all four counties of our region so space will be limited. There is no registration fee for this conference but we are asking that organizations wishing to set up an information table bring a door prize for our participants. We will list all participating organizations in our conference program.

To register for this conference, go to http://conference-on-aging.everbrite.com.

I went on a walk that Red and I take, came just this close to squashing a snake.
It was right by my foot, giant and pink and I had a quarter second to think whether the place was sufficiently rural that I could scream out like a scared little girl, decided against it; you know how folks talk, and emitted a rather more dignified squawk.

— Tom Ballard
The production of Charlotte’s Web involved youngsters from many educational sources - public schools to home schools. Directed by Anita Clovesko-Wharton and Laura Wenzel, the play is the story of friendship and sacrifice. Charlotte, the spider, gave an exemplary performance.

AT TOP: Madeline McGuire as Fern; BELOW: The play’s cast members
Jan McDonald is a Tucson artist who has spent a lot of time in Patagonia. She has ridden in the Fourth of July parade, in connection with the Patagonia Library, for the past 15 years with her sons and nieces, and she did the artwork for a Patagonia movie that’s being made by her friend Pat Watrous and Michele Gisser.

The exhibit will include several portraits of local ranchers. Jan says, “I’ve drawn and painted portraits much of my life. Recently, many of them have been older people with a lot of character and expression. When I retired, I wanted to paint as much as possible from life but found it hard to make that work with portraits. Pat Watrous, a Patagonia resident, knows a number of local ranchers and suggested setting up portrait sessions where I could paint from life. Sonny [McCusitol] offered his beautiful ranch house and sat on the porch for several sessions. His friends Christie, Carrel, and Bailey also posed, and everyone enjoyed some good wine and cheese and conversation. They were all gracious and wonderful to me, and I’m very grateful to Pat and them for giving me the opportunity.”

McDonald got a degree in studio art about 25 years ago. She says, “I was a realist artist in a sea of abstract expressionist teachers, and finished school with absolutely no sense that I could make a living at art. I became a drafter, a drafting instructor, a parent, and finally a graphic designer and engineering illustrator for Pima County”

As time went by, the need to return to art became overwhelming, and McDonald retired in 2011 to pursue it full time. She says her main goal right now is to work at her art, but she has begun to show her paintings and recently had a show at the Tucson Main Library. She was born and raised in Tucson, where she still lives, and says that much of her work is about the light and character of the city, for which she feels a strong connection.

An exhibit of paintings by Jan McDonald will be on view at the Gathering Grounds from July 1 through June 30. An opening reception will be held on July 2, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Ovens of Patagonia will be hosting Open Mic at the Plaza de Patagonia on Friday evenings during the summer. Running from 6-8 pm on most Fridays, the mic is open to all. Whether you want to make music, tell jokes, recite poetry, perform a monologue, or even give a speech, you can sign up for your 10 minutes of fame at the Ovens of Patagonia. This is a family friendly event so keep it clean!
On June 30, at 7 p.m., the Patagonia Library will host a POV Summer Documentary, *Tea Time*, by Maite Alberdi Soto. The film depicts five Chilean women, whose monthly gathering has sustained them through 60 years of personal and societal change.

*Tea Time* looks at how a seemingly mundane routine of tea and pastries has helped its well-heeled participants commemorate life's joys and cope with infidelity, illness and death. A celebration of the small things that help us endure, *Tea Time*, filmed over five years, illuminates a beautiful paradox: As familiar worlds slip away, friendships grow ever stronger and more profound.

On Tuesday, June 23, Author Chuck Kelly will preview his recently published book, *Poverello: A Novel Of Saint Francis of Assisi*, at 2 p.m. in the Patagonia Library.

Set in 1262, his book is a fictionalized account, based on historical evidence, of the life of Saint Francis. A young monk pursues the story of the saint's life, knowing that writing anything outside of the church's official version will bring punishment. A lifetime companion of the saint recounts the story of Saint Francis's life, from the time his spiritual odyssey begins, and the memories of this companion differ significantly from the 'authorized' biography. The reader learns why this saint's life has inspired people for a staggering eight centuries.
### meetings

**The Patagonia Museum** - Regular meetings w/ topics incl. local history; hwys. cleanups, & wkdays. For info, visit www.thepatagoniamuseum.org

**AA** - Patagonia Comm. Ctr., Sun., 8 a.m.; Sonoita Bible Church, Tues., 7:30 p.m.; Pat. Methodist Church, Fri., 7:30 p.m.

**Al-Anon** - Wed. at 6 p.m., Sonoita Hills Comm. Church, 52 Elgin Rd., just off Hwy 83; Info: 237-8091

**CHOP (Community Homes of Patagonia, Inc.)** - Board Meeting 3rd Monday at 6 p.m. in the Patagonia Town Council Room Chambers.

**Patagonia Town Council** - 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Town Council Hall.

**Rotary Club** - 1st Thurs., 7 a.m. at Patagonia H.S.; All others at Kef Joshua winery, 6 p.m. (520) 907-5829

**San Rafael Community 4-H Club** - 2nd Mon. at the Patagonia Methodist Church, Thurber Hall at 5:30 p.m. Tami @455-5561.

### community services

**Lunch for Seniors** - Fresh-cooked meals, Mon. - Fri. at the Community Center. Tuesday is Pie Day! Try the Thursday Special!

**Sr. Citizens of Patagonia Van Service** - Medical transportation available Mon. - Fri. for seniors & disabled to Sierra Vista, Tucson, Gr.Valley & No-gales. By appt. only. 394-2494

**Patagonia Food Bank** - Community Center; 2nd Wednesday of the month, 9-11 a.m.

**Patagonia Methodist Church Thrift Shop** - Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - noon.

**Angel Wings Thrift & Gift Shop** Our Lady of the Angels Mission Catholic Church, 12 Los Encinos Rd, Sonoita. Thurs-Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Info: 455-5262

### events

**June 5 - August 30: Open Mic at the Plaza de Patagonia**; from 6-8 pm on most Fridays. Make music, tell jokes, recite poetry, perform a monologue, or even give a speech; sign up at the Ovens of Patagonia. This is a family friendly event so keep it clean.


**June 11-14 Quarter Horse Show** at Sonoita Fairgrounds. Sonoitafairgrounds.com

**June 13: National Get Outdoors Day** at Parker Canyon Lake, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; free games, fishing, simulations, live reptiles.

**June 13: Robert Longley, Flamenco Guitar** at La Misión San Miguel, with other performers. Doors open at 5 p.m., food will be available from 5 to 7, beer and wine will also be served. Show starts at 7:30. Tickets are $10. See ad on p. 13 for details.

**June 17: The Cosmos, You and Asteroids**; Astronomer Michael Schwartz will talk about the universe, the solar system, and his work with asteroids, at 6 p.m. in the Tin Shed Theater.


**June 27: Annual Patagonia Fire Dept. Steak Fry**; Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Patagonia Park; Dinner is $15; raffle, auction, live music by ’Night Life’; raffle tickets are $1 or 6/$5. Call (520) 394-2936 or 394-2337 for more info.

**June 30: Tea Time**; by Maite Alberdi Soto, a Summer Documentary at the Patagonia Library. Screening at 7p.m. See p. 21 for details.

### special interests

**June 1 - 30: 30 Day Fitness Program**; 22 classes, Monday - Friday, at 7 a.m. for all fitness levels; Dr. Liliane Papin. (520) 559-1791


**June 26: Hey, What’s Cookin’?**; Recipe exchange group at Patagonia Library at 2 p.m.

**June 10 - July 29: Early Child Reading Program** with Laura Wenzel at Patagonia Library from 9 - 10 a.m.; Age birth to 6, with caregiver. Snacks provided. Call 394-2010 for more info.

**Yoga for Seniors** - Mondays, 8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. at Ecobody Acupuncture in the Patagonia Plaza, Patagonia. $10. (520) 559-1731.

**Community Acupuncture Clinic** - Call Dr. Papin at (520) 559-1731.

**Adult Art Classes** - at the Patagonia Art Center, Thursdays, 2 - 4 p.m.; Figure Drawing: first Thursdays of the month. 394-9369.

**Art Makers** - After school art classes, ages 5-12; Tuesdays. Call Cassina @ 394-9369 for info.

**Adult hand-building ceramics classes** Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m. $65 Call 604-0300

**Bikram Yoga** - Patagonia; call 520-604-7283.

**Bingo** - St. Theresa Parish Hall, Patagonia, 1st & 3rd Mondays at 6 p.m. - 455-5681

**Crossroads Quilters** - Sonoita Fire Dept., 2nd & 4th Mondays at 9 a.m.; call (520) 732-0453.

**Open Tennis** - PUHS, Tues. & Thurs. at 5 p.m., Sat. at 8 a.m., Call 394-2973 for info.


**Sonoita Plant Parenthood Gardening Club** - contact clarebonelli@gmail.com.
Residents living near this wall on Duquesne Avenue grew tired of seeing the graffiti that had been sprayed there, so they did a little spraying of their own.

Patagonia Regional Times will take it’s annual break in July, and will not be printing an issue that month. Our July/August issue will be on the stands August 1.
“The centennial celebration of the Sonoita Races this year was the biggest and best ever,” says Jim Cosby, president of the fairgrounds. “Thanks go out to the co-chairmen Deborah Fellows and Diane Collins and all the volunteers.”

The first weekend in May, large crowds filled the fairgrounds to capacity. Adding more betting stations and a new beer garden made their stay more enjoyable. The Turf Club was sold out. Over 5,000 cans of beer were sold. The weather was great despite a few minutes of rain.

Sixteen exciting horse races filled the two-day celebration. Two new special races presented this year included the “Wounded Warrior Race” to focus attention on our wounded vets and their families, and the “Race of the Eagles,” that pitted three horses each from Mexico and the U.S. against each other.

The Sonoita races are always scheduled to coincide with the running of the Kentucky Derby in Louisville, Kentucky. This year the favorite, and the winner, was American Pharaoh. The thoroughbred was trained by Nogales native Bob Baffert. Locally, people bet $36,000 on the derby and a large crowd of betters lined up after the race to cash in their winnings.

The attendance count and the financial gains of the races haven’t yet been calculated, but there is no doubt that this centennial celebration of the races was the best yet.
Pastor Carlson Retires

Pastor Chuck Carlson of the Sonoita Hills Community Church retires this month after serving twelve years as their pastor.

During that time he faithfully fulfilled his calling and saw his congregation increase in size and importance in the community.

He has also been instrumental in presenting the annual Hero Sunday celebration, the Shoebox gifts at Christmas and monthly serving at the Crossroads Mission in Nogales. Pastor Carlson also served the community as Chaplain for both the Sonoita-Elgin Fire District and the local Rotary Club, and was chaplain for the Santa Cruz County Faith Based Emergency Response Team.

Chuck Carlson was born in Nebraska in 1947, the son of a minister. He graduated from North Dakota State University in 1969, then took graduate studies at Iowa State. At that time he married his sweetheart, Elaine. He graduated from the Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Illinois in 1982.

In 1985, he and Elaine discovered that Arizona was to be their final destination and moved to Sierra Vista. Pastor Chuck began serving local congregations and starting new churches. In 2003 they formed the Sonoita church and have been there ever since. Throughout the years, Elaine Carlson has assisted her husband at the Church and working at Buena High School.

Fortunately for the community, Pastor Carlson and Elaine do not plan to leave the area. Elaine continues her work at Buena and Pastor Chuck will continue serving the community in various chaplaincy responsibilities. He will also be able to find time for his favorite hobby—golf.

Pastor Carlson’s last sermon at the Sonoita Hills Community Church will be Sunday, June 28 at 10 am. The public is invited to a farewell celebration of his ministry at 11 a.m. that same day.

John Flynn To Serve As Fire District Administrator

With the recent resignation of four of the five Sonoita-Elgin Fire District Board members, the board lacked a quorum which put the governance of the fire district in limbo. The County Board of Supervisors was called in by law and appointed an administrator to replace the fire district board.

The supervisors searched the state and selected John Flynn as the administrator to replace the fire district’s board of directors. He will serve as the board until general elections are held in November of 2016.

Flynn is the managing principal member of Policy Logic, LLC, a consulting firm. He lives in the Scottsdale area. He has 30 years experience as a firefighter and in providing special administrator duties to various fire districts when needed.

Flynn received exceptional praise for delivering superior services when he was fire chief of the Apache Junction Fire District. He also served as an interim administrator to the White Mountain Lake Fire District in Navajo County. In addition he has served on the Board of Directors of the Arizona Fire District Association.

The new administrator received a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Arizona State University and has had additional education in management and fire science. Chief Joseph DeWolf believes Flynn is fully qualified to be the administrator of the Fire District for the next 18 months.

Until November 2016, Flynn will have full board authority and will be compensated $1,500 per month plus expenses. He will be commuting to Sonoita monthly to preside over meetings with the fire chief to administer the district. Additional information is available from the fire district at 520-455-5854.

Two new members have been appointed to the fairground board to fill open positions. With the passing of George Masic and the resignation of Roland Cowan, the board added Kristin Tomlinson and Dean Fish.

Nine volunteers from the America-Corps organization are now in Sonoita spending ten days working on projects to improve the fairgrounds. They will be cleaning up the grounds and painting the grandstands as well as renovating and painting the interior of Pioneer Hall and Gardner Hall. The 4-H barns will also be upgraded. This government-funded volunteer organization, often called the "domestic Peace Corps," will be in Santa Cruz County for 12 weeks and will finish their term in Patagonia and Tubac.

The next big event at the Fairgrounds is the Versatility Ranch Horse Competition on June 11 and the three-day Quarter Horse Show on June 12-14.

More information is always available on Facebook at sonoita.fair.grounds1 and on the web at www.sonoita.fairgrounds.com.
Last year the Patagonia Regional Times felt that George Masek should be one of our citizens of the year for the many ways in which he had contributed to the local community over decades. George said he would rather not be publicly recognized. For those who knew him, this desire to be outside the limelight was a lifelong part of his character.

After Masek's death in April at the age of 88, Leonard Anderson, his stepson, found a hoard of photographs he had never seen. He put together a slide show for Masek's memorial event at the fairgrounds on May 16. There were images of Masek as an enlisted man in the US Navy in World War II and as a US Army officer during the Korean war. It turned out that Masek had acted the part of a cowboy in a Walt Disney film, Horse of the West. He was a talented polo player, and at his Sonoita home, Grass Ridge Farm, he and his late wife, Nina, organized fox hunts with a pack of hounds, English riding costumes, and a jackrabbit or coyote substituting for the fox as prey. It seemed that throughout his life George Masek smiled and enjoyed whatever came as his way.

George and Nina were probably best known for the Grass Ridge Horse Trials that took place at their farm annually for 46 years. The trials brought competitive riders from near and far. Eight years ago the event added horse and cart competitions, including teams of miniature horses. Emily Riney, who catered the three-day event each year, says it took an enormous amount of organization and many volunteers but was always well planned and executed. Masek's family have decided not to carry this tradition forward, saying, "It's simply too much work."

The people who spoke at Masek's memorial service described a man who loved and had a special way with horses, dogs, and people. "He was the most comfortable person in his own skin I've ever met," said one friend.

It was news to Kathy Massey's daughter, Amanda, and other family members to read in Facebook memorial tributes about Kathy's fame on the dance floor. The dance stories continued to roll in during the celebration of life service held for the popular Patagonia resident. One very tall female friend recalled how tiny Kathy, almost a foot shorter, insisted in one dance on being "the man." Another woman stepped up to add that Kathy was the best "man" she had ever danced with.

Kathy, 61, was also someone friends remembered as impossible to beat at Scrabble or ping-pong. She had townspeople dropping off interesting bugs to the point that her fridge became full of insect specimens. She was full of mischief, as when she introduced her longtime partner to the local pastor with a sly, "This is Harry. He's an atheist." And she was overflowing with kindness and mothering, generously offering advice, even when not solicited, as many friends laughingly noted.

Kathy's direct and sincere warmth from the heart drew circles of friends around her after she arrived with Harry Hower in Patagonia 15 years ago. During this time, she also attracted appreciative customers who requested special orders when she was manager of the Gathering Grounds, or who called in for color advice when she was an assistant at Green Planet Paints, or who excitedly shared their health results with her when she was administrative assistant at BalancePoint.

Family came from across the country, and a variety of friends from Tucson joined in these memories and chuckles, emceed by Jacques Sennyey at the gathering held in the labyrinth courtyard at the Patagonia Community Church. It was a fitting spot, as it was built by Kathy's partner, Harry, local master mason, firefighter and EMT. Pre-Patagonia stories were told of how Kathy Jo Masterson Massey grew up in a family of eight children in Indiana and then moved to Tucson, where she and her husband, Tony, were raising two young daughters and a son when Tony, a Vietnam vet, died of Agent Orange disease.

Perhaps a fellow Patagonian summed it up best: "Kathy went full tilt into whatever she was doing. If she was going to dance, she danced till she dropped." The friend compared her to Icarus, who in Greek myth soared toward the sun before falling when the wax melted from the feathered wings he fashioned. It’s not the fall, but the determined flight we remember and will miss.
JUNE 2

**ADOPTABLE PETS OF THE MONTH**

**BERNADETTE**

Bernadette is a gorgeous ball of fluff with a charming personality to match. This 3 year-old diva was found in a yard raising her kittens. Now that all of them have been adopted, Bernadette is looking for her furever home. Somewhat shy at first, Bernadette warms up to people quickly and is used to living with other cats.

**REBA**

It’s Reba’s time to find a family! This elegant, shiny, and submissive 3 year-old lab mix has blossomed after 6 months of training from one of our volunteer trainers. Reba is great with kids and most other dogs and has beautiful, sparkling eyes. Take her hiking then let her crawl into bed with you; she’s that sweet!

Adoption fees include spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, and microchip (dogs only). Other adoptable pets at santacruzhumanesociety.org.

**SANTA CRUZ HUMANE SOCIETY**

232 E. Patagonia Hwy 82, Nogales 287-5654

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**SUNOITA HOME FOR RENT - 2 BD/2BTH. All appliances, W & D, front & back yards. $900/mo. 520-400-2949.**

**ROOMS FOR RENT at a 4 bd. ranch home on 52 acres, 6 m. east of Patagonia. $300. Call Fritz at 480 215 1907**

**SUNOITA SELF STORAGE**

Monthly rental - 5x10,10x10, 10x20; call Ginny at 520-455-9333 or 455-4641.

**ANIMAL CARE – daily, wkly, overnights; livestock, dogs, cats, goats. Home security checks. Local references. 520-780-8412**

**KINO BAY Mexico Budget Vacation Home, by the sea, for rent or sale (520) 265-3055**

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**HOUING RENTALS**

**SUNOITA HOME FOR RENT - 2 BD/2BTH. All appliances, W & D, front & back yards. $900/mo. 520-400-2949.**

**ROOMS FOR RENT at a 4 bd. ranch home on 52 acres, 6 m. east of Patagonia. $300. Call Fritz at 480 215 1907**

**SUNOITA SELF STORAGE**

Monthly rental - 5x10,10x10, 10x20; call Ginny at 520-455-9333 or 455-4641.

**ANIMAL CARE – daily, wkly, overnights; livestock, dogs, cats, goats. Home security checks. Local references. 520-780-8412**

**KINO BAY Mexico Budget Vacation Home, by the sea, for rent or sale (520) 265-3055**

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**CHURCH SERVICES**

**Patagonia Community/United Methodist Church**

387 McKeown Ave., Patagonia

394-2274  Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

**St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church**

222 Third Ave., Patagonia

394-2954  Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

**St. Andrews Episcopal Church**

Casa Blanca Chapel of Sonoita
Justice of the Peace Courtroom
2nd & 4th Saturdays; 10 a.m.

**Sonoita Bible Church**

3174 N. Highway 83, Sonoita

455-5779  Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.

**Sonora Hills Community Church**

52 Elgin Rd., Sonoita

455-5172  Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

**Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church**

12 Los Encinos Rd., Sonoita

394-2954;  Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

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To place an ad in PRT, call Janie Trafton, Ad Mgr., 520 604-7390 or send your ad to prtads@gmail.com
3 Offices to Serve You

PATAGONIA
520 394-2120
325-A McKeown Ave.  
Next to the Gathering Grounds

SONOITA
Main Office
520 455-5235
Corner of Hwys 82 & 83  
Next to the Post Office

SONOITA
East Office
520 455-4634
NE Corner of Hwys 82 & 83
sonoita.longrealty.com

PATAGONIA
3 Acres w/ great views! 3bd/2ba, den, lg kitchen, sunroom, 2 decks, 2 car garage + 2 carports, landscaped & fencing. 
JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

PRIVATE RETREAT — CANELO HILLS
2144 sf, 3bd/3ba, borders Nat. Forest. Lots of trees on 20 ac, pool, easy access to Parker Canyon Lake & Sierra Vista. 
CAROL FORD 520 604-0162

SAN RAFAEL VALLEY w/IT'S OWN CREEK
Custom home off the grid surrounded by Nat. Forest. 17.6 ac of natural beauty. 2bd/1.5ba, sleeping porch or studio, 2 car garage. 
JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

WAGON RIM ROAD — RAIN VALLEY
MLS # 21500208 REDUCED PRICE!
5 Acres w/ great views! 3bd/2ba, den, lg kitchen, sunroom, 2 decks, 2 car garage + 2 carports, landscaped & fencing. 
JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

PRIVATE RETREAT — CANELO HILLS
MLS# 21220353
2144 sf, 3bd/3ba, borders Nat. Forest. Lots of trees on 20 ac, pool, easy access to Parker Canyon Lake & Sierra Vista. 
CAROL FORD 520 604-0162

SAN RAFAEL VALLEY w/IT'S OWN CREEK
MLS# 21422976
Custom home off the grid surrounded by Nat. Forest. 17.6 ac of natural beauty. 2bd/1.5ba, sleeping porch or studio, 2 car garage. 
JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

PATAGONIA ADOBE REMODEL
MLS# 21417693
Completely remodel w/luxury thru out! Enclosed porch, gourmet kitchen, large master bedroom, en, tiled patio. Built on a bluff w/views & room to add on. 
JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

CHARMING PATAGONIA COTTAGE
MLS# 21433560
Cozy cottage. Lg living rm, cute kitchen, big bedroom w/2 closets. 1bd/1ba casita in back. Nice lot, carport, covered porch. Great commercial location. 
JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

WINE COUNTRY HOME IN SONOITA
MLS# 21510641 ALMOST NEW!
Tucked into the hillside for privacy, built in 2007. 1642 sf, 3bd/2ba, Great Room w/fireplace, high ceilings, wrap around porch, private well, fenced, drip system. 
CHRISTINE SULLIVAN 520 271-2372

CASAS ARROYO HOUSE IN THE TREES
MLS# 21501127
Charming, cozy 3br/2ba. Wrap around deck, fountain, fire pit for great outdoor livings. Greenbelt. Patios on 3 levels. 
SUSAN ABAGNALE 520 260-8139

HIGH ON A HILL ABOVE PATAGONIA
MLS# 21505546
2741 sf, 2bd/2ba. Elegant Great Room, fireplace, courtyard, covered porch & WOW views. 4.9 ac Private yet close to town. 
CAROL FORD 520 604-0162

FLUX CANYON CREEKSIDE HOUSE
MLS# 21509329
Surrounded by oaks. Sunny Great Room, 3 bd, large kitchen, hardwood floors, 2 car garage, workshop. 4+ac w/1.5 available. 
JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

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