The highly desirable array of minerals in the mountains surrounding Patagonia have attracted mining interests since the late 1800’s. Most recently, exploration and mining companies have come to the area to explore and devise ways to extract a high-grade deposit of zinc, lead and silver more than 1500 feet underground.

Barksdale International, based out of Vancouver, Canada is presently exploring the dormant Sunnyside property on National Forest Service land, an area that had previously been explored by American Smelting And Refining Company (ASARCO) in the 1970s. This project came to Barksdale’s attention during a chance conversation with a retired geologist from ASARCO who had worked in the Patagonia Mountains.

In addition, the work being done by Arizona Mining Inc. (AMI) at the nearby Hermosa project led Barksdale to believe that Sunnyside could possibly...
December is the last month for our readers to support the Patagonia Regional Times as we approach the end of Newsmatch, a national campaign to support nonprofit newsrooms by providing matching funds for donations we receive between Nov 1 and Dec 31. This means that every dollar you donate becomes two dollars for the PRT.

We are very pleased to announce that a generous local donor, Virginia Treherne-Thomas, has pledged $2000 in matching funds to our campaign as part of “Giving NewsDay.” For every donation we receive starting on Dec 3, which is National Giving Tuesday, up to $2000, the PRT will receive triple the amount! Thank you, Virginia for supporting us in this way.

We are so grateful to all of you who are helping us reach our goal of raising $15,000 by the end of the year. We are awed by the response we have gotten so far.

As of this issue we are close to our goal of 100 new donors. If we can reach 100 new donors by Dec 31, we will also be eligible for a goal-based bonus from Newsmatch. (Last year’s bonus was $5000!) Please help us reach that goal by telling your friends and family about the importance of local nonprofit news in our community. If we don’t cover these stories, who will?

Here is what we are bringing to you in December. It always amazes me how much is going on in our small corner of the world. Make sure to read the articles this month about the Sunnyside mining project, Veterans Day, the Tin Shed Theater, the new board of Health Code, South 32 grants to local nonprofits, to name but a few of the stories we have been following.

We had an amazing response to our school essay and photo contests, receiving 84 essays and 48 photo-
RECYCLING: LET'S STOP 'WASTING' TIME
By Bob Brandt

The bad news is that most of what we have been dutifully depositing into the recycling trailers behind the Patagonia Post Office of late is not being recycled at all but going into the landfill along with all the other waste products we so easily discard.

The good news is that we are a community that cares enough to do something about it...and do something we will.

The PRT’s commitment is to not only provide residents of Eastern Santa Cruz County with timely news coverage, thoughtful dialogue and useful information but to serve as a catalyst for bringing people together to take action that elevates the quality of life in this community. The breakdown we are observing in the county’s current recycling program, we believe, can be measurably improved if interested citizens will step forward, get a good understanding of the causes for the system’s failure and take action to remedy this unacceptable state of affairs.

We want to be clear that we are not about placing blame on anyone for the present state of affairs. Not even China, which has precipitated the recycling crisis worldwide by refusing to continue accepting so-called recyclables contaminated with so much trash that simply sorting through it had become financially untenable. They probably should have taken that step long ago and they may have done us and the planet a huge favor.

We know solutions will not come easily either here in our community or nationwide, but we strongly believe we can and will find ways to turn this recycling failure into success. And to get us started we have planned a community forum focused on understanding the dimensions of the problem both locally and on the national and worldwide levels and enlisting local activists who will come together to develop a plan for getting our recycling back on track.

Please join us at 10:30 a.m. on January 18 at the Tin Shed Theater to get working on our local response to this global problem. We will begin the program with a knowledgeable speaker and/or video, follow with open discussion and finish by signing up volunteers who want to be agents of change.

Still No Recycling in SCC
By Aisha Sander

In August 2019 the county was forced to stop its recycling program. Plastics have not been recycled in over a year, paper for over eight months. Cardboard and metals recycling discontinued in August.

The county sent out a call for bids to take over the county’s recycling program. The deadline for applications was Oct. 15, 2019. The county only received one bid from SW Green Alternative a company based out of Rio Rico.

The bid states that the vendor will charge for mixed paper, cardboard, and plastic. The county would be paid for aluminum. Tin will be recycled for free if it is baled. There is no option for recycling glass in this bid.

John Hays, the solid waste and flood control manager for the county, said that he is trying to meet with the County Board of Supervisors to discuss the bid and move the process forward.

'Ask Imelda' Coming Soon
By Aisha Sander

The PRT is introducing a new anonymous advice column, written by one of Patagonia’s premier advice givers. You can submit your questions on any problem and it may be chosen to be printed and answered in the next issue. Submit your questions through our website form (you do not have to use your real name to fill it out) www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org/contact or mail us at PO Box 1073, Patagonia, AZ 85624.

Town Pool At Risk For Closure
By Aisha Sander

A non-action item discussing the future of the swimming pool was on the agenda at the Nov. 19 Patagonia High School and Elementary School Board meetings.

School Superintendent Rachel Hochheim wrote a letter to the school boards and to the Patagonia Town Council recommending closing the pool because the “overall cost of the long term maintenance and operation of the pool is beyond what I believe is appropriate use of school funds.”

During the call to public, Clare Bonelli, Jan Herron and Gary Brown spoke in favor of keeping the pool open. Bonelli said she knows that the pool may not be the best place for education dollars, but the community is willing to take on the challenge.

Herron, also a member of the Library Board, said that if the pool closes it will be an issue for the library during the summer. She asked for more time to organize the community and to find out what needs to be done to keep it open before the board makes a decision.

All the board members present concurred that the pool is an important community asset and wanted to find a way to keep it open. Nancy McCoy asked what steps the board would need to take to move towards a solution. Cynthia Matus-Morris said that the school is trying to investigate the agreement made with the town of Patagonia to see the terms of the original grant money that funded the pool. One board member commented that a recreational place is educational and hoped that the board could find a way to make the pool viable year round, rather than just in the summer.

The High School Board asked to have recommendations for the pool included as an action item on a future agenda and requested the community members present to share and gather input from the community in the meantime.

The business manager, Angelica Lucero, said that at present the school is in the red for pool maintenance and the board must make a decision soon on how to finance the pool.

New Board Member Joins PRT
By Marion Vendituoli

The PRT Board of Directors and staff are pleased to introduce our newest board member, Mollie Wright. Wright brings to the PRT her deep connection to this area, her business acumen, and her commitment to her community.

Wright, the daughter of Joker and Helen Mendoza, was born in Patagonia. She moved from the area after marrying Terry Wright, her husband of 51 years, but was always drawn back to her hometown. “Whenever I lived, I always had my sights on Patagonia,” she said. In 1977 she returned and accepted a job as business manager for the Patagonia Elementary School, a position she held for 20 years.

She then went to work for the Vail School system, finally retiring after 15 years to move back to Patagonia in 2014.

Wright has been an active volunteer and, more recently, a caregiver for family members. She looks forward to the future. “It’s not too late to look for opportunities for adventure,” she said.

She joined the PRT Board because “I wanted to get involved in something in town,” she said. “I love the paper and I want to see it continue to flourish. I want to do everything I can to support it.”
Patagonia Woman's Club Set to Dissolve

By Bob Brandt

Standing in front of the quilt crafted in 2017 to commemorate the club’s 100th anniversary are the remaining members of the Patagonia Woman’s Club. From left: Fran Russell; Connie Alford, President; Sara Cobb, Secretary; Anne Townsend, Treasurer; and Betty Johnson.

By Bob Brandt

After more than a century of operations, the Patagonia Woman’s Club is about to write the final chapter of its proud history of dedicated service to the community. Facing a steadily declining membership resulting from a dearth of younger women recruits, the remaining handful of members, all seniors with personal challenges and caregiving responsibilities, recently voted to disband the club.

Although the club’s actual start date is in question, long-time member Fran Russell recalls hearing that a group of local ranching women were responsible for laying the groundwork for the club’s birth when they got together in 1917 to plan social events for themselves and their families. After a period of getting together on a regular basis, the ladies decided that they should undertake activities that would improve life in the community, a decision that has paid, and will continue to pay, huge dividends to the community long after the club disbands.

Chief among the club’s many civic achievements are the acquisition, renovation and subsequent (1978) donation of Cady Hall to the Town of Patagonia, starting the Patagonia Public Library and providing college scholarships to dozens of local high school graduates. Other notable activities include paying for the addition to Cady Hall to house the library, publication of several editions of the Country Connection telephone directory and sponsoring Mata Ortiz fundraising trips.

The club received approval to operate as a 501 (c) 3 in 1937 and in the same year became an affiliate of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, an international network of clubs whose own history dates back to 1890 when professional journalist Jane Cunningham Croly formed a women’s club after being denied admission to a dinner at an all-male press club.

The Patagonia club had little to no financial resources in its early years but later instituted several types of fundraising efforts to secure funds with which to carry out various civic projects. Its most successful, and enduring, fundraising project was its Magic of Christmas event held in Cady Hall each year from 2000 through 2017. The annual event raised several thousand dollars by selling specially decorated Christmas trees and bazaar items donated by members of the community and club members. The funds were used primarily to provide scholarships to local high school graduates through four years of undergraduate college education. The club will pay its Spring 2020 scholarship obligations and then will dissolve.

Among the club’s standing rules, the following applies: “Upon the dissolution of the...all debts and obligations...shall be paid or adequately provided for and the remaining assets shall be distributed to a nonprofit...which is organized for charitable, educational, religious, and/ or scientific purposes.” The recipients of the club's financial resources upon dissolution will be determined by remaining members Connie Alford, President; Sara Cobb, Secretary; Anne Townsend, Treasurer; Betty Johnson, Past President; and Fran Russell. Funds will be distributed to local nonprofits only.

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Patagonia local nonprofit, Borderlands Restoration Network for this event.

“Spirit World 100 Wheels Into Patagonia

By Lynn Davison and Robert Gay

Early on November 9th, 110 very fit riders set off to pedal the dirt and gravel between Patagonia and the border in the Spirit World 100 bicycle race. The race drew about 150 visitors to town. The riders, who came from 22 states and one Canadian province, were challenged to finish either the 100-mile or 50-mile loop within ten hours. Gus Amado, who grew up in Patagonia, took first for his age group in the 50-miler.

These riders call themselves “gravel riders” rather than “mountain bikers,” since they prefer unpaved roads and have gearing and accessories for gravel rather than the rugged “single-track” trails, stream beds and boulder courses favored by mountain bikers.

Zander Ault and Heidi Rentz, both veteran riders, operate the Spirit World 100, a gravel road race event for the town of Patagonia. The night before the race Chef Ault and his crew designed a meal for 140 visitors, both riders and their families and friends at the new local venue, the Warehouse, behind Gathering Grounds.

Patagonia local resident, Tomas Jonsson set up a rustic bar on the race course, the final stop before the last push home. The Spirit World 100 organization calls this spot “The Boomshakalaka Bar.” After the race, on Saturday night, there was a big picnic in the town park celebrating a successful day of riding.

The Spirit World 100 partnered with Patagonia local nonprofit, Borderlands Restoration Network for this event.

“It’s a great fit,” said Kurt Vaughn, Borderlands Executive Director, “as we are committed to building a restoration economy. The Spirit World 100 brought over 150 people to Patagonia for two to four days to enjoy our remarkable landscape and natural resources. They contributed to the local economy and are all now ambassadors for our region.”

Ault added “we’re very excited to work with Borderlands in the coming years. We have many ideas on how to grow this for Patagonia and make a distinctive impact financially with the sustainability of the region clearly in mind. The town has come to know us, and we’re thrilled to help promote the proper management of the region’s public lands for future visitors who come to explore by bike. This type of impact won’t happen overnight, but we’re in it for the long haul.”

Because of the omnipresent beauty of the Sonoita Creek and Patagonia Mountain areas, the challenging and little-used gravel road choices, and the friendly and helpful locals, Patagonia remains a powerful attractant. The visitors’ patronage of local businesses while enjoying the region helped the Spirit World 100 race event clearly exemplify the ecotourism backbone of the region’s nature-based economy.

Spirit World 100 organizers have scheduled next year’s gravel road race event for Nov 5 – Nov 8, 2020. Online registration opened on Nov. 29, 2019. Details will be available at www.thespiritworld100.com.
Springs neighborhood in Sonoita has
the application of a polymer to keep
plans to maintain the surface include
to proceed.

Residents wanted this project to go
out to residents within the next
days before the oil was supposed to
meet with residents to discuss wheth
which roads are being chip sealed,
many more, are disappointed with the
have spoken, and I suspect there are
which was to have taken place the end
in preparation for the chip sealing,
Collie Dr. and parts of Papago Springs
neighboring South32’s Taylor deposit
and its parent company Barksdale
International, said that the Sunnyside
project is structured so that Barksdale
receives “increasing levels of own-
ership by advancing the project and
de-risking the permitting and explora-
tion phases of the project.”

Trotman, escorted the PRT on an
exclusive tour of the National Forest
Service land off Flux Canyon where
they have submitted a proposal to the
United States Forest Service (USFS) to
conduct exploratory drilling.

Currently the Sunnyside Explorato-
ry Drilling (SED) project proposal is
undergoing an Environmental As-
essment (EA) by the USFS. The first
public scoping phase of the EA has
been completed and now the USFS is
directly advising Arizona Standard how
to adapt or change the SED proposal.
The SED proposal is continually chang-
ing as “it is a living document,” said
Trotman, and added that the goal is to
have the least impact possible on the
environment and the community while
mitigating any problems before they
begin the drilling.

Public comments were accepted by
the USFS until Oct 21. 129 comments
were submitted online from individuals
and organizations. The USFS considers
public comments during their analysis
of the project and also uses them to
help define the scope of their assess-
ment.

There will be another opportun-
ity for the public to comment when
the USFS releases its draft decision,
potentially sometime in the spring of
2020. “In the unlikely event that the
USFS concludes that an Environmental
Impact Statement (EIS) is needed, we’ll
pursue an EIS,” Trotman said. An EIS
is a much lengthier examination by the
USFS of the project’s environmental
impact.

Trotman explained the geological
history of the area. 50 to 60 million
years ago volcanic activity led to the
unique mineralization of the rock. The
top layers containing copper attracted
the early miners. The deeper layer
containing zinc, silver and lead attract-
AMT, South32 and Arizona Stan-
dard. Zinc is the fourth most widely
consumed metal in the world and its
demand in the market has been steady
for the past 35 years.

At this stage Trotman cannot
predict what will happen if the Sunny-
side project does find viable deposits
during their exploration. They have
gathered information from the previ-
ous drilling done by ASARCO and from
neighborhood South32’s Taylor deposit
and are pursuing this project with
the hopes that they will find some-
thing of similar quality and value for
the market.

An engineering proposal for a future mine will remain unclear
until drilling and analysis begins, but
Trotman said that the community can
be assured that based on the terrain as
well as the depth of the deposit there
is no option for an open pit mine.

Many residents of this area have
chosen to live here because of its
scenic beauty, quietness, dark skies
and wildlife. Trotman states that the
SED project would not disturb the
people living in Flux Canyon because of
the distance of the drill pads from the
homes. Except for the one-time trans-
portation of the drill rigs, traffic on the
road will be mainly pickup trucks.

Walking into Humboldt Canyon,
near one of the proposed drilling
sites for Sunnyside, one could hear the
sounds of work coming from the
neighbor site owned by South32.
There were signs of old mining off the
road and in the canyon showing that,
though the area is remote, there has
already been a lot of human explora-

The tour highlighted the history of
mining in the Patagonia Mountains and
the possibility for long term extraction
of deposits of minerals coveted by the
world market. It is difficult to imagine
the impacts to the environment as a
result of this activity, but the sounds
from South32’s operation made it clear
that this quiet valley would change.
How dramatically still remains to be
seen.

Stand up for a child who has
been abused or neglected.
Become a CASA volunteer today.

CASA
Court Approved Social Advocates
for Children
of Santa Cruz County
2160 N. Congress Dr., Nogales, AZ
(520) 795-6199 or
info@casaofs.com

THE LENDING SHED
a non-profit community project by
Family Health Care Amigos
Provides wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, shower
benches, mobile commodes and much more, free of
charge to residents of Patagonia, Elgin and Sonoita.

(520) 297-7065 * (520) 603-7330
PRT Announces Essay, Photo Winners

The Patagonia Regional Times announced the winners of the PRT 2019 essay and photography contests on Nov 30 at an awards ceremony and 10th anniversary celebration of the PRT held at the Patagonia Creative Arts Center. The contests, which were open to local students in sixth–twelfth grades, drew 48 photo entries and 84 essay entries.

The winners of the photo contest are Dixie Meier, first place; Cole Hubbell, second place; Jesse Phelps, Sage Beal, Heidi Nevins, honorable mention. The middle school essay winners are Dixie Meier, first place; Hailey Mihai and Alexis De La Ossa, tied for second place; Liam Morgan, Rylee Rivers, honorable mention.

The high school essay winners are Nicholas Botz, first place; Arriana Ochoa, second place; Chesed Chap, Nicholas Mentone, honorable mention.

The theme of the essays and photos was community and hometown pride. The quality and the number of the entries was possible due to the support and efforts of Elgin teacher Michelle Sebert and PUHS teacher Journee Hayes. The contest was a collaboration between the PRT, Borderlands Restoration Network and the Patagonia Creative Arts Center.

Cole Hubbell, of Elgin School, won second place in the PRT photography contest for this photo, titled "Ranching."

Patagonia, Elgin Schools Celebrate Veterans Day

The Patagonia Regional Times reported on the 23rd annual Veterans Day program at the Elgin School. The program featured talks by Charles Hancock, the president of the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers, who gave a history of the Buffalo Soldiers and described the life of black soldiers in the late 1800’s. The program began with the posting of colors, singing of the National Anthem by Sonora Cubillas-Schmitt, student awards, the reading of essays, musical presentations, the recitation of a poem by Pastor Steve Lindsey and recognition of local vets. The students and staff then served breakfast to the attendees.

Winning High School Essay

By Nicholas Botz

What makes Patagonia what it is makes me who I am. The landscape and the people together form one organism, one that took me in all those years ago and has carefully watched over my growth since. Patagonia is a town of mentors: teachers, instructors, coaches, all reaching out to show me the way like a blacksmith to his apprentice. It’s also a town of mountains, mesquites, and coyotes who sing their strange song, the notes carried by air clean enough to array the entire cosmos for just us and them to see.

The karate instructor who once taught me the four basic blocks has left in me a certain self-awareness that comes only from discovering all of your limits, then redefining them. Because of the English teacher who had me try out a poetry class, I’m not afraid to spill my thoughts onto paper. The musician who introduced me to a dozen instruments I’d never seen before helped me to discover my passion – and an art form through which I can express myself where words flounder.

The PRT will be publishing more student essays and photos in upcoming issues. To view the gallery of the photo entries, visit www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org.

Veterans Day at Elgin School

Veterans Day in Patagonia

The Veterans Day hosted by Patagonia Public Schools was organized by teacher Nate Porter, the Student Council and participating students. The program included an address from Army veteran and High School Board President Ron Pitt. The High School Public Broadcast-
Minnie Kunde was born in Gardner Canyon near Sonoita, AZ on January 5, 1928. She was the 8th of 11 children, born to Miguel and Felicita Dojaquez. Her family moved to Sonoita in 1934 to the house where her brother Henry Dojaquez lives today. Minnie attended the one room schoolhouse in Sonoita. After her mother died, she worked various jobs in Sonoita and Elgin taking care of kids, house sitting and even taking care of some lady’s lizard. In Elgin she worked for the Van Gorders who owned the Elgin Store / Post Office. She took care of their daughter and did the mail route to Canelo. While working in Elgin she met the Collie girls, Marka, Jane and Faye.

She then went to work for the Brophys at the Babocomari Ranch where she developed her cooking skills. Kate Brophy remained one of her closest friends.

She also worked on the Crown C Ranch for the Carringtons. During this time, she took some time off, travelling by train across the country to New York to visit one of her brothers. She married Ray Kunde in 1955. They moved to Sonoita for a short time and then moved to Elgin in 1959.

Minnie enjoyed travelling and camping. The family, now with three girls, Patricia, Kathy and Rainie, enjoyed several road trips with a tent trailer. But no matter where they travelled, Colorado, Wyoming, Canadda, the Badlands, Washington, they always ended up at Big Lake in the White mountains. As their grandchildren Mona, Sunny and Jose were growing up they were able to enjoy travel adventures with Grandma and Grandpa. When the great-grandchildren, Michael, Kristina, Kathleen, Damian and Angel joined the family, they, too, experienced travelling with Mama Grande.

Minnie loved to cook. She was known for her enchiladas, chili relleno casserole, tamales and her apple butter. She always enjoyed sewing and made clothes for the grandkids when they were little. She also made quilts, tablecloths, placemats, napkins, aprons and canvas bags.

She was also very active in the community, planning Halloween parties, Christmas parties and the end of the year picnic in Canelo when her kids were young.

She was a member of the Elgin Book Circle for many years, as well as the Elgin Community Club. Her children remember helping her ice down sodas when she managed the soda concessions for the Sonoita Races and the rodeo at the Sonoita Fairgrounds. They also remember her going to ladies’ luncheons, steak frys, and dances at the Elgin Club. She loved to play cards, often staying after the Elgin luncheons, and later joined the local ladies’ card group which met on a regular basis.

She was also a member of the Elgin Sonoita Cowbelles during the time her husband and his brother were running their family ranch in Patagonia.

Minnie influenced the lives of many. She enjoyed spending time with her girls, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, her brother, her nieces and nephews and all her friends. She will always be remembered for her sense of humor, her cooking, her love of music, her love of reading and her love for her family and friends.

Reverend Alison Lee, from St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Nogales, conducts services in Elgin twice a month.

St. Andrew’s Church in Nogales is celebrating their new Priest in Charge, Reverend Alison Lee. Rev. Lee’s personality is energetic, effervescent, and joyful. She believes deeply in living with gratitude in all that life has to offer.

Lee was ordained into the Anglican priesthood in 2018, starting as a postulant in 2016. She received a Master of Divinity degree, attending the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkley. She is also a graduate of The University of Calgary with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater. Rev. Lee worked in theater in Calgary, was an office manager, owner of a small business, a construction assistant, a cabaret founder/director showcasing local talent in Virginia, manager of Foothills Gastroenterology, and Senior Warden at St. Philip’s in the Hills Episcopal Church in Tucson. She completed the rigorous training for the priesthood over a six-year period.

Her first calling to the priesthood was at the age of seven while attending the Sisters of Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Convent in Quebec. Her parents sent her to school for first through sixth grades at the convent to become fluent in French. Even at the age of seven she realized that the priesthood was a completely male dominated field.

She lost interest in church at the age of sixteen, forgetting the calling she felt at the age of seven, but once again felt a calling in 2013 and began the long process of becoming an Episcopal priest. She is married to Dr. Robert McCallum. They have raised three children who still live in the Tucson and Phoenix area.

She does not care what title is used in addressing her. "Titles cause barriers. It is about evangelism. People can call me Mother Alison, Mama Lee, or just Alison or whatever makes someone comfortable," she said. "All are welcome here, to lay down our burdens and be sustained and supported, strengthened and hopefully transformed as we go forth into a world of division and pain where souls are in need of hope and healing."

St. Andrew’s sponsors the Casa Blanca Mission which meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. The service is held at the Sonoita Hills Community Church, 52 Elgin Rd. Elgin, AZ. Rev. Lee will usually be officiating the Casa Blanca Mission services.

Services are held at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church at 969 W. Country Club Dr. Nogales, AZ at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. each Sunday. For more information on the many activities and services, go to standrews@standrewszaz.com, www.standrewszaz.org or call 520-281-1523.

**Articles of Faith**

**Congregation Welcomes New Priest**

By Jo Dean
LIFE AMONG THE HUMANS

ISOLATED

It's easy to forget how involved with and dependent upon others we are, and we have always been. If it had not been for the carnal intersection of at least two other persons, you’d not be here at all. (It's always weird to think of mom and daddy having sex. And so, let's not.) Nor could we have survived childhood without the support of others.

When you were young, you learned to say and recognize your name, and, for a while, even spoke of yourself in the third person. You learned to write your name and earned high praise. Good Boy! Good Girl! Good B.T.Q. We become completely identified with our names, which follow us everywhere - proclaimed when we receive our Nobel Prize or prison term. To experience oneself as separate/identifiable is normal, and understandable. It is expensive, though. The more you experience yourself as separate, the more death devastates. (The only you know is gone. You think there’s nothing left.)

Still, Donne’s assertion seems untrue in terms of what real islands really are. They seem separate, of course. Experiential bias warps our view. To go from one island to another, you have to fly or swim or sail - to deal with what lies between - which can be dangerous or get you wet. I remember, as a child, the first time I saw a cross-sectional map in science class. "Well, I'll be damned," my brain exclaimed: "Them islands isn't separate at all! They're all connected, underneath!"

So, here’s the part that will convince you I’m completely daft. (What's new?) Over eons, through medication, drugs, near-death experience, or various ephemiphanies, millions of people - though only a tiny percentage - have discovered, always with astonishment, that we are all connected at the root. Our psyches intertwine. Or, more precisely, they are one! That makes interpersonal strife, economony and warfare seem both grotesque and absurd, like watching a demented dog attacking his own tail, unaware that his "foe" is a part of himself.

When J.H.C. said “Love thy neighbor as you love yourself," he didn’t go on to say "He is yourself!!!" JC was far too wise for that. If you make statements which utterly fly in the face of "common sense" (consensual reality) you’ll be seen as a crackpot and quickly dismissed or locked up - or bumped off, like J.C.

Once, in the Honolulu airport, I saw a cross-sectional map of the Hawaiian Islands, each with its own name, identity, and airport. Seen from the side, every island was a tall, fragile spindle of lava just barely poking out above the water. They looked as if the mild-est quake could snap them cleanly off, dispelling the illusion of their seeming separateness, as death will do for you and all of us.

MY PEOPLE

By Cassina Farley

Fortunately, my family comes together often. Mainly because we all live no more than an hour away from each other, but mostly because we like each other. I used to think that I couldn’t be more different than these folks with their wild ideas on politics or their excessive use of jalapenos in salsa, but more often than not when I drive away from a family function I have a huge surge of love and appreciation for my people.

This past Saturday was no exception. November 23 was annual turkey butchering day at the family farm and all that could, gathered to help. In the morning we donned our farm clothes and warm jackets so that we can stand in a cold barn and bitch about who’s late and converse about what we’d rather be doing, but somehow, we end up here every single year.

What’s funny about us is that it doesn’t matter if our arms are elbow deep in a turkey or we are gathered around a table for a meal, the interaction is the same. We chat about what we are doing at home, our jobs and our husbands or wives. We talk about trucks and politics (sort of) and we fight about stuff that’s been going on for years.

In the middle of removing turkey giblets and plucking we talk about new babies and cousins that are far away in Iraq. When I finally tapped out (which I always do) I sat on the hay bales and listened as my family made fun of the new “plant based” butter while I remained silent, having had some on my toast earlier that morning. In that same conversation we discussed our strategy for a potential zombie apocalypse and how home-grown birds are the best. Most of all we laugh.

Then the plucker broke and I came down from the hay to reluctantly help pluck. I don’t really like this process, but it is what it is. You’ve done it all when you’ve packed turkey feet in ice for clients who like broth. The conversation continues into clean up and eventually we all settle into chairs as we wait for turkey pick up. There is always beer and the promise of a steak dinner (we never eat poultry or processing day) and on this day a birthday cake. Yep, farm people butcher turkeys on their birthday.

Dinner is finally ready, and a prayer is said. Home-made butter on home-made bread. Yes, I am thankful. I am thankful for every minute I have with these people. My people. My sincerest wishes for a happy holiday season for you and yours.

PROTECTING THIS SPECIAL PLACE

By Ron Walp

Gary Nabhan wrote an excellent article in the November PRT titled “What's At Risk for Patagonia.” I appreciated how he emphasized the tremendous economic impact that birds have on the tri-counties of Southern Arizona (Santa Cruz, Pima, Cochise). As a long time winter visitor and hunter to the area, I would like to point out the huge economic impact that hunting brings to the area also.

The Mountain Empire is the home of two species of wildlife that are found in few other places in the United States. The Coues whitetail (properly pronounced "cows") and the Mears Quail also called Montezuma and 'fools quail.' Both these species bring hunters from all over the US and Canada to this area and they spend lots of money for food, gas, lodging, out of state hunting licenses and tags, etc. If you doubt me, please pay close attention to vehicle license plates.

Coues whitetail are a subspecies of the whitetail deer. They are often called the "poor man's sheep hunt." They are only found in Arizona, New Mexico and Mexico. They are named after Dr. Elliot Coues, an American Army physician stationed at Fort Whipple, AZ in 1865-1866. Deceased outdoor writer and famous big game hunter Jack O’Conner, who made the .270 caliber rifle so popular, often wrote about the Coues whitetail and helped make this "gray ghost" such a popular animal to hunt. Retired local AZDGF game officer Kurt Bahli told me that his grandfather knew O’Conner and said that O’Conner loved to hunt the Coues in the Red Rock Canyon area.

Mears quail's home is Mexico and the nearby parts of the United States, mainly Southern Arizona, New Mexico and Western Texas. Mears quail are the elite upland game bird to hunt with pointing bird dogs. This unique bird’s first line of defense from predators is to crouch and hide on the ground when being hunted, whereas all other upland game birds’ first line of defense is to run and fly.

This bird is named after Edgar Alexander Mearns who was a commissioned surgeon in the US Army stationed at Ft. Verde, AZ. Mearns is most famous for being a field naturalist from 1889-1909. He is responsible for identifying hundreds of species of fauna and flora.

So when you see men, women and children around town in camouflage or orange clothing spending money you will know what they are up to. This tri-county area is a very special place. Nabhan and I have a mutual appreciation for the scenery and the feeling of the wilderness and being in the old west. The Mt. Empire area is an enchanted place. I, too, do not agree with what is happening in the area when "wholesale habitat destruction" is allowed.
MILESTONES

SIMPPLICITY
By Aisha Sander

Experiencing acute loss can bring the simple things in life to the forefront. What you may have thought as trivial, like a hot shower or a good pair of shoes, can become your solace. When death moves you from complacency, from ambition, from expectations, from entitlement, the things you take for granted may become your entry to gratitude and presence. Months of languishing in bed and monotonously going through my days, I could watch everyone climb in with their own empty ashray while I lay in mine. Grief did not wash over me in a wave but interrupted me in the everyday of my life. I used to get up without care and wash my hair every morning before skipping out to catch the train. But what was easy became hard and, miraculously, what was hard before, like slowing down, became possible. I started to shed the skin of expectation, of arrogance and of individuality and became a blank slate. With no ground of a functioning identity, no goals and no expectations I knew what I needed was to return to what is simple.

Now the train could pass and I could watch everyone climb in without being in the rush with them. Grief brought me back to life by waking me up one cell at a time. Sometimes in this new season of motherhood I look back to realize how transformative and expansive loss has been and I’m deeply humbled and grateful for the lessons we have come when they did. Death is an exam we will all face. What started as a revolution of simplicity deepened into a revolution of kindness. Today as my fears hold me back from being my truest and most authentic self I hear a new voice on the conference call. She says, “its ok, this is hard.” There is no expectation of perfection, no need to transcend, no desire for an answer or desperate need for solution in this voice. When that voice doesn’t help me pause, I reach out in prayer to God and ask for help to see things as they are. Finding the kindness and simplicity that works for you while accepting deeply and lovingly the mess of our inner lives. For a moment consider not fixing everything that is wrong or labeling each flaw as a problem but instead let go into your deepest fear. When you touch that place it may expose your deepest longings as well.

STAKEHOLDERS OR SHAREHOLDERS?
By Tom Shore

The October issue of the PRT featured an interview of Pat Risner, South32’s president of the Hermosa Project. The article contained references to two words that seem to be appearing with greater frequency when discussing issues of concern between the public and corporations: “stakeholders” and “shareholders.”

These words are well defined in former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich’s book “The Common Good.” In post WWII America, corporate responsibilities were to “stakeholders,” defined as workers, towns and cities with headquarters and facilities and, last but not least, the country. This perspective changed in the 1980s when the concept switched to a corporation placing their emphasis on “shareholders,” abandoning the “stakeholders.” Corporate focus shifted to the bottom line of maximum monetary returns to investors without regard for the needs of the general public.

In this article, it appears to me that South32 is attempting to let the “stakeholders” back into the picture. They recognize the town’s vision of tourism and restoration as important components of Patagonia’s future as demonstrated by their participation in the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona.

They are making a substantial amount of money available in the form of grants that will address present and future needs of the entire community. For example, a grant was awarded by that Foundation in August to repair and paint the outside of the Patagonia Museum which is housed in the town’s original elementary school. As a contributing member of the museum, I know a task of that size that cost thousands of dollars and would have involved hundreds of volunteered hours would not have been accomplished without South32’s investment.

I understand there is concern about the political implications of accepting money from a mining corporation, but I urge those of you who are decision makers in a local organization to set politics aside and consider the benefit to your group.

As individuals, accepting a grant or donation does not mean your opinion or your vote on matters associated with South32 has to change. We do, however, have responsibilities as members of the community to do whatever we can to further the town’s plan by investing in the future. That investment comes in the form of tasks, both small and large, that range from removing “yard art” that was once a dish washer in the 1990s to upgrading the sewage treatment facility. Small tasks can be accomplished on our own; the larger tasks require an outside investment.

I am not advocating that we close our minds to the history of mining activities in this town or that we blindly accept South32’s assurances on face value. In fact, my favorite t-shirt sports the logo “I will believe corporations are people when Texas executes one.” I believe the advantage we have locally is dedicated, well-educated people who care about Patagonia and are willing to work to ensure the community goals are progressing. What is needed by all involved, whether an individual or a multi-billion-dollar corporation, is transparency, civility and cooperation.

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NEW HEALTH CODE HEADED FOR APPROVAL

By Kat Crockett

The county is moving forward on adopting a proposed health code and, in advance of the state, the 2017 FDA Food Code. The FDA Code establishes definitions; sets standards for management and personnel, food operations, and equipment and facilities; and provides for food establishment plan review, permit issuance, inspection, employee restriction, and permit suspension.

Nearly the entire proposed Santa Cruz County (SCC) health code was adopted from the 2016 Pima County Code. The substantive changes were SCC adding a plan approval requirement and operating permits for food manufacturers/food processors; wineries, breweries and distilleries; and private sewage collection and disposal systems.

SCC also modified the Pima Code to require an operating permit for “food establishments, including each operation of a food establishment,” which means that a restaurant with a bar will now pay for two operating permits.

SCC also added a requirement for all food manufacturers/food processors to comply with the health code and added five pages on inspections, including a list of 55 inspection violations and corresponding point deductions, and a requirement for public display of inspection grade cards.

The draft code fee schedule includes an average of over 30% increases to 15 operating permits, the addition of eight new $75 permit fees and eight new $300 plan review fees for food establishments; four new miscellaneous permit/plan review fees, a reduction in late fees, and a number of new and revised fees for temporary events and food sampling ranging from one day to one year in duration. Significant increases in fees are proposed for 2023 and 2026.

Wineries, breweries and distilleries (WBDs) are not currently subject to operating permit fees and inspections; however, under the proposed code these houses would be covered. The new fee schedule requires WBDs to pay $300 for an annual operating permit for each line of business and $75 for each additional operation such as a tasting room.

For example, Flying Leap is both a winery and a distillery with production and tasting rooms for each type of product. Their new 2020 annual permit fee will be $750, and $900 in 2026. In contrast, Michael McGee, Director of Environmental Health for Cochise County considers wineries to be a low risk and their annual operating permit fee is $100.

The proposed SCC fees on wineries exceed those for a large food establishment serving a high-risk population. A hospital kitchen, for example, would pay $550 in 2020, and $650 in 2026. The largest “food establishment” bill payer would be the WBDs who produce a product with the lowest potential for foodborne illnesses.

Arizona Revised Statute 11-251.08 provides authority to the board of supervisors to adopt fee schedules for products and services the county provides to the public provided the fee defrays or covers, but does not exceed the expense of the product or service. The Board must hold a public hearing on the fee changes with a 15-day advance public notice. Supervisor Bracker stated that SCC fees had not been raised for the past ten years and the proposed fees, “were in line with other counties.”

SCC Supervisor Bruce Bracker stated “the Board of Supervisors agrees with the wineries that the state is over-reaching.” According to Bracker, “The wineries don’t want the inspectors in the back of the house. They don’t want them messing with the wine production.” He further stated, “We don’t want to go back there.” He blames the state regulations and said that they have had talks with Gail Griffin, Andrea Dalesandros, Rosanna Gabaldon and Daniel Hernandez about getting the state to loosen up.

However, individual counties set the permit requirements and the fee schedule. The county has not agreed to modify the draft health code to grandfather the WBDs for low risk violations of the code that do not pose a threat to the public.

A request was delivered to the county on October 2, 2019 requesting information on how SCC was complying with the Arizona Statute requiring each county’s board of supervisors to appoint a board of health and to date, a response has not been received.

According to Jeff Terrell, director of SCC Environmental Health Services, no more than ten comments were submitted during the draft health code comment period, not counting comments from public meetings. He is uncertain if there will be any revisions to the draft prior to presenting it to the board of supervisors, tentatively scheduled for December 18, 2019.

Residents who wish to address the Board of Supervisors regarding the proposed SCC Proposed Health Code and proposed fee schedule, should attend the meeting at the Santa Cruz County Complex, 2150 N. Congress Drive, Nogales. The date and time for the meeting will be posted on their website: https://www.santacruzcounty.gov/169/Board-of-Supervisors.

SCC POISED FOR TREMENDOUS GROWTH

By Bruce Bracker

On the border with Mexico and home to Arizona’s largest port connecting our state with Mexico, Santa Cruz County (SCC) is poised for tremendous growth. The manufacturing sector on the Mexican side is undergoing a renaissance in investment. Reports are that the industry is in need of thousands of new employees and that there is a growing list of prospects that are looking to relocate or expand their operations in Nogales, Sonora.

Additionally, our long history as the largest (in terms of volume) single port of entry. And the industry is reporting growing diversification in the types of commodities that cross through Nogales and the produce season that used to last six months (November through March) is now exceeding 9 months (October through June) helping to alleviate the seasonal employment in our community.

There is tremendous investment in our community. Perhaps the single largest catalyst for investment was the modernization of the Mariposa Port of Entry with close to $250 million in investment by Arizona and its federal government partners. This has spurred investment in new state of the art warehouses and distribution centers all over Nogales and Rio Rico.

By the beginning of 2020, we will see the groundbreaking of a $134 million project to modernize SR-189, a project that will greatly increase the efficiency of the connector between the port of entry and I-19 but also the safety of the traveling public. This is the single largest project that the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has undertaken in rural Arizona in the past decade.

Wineries and the Sonoita Fairgrounds are also an important part of our economy in the eastern part of the county.

We have stepped up our support for the Fairgrounds the past three years in recognition of its contribution to the local economy and the community. Santa Cruz wineries and distilleries are being recognized nationally and internationally which is attracting new vineyards to our community.

Earlier this year, the Arizona Audubon Society released a report on the significance of rivers, lakes and streams for Arizona, which confirmed that the our local waterways represent an impact to our County GDP of $99 million, generate $11.5 million in state and local taxes, and have a total impact to Arizona of $188.9 million each year – just from Santa Cruz County!

And finally, we are working closely with South32 as they develop the Hermosa Mine to ensure that mining operations consider the quality of life of our residents, protect the environment and that there is a long-term commitment to our community. They will create hundreds of full-time jobs and will greatly increase the average income for the County. Our work with the leadership of South32 will continue to ensure that they have a positive impact on the County.

With manufacturing, fresh produce, international logistics, tourism, mining, and much more, Santa Cruz County offers a strong foundation for sustainable growth and job creation for our residents. This means that our youth can aspire to look for jobs here, raise their families here and invest here instead of going somewhere else.

These are all long-term opportunities in our community, opportunities that I remain committed to developing for my district, for my county and for my state.

Editor's note: Bruce Bracker is a member of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, representing District 3, which includes Sonoita, Elgin and Patagonia.

It is our objective as a community newspaper to present many views to our readers. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the views of this publication. If you would like to contribute your opinion or commentary to PRT, please send your article, in MS Word, to prteditor@gmail.com. The PRT reserves the right to edit all submissions for language, length and content.
South32 Fund Gets $1 Million Boost

South32 has announced added investments of $2.5 million in the South32 Hermosa Community Fund. The increase will mean that more non-profit groups in Santa Cruz County stand to benefit from the fund for many years to come.

The South32 Hermosa Community Fund was established in May of this year to support non-profit groups working to improve education, environment, health and welfare, recreation, civic enhancement, and arts, culture and history in the county. The fund is held by the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona (CFSA)

Growth of the fund comes through a million-dollar matching agreement conceived in 2018 when South32 purchased Arizona Mining Inc. and, with it, the Hermosa Project, a mining development option near Patagonia.

As a show of support for the communities around Hermosa, Richard Warke, the former Executive Chairman of Arizona Mining Inc., contributed $1 million to the fund on behalf of the former directors of the company. Gill Winkler, who served on the board for Arizona Mining Inc., had previously committed $250,000 to the fund.

South32 has matched their combined donations, bringing the fund total to $2.5 million.

PYEC Seeks Tax Credit Donations

The Patagonia Youth Enrichment Center qualifies as a Qualifying Charitable Organization and is able to receive Arizona State Tax Credit donations. This is separate from the Tax Credits that can be donated to the public schools. Donors are able to specify where their tax donation is received and will receive dollar for dollar refund back on their state taxes (married couples can donate up to $800 and individual filers $400). PYEC appreciates your support and sends a tax donation receipt for all donations.

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South32 has provided a meaningful uplift to charitable organizations in Santa Cruz County,” said Pat Risner, President of South32 Hermosa. “Every day is the right day to be a good neighbor, and it’s exciting to see this level of support early in the project’s life. It’s also exciting to have community input on how the funds should be directed” A committee of independent reviewers from the local community works with the CFSA and representatives from South32 in awarding grants based on the community’s needs and priorities.

Six applications were received for the second round of grant applications, from which the following grantees were selected: The Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch of the National Audubon Society, Boys and Girls Club of Santa Cruz, Mat Bevel Company, Patagonia Creative Arts Association/Tin Shed Theater, Patagonia FFA Alumni and Supporters and the Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association Foundation, Inc.

The total amount of grants awarded this cycle was $57,200. The next grant cycle will open in January 2020. To learn more about the fund, visit the CFSA website or bit.ly/South32Fund.

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Fresh Water - Elixir of Life

Our planet, it turns out, is woefully misnamed - Earth harbors very little terra firma. Instead we are afloat on a sea of water - 71% of the surface of our rather diminutive orb is covered in the stuff. Hence, more fitting epithets for our home would be liquid, fluid, moist, aqueous or hydrous.

As with all convincing illusions, the ubiquitousness of water belies the vanishing rareness of freshwater. As the old cliche goes, “water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink!” Truer words were never spoken. Oceans and other saline water sources account for only a paltry 1.2% of all Earth’s freshwater is found on the surface.

If we continue to peel the onion, this 1.2% is partitioned thusly: 69% ground ice and permafrost, 20.9% lakes, 3.8% soil moisture, 3% atmospheric moisture, 2.6% swamps and marshes, .4% rivers and streams, and .26% living things. Let’s focus now on the .4% allotted to rivers and other flowing water.

What percentage of this is polluted? Astoundingly, about 80% of the world’s wastewater is dumped right back into various natural sources of water, including both fresh and saltwater bodies.

Once water is drawn from underground sources, as in mining, the aquifer begins to be depleted, as recharge rates are often insufficient to keep up with the overuse. Nor will releasing the used mine water at the surface recharge the aquifer. Once we have used water, it rarely sees the aquifer again.

Entire liquid ecosystems replete with a myriad of species are all dependent upon clean water. Varied vertebrates thrive in and near healthy fresh water in Arizona and beyond; Canadian beaver, North American otter, bald eagle, Apache trout, American dipper, to name but a few. Another real litmus test for the quality of freshwater is its populations of aquatic invertebrates. One of the first things that I do when I encounter a wild source of water is to look for water boatmen, backswimmers, diving beetles, whirligig beetles, caddisfly larvae, dragonflies, damselflies, and other species that depend upon a healthy water domain. Most, if not all, wild water sources in Arizona should look like variations on an aquarium. Beware those that lack any visible life at all, as that may be a telltale sign of unseen pollution - often locally from older mines.

Need more reasons to worry about our local water supplies? Sydney, Australia recently made international news for all the wrong reasons. In addition to historic numbers of wildfires, the city of about 5 million people may well run out of freshwater. Rainwater supplies most of their drinking and municipal needs and the rains are increasingly fickle due to climate change.

Reservoirs there are precipitously shrinking with no great solutions in sight. Are we in parched Arizona immune to such catastrophes? In short, we are not.

Locally, Sonoita Creek and Patagonia Lake are irreplaceable freshwater treasures that offer a lifetime of sublime natural experiences, but only if we safeguard them from abuse. Come to your own conclusions, but please, don’t just consider local ‘economic benefits’ of mining. We are in the same proverbial boat as Sydney in terms of needing clean freshwater. Will we stay afloat?

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

STARSTRUCK

By Harold Meckler

Truth be told, there’s a lot to be said for being young. For all of the beauty and innate majesty that comes with age, there’s nothing like watching a teenager sprint to the finish of a three-mile race. Likewise, we can marvel at the towering redwoods in Muir Woods, but don’t we stand in greater awe at the three-foot sapling, knowing that all of its greatness is yet to come? So it is, I think, with stars. Some of the oldest ones in our galaxy are, perhaps, more than 10 billion years old. Sometimes gravity pulls them together into what we call globular clusters. Messier 13 in the constellation Hercules is a magnificent example that can be seen low in the northwestern sky throughout December. This tightly bound group of well over 100,000 stars has been around since nearly the beginning of the universe. Its magnificence is unquestioned.

Diagonally across the sky, however, much, much younger stars have also bound together, though considerably less densely, into another of the night sky’s gifts, the open cluster. The most well-known is the Pleiades. Also called The Seven Sisters, it graces the autumn sky and to the west. Between the two are the clusters. It’s large. The formation of some open clusters, though, may coincide with the general star formation that roamed the Earth. For me, that’s a lot easier to comprehend. The Perseus Double Cluster may be considerably younger even than that. Like kindergartners, they demand our attention and we are happy to give it. So, let’s say at 8:00 p.m. on December 15, find the “Big W” of Cassiopeia high overhead. Just to the east is Perseus.

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Perhaps, even if the past is prologue for everything we know, the future is still unwritten. Maybe if we celebrate the vitality of the stars in these open clusters, we’re celebrating our own.
AZ’s Presidential Preference Election Rules

Arizona will hold its Presidential Preference Election (PPE) on March 17, 2020. The voter registration deadline for this election is Feb 18. The Republican Party has determined that President Trump will be their candidate and it will not participate in this election. There is a precedent for this as both the Democratic and the Republican Parties have chosen to support sitting presidents for reelection. The Green and Libertarian Parties have not filed to participate in the PPE in Arizona. As a result, only Democrats will be selecting their presidential candidate in this 2020 Arizona election.

Some years ago, Arizona opened its local, state and congressional candidate primaries to Independents allowing them to vote a ballot from the political party of their choice. This has led to confusion about who can vote in the March election. The presidential candidate selection election process is determined by a combination of state laws and party rules and varies from state to state. In Arizona, only voters registered with a participating political party can vote in the PPE. When a voter selects a candidate on the ballot, he or she is actually electing a group of delegates who are legally bound to support the specified candidate at the party’s national convention. Arizona is a winner takes all state, meaning that only the delegates supporting the candidate with the most votes will go to the convention.

Elected delegates are joined by automatic delegates (“super delegates”) at the party convention. Super delegates are determined by party rules and are generally officers of the party and long-time political activists. Elected delegates are legally bound to vote for their designated candidate in the first round of voting at the national convention. If no candidate gets the majority of votes in the first round, candidates may release their delegates and allow them to vote for a different candidate of their choice. Multiple rounds of voting may occur until one candidate gets a majority of the votes.

Unlike elected delegates, super delegates are not legally bound to support a specific candidate. In the 2016 election the Democratic Party super delegates were accused of predetermining support for Hillary Clinton. In response the Democratic National Committee decided this year that super delegates will not vote in the first round but will vote in subsequent rounds if no candidate gets the majority of votes initially.

Unregistered and Independent voters who wish to participate in an Arizona PPE must register or update their voter registration to indicate a party preference. Voter registration forms can be found at local libraries and online at servicearizona.com.

There is NO MODERN MINING that will meet the high standards necessary to protect the vitality of the Patagonia Mountains and our water resources.

The Patagonia Mountains are part of the Madrean Pine Oak Woodlands, a Global Biodiversity hotspot identified by scientists as one of the top places most in need of protection for SPECIES SURVIVAL during a time of rapid species extinction.

Patagonia Area Resource Alliance
www.PatagoniaAlliance.org
Glimpses Into Our Past

By Alison Bunting

The Birth of The Tin Shed

By Linda Jade Fong

Roger and Jan Johnson, builders of the Tin Shed Theatre almost 20 years ago, back for a visit to Patagonia to enjoy their legacy.

Photo by Linda Jade Fong

“Hey, Rogers,” his wife Jan called. “If you ever want to do the theater you’ve been talking about, Molly and Gail are trying to decide what to do with the back of the Art Center. You better get over here.”

Johnson walked in uninvited, looked around, and mused, “Looks perfect for Black Box Theater.”

“What is that?” Jacobson asked. “Lot of colleges doing it... Draperes, Moveable chairs,” he answered.

So began the Tin Shed Theater, a venue which has hosted everything from live theater to fire jugglers to simulcast ballets.

Johnson had been involved in the theater since he won a bible storytelling contest when he was 13 in Ohio. He went on to become an English drama, and journalism teacher as well as founder of an alternative school. There was always a theater project after hours, including creating an outdoor community theater in a parking lot on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Jan, a weaver and children’s occupational therapist, steadfastly partnered these productions. They even sold their first house and moved into an apartment to pay the bills of the Outer Banks theater.

Johnson’s skill in creating theater out of nothing was a godsend for Patagonia. There were zero funds to build a theater, so he went to work, recruiting many volunteers, like Abel Murietta and Saul Lieberman, from the community. Phinney had had the garage power washed... twice. “The floor was still too messed up for actors to walk on it,” Johnson said, “so I went to Home Depot and happened to see two-foot-square interlock rubber mats. I bought a few to try. I kept going back and buying more and more, finally covering a big enough area for the stage. Guess what, those mats are still there!”

Curtains were another challenge. Most black box theaters have draped curtains around the perimeter. Too expensive, thought Johnson. His ingenious workaround? He made a wavy frame from which to hang the curtains to give the effect of draping. “Saved half the cost of the fabric,” he explained. “The Patagonia Woman’s Club brought their sewing machines over. We formed a production line to cut, hem, and grommet the burgundy corduroy. Each section was then passed over to Lew Myers and me up on stage to attach to the frames.”

“The Velveteen Rabbit” was the first theater production. Johnson improvised stage lighting from exterior floodlights covered with color gels and designed a Jill Babcock-painted backdrop with moving flaps in lieu of stage curtains. It still sits in the Tin Shed lobby today.

“The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail” was our first adult play. Our cast featured many well-known Patagonians. Don Wenig had a role as town sheriff and his one line kept expanding every performance,” Johnson chuckled. He went on to direct twenty some productions, always encouraging locals to try first-time stage roles.

He and Jan moved to Maryland five years ago for family. They were back to visit Patagonia recently and it was heart-warming for Johnson to see that the ticket price for a theater performance was still five dollars. “People always wanted to charge more but I didn’t want anyone in the community not to be able to see a play. Theater shouldn’t be something for just one group of people, whether participants or audience.”

On their recent visit the Johnsons saw the orange table and sofa still sitting in the props that had been “borrowed” from their living room. But the more meaningful legacy of his tenure at the theater was the people of all ages lining up to see three performances of the latest Tin Shed play. It was testimony to Johnson’s goal: “I wanted to bring people in from all walks of life, to make them want to see a play.”
Arizona law (A.R.S. 43-1089.01) allows taxpayers to receive a tax credit of up to $200 for an individual or a head of household or $400 for a married couple filing a joint return for donations to public school districts. All Arizona taxpayers are eligible: you do not have to have children within the school district to benefit from this law nor do you have to live in the school district where you make your donation. Most important, it is not just a deduction, it’s a tax credit - it reduces what you owe in state taxes, dollar-for-dollar.

For small rural districts such as Patagonia and other public school districts in Santa Cruz County, these donations are crucial to extra-curricular activities such as sports, music and the arts as well as specialty programs. At the Patagonia Schools, donations can be designated for high school or middle school athletics, the band, the swimming pool, the FFA program, or student CPR Training. Donors can also stipulate that the school applies their donations to the area of greatest need. Donations can also be designated for a specific child’s participation in an extra-curricular activity. Undesignated funds are disbursed by the school’s Site Council, a committee comprised of community residents, school employees and parents.

The Extracurricular Tax Credit form can be downloaded from the school’s website at http://www.patronia.k12.az.us/. Checks should be written payable to Patagonia Public Schools. For questions or further information about the Extracurricular Tax Credit, call the school at (520) 394-3000.

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**Senior Center News**

The Patagonia Senior Citizen Center will soon be announcing their new chef. Carla Haro left last month as the chef after getting married and moving to California, said spokesman Charles Kelly. The new position is scheduled to start Dec. 2, he said.

The Senior Center served 693 meals in October and also received an excellent rating from the county health department, said Kelly.

The Center’s president, Irene Smith, signed a new agreement with the town of Patagonia for the use of its building. The agreement has not changed, said Smith.

Center volunteers drove 3,654 miles for 159 driver miles for 46 clients in October.
By Arriana Ochoa and Karina Norton

The Patagonia FFA and the State Champion Agricultural Issues team traveled to the Midwest in October to compete at the 92nd Annual National FFA Convention and Expo. The students competed against 37 teams from around the United States and learned about the differences in the agriculture industry from state to state.

The FFA members who attended were team members John Hubbell, Ralphie Quiroz, Lauren Fletcher, Arriana Ochoa, Karina Norton, Carolina Quiroz, Brianna Young, and Sebastian Vasquez. They were accompanied by PUHS FFA Advisor Tonya St. John and chaperone Michael Young.

The group traveled to five states in 11 days. The first two stops were Springfield, MI and Chicago, IL, where they learned about agriculture in an urban setting and some of the political views of the industry.

Then the team went to Indiana. At Fair Oaks Farm the students were able to learn about the swine and dairy industries. They saw how a large production farm operates, watching piglets and calves being born, seeing a turnstile milking parlor and the production of food crops for the animals.

The team competed in the Agricultural Issues Career Development Event at the FFA National convention in Indiana. The students organized a presentation about a current agricultural issue, presenting a portfolio and live skit to the judges. The Patagonia team received a Bronze placement.

The team learned about the current issues in the industry, what organizations are doing and observed a tribute to women in agriculture. They also attended the Expo. Many different businesses, sponsors and supporters of the agriculture industry and colleges from around the United States participated.

The team went to the National FFA Headquarters and learned about the history of the organization. They also visited a dairy cow farm and learned about the different processes used to make dairy products. “One of my favorite places we visited was the Creamery in Zionsville, IN,” Ochoa said. “We got to see the dairy cows and learn about some of the equipment used to make dairy products we consume.”

In Jeffersonville, IN they went to Schimpff’s Confectionery. There they got to see the old-fashioned way of making candy and all the products used to make the different candies.

The next stop was Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby Museum to learn about the history of thoroughbred racing and to see some live racing.

At the Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory, tour guides explained how every component of the tree is used during production. For example, leaves and shavings are reused as mulch and bedding.

The last day of the trip was spent in Nashville, TN. The team visited the Country Music Hall of Fame and enjoyed live music around downtown.

This trip was an experience of a lifetime and was possible because of the support from our community and from those who support our local FFA Chapters.

Photo by Tonya St. John
Open for Business
New Business News

New Rock Shop Opens

By Lynn Davison

Patagonia now has its own rock shop. Earth Space opened on Fall Festival weekend this year. It is located at 275 W Mckelwee-Suite C, otherwise known as the Ovens Plaza. Hours are Fri 5 to 7 p.m., Sat 10 to 4 p.m., and Sun 12 to 4 p.m. The tiny shop, owned by Caroline (Carrie) Whitehall, a geologist who moved to Patagonia last fall, contains a diverse collection of minerals from smaller, more common specimens to larger and rarer pieces suitable for serious collectors. A rock at Earth Space can cost anywhere from $16 to $3000. Each is quite beautiful, especially adding more affordable pieces. She looks forward to a shopping spree at Tucson’s 2020 Gem Show and also hopes to become a source of information on places to collect for local and visiting rock hounds. Earth Space gives Whitehall the opportunity to interact with residents and visitors in her newly adopted community. She does enjoy talking and, as a scientist and teacher, has some interesting information to share. Last December, Whitehall bought a house in Patagonia and is happy to be putting down a few roots. Part of the fun at Earth Space is listening to Whitehall talk about the minerals, where they are from, how they are formed, and what makes some so special. She is a teacher and her enthusiasm for these “small precious pieces of our planet” is infectious.

Whitehall plans to expand the offerings in the store and on its website, especially adding more affordable pieces. She looks forward to a shopping spree at Tucson’s 2020 Gem Show and also hopes to become a source of information on places to collect for local and visiting rock hounds. Earth Space gives Whitehall the opportunity to interact with residents and visitors in her newly adopted community. She does enjoy talking and, as a scientist and a teacher, has some interesting information to share. Last December, Whitehall bought a house in Patagonia and is happy to be putting down a few roots. Earth Space is only open on weekends, as Whitehall works as Arizona Standard’s project manager at the proposed Sunnyside Exploration Drilling Project in the Patagonia Mountains, Earth Space has no connection to Arizona Standard.

News From The Fireline

By Michael McGuire, Lieutenant (PVFD)

For me, decorating the house is one of the things I like most about the holiday season. But did you know that last year there were over 400 house fires nationwide that resulted in fatalities, as a result of improper decoration and light installation?

The National Safety Council (NSC) offers safety tips on how to decorate your home so that disaster will not ruin an otherwise joyous holiday season.

When it comes to fresh-cut trees, the greener and fresher the tree the better. When selecting a tree, choose one that still has spring in its limbs and firm needles that will not come off in your hand. Look for a tree that still has oozing sap.

For those of you more partial to artificial trees, NSC recommends that you choose one that has been tested and labeled as fire resistant. These days, artificial trees come with lights already attached for easy set-up. These trees should have the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) label on them. Anything other than the UL label is not considered to be a safe product. Remember that tree placement is essential to holiday safety. Never place a Christmas tree next to a fireplace or heater. And be sure that the tree does not block doorways or exit ways.

When it comes to seasonal lighting, the rule is simple; use indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors. If you are recycling lights from last year, be sure to examine each strand for frayed wires or broken bulbs. NSC advises that you never exceed three strands of lights per extension cord. Again, only use products that carry the UL label.

Be sure to use the proper ladder or step stool when trying to reach high places. Don’t be that person who broke an arm trying to hang a seasonal wreath.

Keep candles and open flame away from Christmas trees and other decorations. And always turn your decorations off when you go to bed or leave the house.

Finally, never attempt to burn a tree. Dry Christmas trees light up quickly and can become engulfed in flames and out of control in a matter of seconds. There are usually local plans for tree removal. Check with the town to see what that plan is before you attempt to burn your tree.

For more information about holiday safety, check out the website at www.nsc.org. From everyone at Patagonia Fire and Rescue, ‘See you again in the New Year!’

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PAGE 17          PATAGONIA REGIONAL TIMES          DECEMBER 2019
The Santa Cruz Foundation For The Performing Arts
Benderly-Kendall Opera House, 344 Naugle Ave., Patagonia, AZ

Dec - Jan, 2019 Schedule

December 1: 3 p.m. Three Wise Women and a Star - Vocal trio and piano
$25 Prepay /$30 At the Door

January 1: 5 p.m. Friends of the Opera House - First Night Concert Christine Vivona, harp and Sandy Schwobel, flute

January 19: 3 p.m. Eric Gratz, violin and Evan Kory, piano $30 Prepay /$35 at the door

Visit www.scfpapresents.org for more information

KPUP Broadcast Schedule
Fall / Winter 2019-2020

Monday: 7:00pm to 8:00pm; eTown repeat of Saturday’s show.
Tuesday: 10:00am to 12:00pm; World Jazz with Mark Berg
7:00pm to 9:00pm; Jazz and Blues with Fred Hansen
Wednesday: 10:00am - 11am: Ordinary People Radio
7:00pm to 10pm; Sean Alexander show
Thursday: 7:00pm to 10:00pm; Possibility Explorers.
“Celebrating the Evening of Mushkil Gusha, the Remover of All Difficulties”. Hosted by Graves
Friday: 7:00pm to 9:00pm; Hook’s Sunken Roadhouse
Saturday: 12:00pm to 1:00pm; eTown - “Educate, entertain and inspire listeners through music and conversation”
Sunday: 6:00pm to 8:00pm; Acoustic Café “Today’s great songwriting talents. A bit of country, rock, blues, folk, pop”
8:00pm to 10:00pm; Folk Alley “Folk Music Radio from WKSU-FM in Kent, OH”

Daily Shows:
Swing Hour: 5:00pm to 6:00pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Best of the Oldies: 1:00pm to 2:00am.
Feature Story News (FSN.com) Mon – Fri. 8 am., 12pm and 6pm.,
Best of the Oldies: 1:00pm to 2:00am.
Hook’s Sunken Roadhouse
Royal Opera House Presents

Proceeds From the “Women Make Movies” Series Fund the Tin Shed Theater and The Lending Shed of Patagonia.

*Dates and Times Subject to Change*

PCAA wishes to thank all our generous sponsors of the 2018-2019 season at the Patagonia Movie House. If you would be interested in sponsoring upcoming events, please contact Cassina Farley at 520-394-9369.

Visit www.patagoniacreativearts.org or 394-9369 for more information.
Cowboy Festival Rounds Up Record Crowd

By Pat McNamara

A perfect cool, sunny, day welcomed over 1900 guests to the annual Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival held at the ranch north of Sonoita on Nov 2. Guests were treated to a total of 450 presenters, demonstrators, authors and vendors at the historic, newly restored Empire Ranch.

The Cowboy Festival is the largest event held at the Empire Ranch each year, and this year’s attendance saw a record-breaking crowd. There were two large arenas set up for demonstrations by horse trainers, a drill team, charros in authentic costumes, BLM Wild horse and burros and many other informative and entertaining participants.

A silent auction, cowboy conversations and story tellers, western skills demonstrations, animal and western entertainment, food and various retail vendors and non-profit organizations had booths up by the historical ranch buildings. There was a stage for entertainment supplying an authentic western music atmosphere to the guests.

The Buffalo Soldiers from Fort Huachuca, dressed in historic costumes, also were there for a presentation of cavalry riding exercises. There were trail rides offered to those interested in getting the real feel of ‘riding the range’ on horseback.

Organizers of the event were pleased with the success of this year’s festival, and plans are already in the works for an even bigger event in 2020.

The blacksmithing demonstration was one of many attractions at the Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival.

Mountain Empire Rotary News

The local Mountain Empire Rotary Club continues to carry on its full scale list of fun and charitable activities in the community. We enjoyed the last nearly full moon rise with a potluck at the Fred Sang Memorial Rotary Park (located at the Eastern edge of The Fairgrounds, next to Hwy 83, just North of the entrance). Leslie Kramer grilled brats and the group filled in with a full array of condiments, tasty side dishes and desserts.

We hope that families and friends take advantage of the park’s grills and tables, corn-hole and horseshoe games. (Please pack out your trash.) Enjoy the Park, it’s yours!

Additionally, at our recent meeting we had the pleasure of awarding $100 to Students of the Months, Sydney McKay and Liam Young, and meeting their parents. PUHS Art Teacher Cassina Farley and Music Teacher Zach Farley each spoke of the high character and strong citizenship of Sydney and Liam and why they were selected.

If you are interested in joining us as ‘People of Action, Making a Difference’ please contact SusanScott15@msn.com, Membership Chairwoman.

Become an Empire Ranch Docent

Are you interested in learning more about the Empire Ranch and sharing your knowledge with visitors to the Empire Ranch? Then join us for the next Empire Ranch Foundation Docent Training Class on Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Docents conduct monthly Empire Ranch House tours that provide a general introduction to the history of the Empire Ranch, its buildings and its people. Each docent provides an average of three monthly tours annually. Upon completion of the Docent Training Class each docent receives individual tour training.

If you’re interested in participating as a docent, please let us know by February 15th. You can register via the ERF website https://www.empire-ranchfoundation.org/about/programs/docent-training-program/ or by calling (520-490-3605) or emailing alisbunting@gmail.com.

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Critter of the Month

By Cami Schlappy

Globemallow Leaf Beetle (Calligrapha serpentina) is a plant eating beetle that appears in desert scrub landscape in the summer months. They only eat plants from the mallow family which includes hollyhocks. When adult beetles emerge from the pupa, they are red and then change to orange, then yellow, and finally a bright green color.

Photo by Cami Schlappy

Ann Caston was surprised by a 93rd birthday celebration on Nov. 20 at the Patagonia Senior Center Lunch. Ann moved to Patagonia from Hawaii in the mid 1990s and opened Mariposa Books. She operated it and the Patagonia Visitor Center for over 20 years. She also started the Santa Cruz Singers in 2002 when she went around town asking everyone if they like to sing and talked chorale director Christina Wilhelm into taking on the motley group.

Photo by Journee Hayes

Patagonia students show off their Fall Festival decorations. From left to right: Madison Lewton, Felicity Hawkins, Julian Lopez, and Naomi Lorta.

On Wednesday, Nov. 20, Patagonia Schools held their annual Fall Harvest Community Potluck. Thank you to all who came out and joined us and a special shout out to the Parent Teacher Booster Club (PTBC), the elementary teachers who put on a wonderful show, those who donated their time to cook multiple turkeys, and all the staff who helped make it a fun and successful event.

Photo by Cami Schlappy

JENEVE ROSE MITCHELL
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By Cami Schlappy
Sonoita Rodeo Honored
By Marion Vendituoli

The 2019 Sonoita Labor Day Rodeo was named “Rodeo of The Year” by the Grand Canyon Professional Rodeo Association (GCPRA).
Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association President Paul Brosseit was presented with the award at the GCPRA annual banquet, held on Nov. 9 in Ft. Mojave, AZ.

GCPRA competitors vote to select the recipient of the Rodeo of the Year award. The Sonoita Rodeo received the most votes of the 26 rodeos in the GCPRA circuit in AZ, NM and CA.
The 104th Sonoita Labor Day Rodeo is the largest rodeo in Arizona, spanning three days and attracting close to 800 competitors. Brosseit credits this year’s chairman, Tom Hardesty, Cody Beyer and Randy Scouten, and the many volunteers for the success of this event. “Never underestimate the power of teamwork,” Brosseit said. “The success of events at the Sonoita Fairgrounds all depend on people pulling together in this community.”

The 2019 Sonoita Labor Day Rodeo was named “Rodeo of The Year” by the Grand Canyon Professional Rodeo Association (GCPRA).

Calling All Singers
Harvest Christian Church is organizing a Community Choir this year for our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Adults and kids welcome. There will be two rehearsals: Mon. Dec. 16 and Thurs Dec. 19. Kids rehearse from 5 to 6 p.m. and then adults from 6 to 7 p.m.
For information or to sign up contact Pastor Gardenia 602.292.1616 The Candlelight Christmas Eve Service is a community event. ALL are welcome! Dec. 24, at 6 p.m. featuring the Community Choir. A Christmas Cookie Reception will follow.

Thank You
to all who attended and supported our
Campaign Kick Off Party

We would also like to thank Charisma Bakery for a great event and Fatios for providing dessert!

Keith Barth, Alyssa Cordova and Kevin Kubitskey

Check out our website
KeithBarthforSheriff.com
and sign up to receive emails from our campaign!

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Keith Barth for Sheriff

Mesquite Grove Gallery

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Hand Weaving,
Painting,
Jewelry & Soft Sculpture

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**EVENTS**

- **Dec 5, 6:30 to 8 p.m.** AZ Speaks: From 'Chief' to Code Talker: Four Profiles of the Navajo Code Talkers with speaker Laura Tohe at Patagonia Public Library

- **Dec 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Christmas in Elgin at Elgin Community Club. Contact Brett Smith at 520-732-1736

- **Dec 7, Annual Membership Dinner at the Sonoita Fairgrounds.**

- **Dec 8, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Quail Fest at the Sonoita Fairgrounds

- **Dec 10, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** Music & Coloring at Patagonia Public Library

- **Dec 13, 5:00 p.m.** Community Christmas Party at the Fairgrounds

- **Dec 14, 8 to 10 a.m.** Breakfast in the Bay at Sonoita Fire Dept.

- **Dec 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Christmas at the Ranch, at Empire Ranch Headquarters. https://www.empireranchfoundation.org/ranch-events/christmas-at-the-ranch/ Questions? Call 888-364-2829

- **Dec 14, 1 p.m.** “Guess Who’s Coming To Town” Christmas event at Patagonia Lake State Park.

- **Dec 14, Support a Rescue Saturday at Rancho Rossa Vineyards**

- **Dec 14, 10:30 a.m.** The Patagonia Museum hosts Angie Jessup at the Patagonia Library.

- **Dec 14, Missoula Children’s Theater performance at Elgin School**

- **Dec 19, Patagonia Christmas Bird Count.** Contact Patsy VandenBerge pvndbr5@gmail.com or (520) 604-6601

- **Dec 20, 11:30 a.m., 10th ADOC Appreciation Luncheon at the Sonoita Fairgrounds.**

- **Dec 20, 4 to 6 p.m.** Artist Reception featuring Livia Pontual. Creative Spirit Artists Gallery 317 McKeown.

- **Dec 21, 8 to 11 a.m., Sonoita Produce on Wheels at Harvest Christian Fellowship. $12 gets you 70 lbs. of produce.**

*For Tin Shed Theater and Benderly-Kendall Opera House schedules, see page 18

**EVENTS**

- **Dec 24, 6 p.m.** The Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Community Choir at Harvest Church. Reception will follow. Contact Pastor Gardena 602.292.1616

- **Dec 24, 6 p.m.** Canelo Cowboy Church Candlelight service

**SPECIAL INTERESTS**

- **Patagonia Museum - Open Thurs - Sat 2-4 p.m. Info: www.thepatagoniamuseum.org.**

- **San Rafael Community 4-H Club - 2nd Mon, Patagonia Methodist Church, Thurber Hall, 5:30 p.m. Info: Tamí, 455-3561.**

- **Santa Cruz Singers - rehearsals Thurs at 5 p.m., Beverly-Kendall Opera House, 348 Naugle Ave., Patagonia. New members welcome!**

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

- **Crossroads Quilters - 2nd Mon at 9 a.m. & 4th Mon at 1 p.m., Sonoita Fire Dept., 9 a.m. Info: (520)-732-0453.**

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

- **Border Community Alliance - Monthly cross-border tours. Info: www.bordercommunityalliance.org.**

- **Gratitude Drum Circle - Tuesdays 6-8 p.m. at the Gazebo in Patagonia Park. Open to everyone. Bring water, chair, & drum. Extra instruments available.**

- **Tai Chi - Tues & Thurs 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Senior’s Center. Free. All welcome.**

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

- **Lunch for Seniors - Fresh-cooked meals, Mon - Fri, noon-1 p.m. at the Patagonia Senior Center.**

- **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 & Sat 10 - 2 p.m.**

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

- **Sonoita/Patagonia Email Newsletter - Free. Sign up at clarebonelli@yahoo.com.**

- **Patagonia Farmers Market Thursday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. In front of Red Mountain Foods**

- **Nogales Mercado Farmers’ Market Fri 2-5 p.m. 163 N Morley Ave. Nogales, AZ.**

- **Flea Market at Heart of Gold Antiques first Saturday of every month. Free to set up. Call 520-394-0199 for any additional information. Market runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

- **East SCC Community Food Bank 2nd Wednesday of the month 9-10 a.m. pick up across from the Patagonia Fire Station.**

**CHURCH SERVICES**

- **Patagonia Community United Methodist Church** 387 McKeown Ave., Patagonia 394-2274 Sunday Service: 10 a.m. Youth Group: Sun. - 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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

- **Canelo Cowboy Church** Hwy 83, MP 14, Elgin 455-5000 Sunday Services: 9 a.m. Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. (except third Sundays) Ranch Family Fun Day: 7 a.m. every 3rd Sunday.

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

- **Sonoita Bible Church** 3174 N. High way 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.

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

- **St. Andrews Episcopal Church** Sonoita Hills Community Church 52 Elgin Rd., Elgin 2nd & 4th Saturdays: 10 a.m.

- **Quaker Worship Group, Sundays at 10 a.m. Call or email for more information and location. David Krest, david_krest@yahoo.com, (843) 830-7184 or Janice Pulliam (706) 614-6959**

Visit our website to see the online community calendar. Email prtasted@gmail.com with any community events you would like listed.
HELP WANTED

THE PRT IS HIRING AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT / AD MANAGER.
www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org/admin-assistant

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or fill out an application online at www.carepatagonia.com

BORDERLANDS RESTORATION IS SEEKING A VOLUNTEER
To help plant sale events and opportunities.
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LIVE-ONSITE HORSE CARETAKERS WANTED
Experienced only, No smoking/drugs/alcohol.
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