For the past few years, the only occupant in the plaza at 277 McKeown Avenue has been Patagonia’s community radio station, KPUP. But Patagonia resident, Bob Ollerton, hopes to change that situation. Ollerton recently purchased the property and has begun renovating the structure, which was originally built by Dean and Kathy Lundy in the late 1980’s.

The age and condition of the complex have deterred some who contemplated purchasing it in the past. But Ollerton is planning to give the local landmark the attention it needs—beginning with roof repairs and a fresh coat of paint. The structure’s electrical, plumbing and water systems also will be updated as needed. Alerton says he intends to keep a look that fits in with Patagonia’s character, and hopes to begin offering a few rentals within the next three months. The complex will contain three rental apartments and several small office spaces, as well as a restaurant.

The plaza’s first tenant under this new management is Bonnie Maclean, who has leased the restaurant site and plans to open a bakery there. She says Ovens of Patagonia will feature assorted fresh-baked breads and rolls, along with other treats like homemade fudge, nuts and candies, in a country store setting. MacClean plans to make some of the treats, but she is currently looking for a baker to prepare most of the store’s bakery.
Plaza Gets New Lease on Life, continued from Front Page

Bob Ollerton and Bonnie MacClean

The plaza's restaurant will be the site of Ovens of Patagonia.

The records relating to the Patagonia Regional Times, Inc. application upon which its exempt status was granted by the Internal Revenue Service, along with its annual 990 filings, are available for inspection by appointment made by telephone or email, during business hours at 314 Duquesne Avenue, Patagonia, Arizona 85624. Telephone: 520-394-2143; email: wmandrewjr@yahoo.com.

Omissions & Errors

Our sincere apologies to Steve Padilla, who we identified as Lou Padilla in the October issue. Apparently this is the second year in a row that we've made this error, when we included a photo of him with his son Levi, after they won the team roping event at the Sonoita Rodeo. Sorry, Steve!
In August 2010, Adroit, LCC, a company owned by Brent Bowden, was granted a Use Permit for a Recreational Vehicle Park (RV Park) on Route 82 in Patagonia. There were several conditions attached to the permit, including a stipulation that the site’s primary access be from State Highway 82 and that no work was to be done until all permits were obtained. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is the state agency that issues access permits for state highways.

On April 24, 2012, Adroit applied for a building permit for construction of this project. On May 2, 2012, Victor Fontes, Adroit’s Engineer, received a letter from the chairwoman of ADOT which stated in part “…the Department has thoroughly reviewed this issue and proposes to issue a joint-use permit…..”. Mr. Fontes e-mailed this letter to the Patagonia Town Manager, David Teel. Based on this letter, the town manager approved Adroit’s two building permits. Both permits were subject to Section 7-1-5 of the Town Code which states that building permits expire if not commenced within 180 days. Both the permits appear to have expired.

In September, 2013, when the Patagonia Regional Times contacted ADOT to obtain a copy of the Adroit access permit, ADOT responded that “...a permit was filed on October 4, 2011, but was never finalized and no permit was issued by ADOT.” ADOT did not explain why the permit had not been issued. As a result, the town erroneously issued the building permits for the project which required an underlying ADOT permit before their issuance. The town manager agrees that this is the case. Presently, all the building permits issued have expired and no new ones will be issued until the ADOT access permit has been issued.

Although the Use Permit issued to Adroit does not stipulate a time limit in which the project must be completed, Section 14-2A of the Town Code has the following provision:

Development and Time Limits: Following the issuance of a Use Permit, the town manager and/or building official shall ensure that if the development/use is undertaken, it is commenced in compliance with said permit within one (1) year. If said development is not commenced within one year of issuance of the Use Permit, said Use Permit shall expire without notice, provided that a one-time one-year extension of the use permit shall be granted by the town manager if applicant requests such an extension prior to the permit’s expiration and demonstrates good cause.

It has been more than three years since the original Use Permit was issued which, under Section 14-2A makes it appear that the original Use Permit has expired. The Town Manager’s position is that Adroit should not be held hostage if ADOT makes the process of getting an access permit extremely lengthy. This may a reasonable view, provided Adroit has made an effort to expeditiously obtain the ADOT permit. However, according to ADOT, Adroit’s application was made on October 4, 2011, approximately one year after the Use Permit was issued.

Resident of Patagonia will vote on the new franchise agreement with SSVEC for our electric service on Tuesday, November 5 at the Patagonia Town Hall. Residents can also vote early by going to Town Hall to fill out a ballot.

The franchise agreement sets forth the terms under which SSVEC will provide electricity and use the Town’s right of way for their distribution lines. For information reported in a recent Patagonia Regional Times article: go to http://www.thepatagoniaregionaltimes.com/2013/10/town-to-vote-on-ssvec-renewal.html
Almost everyone in town has been aware of the structural mess that is the marshal’s office with its trampoline floor, rotting sills and walls. Other locations have been suggested to provide the marshal with improved quarters, but nothing has come of those efforts. Marshal Joe Patterson, who in a former life built houses, decided that self help was the way to improve the situation. Together with deputies John York, Toni Hansen and Michael Young, a friend, Marshal Patterson reinforced the floor joists, installed a new floor, tore off and replaced the rotting siding and installed energy efficient windows which he supplied himself.
At the Town Council meetings in October, the following was discussed and/or decided:

**Availability Fees:** Amendment to Patagonia’s “availability fees” [fees for water, sewer and garbage services] is being considered by the council. Although these fees are important sources of income for the town, a number of town residents have questioned their justification. If you own an empty lot that is hooked up to town services, or an empty trailer lot, you are subject to these fees—even though there is no one occupying the property. The town is now considering whether to levy these fees on vacant lots where there is no hook-up to town services. The council has asked the Town Manager to develop data to assist them in making a determination about this issue when they take it up in the future.

**Use Permit Hearings:** On October 23 the Planning and Zoning Committee and the Town Council held joint hearings on three use permit applications which resulted in the following decisions:

- The Michael Shoemaker request to expand his existing RV park at 566 Harshaw Road to provide more four Park Model RV's spaces was granted along with permission to provide dry camping.
- The Craig Canady/Paul Hathway request for a permit for Health and Wellness services at 376 Naugle Avenue was not approved as no applicant showed up to discuss the application and material was missing.
- The David and Karina Budd/Liliane Papin request for use of space #2 at 309 Duquesne Avenue as an Oriental Medicine Clinic was granted subject to the filing of a satisfactory parking plan, compliance with ADA requirements for parking and accessibility and obtaining a building permit.

**Win RV Club:** The request of the Win RV Club to Camp free in the town park from March 3-10 was denied. The group of singles received permission to park and camp here in 2011, but Patagonia RV park owner Michael Shoemaker said that such a policy was detrimental to local RV businesses. Based on such considerations, council members decided deny the permit.

**Permission to Repaint Community Center Interior:** At the council meeting on October 23, Cornelia O'Connor presented a proposal by the Senior Citizens of Patagonia (SCP) to re-decorate the interior of the Community Center. The proposal included a color scheme to repaint the walls and to add stylized Mexican designs around the windows and doors, which were to have been completed by Linda Chase. The plan would also paint over the existing mural. The proposed flower designs elicited major opposition as did the possibility of doing away with the present mural. Mayor Ike Isakson expressed disgust with the idea, saying “I don’t want to look at flowers.” The Community Center was asked to come up with a revised painting plan.

**The Water System Repairs:** The Town Manager stated that all the approvals had been received and that the bids for much needed repairs to the Patagonia town water should be ready for opening in December.
Santa Cruz County Solid Waste Division is working on improving the cost effectiveness of their recycling program. There is still a wide disparity between the cost of these programs and the money that they can bring in, mostly because of transportation costs, but also because the market for glass and plastic has shrunk. Then, it costs money to sort, store, and bundle materials.

The county recently received a grant of $95,000 for machinery that compacts solid waste more efficiently. Solid Waste Manager, Karl Moyers, explains that this means more tonnage can be shipped on one truck.

Moyers also reports that glass is being dealt with differently now. He thinks that the county can begin to crush glass here using its own heavy machinery. If this works out, it will save the county the cost of buying a glass crusher and mean more material can be moved at one time. He is also looking into finding a cheaper way to get the glass and other products to Tucson. The county's trucks cost $2 a mile to run whereas other firms with huge fleets of bigger trucks can move solid waste for half that amount. No matter how this shakes out, Moyer says, recycled glass will not cover the costs of crushing and shipping.

The county continues to struggle with recycling. Recommendations—including improving the current facilities to increasing landfill fees—are under consideration. Moyers added that the rumor that Sonoita's landfill may be privatized is a rumor that has been around for years and that there is no basis for it.

All our recyclable materials are being dealt with. Nothing from the recycling bins is being put into a county landfill. The county continues to lose money, but it is trying to find ways to mitigate this. We can all help by breaking down boxes, sorting out the recyclable kind of plastic (#1 and #2 only), putting wax-coated cardboard and Styrofoam in the trash, separating aluminum cans and putting them in the barrel at the gas station, and taking the lids off bottles. And, please, no garbage.

And, in case you didn't know, the glass bottles you put in the big blue bin get crushed, separated again by color and end up in Owens Corning fiberglass.
The Patagonia Friends of the Library held a farewell party for member Betty Myers on October 18 at the Spirit Tree Inn. Shown from left: Cindy Morris, Jessica Cobb, Jill Killeen, Jan Heron, Tom Bartholomeux, Betty Myers, Janet Winan, Lou Schatz, and Ken Ludwig.
I have now lived through all of Patagonia’s seasons. In most parts of the world there are four seasons—others just count two: rainy and dry. In places like Quito, Ecuador, there is eternal spring. Here we are very busy with sea-sons. It seems we have six, maybe even eight, and each one has a good side and a not-so-good side.

The first season I lived through was last year’s monsoon months. Of all the times of year (thus far, in my opinion), that is the most dramatic and unpredictable. Rainbow is the best part of the monsoons - the earth is waiting with bated breath for those first drops, as are we all. Sunsets and skies in general are the second best thing, and thunder and lightning are up there as well because they provide drama, even some adrenaline. The hills and fields turn green, livestock gets to graze, we can take a break from watering our gardens, and it’s easy to forget that we live in a parched part of the world.

The downside to July, August and most of September involves mosquitoes, flies, and a host of other new-to-me insects that I don’t quite trust. Then there’s the humidity and sometimes mud and the threat of floods. Let’s not forget the snakes.

Then, suddenly, the rains stop. The next season is brief - a transition between heat and cold. The days are hot without the cloud cover. The hills and fields turn pink and the dry plants crunch under foot. The world seems to be holding its breath until the sun warms things up. The winter cold is both a blessing and a curse.

These seasons don’t flow into one another. They seem to occur almost over night. One day it’s cold, the next it’s warm and quickly it’s just plain hot. And that brings us to June—a season onto itself. Heat. It’s all about heat. I was moving last June and my memories of the heat are clouded by packing and unpacking and hauling boxes and cleaning, all those miserable chores made worse by relentless high temperatures. Was there anything good about that month? I cannot recall anything except that all that heat ultimately brings the gift of the dramatic and unpredictable monsoon storms.
Big Steve, a contractor friend from Oracle, left Arizona in the 1970s and moved to Galveston, Texas, which, in the mid-eighteen hundreds, had been a sort of Gulf Coast Bisbee: a thriving, deep-water-shipping boomtown. Alas, the city’s boom went bust when Houston had its harbor dredged. Poor Galveston just disappeared from view, except for a bad hurricane or two. A century went by and then the oil biz in Houston boomed. The fat-cats started buying weekend homes in Galveston, but after so much mildew and neglect, the houses there were in bad shape. Big Steve specialized in restoring Victorian mansions with fancy woodwork. In that sense, his ship had come in. So, in 1981, as a friend and carpenter, I moved to Galveston.

Like any living thing, of course, I craved companionship. Every day, after work, dehydrated to the bone from eight hours of profuse sweating in South Texas’ climate from hell, I’d gobble down a beer or two, then swim out beyond the surf, and just lie floating in the warm brown Gulf of Mexico. Eventually, well after dark, I’d slither back ashore, relaxed, hungry, and bored. That left a bunch of empty nights to fill.

But then I met Victoria, a bright, cheerful woman; fine company in the kitchen, the library, and the boudoir. We began spending most of our free time together. After several months of hanging out, she confided to me that, years earlier, because of an unfortunate family history of uterine and ovarian cancer, she’d been advised to have those time-bomb organs taken out, to reduce risk. And so, when she was 23, a dozen years before we met, she’d yielded to the doctors’ wise advice. The surgery went very well. Her scars were quite invisible and you -- except for being told -- would not have known that surgery had ever taken place.

You may be wondering why I’m telling you this, and what it has to do with Patagonia. It’s simple. If Wildcat Silver, or Rosemont or any other mining company could guarantee that they would -- or even could -- extract their ore without poisoning or depleting our air, water and wildlife -- and convincingly promised to restore the area to an acceptable look and feel when they got done, instead of leaving some blighted moonscape, I’d be much reassured and less mistrustful than I am.

I find it curious and unacceptable that the government, when it rolls over on its back, as it almost always does, and says “yes” to mining, then it always does, puts no teeth in its reclamation and restoration requirements. Why not demand the establishment of an escrow account with a realistic amount of money set aside to guarantee that the environment won’t be trashed? My guess is that the number of dollars required to do that would be so large as to jeopardize the profitability of such projects, which would therefore not be undertaken. Neither Wildcat nor Rosemont, charming and publicity-savvy as they’ve become, pretend to be charitable institutions. In the land of the free and the home of the brave, money, of course, is the name of the game. There are, then, no such guarantees. Instead, we’ll all be outraged and surprised when, twenty-some years down the road the silver ore runs out and the company blows us a kiss, skips town, declares bankruptcy, changes names, woos new investors, and starts up all over again in, say, Montana, where, as required by law, the Forest Service solicits public comment.

Might one perceive a pattern here?
A Nowhere Man and Whiskey Girl
Kind of Love

By Cassina Farley

I barely knew them. My path crossed a few times over the years with Nowhere Man and Whiskey Girl (aka Derrick and Amy Ross.) I was told she was from a small town in Wyoming. Him, I’m not so sure.

The first time I met them was at a KPUP party several years ago. They graciously played for a reduced rate for a small crowd of enthusiastic radio fans. It was a perfect night and they played beautifully. I ran into them at various places throughout the years. Once I saw them in their home town in Bisbee where they seemed to fit that Bisbee flair. Another time they played in Tucson on Fourth Avenue to a standing-room-only crowd.

The one thing that struck me every single time was how they looked at each other when they played. They were so very much in love. It was if the entire crowd was invisible as she sang to him and he in turn would keep rhythm to her voice. How could this happen? How can this kind of love end?

When I learned how Nowhere Man couldn’t live without his Whiskey Girl I wondered how I would have dealt with such sorrow. I hope I never know. I think I’m one of the lucky ones, someone who knows that kind of love. I have someone to sing to and in turn I have someone who can keep rhythm with my songs.

I barely knew Amy and Derrick Ross but what I did know was wonderful. On Amy’s Facebook page their last message to everyone was this- “Enjoy every sandwich. We love and miss you all. Go be nice to someone for us.” Maybe we should all strive for a Nowhere Man and Whiskey Girl kind of love. Goodbye from Patagonia. We always have KPUP.

The artwork above and at right was created by students in Johana Lee’s art classes at Patagonia Elementary School. They are part of an exhibit that was shown at the Santa Cruz County Fair last month, and were on display at the Gathering Grounds in Patagonia through October. AT LEFT: A collage featuring self-portraits by the pre K and kindergarten class; AT RIGHT: A drawing by Andy Manriquez.
Growing Up Gay

By Linda Gheen

My birth mother gave me away--for the price of paying her hospital bill. My adopted parents were the most wonderful, loving parents in the world, and when I was growing up, I adored my dad. He was my hero and I so wanted to be like him. Nevertheless, I was an only child, and sometimes I felt very alone. Everyone else had brothers and sisters. I never learned how to relate to kids my own age--a feeling that followed me into adulthood. I was always the funny one - I figured if I could make people laugh they wouldn't see my pain.

When I was six years old I knew I loved women but I didn't know why. I bought a girly magazine, telling the cashier it was for my dad. I loved that magazine and stared at the photos as often as I could. But one day I got caught and my dad took me back to the store to tell the clerk I had bought it for myself. I was a tom boy. I loved to play sports and, looking back, I think I got to play on the boys team because I was better than most of them.

I was ten when we moved from Louisiana to Dallas, Texas, and my life didn't get any more comfortable. Now I was the new kid in town. When I was 12 I fell in love with a young woman who was 18. I knew no one who was openly gay, but at that time in Texas gays were "queers" and subject to scorn and ridicule. (Things haven't changed much in Texas since then.)

Then I met a very awkward boy in my freshman year of high school, and we became best friends. After we dated for seven years, he asked me to marry him, even though he knew I was also in a relationship with a woman. Because I wanted to fulfill my parents' expectations, I told John I'd marry him, but I felt very conflicted. Finally, the night before our wedding, I said to my mother, "I can't marry John", and she said that the woman I was seeing "would never be there for me." This was the only time she ever even hinted that she knew I was gay.

So in 1976 I married my best friend—a decision which not only was unfair to myself, but also to my best friend. After some years, my parents died, and John was my only family. He got a job transfer to Tucson. I couldn't wait to get away from the redneck prejudice of Texas. Within a year I was having an affair, but then the woman I was with told her husband—and then she told mine. They divorced and she moved to Australia. I was devastated, and began going to a lesbian support group. There I met Liz. She too had been married and understood how it was to be married to your best friend. She accepted John as family, and as she and I began spending time together, John was included in everything. I shuttled back and forth between homes like a kid in a divorce.

Finally Liz and I moved to Patagonia. For four years John came down every weekend, but eventually he began dating someone else. It was hard for me to accept, as I always expected him to be in my life. Early this year, I filed for divorce after being married 37 years.

Now I am happy and gay and soon to be Linda Hitchcock, (my maiden name), the partner of Liz Bernays. Here in Patagonia, we have made a family with our dog, Bandito, and our cat, Bowtie. I am thankful for my new family, and for having gained the confidence to talk freely about the story of my life. And I am thankful to be living in this supportive community, which has helped me, after all these years, to become comfortable being me.
Who’s to Blame

Having read last month’s article (“A Trail of Deception”) and editorial commentary (“A Cover Up and Its Consequences”) I felt compelled as a former board member of the Patagonia Regional Community Foundation (PRCF) to respond with some facts.

In 2006, the Board of PRCF began discussions about how we could make a bigger impact with our grants. We started thinking about making strategic grants, ones that would be larger, more long term and make a significant difference. These would be grants that the board decided on, not the traditional competitive grants that nonprofits request from us. We realized that we were taking a bit of a risk but we felt the long term affect would be worth it.

We first looked at what we felt were the biggest needs. One of those needs was youth services. There just wasn’t enough for the youth to do out of school. One organization in the community that was focused on youth was the Community Coalition for Eastern Santa Cruz County (the Coalition). The PRCF board decided to give this nonprofit organization $10,000 in seed money to get started on a youth center. And as an affiliate of the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF), the PRCF board reviewed our plans with ACF and received their complete support.

Over the years the Coalition went through some board membership changes. PRCF was patient with them in their efforts to address youth issues including the proposed youth center because it was so desperately needed. We believed that with this grant from PRCF the Coalition would have a meaningful impact on youth services.

It appears now that perhaps the PRCF Board was too patient. We really did want the money spent. But we were unaware of the internal issues going on within the coalition board. When we finally gave up on their promises to spend the money and requested it be returned to PRCF, it was gone.

If anyone is at fault in all of this, it is the children and grandchildren of our community. That money was intended for them. It is very disappointing to me to know that after all this time, we have nothing for them.

— Susan Scott

Compassion For Jeffery Cooper

After reading the articles in PRT about Jeffrey Cooper, I am reminded that I must see Jeffrey as a fellow human being, who, like me, has lied, cheated, deceived and stolen. The difference being the actions were of such a degree that he got caught. He has erred and is suffering. I, too, suffer from my wrongdoings; whether I’m caught or not, this fact infects my life. When I realize my suffering and its cause, I must forgive myself in order to move on toward recovery—recovering myself. It is clear to me that the last thing I would need if I had separated myself by my actions is to be judged, condemned and punished by my community. If I wanted to make good my errors, to repair the damage to myself and others, I would need support in order to do so. By supporting Jeffrey, what would our community gain? Bringing forth the basic human qualities such as compassion and forgiveness, which are fundamental to our nature, we regain our human qualities. How could we as community support not only the good in this man but the good in this community?

— David Krest
I went duck hunting yesterday for the first time in 25 years. I used to love this gunning sport for all the right reasons. The current year’s “bag limits” are determined by the federal game and fish agency based on census, disease outbreaks, and previous year’s numbers. This bag limit is meant to enforce the number of federal migratory waterfowl species a hunter can shoot, and is designed to improve the health and numbers of ducks and geese throughout North America. I always followed the federal game laws because without them our bird populations could end up the way of the passenger pigeon, Eskimo curlew, or Carolina parakeet. They are all extinct! We Americans are, by nature, bloodthirsty.

When I quit hunting back in the late ‘80’s, the bag limits were down to one or two ducks per hunter, per day, because of an avian disease in their breeding grounds on the potholed Canadian tundra. There were too many birds, and under these crowded conditions, the disease spread like flames in a paper factory, wiping out huge numbers of ducks and geese. I quit hunting, mainly to allow the duck population to bounce back. It did. In the interim I really missed the sport. Yesterday it all came right back to me in a flood; the thrill of duck hunting is spectacular.

Hunting ignites an age old flame within us humans: the need to eat, the excitement of preparation, and the adrenaline release of being in the field with the birds coming in to land, hopefully within shooting range. It is the exact same need, excitement, and adrenaline rush bird watchers take into the field - not to kill but to observe, identify and list the total birds seen on any given outing. You are out in the country with the fresh air, and the thrill of the wild, thinking to see something new or unusual, and hoping to best your last outing with a bigger list. When you get an intimate close range view of a bird through a pair of binoculars, there is that same hunting experience complete with adrenaline rush and excitement; albeit the need to eat doesn’t play into this sport.

Like hunting, birding is something you do with friends and companions, and the experience is heightened by the camaraderie. Success is determined not by the amount of meat for the dinner table, but by how many birds you see and possibly something unusual or out-of-place, like the Blue-footed booby seen at Patagonia Lake State Park last month. At the end of the day, whether birding or hunting, you’re worn out from the hike, and from using every muscle in your body to be perfectly still to get the best viewing vantage point.

Back home in the evening, discussion about the day’s events and re-living the “hunt” make for lively conversation. I must admit that I like chicken and turkey a little better than duck or goose. But yesterday it all came right back to me in a flood; the thrill of duck hunting is spectacular. Maybe I’ll taste duck before the season is over.
The Best Small Town Festival in Arizona happened in Patagonia on the second weekend in October. This was the 25th year for the Patagonia Fall Festival, and according to everyone who worked there, sold there, or just came to hang out, it was a terrific event. Kazz Workizer, as she has in the past, managed to put all the pieces of this three-day event together.

There were 125 exhibitors selling everything from dog biscuits to garlic, sticks to stones, turquoise to T-shirts. A truck drove over from Hatch, New Mexico with a trailer full of bright red chile peppers, craftspeople came from all over Arizona, and local nonprofits profited from selling books and beer.

Volunteers from Patagonia High School helped move the endless boxes of books from the library to the park. Almost as soon as the books were stacked on tables, buyers appeared. At the end of the weekend the Friends of the Library were $2,300 ahead.

KPUP set up its Beer Garden facing the gazebo and, after covering expenses, the local station took in $3,200, a little less than last year.

Local potter Martha Kelly was delighted with her weekend sales. She attributes some of that to the fact that there were only seven potters in the park this year as opposed to some years when there are “too many.”

As always, there was food for every taste—from vegetarian offerings to fried dough. Patagonia’s Volunteer Fire Dept. sold hundreds of hamburgers.

The music was a vital part of the festival energy. Some people thought that the unexpected death of the popular and talented duo, Nowhere Man and Whiskey Girl—who were scheduled to perform—cast a shadow over the event, but the sound system helped fill the air with an amazing variety of tunes from a Dixieland band to the sweet voice and guitar of Conjuntos Royal.

The weekend is always a boon to the local economy. The weather is reliably lovely, the visitors always show up and leave to tell their friends back home not to miss this great little festival next year, and so it goes. See you in the park.
**The Woman Upstairs**

a novel by Claire Messud

Alfred A. Knopf, 2013; 253 pages

We are blessed to have an exceptional public library in our midst, which constantly brings in the latest offerings in fiction and non-fiction. Sometimes it is fun to wander in, go to the ‘New Books’ section and pull one off the shelf, not knowing what lies inside the covers. I recently did just that, coming home with *The Woman Upstairs*, by Claire Messud. Messud is a contemporary American author, who received widespread praise for her previous novel, “The Emperor's Children.” At first, I was not sure I wanted to hang in there with the main character of this work, written in a first-person memoir style. She seemed too self-absorbed, too edgy, angry, more than a wee bit neurotic, and some of her endless sentences read like unedited thoughts caused by too much caffeine.

But when Nora Eldridge's life becomes entangled with that of the exotic Rashid family, the book takes hold. Her continuous examination of her own existence as it adapts to these glamorous new friends (husband, wife, and young son) articulates so much of what is universally troubling and confusing about modern life: the roles that women, in particular, must play; the perplexing question about what is real versus what is imagined; and the impossibility of knowing for sure. Nora's struggle to honor her commitment to her own art is juxtaposed against Sirena Rashid's secure position in the established art world. Her love for Sirena, Sirena's husband, Skandor, and their son, Reza, passes through stages of obsession and frustration, and is finally put to an impossible challenge near the book's end.

Claire Messud is at her best when writing descriptively of places and people, as in her vivid depiction of a Muslim wedding, or her many portraits of her beloved Reza. She wanders freely across the borders of the real and unreal, and most of the high drama in the narrative occurs in the labyrinth landscape of her mind.

She makes us her confidants, close observers of the same things she is seeing and feeling, addressing the reader directly often throughout the book. Messud uses the term ‘the woman upstairs’ as a metaphor for how others see Nora Eldridge: a reliable, unobtrusive, self-sufficient, organized woman—almost a cipher. Nora's struggle throughout her story comes from the enormous disparity between this placid exterior and the turmoil raging inside her. By the book's end we have become caught up in this turmoil and feel real fear when a shocking discovery causes it to boil over. When she warns, “My anger is prodigious...Just watch me,” it is hard to resist reaching for the telephone to dial 911!

Recommended for adult readers.

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**Sponsor A Year of Art**

By Faye Finley

The Patagonia Creative Arts Center in Patagonia is a non-profit organization devoted to promoting the arts in the Patagonia and Sonoita area. The art center offers classes for school-aged children, homeschoolers and adults. For school-age children there are multiple programs throughout the year. Club Theater, an afterschool program for children 9-18, focuses on theater arts and culminates with a kid-produced performance for the community. Art Makers, an afterschool visual art program for 5-12 year olds, explores the many facets of art. A Voice for Young Authors, a K through second grade program, highlights the art of reading, writing and book making. The ever-popular summer program, open to 6-18 year olds, combines theater, visual arts and pottery.

All instructors are local artists. Since the art center is a non-profit organization it relies on donations and grant funding. Of the five grants applied for in recent months, only one was awarded. This is a major blow to the overall budget of the art center and places a hardship on parents whose children attend the center's many free classes. You can help. For $150 dollars you can sponsor a child for a year of programs. Ultimately any donation helps and since Patagonia Creative Arts is a non-profit, your donation is tax deductible. Please help keep art thriving in your community. For information on donating or sponsoring a child, please contact Faye at 394-9367.
Chengdu, China is a city most Americans have never heard of, despite it being an economic powerhouse on the global stage. It is a city of 14 million and is growing at a pace of a half-million new residents per year. To accommodate the influx of new residents, there is a massive building boom. There are literally hundreds of new high rise apartments being built right now. The air is filled with dust, smog and the sounds of jack hammers and heavy equipment constantly building and building. On the chaotic streets, rickshaws, bicycles, and scooters dart between and around buses and luxury sports cars, a sign of the city's increasing wealth. Chengdu is a fascinating blend of old and new, east and west, rich and poor.

Where does our family fit into this sprawling metropolis? We live in an apartment complex made up of 70 apartment buildings each 32 stories tall. We live on the 13th floor. Our apartment is quite roomy, with 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. In our apartment it feels like we could be in America, but once outside our apartment, you quickly realize you're not in Patagonia anymore.

We can't blend into any crowd here. We are foreigners and that can be enough to draw a crowd of interested locals with cameras in hand, who—using hand signs and very limited English—will ask us if they can pose for a picture with us. At times however, it is we who are photographing unfamiliar things. We take pictures of groups of people doing tai chi in a park, or men sitting on wooden crates playing mahjong and smoking cigarettes, or an older women riding a three-wheeled bicycle packed 8 feet high with cardboard she collects and then sells.

The influence of Western culture is strong in Chengdu. Starbucks are everywhere. There are McDonalds, Pizza Hut and now the first Burger King in western China. Clothing that features the US and British flags is considered stylish, and T-shirt logos are in English—not Chinese. This leads to some funny sights, like a grandmother in her eighties, sporting a Tupac Shakur T-shirt that says "Thug Life".

The West is definitely here, but Chinese cultural influence is still strong. Hole-in-the-wall restaurants serving spicy Szechuan food are everywhere. Babies don't wear diapers, they wear split bottom pants and when nature calls, the children just go, wherever they may be, on the floor of the store, sidewalk or road, even off a balcony! Ping-Pong is huge here. Recently we had the intimidating experience of playing Ping-Pong while 30 Chinese people (who are probably expert players) watched and were clearly amused.

PUHS Graduate Success Story

Fabian Espinoza

By Walter Andrew

Fabian Espinoza graduated in August from the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas, with a Bachelors of Science degree in Nursing, with honors. He is presently in private practice as a Nurse Practitioner in San Antonio where he resides with his wife, Ashleigh and their two children.

Espinoza was Valedictorian at Patagonia Regional High School (PUHS) in 1997. He acquired his initial medical experience in the U.S. Army, where he was a Health Care Specialist at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, DC, Japan, and Fort Bliss, Fort Polk and Fort Huachuca. He obtained his associates degree from the University of Maryland.

Fabian was born in Tijuana, Mexico, and came to the United States when he was 14 years old. He is the son of Rebeca Quiroga, the adopted son of Gilbert Quiroga and the brother of Karla Espinoza, all of Patagonia.
Gail Jacobson’s
Oil Pastels

Recent work by Patagonia artist Gail Jacobson is on display at Global Arts Gallery through November 23.

The images portray scenes of Patagonia, rendered in oil pastel. They are brilliantly simple, and saturated with color.

Jacobson, who earned a BA in Art and a Masters in Art Education, has made her home in Patagonia for about 20 years. For nine years she served as Director of the Patagonia Art Center.

Jacobson, who also works in oil and acrylic, says that she is drawn to oil pastels as a medium because of their rich color—a quality which is shown to its advantage in the work on display.

Global Arts Gallery is located at 815 McKeown Avenue in Patagonia, and is open every day from 10 am to 5 pm.

Sonoita Merchants Launch With Holiday Spirit

By Ann Katzenbach

Sonoita shopkeepers have founded an energetic new support group. Called The Sonoita Merchants Association, the group has held three official meetings. Other brick and mortar shops in Sonoita and Elgin are invited to call Wylie Glad at 455-0555 or 881-7787 for information about the next meeting. Skye Island Olive and Grapes hosts the meetings.

The organization does not accept wineries, B&Bs, restaurants, home crafters and the like. All of these groups are served by other community entities. Unlike a Chamber of Commerce, The Sonoita Merchants Association has no officers and collects no dues.

The work done by the temporary committees and experienced individuals that make up the organization will, in both the short and long term, have a positive effect on Eastern Santa Cruz County.

Although the group was founded as a support system for the merchants, its first two events are for the direct benefit of the community. A “new only” coat drive has already begun. Local schools are being asked for the sizes of children who might not otherwise have a warm coat for the winter. In the pocket of each jacket will be a note from Santa telling the recipient that he or she is being thought of this holiday.

To participate, bring in a brand new child’s coat to Cowgirl Flair or to Sonoita Hardware. Money is also being collected and Stephanie Hubbel has made arrangements with Old Navy to get a substantial discount when she purchases coats on the day after Thanksgiving.

Coats and cash may also be dropped off at Sweet Ride, or meet Pat at the new Heart of Gold antique shop in the Crossroad Plaza when you drop off a brand new coat. Used coats should go to local thrift shops or rummage sales.

Just a hint of the second event, The 15th annual Sonoita by Starlight is on December 6 from 5 p.m. through 8 p.m. Expect surprises around each corner as well as inside or outside each shop. Santa, star gazing with a professional, drawings, wagon rides, music, food and drink, and did someone mention a bonfire with marshmallows? The Sonoita Merchants Association is off to an active start.
It's hard to believe that November is upon us and that it is now time for the Santa Cruz County Fair & Rodeo Association to begin its annual membership renewal period. Many county residents are unaware that the fairground's land and facilities are not owned by Santa Cruz County; they are owned and operated by its membership.

Membership is open to all residents of Santa Cruz County. The annual membership fee is $20.00 for individuals, $35.00 for couples, or $50 for families.

Benefits of membership include one year's free admission to the following 2014 Fairgrounds events: Kentucky Derby weekend horse races in May, Quarter Horse Show in May, Labor Day weekend Rodeo in August/September, and the Santa Cruz County Fair in September.

Also, free admission to the Annual Members' Meeting to be held on Saturday evening, December 7, 2013 at the fairgrounds.

The upcoming year promises to be an exciting one with additional activities and social events. Get involved and enjoy all the benefits that a fairgrounds membership provides. JOIN TODAY!

Questions? Call 455-5553.

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Paula Wittner Exhibit

“Anti Gravity”, an exhibit of oil paintings by Patagonia artist Paula Wittner, is on display through December at Seedboat Gallery, 214 Yankie Drive, in Silver City, New Mexico. A reception and presentation by the artist is scheduled for December 7 at 5:30 p.m. Call (575) 534-1136 for more information.

“Drowning Out the Devil”, oil on panel

detail from “Probed”, oil on panel

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14th Annual
PATAGONIA
HOLIDAY ART WALK

Thanksgiving Weekend 2013
Friday, November 29
Saturday, November 30
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Local Artists and Open Studios
Shops and Galleries with Visiting Artists
Local Handmade Art and Crafts
Complimentary Holiday Refreshments

www.patagoniaaz.com

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News from the
Sonoita Fairgrounds

By Ginny and Jim Cosbey

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Driving Under the Influence

Driving under the influence is a national tragedy that costs taxpayers $132 billion per year and kills, on average, one thousand Arizonians every year.

There is a common misconception that it is legal to drive with a breath or blood alcohol concentration of less than 0.08%. The reality is that driving under the influence is driving or being in actual physical control of a vehicle while impaired by alcohol, drugs, or their metabolites to the slightest degree according to the Arizona Revised Statutes.

Studies conducted for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) indicate that impairment starts as low as 0.02% blood alcohol concentration. At 0.02%, there is a noticeable decline in visual functions such as rapid tracking of a moving object and the ability to perform divided attention tasks such as driving. The studies also indicate a noticeable change in a person's mental state.

At 0.05% alcohol concentration, there is a noticeable decline in the areas of coordination and response time. Each person's body reacts to alcohol differently based on gender, weight, amount of alcohol ingested, among many other factors. The only safe way to avoid driving under the influence is to not drink and drive.

According to the NHTSA, 9,878 people were killed nationwide in 2011 in crashes where alcohol was present at 0.08% blood concentration or higher. Every 53 minutes, someone is killed in a crash and every 90 seconds someone is injured in a crash where alcohol is a factor. There are 300,000 incidents of drinking and driving each day nationwide. Statistically, every fourth traffic stop that a peace officer makes involves a driver under the influence. For every driving-under-the-influence arrest made, the same person drove under the influence 80 times previously.

Driving under the influence is completely preventable. It is as simple as designating a driver who will not drink and ensure that all get home safely. For some, walking is an option to get home safely. Give the Marshal's Office a call. We will ensure that each person who needs a ride gets home safely. Our number is 520-394-2091. There is no need to memorize the number; all the establishments in town have our number and we are listed in the phone book. It is much easier than the alternative.

Enjoy your favorite drinks, but please do not become a statistic. For more information on driving under the influence, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) websites.

PRCF Grant Brings Music to Montessori

By Cornelia O'Connor

Using a grant from the Patagonia Regional Community Foundation (PRCF), The Montessori school recently offered an "Arts Across the Curriculum Program" to enrich the lives of their students. Jessi Beebe, Montessori Executive Director and upper elementary/middle school guide, says "parents loved that we provided violin and mandolin lessons at no charge, and the students loved the music lessons and art, chorus, and drama components. Our teachers were very excited to get needed art supplies".

Beebe, who wrote the grant to PRCF, called the program a huge success. She explains, "extracurricular activities are a necessary part of a well-rounded education model, and students perform better in all aspects of education when given various ways to express their creativity".

To learn more about the Montessori school, call 394-9530 or visit their website patagoniamontessori.org. To learn more about the Patagonia Regional Community Foundation go to azfoundation.org. Click on Give Where You Live, and scroll down to Patagonia Regional Community Foundation. Please consider giving a donation to PRCF to help support fine programs such as this.
Keeping Up With The Library

The Origin of the Species
By Cynthia Burk

Ever since civilization began, man has gathered and collected valued works of writing to protect and cherish. For centuries these libraries were not for public use, but for scholars and religious orders. The concept of a Public Lending Library as a building where patrons can access an organized collection of writing is a more modern notion. Fortunately for those of us who love to read books rather than dust them, lending libraries caught on and flourished all over our planet.

The species I want to focus on here is Librarius ruralis or the rural library, and in particular our own Patagonia Public Library. We know when looking at a pond that what appears on the calm surface does not mirror what takes place in the depths, and that is also true of Librarius ruralis Patagonia. Certainly we have books, newspapers, magazines, DVDs both domestic and foreign, downloadable digital resources, music CDs and audio books for anyone to enjoy and even take home if they have a mailing address, but this is just the standard, seductive library fare which draws people in. Once inside there is so much more.

As an employee of the library for many years, I have learned that the usual here is often the unusual. The library is a place where people gather to reconnect or disagree, talking loudly and with animation. Frequently people come in merely to shelter from the rain or sun, and find neighbors that they haven’t seen since when? Sometimes people come in just to satisfy their need to talk to another human being. Lost dogs show up at our doors (we have dog cookies and a bowl for water) as well as humans who are looking for lost animals. Children, tame and wild, gather after school to do homework or play on computers. UPS delivers packages (some have contained 50 lb. boxes of nails and even tiny computer parts) for anyone who doesn’t want the brown truck to drive up and down long, muddy or dusty roads. People drop off and discreetly pick up personal notes, they return lost items, exchange pots and pans, send faxes, finalize architectural plans, deliver eggs, share produce, and solve world problems at the library computers on a daily basis. New transplants come here to make connections within the community. Visitors come here on their journeys and often decide to stay, in part because of this library.

Alas, all is not always bliss. This is true in life and at the library. Sometimes the circulation desk is like the center ring of a circus with every individual’s needs just as important as the next. These needs include technology breakdowns, personal phone calls, resume help, book sales, inter-library loan orders, parties and meetings being scheduled in Cady Hall and one-on-one copy machine instructions, not to forget the chance plumbing emergency in the restrooms.

But occasionally, often depending on the season, there is a lull, a quiet period when the library animal slows down and unwinds and work can proceed with little distraction. Life can be good in Patagonia in no small part due to our library.

The Power of the Collective
By Molly McCormick

As residents of Patagonia, you all know that grasshoppers are voracious predators. At the Audobon Research Ranch near Elgin, researchers once counted 46 species of grasshoppers.

I have recently come to find out that grasshoppers don’t seem to like Clematis. I know this because they have eaten the leaves off all the other plants at Borderlands’ newest restoration site. The Sacred Datura, and Cholla cactus are also not popular with these insects. Perhaps this is one reason why some desert plants adapted poisonous constituents and spines. I am sad about our losses, but cannot help but be amazed at how such small creatures can collectively accomplish so much, like defoliating nearly 100 plants in the course of 48 hours.

I try to stay optimistic and know we have learned a big lesson from this latest restoration experiment: when we plant in the fall, we might want to think about grasshopper mitigation strategies to make them less devastating to our native pollinator-attracting plants. Some strategies include spraying with chili or garlic spray or using cones around each plant.

I remind myself that the planting of this site was successful at bringing together 13 folks to interact with the landscape. Six of these people were students from the University of Arizona who came to learn about the work of Borderlands Restoration and to get their hands in the dirt. Our youngest participant so far, 4-year-old Iolani Siaz from Patagonia, was so excited that she didn’t want to stop planting.

Since Borderlands has been hosting restoration projects, we have had the help of over 300 volunteers who spent over 10,000 hours building infrastructure, collecting seeds and cuttings, growing plants, monitoring, data entry and various other tasks. Over half of these volunteer hours were from Borderlands’ staff and family, with six volunteers becoming paid staff. Close to 200 of these people were kids attending Patagonia’s Windsong Peace & Leadership Center. Our volunteers have facilitated the production and planting of 2,700 native plants at four restoration sites, the sale of 750 plants to the Bureau of Land Management in Safford and more plants for use in community pollinator gardens - all in one year!

Kate Tirion of Deep Dirt Farm, said to our latest group of volunteers, “We are like a mosaic, each of us can do our part, it doesn’t have to be much, but finding what makes us passionate and working towards sustainability is necessary for our collective health and happiness”. As we have seen this past year, just like grasshoppers, if we are all working towards a common goal, it is amazing what we can accomplish. Find out more at: http://www.BorderlandsRestoration.org or on Facebook.
It’s late October and I am already reminiscing about the profuse display of diversity that the land proffered during our all-too-brief monsoon season. It will be an entire year until once again I’m witness to the annual summer exuberance that always seems to take me by surprise. Looking in nature’s proverbial rearview mirror can be hazardous to the psyche during a dry autumn - an easy way to get the blues.

After all, looming November is - on average - our driest month in the Sky Islands. Daily desiccation is the rule. November rain? “What’s that” you may well ask! The austerity of November is analogous to searing June and the prelude to our summer rains. Brown sticks pass for plants and flowers are few indeed. Further, winter rains have tended to be more fickle than our warm rainy season as of late. The vast majority of neotropical migrant birds are long since gone, leaving a visual and auditory void that leaves me hungry for some respite from the dun landscape.

Enter the much maligned desert broom! Swimming entirely against the tide, Baccharis sarothroides crashes into the scene with a vengeance. Most of the year this medium-sized-to-tall shrub is simply consistent. It is evergreen and thus displays little seasonality until about mid autumn. The growth form is normally rather upright, lacking the attractive, tortuous curves and twists that characterize so many of our arid-land plants (think Mesquite). To cap it all off desert broom is often labeled, albeit unfairly, a noxious weed - something to be loathed, glared at, and even eradicated. No redeeming qualities, it seems.

Allow me to enlighten you as to the truth about this beautiful and native member of our local flora. Given that it is indeed an evergreen shrub, desert broom provides much-needed cover for a wide spectrum of wildlife. When little else is green along local arroyos and scrubby flats, you can count on brooms to break the monotony, while providing succor to a variety of animals.

Adding to their value, brooms often thrive on very disturbed sites, such as recently cleared land or where flash floods have wreaked havoc. These areas can be highly prone to erosional forces, and hence desert broom helps to stabilize the soil until additional native plants become established. Other pioneer plants in such razed areas such as tumbleweed, lehmann lovegrass, bufflegrass, puncturevine and the like are non-native. I for one will certainly not condemn desert broom for the company it keeps. Think of it as the lone, brave plant willing to enter the saloon full of ruffians from out of town - the kind who have scared off all of the other natives!

It is truly in autumn, however, that brooms enter their full glory. Quite unexpectedly they begin to flower. Being a member of the aster family, they sport star-shaped flowers, which in this case are not very showy, but they are pollinators!

Even a casual glance at a blooming broom may alarm you because of the loud drone of so many insects. It’s here that long-horned beetles are paired off to mate, daytime moths seek their next nectar fix, while their larger cousins, the butterflies, dance all around. It is not unusual to find American snouts, various species of lady butterflies, queens, and great purple hairstreaks all at the same broom! Hunting them all are lurking mantids, predatory hemipterans (true bugs), and of course small, insectivorous birds. The list goes on... Better for you to venture outside and see for yourself.

Vincent Pinto and his wife, Claudia, run Raven’s Way Wild Journeys. They offer local tours dedicated to the preservation of the incredible biodiversity in the Sky Islands.
My Reptilian Amigos

I am dedicating this month to a few of my treasured reptilian friends, so if you do not like these creatures, GO NO FURTHER.

One small group I have had the pleasure of getting to know and spending time with are my various Iguana friends. My first was a Mexican Iguana who I bought in California. I named him Miguel. He was rather feisty, high-strung and not as tame as some of my others, but very beautiful indeed.

After reading more about these creatures, I decided to adopt a Green Iguana and named him Raphael. He turned out to be quite tame and sociable. He was seven years old, but quite small since he had not been well taken care of and fed properly.

I learned as much as I possibly could about proper care of these beings and he grew substantially in the first year.

These two fellows not only had completely different personalities, they also had very different preferences when it came to food. For instance when it came to exotic fruits, Miguel loved mango, and Raphael most definitely preferred papaya. Neither would eat the other fruit. Miguel was too wild to let run loose, but Raphael wandered throughout the house and liked to sun himself on the back porch.

Sometime later I was given a six foot Green Iguana, who I called Xervantes. Xervantes was a character with lots of personality and was a very clear communicator.

An Iguana’s most useful protection is its tail. You do not want to be struck by an iguana’s tail, and you most certainly do not want Xervantes to whip you with his. He taught me great respect. I was so in awe of his power and his beauty.

At one point, I found myself living in the city with these amazing beings. I had one whole spare room set up for Xervantes with heat lamps and tree branches. I had a lovely two-story terrarium set up for Miguel and Raphael. Everyone was happy.

If you ever consider keeping reptiles, note that it is important that they stay warm and out of drafts. Also, cats sometimes go after iguanas and some iguanas go after cats or dogs. Test out your other pets’ reactions toward less common pets before adopting. At the very least, keep all beings of the household, including young children, under close surveillance for a long period of time before ever leaving them unattended. Animals and people will benefit from this thoughtfulness.

As regular readers of this column have come to realize, I love almost every creature that exists and I have learned so much from every individual I have been blessed to have in my life. My tres amigos are no exception!
www.LaFronteraAZ.com

Homes & Land, Ranches & Commercial Properties in Sonoita, Elgin, Patagonia, Lake Patagonia, Tubac & the extended environs of Santa Cruz County

240 DUQUESNE AVENUE, PATAGONIA 85624

IDEAL WEEKEND GETAWAY- sitting high @ the NE end of historic Duquesne Avenue, overlooking the Village & Mt. Wrightson; you’ll be within walking distance of everything. A cozy Territorial of burnt adobe w/1Be/1Ba/sm Kitchenette. Ceilings are high, details charmingly regional & it’s move-in ready. Central Air/Heat; fully-fenced; great neighbors; an amazing value!

TAR/MLS #21224880 $189,500

4 MUSTANG TRAIL, SONOITA 85637

Custom SW ranch home in a superb hilltop setting conveniently near Sonoita’s crossroads & ringed by stunning mountain silhouettes. A stylish U-shaped floorplan w/3Be/3Ba/2Den/Studio/2+Garage/delightful Kitchen & GreatRoom. Tons of storage; Courtyard with fountain & dramatic views; fully fenced w/ walled side garden; private well; pride of ownership t/o.

TAR/MLS #21323402 $437,500

221 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, PATAGONIA 85624

Among Patagonia's few remaining MUD ADOBES- this romantic Casa c.1930 exudes old-town authenticity. The delightful 1,036sf Main house has been extensively renovated; the separate 468sf Guest Casita is new c.2010. Overall, it includes 2Be/2Ba/Study/1 car Garage w/storage + courtyard, front & side patios. Details are rich & engaging & it’s priced to sell now!

TAR/MLS #21308149 $219,000

16 ROSETTE COURT, LK PATAGONIA 85624

Superbly appointed 2,642sf Mediterranean on 4.2 hillside acres near Lake Patagonia. A gracious 3Be/3Ba split-plan w/high ceilings, Chef's Kitchen, o/s Garage, cvd Patio & walled garden w/stunning views. Stainless w/granite; Anderson windows w/ plantation shutters; Italian porcelain tile flrs; Alder cabinetry; rock FP w/gas; dual heating/cooling+++ .

TAR/MLS #21307269 $465,000

GARY RETHERFORD, 520-604-0897
Designated Broker, Owner, REALTOR®

KATHLEEN JAMES, 520-604-6762
Owner, REALTOR®

340 NAUGLE AVE (HWY 82) / POB 98 / PATAGONIA AZ 85624 / 520-394-0110
Irene was born in St. Paul, Minnesota to John and Anna Keller and passed in Tucson at the Crossroads Assisted Living Center. Irene married Melvin F. Nord on April 17, 1944. They moved to Patagonia with their five children in 1962. Melvin was tragically killed in an accident Nov. 14, 1963. In 1967, Irene married Frank Seibold of Patagonia. She is predeceased by her parents and three brothers and two sisters as well as husband Melvin Nord and husband Frank Seibold and daughter Kathy. She is survived by sons John and Thomas Nord, and daughters Mary and Anne. She had 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren whom she cherished. Irene loved animals, especially Aussie dogs and cats of any description. She worked as an administrative secretary for many years and helped Frank write his books on the Sonoita and Patagonia area. Irene was very active with the Patagonia Library and helped with the expansion effort. She also was very active in keeping the history of Patagonia documented for the future. Irene loved Arizona, especially Patagonia and the historic Seibold Ranch. She was a lifetime member of the Santa Cruz County Cowbelles. Irene attended St. Theresa’s Catholic Church parish and her services will be held there on November 16 at 1 p.m. The burial will follow in the Patagonia Cemetery in the pioneer section. A reception given by the Santa Cruz County Cowbellesto will follow burial in the Catholic Church Hall next to the church. Inquiries can be made to her daughter Mary at 1-520-742-2250.

Gloria D. Sanchez, 66, was surrounded by her daughters and grandchildren when she joined her beloved husband of 48 years in heaven on October 8, 2013. She is survived by her three daughters: Thelma Valenzuela, Velma Puente and Sylvia Bracamonte; grandchildren, Gabe Puente, Demetria Puente, Darian Bracamonte and Anthony Bracamonte, and many brothers and sisters. Gloria enjoyed playing softball and loved to travel. She was once the mayor of the town of Patagonia and loved the law. Her beautiful smile and spirited personality will be missed and never forgotten by her family and friends. A memorial service was held on October 19 at Martinez Funeral Chapel in Tucson.

On Saturday, November 2, the Patagonia Olympic Distance Triathlon will be held at Patagonia Lake State Park. Competitors will swim 1500 meters, bike 24.6 miles; and run 10 kilometers through the Sonoita Creek foothills. Spectators are welcome. ABC’s reality show "Extreme Weightloss" is going to have a camera crew onsite to film one of our athletes, and we also have some local Triathlon heroes competing in the event. Jan Miller- Iron Man Kona champion and record breaker for her age group in 2006 will be participating, as well as Seton Claggett- Iron Man AZ age group winner in 2011, and Bryan Grasky- former team USA Mountain Bike member and ten-time overall champion in various multi-sport events.

Local participants include Robin Kermer, who won her age division in Tucson Tri series and a tri in Snowflake this year, and Stephanie Kereztes and Holly Reed, who both placed in their age divisions at Tucson Tri Series. And that only names a few. We will have athletes out from all over the Western Region from USAT Western Collegiate Conference.

We expect about 140 athletes, so there will be a VERY competitive field.
For more information, call Kate Anderson at (520) 979-8676, or Allyson Armstrong at 400-7850, or go to www.PatagoniaTri.com or www.azstateparks.com.
meetings

AA Meeting - The Patagonia Com. Ctr., Sun. at 8 p.m.; Sonoita Bible Church, Tues. at 7:30 p.m.; Pat. Methodist Church, Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

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

CHOP (Community Homes of Patagonia, Inc.) Board Meeting 3rd Monday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Patagonia Town Council Room Chambers. Info: Tod Bowden 394-9051

Overeaters Anonymous Meetings - Patagonia United Methodist Church, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Info: 404-3490

Patagonia Town Council Meetings, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m.

Rotary Club Meeting, Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Kef Joshua Winery in Sonoita.

San Rafael 4-H Community Club Meeting, second Monday of every month at the Patagonia Community Church, Thurber Hall at 5:30 p.m. Contact Tami 455-5561.

community services

Lunch for Seniors Mon - Fri at the Community Ctr. Tuesday is Pie Day! Try the Thursday Special!

Sr. Citizens of Patagonia Van Service - Medical transportation available Mon.-Fri. for seniors & disabled to Sierra Vista, Tucson, Green Valley & Nogales. By appointment only. 394-2494

Patagonia Food Bank, 3rd & Smelter; 2nd Wednesday of the month, 9-11 a.m.

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

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

events

Patagonia Olympic Distance Triathlon - November 2 at Patagonia Lake. See page 23 for more info.

Art Reception - November 3, for Gail Jacobson, from Noon to 5 p.m. at Global Arts Gallery in Patagonia, in conjunction with the Muertos Circle of Life celebration.

Rotary Dinner/Auction - Saturday, November 9 at Sonoita Fairgrounds. 4:30 p.m.: silent auction, followed by dinner, live auction and dancing. Tickets are $35 and can be purchased from Rotary member or at Nat’l Bank of AZ in Sonoita. For info call Sue at 990-4648. Proceeds go to Club’s fun park.

Patagonia Holiday Art Walk - Friday, November 29 & Saturday, November 30 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Galleries & shops host visiting artists. Open studios. Complimentary refreshments.

"Anti Gravity" - an exhibition of paintings by Patagonia artist Paula Wittner, will be on display through November 23 at Seedboat Gallery in Silver City, NM. 575 534-1136.

Empire Ranch Roundup & Open House - Saturday, November 2, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Free. $10 donation per vehicle requested. For info call 888-364-2829 or go to empireranchfoundation.org

special interests

Olympic Distance Triathlon – November 2 at Patagonia Lake State Park; See p. 25 for details.


ArtMakers - After-school art at Patagonia Creative Arts Assn.; Tues. 3:30 - 5 p.m. Ages 5-12. Suggested donation. Call Faye at 394-9369 for more info.

Yoga with Chip & Laura; Tuesdays- 5:30-7 p.m., Through Dec. 10. $15/drop-in, $50/5 classes; call 604-0830 for more info.

Play Bridge - Patagonia Comm. Center, Mondays & Thursdays at 1 p.m.

BINGO - St. Theresa Parish Hall, Patagonia, 1st & 3rd Mondays at 6PM; 455-5681

Crossroads Quilters - Sonoita Fire Dept., 2nd & 4th Mondays at 9 a.m.; Call Donna Lee at 455-9340

Open Tennis - PUHS, Tues. & Thurs. at 4:30 p.m., Sat. at 8:30 a.m., except during school matches. Contact Tod Bowden at 394-2973

Bikram Yoga - Patagonia; for information call 520-604-7283

Sonora Tergar Meditation Practice Group - Sessions held 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month at a private home. Free. Information: Jonelle 455-9222, jonelle@tergar.org

Sonoita Plant Parenthood Gardening Club - Share info on all kinds of gardening. For meeting info or newsletter contact clarebonelli@gmail.com.

Used Books - Patagonia Library; good selection at great prices. Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Send your event information to prtevents@gmail.com. Include time, date location, and contact info. Next deadline: Sept. 20
HOUSING RENTALS

2BR/1BA apt; A/C, full kitchen, laundry hookups, covered carport; Kino Springs Village; $450/mo + deposit; (520) 287-8649

SONOITA - Apt. for rent; 1BD/1BA; Fully furnished, all util., incl. cable & wifi. Pets OK. Full kitchen & laundry rm. $650/mo. 455-9286

LARGE ARTIST’S APARTMENT in town; walk to everything. $800/MO + util, private patio, courtyard. Must See. David 520.303.1475, 520.604.2829

1, 2 & 3 BD. Home rentals in Sonoita/Patagonia area. $525 - 1k per month. Contact Kathy @ Sonoita Realty (520) 455-5381

REMODELED 2BR/2BA apt. near Kino Springs golf course; A/C, full kitchen, laundry hookups, ceramic tile floors, carport; $575/mo + deposit (520)287-8649

SONOITA HOME FOR RENT - 2 BD/2BTH. All appliances, washer & dryer, garage & frt. & bk yards. Walk to Sonoita crssroads. $900/mo. 520-400-2949.

PATAGONIA
1 BD studio apt., middle of town, utilities incl. $650/mo; 3 BD/2 BA, recent construction; utilities incl. $1350/mo 2 BD/1 BA; nw kitchen, laundry hookup, carport, enclosed yard, in town, $800/mo Call 520-394-0148

HELP WANTED

Looking for a BAKER & CUSTOMER SERVICE HELP for the new “Ovens of Patagonia” country store and bakery. FT/PT Send resume/inquiry to ovensofpatagonia.com

PT SALES CLERK for art gallery; 2 dys/wk. Previous computerized retail sales clerk exp. preferred. Job description & application available at Creative Spirit Artists Gallery, 317 McKeown, Patagonia. Accepting apps. through 11/12. For info call Carolyn at 394-0252 or send email to artists@AzCreativeSpirit.com

FREE
CLASSIFIED ADS
FOR HOUSING
RENTAL & HELP
WANTED
(EMPLOYMENT)
to a max of 3 lines /25 words are FREE
Submit to prtads@gmail.com

Muertos Circle of Life Celebration & Feast
Featured Artist-GAIL JACOBSON
Sunday, November 3, 2013 - Noon to 5
¡Community Altar Building!
315 McKeown, Patagonia
520.284.6077

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**SONOITA/PATAGONIA**
Independently Owned & Operated

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**Patagonia**
520-394-2120
325-A Mc Keown Ave
*Next to the Gathering Grounds*

**Sonoita Main Office**
520-455-5235
Hwys 82 & 83
*Next to the Post Office*

**Sonoita East**
520-455-4634
N E corner of Hwys 82 & 83

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**31 Cross Creek, Patagonia**
Just reduced! This 2 BR/2 BA, custom 2200 sq. ft. Santa Fe home is within walking distance of Patagonia. Spacious and open. Luxurious master BR & BA. Chef’s dream kitchen. Barn, plenty of turnout room, a seasonal creek on 28 acres.

**MLS# 21316953 $580,000**

CAROL FORD
520-604-0162 or
Cheryl Volk 520-975-7271

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**537 Temporal Canyon Rd., Patagonia**
Remodeled in 2007, this 3 BR 3 BA, 2533 sq. ft. SOLAR home on 4.35 acres. Tranquil and serene, yet within walking distance of Patagonia. Guest suite, beautiful patios with incredible views.

**MLS# 21326510 $499,000**

BETH BARTH
520-907-4409

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**Serenic Lake Patagonia**
JUST LISTED! Unique custom home on two lots! Over 8 acres with lots of flat, usable land to add garden/ workshop/ barn/ pastures. Built in 2007, 2623 sq. ft of additional 490 sq. ft office. 4 bed/ 4 baths, great views. A bargain.

**MLS #21328103 $389,000**

JEAN MILLER
520-508-3335

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**Calling All Investors or Large Families**
Patagonia home with lots of room for a big family with 2580 s. f. of living space. AZ room, playroom, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths on an extra large 6550 s. f. lot. Dining room with built in cabinets, nice kitchen, laundry room, big 2-car carport.

**MLS#21229576 $118,000**

JEAN MILLER
520-508-3335

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Sonoita.LongRealty.Com