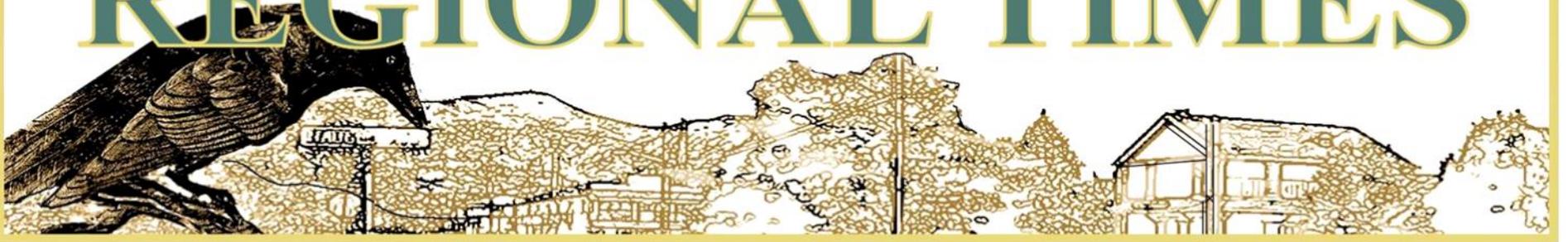


# PATAGONIA REGIONAL TIMES



JUNE/JULY 2017

SERVING THE MOUNTAIN EMPIRE COMMUNITIES OF CANELO, ELGIN, PATAGONIA AND SONOITA

VOL. 7, ISSUE 6

## Congratulations to PUHS 2017 Graduating Seniors!



Photo by Laura Wenzel

# PRT

## MISSION STATEMENT

To publish a nonprofit community newspaper which serves the Mountain Empire communities of Santa Cruz County—including Canelo, Elgin, Patagonia, and Sonoita—and which is open to all views, highlighting local issues and emphasizing the contributions of local talent.

## WHO WE ARE

We are a nonprofit organization, funded by paid advertising, donations and grants. PRT is a free monthly publication distributed to news stands and local merchants in The Mountain Empire.

### Managing Editor:

Marion Vendituoli

### Assistant Editor:

Laura Wenzel

### Editorial Advisor

Donna Reibslager

### Advertising Manager:

Janie Trafton

### Contributing

### Writers & Staff:

Bob Brandt

Cate Drown

Cassina Farley

Martin Levowitz

Cynie Murray

Vince Pinto

### Distribution:

Judy Mills

Les Corum

### Board of Directors:

Bob Brandt

Lynn Davison

Dave Ellis

Cassina Farley

Jac Heiss

Donna Lee

Kathryn Schrag

Contact us at:

[prteditor@gmail.com](mailto:prteditor@gmail.com)

PO Box 1073, Patagonia 85624

To Place an ad:

[prtads@gmail.com](mailto:prtads@gmail.com)

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## New Subscription Service Available for Our Readers

We have heard from increasing numbers of readers that they would like to receive a copy of the PRT directly in their mailboxes. Some live here year-round and simply want the convenience of the paper arriving at their door or PO box, and others are part-timers who would like a copy they can hold in their hands when they are away.

The Board of Directors and staff have heard these requests, and starting in August, we will begin offering mail subscriptions. The cost for this service is \$50 annually, which covers the expense of processing and handling. If you are interested in subscribing, please provide your name and the address to which you want the newspaper sent, along with a \$50 check made out to the PRT to PO Box 1073, Patagonia, AZ 85624.

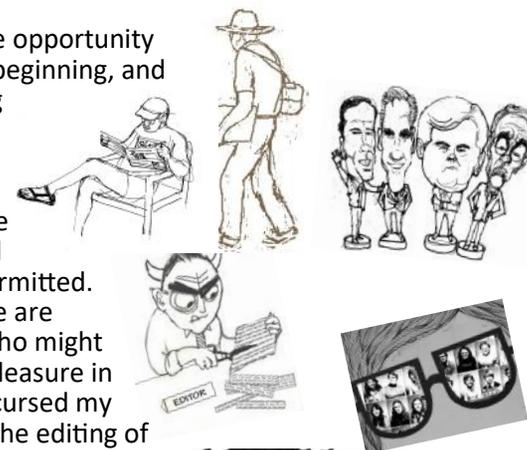
Or... we would love for you to become a sustaining monthly supporter of the PRT. For those of you who contribute \$15/month, we will send you your copy as a gift. We think this is a great way to thank you for your support. To become a monthly donor, visit our website and click the donate now button on the homepage: [www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org](http://www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org).

## Founding Editor Retires From PRT

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of PRT since its beginning, and to have had a role in shaping the look and the message of this newspaper. The time I spent on layout design was an indulgence and a pleasure for me, and one that no paid position would ever have permitted. As to my role as editor, there are some contributing writers who might say I took a little too much pleasure in that process. To those who cursed my "Less is More" approach to the editing of their articles, may you forgive me. PRT's mission has always been to shine a light on what is unique to our area, and to encourage comment and opinion from all points of view.

That mission is now in the capable hands of Marion Vendituoli and Laura Wenzel, who will impart their own voices to PRT's look and message. We are very fortunate to have them at the helm.

Donna Reibslager



## The Layout Learning Curve

By Marion Vendituoli

When I first began talking to the PRT board about taking on the position of editor last winter, I pictured myself sitting cozily at my computer, teacup in hand, passing judgement on other people's grasp of AP style and vocabulary.

Well, I had a lot to learn. For example, apparently, an awful lot of you writers do not share my distrust of the semicolon. In 65 years, I have managed to avoid them completely, and am not that thrilled to have to look up their correct usage every time one shows up in an article. PLEASE, step away from the semicolon, people. It would save me a lot of time.

I have also learned that I can tell how old a writer is by whether or not he or she puts two spaces after a period. All of us who grew up thinking an electric typewriter was cool were taught to put those extra spaces in. Our younger friends know enough to only hit the space bar once. The ones who have me stymied, though, are the computer 'gap' babies, those who transitioned to the keyboard early enough to know not to hit that bar twice, but don't seem

to be able to stop themselves from doing it. There should be a twelve-step program for that.

But the most important thing I have learned is how talented Donna Reibslager is, and how much she had to teach me in these past few months. I really didn't think layout would be that complicated. After all, I'd worked in Microsoft publisher before and even put together a website. How hard could it be? Well, pretty hard, it turns out, and if it hadn't been for Donna's hard work and talent, the PRT surely wouldn't have lasted this long.

I can't thank her enough for the calls at 6:30 a.m. to discuss why my article placements were awry ("Put the important stuff up front, Marion, not just the stuff that fills up the blank spaces!"), all the tricks she has shown me, and her gravelly laugh and sense of humor when we try to wrest the mouse out of each other's hands. She may be stepping down officially from the PRT, but I've got her phone number on speed dial, and we will still be calling her for advice as we try to live up to the high standards that she has set.

# Lead, Arsenic Levels Cause Concern in Patagonia

By Marion Vendituoli

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is moving forward with plans to remove soil at the Patagonia Youth Enrichment Center on Smelter Avenue after determining that high levels of lead are present in the area. The lead is believed to be related to smelter operations in the area that took place more than 100 years ago.

The Youth Center received lab results from ADEQ on May 22, according to Director Anna Coleman. "The majority of the yard has been covered with gravel for the entire three years of PYEC's operations, however due to the potential health dangers to the youth, we are choosing to limit the exposure space," she said. "Whether it is bike helmets or dangerous chemicals, the safety of the youth is our main priority at PYEC."

Coleman is taking steps to insure the safety of the youth visiting the center. "The youth center will remain open with only the inside space being available for the youth until the soil is excavated and replaced. The youth center will be closed entirely during the time of the excavation and soil replacement, which is scheduled to begin June 12th and last approximately a week," she said.

The ADEQ has conducted more than 200 soil samples in the Smelter Ave. area since October 2016. This investigation was triggered by the results of a soil sample that was collected by a private party as part of a potential real estate transaction. This sample showed not only lead levels that exceeded Arizona residential Soil Remediation Levels (rSRLs) for lead, which are set at 400 milligrams per kilogram or mg/kg, but also showed arsenic levels that exceeded rSRLs which are 10 mg/kg. The ADEQ has determined that there is no contamination of groundwater in the Patagonia area, and no problems with the town's water supply.

The map (above) shows the location of the former smelter, slag piles and sampling sites, as well as the boundaries of the preliminary investigation area. The red dots indicate samples that showed lead levels higher than 400 mg/kg.

Lead and arsenic are naturally present in soil in



the Patagonia area, according to the ADEQ, a situation that is quite common throughout Arizona.

Naturally occurring levels of arsenic in soil samples, also known as background levels, taken in Patagonia outside the investigation area ranged from less than 8 mg/kg to 103 mg/kg, while levels in soil samples collected within the investigation area ranged from 16 mg/kg to 1,332 mg/kg. "In terms of soil and naturally occurring arsenic, there's limited work we can do," Ian Bingham, communications director for the agency, said.

Lead levels in soil samples taken outside the investigation area ranged from 46 mg/kg to 210 mg/kg. Levels in samples collected within the investigation area boundary ranged from 94 mg/kg to 40,900 mg/kg.

The high levels of lead found in the testing are believed to be directly related to historic smelting activities.

Although the agency is funding the cleanup at the Youth Center, there are no plans for mitigation in the rest of the area. "We have limited access and resources for private residences," Bingham said. "We are looking at the area to assess what might be available for property owners."

Although the agency believes that high lead levels are limited to the sites that they tested,

stating that "environmental impacts associated with historic smelter activities are limited to the area within the preliminary investigation boundary," the extent of the area which contains high arsenic levels, which they refer to as a naturally occurring phenomenon, was not determined.

"ADEQ is in the process of finalizing the preliminary investigation report, which includes test results for both groundwater and soil samples collected and is under technical review," Caroline Oppele, a public information officer for ADEQ, stated.

When asked about possible health risks connected with the high lead and arsenic levels found in the town, Oppele replied, "It is not our agency's role to determine environmental health risks, which are addressed by public health agencies and medical professionals, such as the Arizona Department of Health Services."

As for residents in the target area, "there are things anybody can do," she said. "Don't track soil into your home," she suggested. She encouraged concerned residents to visit <http://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/childhood-lead/index.php#parent-health-effects> for more information.

# Arson Blamed For Restaurant Fire In Sonoita

By Marion Vendituoli



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

Fire investigators found presence of accelerants in five places after the Ranch House Restaurant fire.

The fire that destroyed Cunningham's Ranch House Restaurant in Sonoita is being investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), according to SEFD Chief Joseph DeWolf.

DeWolf, who responded to the fire, which was called into the station at 8:40p.m., May 11, became suspicious that accelerants were used to start the fire shortly after he arrived at the scene. "It looked like we had two fires," he said. "That's what made me suspicious." The restaurant was closed at the time of the fire.

He then called in the Southern Arizona Fire Investigators Association, who arrived on the scene the next morning. A dog trained to sniff out accelerants was brought in from Glendale, AZ, who alerted investigators to three additional spots where accelerants were used to set the fire. The five spots were located both behind and in the building. Chief DeWolf was unable to verify what kind of accelerants were used, as of press time.

The case was immediately turned over to ATF, the federal law enforcement agency which is mandated to investigate cases of arson. "A lot of people have been interviewed," DeWolf said.

The restaurant suffered flame damage to 30% of the structure, and 100% smoke damage, according to the chief.

Also lost in the fire were two flags belonging to Sonoita American Legion Post 113, one American flag and one Legion flag with streamers bearing

the names of deceased Legion members, according to Legionnaire Joyce Taylor.

Firefighters from Sonoita, Patagonia and Whetstone contained the fire to the restaurant, sparing the two buildings next to it on both the east and west sides. DeWolf credits this to the hard work of the firefighters, and to the fact that SEFD was able to quickly respond with two fire trucks.

One truck, which the department had purchased last August, was on a medical call on Yucca Ash Road when the call came in, so the second truck was dispatched and arrived at the fire in three minutes. The truck that had been on the medical call arrived 10 minutes later. "One truck was in front and one was in back, so we were able to hit the fire from both directions," he said.

The Ranch House Restaurant has been a fixture in Sonoita since the 1970's when it was converted from a feed store by Mike Cunningham, according to present owner Jean Lewis. Her parents, Bob and Sarah Cunningham, took it over shortly after that, and it has now been passed down to Lewis and her siblings. The restaurant had been for sale at the time of the fire.

"We need to focus on the good that the owners of the Ranch House did for our communities over the years, and what we can do to help them," said DeWolf. The restaurant has organized numerous local fundraisers over the years to help families in need. "Mother's motto was 'Nobody goes hungry.'

Whether they have money or not, you take care of them," Lewis said.

When asked if the family planned to rebuild, Lewis said, "We don't know what we are doing yet. We are still in shock. Forty years of memories went up in smoke."

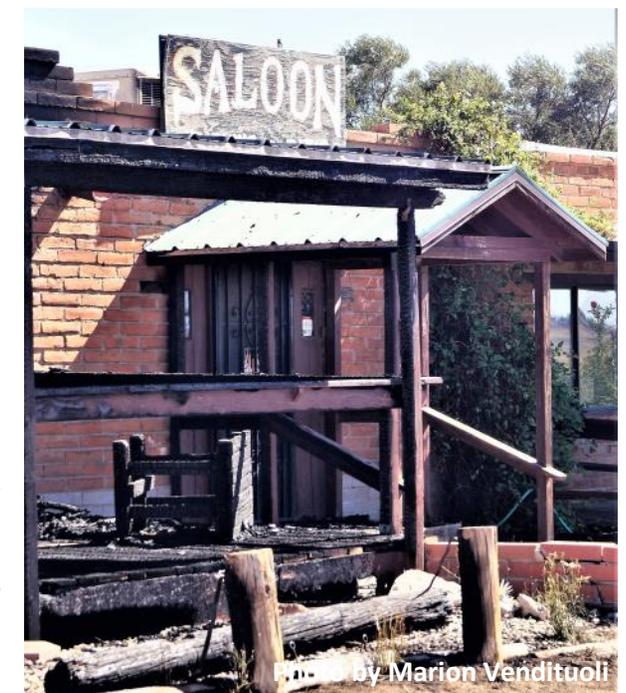


Photo by Marion Vendituoli

The bar at the restaurant was a favorite gathering spot for locals.

# Letters to the Editor

## Opera House Kudos

Having just attended my first concert at the Benderly/Kendall Opera House, I have this to say: What a great thing! We're lucky to have it. Hats off to Saints Christina and Friedrich Wilhelm and their army of melodic elves.

Martin Levowitz, Patagonia



## Patagonia Magic

The recent outdoor concert here in Patagonia of young, colorfully-costumed Mexican dancers ended with the audience joyfully climbing up into the gazebo stage to join in the dancing. It was a bit of Patagonia magic. And it brought memories—and hope—to many of us.

A Patagonia town council member said it brought her flashbacks of lively music in the park back in former days. That was exactly why my daughter, Linx Selby, wanted to organize the performance in the gazebo. She remembers big gatherings of music and dancing together around the gazebo when she was growing up here, and wanted to recreate that magic. As the council member said, it was wonderful to see everyone putting their differences aside for the moment to dance together. What better way to come together?

It was very special for the girls from Magdalena, Sonora too. Parents expressed their appreciation because some of the girls would never have an opportunity to come over to the U.S. if it weren't for an occasion like this, for which we applied for special entry permits. It turned out to be a heart-warming weekend of cross-cultural activities hosted by the Patagonia Community Church. There was a welcome potluck and preview concert the night before on the stage in Thurber Hall, plus joint activities, like baking cookies together for a prison mission, with the church's Youth Group the next day.

Pastor Tom Jelinek co-organized the weekend along with Linx, who is working on a film about experiences of living on both sides of the U.S.-Mexican border. They are both inspired to organize more events like this for youth and adults in Patagonia and Magdalena.

Despite the last-minute preparations, close to 150 people showed up for the dance concert in the park here. Let's keep up the support of these and other efforts to deepen our connections between our neighbors, whether those down the street or across the line. Food, music, and dancing in the gazebo—true Patagonia magic!

Linda Jade Fong, Patagonia

## Woman's Club Party a Fun Evening

On May 6<sup>th</sup> the Patagonia Woman's Club celebrated 100 years of Service to our Community.

The Wonderful String Benders Band played at our Celebration. They played with so much enthusiasm it made everyone happy and joyful. Two lovely ladies, Linx Selby and Sage Jubelius, sang with the band, and they also danced a little.

A Big Thank You to our merchants who donated the prizes for our raffle: Dirty Girl Farmette, Global Arts Gallery, Gathering Grounds, Mercedes Café, Mesquite Grove Gallery, Ovens of Patagonia, Patagonia Market, PCUM Church Thrift Shop, Ponytail Salon, Red Mountain Foods, Stage Stop Inn, and Velvet Elvis Pizzeria/Bistro.

We thank all who took part in this fun evening!

Connie Alford, PWC President

## Don't Be a Litter Bug

Litter is preventable. Litter is defined as trash, such as paper, cans, and bottles that is left lying in an open or public place.

There are annual planned cleanup days in town for disposing of your hazardous materials and non-hazardous trash. It is a great opportunity to rid yourself of unwanted items you are unsure what to do with or do not have the means to dispose of. However, the litter throughout town is not addressed.

Let's make a crusade to clean our town of litter. One way to do so is to not put your garbage out until the morning of pick up. Dogs, coyotes, javelina, bears and yes, even birds get into that trash and scatter it all about. With the horrific wind we have, it scatters the garbage, which has now turned to litter—everywhere. If you must put your trash out early, please find a way to secure it. Another way to avoid litter is to never throw anything out of your car or truck as you are driving down the road.

Next time you head out on a walk, please take a little time to pick up litter.

Cynie K. Murray, Patagonia

## Town Bans Water Balloons at 4th of July Parade

**Due to the serious escalation of problems at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, with near serious injuries to participants, this year we are instituting a new policy. THERE IS TO BE NO THROWING OF WATER BALLOONS, SQUIRTING OF WATER OR ANY OTHER USE OF WATER, THROWN OR PROPELLED DURING THE PARADE. VIOLATORS WILL BE WARNED AND IF NECESSARY, ARRESTED. We will be taking a number of steps to make this known in advance to avoid any problems or misconceptions, including signs, posters and publicity in all available media. --Dave Teel, Town Manager**

Patagonia's Fourth of July parade, which used to be an event attended primarily by the town, has become an aggressive water fight in which water balloons are hurled at parade members like hardballs, often by visitors who come to the event to be a part of the action.

Last year, Marshal Joe Patterson stopped a truck coming in to town filled with water balloons. Even though he walked through the crowd before the parade advising spectators that water ballooning was not permitted, many parade participants were hit directly in the face with them.

During the years that Lars Marshal was in charge of the parade, the event was advertised broadly to increase attendance from out-of-towners. The intent was to promote Patagonia as a great place to spend the holiday, and to give town businesses a boost in revenue.

Unfortunately, things have gotten out of hand, causing several parade entries to withdraw from this year's festivities. Many residents complained about the ballooning at the town council meeting on May 24. As a result, Town Manager Dave Teel has instituted a policy that he hopes will get the word out.

Marshal Patterson says that some of the town's volunteer fire fighters have offered to help monitor the crowd, and that he will authorize them to make arrests if necessary, to ensure that the ban is observed.



# Area Business Plan Draft Completed

By Susan Scott and Marion Vendituoli

After three months of work, the committee developing the Sonoita Area Business Plan has completed a draft plan which includes design criteria and use restrictions for the commercial area of Sonoita. Jesse Drake, Santa Cruz County Community Development Director, has the responsibility of ensuring that all the business owners within the designated area (which is all the commercially zoned property in Sonoita), along with those property owners adjacent to the designated area, receive a copy of the plan for comment. Others receiving copies will be Pima and Cochise County officials and departments and boards within Santa Cruz County.

The Plan "provides specific goals and design criteria to be followed in the construction of new buildings and exterior remodeling of existing structures located within the Sonoita Business Area Plan boundaries... to help preserve property values and maintain and enhance the rural environment and scenic corridors."

The plan sets standards for, and restrictions on, building style, height, exterior materials,

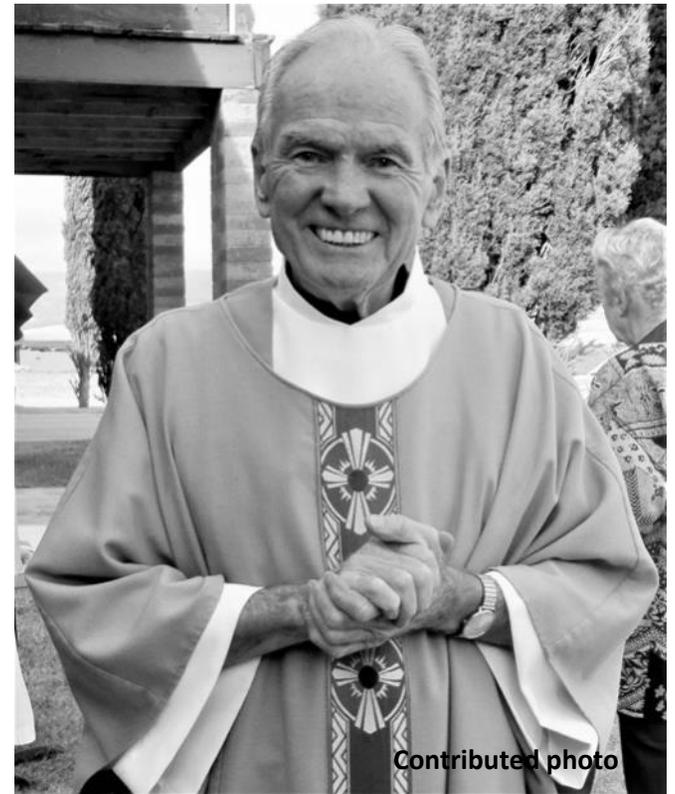
color, roof type, porches and overhangs, proportions, windows, doors, parking areas, external lighting and landscaping, including a list of acceptable trees that can be planted, signage, fences and walls. Chain link fences would be prohibited.

"Businesses in operation or with active building permits, located within the Sonoita Business Area Plan, are grandfathered "as is", although modifications in conformance with the design guidelines in this plan is encouraged," the plan states. "However, when a building becomes vacant for one (1) year or more, it will be subject to the conditions set forth in this Plan."

A public meeting to discuss the plan is set for June 2, 4-7 p.m., at Pioneer Hall, Sonoita Fairgrounds. Attendees will see the complete draft plan and learn from the committee members about the rationale for the criteria included in the plan. Community members are encouraged to leave comments that will be reviewed as the draft plan continues to be refined.

The whole purpose of the plan is to prevent further 'big box' stores from constructing buildings in Sonoita. "We want to preserve the ranching and southwestern style heritage that the current business area reflects" according to Susan Scott who chaired the committee. "While we can't specifically prevent certain businesses from coming to our community, we can make sure that the new structures fit our character."

The final step to implementing the plan will be to present it to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors for approval. Once approved it will become a tool that the county will use in meeting with prospective commercial builders.



Contributed photo

## A Fond Farewell To Father Bill

By Jan Urman

Reverend William Cosgrove, who has been serving as priest at St. Therese of Lisieux Parish in Patagonia since 2011, has been reassigned to the diocese of Bismark, ND. He is returning to the diocese where he was ordained a priest in 1999, and served until 2009.

Fr. Bill retired in 2009, splitting his time between Tucson and North Dakota, helping with ministries in both locations, before accepting the position as priest at St. Therese's.

He already was familiar with the Patagonia and Sonoita areas, and said his first impression was that "this is a likeable place to be." He felt at home immediately. His first goals for the parish were financial stability and completion of the mission church, Our Lady of the Angels, in Sonoita.

Fr. Bill emphasized his faith in the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout his priestly ministry.

During his six years in the area, he sees his major accomplishment was to help parish members to succeed and realize their ability to support and build the church community. He is confident in the ability of Fr. George Holley, who will succeed him in the parish, and thanks Bishop Gerald Kicanas of the Tucson dioceses for his support during his tenure.

In the future, he hopes that the friendship between the two church communities, St. Therese and Our Lady of the Angels, will continue, as well as the spirit of community at ecumenical events.

When asked for one word to describe his six years in the Patagonia parish, he responded, "exquisite." Farewell to Fr. Bill. He will be greatly missed, remembered and loved forever.

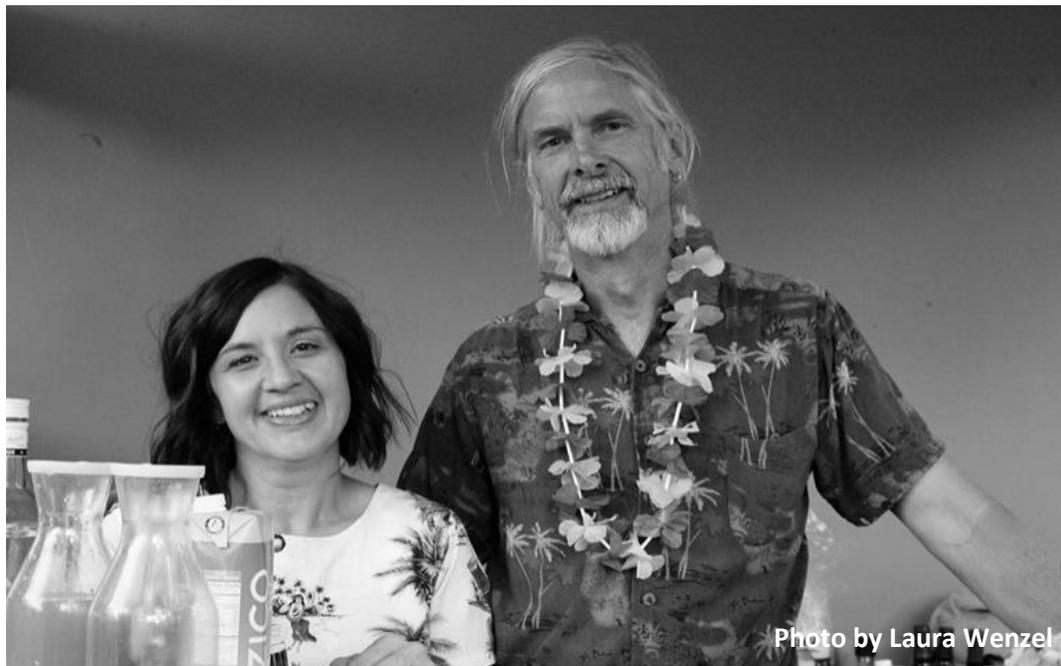
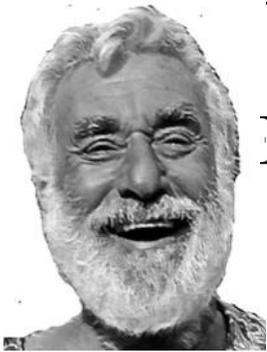


Photo by Laura Wenzel

Cassina Farley bartends at the KPUP Luau with president of the Board (and DJ), Fred Hansen. The Luau and the Hawaiian shirt sale, organized by Jan Herron, raised over \$6000 for the radio station.

# OPINION & COMMENT



## KNOT FOR LONG

By Martin Levowitz

Opinions arise more from feelings than from thought. We know they're just opinions, but we grow attached to them, especially when we're tired or grow old. At the end of a long day, or a long life, it's easy to dislike opinions different from your own. They seem to call for argument and that requires thought. It's been a long, hard day (or life) and I'd rather not think any more. Go Away.

A half a dozen years ago, I wrote an article decrying gentrification: the accelerating seepage of prosperous, white, college-educated retirees like you (with your concerts in rich people's homes, espresso, yoga, Pilates, etc.) into Patagonia, which threatened, in my darker view, to turn this charming one-horse town into something too cute -- something like Tubac, Gob Forbid. (An upscale suburb, but of *what?*) I didn't want to accept, back then, that the die had already been cast, and was also reluctant to know that the word *past* means *past*.

Patagonia had always been a solid, scrappy ranch and mining town somewhere out west. I cherish authenticity and hate to see it die, eclipsed by all the *chichi* vogues du jour. I guess it's like the pang you'd feel if your young, wholesome teenager, a child until now, began flaunting lipstick and push-up brassieres. I know. I know. Each phase is just a phase. The innocence was good. The vampy chapter's O.K., too. (He'll be Okay.) We've got to *be here now* and welcome change. I know. I know.

Despite my resistance to some sorts of change, convention and tradition often make me nervous, too. Tradition, beautiful or not, has always seemed like fertile ground for smug, entrenched complacency, to me. Before I wrote the peevish screed alluded to above, which criticized our nouvelle upward trend, I also teased Ike Isakson for speaking out against that trend, assuring him "the good old days are gone and won't be back." I must admit that his dismay was based on something real. Today this town is wonderful *and* not what it once was.

Don't get me wrong. (Or do, if you prefer.) I love classical music and espresso. I dote on yoga, too. That's not the point. The point, back then at least, was fear of loss.

How can someone both like and dislike, approve and disapprove of the same thing? Guess what: it happens all the time. My secret guru, George Gurdjieff, often spoke of "buffers" -- the compartmentalized consciousness which allows us to harbor disparate beliefs and sentiments without quite being conscious of their contradiction. (It has a lot to do with *comfort zone*.) People are quick to accuse one another of hypocrisy, but real hypocrisy is rare. What we encounter every day in others and ourselves, is more just *inconsistency*.

Opinions change. Behaviors change. Locales evolve, and so do we. The Buddhists teach that each moment is a reality unto itself. There is no continuous self -- no continuous "I" -- just the self-of-the-moment, shaped by the moment's particular energies and circumstance. Yet, even in a Buddhist state like Burma or Bhutan, were you to shoot someone and then be brought before a judge, and tell her, with sincerity, "I'm sorry, Ma'am. The person standing here before you now is not the one who pulled the trigger on May 23rd," the judge would likely smile and say, "Wow, that's a good one. *Very cute!* I sentence *both* of you to life with no chance of parole. You can share the same cell."

If the future's akin to a rope tugging forward and the past is a rope pulling back, then the present is where we reside, is it knot?

## IN DEFENSE OF SHANNON'S LAW

By Juanita Havill

On the morning of June 15, 1999, I phoned Lory Smith, our Phoenix-based realtor, for information about our pending home sale.

"Lory will not be in," her receptionist said in a sober tone. Then she explained that Lory's daughter, Shannon, had died the night before when a bullet fired randomly into the air had killed her as she stood in her backyard. Someone within a mile of her home had fired a 9-mm semiautomatic handgun straight up into the air.

That June morning, I thought about Lory and her husband and their fourteen-year-old daughter, whom they adored. Their only child, Shannon, was anticipating her first year of high school with excitement. Because someone had fired a gun into the sky over a densely-populated city, she would never set foot in that new school or meet any challenges or make new friends. Her dreams and her parents' dreams for her ended that day. I thought about the shooter. Was the shooter

celebrating some event, impressing friends, or simply playing with the gun? The shooter must have been aware of what happened. The news of Shannon's death was widespread, as was the specified radius within which the deadly shot was fired. No suspects came up during the investigation. No one ever came forward to confess.

A fluke, people think. A tragic coincidence. An accident. Unheard of. No, such an event is by no means unheard of. When you discharge a gun in a populated area, you cannot ignore the reality that a bullet may strike someone.

In July 2000, after a campaign led by Shannon's parents, and with the support of the NRA, the Arizona legislature passed Shannon's Law, which made it a felony to fire a gun within a mile of any occupied structure in a municipality. Anyone caught doing so would be prosecuted for criminal negligence.

The law has had an effect: In Phoenix alone, from 2003 to 2017, police reported a decline of 38% in calls concerning New Year's Eve gunfire.

And yet this spring, two bills aimed at weakening Shannon's Law came before the Arizona legislature. HB 2287 would have prevented prosecution of an individual who fires a gun accidentally, thus providing anyone who aims at the sky the opportunity to claim the gun went off "accidentally." Although the bill was approved by the committee, Senate President Steve Yarbrough killed the bill, and the full Senate did not vote on this proposed legislation.

Bill HB 2022 was designed to permit people to shoot small-caliber guns with "rat shot" ammunition within city limits. Such guns could be used to shoot rodents or snakes or, as Senator John Kavanagh explained, "for self-defense or pest control." Supporters argued for their Second Amendment rights. The opposition argued that shooting any kind of ammunition in urban areas is never a good idea. Two Republicans voted with all thirteen Democratic senators against the bill, and it did not receive enough votes for passage.

Common sense prevailed. Shannon's law remains, a reminder to gun owners about responsible gun handling and a testament that Shannon Smith will not be forgotten.

## Maureen Hayes O'Brien August 2, 1933 - May 9, 2017

Maureen Hayes O'Brien, age 83, passed away on May 9, 2017 at Peppi's House Hospice in Tucson, AZ. Born August 2, 1933 in Albany, NY, she was the daughter of the late James E. and Irene H. O'Brien. Maureen grew up in Granville, NY and graduated with honors from Smith College, Northampton, MA with a B.A. degree in theater.

Following college, Maureen resided in New York City before returning to Granville to begin a long career with the Washington County Department of Social Services. At the time of her retirement, Maureen was Supervisor of Home Care Services. She valued her civic memberships in several community organizations, including the Pember Library & Museum, the Slate Valley Museum, Granville Area Lioness Club, and St. Mary's Catholic Church. Always interested in arts and theatre, Maureen spent time with friends in Dorset and Manchester, VT appreciating the cultural arts of the region.

For the past 25 years Maureen resided in Arizona with the love of her life, Craig Bell. She enjoyed living in Patagonia, AZ and was very active in the community. Maureen participated in many area clubs, including the Patagonia Woman's Club where she was named Woman of the Year in 2009, the Santa Cruz County Cowbells, the Patagonia Bridge Club and St. Therese Catholic Church. Maureen was a talented and competitive bridge player, a skill she and Craig shared together. She and Craig were summer residents on Crooked Lake in Oden, Michigan.

In addition to her parents, Maureen was predeceased by her only sibling, James M. O'Brien. Maureen is survived by Craig Bell, his children and grandchildren, her dear friend and Craig's sister, Kitty Murray and family, a cousin, Ann Rowan O'Brien, and many close friends who loved her in both the communities Maureen called 'Home.' The family expresses a sincere thank you to the staff of St Joseph's Hospital and Peppi's House Hospice for their expertise in making Maureen's last days comfortable.

A celebration of Maureen's life and interment will be held in Granville, NY at a later date. Memorials may be made to the Pember Library & Museum, 33 West Main St. Granville, NY 12832 or the Slate Valley Museum, 17 Water St., Granville, NY 12832. Arrangements are under the direction of Robert M. King Funeral Home.



# Wandering and Wondering

By Patra Kelly

I wandered around Patagonia asking people this question: *What do you wonder about, ponder, muse upon, chew over—even turn upside down in your mind and marvel at?* Here are some responses:

"I've been wondering about a timeless universe. Some cosmologists say it is likely time is new—not in every universe. I like to think someday we will not have time. What would that mean? What will our next world be like, and what would we be? Humans are bound by time, but when we are gone, will there be no more time? I will be eager to be in a time and entropy free paradigm."

*Sonia Johnson, Sonoita*

"I know I am here in this world to learn. I need to be aware and open to various approaches to knowledge, wisdom and healing. I think the key for this to happen is listening to the voice within. Inspiration often comes from nature, astrology, awareness of angels and ancestors. I have been beautifully led through my life's challenges. My focus these days is on gratitude as I am a 37-year cancer survivor."

*Judith Hinton Andrew, Patagonia*

"I recognize my thoughts in the thoughts of other people, from all times and places. We all think about the same things and our experiences add up to a common core. I can't seem to find an end to things I have thought about—and that others also thought about. I find it amazing and moving. I think we are

connected to everything that is, was and will be."

*Sue Smith, Patagonia Lake*

"I think about and explore the physical world around me. I like picking up a rock and learning it is probably 350 million years old and wondering what it looks like inside. I find comfort in seeing and knowing there are still wild animals in the world, such as wolves and jaguars. I become aware of my own insignificance when I read about ancient civilizations."

*Jon Larsen, Patagonia*

"I was always trying to find my way out of a tunnel of despair, answers to my questions and seeking something that would make me wholesomely happy. I climbed the rungs of the yoga ladder and came to Bhakti yoga, which has answered every question and dilemma of my life, every quandary about the universe.

*Donna Lee, Patagonia*

"What is my life's purpose and intent? The answer is that I use all my abilities to express the human condition and seek truth through art. I have been mentored by great artists, from Tucson to Hollywood and back to Southern Arizona where my family were vaqueros. My business partner here in Patagonia is author JPS Brown, related to the first white rancher in Arizona. As a young man, I was creative associate to film director Hal Ashby, whose films changed American society. Whew! That will keep me humble and on a life-long quest."

*Rick Padilla, Patagonia*

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# Geoffrey Platts: Environmental Warrior

By Bob Brandt

Avid hikers hereabouts are familiar with The Nature Conservancy's Geoffrey Platts Trail, a three-mile foot path that loops around through TNC property north of Blue Heaven Road. Along the trail, hikers can view the Sonoita Creek riparian habitat from above while experiencing a taste of backcountry terrain mere steps from town. But few who hike along this trail may know much about the man it honors.

Much is written about this remarkable individual, who is described as "a heroic, witty, dedicated man, an eco-warrior" and "fearless, tender, passionate keeper of nature's bounty." Inspired by fellow environmentalist Edward Abbey, Geoffrey Platts never tired in his efforts on behalf of wild spaces, and, like Abbey, he was an eloquent writer. Readers can find a copy of his account of his personal journey, "TREK! Man Alone in the Arizona Wild," in the Patagonia Library. Platts was

an inveterate poet, hiker, author, gadfly and tireless preservationist whose commitment included a bequest to the Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Preserve.

Such traits were no doubt obvious to former Patagonia preserve manager Jeffrey Cooper when the two men first met at a desert ecology training sponsored by the Tucson Audubon Society in the early '80s. They quickly became close friends and Platts spent considerable time in Patagonia as a guest of the Coopers and other locals. Together, Platts and Cooper also enjoyed backpacking in the desert environment they both loved and worked to protect. It was fitting then, that upon Platts' death, Cooper and a handful of volunteers created the trail that bears his name.

Originally from Yorkshire, England, Platts made his home in Cave Creek, Arizona for 35 years, where he became a fierce protector of his adopted desert homeland. His impact on the environment and people of that area was of such magnitude that

a sculpture in his memory has been erected at the Desert Foot-hills Library in Cave Creek. According to its creator, "the sculpture honors a man who fought tirelessly to save our deserts." He pursued his environmental advocacy and efforts to preserve open space through board membership on the Nature Conservancy in Arizona, weekly columns in his local newspaper, speaking engagements, and an endless personal letter writing campaign.

Platts died in 2000 at the age of 62, drowning in the Verde River while attempting to save a companion. At his passing, one of his many friends described Platts as "the person who called us to task when he saw the desert in danger. He always thought of Nature with a capital N." This, perhaps, explains the capitalization on the sign at the Geoffrey Platts trailhead just off Blue Heaven Road. It reads, "A Friend and Advocate for the Land and for those who seek to protect the Mysteries in Nature."



## The Birds

By Jon Larsen

Sometimes between my ears  
I hear the birds.  
It can be any  
time of the year.

Maybe 6...10...or more  
cheeping, singing,  
calling for a mate—  
sounds of spring.

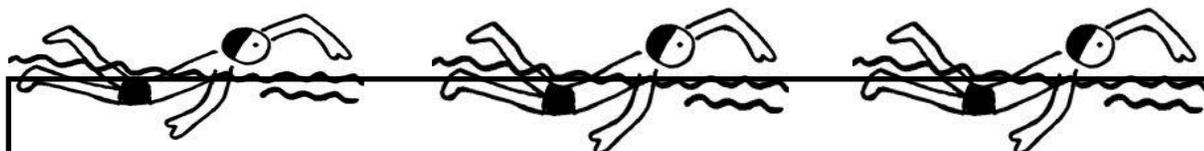
Some are chickadees  
playing in their baths,  
splashing and chirping  
as if laughing in their glee.

At other times,  
the malady  
may become a rising cacophony  
of crickets and frogs, and cicadas in the trees.

But, more common  
is the reality  
of simple buzzing  
and whistles above high C.

Could one lapse into madness  
from this tinnitus curse  
which plagues  
our later years?

Since one can't flee,  
wish or pray for peace of mind,  
my old friends,  
and sometimes for...the birds.



## Patagonia Pool Schedule

Pool opens May 31<sup>st</sup> 2017

### Monday through Friday

8:30 – 9:45 Lap Swim

10:00 – 11:00 Water Aerobics

11:30 – 1:00 Summer Program/Swimming Lessons begin July 6th

1:00 – 5:00 Open Swim

5:00 – 6:00 Lap Swim/Will Close if no one here by 5:15

### Saturday

8:30 – 9:45 Lap Swim

10:00 – 11:00 Water Aerobics

11:30 – 5:00 Open Swim

5:00 – 6:00 Lap Swim/ Will Close if no one there by 5:15

Season Pass \$80.00

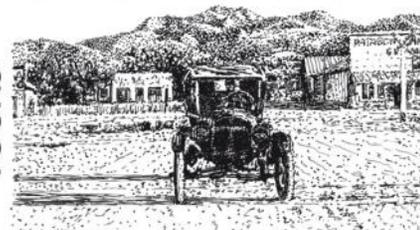
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Daily Pass Adult \$5.00

Daily Pass Child (12 or Younger) \$2.00

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# Nature Journeys

By Vince Pinto

## June's Sunning Saurians

June is not only our hottest, but perhaps also the most *missed* month in our Sky Islands. Snowbirds have long since fled and even diehard locals would be forgiven a much-needed foray into cooler climes. Indeed, the mercury will rise to alarming heights during this sweltering month - so much so that even the flora and fauna seem on permanent pause mode. Not so our reptilian cousins, however, as they literally bask in the extreme warmth of June. Our few Sky Islands counties host the most lizards in all of North America north of Mexico. Climate, topography, and resultant habitats combine for a perfect storm that supports **47** lizard species!

Ornate tree lizards are present in a variety of habitats ranging from our deserts up into the lower edge of our oak woodlands. This rather diminutive species hunts its small invertebrate prey, including butterflies, moths, beetles, and termites. When not feeding, ornate tree lizards can often be seen establishing and protecting territories via a combination of pushups and outright chases aimed at keeping the competition at bay. In this instance, bigger, bolder, and bluer are better. Males in particular tend to sport blue undersides, lending them the moniker "blue bellies".

On the other end of the consumption equation ornate tree lizards fall victim to a host of predators. Larger lizards offer no free pass to their smaller brethren and readily snatch them up as food. Likewise roadrunners, gray hawks, snakes of various species, and a number of mammalian carnivores all include this species in their diet. Ornate tree lizards can

even wind up as prey for a few gargantuan invertebrates, including giant desert centipedes and solpugids, commonly known as sun spiders! Surely the notoriously voracious grasshopper mice (3 species locally) and desert shrews also pounce upon tree lizards whenever the opportunity arises. Its small wonder, then, that this saurian has evolved some of the most cryptic and effective camouflage of all our reptile species.

A notch up in size and quite different in shape, look, and ecology is our regal horned lizard. Often erroneously referred to as a "horny toad", this species is no more toad than you or I. This species also has superb camouflage that generally matches its environmental background to a disarming degree. Many a time I've nearly stepped on a regal horned lizard only to have it move at the last second.

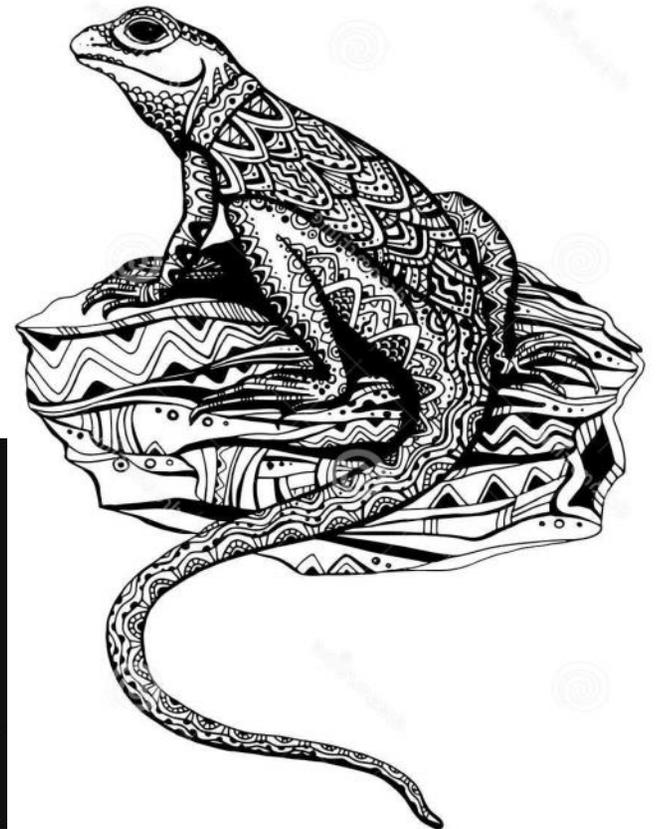
Capable of a surprising burst of speed, horned lizards generally rely upon other defenses to help safeguard them from would-be predators. Snakes and birds in particular had better take heed if they capture a regal horned lizard due to the sharp spines projecting from the head and body of this species. Like a knight sporting body armor, this lizard is no easy nut to crack for a small predator.

A throat or stomach full of spines could prove lethal.

As a last ditch effort to avoid winding up in someone's alimentary canal, this species is known to famously shoot toxic blood out of its eyes. This is likely a defense mostly against larger mammalian predators, such as grey foxes. Perhaps the foul nature of the blood is at least partly owing to the gruesome diet of regal horned lizards. About 95% of their fare is comprised of very venomous harvester ants.

While the ants continue to thrive, it seems these lizards have crashed. One University of Arizona herpetologist suggested the culprit might be environmental toxins spread by humans, including those used against harvester ants. It seems June is a small gauntlet to navigate when compared to this chemical one.

**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. Visit: [www.ravensnatureschool.org](http://www.ravensnatureschool.org)**



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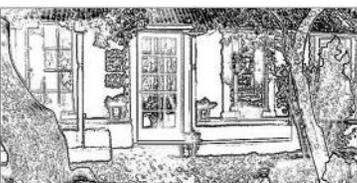
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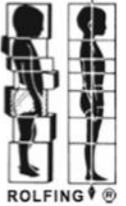
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Photo by Laura Wenzel

## Touching Moment Highlights PUHS Graduation

By Laura Wenzel

*O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,  
The ship has weather'd every rack,  
the prize we sought is won...*

It would have been easy to miss the fact that the young ladies of the Patagonia Union High School graduating class had all taken off their shoes during the ceremony. What might have been construed as cutesy charm - only at a Patagonia graduation would the girls take their uncomfortable looking heels off before the end of the ceremony - turned out to mean so much more.

After the opening remarks, presentation of honors, the speeches and diplo-

mas given, the 2017 graduating class stood on their chairs (hence the shoes off) with roses at the ready, to throw to English teacher and commencement speaker Mrs. Journee Hayes. "O Captain! my Captain!" they chanted, the Walt Whitman line memorialized by the film "Dead Poets Society," which tells the story of an English teacher at a prep school who forever changes the lives of his students with his unconventional teaching methods.

While perhaps not as unconventional as the teacher portrayed by Robin Williams in that movie, Mrs. Hayes, who was also recently voted Teacher of the Year, has impacted the lives of this graduating class. During her commencement speech, her stirring and compassionate words about family and the bonds that she has created with each of her students clearly resonated and touched the bright young adults on stage, eager to seize the day.

## Students Shine in Three Plays



Photo by Laura Wenzel

The cast of Patagonia Montessori Elementary's "Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory" sings the finale song, "Candy Man."



Photo by Laura Wenzel

The cast sings at the PUHS production of "Footloose."



Photo by Laura Wenzel

Chesed Chap as the Young Once-ler and Nicholas Botz as the Lorax debate the merits of thneeds in Club Theater's performance of "The Lorax."



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# A Closer Look at Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute

## Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute Opens for Business

By Lynn Davsion

On June 1, the Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute (BRLI) begins its first year of operations. Over the past year of planning, supported by Biophilia Foundation, the Institute crafted a bold mission to build a restoration based economy in the borderlands region of Sonora and Arizona. Founding partners are Borderlands Restoration, Deep Dirt Farm Institute, Wildlife Corridors, Cuenca Los Ojos, and Borderlands Habitat Network. Collectively they have over 45 years' experience doing restoration work throughout the borderlands.

The challenge for the Institute is to expand knowledge through research and collaboration which will translate into more field projects to restore the land for people and wildlife, provide more sustainable jobs and businesses within our region, and teach technical skills and the leadership capacities. The goal is to build local support and involvement and to pass on this knowledge across the globe. That is one tall order.



BRLI members and Partners gather on the steps of the Patagonia Museum.

In this first year, the Institute will offer a summer field course, a six-week program that introduces students to the physical, cultural, and political realities of the borderlands and then provides specific project based learning. There will also be a series of community presentations during July and August provided by our faculty.

Throughout the year there will be workshops, presentations, and short courses delivered in Patagonia and other places within the borderlands region of Sonora and Arizona. For example, last month Gary Nabhan, long time Patagonian, U of A professor, and Institute senior fellow, led a program in Banamachi, Sonora focused on traditional techniques to support water conservation and food production. Joshua Cubista, Interim Director of the Institute, senior fellow, and Permaculture For Systemic Change adjunct-faculty at Prescott College, will be hosting a Collaborative Leadership Lab at the Windsong Peace and

Leadership Center. A systemic leadership workshop with the Institute, and an online course dedicated to exploring how to work together to create positive impact will be offered, as well.

There will be at least 10-15 BRLI supported field projects and educational programs delivered by partner organizations, in addition to the existing work these partners already have in play. The activities will range from research and demonstration projects to educational activities tied to the field work.

The Institute expects to develop a robust intern program. This summer, two international students, Laura Nolier and Oliver Lysaght, are finishing up a year of remarkable contributions as interns supporting the

Institute and its partners Borderlands Restoration and Cuenca los Ojos. Nolier and Lysaght will leave in mid-July to continue their studies at the London School of Economics. There will also be two interns from the Doris Duke Program at NAU and two from Wofford College coming on board this summer. Other internship opportunities may become available later in the year.

When at full staff later this summer and fall, the Institute will have seven permanent employees and hopes to purchase at least \$300,000 worth of projects and educational programs to be delivered in the borderlands region with the aim of supporting jobs and moving resources into the local economy.

The Institute is beginning the process of recruiting for Institute Director, IT specialist, development and communications officer, and a grants and contracts coordinator. Job descriptions and process for application can be found on the Institute website [www.borderlandsinstitute.com](http://www.borderlandsinstitute.com).



Photo by Allegra Mount



Photo by Allegra Mount

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# A Closer Look at Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute

## Defining A Restoration Economy



Photo by Allegra Mount

By Richard Pritzlaff & Ron Pulliam

A restoration economy is a relatively new idea defined as the economic activity associated with the restoration of degraded lands. In other words, a restoration economy is the opposite of an extractive economy that creates economic activity by extracting or depleting natural resources.

In our region, one sign of environmental degradation is the frequent occurrence of flash floods associated with the loss of soils and vegetation that can trap and hold water after rain events. As we all know, especially during the monsoon, storms can drop a lot of rain quickly. Without adequate ground cover, these “high energy” storm events reduce water infiltration into the ground and result in incised streams and drops the water table. Consequently, water is less available for wildlife, grazing, and agriculture and damage from flooding is more frequent.

Borderlands Restoration and other partners have been building simple rock structures to trap storm runoff, giving rainwater the chance to infiltrate back into the ground and depositing sediment behind the structures. Eventually, this work will re-attach the

Associates work on a trinchera on the Babocomari Ranch in Elgin.

rivers with their floodplains, raising the water table, making surrounding lands again able to support vegetation, and thus be more productive.

It is from this restored productivity that opportunity and jobs are created in a restoration economy. This is why the concept of “restoration economy” is much broader than just providing jobs to those actually restoring degraded lands. The broader concept includes all the economic benefits derived from maintaining healthy ecosystems such as higher crop production from healthy pollinator populations, reduced risk of flooding, lower health-care costs because of safe drinking water, plus the jobs associated with ecotourism and the enjoyment of nature.

A key issue to be explored by Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute is whether or not the restoration economy can grow to provide jobs and other economic benefits comparable to those provided by the other economic sectors.

One hint comes from Oregon, where issues like salmon recovery and forest regeneration have had a substantial economic benefit. A recent study found statewide that \$411 million spent on 6740 restoration projects generat-

ed an estimated \$752 million to \$977 million dollars in economic impact. To put these numbers in perspective, jobs in Forestry and Mining in Oregon contribute about \$500 million annually to the Oregon’s economy and employ 8000 to 11,000 people, depending on the season of the year.

To fully justify the name “restoration economy” and to truly impact the economy and ecology of the borderlands region, the number of jobs and economic impact provided by restoring degraded ecosystems and maintaining ecosystem function needs to grow dramatically. As we implement BRLI, we will ask, “What does success look like?” Can we create 100 jobs in Santa Cruz and Cochise Counties? 1000? “Can we be equally or more successful in northern Sonora?”

This question of how the Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute fosters the development of a restoration economy becomes the question of how to foster economic activity that restores degraded systems and maintains the services provided by natural systems. This question will not be answered easily and will constitute much of the work of the Institute, especially during its initial years.

## Updates From The Seed Lab

By Allegra Mount

The Old Main Elementary School’s cafeteria has been given new life as the Borderlands Restoration Seed Lab, the central hub of BRLI’s native seed conservation efforts. Spaces that used to hold tables and chairs now hold lab benches and seed cleaning equipment, and a dry-foods storage closet has been converted into a cooler for storing the seed collection, which is made up of over 600 individual collections of seeds of native species from wild lands across Southeast Arizona selected for their value in pollinator support, erosion control, and cultural enrichment (edible and medicinal plants).

Before moving to Old Main, the seed lab was housed in the small guest-house of a generous town resident, where bookshelves full of jars of seed lined the walls. All these seeds were collected from wild plants on public and private lands, and held within them adaptations to our unique and beautiful Sky Island mountain ranges, including the Santa Rita and Patagonia Mountains. Last year, our collectors brought in so many seeds the lab was literally bursting at the seams, and so a move to a larger space was in order.

The new space offers the opportunity for the seed lab to grow into an innovative seed cleaning, storage, and research facility. Current projects include an effort to bank seeds of priority species for restoration and conservation across the region, which is supported by the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service; seed collection and storage for more than a dozen National Parks; ongoing studies on germination requirements for many native species; and evaluation of seed application methods for restoration (like seed balls).

There are many new developments in addition to the new lab. The seed lab is now selling retail wildflower and grass seed mixes to the public. For more information, visit [www.borderlandsrestoration.org](http://www.borderlandsrestoration.org).

The lab is also welcoming new partnerships this summer with the Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute and the Smithsonian’s North American Orchid Conservation Center. Future course and training offerings from the seed lab can be seen on the BRLI website, [www.borderlandsinstitute.org](http://www.borderlandsinstitute.org).

To learn more about interning or volunteering at the seed lab, contact Allegra Mount at [allegraceleste@gmail.com](mailto:allegraceleste@gmail.com).



Photo by Allegra Mount

## Institute Partners Expand Work in Mexico

By David Seibert

The Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute is a bi-national effort, focused on restoring land and water and on supporting the many species that depend on these resources, the plants, wildlife, and people of the borderlands. The focus is on building on commonalities rather than differences. Borderlands Restoration and its partners have been hard at work on habitat restoration, education, and job creation in the border region for over four years, leading successful projects on private ranch, state, and federal lands. This year there are four new project sites on the Sonoran side of the line: just across the border in Nogales; in a riparian system of conservation ranches; at the headwaters of the San Pedro River; and on large ranches south of Douglas.

In Nogales, Sonora, the horticulture team of Francesca Claverie, Allegra Mount and Perin McNelis has developed working relationships with Watershed Management Group (based in Tucson) and a local Nogales nursery to share knowledge, experience and techniques with their Mexican counterparts. The initial workshop, led by the Borderlands team, was a great success. Additional workshops led by U.S. and Mexican horticulturists are planned in both Patagonia and Nogales, Sonora.

Borderlands Restoration has recently received a riparian corridor restoration grant from the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act for work along the Santa Cruz River in Mexico. This effort will pair Mexican restoration practitioners, techniques, and communities with the Restoration team under the leadership of Ernie Cabrera and Zach Yourgules. Justification for the grant centered on the current work underway at Babocomari Ranch and at the wildlife corridor just outside Patagonia, to stabilize and enhance a chain of vital, highly diverse riparian zones, and to increase both



Photo by Allegra Mount

social and ecological connectivity.

At the headwaters of the San Pedro in Mexico, the AZ Dept. of Environmental Quality and their Mexican counterparts have engaged Borderlands staff in planning restoration work to benefit the river and the local communities it supports on both sides of the line. Experimental techniques are being developed to mitigate high levels of metal contamination from a mine in Cananea.

South of Douglas, and in collaboration with Cuenca Los Ojos Foundation and Valer Clark, Borderlands Restoration will soon support conservation ranchers and their decades-long efforts to work sustainably by designing a monitoring study to assess the impact of different grazing approaches on grasslands that support their cattle, while also teaching U.S. and Mexican students in best management practices.

Institute supported workshops and community development activities in Mexico are under various stages of development. In May, Gary Nabham led a workshop in Banamachi that brought together Mexican and US students to study the intersection of restoration and food production using traditional methods of the region. Laurie Monti and Erin Blanding are securing funding now for a series of executive field seminars on land, water, and food justice in the borderlands of Arizona and Sonora.

Despite the talk about more border walls, the Institute and its partners are committed to a different approach: growing a restoration based economy in the borderlands that strengthens both countries.

## Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute Art Contest



'Bridges Across Borders' Artwork by Ana Tierra

Do you have a wonderful piece of visual art that you think showcases aspects of the beauty of a restoration economy here on the borderlands? Or, after reading the PRT this month, are you feeling inspired to create something new?? We want your art!

A \$250 prize will go to the top submission with "judging" done by a committee of artists and members of the BRLI Institute Council. Along with the cash prize, your work will be showcased in the next issue of the PRT and a copy hung at the BRLI office wall up at Old Main.

Please submit your visual art piece to Erin Blanding at [erinblanding@gmail.com](mailto:erinblanding@gmail.com) by June 30. Feel free to contact Erin with any questions or inquiries.

And, stay tuned for the announcement of our new BRLI Artist-in-Residence program!

# A Closer Look at Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute

## BRLI Summer Activities

By A. Francesca Claverie

As the weather heats up so does the Borderlands Restoration Leadership Institute (BRLI) summer schedule with some amazing learning opportunities in Patagonia!

The summer schedule starts in June with the annual Borderlands Earth Care Youth (BECY) Institute, directed by Caleb Weaver. Ten Patagonia High School interns have already been selected and will be led by facilitators Ben Shonkwiler and Iliana Castro. Most the days will be spent on hands-on restoration projects at the Patagonia Community Garden, Santa Fe Ranch Foundation, Patagonia Union High School, Harris Heritage Growers, Dirty Girl Farmette, Deep Dirt Farm, Appleton-Whittel Research Ranch, Wildlife Corridor, Borderlands Restoration Greenhouse, and various Patagonia residences.

Also in June, the Institute will be sponsoring internships for students from Northern Arizona University, through the Doris Duke Foundation, and from Wofford College. Three interns will be mentored in permaculture and food shed restoration by Kate Tirion of Deep Dirt Farm Institute (DDFI) and one intern will be mentored by David Seibert on applications of ecological restoration strategies.

The Institute's first summer field course, a six-week intensive program based in the border-

lands of Arizona and Sonora, starts July 3. Themes of social justice, connection of people and the land, and leadership will tie together the six weeks, each week having a particular focus: introduction to the people, land, and issues of the borderlands; community and restoration economies; watershed restoration; native plant materials; food shed restoration; individual student capstone project.

The course is being offered to college level students as well as other adult learners. Participants can sign up for the entire course for \$1600 or the specific weeks that interest them for \$300 a week. There will be two tuition scholarships offered to local community members. Most of the learning will be in the field, rather than the classroom.

To sign up for the course and apply for a scholarship, contact Kathy Pasierb at 520-604-6679 or [kpasierb1@gmail.com](mailto:kpasierb1@gmail.com) by June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Ongoing projects will continue with the arrival of summer rains. Cuenca Los Ojos (CLO) will initiate a new project to monitor the impact of grazing methods on grasslands in Sonora. Borderlands Restoration continues its intensive restoration work in the grasslands of the Babocomari.

Spring and summer are active seasons to grow out native plants for large scale restoration plantings on Forest Service projects and on smaller scale home and ranch projects. You can volunteer to help (and learn!) at either the Seed Lab on Monday mornings or the Native Plant Nursery on



Photo by Allegra Mount

Francesca Claverie and Chiltipin gather plants in the Borderland Restoration greenhouse.

Tuesday mornings. Contact Francesca Claverie or Allegra Mount at [afclaver@gmail.com](mailto:afclaver@gmail.com) or [allegraceleste@gmail.com](mailto:allegraceleste@gmail.com).

Please join us in one or more of the activities on our summer docket and enjoy the hotter, wetter, and quieter months in our beautiful community.

## The Poetry of Landscape By Colin Treiber

*Three gray hawks circle  
Disappearing to the north  
Their call still resounds.*

Landscapes are far more like poetry than prose. They are filled with beauty and struggle, flourishing flower blossoms and starving cracked earth, life and death, all of these polarities existing simultaneously upon the same seasonal tapestry. And while there tends to be favor in one direction most of the time, there still exists some form of balance between them. But nothing is guaranteed forever.

So it is with the Wildlife Corridor, a 1,200 acre stretch of land northeast of Patagonia, formerly intended to become Three Canyons Subdivision, a massive housing development that would have placed 189 homes upon the land. Now under the ownership of Wildlife Corridor, LLC an affiliate of Borderlands Restoration, it is heading a different direction and finding a new balance point closer to the land's dictates.

Since August of 2016, when I stepped into a position with Borderlands Restoration directly focused on the Wildlife Corridor, my appreciation for, and connection with, this place has only grown. I have the work, and the land, to thank for that.

The work is quite simple: to build rock structures upon landscapes that have been compromised by previous development. The intention is for the rock structures to mitigate and eventually cease erosion, while promoting watershed rehabilitation, in time leading to a regenerated and vital environment for flora and fauna to thrive upon.

The land is not so simple. In fact, its nuances are endless. Everyday I spend there, a new revelation appears, making even the simplest aspect of understanding fall short to healthy scrutiny. This is what continually challenges the seeming simplicity of the work. And yet the work, and the land somehow go on with incredible harmony. I continue to show up, and build rock structures, 200 plus by now.

For the last four months it has been myself and Javier, a young man I have grown to trust more and more as we jointly face the arduous work. It is our growing faith in the work which I believe brings us closer, and allows us to carry on. A growing faith that has moved, and been tested, as the seasons change. A faith in the work that brings us everywhere: to song, to dance, to inquiry and frustration, to our knees, towards the sky in celebration, in circles and spirals, and up the hills with big stones in our arms and smiles often upon our faces.

Now, as the laughing summer approaches from the other side of the hill, our hearts begin to fill. Anticipation. Sweet anticipation. The water that monsoon season will deliver will be a gift to so much. A gift to the plants, the animals, and all the land, a gift to the humans too. If our faith proves true, it will be a gift of a different sort to Javi and me. We will be perched in one of our hilltop viewing spots, the rain pattering us, as we watch the water flow over the beautiful stone structures we have put in place, watching time choose a new direction, the poetry of the landscape momentarily transforming into prose, and the sun hiding its illuminating face behind thick clouds, waiting to shine itself forth from a new angle, across the hills and through the trees, towards my onlooking, bewildered gaze, back into the questions that brought me here to begin with.



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# 102nd Sonoita Race Meet Goes on Despite Fires, Wind



Photo by Sally Reichardt

## To run or not to run?

That was the question that the Board of Directors had to answer as the Sawmill Fire incident command took over the Sonoita Fairgrounds and brought race preparations to a halt one week before the event. The 47,000 acre fire was brought under control with no loss of life or structures, the crews moved on three days before racing was to commence, and volunteers

and board members worked around the clock to prepare for the race meet.

High winds and a second fire north of Sonoita on the first day of racing, May 6, kept attendance below average, especially on Sunday, May 7, after people were advised to avoid Hwy 83 because of the Mulberry Fire, but despite the obstacles, racing in Sonoita, the only track in Arizona left offering county racing, kept this proud tradition alive.

# Mother's Day Celebrated at Border

By Renate Kloppinger



Photo by Joe Nitsche

Judy Mills displays the banner she created for the Mother's Day event.

On Monday, May 8, Voices from the Border, a group of concerned citizens from Sonoita, Elgin and Patagonia that formed following the Women's March of January 2017, organized a Mother's Day celebration in Nogales AZ and Sonora, honoring mothers on both sides of the border and celebrating their solidarity with mothers world-wide.

Organizing a cross-border event was a first for the group and it was not easy. Artists in Patagonia prepared 130 paper flower bouquets with a message of solidarity that were presented to the 130

Mexican mothers from an elementary school near the Border fence. Border Patrol and City of Nogales Police were notified about the event and media representatives were invited from as far away as Tucson.

The Ensemble Melodica players from Patagonia and a representative from the Kino Border Initiative were invited to participate, as well as a representative from the Mexican Consulate in Nogales AZ.

The date and time of the celebration had to be changed several times to make sure that friends from across the border could participate

Finally, the big day came. Members of the group went across the border to the school to surprise the Mexican mothers, who were celebrating Mother's Day with their children. Music was playing and all the participants on the U.S. side were waving and singing as the Mexican mothers came out from the school, so very surprised and overwhelmed by the welcoming reception, the presents and the many hugs. Participants on both sides of the Border fence came up to the fence and hugged each other through the narrow metal slates.

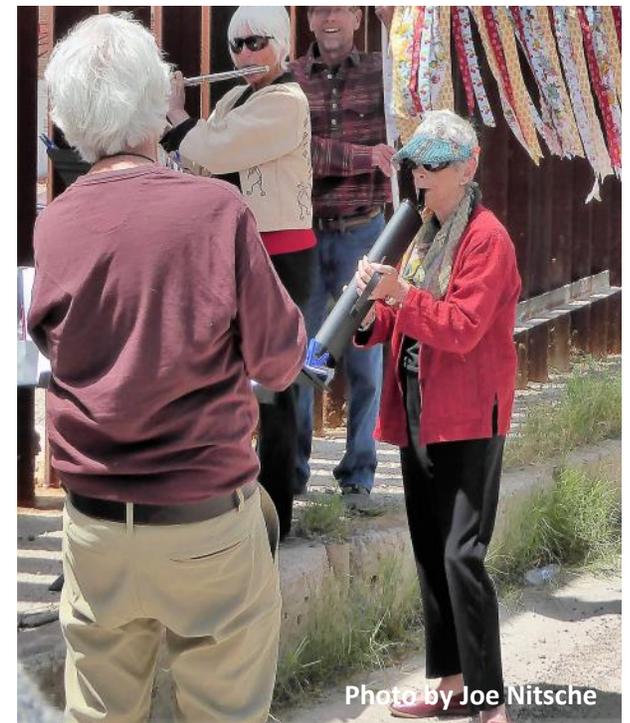


Photo by Joe Nitsche

Christina Wilhelm plays her melodica at the border.

Many had tears in their eyes as a speech, written by India Aubry, was read by Janice Pulliam: "We believe in compassion and love transcending fear," Pulliam read. "We suffer together, we work together and we make music together." The celebration ended with a blessing by Dec. Javier Fierro of the Kino Border Initiative.

Voices from the Border is an organization that focuses on immigration and human rights, the environment, and women's issues and health care. The group is not affiliated with any political party, and all points of view are respectfully welcome.



# 2017 HARVESTFEST

at Sonoita Vineyards

SATURDAY, JULY 29<sup>TH</sup> 2017 FROM 10AM TO 4PM

## General Admission:

\$25 pre purchase (limit 250)  
\$30 at the door

*No Reservations Needed*

### Includes:

Souvenir Glass  
6 wine tasting tickets  
4 wine & food pairings  
Gift Giveaway to first 100 people  
Winery and Vineyard Tours

*Winery Tours* - 11am & 2:45pm

*Vineyard Tours* - throughout the day

## VIP Package:

\$85/person (limit 50)  
*Pre-purchase Only*

**Includes Everything in  
General Admission plus:**

Private climate controlled room  
Private bar  
Special VIP souvenir giveaway  
After hours party 4-6pm  
After hours winery & vineyard tour  
VIP parking  
Private Restroom  
Lunch voucher

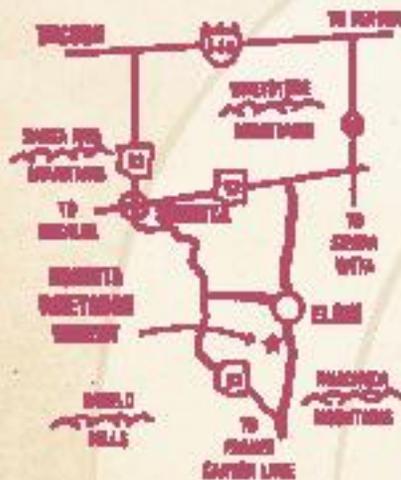
## Also Available:

Lunch may be purchased on-site  
from two restaurants *The Steak Out*  
& *The Daily Bread Bistro*.

*Grape Stomping* starts at 1:00pm  
(must sign up when you arrive).

## Ticket Purchases:

Pre-order tickets online at  
[www.sonoitavineyards.com](http://www.sonoitavineyards.com)



## Upcoming Events:

The 17th Annual St. Martin's Sonoita AVA New  
Release Festival is Saturday, November 11, 2017

The 40th Annual Blessing of  
Sonoita Vineyards is April 7, 2018.

## Location:

Take Hwy 83 south from I-10. Sonoita Vineyards is  
located 3 miles south of Elgin at 290 Elgin-Canelo Road

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# A Love Poem to you, Borderlandia

By Erin Blanding



Your sky reaching tattooed saguaro elbows  
Your death grabbing arroyo washes  
This skeleton spread of cattle and human, the sun's hot dinner served tonight, nothing fancy

Your dust tears pock dry earth  
Confusing messages you leave me, trying to love the tears of the Mother, hate the tears of these  
migrant trail walkers,  
Rain blessings, water sacrifice, empty black-painted plastic containers follow footprints made on  
your face

Your small wind pulls at feathered milkweed seeds  
Collected in my sweaty palm  
This is the stuff of gods I whisper to you and my tired hiking feet at once  
May it go forth and prosper and bring mariposa warriors the same, you miss their light landing on  
your native pods

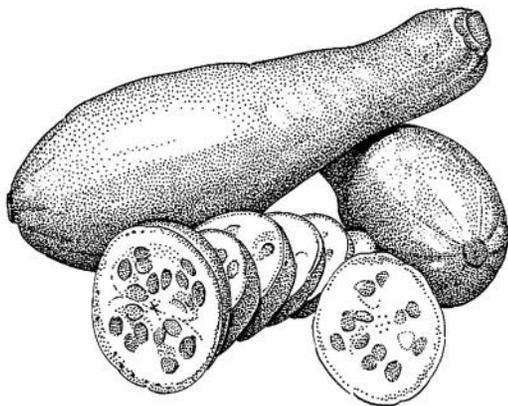
You'll love it or you'll hate it they said of you  
Spend a summer here first  
But I love the white hairs drinking saloon margaritas beside bee inked whiskey and plant choosers  
And old cowboy's finger ripped in an old cowboy's rope waving about telling tales of these red  
mountains

Where I can't tell if I learned to love you because others love you so much.

You say that's a good way for our love story to start.

## Summer of Squash

By Cassina Farley



We are coming up on the summer season of squash. The warm time of the year where everyone you know is growing squash and trying just as hard to get rid of it. Grocery stores are practically giving it away and Farmers markets are full. I have been known to put squash in people's cars when they are not around and have also been on the receiving end. It's a crazy time of the year. My grandparents in Patagonia grew a beautiful garden every year (squash included and we ate the freshest produce you could get. Yellow crooknecks and patty pan squash were my grandpa's specialty and my grandma would make us a dish called Mashed Squash or what I liked to call Squished Squash. It's a dish we eat every summer whether we grow it or not and it always reminds me of home and family.

4 to 6 small to medium sized yellow crookneck OR  
patty pan squash cut into medium sized cubes

Salt and pepper  
Butter, 2 Tablespoons  
Milk (optional)  
Cheese

Put squash in a medium sized pot and add just enough water to cover. Add salt. Bring to a boil over low heat and simmer until squash is tender. Drain and add butter and milk. Using a potato masher (or bean masher in these parts) gently mash squash until there are no longer any large chunks. Add grated cheddar, Longhorn or Jack cheese (enough to coat the spoon, making it hard to clean.) Add more salt if needed and fresh ground pepper. Serve on a hot summer night along side a mesquite grilled steak and a cold beer.

Stop hiding squash in other people cars and instead make this for your friends; it could be your new summer tradition.  
Enjoy and Happy Summer.



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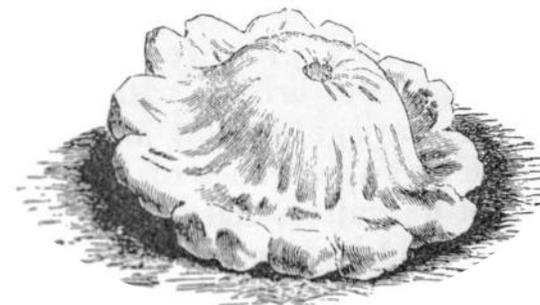
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# The Empire Ranch

## Part 7. John Harvey Joins the Partnership

By Alison Bunting

*Last month's article documented the purchase of the Empire Ranch by Walter L. Vail and Herbert R. Hislop.*

Throughout the summer months of 1876 Vail and Hislop worked to increase their cattle holdings and finish improvements on the four-room adobe building included in the ranch purchase. Work was hard and the ever-present danger of Indian raids was a constant concern.

Hislop wrote to his sister in London, "The Indians are beginning to be a bit troublesome again here. Last week they killed two ranchmen about 20 miles from our ranch and have run off the horses and mules belonging to another ranchman close to us that is 20 miles southeast of us. It is beginning to look serious again but I hope that as we are now settled they will not disturb us, there is safety in numbers."

The *Arizona Citizen* (9/23/1876) reported: "Mr. Sam Hughes came in from the Sonoita, San Rafael and Santa Cruz settlements on Wednesday, and reports that within six weeks over one hundred head of horses and mules have been stolen by Apaches, from the people, and quite a number of cattle killed. The settlers to the number of twenty-five, recently followed the trail of the stock and thieves, thinking first it might lead to San Carlos, but it led directly to New Mexico, and they followed it to east of the San Simon valley, near the New Mexican line, and were obliged to give up the chase without recovering any stock or punishing any Indians. They are much dis-

couraged and if not afforded more adequate protection, will soon have to abandon their homes which they have so long been trying to make comfortable."

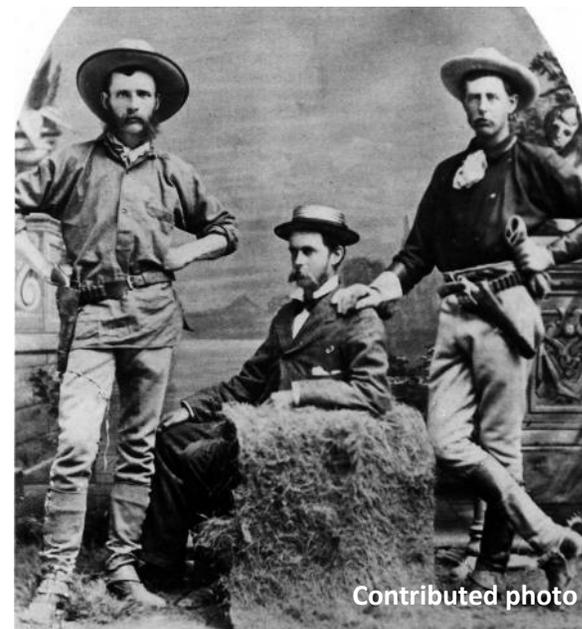
Sometime in October, 1876 John N. Harvey, age 23, an Englishman born in Bermuda, joined Vail and Hislop as a partner in the Empire Ranch venture. His uncle had been a business partner of Vail's uncle, Nathan Vail, and Harvey brought with him some badly needed cash to help expand the ranching operation. The trio came to be known locally as the English Boys Outfit, despite the fact that Walter Vail hailed from New Jersey. Hislop and Vail only mention this new partner in passing in their letters.

Hislop wrote, "At the time I am writing there is a company of soldiers on our ranch camping, in search of Indians. They are about 200 yds. from the house and I am all alone again, as my other two partners have gone to look at some corn fodder which we want for our horses during the winter, only the horses that we use for riding after the stock, which is pretty hard work on the horses..."

Vail reported to his brother Ned, "I borrowed the amount of Harvey as I had no blank drafts at the Ranch and could not get them without going to town, I just told him that I want some things in New York and wanted a check drawn to your order for the \$100 which he of course gave me without asking any questions."

In 1878 Herbert Hislop sold his shares of the Empire Ranch to Walter Vail for \$7,000 and returned to England. Walter's brother Edward "Ned" Vail became a partner in 1879. John Harvey remained in the partnership until 1881.

*This concludes the seven-part series of articles about the founding of the Empire Ranch in 1876. Watch for occasional articles about significant events in the history of the Empire Ranch.*



John N. Harvey, Edward L. Vail, Walter L. Vail, 1879

## Empire Ranch Founder To Be Inducted into Hall of Fame

On April 14, 2018 Walter L. Vail (1852-1906) will be inducted into the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum's Hall of Great Westerners. This high honor is bestowed by the Museum "on exceptional individuals who have made an indelible impact upon the history of the great West."

Walter Vail joins Frank Seymour Boice (1894-1956), who operated and owned the Empire Ranch from 1928-1956, and more than 200 other individuals who contributed to the advancement of western heritage.



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

Melody Skiver, of Nogales, rounds a barrel at the Memorial Day Rodeo at the Sonoita Fairgrounds.



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

A young cowboy runs out to help his friend in the mutton busting at the Sonoita Rodeo.



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

Kids race to grab ribbons on sheep in the sheep scramble at the Memorial Day Rodeo.

# Glimpses Into Our Past

By Alison Bunting

As the United States was drawn into World War I, implementation of the Selective Service Act of 1917 dominated the local news. All males ages 21 to 30 were required to register for military service on June 5, 1917. The full text of the *Border Vidette* articles quoted below can be found in the Library of Congress database, *Chronicling America*. Images of the *Santa Cruz Patagonian* are available on The Patagonia Museum website: [www.thepatagoniamuseum.org](http://www.thepatagoniamuseum.org).

The first step in implementing the Selective Service Act was to appoint registrars in Santa Cruz County precincts. The County Sheriff toured the county making appointments "...at Harshaw Hon. Richard Farrell Sr., and at Patagonia E.H. Evans and Jack Price. From here the Sheriff's party continued to Elgin, Sonoita and Canille [Canelo]..." *Santa Cruz Patagonian* (5/25/1917). Apparently there was confusion about the difference between registering and selection for service. "These are separate and distinct processes. Registration is simply the enrolling of all male residents of the United States... The later process of selection will be made by lot from the names entered on the registration rolls." *The Border Vidette* (5/26/1917.)

"Exactly five dozen men were registered in Patagonia ... for the selective army draft...which according to the government's estimate of 10 per cent of the population...would give Patagonia a population of 600, the same as the last school census.

No occupational or other technical exemptions were claimed by the men who registered." *Santa Cruz Patagonian* (6/8/1917). In August "the Selection Board of Santa Cruz county announced the names of eighty-six men who have been called to the colors. In order to obtain the quota of ninety-five men asked for in this county, it will be necessary for the board to issue another call for the additional nine men..." *The Border Vidette* (8/25/1917.)

Those selected to serve departed in three contingents. On September 7, five departed by train from Nogales to Fort Riley, KS. "Each one wore a ribbon on which was inscribed: "On my way to France, from Nogales, Arizona." *The Border Vidette* (9/8/1917). Later that month 38 men departed aboard "the special Pullman car provided by patriotic citizens for the comfort of the boys on their trip..." *The Border Vidette* (9/22/1917). In early October, a third contingent of 38 men left for Camp Funston (located on Fort Riley, KS). "The names of those leaving and the alternates who were "selected just before the train left because of the nonappearance of 'slackers' " were included in the article. *The Border Vidette* (10/6/1917).

For all three departures "The boys...were sent off with flying colors, cheers and martial music ringing in their ears... Many of them from our oldest, best families, and hundreds of relatives and friends were present to wish them "Good bye, good luck, and a safe return. Boys, may God be with you, till we meet again."

By early November a list of those who would be sent next to fulfill Santa Cruz County's quota was



Contributed photo

Stone Collie, of Elgin, served in the army in World War I.

published. *The Border Vidette* (11/10/1917). They departed for training in early March, 1918, this time with a more subdued celebration at the depot. *The Border Vidette* (3/2 & 9/1918). Three additional registrations were held in 1918; the third expanded the age range of those required to register from 18 to 45.

## Senior Citizens of Patagonia Endowment Fund Project



Contributed photo

The Board of Directors of Senior Citizens of Patagonia, Inc. (SCP) recently voted in favor of initiating an endowment fund to allow its organization to continue providing essential community services in perpetuity. The fund will be administered by the Arizona Community Foundation, which assists non-profits across the state in developing sound economic foundations for long-term sustainability.

Funding, in the form of planned giving and legacy donations from individuals, has already reached nearly the half-way mark of the \$25,000 required for startup.

Senior Citizens of Patagonia, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, incorporated in 1989 with the

following mission: To serve and support residents, particularly the elderly and disabled, of the Patagonia, Sonoita and Elgin areas through assistance with nutrition, health, transportation, education and social services.

Since 2003 the SCP Transportation Program has provided van and wheelchair accessible bus service in a 100-mile radius of Patagonia for individuals 60+ and disabled individuals of any age living in eastern Santa Cruz County. The Lunch Program serves up to 40 diners five days a week at the Patagonia Senior Center. Both programs are donation based and volunteer driven.

Senior Citizens of Patagonia also offers an increasing number of individual and social enrichment activities.

Together these services help people stay independent, well nourished and active.

To address endowment donation questions, the SCP Endowment Committee will soon hold a public information meeting, date and time to be announced.

Donations to the SCP Endowment Fund may be mailed to Senior Citizens of Patagonia, PO Box 1121, Patagonia, AZ 85624. Any donation to this fund remains anonymous unless the donor specifically wishes to be acknowledged.

Contact: Georgette Larrouy, Chair, Senior Citizens of Patagonia Endowment Committee, 520-455-7649 or [georgettely@hotmail.com](mailto:georgettely@hotmail.com)

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# CALENDAR

## Events

**Jun 2 - Sonoita Area Business Plan meeting**, 4-7 p.m. at Pioneer Hall. Draft of plan at: [www.co.santa-cruz.az.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/8121](http://www.co.santa-cruz.az.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/8121).

**Jun 2 - Under the Stars at the Concert Haul Plaza presents:** New Orleans Frontier Brass, 7 p.m. Free. Info: [scfpa.org](http://scfpa.org).

**Jun 3 - Science on the Plain Symposium**, 8:30 a.m.– 5:30 p.m. at Appleton Whittell Research Ranch. Info & tickets at: [www.eventbrite.com/e/science-on-the-sonoita-plain-symposium-2017-tickets-30034284353](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/science-on-the-sonoita-plain-symposium-2017-tickets-30034284353).

**Jun 3 - Water Wise presents: Erosion Control with Grasses**, 9-10:30 a.m. Learn how to control erosion to keep your landscape safe with presenter Jim Koweek. UA South, Groth Hall, Sierra Vista. Info: [waterwise.arizona.edu](http://waterwise.arizona.edu).

**Jun 6, 20 - Read to Ms. Laura.** Pick out books and read aloud to build literacy skills, ages 6-12. 1 p.m. at Patagonia Library. Info: 520-394-2010.

**Jun 7 - School Budget Meeting.** Discussion of 2018 proposed AZ budget and how it affects property taxes. 5:30 p.m. at Elgin School.

**Jun 9 - Nogales Cultural Innovation Circuit Tour**, Tour and talk on new innovations in Nogales, Arizona. Meet at "La Placita" Nasib Karam Park. 5:30-8 p.m. Register via phone 520-621-4046 or email: [swfolklife@gmail.com](mailto:swfolklife@gmail.com)

**Jun 9 - Under the Stars at the Concert Haul Plaza presents:** Free Ceremonial Band, 7 p.m. Free. 348 Naugle Ave., Patagonia. Info: [scfpa.org](http://scfpa.org).

**Jun 13, 27 - Read to a Dog.** Read to a therapy dog to build confidence and literacy skills, ages 6-12. 1-2:30 p.m. at Patagonia Library. Info: 520-394-2010.

**Jun 13, 27 - Music, Coloring, and Board Games**, all ages, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Patagonia Library. Info: 520-394-2010.

**Jun 16 - Under the Stars at the Concert Haul Plaza presents:** Crosswinds Woodwind Quintet and the Acoustic Masters 3000, 7 p.m. Free. 348 Naugle Ave., Patagonia. Info: [scfpa.org](http://scfpa.org).

## Events (cont'd)

**Jun 24 - 42nd Annual Fireman's Steak Fry.** Donations to improve equipment and building, with silent auction, live auction, raffle. Tickets are \$20, 12 & younger \$10. 4 p.m. in Patagonia Park.

**Jun 29 - Kids Summer Art Camp Art Show and Plays:** "Patricia Ann" and "Kid Sheriff and the Terrible Toads." Patagonia Creative Art Center, 7 p.m.

**Jun 30 - Under the Stars at the Concert Haul Plaza presents:** Cannonball Jazz. Free. 348 Naugle Ave., Patagonia.

**Jul 4 - Friends of the Library 4th of July Book Sale**, 9-4 p.m. at Patagonia Library.

**Jul 11, 25 - Read to a Dog.** Read to a therapy dog to build confidence and literacy skills, ages 6-12. 1-2:30 p.m. at Patagonia Library. Info: 520-394-2010.

**Jul 11, 25 - Music, Coloring, and Board Games**, all ages, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Patagonia Library. Info: 520-394-2010.

**Jul 18 - Read to Ms. Laura.** Pick out books and read aloud to build literacy skills, ages 6-12. 1 p.m. at Patagonia Library. Info: 520-394-2010.

## Meetings

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

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

**Patagonia Town Council** - 2nd & 4th Wed. at 7 p.m. in the Town Council Hall.

**Rotary Club** - 1st Thurs., 7 a.m. at Stage Stop Inn; 3rd Thurs., 5:30 p.m. at Kief Joshua Vineyard. Info: Sue, 520-990-4648.

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

**Overeaters Anonymous** - Tue. & Thurs. at 6:30 p.m. Fragrance-free meeting. Patagonia United Methodist Church. 520-404-3490.

## Special Interests

**Santa Cruz Singers** - rehearsals Thursdays at 5 p.m., SCFPA office, 348 Naugle, Patagonia. New members welcome!

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

**Crossroads Quilters** - Sonoita Fire Dept., 2nd & 4th Mon. at 9 a.m. Info: 520-732-0453.

**Open Tennis** - PUHS, Sat. at 9 a.m., Info: 394-2973.

**Storytime in Sonoita** - Pioneer Hall, every Thurs. Ages 0-5 but all ages welcome, 10 a.m.

**Sonoita Tergar Meditation Practice Group** - 1st Mon. Free. Info: Jonelle 455-9222.

**Storytime with Ms. Laura** - Cady Hall, every Wed. from Jun. 7-Jul. 26. Caregivers and children ages 6 and younger, 9-10 a.m. Info: 520-394-2010

**Science Experiments and Chess with David C.W.** - Cady Hall, Weds. and Thurs. in June. 12:30-2:30 p.m. Info: 520-394-2010.

## Community Services

**Lunch for Seniors** - Fresh-cooked meals, Mon. thru Fri. at the Patagonia Community Center. Noon—1 p.m.

**Free Kids Lunches** - Fresh cooked meals every Mon. thru Fri. from Jun. 5-Jul. 28, ages 18 and younger, 12-1 p.m. Cady Hall. Info: 520-394-2010.

**Sr. Citizens of Patagonia Van Service** - Medical transportation, Mon.—Fri. for seniors & disabled by appointment only. Info: 394-2494.

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

**Angel Wings Thrift & Gift Shop** - Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church, 12 Los Encinos Rd, Sonoita. Thurs—Sat. 10-2 p.m.

**Sonoita/Patagonia Email Newsletter** - usually twice a week. Free. Sign up at [clarebonelli@sonoitapatagonialocals.com](mailto:clarebonelli@sonoitapatagonialocals.com)

**Nogales Mercado Farmer's Market** - Every Friday from 4-7 p.m.

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## CHURCH SERVICES

**Patagonia Community  
United Methodist Church**  
387 McKeown Ave., Patagonia 394-2274  
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.  
Youth Group: 5-7 p.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.

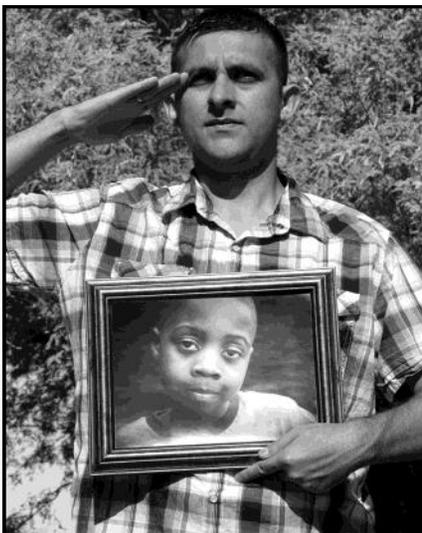
**St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church**  
222 Third Ave., Patagonia 394-2954  
Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

**Sonoita Bible Church**  
3174 N. Highway 83, Sonoita 455-5779  
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.  
Youth Group: 2nd & 4th Wed. 6-8 p.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, Elgin 455-5000  
Sunday Services: 8:45a.m. &  
11:00a.m (except third Sundays)  
Ranch Family Fun Day:  
7 a.m. every 3rd Sunday

**Harvest Christian Fellowship/  
Sonoita Foursquare Church**  
3107 Hwy 83, Sonoita 455-5505  
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.



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Nogales, AZ 85621 (520) 287-5654

## FULL MOON



**JUNE 9 & JULY 8**

**Answers to current events quiz, page 26**

1.P	5.H	9.L	13.D
2.O	6.G	10.K	14.C
3.N	7.F	11.J	15.B
4.M	8.E	12.I	16.A



# Animal Tales

By Cate Drown

## Caring for our Aging Dogs

Signs of aging in our canine friends can include loss of hearing, loss of eyesight, moving more slowly, tooth problems, separation anxiety, incontinence, difficulty getting up, losing balance in the hind legs, not shedding out and loss of enthusiasm.

Overall, I believe our own careful observation of our long-time friends is the most important ingredient in being able to offer them the best quality of life and is essential for picking up on whether something is out of whack enough to require medical attention.

My saluki, Kiddo, will be fifteen by the time this article comes out. She's a real challenge where her diet is concerned. The saluki is a very skinny breed, and she is a picky eater, so I continue to get creative to keep her healthy and functional in her old age.

My other old doggie, Sunny, is a lab cross who will happily eat anything I offer, so while I offer the highest calorie diet I can to Kiddo, I am concocting meals with less calories for Sunny. I mostly feed raw and homemade dog food. They keep me on my toes.

If you have been fortunate enough to have had a dog in your life since puppyhood, some of the symptoms of aging can be minimized or avoided. Many of us adopt dogs long after their puppy days, however, and we acquire all sorts of health conditions with them that may be a result of neglect or inherited conditions.

Regular check-ups with their vet or holistic animal care expert beginning when we first bring these dogs in to our lives will enable us to be able to recognize developing symptoms or behaviors as our dogs age, allowing us to determine whether it is something serious enough to require

treatment.

Brushing your pup's teeth regularly can prevent tartar buildup and greatly lessen the chances of gum disease. If your dog comes into your life with dental issues, you can begin dental care at any age. This is something that should be addressed by your canine expert. Keeping your dog exercised regularly will keep its limbs more limber and hold back arthritic conditions.

Hip dysplasia has become a common condition in many dogs because of poor breeding practices and this invariably leads to a loss of control in the back end. However, many older dogs, even of good breeding, can develop loss of function of the back legs.

This condition, as well as arthritis, can be controlled to some degree for a period of time. This is another dilemma to bring to your canine expert. There are many products available, both pharmaceutical and all natural that can ease the pain and/or help the dog remain in control.

Regular grooming practices will keep your dog's skin and coat healthy. Grooming and massaging enables us to be aware of any new bumps or tumors that may show up. Also, as dogs age, it is important to groom even more often to help them shed out old hair and keep the oils in their skin healthy and their coat clean and glossy.

I offer gentle, physical touch to both Kiddo and Sunny, and have a variety of chiropractic beds for them to choose from. So far, good quality of life seems to be evident in both.

*Cate Drown is the proprietor of Beyond Reason Ranch, where she provides specialized care for all beings large or small. Contact Cate at [drown\\_cate@hotmail.com](mailto:drown_cate@hotmail.com).*

## Life With A Smile

By Posy Piper

They say it takes more muscles to frown than it does to smile. I don't know how many more. I could look it up on the Internet if I knew how. It's sad when a fairly well educated 87-year old woman has to ask her seven and eight-year-old great grandkids to help her use a dumb machine. Oh, well, I can send and receive email and read and comment on Facebook. So, I'll just smile and save some muscles.

I always smile when I think of Marka Moss. We weren't bosom buddies, but we were friends for almost sixty years. She grew up in Elgin and rode her horse to help her Dad with his cattle. She and her sister Jane also helped the neighbors with cattle chores.

Marka and her husband, Austin, lived in Mexico when he worked with the hoof and mouth disease eradication group. Their son Rocky was born there. They came back to Arizona and worked at several ranches in the area. They had seven children, eventually coming to the Swing H Ranch where they were our closest neighbors. They later built their own house on their ranch near Elgin.

Marka and her five daughters were always well-dressed in clothes she sewed. She probably sewed shirts for her two sons and her husband, as well. Marka must have made a million tortillas. If you came to her house near mealtime, you would be offered her wonderful tortillas and beans and anything else she had cooked. There were always either cakes or cookies, and, of course, a cup of coffee.

She was a voracious reader. She was a member of the Elgin Book Circle, which her mother had started, for most of her life. She knew about current topics of interest because she read and learned about them and she usually had opinions that she didn't mind expressing. You might not agree with her, but you were still friends.



Contributed photo

**Marka Moss, who passed away earlier this year, was an important figure in the ranching community.**

Marka and Austin were involved in their community and the ranching industry. They could be counted on to attend meetings and to lend a hand where it was needed. Marka was the last remaining charter member of the Santa Cruz County Cowbells, and was Cowbelle president three times.

When no one else volunteered to be president a few years ago, Marka said, "I'm a charter member and I'm ninety years old. I will be president before I will let the Cowbells fold." She served as president for the next two years and did a great job.

After her kids were mostly grown, she worked as a teller at the Patagonia bank for several years. In later years, she made lovely quilts and enjoyed playing cards with her friends. She was a source of information about the local history. If nobody else knew about something in the past, Marka was the one to ask.

Her children grew to be successful adults. She had seventeen grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren (and counting). This was a remarkable woman!

Yes, I always smile when I think of Marka Moss!

# Near Perfect Trip to Mexico's Second Largest City

By Lynn Davison



Photo by Lynn Davison

## Guadalajara Centro

It was after a round at the Wagon Wheel that we hatched the plan. We would go to Guadalajara for a week of language school and a second week just to live the urban life in Mexico's second largest city. There were four of us, two couples. Unlike a lot of plans made in cowboy bars, we actually went to Guadalajara in February...and we had a swell time.

The city surpassed our expectations. Guadalajara is not a major tourist center, and that was our first attraction. The second attraction happened on first day there – a Sunday - when one of the biggest and busiest avenues in the Centro was open only to bicycles, skateboards, roller blades, joggers, and dog walkers...no motorized vehicles. It was a wonderful sight – families riding bikes together, teens cruising along on skateboards, serious bikers



Photo by Lynn Davison

Art is everywhere in Guadalajara

working out.

Nearly everyone we saw, except at our school, was Mexican...very few Norte Americanos or Europeans or Asians. Everyone was gracious, helpful in guiding us around their city, and a pleasure to meet. We felt welcomed and safe throughout our stay.

The central city is very lovely. Most streets are tree-lined, not just the big boulevards. We were lucky to arrive just when the city was alive with the brightest yellow-flowered big trees I have ever seen, perhaps a type of Tabebuia. They are in bloom for about 10 days and then

the petals fall into a carpet and are replaced by leaves. My hat is off to the city's arborists for the variety, abundance, and health of the street trees.

And the architecture, the churches, the museums, the private residences, the parks, the public art and music ...yowee -zowee. I typically have a short attention span for churches and museums but everything was just right in Guadalajara. The churches are amazing and remarkably full of people at all hours. The museums are right sized, not too big or too small. One of our favorites is housed in a former orphanage, the Instituto Cultura Cabanas which included, among many other treasures, magnificent Orazco frescos.

We ate well, thanks in large part to our new friend Gypsy, who worked at our hotel and made us a great map of recommended places. Gypsy was named by her father after his favorite musicians at the time, the Gypsy Kings! Most of the places we ate had street level outdoor seating. The weather was balmy even in the evenings. Seafood is good in Guadalajara as are Jalisco style Mexican dishes. Our favorite dinner spot was the Coltrane, an eclectic food, drink and jazz club we frequented often.

While most of our excursions were on foot, we did go to three towns within the Guadalajara metro area by taxi, Zapopan, Tlaquepaque and Tonola. All were worthy adventures and Tonola was our favorite. It is well known as the center of the ceramic arts that are a hallmark of the State of Jalisco. In Tonola, we visited the

Bernabe family, four generations of local ceramic artists. We got a private tour of their small factory and watched two of six brothers hand paint the most exquisitely detailed pieces imaginable.

Not everything was perfect. Our language



Photo by Lynn Davison

## Inside one of the many cathedrals in Guadalajara

school, IMAC, was less than we had hoped for, teaching methods not ideal for adult learners and subpar teachers, save Professor Ibarra whom our traveling companion had a crush on! My professor was interested in zombies, tequila, visiting Chernobyl, and learning Korean, but not teaching Spanish.

The only other drawback of Guadalajara is the air quality, which was generally better than Mexico City, but not good. We arrived on a rainy day and suggest you do too, for air cleaning purposes.

If you need a hotel, the Casino Plaza Hotel is perfect: relatively small, reasonably priced, very quiet, indoor parking, restaurant with the most incredible fruit for breakfast this side of Hawaii, and the aforementioned, wonderful Gypsy.

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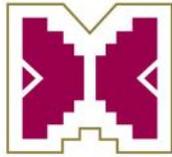
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## Volunteer Drivers Needed

Now that more people have learned about our services, the Senior Citizens of Patagonia transportation program is expanding our reach.

We are seeking additional volunteer drivers for our Dodge Caravan and Ford Minibus with wheelchair lift. We service Patagonia, Sonoita, and Elgin, and drive seniors (60+) and the disabled to Sierra Vista, Nogales, and Tucson, and anywhere in between. Rides are offered primarily for medical appointments, but also for airport drop-off and pick-up, shopping trips, and cultural events.

To volunteer, contact Chuck Kelly at charlesraynerkelly@gmail.com, 520-604-8087 or Heather Dodge at hsdodge712@gmail.com, 520-732-0598. To make appointments for transport, call the Patagonia Senior Center at 394-2494 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday-Friday.

## What's Your Current Events I.Q.?

PUHS history teacher Kenny Hayes gives a current events test each week to his students. See if you can do as well as his students. Match the subjects (Nos. 1—16) to the correct phrases (Letters A—P).

Answers on page 23.

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| A. Sunnis seek greater influence in Iraq govt. after IS               | _____ 1. WANNACRY                     |
| B. Acquitted of Manslaughter, in shooting of unarmed black man.       | _____ 2. Edouard Philippe             |
| C. Creator of Fox News, and former political strategist               | _____ 3. US Ed. Dept for Civil Rights |
| D. Selected to lead independent investigation into Russian Collusion. | _____ 4. North Korea                  |
| E. Nazi group reaching out to Latin America and Mexico                | _____ 5. Intel Sharing                |
| F. 2 killed in demonstrations against their dictator                  | _____ 6. Syrian Govt.                 |
| G. Denies mass killings of 50 detainees a day                         | _____ 7. Venezuela                    |
| H. Trumps actions with Russia damages US alliances                    | _____ 8. Daily Stormer                |
| I. Charges gay couple to 85 lashes under Shariah law                  | _____ 9. Chelsea Manning              |
| J. Voting on President, Rouhani is the favorite                       | _____ 10. Tornadoes                   |
| K. Kill 2 in Wisconsin and Oklahoma                                   | _____ 11. Iran                        |
| L. Released after 7 years in prison for Espionage                     | _____ 12. Indonesia                   |
| M. New long Range Missile can carry nuke                              | _____ 13. Mueller                     |
| N. School Sex complaints pile up due to underfunding                  | _____ 14. Roger Ailes                 |
| O. named French Prime Minister, under Macron                          | _____ 15. Betty Jo Shelby             |
| P. Ransomware virus that affected 200,000 people in 150 countries     | _____ 16. Iraq                        |

## HUMMINGBIRD NESTS NIDOS DE CHUPARRASAS



VIOLET-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD  
Colibri Corona Violeta  
Amazilillo violáceo

Artwork by Patagonia Artist, Judith Hinton Andrew

Hummingbirds use spider webs to build their nests. The silk strands from the webs allow the nest to expand with the growing young.

Las Chuparrasas (Colibries) usan telarañas para construir sus nidos. Los hilos de seda de la telaraña permiten que el nido se expanda según crecen los pararitos.



# Local Artists Create Trail Signs

By Bob Brandt

The paintings of five local artists have been installed as interpretive signs along the new trail connecting Tucson Audubon's Paton Center for Hummingbirds with The Nature Conservancy's Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Preserve.

Funded by ArtPlace America as a part of a much larger grant secured by Tucson Audubon Society, the paintings depict prominent features of the flora, fauna and landscapes found in and around Patagonia. Each sign provides a brief description of its subject in both English and Spanish below the painting. They are placed strategically along the nearly mile-long trail which was built in 2015 by a group of volunteers headed by Chris Strohm.

The five artists were chosen by Cassina Farley, Director of the Patagonia Creative Arts Association,

and approved by Tucson Audubon staff.

The artists and their subjects include: Jill Johnson—*Cottonwood Gallery*; Gary B. Romig—*Grasslands*; Donna Reibslager—*Sky Island Biomes*; Tammie Quiroga—*Pollinators*; and Judith Hinton Andrew—*Lucy's Warbler* and *Hummingbird Nests*.

Soon after Audubon took ownership of the Paton property, it proceeded to plan extensive changes to the former home of Wally and Marion Paton. Among the proposed changes were a series of design improvements including a new kiosk, a new viewing pavilion and the paintings produced by these artists. ArtPlace provided a matching grant of \$50,000 to cover most of the costs of these and other improvements which have transformed the Paton Center for Hummingbirds into a world-class birding destination.

## LUCY'S WARBLER CHIPE DE RABADILLA RUFA



LUCY'S WARBLER  
Chipe de Rabadilla Rufa  
Oreothlypis luciae

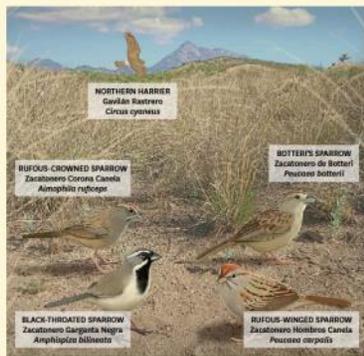
Artwork by Patagonia Artist, Judith Hinton Andrew

Lucy's Warblers rely so heavily on mesquite that they were once called Mesquite Warblers. They are also the only cavity-nesting warbler in the west.

Chipes de Rabadilla Rufa dependen tanto de los mesquites que se solían llamar Chipes Mezquiteros. Estos son los únicos chipes en el oeste de los EEUU que anidan en cavidades de los árboles.



## GRASSLANDS PASTIZALES



NORTHERN HARRIER  
Gavilán Sotero  
Circus cyaneus

RUFOUS-CROWNED SPARROW  
Zacatonero Corona Canela  
Amphispiza ruficeps

BOTTEN'S SPARROW  
Zacatonero de Botteri  
Peucaea botteri

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW  
Zacatonero Garganta Negra  
Amphispiza bilineata

RUFOUS-WINGED SPARROW  
Zacatonero Hombros Canela  
Peucaea carpalis

Artwork by Patagonia Artist, Gary B. Romig

Wide grasslands cover the foothills of the Santa Rita and Patagonia Mountains, supporting many native plants and animals. In the winter look for Northern Harriers as they soar low over ridges and valleys in search of prey.

Las colinas de las montañas Santa Rita y Patagonia están cubiertas de grandes praderas que sirven de hábitat para muchas especies nativas de animales y plantas. En el invierno se pueden observar Gavilanes Rasteros, volando bajo por las crestas y valles en busca de su presa.

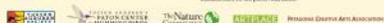


## SKY ISLAND BIOMES BIOMAS DE LAS ISLAS DEL CIELO



These mountains are called Sky Islands because they rise high enough out of the desert to support small "islands" of forests or trees. Climbing up a mountain, there is like traveling north you can go from the deserts of Mexico to the high mountains of Canada in one mountain.

Estos montañas se elevan tan altas del desierto que soportan pequeñas "islas" de bosques y riberas rodeadas de "desiertos". Al ascender en una montaña es como viajar hacia el norte en una sola montaña, una recorrida desde el desierto en la base, hasta los bosques montañosos en las partes más altas.



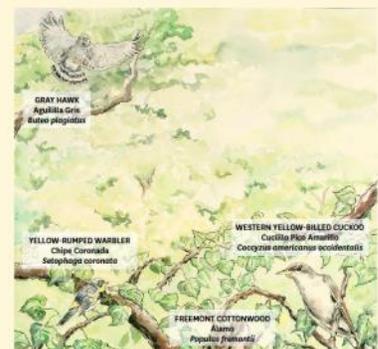
## POLLINATORS POLINIZADORES



Southwest Arizona has more hummingbird species than any other region in the US, at least 12 species can be observed in this region in any given year. About 70% of the western population of Monarch Butterflies use this region for their wintering grounds. Bees are one of the most important pollinators on earth, and southwest Arizona has more bee species than anywhere else!



## COTTONWOOD GALLERY ALAMEDA



GRAY HAWK  
Águila Gris  
Bubo virginianus

YELLOW RUMPED WARBLER  
Chipe Coronada  
Setophaga coronata

WESTERN YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO  
Cuculita Pico Amarillo  
Coccyzus americanus occidentalis

FREMONT COTTONWOOD  
Árbol  
Populus fremontii

Artwork by Patagonia Artist, Jill Johnson

The mature cottonwood forest of Sonoita Creek is one of the last remaining intact riparian ecosystems in Arizona. These ribbons of green support more than half of all animal species in Arizona. Look into the canopy of this forest and you can find a wide array of birds any time of the year!

Esta Alameda de árboles maduros del arroyo Sonoita es uno de los últimos ecosistemas ribereños que permanece intactos en Arizona. Estos cinturones verdes o galerías riparias, conservan más de la mitad de todas las especies de animales en Arizona. Una mirada al follaje de este bosque y usted puede encontrar una gran variedad de aves en cualquier época del año.



These six signs can be found on the trail between Paton's and the Patagonia -Sonoita Creek Preserve.

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\$329,000



### RAIN VALLEY SPANISH STYLE HOME

MLS # 2163228 10 FLAT ACRES

2808 sf, versatile floor plan. Stunning outdoor living spaces. Great for horses. Garage/workshop/4 stall barn. \$329,000 SUSAN ABAGNALE 520 260-8139

\$349,900



### CUSTOM SANTA FE IN SONOITA HILLS

MLS # 21708462 4.17 ACRES

2129sf, 3Bd/2Ba. Well maintained w/new exterior & interior paint, carpet. Roof newly resealed. Fully fenced with great views. Good well. CHERYL VOLK 520 975-7271

\$310,000



### CASAS ARROYO de SONOITA

MLS # 21615292 MUD ADOBE

2321sf 3Bd/2Ba on easy-care .37 acres. Charm & character, HOA w/pool, mature trees, acres of shared land, quick Hwy 83 access. CAROL FORD 520 604-0162

\$275,000



### BUNGALOW WITH GUEST HOUSE

MLS #21706578 242 SANTA RITA

Great in town location. Old miner's shack converted to an open concept small bungalow. New roof, plumbing, electrical. Terraces, studio. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

PATAGONIA: 325-A McKeown Ave., next to Gathering Grounds 520-394-2120

SONOITA: Corner of Hwys 82 & 83, next to Post Office 520-455-5235

[www.buysonoita.com](http://www.buysonoita.com) or [www.sonoita-realestate.com](http://www.sonoita-realestate.com)

Jean Miller  
Co-Owner, General Manager  
Direct 520-508-3335  
[jeanmiller@longrealty.com](mailto:jeanmiller@longrealty.com)

Carol Ford  
Co-Owner, Designated Broker  
Direct 520-604-0162  
[cford@longrealty.com](mailto:cford@longrealty.com)



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