PATAGONIA
REGIONAL TIMES

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PATAGONIA 4TH OF JULY
NEEDS YOU!

See page 2
Update On Patagonia 4th of July

Plans are now under way to assure that Patagonia will have its Fourth of July festivities. The only item still needing help is funds for the Patagonia Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company’s fireworks display. Donations to date have reached about two thirds of the $4,600 needed. Donations should be addressed to the Town of Patagonia and marked “4th of July.” They can be dropped off at the town office or mailed to the town at PO Box 767, Patagonia, AZ.

An anonymous donor has already covered the cost of the porta-potties for the event.

Cassina Farley and Boboller-ton are in charge of the parade. They have selected this year’s Parade Marshal, who will be announced at the start of the parade, and a crew of volunteers has come forward to organize the lineup. This year’s parade theme is the Flag of the United States of America. All entries are requested to show the USA Flag. The parade is being sponsored by Pat Gas. Patagonia Fire and Rescue is helping get the word out to the other public service and fire fighting crews that the parade is on and they are welcome. Lineup will start at the high school parking lot at 10 a.m., and the parade starts at 11 a.m.

People who are watching the parade are strongly advised to use restraint in their use of water. Please—no buckets, no throwing water bottles, frozen water, or hard water balloons. If the entry in the parade asks for no water, please honor their request. Adults and children have been injured, and cars and fire trucks damaged, which has lead to groups withdrawing from participating in the parade. Offenders should be aware that if someone gets hurt they might be facing an assault charge and a trip to the county jail.

Each entry in the parade will be asked to register at the parade lineup area so they can be contacted for next year, and well be requested to give a voluntary $10 donation to help with expenses.

The parade can always use more entries. Call the Patagonia Creative Arts Center at 520 394 9369 if you have questions, or just show up at 10 a.m. and be prepared to make the parade route and pace.

DON’T FORGET TO VOTE IN AUGUST!

This Shouldn’t Happen To Lost Pets

A few months ago my cat, Butterfly, got out of my house early in the morning. Butterfly is basically an indoor cat. I couldn’t find her anywhere and looked through the neighborhood where I live on Naugle Avenue. After calling the shelters and searching all over town each day, and posting a notice in the post office, on Saturday I received a call as to what happened to her. Butterfly found her way to a house very close to mine. The people who found her called the marshal to pick her up on Thursday, as he is the local animal control in this area.

A deputy took Butterfly to a house off of San Antonio Road. The owner says that he provides temporary food and shelter for small strays that are picked up. But when Butterfly was dropped off, the owner of the house was not home, and she was just left outside. She was not put inside of his fence, or given food or water.

I immediately started searching for her in that area, and over the following two weeks, with no luck. One can only assume the inevitable occurred.

I was told that another cat was taken to this “safe house” that same week, and has not been seen since.

There has to be a better system put into place in Patagonia to care for animals even before PAL’s kennels get finished. Owners need the right to be able to claim their animals, who as many pet owners know, are intricate parts of the family.

—Shawngela Pierce

EDITOR’S NOTE: The deputy who transported Butterfly says that cats who have no identification are taken to one of several ranches in the area whose owners want cats to keep the mice down. He noted that pet owners have the responsibility to tag or microchip their pets to assure that they can be returned to their owners.
Two New Candidates for Town Council

By Bob Brandt

Town of Patagonia residents will soon have the opportunity to divert some of their focus from the presidential race to the local scene as two new candidates will join incumbents Gilbert Quiroga and Melissa Murrietta in vying for three seats on the town council. The two newly-declared candidates are Michael Stabile and Ron Reibslager.

A ten-year resident of the town, Reibslager is a decorated Marine who served in the Vietnam War. Following his military career, he worked for a large petroleum industry contractor in Northern California where he worked his way up to a position in upper management from which he retired.

Reibslager says he would like to become more involved with the welfare of the town and its future. He believes that he can offer the ability to listen to what people have to say, and to consider town matters with an open mind.

Reibslager believes the top three issues facing the town are the potential environmental effects of nearby mining activity, protection of the town’s water supply, and the impact of illegal drug activity along the border. He says he is not against mining, but is worried about whether it will be done in a manner that respects the area’s beautiful environment and protects the town’s water supply. While drugs are not currently the problem they were a few years ago, he is concerned that the drug problem will return to the town.

Stabile has lived in Patagonia for eight years, works as a subcontractor in body work at the Tree of Life and maintains a private practice as a Certified Rofler. His work experience also includes a 32-year career as a flight attendant. He holds a B.S. degree in geology from City University of New York, where he also completed master’s level courses. He says he is running for town council because, “Patagonia is a wonderful place to live and I care about the town.”

The three most important issues facing the town in Stabile’s view are the creation of sustainable jobs, protection of the town’s water supply and maintaining the quality of life in the community. He cites the low crime rate and the fact that it’s a safe and friendly place to raise a family as reasons for rating the quality of life here so highly.

The election is a non-partisan election. The successful candidates will serve four-year terms beginning in January 2017 and will join Vice-Mayor Andrea Wood and Mayor R. E. (Ike) Isakson on the council. The council meets routinely on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month and are open to the public except when they close meetings to discuss personnel issues.

PRT Is Taking A Three Month Break

The Patagonia Regional Times has been a part of this community for nearly seven years. We who produce the paper think it contributes a lot to the whole region, and we have been glad to volunteer time to keep it going. However, the 100 plus hours we dedicate to its production each month is causing us to wonder whether we can continue.

So, following this issue, Patagonia Regional Times will not be publishing further through September. During that time, we will be assessing whether the newspaper can go forward, and if so, what changes are needed in staff and organization to make it happen.

We hope to involve a committee in that process. If you have a strong interest in helping to insure the future of the PRT, please send your ideas in an email to prteditor@gmail.com.
Kate Ervin and Dave Martin are 21st century gypsies. Their caravan is a trailer, and their horse is a powerful truck. They live on the highways and byways of the United States from California to Maine, Florida to Washington. They have stayed away from the very middle of the country where severe weather makes them wary.

The couple graduated from Patagonia High School a year apart. They were good friends back then, but didn’t get together until Facebook helped them find each other. Serendipitously they are both able to work remotely. Kate has her own transcription business and Dave does architectural work. For them, going to work means moving a short distance into their separate offices in the fifth wheeler they call home. They lived in Patagonia for awhile, adding two blue heelers, Buddy and Chaser, to their household. Three years ago they decided to try traveling, a decision that has freed them from home ownership, 9-5 jobs, commuting, and any repetitive views of familiar scenery. They spend time in interesting places, seeking out water where the dogs can swim, and where the weather is pleasant, like the Florida Keys where they spent last winter.

Their home is small, but laid out to give them each an office space, a working kitchen, bedroom and bath. They recently had solar panels installed on the roof, giving them their own power plant and the freedom to set up camp just about anywhere. They reckon that without having to pay many hookup fees, they will have the panels paid for in a year.

Buddy and Chaser are accustomed to the back seat of the truck. They seem to enjoy travel as much as their owners, and are always excited to get out and investigate new smells.

Both Kate and Dave have friends and relatives all across the country, and they frequently plan their travel routes with this in mind. They mention Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and the Grand Tetons as two of their favorite places. A goal of theirs is to drive to Alaska.

Right now they’re in Sonoita, testing out their new solar panels and replacing the floor of their trailer. They are seeing a lot of family and friends, but will soon move on. If you would like to keep up with them, Dave writes a blog and shows his excellent photographs off at twoheelers.tumblr.com.

Patagonia Get A Clean Sweep

On Saturday, May 7, trucks and trailers plus heavy equipment from DM Engineering spread out through the streets of Patagonia. A crew of volunteers loaded up lots of curbside trash and hauled it all to the dump, which was open at no charge that weekend. This was the town’s third annual clean up day. The first two years, Patagonians took advantage of the clean up day to get rid of decades worth of stored up refuse. This year the haul was much lighter, although some mounds of construction material, old fencing, and debris were significant. Thanks to Patagonia Business Coalition for getting the job done.
Wildlife Corridors LLC, the local organization working on the former Three Canyons Development, has just finalized the purchase of development rights for 19 house sites on 212 acres, including all of Smith Canyon, located within the 1300 acre Wildlife Corridors property. They have raised funds to pay off the mortgages currently held on the 19 house sites and will work with the Sonoran Institute to amend the existing conservation easement on the overall property to add the sites and prevent houses from ever being built on the sites.

Wildlife Corridors hopes to repeat this strategy - purchase of development rights and inclusion in the conservation easement - as funds become available until the development rights on at least 149 of the 173 lots they own are extinguished.

Smith Canyon is also the location of the new Wildlife Viewing Trail. The trail was built earlier this spring by the Dirtbaggers, a volunteer crew led by Chris Strohm. It offers two miles of easy walking and great views. The trail is located in a buffer zone that is being reserved for recreational and educational uses. It is open to the public now and offers opportunities for hikers as well as mountain bikes and horse riding. While dogs are not allowed on the trails to preserve the wildlife viewing experience, they are still permitted on paved roads owned by Wildlife Corridors as long as they are under owner control. The trail is part of a long-term vision of a network of hiking trails in the area, connecting the Train-Track Trail, maintained by the Mountain Empire Trail Association, and the Arizona Trail with additional trails on the property to create loops on multiple scales. The current trail is located just north of the Wildlife Corridor’s main entrance off Route 82. A new entrance is planned that will provide direct access to recreational opportunities in the near future.

All this is part of the larger vision of Wildlife Corridors to protect and restore the majority of the property as a permanently undeveloped corridor for wildlife that are living in or moving through the Patagonia Mountains to ranges in Mexico and Arizona. A buffer zone has been defined to allow public access for activities compatible with the wildlife habitat goals. The remaining acres, the residential zone, includes a cluster of previously sold house sites and others which may be sold to help finance the purchase of development rights for house sites in the protected area. The owners of Wildlife Corridors have committed to no more than 24 house sites, clustered in the southern part of the property where roads and utilities are already in place.

David Seibert, Executive Director of Borderlands Restoration and a Managing Partner in Wildlife Corridors, has described the plans for restoring Smith Canyon as groundbreaking for the entire region--coordinating the interests and support of local ranchers and other landowners, AZ Game and Fish, US Fish and Wildlife, US Forest Service and several conservation organizations while employing local resident practitioners who will learn and educate others while improving the corridor for both people and wildlife.

There will be an event scheduled this fall to celebrate the new entrance, the new trail, and the additional lots within Smith Canyon that are now protected from future development.

There’s a primary election coming up on August 30. From now until August 19, you can request an early ballot by writing or calling the Santa Cruz Recorders’s Office at (520) 375-7924.

To automatically receive an early ballot for each election, call the above number or go to: servicearizona.com.

If you are disabled or confined, you may request to have a ballot personally delivered to you.
Educating The Next Generation On Restoration Management

By Lynn Davison

Borderlands have just announced major new funding to educate the next generation in how to build a restoration economy in the borderlands region of Arizona and Sonora. The new initiative, named the Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute, has a big vision: to deliver a world class restoration training program offering quality education, research facilities, work experience opportunities and project management training in the field of ecological restoration...and further, to create a learning and leadership center focused on engaging communities to restore the places where they live. Rather than an academic institution that only studies restoration, it will be a place that catalyzes change and facilitates the creation of restoration economies.

Patagonia Is Well-Suited To the Project

Ron Pulliam, one of the architects behind the Institute, says the idea of a restoration economy- creating jobs by restoring and maintaining natural systems - has long been discussed in academic circles. Patagonia’s economy already depends heavily on jobs related to the enjoyment of the biodiversity and the natural environment- hiking, biking, sightseeing, birding, hunting- and Patagonia is the perfect place to demonstrate that more jobs can be created by restoring and enhancing nature than by degrading and exploiting it.

Four Major Components

The Biophilia Foundation will provide $1M over the next 24 months to plan and implement the Institute. It will fund four major components: 1) An academic field school targeted to graduate and undergraduate students that will provide field course work and research opportunities 2) Internship opportunities and local training and certification programs tailored to people from grade school through graduate school 3) Support of community-based restoration projects and activities that build local knowledge, help restore the land, and create jobs, and 4) An incubator program to jump start new small businesses that will help grow the restoration economy.

A Bi-National Focus

Richard Pritzlaff, President of The Biophilia Foundation, sees the borderlands of Arizona and Sonora as an ideal location for the first field station committed to restoration ecology. The borderland’s remarkable biodiversity and cultural richness, the impacts of overuse of the land and scarcity of water, and the economic challenges facing the majority of residents on both sides of the border, make it a great place to learn, teach, and build a more resilient economy based on the restoration of resources and greater opportunities for people. The bi-national focus is a particularly important and exciting element of the vision.

Design & Delivery

Borderlands Habitat Network (BHN), the new nonprofit within the Borderlands family of organizations, will administer the Biophilia grant funds and its board of directors will oversee the development of the Institute. BHN and its member organizations Borderlands Restoration, Cuenca Los Ojos, and Deep Dirt Farm Institute will be responsible for designing and delivering the institute’s programs.

The institute will be developed in three phases. Phase One, from May through October 2016, will focus on planning, and there is a lot to plan! The field station must have classroom and lab space, commercial kitchen, and options for student, faculty, and staff housing. College and university partners from the US and Mexico must be identified. Prototype courses must be designed and delivered to inform the curriculum of the first full summer program in 2017. Internship opportunities for people with a range of educational backgrounds must be identified and designed. Local community residents and organizations will be engaged in the planning process and become partners in the delivery of education, training, and community development activities sponsored by the Institute.

There will be a series of local workshops to identify opportunities, establish priorities, and address impacts of the Institute’s programs.

Phase Two, from November 2016 through April 2018, will be the roll out of the full range of Institute activities including the summer flagship course for visiting graduate students, research support, training and certificate programs targeted to residents of the borderlands region, collaborations with local schools, internship opportunities with BHN member organizations and other local partners, community based projects and new business stimulus, focused in Patagonia and the surrounding borderlands region.

Phase Three, the continuation phase, beginning annually in 2018, will continue and expand the Institute’s education, research, training programs and its community development efforts. The Biophilia Foundation has committed to some ongoing support of the Institute in the out years to help assure its investment continues to provide value to expanding the knowledge base, training the next generation of leaders and workers, and building a stronger restoration-based local economy.

Preparations Under Way

There are a few things already in the works. BHN is talking with the Patagonia School District now about the possibility of leasing the outbuildings on the Old Main Campus for the field station. The partnership is a natural and full use of the site as an educational center, would warm the hearts of many Patagonians. There will be a series of community workshops in Patagonia designed to give local residents a strong and continuing voice in the planning of Institute activities. Stay tuned for an announcement soon on the schedule of workshops. In the meantime, if you are interested in knowing more stop by and talk to the Borderlands staff in their offices behind the Visitor Center.
New Staff Member Joins Montessori

By Jessi Beebe

Patagonia’s Montessori School is pleased to announce that Leah Lynn will be joining the staff as primary directress. Leah Lynn has been a part of the Patagonia community for more than a decade. Over the years, she has provided a childcare program for local families and taught children’s food prep classes. She is the author of two books on childhood development and nutrition, and taught preschool/kindergarten at Patagonia Montessori Elementary School.

After six years away from the Montessori classroom, Leah is looking forward to being back. “I’ve loved the research and writing and other work endeavors, but I’ve missed teaching,” she says. Leah has worked in Waldorf early childhood programs and is a Caspari Montessori Institute graduate. “What I appreciate about both of these models,” says Leah, “is the understanding that education isn’t just about the student’s brain; it’s also about the child’s heart, hands, senses, and intuition.”

In 1996, Leah served on a literacy assistance program in a small rural village in Mali, West Africa. The focus of this nine-month project was to give women and children who normally would not have access to education, the opportunity to learn to read in their native language. “That moment, when a student realizes that he/she has cracked the code and is now a reader... it’s brilliant. Like a gardener watching a seedling’s emergence from the soil, you know you didn’t create the magic, but somehow in your own small way, you have helped it along.”

Leah plans to garden with students again, as part of math, science, and reading curricula, as well as to guide healthy food preparation in the practical life avenue common to Montessori classrooms. Also signature to Leah’s teaching style is daily singing with students.

A Leaky Water Conservation Plan?

This tanker truck was observed filling up many times with water from Patagonia’s town well last weekend. The water is being used regularly by mining construction personnel to keep dust down out on Harshaw Road where mining traffic has been heavy in the past weeks. Due to a significant leak in the bottom of the truck’s water tank, water pooled below the truck and sent a stream down Naugle Avenue. How precious is our water?
The poem I am about to share with you was printed out and given to me by one of my stepmothers – the third and best by far of my father’s four wives. Helen was a few years older than my father and died before he did, leaving him just enough time to marry his fourth wife, Betty, a widow, who lived in the same retirement home. Betty is another story.

In the last year of her life, Helen developed dementia and it always made me sad to visit her because in her eyes I could see a deep understanding that she should know me, and a distress that she didn’t. But some years before she lost her mind, she gave me this poem, an amusing fore-shadowing of what was to come. There is no attribution, so I hope I am not infringing on any copyrights by sharing it with you.

Just a line to say I’m living
That I’m not among the dead
Though I’m getting more forgetful
And mixed up in the head.
I got used to my arthritis
To my dentures I’m resigned
I can manage my bifocals
But God I miss my mind.
For sometimes I can’t remember
When I stand at the foot of the stairs

If I must go up for something
Or have just come down from there
And before the fridge so often
My poor mind is filled with doubt
Have I just put food away, or
Have I come to take some out?
So, if it’s my turn to write you
There’s no need to get sore
I may think that I have written
And don’t want to be a bore!
So remember that I love you
And wish that you were near
But now it’s nearly mail time
So must say goodbye, my dear.
There I stand beside the mailbox
With a face so very red
Instead of mailing you the letter
I opened it instead.

Probably many readers have experienced these moments of fog and forgetfulness. It goes with the territory called “growing old.” That is what I’ve been experiencing lately, not critical forgetfulness, but yes, I sometimes stare into the fridge without a clue. I can walk into my study with a fixed idea that vanishes as I cross the threshold. Names of some things and people drift in the mist, but I can usually pull them out.

I believe that working on this newspaper has kept my brain stimulated and my memory intact for the most part, but I think a bit of time off will be good for my general well being. I look forward to days without deadlines and the chance to finish the many house details that were usurped by my involvement with the PRT. If I do find my mind slipping away or if I get too fond of life without deadlines, I’m sure a new volunteer step up will take responsibility for the paper. In fact, a nice man spoke about helping out just the other day…..I’ll remember his name quite soon, I’m sure of it.
Yeah, yeah, I know. Too much is enough. We’re all tired of hearing about Donald Trump. Just speak his name, these days, and someone’s sure to say, “Oh, Please, Let’s not.” But I can’t help myself, to tell the truth. Like greasy, cheap potato chips or late-night crap TV, The Trump Phenomenon is irresistible to me. We know that he’s a symptom of The Great Disgruntlement, as well as a fine front man for all jingo’s bigotry. But there’s another aspect I find harder to compute. And that’s the fact that he’s a billionaire. So, how does such a man become a sweetheart of the working poor and of the dispossessed? In general, the lower class resents The One Percent. (As well they should. The game is rigged!) But Trump is no aristocrat, he’s more a brutish, self-promoting, loud-mouthed nouveau-riche.

A puzzling aspect of the psyche can be noted here. The wolf down at the middle or the bottom of the pack will never fail to wag his tail (held low in modesty), roll over on his mangy back, and whimper when he gets close to the reigning alpha male. Nobody worships money more than those who have had none and never will. The powerless may hate the rich, yet still fawn over them, and even feel legitimized if able to appear to have some sort of link with them. (Think of the name-droppers you know.) When things become unbearable and revolution looms, it’s not just your low status you abhor and wish to shed; it’s deep, lifelong embarrassment for having rolled onto your back to bare your throat and wet yourself in shows of fealty. A lot of our resentment for the rich and super-rich comes down to the disgust we feel for how we envy them.

A lot of Trump’s supporters like to boast that he is “real.” I understand. He does seem real. A large part of that seeming comes from shooting from the hip. The guy pops off and seems to let the chips fall where they may. He often says whatever pops into his nasty head instead of being genteel or “politically correct.” In fact, The Donald glories in his negativity, and lots of us Americans, who’ve had it up to here with all the pious, empty double talk in Washington, D.C., cannot resist the freshness of what sounds like honesty. His Bad Boy schtick charms all of us who follow rules but never get ahead. We start to cherish anyone who’ll rock the status quo. With Trump, we have a candidate who isn’t scared to “tell it like it is” -- at least the way we tell ourselves it is. He panders to opinions which are steeped in bitterness.

Most people share the wishful myth that money sets you free: above the laws of time and space, exempt from gravity. Like children, we naively dream that if we had financial clout, we’d live exempt from boredom, pain, or fear. And nowhere are such quaint beliefs more prevalent than in the lower class. But, if you’ve spent time with the rich, the almost-funny falsity of this belief is clear.

The human psyche hungered for a dad to deify: a father who is bigger, badder, bolder than all others. And even if he tramples us and mortifies our mothers, we bow to his magnificence the way we fear and worship the omnipotence of God. (They’re the same thing!) We yearn to know some giant who, despite his scary tantrums and besotted fits of rage, will stand between us and The Great Unknown. Those men or women (mostly men) who claim to be completely sure -- no matter sure of what -- will draw a host of frightened, hateful, grateful devotees. Hello, Jim Jones! Security is what we seek, fancied or factual. The Hitlers and the Trumps tap into that, and promise us such safety as we mice can always count on from a cat.
I don’t make a habit of being sick. Of course I’ve suffered from the usual cold and annoying sinus stuff. No flus or infections. No doctor visits and medications. Everything was going along all hunky dory until I was exposed to what can only be described as biological warfare carried by a 20 pound child whom I lovingly refer to as Pop-Pop. My 16-month old nephew, or, as he’s now known, “Patient Zero.” We shared Goldfish Crackers and grilled cheese on that fateful day. “His tummy was upset, he didn’t sleep much,” his mommy said. “Toddler stuff I’m sure.”

“He seems to be over it now,” said the newly infected. Little did I know, something like anthrax was traveling through my system. I’d be near dead by the next evening. I’d be toilet bound in 24 hours. Fast forward to the KPUP Luau; after a successful day of decorating and setting up I had no idea that the monster of all bugs was incubating within my body. I had no idea I was a walking time bomb. I don’t remember what time it hit me, sometime between egg rolls and the blues band. I do remember running to my truck and yacking near the driver’s side door.

I don’t know if anyone saw me. If they did they more than likely blamed it on the Sangria. I jumped in and before I could get around the corner I projectile-vomited on my grass skirt. I somehow made it home where for the next 36 hours, my body purged itself of all liquids. Zach would occasionally come in and look at me. My advice to him was to stay far away, to save himself. By phone I was informed that Patient Zero had also taken out both of his parents, his maternal grandparents, both uncles, my parents, an aunt and two cousins. Twelve adults taken out by a 20-pound toddler who at that point was jumping around unaware of the devastation he had left in his wake.

This all happened in a matter of three days. As a country we could use this to our benefit. Send these sick toddlers into ISIS strongholds. Let them wander in with their Goldfish Crackers and their dripping sippy cups. We could send in little biological weapons with rosy cheeks and deadly diarrhea. Based on my recent experience we could end the war in as little as three days. (Thanks to all of those folks who inquired about my whereabouts in the paper the last few months. It’s nice to know that I had a regular following. Have a great summer.)
THE LAW OF SMALL THINGS
(common integrity dilemmas)

Do the right thing.
But what if there are two "right things?"
You and your spouse are at a friend's house for dinner with a few other couples from Patagonia. During dinner, someone asks your opinion on the mining question, a subject you feel very strongly about. You know that other guests also have strong views contrary to yours. You realize that if you answer the question honestly, it will likely spark a raucous debate, possibly disrupting the party and offending the host. On the other hand, you are committed to your point of view, and since you have been directly asked, your feel compelled to express your opinion.

So, what's the integrity dilemma in this scenario?
Is it a breach of integrity to express your views on a controversial subject at a party, knowing it may disrupt the event and offend the host?

What can we discern about practicing integrity from this scenario?
In previous scenarios, I have defined integrity as fulfilling duty. I use the term "duty" to emphasize the importance of making decisions based on a definable standard, rather than simply doing whatever we want. For instance people say: "do the right thing." But, what is a right thing? We tend to use the term "the right thing" or "just do the right thing" as if it were obvious, like a Nike commercial. But what if there are two "right things?" Then the "right thing" is not so simple, because there are two of them.

A duty is the fulfillment of a promise. For instance, if you accept a dinner invitation, you in essence make a promise to conduct yourself in a respectful manner that supports the host's efforts to put on a successful party. Your promise is implied in your acceptance and it creates a duty on your part to act appropriately. The host is expecting you to fulfill that duty, and would not have invited you if she thought you would breach it.

If we stopped here, your duty would be quite clear: keep quiet about your controversial views. But is there another duty, or "right thing" here? Is giving your opinion at a dinner party when someone asks it, a duty?

Let's look at situations in which we have a clear duty of truthfulness to state your opinion: If your boss asks your opinion on something that directly affects the running of the business, there is a duty of truthfulness to give your opinion. Concealing your opinion could damage the business. Similarly, if a spouse asks you if you think you should spend more time doing things together to improve your relationship, the success of your relationship depends on giving a truthful opinion. If you are on the Patagonia Town Council and a constituent asks your views on a public issue, for instance, mining, you role as an elected official is to give your opinion on the merits of mining in the town.

In all three of these situations, truthfulness is expected because it is fundamental to the commitment—the promise—implied in the relationship. At a friendly dinner party, there is a no duty to respond in such a direct, frank and complete way because there is no such immediate and direct duty to a person who asks the question. Tact, that staple of social interaction, shields human interaction from needlessly harsh or provocative responses. "I'm just being honest" is the justification often given for delivering an unwanted opinion. The people who say, "I'm always honest" are often the least likely to be trusted. trusted in what way? to be honest?

A tactful response might be: "You know, it's a complicated question, and I'm not sure my views are settled yet." Later, taking the inquiring guest aside, you can explain your opinion more amply. This is the way to balance a duty of truthfulness to the inquiring guest with your duty of loyalty to your host.

And remember, the Law of Small Things...
Many people believe that integrity is the vigorous assertion of conviction and as a result, our nation is stalled in dysfunction. Integrity is the skill in balancing multiple duties, even at a dinner party.

Stu Brody is a student and teacher of philosophy, law, politics, and other fields related to personal decision-making. He is nearing completion on a book entitled: "The Law of Small Things: Integrity, Authenticity and Freedom in American Life" which examines misconceptions about the meaning of integrity and outlines how we can maintain a more consistent practice, by focusing on small things.
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Lovingly restored 2bd/2ba. Super energy efficient, all new wiring & plumbing, big chef’s kitchen, eye-popping Mexican tile, great location. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$289,000
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The Price We Pay For The Mining Game

by Michael Stabile

A few years back Arizona Minerals, AKA Wildcat Silver, said they had discovered a great big silver deposit up in the Patagonia Mountains. They were going to recover over a million ounces of silver at a lower cost than any other silver mine in the country. They also had incredible amounts of manganese associated with the silver. They couldn't say enough about their discovery. They did extensive exploratory drilling on their private land holdings to try and prove its value. They made two attempts to come onto public land for more exploration, but they backed down from both. Then there was silence; no more talk of the open pit silver mine. Was there a problem with the extraction of the silver from the manganese carbonate? That process was a difficult one, very dirty and not very productive. The cost of the project was estimated to be about $800,000,000 and water use approximately 1.5 billion gallons yearly. They still talk about the Hermosa project, originally called “Hardshell,” on their website, but have made no more effort to proceed with the mine plan.

Suddenly there was talk from people associated with Arizona Minerals about a new and better discovery: lead and zinc with some silver. This discovery was on land they purchased from the state, called the ASARCO Multi-State Environmental Custodial Trust. ASARCO was a mining company that operated here in Arizona, as well as other states, and went bankrupt and left behind a legacy of Superfund sites. Here in our neck of the woods ASARCO operated the Trench Mine which has been polluting the waters of Alum Gulch and Flux Canyon for years.

Arizona Minerals paid a price of under $100 for 300+ acres for the land -- pretty cheap -- but for such a low price, they are required to build a passive water control system to contain leaks from the old mine, which would cost upwards of two million dollars. They will also be responsible for any pollution that might escape the area. The new discovery is located on this land, 2,000+ feet below the surface. And in all their investor reports, they are not mentioning the cost of cleaning up the Trench Mine or the incredible costs of extracting minerals at great depth.

I recommend that concerned citizens of Patagonia drive up Harshaw Road and view the destruction that has taken place as Arizona Mining mounts an expedited drilling program to try and prove their discovery. They have closed down the Flux Canyon Road because it is now on their property. Turns out the Forest Service doesn’t have an easement from ASARCO or the state so anyone who wants to enjoy this area - birding, ATVing, hiking, hunting, etc. can no longer access this area.

My biggest concern, and something that should concern every resident of the area about Arizona Minerals, is that they control over 15,000 acres of public lands in the heart of Patagonia's watershed and some of the most bio-diverse terrain in America. What can we do to protect this area from continued destruction? We the residents, who care about this special place, can make our voices heard. The last thing investors in these mining operations want to hear about is local opposition. This implies that the permitting process will be long, and any return on investment will take years. How do we make our voices heard? Contact state and local officials and state your concern for the watershed, the surrounding habitat where several endangered species live and thrive. Put signs in your yards stating opposition to the mine. We must protect Patagonia, a precious jewel that exists nowhere else in this great country of ours.

A New Look For Outdated Trailers

By Mary Monroe

Patagonia now has its own Property Brothers. Mike and Dan McGuire are taking the town by storm. They decided to gentrify some of the old trailers that badly needed repairs, starting with their first endeavor in the Patio Carolina Trailer Park. They purchased their first trailer and then began the arduous process of making it livable again. They found a buyer for their newly rebuilt home and started on a second. As they improved the trailer park, the neighbors started repainting, repairing, and making gardens. Now a park that had previously been harboring drug dealing and deterioration sparkled with a new face.

Now the brothers have started a new endeavor. They have purchased land and trailers on Pennsylvania and are working to create a cluster of homes with a homeowners association.

If you’re driving or walking by, it’s the one painted bright green and blue on the corner. This is going to become a B & B with accommodations for up to six people. They are repurposing the trailer and everything in it. Old mirrors, cupboards, and lighting have been given a face lift, as has old furniture.

They start with gray paint, covering the entire house to seal in all the mold, or whatever might still be on the walls or floors. Then they rebuild the entire structure from the foundation up. The homes are rewired and re-plumbed with new bathrooms and kitchens. Finally cosmetic additions and fun paint combinations complete the renovation.

These homes will sell for between $50,000 and $60,000 making them available for people who are downsizing or who are in the low to middle income bracket. There will be a Homeowners’ Association with a modest monthly lot fee for maintenance and upkeep. Any time you drive by you will see the brothers hard at work repurposing, painting, hammering and working to make our community a prettier place to live.
Over $200K in Scholarships Were Awarded to These PUHS 2016 Graduates

Guadalupe Bueras - $200/"Pay It Forward", $1000/Anne C. Stradling Equine Foundation, $500/Patagonia Community Gardens & Borderlands, $2000/Mtn. Empire Rotary

Annika Coleman - $800/"Pay It Forward", $1000/Anne C. Stradling Equine Foundation, $2000/Santa Cruz Co. 4-H, $1000/Elgin Community Club, $1000/Cowbelles, $2000/Mtn. Empire Rotary, $800/Patagonia Womens Club, $500/Patagonia Union High School, $4000/Patagonia Regional Community Center.

Garrett Fish - $8000/Mary Bowman Scholarship, $2000/Santa Cruz Co. 4-H, $8000/AZ Cowboy Symposium Assn., $1000/Elgin Community Club, $1000/Cowbelles, $2000/St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, $1000/Patagonia Union High School, $1000/Santa Cruz County, $4000/Patagonia Regional Community Foundation, $12,000/Valley Foundation Scholarship, $24,000/University of AZ.

Alisa Gutierrez - $1000/Patagonia Regional Business Coalition.

Kathryn Miller - $1,000/Anne C. Stradling Equine Foundation, $7,500/Friends of Madera County, $1,000/Cowbelles, $38,000/University of Arizona. Also awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from the office of Congressman Raul Grijalva.

Javier Mingura - $200/"Pay it Forward."

Danny Miranda - $200/"Pay It Forward",

Kelsey Norton - $24,000/University of AZ.

Jose Perez - $24,000/University of AZ.

Danny Schrimpf - $1000/"Pay It Forward," $1,000/Elgin Community Club, $8,000/Patagonia Womens Club, $20,000/University of AZ, $12,000/Arizona State University.

Sid Skiver - $2,000/Santa Cruz County 4-H,$500/AZ Cowboy Symposium Assn., $1,000/Ag & Livestock Industry & Research, $4,000/University of Arizona.

Youth Center’s Future Depends on Community Support

By Lynn Davison

The Patagonia Youth Enrichment Center (PYEC) celebrated its second birthday over the May Day weekend with an open house on Saturday and its first ever fundraising house party on Sunday.

About 40 kids are youth center regulars now. Located behind Ovens of Patagonia in the Plaza de Patagonia, the center is open from 4-10 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The kids decorated the kitchen, dining room, game room, study room, girls room, outdoor patio, and covered shop. They help each other with homework, cook and eat snacks, participate in a variety of programs–including a girls’ mentoring group, carpentry skill building, bicycle repair, arts and crafts, science and math skill building–and hang out with their friends in a safe and loving environment.

Approximately 60 local residents stopped by to visit during the center’s open house. Guests had a chance to tour the space, visit with the kids, talk with the executive director, Anna Coleman, and her husband Steve, and eat as big a piece of birthday cake as they could muster. A big hit was watching several youth show what you can do with the center’s new 3-D printer, recently purchased as part of the Youth Center’s STEM program (science, technology, engineering, and math program) with grant funds from the Patagonia Regional Community Fund.

Sue and Tam Scott and Lynn Davison and Judy Clegg sponsored the house party fundraiser at the Scott’s home in Patagonia. The Wagon Wheel and the Stage Stop donated some of the food. Over 35 people attended and enjoyed good food and the fine sound of the Stringbenders Band . Carlos Mingura, a current board member of PYEC and a past youth participant, talked about how the youth center offered a far better alternative to making mischief around town for him and his friends. He eloquently described the positive difference the youth center is making in the lives of local kids.

Judy Clegg and Lynn Davison talked about why the local private fundraising is so important to the sustainability of the Youth Center. Grants from private and corporate foundations or even United Way will pay only for programs, not rent, not insurance, not the salary of an Executive Director. Yep, that’s right, the director, Anna Coleman receives no salary at all. She works her day job as an elementary school teacher in Elgin and then comes to Patagonia for her second job, a totally volunteer one, six afternoons /evenings a week. If Patagonia wants to have a Youth Center long term, that clearly must change.

While Patagonians have been generous with food donations, most of the financial contributions in 2014 and 2015 came from people outside Patagonia. The fundraising house party’s goal was to build a broader base of local supporters. The event produced $6,800 in donations.

The party’s success is a good start, but the youth center remains a long way from securing sufficient ongoing funding to support its basic expenses, including a living wage for the executive director. There will be another PYEC house party in the fall, and there are plenty of opportunities between now and then to make a tax deductible contribution. The future of the Youth Center depends on it.

The PYEC’s contact information is as follows: mailing address - PO Box 253, Sonoita, AZ 85637; website - www.pyec.org; email - colem an272@msn.com; and phone - 520-343-2356.
Preparing For A Disaster by Bob Brandt

Patagonia’s preparedness to respond to a human-caused or natural disaster has been significantly enhanced now that a newly-trained cadre of fifteen volunteers is ready to apply the skills they learned in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training held in Cady Hall during the first two weekends in May.

Developed by the City of Los Angeles in 1985, the training is designed to prepare volunteers to respond quickly to events that involve threats to the health and safety of large numbers of people in a support role to fire fighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical personnel, hazardous materials specialists and other emergency response personnel.

Although it includes rudimentary instruction on handling a range of injuries and illnesses, the training does not prepare CERT trainees to become skilled practitioners of first aid. Rather, it prepares them to carefully assess the dangers posed by a given situation and develop a response plan that protects the life and safety of those involved while containing the incident and protecting property, in that order. Heavy emphasis is placed on triaging victims by categorizing them according to the severity of their injuries and sharing information about the event with emergency personnel as they arrive on the scene.

The 24-hour course was presented by volunteers and staff from a variety of area agencies including the Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Management, the Nogales Fire Department and Fifth Phase LLC, a professional training and consulting firm.

Building on the Los Angeles effort, subsequent to the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) began to encourage and facilitate the creation of local citizen corps using CERT training to develop the requisite skills. The training includes lectures, videos, slides and hands on experience covering seven major topics: Disaster Preparedness; Fire Safety; Medical Operations; Light Search and Rescue; CERT Organization; Disaster Psychology; and Terrorism.

The local CERT training culminated in a dry run exercise in which all fifteen trainees were called from Cady Hall to respond to a staged disaster unfolding at the Patagonia Fire Department. As they had been taught, the team quickly selected an incident commander, Steve Finch, who immediately took charge and ordered other team members to carry out specific assignments to (a) determine what risks faced the team, victims and others involved, (b) search for and triage victims and (c) report their findings to emergency responders as they arrived. In a post-disaster debriefing, the instructors all agreed that the team did a commendable job.

The following area residents completed the training, received certificates and CERT ID cards and are now available to respond to any type of disaster that might occur in the area: Carolyn Shafer, Lynne Weatherby Isaacs, Kathy West, Laura Cleveland, Steve Finch, Marilyn Miller, Ed Dvorak, Colin Treiber, Elitte Saham, Jeff Maxwell, India Aubry, Lilian Papin, Hector Gerardo, Anne Townsend and Bob Brandt.

Following the CERT training, many of the trainees also attended optional classes the following weekend on Skywarn Weather Spotter Training and setting up and operating emergency shelters taught, respectively, by staff of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the American Red Cross. Both presentations were open to the public as well as CERT trainees.
When Patagonia Was a Mecca for Wagon Restoration

Part 3  Building A Legacy  By Bob Brandt

Under his skillful guidance and watchful eye, Doug Thaemert and his crew of craftsmen produced work of such high quality that Thaemert had all the customers he wanted soon after moving his wagon-building business out of the Museum of the Horse. To potential purchasers of this niche product, it was readily apparent that the Southwest Wagon and Wheel Works built not just wagons but a reputation for meticulous attention to detail and adherence to the highest standards in the business. As a result, Thaemert drew some very high-powered clients.

Among his most notable customers was the Anheuser Busch Company that commissioned Thaemert to build two completely new wagons to be drawn by the company’s famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Another prominent client was the National Park Service which judged to be one of the greatest westerns ever made.

Heaven’s Gate, which was a box-office bust but was later recognized as a movie with immense value and often featured in parades. One such customer, a wealthy dentist from Tucson, ordered a new wagon he intended to use to promote his dental practice. The job was well underway when his wife got wind of how much he was spending on the wagon and put a stop to the project.

Alas, this line of work dried up when the tax break for it disappeared, but the business sold wagon parts.

As I sit with Richard Connolly in his blacksmith shop on Smelter Avenue he calls my attention to a set of old wagon wheels he worked on decades ago. Mounted above the door that gives entry to this fascinating workspace, these are the very wheels that first brought Connolly and Thaemert together some forty years ago. They are a fitting reminder of a glorious era not so long ago during which this small town was home to arguably the most highly regarded wagon building and restoration business on Planet Earth.

Sadly, as we current-day Patagonians walk our streets and alleys, precious few visual reminders of this once highly-touted, thriving business meet our gaze. Nonetheless, the memory of Southwest Wagon and Wheels Works and Doug Thaemert, its founder and guiding spirit, burns brightly in the hearts and minds of those fortunate enough to have been a part of this venture, while we who arrived too late for the show are enriched by those who continue to share their memories, thus allowing all of us to glory in the retelling of that bygone era.

Postscript: I recently visited the Hubbard Museum of the American West, the present day incarnation of Anne Stradling’s Museum of the Horse which she had arranged to move to Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico just before her death in 1992. Now operated by the town of Ruidoso Downs, the museum’s main exhibit hall still features many of the wagons restored for Stradling by Thaemert and his team and I was awed by the beauty of these horse-drawn vehicles. Well worth the time and modest entrance fee for its wagon display, the museum also does a great job of telling Anne Stradling’s life story which is in itself captivating and, of course, so significant a part of Patagonia’s history.
Lopez Pool Hall Ready For Rain
By Ann Katzenbach

During March and April many townspeople noticed Jac Heiss working on the roof of the historic building across from the library. It wasn't easy to see what he was doing, but it was clearly dirty and maybe a bit dangerous. Many people who love the Lopez Pool Hall hoped that this was the beginning of a restoration, but Claire Thaemert, who owns the building, reports, “There are no plans for the building as it has no water, sewer, gas or electricity and no plans are in place to address that. The building has been used for storage and will continue to be used for that purpose for the foreseeable future. The work we have done has been merely to preserve as much of the historic adobe as possible, as it had been melting over the years, slowly at first and then more rapidly. We felt we had to do something before the return of the rainy season. We had to remove the loose plaster as well as the wooden floors and ceilings, which were termite ridden. We took all the bad wood to the dump, and we tossed the cement plaster into the floor-less rooms. The interiors now look somewhat like something you'd see in a disaster movie.”

She says there's not much likelihood that she will do more, unless she wins the lottery. Maybe everyone who would love to see the building come back to life should buy Claire a lottery ticket every week. You never know.

An Afternoon of Jazz In The Park

The Cannonball Combo from Fort Huachuca set up their instruments in the Concert Haul and entertained an appreciative audience in the park on the Saturday afternoon of Memorial Day Weekend. Thanks to the Santa Cruz Foundation for Performing Arts for bringing this lively jazz group to Patagonia.
CONGRATULATIONS

Kathryn Miller
Valedictorian

Football Team MVP
Danny Miranda

Guadalupe Bueras
Annika Coleman
Savannah Gillespie

Elizabeth Leon
Elizamar Leon
Jose Lopez
Anastasia Lucero
Sabrina Mendoza
Kathryn Miller
2016 GRADUATES!

Garrett Fish
Cokelly Herrera
Wally Hill

Javier Mingura
Danny Miranda
Kelsey Norton
Jose Perez
Danny Schrimpf
Sid Skiver

Garrett Fish
Ruth Award
Garrett Fish
Danny Schrimpf
Gabi Bueras

Photos by Liz Collier
This story is about my own personal memories of Patagonia’s old “Opera House” or “La Ópera.” The Opera House was situated kitty-corner to the present Butterfly Garden on McKeown Avenue. I don’t know if any operettas or arias were ever performed there, maybe so!!

I first met this beautiful, old giant when I was eight years old. I moved into the house next door to the Opera House with my sister, Angela and her husband, Pancho Sinohui. It was a large one-room frame building that took over most of the lot it sat on. It had a lofty ceiling and bare walls with no insulation, making it too cold in winter and too warm in summer, but it had a beautiful bare wood floor, even and shiny.

The first thing I noticed was that some old boards on the side of the Opera House were dry and had shrunk out of their tongue and groove. That’s where I saved a wad of money during performances—by peeking through those cracks during the early years that I lived next door. Sometimes I paid my quarter, because if I looked through the cracks for too long, I would get a “crick” in my neck. The building was used for dances, movies, school events, magic shows that would roll into town, roller skating and who knows, maybe weddings.

I remember a time when I was around nine, I could see the kids having such fun during a roller-skating night. I wanted to learn to skate, but I was afraid I would land on my butt, so I would “save my quarter and watch through the cracks.” But one evening my sister Angela’s father-in-law, Hilario Sinohui, took me in and paid the entrance fee, 20 cents for him and 10 cents for me, and 25 cents to rent a pair of roller-skates. The people renting the skates fastened them to my shoes, helped me to stand, brought my feet closer together and gave me a gentle nudge. I rolled ahead, my feet going further apart, and WHAMO! Guess what I landed on! That was the beginning and end of my roller-skating career!

Saturday night dances were very popular. They were usually held in summer and everyone attended, even four and five year olds who ran amid the dancing couples playing hide and seek, sometimes creating havoc.

Usually, late in the evening when the musicians were playing a romantic song, a prankster would turn the lights out and there would be a cheer from the dancing couples. From the benches along the wall, flashlight beams would crisscross in the dark as mothers looked for their daughters. Then the lights came back on and a big sigh of relief from the mother section. But be alert because the lights might go off again. Oh, I loved that part of the dance!

Our musicians were all local people and I’ll try to name a few. Jack Turner played the guitar, Alvessa Ochoa Hummel played the saxophone and she was always tapping her foot to the rhythm of the music. Lupe Matus played the bass, Pancho Ochoa played the fiddle and Mr. Boosinger played the horn. Intermission was around ten o’clock p.m. You could buy hot tamales and coffee. I was a teenager by now and no longer living next door. We girls would not dare to have the boys see us eating tamales, for that was much too embarrassing! Besides, we didn’t want to have tamale breath when we started dancing again!

In 1948, Memo and I were married and being a Saturday, there was a dance that night. We stayed for the dance, had a great time, but that was the last time I attended an event there. Memo worked as a cowboy at different ranches after we were married. San Rafael Ranch (Greene Cattle Co.) was one, as was the Vaca Ranch, and the Empire Ranch. So we were away from Patagonia for a few years. We wanted our daughters, Emma and Cindy, to attend elementary school here so we came back. We were riding around town and when we came up on McKeown Ave. we noticed something missing! Lo and behold, an empty lot where the old Opera House used to sit. It had been demolished. Only fond memories remained. We said goodbye. It felt like a dear old friend had passed away.

Maybe someday some kindly soul will win the lottery and build the community an “Opera House #2,” Maybe not in my lifetime but for our children’s children; a place where everyone will share good times like we did.
Jan Herron and Gama Leyva came to the KPUP Luau wearing their finest Hawaiian attire. The shirts that Jan and her crew accumulated and sold on the porch at Global Arts this year raised $4,425 for KPUP. Including the shirt sales, the annual luau brought in a total of $6,500.

The old Opera House on Naugle Ave was torn down in the 60’s. On page 20, Carmen Matus describes memories of the Opera House from the 30’s, when she was a child and it was the center for entertainment in Patagonia. Photo courtesy of Patagonia Museum

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Red Mountain Foods
Reverend Clare Sullivan is leaving the Patagonia Community Methodist Church (PCMC) for a new assignment at Dove of the Desert Church in the Phoenix area. Reverend Sullivan has been pastor at PCMC for the past five years, and this was her second assignment here, so she is well known to this community. June 12 will be her last Sunday in the pulpit. PCMC is hosting a farewell party on June 12 at 11:30 a.m. in Thurber Hall. It’s a potluck, and everyone is welcome to attend. Rev. Sullivan will begin her new assignment on July 1, which is also the date that her replacement, Rev. Thomas Jelinek, will begin his assignment here.

**SUMMER HOURS**
Patagonia Museum: 10:30 - Noon, Friday & Saturday
Visitors Center: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday—Sunday

On April 12, these signs appeared along Harshaw Road in the area where it passes through land owned by Arizona Mining. Some were free standing, others attached to state road signs. The warnings seemed authoritative, implying that Arizona Mining had the right to prohibit people from taking photographs on a public road.

However, The Federal Highway Administration (FHA) states:

“Traffic control devices or their supports shall not bear any advertising message or any other message that is not related to traffic control.”

In response to inquiries about the legality of these prohibitive signs, Norma B. Northcross, Santa Cruz County Right-of-Way Floodplain Permits Coordinator, had workers remove the illegal signage on Monday morning.

Patagonia Volunteer Fire Department’s 41st Annual Steak Fry is being held June 25, from 4 to 8 p.m. in Patagonia Town Park. Steak or vegetarian dinner are available. The dinner includes a mesquite grilled steak or vegetarian burger, coleslaw, beans, salsa, tortilla, and a drink, for $15. The children’s meal (for children under 12 years old) is $10 and includes a hamburger, coleslaw, beans, salsa, and a drink. Events include a live auction at 6 p.m., a silent auction, and a raffle for a shotgun and more. Raffle tickets are $1 or 6 for $5. There will be live music by Nightlife.

Tickets are on sale now. See one of your local firemen or EMT’s.

RAFFLE DONATIONS - We are also looking for donated items for our raffle and auction. If you would like to donate an item please contact Denise Bowdon, 604-6332, Marisela De La Ossa, 604-6068, or Diane Isakson, 394-2936.
JUNE CALENDAR

MEETINGS

- **AA** - Patagonia Comm. Ctr., Sun., 8 a.m.; Pat. Methodist Church, Fri., 7:30 p.m.
- **Al-Anon** - Wed. at 6 p.m., Sonoita Hills Comm. Church, 52 Elgin Rd., 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 Wed. at 7 p.m. in the Town Council Hall.
- **Rotary Club** - 1st Thurs., 7 a.m. at Patagonia H.S.; All others at Kief Joshua Winery, 6 p.m. Call (520) 907-5829 for more info.
- **San Rafael Community 4-H Club** - 2nd Mon. at the Patagonia Methodist Church, Thurber Hall at 5:30 p.m. Tami @455-5561.
- **Overeaters Anonymous** - Tue. & Thurs., 6:30 p.m. Fragrance-free meeting. Patagonia United Methodist Church. 520 404-3490
- **The Woman’s Club** - 2nd Thurs. at 1 p.m. at Cady Hall.
- **Community Youth Group** — 2nd and 4th Wed., 6-8 p.m. April 13 meeting at Sonoita/Elgin Fire Dept.

EVENTS

- **June 4, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m:** Science on the Sonoita Plain Symposium, Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch, 366 Research Ranch Rd, Elgin. Register at eventbrite.com/e/science-on-the-sonoita-plain.
- **June 4, 9:30-11 a.m:** Brunch with Ann Kirkpatrick, US Senate candidate, Cady Hall, 342 Duquesne, Patagonia. Suggested donation $35. Stephanie at (928) 362-8844 or Stephanie@KirkpatrickForSenate.com.
- **June 4, 1 – 4 p.m:** Sage Gentlewing performs at Kief-Joshua Summer Concert Series, Kief-Joshua Vineyards, 370 Elgin Rd, 455-5582.
- **June 5, 7 p.m:** SCFPA All Stars fundraising event featuring members of Tapestry Chamber Music, Vox Kino, A Cappella singers and Ensemble Melodica. Our Lady of the Angels Church, 22 Los Encinos Rd, Sonoita. 394-0129
- **June 9-12, 78th Annual Quarter Horse Show, Sonoita Fairgrounds.
- **June 9-12, Craft Fair** at Sonoita Fairgrounds. Space available, $25, call 520-455-5553.
- **June 11, 1 – 4 p.m:** 8 Minutes to Burn performs at Kief-Joshua Summer Concert Series, Kief-Joshua Vineyards, 370 Elgin Rd, 455-5582.
- **June 18, 1 – 4 p.m:** Corey Spector performs at Kief-Joshua Summer Concert Series, Kief-Joshua Vineyards, 370 Elgin Rd, 455-5582.
- **June 25, 1 – 4 p.m:** Provoke-The-Yeti performs at Kief-Joshua Summer Concert Series, Kief-Joshua Vineyards, 370 Elgin Rd, 455-5582.
- **June 25, 4 p.m. - 8 p.m:** Pat. Volunteer Fire Dept. Annual Steak Fry. See p. 22 for details.
- **July 4, 11 a.m:** Annual 4th of July Parade, Patagonia. See page 2 for details.

SPECIAL INTERESTS

- **Revitalist Yoga** with Bethany. 277 McKeown, Patagonia; Tue: 6-7:45 p.m., Fri: 6-7:15p.m., Sat: 10–11:15 a.m. 520.490.7142
- **Stretch and Strengthen Class**, Weds., 9:15-10:15 a.m. at Sonoita Bible Church. $7.
- **Drum Circle**, Mons., 4-6 p.m. at Sonoita Crossroads building courtyard by Chuckwagon Grill, Free. No exp. reqd. 490-4991.
- **Bird Walks** at The Nature Conservancy’s Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Preserve every Sat. @ 9 a.m. Meet at the visitor center. Nature Conservancy fees apply. Patagonia residents Free. 520-394-2400.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- **Lunch for Seniors** - Fresh-cooked meals, Mon. thru Fri. at the Patagonia Community Center.
- **Sr. Citizens of Patagonia Van Service** - Medical transportation Mon. - Fri. for seniors & disabled by appointment only. Call 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 Catholic Church, 12 Los Encinos Rd, Sonoita. Thrus-Sat. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

PAGES 19 & 20
## HOUSING RENTALS

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- 1 BR Apt.; kitchen, laundry, new everything; Parking, free internet, Dir. TV; Day, wk, mo. 520.286.7777

### JACK AND JILL BEDROOMS AVAILABLE
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### 1 BR 1 BA
- $750 util. included; 3 BR 2 BA $1450 util. included. Call John 394-0148, or 360.317.4281

### RENTAL HOMES
- Contact Kathy O’Brien @Sonoita Realty 520 455-5381

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### MISC.

### 3BD/2BA
- $650/mo. + utilities, year lease. Clean & bright mobile home, lg. porch, good location. Call Virginia 394-2121

### PATAGONIA - Large 1 BD
- Furnished cottage for rent. Off street parking, W/D, Dir. TV, Lg. private yard, Some utils incl. 394-2080

### BRIGHT, PRIVATE 1- BR/1-BA VACATION RNTL.
- in town. Kitchenette, courtyard. Nightly or weekly. 520-904-0877 or CasitaEncanta.com

### FOR RENT, LARGE, 1 BD COTTAGE
- W/D, Off street parking, Direct TV, Lg private yard. Some utils included. Furnished or not. 394-2080

### JULIA GREEN VOICE AND PIANO STUDIO
- voice & piano lessons $45.00/45 mins. 505-350-8543
  - Patagonia 85624 www.juliagreenmusic.com

### Sonoita Self Storage Rentals
- 5x10, 10x10, 10x20; 520-455-9333 or 455-4641.

### JULIA GREEN VOICE AND PIANO STUDIO
- voice & piano lessons $45.00/45 mins. 505-350-8543
  - Patagonia 85624 www.juliagreenmusic.com

### NEED MORE ROOM?
- Call Les’ Storage Units 520-988-0421 Patagonia, AZ.

### Strong back? Able to transfer 200 pounds?
- Are you an experienced or certified caregiver? Please call Patagonia Assisted Care Agency: 520-604-8179

### CHURCH SERVICES

- **Patagonia Community United Methodist Church**
  - 387 McKeown Ave., Patagonia
  - 394-2274 Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

- **St. Andrews Episcopal Church**
  - Casa Blanca Chapel of Sonoita Justice of the Peace Courtroom
  - 2nd & 4th Saturdays; 10 a.m.

- **Sonoita Hills Community Church**
  - 52 Elgin Rd., Sonoita
  - 455-5172 Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

- **St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church**
  - 222 Third Ave., Patagonia
  - 394-2954 Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

- **Sonoita Bible Church**
  - 3174 N. Highway 83, Sonoita
  - 455-5779 Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.

- **Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church**
  - 12 Los Encinos Rd., Sonoita
  - 394-2954 Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.

- **Canelo Cowboy Church**
  - Hwy 83, MP 14 455-5000 Sunday Services: 8:45 & 11:00 (except third Sundays)
The summer solstice will occur on June 20 this year. It’s the longest day of the year and the first day of summer. In Patagonia, we have another tradition that marks the beginning of summer—it’s the opening day for the Patagonia Pool. This year, the pool will open on Wednesday, June 1.

Kenny Hayes, Patagonia Union High School (PUHS) history teacher and pool manager, states, “We are in the process of training the life guards and will have a full crew on board for opening day. We have new mats in the locker rooms to keep individuals from slipping, and last year, we bought a new chlorine system that is working well. We bought a cover for the pool last year that will help with temperature control and chemical stabilization. I’m looking forward to a good summer at the pool.”

There are a few changes to the schedule this year. The morning lap swim will not start until 8:30 a.m. and will end at 9:45 a.m. In the past, the morning lap swim started at 7:30 am and very few people would show up. Hayes explains, “Safety regulations dictate that we have three guards on duty at all times. There were many mornings when I would have three staff members watching one person. It was not an efficient use of funds. By opening up an hour later, we are saving about $5,000.” The afternoon lap swim is scheduled from 5 to 6 p.m. If no one shows up by 5:15, the pool will close for the day. The summer program swimming lessons begin on July 6.

Each year, the Patagonia Schools designate $20,000 to pool operations and the Town of Patagonia contributes another $10,000. United Way contributes about $2,000 and private donations, including tax credits, amount to a little over $5,000. According to Therese Whitney, Business Manager for Patagonia Public Schools, the costs always exceed the revenues and the school districts end up covering the funding gap. Whitney stated, “The budget this year is going to be tight. We needed to adjust up the pool schedule for efficiency.”

Anyone interested in donating to the Patagonia Pool can make a tax deductible donation to Patagonia Educational Endowment Fund (PEEF). One hundred percent of the funds go directly to pool operations. For more information regarding PEEF, please call the school at 520-394-3000.

### 2016 Pool Schedule

**Monday through Friday**

- 8:30 - 9:45 a.m. Lap Swim
- 10 -11 a.m. Water Aerobics
- 11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m. Summer Program/Swim Lessons begin July 6
- 1 - 5 p.m. Open Swim
- 5 - 6 p.m. Lap Swim. Pool will close if no one is there by 5:15 p.m.

**Saturday**

- 8:30 - 9:45 a.m. Lap Swim
- 10 -11 a.m. Water Aerobics
- 11:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Open Swim
- 5 - 6 p.m. Lap Swim. Will close if no one is there by 5:15 P.M.

The pool is closed on Sunday.
As we go to press, the foundation for the Benderly-Kendall Opera House is underway. On Saturday, May 7, a few symbolic shovels full of dirt began the process in a groundbreaking ceremony. Christina and Fred Wilhelm who administer the project, Jeff Latham who designed it, Ted Piper who is getting it built, and John Kendall, the primary funder, put on hard hats, lifted shovels and broke ground next on the Santa Cruz Foundation for the Performing Arts property on Naugle Ave. The building was the dream of Gini Benderly, an artist and patron of the arts who died some years ago. Christina and Fred Wilhelm who administer the project, Jeff Latham who designed it, Ted Piper who is getting it built, and John Kendall, the primary funder, put on hard hats, lifted shovels and broke ground next on the Santa Cruz Foundation for the Performing Arts property on Naugle Ave. The building was the dream of Gini Benderly, an artist and patron of the arts who died some years ago.

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Every year when June looms on the horizon, my thoughts hopefully gravitate towards impending monsoon season. June is our driest and hottest month, but the very searing temperatures that often drive snowbirds to cooler, northern climes also draw in moisture from the Sea of Cortez. Thus, heat and its attendant humidity drive our monsoon season. This is why you won’t find me hoping for a cool June!

Given the consistency of high temperatures in June, all our local flora and fauna have evolved corresponding physiological and/or behavioral traits that help them adapt to this climactic gauntlet. Many species simply wait it out until wetter, cooler times prevail. Certainly monsoon season describes such a shift, but so too does our winter rainy season. Some species can thrive at either time. Our local species of ragweed is one such case. Others flourish in either season, but not both.

Various species of wildlife from our seemingly countless invertebrates to some of our largest mammals and everything in between, must also adhere to June’s mercurial dictates, lest they win their own version of a Darwin Award. Certain ground squirrels wait it out, estivating, which is the hot version of hibernation. They stay underground, take a chill pill, lower their level of activity in a cave-like subterranean microclimate.

Many animals adjust their daily activity patterns, becoming more nocturnal and/or crepuscular. Witness our collared peccaries. They avoid the hottest part of the day in favor of cooler temperatures at night. Species that either adjust to June or completely give it a miss, I’m calling June’s survivors.

There are, however, a handful of species that actually thrive during our yearly inferno. One of these is the cactus hopper cicada. Venture out during the hottest times of the day in June and you’re likely to be serenaded by this bold balladeer. When I first listened to the drone of the male cicadas, I was taken aback that they were active during the extreme heat. Then it dawned on me that little else was active at this time, including most birds and cicada killer wasps - their two main predators!

For many other invertebrates, it’s business as usual in June. Harvester ants adjust by ceasing above-ground activity during the hottest parts of the day. In fact, I teach my survival students that when these ants cease and desist, so should we.

A surprise in June is the appearance of Sonoran toads -- behemoths of our Anurans. Despite their permeable skins and the attendant threat of desiccating, they nevertheless materialize in this daunting month. More than once I’ve been startled at dusk or during the night while walking without a flashlight when these giant toads started at my feet.

Among our plants, several families have evolved to not only persist in June but to use it to their advantage. When most other plant species avoid June or ride it out, members of both the cactus and asparagus families come to the fore. Look for the flowers of jumping cholla, various prickly pears, and other cacti, who, attract pollinators. Many of our voluminous bee species visit the cacti, serving as sexual surrogates while netting a pollen and/or nectar meal. Likewise, our agaves, yuccas, beargrasses, and sotols are in full bloom seeking these as well as other pollinators, including several species of nectar-feeding bats. Thus, being succulent provides a sort of free pass during our hottest month.

June, then, while often vexing, is also time to marvel at how a broad spectrum of species have evolved to deal with this challenging time. Where will you be? Are you a survivor or a thriver in this hottest month?

Vincent Pinto and his wife, Claudia, run RAVENS-WAY WILD JOURNEYS, their Nature Adventure & Conservation organization devoted to protecting the unique Biodiversity of the Sky Islands Region. For more information, visit ravensnatureschool.com

Artwork by Donna Reibslager
Dead Trees
A Tragicomedy
By Leslie Ware
Reviewed by Ann Katzenbach

Leslie Ware, who wrote about her dog’s insatiable appetite in last month’s PRT, spends her winters in Patagonia. She is a retired editor who worked at Consumer Reports Magazine for many years. With very little fanfare, she writes to let us know that she has written a novel entitled, “Dead Trees – A Tragicomedy.” The book is self-published, 134 pages in length, divided into short chapters and a pleasure to read.

The story unfolds in the offices of a magazine, All 4 U, obviously a place that Ware knows well. All 4 U, tests all kinds of products and gives readers recommendations on everything from cars to condoms, toilets to toasters. The main character is a tall, blond editor named Jordy Lang who suffers as the publication she loves falls prey to modern business practices. As the plot unfolds, she and her fellow workers are subjected to a storm of rules and initiatives. The promotion and maintenance of biodiversity is the bottom line for restoration activities.

With Jordy on the side of light are a slowly diminishing number of fellow workers who cling to their love of words and fine analysis. There’s romance, intrigue, and a host of characters to love and despise. “Dead Trees” is a satiric farewell to words printed on paper, the world of publishing where Leslie Ware obviously thrived.

who bring the once intelligent magazine to a dumbed down state that is brilliantly funny and also sad and likely true of many corporate environments.

Meanwhile, there is a subplot concerning insider trading that provides some suspense, but it is the characters in this “tragic comedy” that make it such fun to read. There’s the predatory Gina Scarsi, Warren Tappet, the corporate yes-man with secrets, Mrs. Malaprop, right out of a British comedy sketch, Gavin, the CEO in pin stripes and many more business school types

Stitching the West Back Together
Reviewed by Allegra Mount

Patagonia residents David Seibert and Gary P. Nabhan have contributed to the recent publication, “Stitching the West Back Together,” a collection of articles about collaborative conservation efforts in the western United States. The volume explores some of the challenges and successes in addressing large-scale ecosystem restoration in a checkerboard landscape of public and private landholders such as we encounter here in southern Arizona.

The environmental movement would have most people assume that biodiversity is only valued by conservationists who are locked in conflict with the people who live and work on the lands they seek to protect. But this is not the case, as “Stitching the West Back Together” explains. The promotion and maintenance of biodiversity is the bottom line for restoration activities.

The western states are noted for their variety of land uses, such as ranching, agriculture, public lands and protected spaces, urban areas, and suburban developments. The authors note that these divided systems are more effective for maintaining biodiversity than are protected areas alone. Two examples of community-initiated action to protect the productivity of working landscapes are detailed in the book--The Malpai Borderlands Group (Douglas, AZ) and Altar Valley Conservation Alliance (Arivaca, AZ). These piece together a modern vision of conserving working landscapes by providing a framework for conservation that cuts across jurisdictional and land ownership boundaries.

“Community-Based Collaborative Conservation” groups (CBCCs) are described as groups that work to create a forum for promoting a democratic system of land management with a perpetual discourse between conservation and production. This is not always easy – many of these stakeholders carry a history of exploiting land for profit.

Written in a clear academic prose, “Stitching the West Back Together” is an accessible read for those interested in innovative land management solutions. The collection celebrates what is truly unique about The West: our respect for the individual and shared experiences that define the give and take of landscape conservation in a land of many uses.

You can find the book on amazon.com, or just stop by the Borderlands Restoration office at 299 McKeeown (behind the visitor’s center), and ask to check it out a copy.
RIFFS AND SEGUES

The Art of Food and Wine Pairings
By Heather Dodge

I’d been noticing an increase in wine-paired dinners being offered and decided to treat myself to one of them on Mother’s Day. Adam Puckle, owner and chef of The Café, had paired up with James Callaghan, owner and winemaker of RUNE Wines, to match a wine with each of the five courses that would be served.

After settling into my seat at the bar, I asked Chef Adam what the chef and winemaker seek in matching wines with diverse and complex courses and he said, “Balance - a compatibility of flavors on the palate. The wine should complement the food and vice versa. So it takes both of our areas of expertise to create the menu.” Callaghan, standing nearby uncorking bottles, added, “The flavors should riff off each other.”

Remembering the intricacies of jazz and the “riffs” that form intriguing bridges from one musical spectrum to the next, I lightly swirl, sniff, and taste the chilled Viognier. It exhibits a uniquely robust, slightly tangy/woody combination of flavors, which I like. Then a bite of the baby spinach salad with strawberries, pecans, chèvre, slivered orange peel and house-baked croutons, drizzled with a honey balsamic dressing. The resulting medley of sweet, tart, crunchy and smooth is delightful to my taste buds. Nice riff.

Next a rosé is poured alongside the grilled calamari with cucumber, tomatoes and lime over spiralized summer squash. Like a ceviche kicked down a notch in punch, this cool Mexicali dish mingles well with the sweet tarty rosé, creating a refreshing segue to the main course.

Admittedly a steak and potatoes gal from way back, I thoroughly enjoyed the luxury of a medium-rare filet mignon with house-made bacon, twice baked potato and grilled asparagus, paired up with a bold, rich yet mellow Classic Syrah. The taste and texture combinations were perfectly in sync, the crescendo of the meal.

Dessert was light and crispy, Asian cream crackers with lemon curd and baked brie with drizzled honey served with a Vin Santo and Dessert Rosé. It was an evening of fine dining with fine wines and enlightening conversation about what goes with what, and why.

I predict wine paired fixed price dinners will be trending soon in this region. It’s a win-win concept for everyone. For more about RUNE, go to runewines.com and The Café at cafesonoita.com.

SURREAL AND HAUNTING VISIONS

His work has been described as portraying “the contemporary solitude of mankind.”

Hernandez grew up in Nogales, and the cultural and economic division created by the U.S./Mexican border plays a role in his artwork as well. Hernandez earned a degree in education from Arizona State University, and a masters degree in drawing and painting from the Chicago Art Institute. He now divides his time between Chicago and a home here in Kino Springs.

The Museo de Arte, located at Adolfo Lopez Mateos 120, is a short walk from the border. The gallery is open Wednesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

An exhibit of paintings by Ricardo Santos Hernández opened May 27 at Museo de Arte in Nogales, Mexico, and will continue through through July 22. Hernandez’ paintings depict what appear to be haunting visions—surreal and sometimes bleak.
Keeping Koi

I acquired a small pond when I moved in to my current home. It is my first experience with having one, aside from caring for others’ when they were away.

There was already one resident fish—a large goldfish. He lived amidst some very tall bulrushes that literally took over. They had to be sawed out in chunks!

I have since learned that for a small pond, it is better to get dwarf rushes. Also, water plants should be in a close-bottomed pot when added to the pond so that the roots are contained. There is an amazing nursery in Sierra Vista that specializes in ponds, koi and water plants. They were very helpful in educating me so that I could choose appropriate plants for my little pond.

The most commonly kept pond fish are koi and goldfish. They cohabitate well together and are quite hardy. In fact they are both glorified members of the carp family.

Koi were originally domesticated by the Chinese. They would place them in their rice paddies as the fish supplied good fertilizer for the crops. Then, in the off-season, they would eat the koi. Thus they became associated with abundance, bounty and good fortune.

Koi farming also became popular with the Japanese who began selecting some of the most beautifully marked ones and breeding them in separate ponds to keep as pets.

Some koi are actually quite sociable and can be trained to eat out of one’s hand. Both koi and goldfish eat algae that grows on the sides of their tank or pond.

When feeding them it is important to put only as many flakes or pellets as they can consume in five minutes. Otherwise, the excess just feeds the algae and takes away from the esthetic value of a pond.

Koi enjoy treats like shrimp or bits of raw ground meat.

The rule of thumb to maintain healthy fish is one koi per ten feet of water surface and one goldfish per three to four feet. If a pond is more populated than this, there is a build up of too much ammonia from their waste.

Some ranchers place goldfish in their stock tanks to keep the algae down. There is often a high attrition rate in these circumstances but usually enough survive to do the job. It all depends on how much someone wishes to think of their fish as pets. Some of us even have names for each one. Smile.

The water plants contribute to keeping the water oxygenated for the fish. It is also good to have a pond aeration device such as a spitter, bubbler or fountain to keep the water circulating, fresh and well oxygenated.

I call out my fishes’ names when I feed them. I have one koi named Swish and one fantail named Sashay and two common goldfish named Scoot ‘n’ Boot. They all come to the top to eat when I do this. I don’t have any of them eating out of my hand yet, but you never know.
The Patagonia Qi Gong Challenge

By Colin Treiber

For me, there are few better ways to start a day than connecting with nature, moving my body alive, and being in the company of friends and community. I was reminded of this last fall when I decided to take the three-week Qi Gong challenge being offered by Patagonia’s Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) practitioner, Dr. Liliane Papin.

I had begun practicing this ancient Chinese health care system of postures, breathing, and focused intention just months earlier. But already I had noticed the incredible effects it was having on my clarity of mind and increased energy throughout the day. I knew I wanted to take my practice deeper, so I joined Dr. Papin and the dozen or so others in the park for the challenge.

The movements we learned over the three weeks were focused on the lung, the organ associated with the fall. They were graceful, yet powerful; smooth, yet decisive, and always gentle. Indeed, being gentle with the movements, allowing the breath to be the guide to the openings the body invites, rather than forcing them. Three weeks and 21 hours of Qi Gong later, I carried a new-found bodily awareness, stronger legs and lungs, and a clearer, more focused mind, plus a bunch of new friends.

Well, now it is summer that approaches - a time of high heat and explosive, fiery energy down here in southern Arizona. Thankfully, Dr. Papin is at it again, this time offering us a three-week Qi Gong challenge focused on the heart, the organ connected with the season of summer. Looking forward to getting started with some more Qi Gong, I took advantage of the small town availability to ask Dr. Papin a few questions about Qi Gong and what it means to her.

Q: How long have you been doing Qi Gong? And why did you begin?
Dr. Papin: For over 30 years. I started with Tai Chi as part of theater training to become more aware of space and movement. A fantastic teacher required us to do Tai Chi intensively several hours a day for three months before we could be on stage. I never stopped after that and picked up Qi Gong as part of Chinese medicine’s available tools. It is shorter and more focused than Tai Chi and can be mastered more quickly.

Q: Why are you offering the Qi Gong challenge to the Patagonia community?
Dr. Papin: This is the fourth time for the challenge. It is a free event. At least 30 people have participated, maybe more, which is quite impressive for little Patagonia! Qi Gong is a beautiful form of movement. It is fun. It is adapted to all ages.

Q: Where do you see participants have improved their health, or well-being?
Dr. Papin: I have noticed more flexibility, more grace and beauty in the movements but also, most important, a much better level of concentration. So many people do not even realize that they are not truly in their body; their eyes dart around, their attention wavers. They are not truly present.

Q: Lastly, why is the heart of so much importance this time of year?
Dr. Papin: In Chinese medicine, the heart corresponds to fire energy. The two most challenging times for the heart are the summer because by nature the heart is already red and hot. You see lots of fires, lots of city and prison riots in the summer. Tempers and hearts flare up! I would say that Patagonia definitely qualifies as a place where you need to take care of your heart in the summer and be ready to prevent heart fires!

The Heart Qi Gong Challenge is May 30th until June 17, 2016. It is a free event, and meets in the Patagonia Park from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., Monday through Friday.

On May 12, The Patagonia Woman’s Club installed new officers for the term of 2016-2018. Shown above are the new term’s officers, from left: Sara Cobb, Secretary, who also received the Woman of the Year award, Connie Alford, President, who also received her 25 year pin, Anna Schmeierer, Second Vice President, and Anne Townsend, Treasurer. Later that day they awarded two $1,000/semester college scholarships to Patagonia Union High School students, Annika Coleman and Daniel Schrimpf.
Fair Association Calls Derby Weekend a Success

The crowd that converged on the Sonoita Fairgrounds May 7 and 8 for the Kentucky Derby event enjoyed beautiful weather. Long lines to get drink tickets were eliminated this year by providing more locations. Betting on the Derby was feverish. And, as in Louisville, the ladies wearing their spring hats, mint juleps in hand, added color and fashion to the festivities.

The Santa Cruz County Fair & Rodeo Association calls the event a success, as announced at their recent board meeting. Although attendance was down a bit from last year, the association came out ahead financially because they were careful with their expenses. They attribute the reduced crowd to the fact that betting on the Kentucky Derby was also permitted in Tucson and that it was a Mother’s Day weekend. Next year’s races are not scheduled for that holiday.

The board responded to public questions about the entrance price of $20, noting that this year parking was free, the ride to the entrance gate in a mule-driven wagon was free, and entrance to programs was free. And, for the first time, entrance and use of the Turf Club was free.

To counteract the increase in entrance fees, the board encourages the public to buy a membership in the Fair Association at $25 per person. With this, members get free admissions to all events, free use of the stalls and the arenas, plus admission to the annual dinner. Interested patrons are encouraged to call 520-455-5553 for the application and further information.

Rotary Club Project For Fairgrounds Improvement Under Way

The local Rotary Club is proposing a beautification project for the Sonoita Fairgrounds. They want to plant 100 rose bushes in the front of the fairgrounds, and to build a half acre park on the grounds.

Officers and members of the Rotary Club, led by Leslie Kramer and Sue Archibald, presented their project to the Fairgrounds Board recently. Plans have been drawn, contractors are standing ready and a task force committee has been formed.

Their goal is to provide a family park with picnic tables and playground equipment in the center of town. It would be an asset to the fairgrounds and a safe fenced destination for family fun. Through previous fundraisers, the Rotary Club has raised the needed funds to finance the cost of the infrastructure work. With the help of continuing fundraisers and donations from the public, they say that the park can begin construction. Tax-free contributions to move the park forward can be made to the Patagonia-Sonoita Rotary Foundation, a 501C3 organization. Supporters can see the plans and drop off donations at the Sonoita Fairgrounds.
Elgin School Superintendent Reviews This Year’s Accomplishments

Superintendent Christopher Bonn declares his main goal at Elgin Elementary School to be excellence in education. Many accomplishments achieved this year reflect that goal’s success.

Dr. Bonn announced recently that “We have a seventh grade student here at Elgin that was designated a Southwest Region Representative for the upcoming History Competition in Chicago, Illinois on June 9 through 12.” The students will be competing to demonstrate their knowledge of historical information, concepts, skills and facts. The Elgin student was sponsored through a tax credit as part of the History and Mock Trial Club.

In this year’s AIMS testing, 100% of Elgin students passed the science portion, with 75% of those students exceeding the state standards. Elgin students also tested above the state average in English Language, Arts and Mathematics.

Earlier this year PRT reported that during the ‘Love of Reading Week’ the students read over 3,000 books, which Dr. Bonn says is amazing since Elgin only has 100 students and beat out schools with many hundreds of students.

“Our students are learning how to incorporate and implement 21st century technology—including computer software coding (reported in PRT), along with digital story telling, website design and publishing. These are necessary skills to prepare our kids as they integrate into society.”

Dr. Bonn is now working on improvements in reading and math for the fall school year. He also envisions a new emphasis on music, art and drama to round out the childrens’ accomplishments.

To maintain high academic standards at Elgin School, new teachers have been hired for the fall school year. Calle Mattis has been added to the third grade class and Lorinda Pierce joins Elgin as their Student Achievement Coach. In addition, Alyson Weisel-Knickerbocker has accepted the position of Para-Professional in Special Education, a federally funded position that provides support to students with specific disabilities to help them access the regular curriculum.

Elgin teachers are also encouraged to learn new skills. Five Elgin employees are currently pursuing advanced level studies at Arizona universities.

Each month a teachers or staff member is voted as “Educator of the Month.” From that list an “Educator of the Year” is chosen and this year the vote went to Isela Reyes, the school’s new business manager.

But it is not all just serious studies. Before school let out for the year, the Marine Science Club at Elgin traveled to the Catalina Islands, off the coast of California. They spent a week of study and fun at the Catalina Island Marine Institute and Marine Biology and Science Camp. The students and their families raised the money on their own, along with help of a very generous community.

And, Elgin athletes won the River Valley Athletic League Championship in football. Congratulations to Elgin Elementary School on its many accomplishments!

Celebrating The Life of Nan Sonderer

A large gathering of local friends and family came together in Sonoita on May 18, to celebrate the life of Nan Sonderer, who had passed away two days earlier.

Though trained as a trauma nurse, she was better known as one who rescued and rehabilitated horses. She was a specialist in alternative veterinarian techniques and always helped people when called.

Dr. Eric Sonderer and daughter Morgan were on hand to greet the many friends who came to celebrate Nancy’s life. Neighbors Wally and Sheila Dagucon remembered how Nan would always be available to go over and help them with any animal problems or questions.

Dr. Sonderer and Morgan welcomed their friends and reminisced about Nan’s attributes as a great humanitarian. In a walk around their horse ranch, once called the Mary Star Ranch, attendees visited 23 rescued horses. It was noticeable that Nan had taken very good care of these animals. Some of these rescued horses are available for adoption.

Dr. Sonderer paused for a moment to speak to those where were gathered, about Nan and their life together. He finished by saying, “She was gracious in living and gracious in dying. She never complained. This is not her last hurrah.”

True to her passion, Nan has been laid to rest peacefully alongside her beloved horses.
I never thought the day would come where I would get made fun of for my sexual orientation. Imagining what it would feel like over and over in my head, I thought I would be well prepared for this day. It turns out, I was wrong.

My first encounter was with someone who still fears what they don't know. The exact moment I heard that hateful word come from her mouth, I froze and my heart dropped. I didn't know if I was angry or sad. I felt numb.

What I learned from this situation is not to allow these negative slurs define me. Whether it be ethnicity, skin color, or sexual orientation, if you take away fear and prejudice, underneath, we are all the same. So there is no need to judge people just because they are different. Everyone has a little something special that makes them unique in their own way. Different is okay.

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**Lasting Lessons**

- Hit me and I’ll hit you harder (brother)
- Of you did it own up to it (mom)
- Mind your own business (sister)
- If you borrow it put it back (sister)
- Don’t tell mom (sister again)
- Ask before taking (mom)
- Be the best you can be (grandma)

— Audriana Paz

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The Patagonia Union High School journalism class has published a book of poetry and artwork titled, “Duende.” The book is made up of student work from this school year. The students picked which of their art and poems they liked the most for inclusion in the book. There are 100 copies made for the entire high school and a limited number of free copies for the community.

Mrs. Janet Winans had a part in this book. Mrs. Winans is a poet-in-residence and has been a member of the journalism class’s writing process this school year. She came and wrote many poems with us and taught us how to write poems. She also is a contributor in the book.

“It was a lot of hard work and time devoted to put everything together, but the final product looked better than I imagined,” explained Gianna Martin.
Deep fried, melt in your mouth pastries, yes doughnuts! June third is National Doughnut Day, and I’m sure many people will want to indulge in a scrumptious doughnut. The classic circular dessert has been around since ancient Greek times when people would fry bands of dough and coat them with honey or fish sauce; yes, you’re not hallucinating, fish sauce. During the 1400s the fried piece of bliss came to Northern Europe.

Sixteen-year-old Hanson Gregory claimed to invent the doughnut that we all know and love today, aboard a lime-trading ship in 1847. Nobody really knows the exact story of how the doughnut got a hole in the center, but here’s a fun story about the hole. One day aboard Captain Gregory’s ship, he was eating a doughnut when suddenly a storm appeared and the doughnut was thrown out of Gregory’s control, impaled on the wheel of the ship, and, bam, there was a hole in the doughnut.

Over the years the irresistible treat has become an American fan food. You may not know it but the doughnut has also earned its patriotic badge, being a big hit during WWI. During the war, Salvation Army women known as “Doughnut Girls,” would fry and pass out doughnuts to American soldiers to give them a sense of home while they were in France. These men became known as “Doughboys.”

Jewish culture heavily influenced the doughnut industry in America. A Jewish refugee, William Rosenberg, invented the automated doughnut machine in 1920. Because of his invention; doughnuts were labeled “Hit Food of the Century of Progress,” at the Chicago World Fair in 1934. Rosenberg, son of Jewish immigrant parents, noticed that everyone loved doughnuts and coffee. He opened a shop in 1948 called Open Kettle in Quincy, Massachusetts. Soon Rosenberg changed the name to Dunkin’ Donuts. As of 2013 there were 10,858, stores around the world.

Doughnuts come in all shapes and sizes, flavors, and colors so this June take some time to appreciate the sublime, exceptional desert we all know and love: the doughnut.

Ever since I was little I wanted a 1968 Mustang. My family had one when I was a kid, but unfortunately it was totaled in an accident. My older brother had gotten to drive it around and I wanted to be able do the same.

I searched through newspapers for years. I would look for a ’68 but I would always find a ’69 or a ’67 but never a ’68. Thirty years later I finally found a beautiful 1968 Mustang. I got it for about $4,000, which is cheap, but it was very banged up. My friend Bill, in Tucson, that owns a mechanic shop, fixed the whole motor for me. I got the transmission fixed at another auto shop and the interior I fixed all by myself. After seven years of working extra side jobs, I finally earned all the money to make it brand new and my own.

I love driving it around many places. My absolute favorite place to drive it is on Highway 83 and Highway 82 just because it’s so beautiful; there is no traffic and I just love that drive. I also like taking it to the Tubac Car Show and to just have people admire and look at it is one of my favorite things. I’m so happy I finally have my beautiful 1968 Mustang.
LAKE PATAGONIA RANCH ESTATES / THE MESA / PATAGONIA HILLS / LAZY RR RANCH ESTATES / REDROCK ACRES / RAIL X RANCH ESTATES / SONOITA SPRINGS / TOWN LOTS
We have many special land offerings ranging from .15ac to 72ac. From fantastic town lots with full city services to hilltop acreage with breathtaking views, the variety of the region is endless. If you are looking for a premier village location for your dream home or are longing for a rural retreat in this rare Sky Island setting—impressive variety & best-of-market values await.

ROMANTIC CASA & CASITA ENCANTA
These special Patagonia offerings are furnished & ready for your dream business, rentals, home, etc.. The Encanta property features 2 successful overnight rentals; Casa Buone is ready to continue as a restaurant or transform as you desire— for retail space, professional offices, 2 studios... It presently includes a small private residence!

HANDSOME PATAGONIA ADOBE
This 1,254sf custom residence with 2Be/Office/1Ba is on 11.24ac at the SE edge of Patagonia. Features include a Terracotta tile floor w/radiant heat below, Tejas tile roof, high ceilings. Behind, is a separate 1,125sf workshop with 1-car garage. This regionally authentic home includes a private well & historic Patagonia is a short walk away.

HILLTOP SANTÉ FE CONTEMPORARY
Gracious custom built 2,798sf home on 6.22ac w/4Be/3Ba & 3G + separate Studio bldg. Beautiful quality t/o; chef's kitchen, o/s Laundry + Mud Room, walled courtyard & covered rear patio in a prime location with stunning views. A best-of-market value.

GORGEOUS GRASSLAND RETREAT
in ELGIN WINE COUNTRY
This substantial 2,764sf SW contemporary with 3Be/2Ba in the main house & 1Be/1Ba Guest Qtrs is substantial insulated concrete form construction & built to last. On 12.68ac w/360 views of surrounding mountain ranges & dark, star-filled skies— it's ideal for serene AZ wine country living.

RESIDENTIAL COMPOUND
in magical FLUX CANYON
This out-of-the-ordinary 25.16ac setting features 3 homes of stareable & adobe construction— the 1,219sf 2Be/2Ba primary hillside residence; 1,454sf 2Be/2Ba creekside guest house & 533sf guest studio + 1,088sf Vastu studio/building, storage & workshop areas. A slot canyon with stunning red cliffs, a seasonal arroyo with footbridges & endless hiking & adventuring opportunities are among the special features of this special offering.

102 PAPAGO SPRINGS ROAD in SONOITA
HOPE SPRINGS RANCH 17.16ac horse property w/360 views. 2,800sf residence w/3Be/3Ba/Study/Studio/2G. Exceptional Stable w/pastures. Proximity, lifestyle!
TAR/MLS #21529457, $429,900

54 CALLE MANDARINA at LAKE PATAGONIA
RANCHO LA LUZ, SW of Lk Patagonia. 2,820sf Territorial on 41ac w/3Be/2Ba/2Gm++ Premier SE AZ habitat, views, lifestyle, value.
TAR/MLS #21529135, $384,500

423 SONOITA AVENUE in PATAGONIA
1,100sf Territorial w/1Be/Office/1.5Ba + 308sf Guest Qtrs & 533sf Wkshp w/2CP on .25ac 'in the village'. Exceptional quality & creativity t/o.
TAR/MLS #21429811, $279,900

405 SIERRA LANE in PATAGONIA
Hilltop Sante Fe on 1.85ac. 2,280sf w/3Be/Office/2Ba/2G + o/s Fam-Rm/Studio w/pvt entry. Wkshp; walled garden; mountain views.
TAR/MLS #21531693, $289,000

31 CROSSCREEK ROAD near PATAGONIA
Ultra-private Patagonia gem. Incomparable 28.43ac setting. 2,200sf w/2Be/2Ba/2CP. Horse facilities. Tremendous value & potential here.
TAR/MLS #21516250, $449,000

18 JANE LANE in SONOITA
Regional contemporary w/quality designer details t/o. 2,534sf on 1.75ac w/3Be/2Ba/2G + separate Guest Quarters. Great views & convenience.
TAR/MLS #21512182, $374,500