Changes Coming to Downtown Patagonia

By Robert Gay

As Patagonia enters a new decade, a quiet renewal is occurring in the heart of its ‘downtown’ retail district. Between the Stage Stop Inn and a vacant lot, two new owners share a joined building on McKeown Ave, fronted by a covered sidewalk with a step to the pavement that provides pedestrians with both protection from the sun and from street vehicles.

There are currently five businesses on McKeown Avenue in this space, as well as Tod Bowden’s fitness studio, Bowden’s Choice, which offers fitness classes in its space off Smelter Alley. The space is bookended by Adrienne Halpert’s long standing and successful Global Arts Gallery and Long Realty’s busy Patagonia branch, managed by agents Jean Miller and Barbara Harris.

The exterior wall at that end of the building sports an aging and playful student-painted mural of the town’s streets and buildings. Hidden further down the wall in the bushes toward the back is a lightning-struck figure by Gathering Grounds mural artist, Cassandra Elaine Dixon.

Of these six businesses in the combined building, three of the businesses in the space are undergoing significant changes. The Long Realty end of the block is now owned by Family Health Care Amigos LLC (FHCA), a home-health-care charity founded by Linda Huffstetler-Dearing in 1975 that runs several programs to support medically challenged community members. The Lending Shed, the FHCA storeroom for supplies like canes, crutches, walkers and other small “durable medical equipment” items that can be borrowed by residents in need, is now housed in a shed on Smelter Ave, part of the renovation headed by Don Borham which also includes reopening a long-closed storefront.

Experiencing ‘project creep’ as most tenant improvement projects do, the project has led Borham into complete electrical and plumbing replacement, extensive roof-patching, structural work, plaster repairs over crumbling adobe block walls, and much more. What will emerge from the dust will be an upscale second-hand furniture business to be called The Purple Elephant, which will offer donated, often repaired good-quality furniture to raise money for FHCA. Access to the store from the alley in back will be available for loading & unloading larger items, like sofas.

Next door, the Gathering Grounds owners, Audrey Wood and Brendon Doles, have joined forces as Doleswood LLC to purchase the rest of the Stradling building, thus becoming landlords for the other three businesses, from their cafe up to the alley of the Stage Stop Inn. This means they’re managing the whole of the former Stradling Building, a wide-span, steel-framed addition which embraced the original smaller storefronts, providing a large open space which previously housed the food processing operation of Viva Pura.

The Stradling Building owes its name to Anne Stradling, a horse-loving Patagonian who gathered over 10,000 objects related to horses and the life around them. To share the growing collection, Stradling created and ran the Museum of the Horse from 1975 until 1991 in Patagonia, when it was relocated to Ruidoso, NM. There, it was incorporated into The Hubbard Museum of the American West, still open to the public.

The Warehouse, as Wood and Doles are calling the big space behind the cafe, is slowly being rehabbed. It retains an unexpected indoor-outdoor feeling, with small lounge spaces to the side, a ping pong table, beanbag toss, and a serving bar. Starting last summer with a series of Thursday afternoon “Monsoon Madness” events, the Gathering Grounds has begun making The Warehouse available as an event space to supplement the original Gathering Grounds cafe. Musicians who have played there appreciate the

See Downtown/ Page 3
2019 PRT Fundraising Surpasses Goals

By Marion Vendituoli

You did it! Thanks to our generous readers who donated to the PRT during our recent fundraising campaign, we raised $27,502, $20,000 of which will be matched by NewsMatch, a national organization that supports nonprofit newsrooms. These donations ensure the future of the PRT and will be used to help us continue to bring you the local news that you depend on us to deliver.

When we first learned about the NewsMatch campaign last summer, we were excited about the potential for raising much needed funding but had no idea how much there was to learn about running a successful campaign. Fortunately, the staff at NewsMatch patiently held our hands through a series of webinars and answered our many questions.

The fundraising team of PRT Board Members Donna Lee and Kathryn Schrag and assistant editor Aisha Sander worked so hard preparing for the campaign and, once it was underway in November, sending out emails and letters to potential donors. Aisha and Cynie Murray, our bookkeeper, have tracked the donations and kept everything in order, no small task. I could not be prouder of this group and am amazed at what they have accomplished. Not only did we exceed our goal of raising $15,000, but we are now eligible for two bonuses from Newsmatch, one for gaining more than 100 new donors and one for having more donors in 2019 than we did in 2018. We now have 151 new donors and 260 total donors, a 57% increase over the last year.

Along with donations, several donors wrote us notes. From our donors to our contributors, we are so grateful for your investment in the future of the Patagonia Regional Times, because local news matters. Here’s what some of our readers had to say:

“Thank you for kicking off 2020 in the best way possible. We are excited about the coming months, our fantastic writers, collaborating with the U of A journalism students, the addition of more staff and seeing what’s next for our little corner of the world. Thank you for your investment in the future of the Patagonia Regional Times, because local news matters. Here’s what some of our readers had to say:

Santa’s Helpers, led by Martha Green and Tonya Hubbell, distributed Christmas boxes to local families in need. More than 500 cans were collected at the Elgin School and by Elgin/Sonoita Cowbelles. KAAT Mini Mart and Cleone Field donated food, Sky Island Diner donated funds collected at their Thanksgiving dinner, and toys, scarves and gloves were donated by the Sonoita Fairgrounds. Hams were purchased with funds donated by the community.

Santa’s Helpers is a long standing tradition in Sonoita, started by Margaret Carmichael and Pete Bidegain almost three decades ago. Donations can be made to this fund at the National Bank in Sonoita.
Making a Difference

The Patagonia Regional Times would like to acknowledge German Quiroga as our 2019 Community Contributor for his many years of volunteer service to the community.

German Quiroga has worked tirelessly to preserve and collect our local history through his stewardship of the Patagonia Museum.

This corner of Santa Cruz County is blessed with a disproportionate number of people who make a difference in the quality of all our lives, people who volunteer at more than twenty local nonprofits, an astounding number given our small, rural population. So, it is not easy to single out one person to honor each year. This year, however, the vote was unanimous to name German Quiroga our 2019 PRT Community Contributor.

German Quiroga has dedicated himself to the preservation of the history of Patagonia and eastern Santa Cruz County. Although best known for his work to establish the Patagonia Museum, his first efforts focused on restoring the Lochiel Schoolhouse, which was built in 1911. The one room school in the San Rafael Valley, which his mother had attended, had closed in 1971. In 1987 the school board tried to sell the building, along with the adjoining teacher's quarters, but there was no one interested in buying the property at that time, and the property fell into disarray. Since that time, Quiroga and his crew of volunteers, who meet at the school every month, have a clue that I'd become so busy.
Community Working to Save Pool

By Bob Brandt

Save Our Pool is both the rallying cry and the name of a newly-formed citizen action committee dedicated to ensuring the Patagonia Pool’s long-term availability for community use. The possibility of the pool’s permanent closure became the subject of discussion at the Nov. 2019 board meeting when Superintendent Rachael Hochheim expressed her concern that the expense of operating the pool is not a good use of the school’s limited financial resources. Fearful that the facility may no longer be available for their use, several community members who use the pool regularly attended the school board meeting to learn more about the pool’s future. Since that school board meeting, the concerned citizens have held an organizational meeting and the Town of Patagonia has held a work session devoted to the issue. The collaboration between the school board and the town government goes back to 1986 when the two school districts joined forces with the Tubac and Sonoita school board and the town government to improve our efforts to succeed at achieving a robust recycling program for Santa Cruz County.

Santa Cruz Environmental Stewards, Patagonia Library.

Thank you for Shopping With Us

Because of Your Support, We’re Here to Stay.

Buffalo Gals of Sonoita

Personalized VIP Services

Transportation, errands, appointments, housekeeping, meal services, bathing assist, med assist, incontinence care, respite care and more.

We are an Arizona Long Term Care Provider.

Our qualified and compassionate caregivers and nurses Support Your Independence! patagoniaassistedcare@gmail.com

PRT Recycling Forum Date Changed

The date and venue for the PRT Community Forum to address Patagonia’s recycling dilemma has been changed. The recycling event is now scheduled to take place at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 25 in the Reading Room of the Patagonia Library.

Recycling in Santa Cruz County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Tons/Year</th>
<th>Percent Recycled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tin/Steel</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current data on recycling in Santa Cruz County, provided by the County to the Santa Cruz Environmental Stewards.

'Ask Imelda' Coming Soon

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

By Bob Brandt

Just as the PRT is about to launch efforts to marshal citizen participation in support of reversing the current sad situation in which only a tiny percentage of recyclable waste actually gets recycled, we have learned from the Santa Cruz Environmental Stewards, a group of activists in Tubac, that Santa Cruz County officials are already weighing changes in the county’s waste processing system that may result in substantial improvements in the current poor state of local recycling.

Dr. Joel Block, a retired physician from Rio Rico, is leading a dedicated and energetic group of citizens in that community focused on the same objective we have in mind here in Patagonia: achieving a robust recycling program for Santa Cruz County.

Brad Sander and I attended the December 17 meeting of Santa Cruz Environmental Stewards in Tubac. Also in attendance was Quentin Lewton, of Sonoita, who had previously established contact with the Tubac group.

We came away with important insights into the county’s present operations, awareness of actions now being contemplated by the county to turn things around, and a better understanding of the larger universe of resource recovery in general and recycling in particular.

We learned that one of the most important, and most encouraging, steps the county is contemplating is to provide human oversight of the recycling stations in Tubac and Sonoita. This will help reduce the amount of contamination in the sorting bins to the point where the recyclable items will be declared to be acceptable by materials recovery facilities (MRFs) where the products are sorted and bundled for delivery to buyers and other end users. Patagonia’s recycling setup, totally accessible by anyone at any time, will present quite a challenge in terms of regulating what goes into the sorting bins.

Dr. Block and perhaps others from his group are interested in attending Patagonia’s meetings and attendant activities to coordinate our efforts and to improve our efforts to succeed at reaching our mutual goals.

The Patagonia forum on this topic will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 25 in the Patagonia Library’s Reading Room. Please plan on attending and offering your ideas and energy to meeting this challenge.

Santa Cruz Environmental Stewards in Tubac. Also in support of reversing the current sad situation in which only a tiny percentage of recyclable waste actually gets recycled, we have learned from the county’s present operations, awareness of actions now being contemplated by the county to turn things around, and a better understanding of the larger universe of resource recovery in general and recycling in particular.

We learned that one of the most important, and most encouraging, steps the county is contemplating is to provide human oversight of the recycling stations in Tubac and Sonoita. This will help reduce the amount of contamination in the sorting bins to the point where the recyclable items will be declared to be acceptable by materials recovery facilities (MRFs) where the products are sorted and bundled for delivery to buyers and other end users. Patagonia’s recycling setup, totally accessible by anyone at any time, will present quite a challenge in terms of regulating what goes into the sorting bins.

Dr. Block and perhaps others from his group are interested in attending Patagonia’s meetings and attendant activities to coordinate our efforts and to improve our efforts to succeed at reaching our mutual goals.

The Patagonia forum on this topic will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 25 in the Patagonia Library’s Reading Room. Please plan on attending and offering your ideas and energy to meeting this challenge.
Rio Tinto Mining Claiming Large Tracts of Land in Eastern SCC

By Robert Gay

In the last three years, Rio Tinto, an international mining company, has staked two large groups of mineral claims in the Santa Rita and Patagonia Mountains. The claim stakes typically bear the initials “KEX,” for Kennicott Exploration Company, an American subsidiary of Rio Tinto, the third largest mining company in the world.

Claims are generally rectangular, with length being limited to 1,500 feet, and width to 500 feet, making for a maximum of 20.67 acres, which is the most common size.

To understand land-claiming on public lands, it is essential to know the difference between patented and unpatented claims. As part of the expansion of the American West, and shortly after the mid-19th century period of “mineral mania,” the patenting process was established by the General Mining Act of 1872. Under that Act, a claimant could apply to the Federal Government for a patent, given a proven indication of mineral locations on the property. The resulting patent document, signed by (or for) the President of the United States, conveyed both surface and mineral rights to the owner, and had the legal effect of a full deed to the property, at a cost of $5 an acre. Counties recognize patented claims as legal parcels of land and map them accordingly.

The patenting of mineral claims was suspended in 1994, one of several adjustments to the 1872 Mining Act over its 147-year career. This has meant that for the last 25 years, all new claims have been unpatented, but can still be staked on unclaimed public land where there is no environmental preservation or other dedicated public use.

Unlike patented claims, unpatented claims grant the claimant subsurface mineral rights only, with surface management on public lands generally by the US Forest Service. This puts both mining and exploration under the regulation of the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), and other Federal, State and County regulations. The US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) sets the rules for filing and maintaining mining claims, keeps claim records and collects the filing fee and annual fees of $165 per claim, paid to maintain active status.

From 2016 to 2019, Rio Tinto’s claim-staking campaign generated 1,787 claims in the Patagonia and Santa Rita Mountains, roughly 11% of the 16,207 mining claims currently on file for Santa Cruz County lands. By the end of 2019, the company’s remaining active claims numbered 1,027, since about 40% of the total have become closed claims. There was a spike in closures in the fall of 2019. Kennicott’s reasons for the sudden closures have not been made public.

The accompanying map shows the two groups of Rio Tinto’s active unpatented claims, east and west of Patagonia and within about six miles of the town. The tinted areas are not the boundaries of claims themselves, just a location method, by quarter-section of land. Sprinkled around and within the claim groups are several patented claims, generally from legacy claims and artisan mining, and mostly closed.

A further bit of complexity on the map is that mineral claims can sometimes be placed on seemingly private land, off of National Forest land, under the 1916 Stock Raising Homestead Act (SRHA), a cattle-oriented descendant of the 1862 Homestead Act, which grants ranchers surface rights for grazing but retains mineral rights for government decision-making. As a local example of the SHRA, Rio Tinto claims occur on both sides of Salero Road going away from Sonolta Creek, the district of the claim tag in the photo.

Altogether, Rio Tinto’s active claims occur over about 20,000 acres in two mountain ranges, a realm of complex hydrology and geology, overlapping mineralization and major biological diversity. Two interesting maps, from 1878 and 1950, posted in the entrance to the Patagonia Town Hall, show the historical context of the Rio Tinto claims areas.

“Future exploration” describes Rio Tinto’s interest in both the Patagonia and the Santa Rita Mountains. In early 2018, Kennicott Exploration Company performed an aerial prospecting survey in the Patagonia area, as reported in the May 2018 PRT. Rio Tinto’s local minerals of interest have not been publicly mentioned by the company, so it is not yet clear what they might be after, in this multi-mineral region. The “big five” mined in the area in the past two centuries have been gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc.

The company has put forward no exploratory or drilling proposals to date. It may be changing its focus away from larger scale projects, according to a recent announcement by Lynn Olesson, a general manager at Rio Tinto’s Exploration Department. Olesson said, “Rio Tinto will now consider smaller resources that have the potential to grow if they have a moderate capital expenditure, are in jurisdictions with low political risk that don’t have large wealth inequality, and can be developed in a reasonable time frame.”
After rigorously fighting Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), a rare blood disease, Charlie's battle finally came to an end on November 29, 2019. He was born in Springdale, Arkansas and lived in various states as a young man including Texas, Kansas, North Carolina, California and Arizona. Within his immediate family, Charlie is survived by Ronald R. Morriss, father and Cynthia Matus Morriss; Charlotte Morriss Berliner, mother; two sisters, Rhonda Morriss Bothwell (Allen) and Samantha A. Morriss; John Wm. Montanez, brother; nieces Emily Ann Thomas (Bradan) and Alexis Montanez; nephews Johnny and Tommy Montanez. Other family members include Arnold Morriss (Becky), Perry Morriss and Tim Morriss and family, William “Memo” Y. Matus, Emma Matus Voss (Art), Aimee Naegelin Varela (Rick), James, Eiliana and Kayleigh Varela, Charlie’s angel and love of his life, Roxanne Johnson, and best friend, Dr. Edi Webb. Charlie leaves behind his long-time Patagonia stray cat, Scooter, who now resides with Samantha.

He graduated from Sabino High School in Tucson and then had a long storied radio DJ career in Tucson, Phoenix, Atlanta and Las Vegas. He was on the air in Tucson collectively for over twenty years, and his radio personality name was “Charlie Monoxide.”

Later in life, Charlie acquired his BA in Philosophy, and graduated summa cum laude from UoFA. He then received his MA in Humanities from Prescott College and went on to be a professor, molding countless young minds and teaching them to question everything, making their future possibly tolerable.

He taught English Literature and Humanities at Mesa Community College, served on the American Indian Academic Advisory Committee and several MCC English Department Committees. He taught ESL from the southwestern USA all the way to China.

The family wishes to thank all the doctors, nurses and staff at the MAYO Clinic in Scottsdale for their professional and personal care. A family Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. If you are able and want to honor Charlie’s life, please give blood when you can, or go to BeTheMatch.org. You might just save a life.

Charles Morriss worked as a DJ in Tucson for 20 years as radio personality “Charlie Monoxide.”

Blackjack * Craps * Roulette * Texas Holdem Poker
Raffles & Silent Auction
Heavy Appetizers * No-Host Bar

Everyone’s Invited, The More the Merrier! $50/person
Includes Gambling Skripts, Heavy Appetizers + 1 Bar Coupon
Tickets available from your favorite Rotarian or online at https://events.ticketprinting.com/event/Mardi-Gras-Casino-Night-35950

We promise an evening of great FUN with Friends, Neighbors, Community

Rotarians are People of Action, Making a Difference!

Sponsorship Opportunities Provide Publicity for your Supporting Business. Contact a Rotarian or Sue Archibald at 520-990-4648
DONNA MARIE REIBSLAGER
MAY 16, 1946 – DECEMBER 5, 2019

Donna Marie Stockburger Reibslager, passed away on Dec. 5, 2019. Donna attended the Rhode Island School of Design and The Chicago Art Institute. Donna was employed for 16 years as a vocational counselor and during that period she began a daily painting practice. In 1986, Donna married Ron Reibslager. Donna and Ron raised their blended family of five children and seven grandchildren. The couple moved to Patagonia in 2006 and a significant amount of Donna’s creative portfolio was created in Patagonia. Donna said that “when she began living in Patagonia, she was ‘plugged in’ and all her ‘circuits were connected’.” Donna’s work has been on display in Patagonia, and operated throughout the United States and around the world.

In 2009, Donna joined forces with Walter Andrew to found the Patagonia Regional Times. She worked for the next eight years on the paper as editor, board member and as a contributor, and was responsible for the layout and design. Her true passion was the graphics and layout work for each upcoming edition.

In June 2017 when Donna stepped down from the paper, she wrote, “I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of PRT since its beginning, and to have had a role in shaping the look and the message of this newspaper. The time I spent on layout design was an indulgence and a pleasure for me, and one that no paid position would ever have permitted.”

A community celebration of Donna’s life and a viewing of some of her artwork will be held on Wednesday, January 15 at the Gathering Grounds Warehouse; more details will be posted around town.

Artwork by Donna Reibslager

CELEBRATING DONNA

Memories collected By Patra Kelly

When Walter Andrew asked me to help Donna Reibslager by responding to the many emails sent monthly to the PRT, I also began writing articles. I liked having a reason to check in with her, enjoying our conversations over the next few years. She gave me helpful writing suggestions, sometimes adding a line or ending, then saying, “Of course, you can write your own.” A special perk of my volunteer job was the entertainment of reading the imaginative and often hilarious emails between Martin Levowitz as columnist and Donna as editor.

I have asked several of Donna’s friends to share their thoughts about Donna and have included them here.

“I have fond memories of Donna and me communicating over the wall outside my studio. She had a ladder on her side. Often we attached written messages connected by a clip and string. Always about color and painting, with lots of laughter.” Judy Hinton Andrew

“I met Donna in January of 2013. She interviewed me for the PRT during my art show at the Gathering Grounds. The thing that really intrigued me was when she accused me of just being a good draftsman. “Now it’s time you start doing some real art.” Donna was not someone to hold anything back, and to me that is a fine quality to have. After that, every time we saw each other, we both lit up... Donna and I got to know each other a lot better in the last several months of her life. She was as awesome as I thought she was, and her husband Ron is a wonderful person. My heart goes out to the family; she will be missed. Donna will always be an inspiration to me to start doing some “real” art.” Rhonda Brew

“Donna was my anchor. I now feel untethered. We did a painting together, seven sessions of 45 minutes to an hour - very special. She always critiqued my work, my paintings to help me see more development and exposed me to other painters’ books to expand my viewpoints. We also shared current events and feelings. She was one of my best friends. I will totally miss her.” Helen Chester

“Beloved Donna has left us entirely. I miss her already and already miss her more than I knew I would. Our relationship was a combative joy; playful and unyielding on both sides. The girl was as stubborn as I, both of us bullheaded, as they say. As my editor (a job she never wanted - she’d signed up to be art-director / layout person) she specialized in pointing out that what I had just delivered in seven pontifical paragraphs could easily be said in seven sentences; or even seven words. I never did understand how someone whose visual art was so whimsical and fey - absolutely untranslatable into prosaic language - could be so linear and oppressively logical, intellectually. Well, nobody’s homogenized, it seems.” Martin Levowitz

“There was an irresistible current of affinity and affection flowing from Donna, no words needed. She was gracious, kind, and funny. She leaves a big hole.” Eva Wright

“I first became aware of Donna Reibslager through the Creative Spirits Gallery in Patagonia. Her artwork impressed me as being innovative, accomplished, bold yet subtle, and insightful in a highly intelligent way. As we became friends, I learned that Donna was also a talented journalist for the Patagonia Regional Times. She had an innate curiosity and true interest in people that was open and friendly. Donna was good at drawing others out to share their knowledge, opinions, and feelings about a particular subject – the essence of good journalism. Donna was always more thoughtful of others than she was of herself. She was a devoted wife and mother, a kind and loyal friend, a dedicated editor for the PRT, and an exceptionally talented artist. I miss her now she is gone and will continue to miss her always.” Eliza Misirowski

“Donna’s physical form is no more; Donna’s energetic spirit continues and is palpable in her artistic creations as the dancing spirit that animated her wisdom. My eyes fill with tears on a regular basis now that there are no more smiles or hugs from my very dear Soul Sister Friend Donna.” Carolyn Shafer

“She was a true artist to me. I got invited to be part of the card games. Always patient with us newbies and the perfect host. She made it fun. I passed her driving, close to her passing. I hadn’t seen her in a while and I know we both had the biggest smiles on our faces. Our hearts touched.” Martha Kelly

“Since I’m not an artist and never worked on the newspaper, my friendship with Donna was based on fun. And Donna was fun, as well as kind, smart, talented, and inquisitive. Her presence made a difference in Patagonia. She was truly a good person and a special friend. I’m so glad I knew her.” Nancy McCoy

I think of Donna as a gracious woman and profound artist. She would put on her work apron and retreat to her studio. Whatever medium she was exploring, the results were skillful and reflected naturally talented artistic thought.” Saul Lieberman
By Cassina Farley

Once, years ago, I arrived late at the Tucson Rodeo Parade. All I got to see was the last few floats, a banner-be-decked buckboard and a roping horse or two, and then the final group in the parade: five yellow street-sweeping machines and small army of guys with rakes and brooms and those pivoting dustpans on sticks, whose job it was to clean up all the fragrant aftermath; to make things smell OK until next time. That clean-up crew seemed like The Central Park Five were found guilty, of course, which helped comfort New York’s white bourgeoisie. But innocent convicts can’t see it that way. They know they didn’t commit the crime; yet, young, naive, and black and scared, they copped a cokedey plea. The cops are under pressure to solve major cases fast. The mayor and the public and the scandal-hungry press will kick their ass if they do not. So, sometimes, justice isn’t served at all.

Decisions and pronouncements - official determinations of guilt or innocence, permission to build a pipeline or someone bigger than you are assure everything - to be completely unambiguous. But life is an unruly mess, a big hurly burly. Sometimes, justice isn’t served at all.

Once, years ago, I arrived late at the Tucson Rodeo Parade. All I got to see was the last few floats, a banner-be-decked buckboard and a roping horse or two, and then the final group in the parade: five yellow street-sweeping machines and small army of guys with rakes and brooms and those pivoting dustpans on sticks, whose job it was to clean up all the fragrant aftermath; to make things smell OK until next time. One of my dad’s favorite restaurants.

As an adult I make pilgrimages to the TTT often, mostly for the pancakes but also because of the waitresses. There was the red headed hostess with the bouffant hairdo who sometimes would try to speak Spanish to that Mexican that my dad always brought us our check, she said that the TTT I’ve have seen all sorts of waitresses come and go. There was the red headed hostess with the bouffant hairdo who sometimes would give us peppermint patties for free and the lady that looked like my dad always tried to speak Spanish to that clearly did not understand but smiled anyway. Of course, Zach’s and my favorite waitress, the blonde lady that worked the counter tables. All she did was giggle - not a happy giggle either but more like a “I just buried a body” giggle. Ultimately, we started avoiding her, being not too sure of her motives.

On my most recent visit to TTT, I made a real effort to notice the truckers. I could hear conversations about guns, trucks and families and, during this time of the year, the holidays. A lot has changed through the years. The waitresses seem younger than they used to be, and the old booths have cracks in the vinyl. The truckers I’ve seen all sorts of waitresses come and go. There was the red headed hostess with the bouffant hairdo who sometimes would give us peppermint patties for free and the lady that looked like a Mexican that my dad always tried to speak Spanish to that clearly did not understand but smiled anyway. Of course, Zach’s and my favorite waitress, the blonde lady that worked the counter tables. All she did was giggle - not a happy giggle either but more like a “I just buried a body” giggle. Ultimately, we started avoiding her, being not too sure of her motives.

On my most recent visit to TTT, I made a real effort to notice the truckers. I could hear conversations about guns, trucks and families and, during this time of the year, the holidays. A lot has changed through the years. The waitresses seem younger than they used to be, and the old booths have cracks in the vinyl. The

THE PONYTAIL HAIR SALON
241 S. 3rd Ave ~ Patagonia, AZ 85624
Wed. - Thurs. - Fri. - Call Anytime Sat. - By Appointment
(520) 394-2347 ~ Leave Message
Charlee Farley ~ Owner
Haircuts | Seto | Perms | Blow-outs

LOPEZ HOUSE CALLS
In-Home Chiropractic Care
We come to you!
520-357-1711
www.lopezhousecalls.com

OPINION & COMMENT • OPINION & COMMENT • OPINION & COMMENT
We humans have been given a singular capacity in all of creation with our ability to interpret our experience of life and the creator who I believe is behind it all.

My teachers explained that each human is born with a special purpose, larger than anything most of us can fathom and often obscured by our focus on getting our physical needs met. When spiritual aspirants devote themselves to a sincere intention to give and serve creation (rather than take from creation) their unique purpose will unveil itself. Illusory boundaries will dissolve. This will lead to knowing intimately their connection to everything that exists and trust in the greater design of their own life.

We cannot pick and choose what we are connected to. Once we recognize our true nature we realize that we are in everything and everything is in us. If we want to change, or change something outside of us, it is all going to happen in ways that we cannot predict, control or contrive. Instead, the changes we seek will happen by our singular unique submission to everything that is, including our own failings and of those around us.

My teacher Shaykhah Shabbona said to me at one of our last meetings that when one realizes the depth of our interconnectedness one cannot commit violence any longer. Why? She said, "Because if I cut your arm I know now it is in fact my arm that I am cutting."

We all come at life from different ways and we all have the potential to live our purpose. When I accept the nature of my inner dialogue consumed by fear based thoughts (or my limbic/old brain), and intentionally practice activating kindness, prayer, compassion and service (pre-frontal cortex/new brain) then I'm not just helping myself, I'm helping in my own unique way to bring all of life to its natural glorious splendor.

When I am rattled by the painful emotions of a wounded inner child and intense ingratitude obscures my perception, I find it helps to remember that in all ways my consciousness ripples out through the rest of creation. It is not a judgement to stop the pain or to rise above it but a recognition that my response to life doesn’t just impact me but everything else as well.

My intentions, my thoughts, my words and my actions all matter deeply in the mysterious and interconnected web of life.

By Gary Paul Nabhan
At an open house at Patagonia High this fall, Southerly’s Hermosa Mine staff and their Westlands consultants revealed a map of their preferred exit route from the Patagonia Mountains that would bypass the town of Patagonia less than two miles from the center of town. It is ironic that they presented this map at the very school that may be negatively impacted. Southerly is currently favoring a truck route that is within 2/3 of a mile from school buildings and less than a half-mile from the northeastern edges of Patagonia Public Schools property.

The property to the north of the current school along Highway 82 is the likely area for school expansion should a significant increase in the student body occur over the next quarter century. In short, the mine’s favorite trajectory for potentially hundreds of super-sized trucks or rail cars per week is perilously close to the school where the children of future mine workers might attend. In fact, trucks on the ridge across the highway from the school would conceivably be in plain sight and earshot of teachers and students most daylight hours.

There are three tangible concerns that parents and educators have raised – both for Patagonia Public and for the Little Red Schoolhouse — should the mine substantially increase truck traffic on any stretch on Highway 82 already saturated with produce trucks coming up from Mexico. These three concerns: 1) excessive noise from trucks or light rail cars; 2) additional dust and air contaminants; and 3) student safety.

Let’s look at noise levels, for anything over 30 decibels can affect children’s development, health and education. Over twenty studies have shown that heightened environmental noise near schools from trucks, planes or trains can gravely affect children’s capacities for learning and healthy development.

Even sporadic spurts of noise can worsen children’s hearing, annoyance levels, sleep, emotions, cardiac function, blood pressure, cholesterol levels, blood sugar levels, and psychological health. Many science organizations concerned about environmental health have warned about the hazards created by excessive traffic in close proximity to schools, parks, walking trails and playgrounds. These include the World Health Organization, the U.S. National Research Council, the National Park Service, and the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation.

With regard to increased exposure to dust and allergens, children in southern Arizona are particularly vulnerable to valley fever and other pathogens stirred up by bulldozing, grading and excavating near their homes or schools. Several kinds of respiratory diseases increase in school communities or neighborhoods whenever industrial or housing developments disturb large swaths of soil with a mile or so of the sites where children play.

Finally, increased truck traffic — especially near schools — is a serious safety hazard that many communities are struggling to reduce or eliminate. Truck drivers cannot always spot young children on foot or on bicycles, especially in dusty or hazy environments. Children are more vulnerable to being injured or killed by vehicles along stretches of highway where speed limits suddenly shift, near curves in the road or near vehicular congestion.

We urge all parents and teachers in Patagonia and Kino Springs to weigh in on their concerns about such health and safety risks before it is too late. Although Southerly staff affirm that noise and dust prevention studies will be done in Patagonia, there is a simpler, safer solution: Don’t increase truck traffic anywhere within two miles of any school. Children are a community’s most precious asset. No amount of ore or income can justify putting any of Patagonia’s children at further risk.

WHAT’S ALL THE NOISE ABOUT?

By Aisha Sander
When we look endlessly at our limitations and our flaws we lose track of the immense privilege to be human. We humans have been given a singular capacity in all of creation with our ability to interpret our experience of life and to choose how to express it through our actions, our words and our intentions. Often our inner dialogue is a source of suffering because it arises from the fear of death and loss, but it can become a source of inspiration and intuitive knowledge. Both these modes of consciousness exist in the lives of people. Some people live entirely from fear, some people live entirely from trust, and a majority live in a spectrum in between these two dualities in the human condition.

For the Sufis each life demonstrates the existence of an unimaginable multitude of uniqueness. I am totally and completely unique and so are you. When I dwell in the presence of this truth it leads me to experience awe and incredulity about both the design of life and the creator who I believe is behind it all.

My teachers explained that each human is born with a special purpose, larger than anything most of us can fathom and often obscured by our focus on getting our physical needs met. When spiritual aspirants devote themselves to a sincere intention to focus on getting our physical needs, I believe is behind it all.

Errors and Omissions
Catherine Whitehill’s name was misspelled in the December article about her new business in Patagonia.
In the same issue, Barksdale Capital was incorrectly identified as Barksdale International.

Our apologies for these errors.
GO EAST OLD MAN
By Michael Schwartz

So, after 20 years of living in virtual isolation in the very south of Arizona, I have moved to Bennington, VT.

Everyone I left in Patagonia said, “Why would you go there?” Give up warm sunsets, the Sonoran Desert, ideal home of the retired? Similarly, as I am learning to navigate Bennington and the surrounding area, I get virtually the same response: “Why would you come here?”

I secretly enjoy this reaction in between blowing my nose and drowning in Purell. I arrived just before Thanksgiving and moved into a house originally built about 1910, which is new for New England. If the world were a perfect place, I would have arrived in the middle of a glorious splash of fall colors. But the world always falls short of perfect, so hello cold and snow!

Why did I leave great friends, rattlesnakes, tarantulas, foot-long fire red centipedes, jack rabbits, mule deer and strange pig-like creatures called javelina, all of them spending time on my little mountain about ten miles north of the Mexican border? I was in the land of Geronimo and Cochine and a stone’s throw from Tombstone, home of the shootout at the OK Corral.

So, why? Sometimes I wonder. Rather than finding rattlesnakes and scorpions in the house, there is a horde of mice living in my kitchen. I have spotted cold, grey squirrels and the occasional cottontail. Come spring, if I survive, I am promised a glorious rebirth.

Here’s why: Seasons. I grew up in New Jersey with fond memories of oak and birch trees, my flexible flyer, hopping that school would be called off due to snow, walking in the woods, turning over rocks etc. I have sort of, come full circle.

No, I didn’t spend my Arizona years knocking around the house waiting for Jeopardy to come on the TV. I am a travel photographer, among other things. I have touched down in every continent except Antarctica. My Nikons are getting unpacked. And, this place is so photogenic!

I drive around N. Bennington the other day and marveled at the creeks, stone buildings, an old, picturesque rail station. I have seen the Old World. But I was always on the move. Now, I am enthralled with the promises of the oldest of the New World.

My hopes include finally having a large garden, trying these new-fangled snow mobiles, fishing, including this business of standing on frozen lakes over a hole. I want to swipe the snow off the grave of Robert Frost, learn about the Green Mountain Boys and enjoy the closeness of everything. I hope to see and become part of an enticing subculture. Did I say fishing? I have already paid my respects to Orvis, the mecca of fly fishing.

Another reason is proximity. In the Wild West it can take hours to go see a movie or concert. Here? Minutes. Now that I have studded tires, of course. Short drives have taken me as far as Albany, NY, into Massachusetts, and soon, to the Big Apple, where, in my day, a 12-year old could take a bus alone and explore this megalopolis.

I am no fool. You can’t go home. But why not give it a try anyway?

I find Benningtonians (is that proper?) very welcoming. Especially after I deliver the short form about my arrival and origins. Maybe it is empathy or people hoping I would leave the short conversation because surely, I should be committed to an institution before I can harm myself further. But I doubt this.

I will wander the woods again with my dog, and camera in hand. I will turn over rocks. I will skip belly whopping on the flexible flyer, mostly because I am not as flexible. Bennington still awaits. And while everyone is busy with Christmas and getting ready to greet 2020, I will dream, antique, send little bottles of maple syrup to friends back “home”, engage an army of contractors etc.

In Patagonia I had my coffee place, aptly named “The Gathering Grounds.” The search for a new “Cheers” (Remember that show where everyone knows your name?) continues, but a place called “The Loose Cannon” seems to be first choice for my kind of person. Love the name.

So, hello Bennington! Goodbye Geronimo. Life is now cold, but I am enjoying the pleasant anticipation of good people, rebirth in the spring, sultry summer days and glorious fall colors.

I will return to visit the old hometown next winter, full of even taller tales about this new, but very old part of the country.

REMEMBERING DONNA
By Ann Katzenbach

It’s uncommon for people to make good friends late in life. Nevertheless, over the more than three years I knew and worked with Donna Reibslager, we became fast friends.

When Walter Andrew signed me up to work with the Patagonia Regional Times, he warned me that I might find Donna a little difficult. “She’s opinionated and doesn’t suffer fools gladly,” says he. Of course he would say that, as the two of them loved to argue. But from the first, Donna and I got along. We shared many of the same views and opinions. We laughed a lot.

Dissecting the town of Patagonia—which was our job—was a source of shared amazement, humor and even horror over the years that we worked together.

Almost always I went to her house. I would take my dog, Lucy, and we would be greeted in the front courtyard by Donna’s small dog or, later, two dogs, and sometimes a visiting chihuahua. It always took a few minutes to settle everyone down. Donna loved dogs, the more the merrier.

Now, here is the hard part, and I won’t dwell on it, but the reason I almost always went to Donna’s house is because Donna needed to smoke and home was the most comfortable place to serve this addiction. Smoking killed her. It was the sad part of our friendship. She let me know early on that she was not going stop smoking, that she knew it would kill her, and didn’t want to discuss it. Addictions are not easy for anyone—the addict or the people who love them.

Her smoking left little patience for long, sometimes foolish, discussions. She hated to go to meetings. PRT editorial meetings and board meetings were anathema to her. She would pull everyone to move along—no dithering—“let’s get this OVER WITH!”

Those who knew Donna will remember her wonderful chuckle and impish smile. She was a brilliant artist—a painter and a designer. The design of the PRT interested her even more. She was a partner of the PRT, an essay editor and an employee for the Patagonia Area Resource Alliance (PARA) even though she was not formally employed by PARA.

She had an unquenchable curiosity about everything and everyone. She had a fierce loyalty to the Patagonia Regional Times. She remained a shareholder and an active supporter of the publication even when she was in failing health.

Donna was a little difficult. “She’s opinionated and doesn’t suffer fools gladly,” says she. I didn’t have the heart to contradict her.

Donna was not easy for anyone—the addict or the people who love them.

This is the Donna you will read about in this story. Donna died on December 31, 2019.

THERE ARE TWO SIDES TO THIS STORY
By Carolyn Shafer

South32 representatives present an update of mining company activities at the Nov. 13, 2019 Town of Patagonia Town Council meeting. During that update, South32 Hermosa President Pat Risner stated that South32 had saved the taxpayers “tens of millions of dollars” because of the installation of the active water treatment plant as part of the remediation plan to clean-up toxic environmental damage left by a former mining company owner of the 300 acre Trench Mine. Risner’s statement is not completely accurate.

According to a press release by AZ Mining Inc and as reported in a July 24, 2015, Cision PR Newswire, the consideration for the acquisition of the site was “… the assumption of the environmental liabilities relating to the site that resulted from historic mining activity. The Company has submitted a remediation work plan that addresses the environmental liabilities with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and will construct a passive water treatment system estimated to cost US $2.6 million, excluding contingency, of which the Company’s share will be US $1.6 million.”

It is only because Patagonia Area Resource Alliance (PARA) retained a toxicology and chemical remediation expert and submitted a report to AZ Dept. of Environmental Quality that the State of AZ required a upgraded plan to an active water treatment plant that cost “tens of millions of dollars.”

As a corporation, South32’s primary legal and financial duty is to its shareholders to increase its market value. Keeping the local community quiet is important, as it is detrimental to its stock value if investors perceive that there is resistance to a mine company’s plans.

PARA recognizes that the health and economic prosperity of our community are tied deeply to the well-being of the Patagonia Mountains and the Harshaw/Sonoita Creek watershed and PARA will continue to educate the community about the risks and realities of 21st century industrialized mining.

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.
Update on County Health Code and Fee Schedule

By Kat Crockett

Following a public discussion on the proposed SCC Health Code and Fee Schedule on Dec. 18, eight county residents addressed the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and requested the code and fees be postponed and/or not implemented. Three winery owners requested a delay until proposed legislation at the state level to exclude wineries was adjudicated. Notwithstanding, Supervisors Bracker and Molera voted to adopt the fee schedule without changes and to postpone the vote to adopt the Food Code until Jan.

21. Supervisor Ruiz was absent.

Todd Bostock of Dos Cabezas WineWorks questioned the board regarding their decision to adopt the fee schedule prior to implementing the regulatory Health Code (which will cover wineries), but after a private executive session with the county attorney, the board resolved to adopt the fees effective Jan. 1.

The County also announced that future BOS meetings beginning in 2020 will be held on the first and third Tuesdays, instead of Wednesdays.

Cose Buone

Now Open
Thurs · Fri · Sat

Weekly Reservations
In Advance by Tues a.m.

Gene Griego
Chef/Owner
436 Naugle Ave.
Patagonia, AZ
85624
520-394-0010

Predator Talk at Cady Hall

Cholla Nicoll, a local wildlife conservationist, in conjunction with Karina Hillard from the Patagonia Marshal’s office, will be presenting “Living with Predators in the Wild/Urban Interface” with speaker Rosemary Schiano. This presentation is in response to the killing of a mountain lion this past May who had become habituated to humans in Patagonia.

Rosemary Schiano has more than 30 years of experience working with large predators and educating the public, along with government agencies, on effective strategies to create cohabitation. The presentation will focus on what the community can do to prevent predators from becoming habituated to humans.

Topics to be covered along with ecology will include private property management, legislation and law enforcement’s role.

This event is being sponsored by The Patagonia Marshal’s Office and co-sponsored by Friends of Sonoita Creek. Please join us at Cady Hall January 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.
Town to Update General Plan

By Lynn Davison

The Town of Patagonia adopted its General Plan in 2009. This past April, the Town Council re-adopted the plan for 10 years and asked the Planning and Development Committee to review and propose amendments to update it.

The plan’s primary purpose is to provide a tool for the community to guide decision-making and to coordinate development, maintenance and preservation efforts. It serves as a guide for development in and around Patagonia. More specific Council actions in the areas of land use, circulation (transportation), and energy and water resources should be consistent with the guidance of the General Plan. As stated in the document:

The Plan is:
• An expression of the spirit and vision of the community.
• A framework for future decision making.
• A means of preserving and enhancing quality of life.
• A statement of Town policy.
• A legal requirement under Arizona State Law.

The Plan is not:
• A tool to promote special interests.
• A rigid, unchanging or inflexible document.
• A detailed policy or ordinance for specific properties or areas.
• A zoning map.

The Planning and Development Committee (PD), chaired by Todd Norton and consisting of Councilmember Melissa Murrietta, David Budd, Jerry Isaak, Ike Isakson, Susan Lange, Georgette Larrouy and Brad Sander, has been reviewing the plan, section by section, at their monthly public meetings. Chairman Norton hopes they will complete their initial review and discussion in February. The next step is a work-session, including the full Council and the PD members, likely to be scheduled in March. That should be followed by the Council formal discussion and adoption of amendments in April.

Norton stated that they do not expect to recommend major changes to the plan but will likely suggest a few amendments to make it more relevant to 2020. Areas that have received the most discussion so far have been implementing use permits, making the plan more business-friendly and clarifying further what is meant by ‘town character.’ Norton believes the greatest asset of the Town of Patagonia is its people. He hopes the Plan will serve to help unite town residents and “help us all get along.”

Town Manager Ron Robinson echoed many of Norton’s comments. He believes the current plan is a good framework and tweaking a few areas will make it better. For example, he suggests the Plan should not single out mining, but rather use a broader term like major industrial development. Robinson hopes the Council will consider the importance of generating sufficient revenue for basic town services when making amendments to the plan. He expects the Council to adopt amendments in April.

The Town encourages community members to get involved - public participation in the amendment process is essential. Here is how you can learn more and have an impact on final decisions:
• Read the existing plan. There are two copies at the Library, plus a thumb drive you can borrow to download it on your computer.
• Review minutes from past Planning and Development Committee meetings. You can get them from Town Clerk, Isabel Van Nest, at the Town offices.
• Attend Planning and Development meetings. They are scheduled on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Council Chamber. There is a public comment opportunity at the beginning of each meeting.
• Talk to individual committee members or make written comments to the committee.
• Attend the Planning and Development Committee and Council joint work session to be scheduled in March. There will be a public comment opportunity. You can also send written comments to Council members before or after the session.
• Attend the Town Council Meeting in April when plan amendments will be discussed. There will be an opportunity for public comments.
• Follow Council actions as they take up new land use, circulation (transportation), and energy and water resources proposals to assure decisions are consistent with the adopted Patagonia Town Plan.

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.

Water matters more.

Patagonia Area Resource Alliance
www.PatagoniaAlliance.org

July 2019 Aerial Photo of Hermosa Project Site
New Code Will Impact Farmers Markets

By Kat Crockett

Research indicates that the popularity of local farmer’s markets is growing, supported by the demand for organic foods and focus on sustainability. They support healthy communities and reconnect people to their food system. Fresh sustainable produce means better health and lower obesity rates. Families in need can use food stamps at the market, placing cash back into local taxpayor pockets. The markets also foster healthy social connections by bringing people of diverse backgrounds together within the community. So, how will the proposed county health code impact farmer’s markets? Supervisor Bruce Bracker stated, “The state got a lot stricter with farmer’s markets – it’s just not appropriate for rural Arizona. They are writing code for Maricopa County, but there is a difference between a major metropolitan area and a rural area where everybody knows the vendors. This is neighbors selling to neighbors, so hopefully, the state will address this issue, but we cannot be more lenient than the state code.”

Jeff Terrell, SCC Environ mental Health Department Director, acknowledged that there is no specific reference in the state or federal code regarding farmer’s markets. These markets have evolved over time from the original produce stands by the side of the road into larger events where vendors sell baked goods, local grass fed meats, prepared foods, natural personal care products, and arts and crafts. Some of these food products trigger compliance with food safety practices under federal, state, and county governments. Nonfood items, along with fresh, unwashed, uncut produce are not subject to any county fees, certification, training or permits.

Arizona’s Cottage Food Program allows individuals to make homemade products that are neither potentially hazardous nor 'Time or Temperature Control for Safety’ (TCS) Foods and offer them for commercial sale, including at farmer’s markets. Examples include fruit jams and jellies, dry mixes, roasted nuts, honey, cookies, breads, cakes, pies, brownies, fudge, roasted coffee beans, candy, muffins and more. The state does require program registration, food handler training, and labels. According to Terrell, “The county does not impose any event fees for farmer’s market Cottage Food vendors; however, they must comply with the state requirements. Vendors who elect to provide samples to customers must obtain a sampling fee ranging from $15 for one day up to $150 annually.”

Vendors who sell TCS foods are subject to the FDA, state, and county code and will be required to pay a fee and obtain food handlers certification, according to Terrell. “We are evaluating our fee schedule and coordinating practices with surrounding counties, but currently these vendors must pay for a temporary event permit ranging from $40 to $75, or a four-month seasonal fee of $120. According to Terrell, “We may explore a more long-term option as well.” Non-TCS and non-Cottage Program food vendors are also subject to fees as mentioned above; however, they can choose to pay an annual fee of $350 in lieu of a shorter duration.

Mobile food establishments such as ice cream, hot dog, frozen meats, or service trucks are subject to requirements and fees that are separate from farmer’s market vendors although they may participate at a farmers market provided that they are licensed in SCC.

Under the proposed code, structural requirements for farmer’s market food vendors include, at minimum, overhead protection which could be an umbrella, a pop-up or permanent cover. Floors must be concrete, asphalt, wood or other cleanable material or dirt/ gravel when covered with a platform or heavy tarp. Vendors must have the capacity to erect walls when necessary to protect food from blowing dust, insects and other contaminants.

A three-bin ware-wash setup is required for cooking utensils and equipment unless sufficient quantities of food preparation and service items are available to prevent re-use if contaminated. Potable water must be available for hand washing, cleaning and sanitizing equipment.

According to Terrell, the specific structural requirements will depend on a number of factors to include the site conditions, weather, menu items, cooking and serving processes and the county will assist applicants to determine individual requirements.

Overall, the proposed SCC health code requirements for farmer’s markets is similar to both Pima and Cochise Counties. The fees for Pima and SCC are similar; however, fees are lower in Cochise County which are set at $50 for a onetime event and $100 for an annual permit.

Barksdale Stakes More Claims Near Patagonia

By Aisha Sander

Barksdale Capital, the company who has proposed drilling in the Patagonia Mountains in the Flux Road, abutting claims in the Hermosa Project.

Called the San Antonio Project, these claims cover approximately 6300 acres and are 100% owned by Barksdale Capital. In a Nov. press release the company announced its plans to pursue exploration of San Antonio Project. Rick Trotman, the CEO of Barksdale Capital, said that this area, which is covered with gravel, has never been drilled before. Geological surveys indicate that there may be an anomaly in this area and therefore could contain high grade minerals similar to South32’s Hermosa project and at the Sunnyside site.

Barksdale is in initial conversation with the Forest Service on what permitting to pursue to explore the San Antonio claims further. They will have a roadmap for their exploratory drilling early in 2020.

Barksdale has also purchased the option to acquire 100% interest in a 760-acre parcel of unpatented claims, surrounded by South32’s unpatented claims, called the Four Metals project. According to their website, “Two targets exist at Four Metals including the Red Hills deposit, which is a copper-molybdenum-silver-gold bearing breccia pipe as well as a deeper conceptual porphyry copper target.”

However, Trotman said for the time being they are not pursuing exploratory drilling in this area and are focused on the San Antonio and Sunnyside projects.

In the meantime, the Forest Service is preparing a summary of the public comments for the Sunnyside Exploratory Drilling project.

LITTER IS PREVENTABLE!

Scholarships Available Now!

With one application students are matched with up to 100 scholarships, including opportunities for Patagonia Union High School students and alumni.

ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Apply online today! azfoundation.org/scholarships
PARA Names New Outreach, Communications Coordinator

Patagonia Area Resource Alliance is pleased to welcome Anna Schlaht as our new Communications and Outreach Coordinator.

Schlaht will be working to build awareness of PARA’s mission, to attract and expand PARA’s rich community of supporters and volunteers and to help mobilize support for PARA’s key priorities, initiatives, events and campaigns. Her skills in social media and writing will enable her to coordinate outreach, both within our own community and with our alliance partners to increase engagement in PARA’s environmental advocacy work.

Schlaht has a BA in Technical Communications and Professional Writing and is just completing her MA in Science Writing through Johns Hopkins University.

PARA’s mission is to educate and engage the community about the risks and realities of mining, to better understand our precious and imperiled natural resources, such as clean water and wildlife, and to actively advocate for the protection of those resources in our own Patagonia Mountains. We trust that Anna’s enthusiasm and skills will assist in that mission.

BOOK REVIEW: "Cowboy is a Verb: Notes From a Modern Day Rancher" by Richard Collins

By Alison Bunting

As a relative newcomer to Sonoita I welcome any opportunity to learn about the area’s history and culture. Filled with stories and personal experiences about the challenges of establishing and operating a cattle ranch, and dealing with environmentalists, government agencies, and cranky neighbors, Richard Collins’ "Cowboy is a Verb" is a must read. Collins and his wife, Diane, moved to Sonoita in the early 1990s to establish the C6 cattle ranch, located in the Canelo Hills.

It was an especially challenging time to embark on a ranching venture as the Endangered Species Act and environmental organizations and activists threatened to put a stop to cattle grazing on public lands, and the C6 relies on several Coronado National Forest grazing allotments for economic viability.

Collins’s descriptions of the Patagonia and Sonoita communities, the role of the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, and long-term residents capture the flavor and personality of the area. He aptly portrays the beauty and challenges of the area’s landscape and climate: “The weeks of anticipation through day-after-day of total dryness makes the coming of the monsoon thrilling. Its arrival feels like a reprieve from capital punishment.” He shares his love for his horses, cows, and the wildlife, vegetation, and land throughout the book.

His review of the work of the Canelo Hills Coalition provides an excellent overview of how the enlightened ranchers in this area chose to collaborate with the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to apply scientific range management processes to insure the health of the watershed. As Collins notes: “The rancher’s guiding principal should be to maintain the land’s innate capability for self-renewal.” "Cowboy is a Verb" is available through the University of Nevada Press or at Amazon.com/books.

SUSTAINABILITY

Our purpose is to make a difference by developing natural resources, improving people’s lives now and for generations to come. Learn more at: south32.net/sustainability

COMMUNITY

We work hard to understand and manage the ways our project affects local and surrounding communities. We also strive to lift charitable work in the region. We’re listening at: hermosacommunity@south32.net

JOBS

Our people are fundamental to our success, and we are happy to invest in their growth. Creating an inclusive workplace and drawing from the local workforce matter to us. Find jobs at: careers.south32.net
Mysterious Madrean Mistletoes

If ever there was a plant that embodies humanity's emotional duality, then it surely must be a mistletoe. Here are species that we warily revile as unwanted parasites, yet see fit to kiss under during the holidays. This love-hate relationship has its roots in both reality and myth, reflecting both plant evolution and human bias.

What, then, is the truth about mistletoes? Why should we care about these plants?

Mistletoes belong to the family Santalaceae with the prominent genus, Phoradendron, which itself is derived from the Greek words phor (a thief) and dendra (tree). In other words, plants that steal from trees! Since humans have often loved and even worshiped trees and in general despise parasites, it takes simple logic to conclude that we don't want parasitic mistletoes growing in and harming our trees. Even this assumption, however, does not stand up to basic biological scrutiny.

For example, most mistletoes are not even complete parasites. They are green because of their need to photosynthesize, converting sunlight and carbon dioxide into energy for themselves, and hence are considered hemiparasites - partial parasites. Does this mean that we should, then, halfloat them? Indeed not, as further scientific delving will reveal.

A typical mistletoe starts its life as a seed stuck to the branch of a tree, where, if conditions are ideal, it will send root-like structures into the cambium layer or inner bark of the host plant. Even a tiny mistletoe is green, but in general the family has evolved the need to pirate key nutrients and water from its host. Our local species rarely "infect" their host tree to the point of killing it. After all, how can the mistletoes themselves survive if their host perishes?

Now on to well-meaning, if misguided, humans who see fit to knock down mistletoe clumps from trees. Beyond the unlikely demise of the host tree, mistletoe is a key resource for birds in particular. Locally we have several species of native mistletoe, all of which provide key sustenance to a broad spectrum of birds.

Desert or mesquite mistletoe grows almost exclusively in legumes, where it lacks true leaves. Few, if any other ephemeral is in local legumes and the sadistic-looking green wig that desert mistletoe does, sparking my nickname for it - "Medusa's hair."

Broadleaf mistletoe grows in a wide range of trees, including cottonwoods and hackberry, while juniper mistletoe and oak mistletoe make use of their namesake hosts. Studies on Juniper mistletoe indicate that, yes, it stresses its host plants, yet birds that dine on mistletoe fruit also feed upon and help disperse juniper fruit. Yin and yang.

All of these mistletoe species furnish food for phainopepla and beyond. Northern mockingbirds, bluebirds of all three North American species, American robins, Townsend's solitaires, among others, avidly consume the fruit.

Here is where the plant's life cycle begins, for our local mistletoe fruit is so sticky that it may get temporarily glued to the beak of a foraging bird. In an effort to clean itself, the bird then wipes its bill on a branch, hence planting the seed. Bird defecation is another frequent planting route.

Birds often nest in the cool recesses of mistletoe clumps, further adding to their wildlife value. Spectacular great purple hairstreak butterflies employ mistletoes as their larval food source. All this to come to the love part of the human-mistletoe equation. Why do some of us kiss under these misunderstood plants during the holidays? Apparently the tradition dates back to a fertility rite performed during the ancient Greek festival of Saturnalia. Romans and their enemies would kiss under mistletoe to reconcile differences and thus garner peace. Ancient Celts viewed white mistletoe fruit as the sperm of Taransis, the god of thunder, hearkening again to fertility.

Think of these ancient rites when you reconcile your own relationship with our much-maligned mistletoes.

Vincent Pinto and his wife, Claudia, run RAVENS-WAY WILD JOURNEYS, their Nature Adventure & Conservation organization devoted to protecting the unique biodiversity of the Skys Islands region. Visit: www.ravensnatureschool.org
2019 Christmas Bird Count

By Patsy Vandenberge

The first Patagonia Christmas Bird Count was held on December 26, 1962. There were five participants. This year on December 19, 42 birders from Patagonia, Sonora, Hereford, Rio Rico, Tucson, Alaska and Ohio met up to count the area’s birds. The day started for many at the Gathering Ground, which kindly opens early for those who want coffee and breakfast before they head out. The day ends in the back room of the Wagon Wheel Saloon for dinner and sharing what birds were seen. We are grateful for the support of these two local businesses.

Although the day started off cold, the sun soon warmed the temperatures. Volunteers enjoyed a beautiful Arizona day collecting data that will be used to access the health of bird populations and help guide conservation action.

The number of individual birds seen has been down the last few years. A few of the Bird Count areas reported noise from mining activity and a favorite birding spot, Bog Hole, has had access cut off by the Vaca Ranch. Overall, area private land owners and town businesses welcome the annual bird counters and support the project.

Kathy Hughes observes a wild turkey that thinks it belongs at Cross Creek Cottages instead of with a flock in the wild.
Glimpses Into Our Past
By Alison Bunting
Sixteen public schools existed in Eastern Santa Cruz County by 1920. Most, if not all, were one-room schoolhouses. One group of schools was established in the late 1880s and 1890s; a second group was established in the early 1900s. The impetus for the establishment of the first group was most likely the passage of a compulsory school attendance law by the Territorial legislature (1875, 1885, and 1889), and the establishment of a Territorial loan and building fund in 1889. When Arizona was granted statehood in 1912 the State Constitution provided for the “maintenance of a public school system to be open to all, free from sectarian control, and always conducted in English.” The federal government granted land and $1 million for the payment of school bonds, thus enabling the construction of schools. [Weeks, Stephen, The History of Public School Education in Arizona, 1918:88].

Newspapers of the time reported the comings and goings of teachers for the local schools. Most were single women, though often a preference for male teachers was openly expressed. In a few cases married women were hired, contrary to existing state-wide policy that precluded their employment. Local school districts could waive the policy for difficult to fill positions. Jane Pilcher McFarland, who taught in the Patagonia, Harshaw and Nogales schools was one example.

Born in Canada in 1863, Miss Pilcher emigrated to the United States in the early 1880s. She taught school in Portland, Oregon and then moved to Montana to teach in Billings and Butte between 1893 and 1901. She returned briefly to Portland in 1901, but by 1902 “she is now living in Mexico, where she is conducting a large boarding house in a mining camp remote from a railway. She writes to friends that she is prospering and making a great deal more money than she did when she was teaching the young ideas.” [Billings Gazette, 5/19/1902].

Edwin H. McFarland, a mining engineer born in Missouri in 1869, in that mining camp in Cananea, Mexico. Ed was married and in the process of divorcing his wife who resided in Bisbee. In October 1903, his divorce was granted on “the grounds of desertion and refusal to live with plaintiff any longer.” [Bisbee Daily Review, 10/2/1903]. Jane and Edwin’s marriage license issued in February 1904 lists their residence as Cananea. They lived in the Bisbee area between 1905 and 1909 where Ed managed several mining operations. About this time, they took custody of Ed’s niece and nephew, Lillian and Edwin, whose father Egbert was killed in a knifing at a Bisbee mine in 1903.

In 1910 the family was living in the Garces National Forest [now part of Coronado National Forest] where Ed worked as a copper miner. Not long after, they established a residence on a 40-acre homestead near Harshaw.

In 1914 Jane became the first president of the Patagonia Woman’s Club: “The women of Patagonia met...Tuesday afternoon to organize a woman’s club. A very good percentage of all the women in the district were present, and a temporary organization was effected by electing the following officers; President, Mrs. Jane E. McFarland; vice-president, Mrs. Geo. H. Francis; secretary, Mr. T. Pattison; treasurer, Mrs. O. F. Ashburn.” [The Border Vidette, 4/25/1914].

That same year she became the Democratic candidate for the Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools position; she lost to Mrs. Josephine Saxon of Nogales. [Border Vidette, 8/8/1914 & 9/5/1914].

In 1915 Jane and Miss Hazel Miller, both Nogales teachers, published “a simplified, illuminated text-book, the especial purpose of which is to teach the English language to Mexican children by means of illustrations and the constant employment of simple words puzzling to the beginner in the tongue.” [Border Vidette, 4/17/1915]. The authors noted that teaching Mexican children from the approved “Wide Awake Primer” was not effective.

During this time period Ed worked at the Sweet Bye & Bye Mine in the Rosenheim mining area. [Santa Cruz Patagonian, 7/16/1915]. In 1919 Ed is reported to be running mining operations in New Mexico. [Border Vidette, 5/24/1919]. By 1930 Ed is ranching their land in Harshaw.

Jane died in 1933 and Ed died in 1934; both are buried in the Patagonia Cemetery.

Family Tradition Continues at Elgin Club
By Pat McNamara
When Brett Smith, 23, was elected president of the Elgin Community Club (ECC) last June, she became the fifth generation and seventh member of her family to hold this leadership role. The most recent family member serving as ECC president had been Brett’s mother, Rebecca, who presided in 2010.

Smith’s great-great-grandfather Markas Bartlett arrived in Elgin from Ohio in 1908, seeking the sunny, dry climate for his health. Homesteading 160 acres on Mustang Ranch Road, he sent for his wife, Nellie and daughters, Fern and Choepeta. Around 1915, the Bartletts established a guest ranch.

Fern and Choepeta both met their future husbands in the 1920s at the train station in Elgin. The Collie brothers of Tucson married the Bartlett sisters of Elgin, with Stone Collie choosing Fern, Brett’s great-grandmother, as his wife.

Fern was a schoolteacher and a music teacher and Stone was a jack of all trades. He was known as ‘Captain Stone’ even though he mustered out of the cavalry as a private. Collie managed the guest ranch started by the Bartletts, the ranch catering to wealthy clients from back east when tuberculosis was prevalent.

Many of their guests became regular customers over the years, arriving on the train for the summer from May through September for horseback riding, swimming in the pool that was later built and basking in the clean, dry air. As the business grew, the Bartletts and Collies added more acreage to the ranch, finally owning a total of 1600 acres.

Each spring the horses were brought up from their winter ranch in Tucson, owned by the Collies, for the guests. They were herded and led up to Elgin with the help of family members. Rebecca Smith stated that her mother, Marka “was only eight years old and helped bring the horses many miles from the Tucson ranch” at that time.

Nellie Bartlett was a founding member of the Elgin Club, a women’s-only club at that time, as an organization for the ranch women, as the men already had their all male organizations. She took over the president’s gavel in 1934 the day after her 78th birthday. At an earlier meeting, in September 1931, the founding women asked to have a concession at the Fair in Sonoita in that time.

The Fern Collie family established a concession at the Fair in Sonoita in 1931; a club with equal rights for both. At the earlier meeting, in September 1931, the founding women asked to have a concession at the Fair in Sonoita in order to add to their building fund. The booth was set up and the concession continues to this day, 88 years later. The proceeds from the 1931 booth came to $192.

Over the years, after the ECC building was completed, the Club held dances for the Civilian Conservation Corps, purchased markers and surveyed the Black Oak Cemetery, held pie suppers to provide books for the local schools, held dances with proceeds going through the years to the War Fund, the Red Cross, the American Cancer Society, the Arizona Children’s Home, and the Orphan’s Home.

The ladies also sewed for Bundles for Britain and assisted in funding the Federal Relief Teachers at the Patagonia High School. The executive committee even approved donating fifty dollars so a member could have an operation.

In 1947 the ladies decided to meet with the local Men’s Club to entertain the idea of a joint community club with equal rights for both. At the next women’s club meeting, after a proposed by-law change to the constitution had been posted for 30 days, there was a “much heated discussion and the amendment was defeated to permit men, but it was agreed that a co-use of the club facilities would be permitted.” The whole matter was tabled indefinitely. The minutes are unavailable for the ensuing period of the ECC history, but the club is now fully integrated with both sexes serving in all capacities.

The Fern Collie family established a scholarship fund that is still in existence today for two Patagonia High School seniors and the ECC still donates to various needs throughout the community.
20 Years of Fellowship and Sharing

By Alison Bunting

January 2020 marks the 20th anniversary of the Crossroads Quilters. The group began when Pat Basinger, Bonnie Chambers, and Dorothy Dannis made a quilt to raise funds for the Sonora Elgin Emergency Services (SEE-Si). Soon others in the Elgin, Sonora, Patagonia area gathered to learn quilting, share techniques, and socialize.

From its inception there was a focus on giving back to the community. Countless “charity” quilts have been made for local nursing homes, VA Hospital patients, Casa de los Niños in Tucson, and the Madre Conchita Orphanage in Nogales, Sonora.

In 2002 the group collaborated with the Tin Shed Theater in Patagonia to present a production of the play “Quilters” by Molly Newman and antique quilts. The group plays a key role in the Santa Cruz County Fair by organizing and managing the quilt room at the Fair.

New members are always welcome! The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at the Sonora Elgin Fire Station. For more information email alsbunting@gmail.com.

Check It Out At The Library

By Laura Wenzel

Mark your calendars for the Friends of the Library Trivia Night Fundraiser on February 8 at 7 p.m. in Cady Hall. This year’s theme celebrates 40 years of Trivial Pursuit. Bar snacks will be provided with the $25 per person ticket price and drinks will be available by donation. Per usual, mulligans can be purchased if you need extra points.

Yours truly will emcee, along with Kayla Lewis-Simpson, so it’s practically a guaranteed raucous-fun time. Start putting together your teams of six and we’ll see you in February!

Join us also for the next Arizona Humanities “AZ Speaks” Road Scholar presentation about working with groups in conflict on January 16 at 6:30 p.m.

igantina

'Christmas Across the Border' Gift Bag Project

By Sarah Klingenstein

On an early December morning a group of local women, known informally as the Coffee Ladies, gathered at Cady Hall to create a little Christmas for kids and adults awaiting asylum hearings in Nogales, Sonora. Members hauled in and displayed stacks of stuffed animals, coloring books, crayons and markers, picture books in Spanish, diaper wipes, socks, underwear, bubbles and stickers. By the time the job was done, they had filled 140 backpacks and colorful handmade drawstring bags.

It started one morning with discussion over pumpkin pancakes and coffee at the Wagon Wheel. The group wanted to help children across the Mexican border in Nogales, where up to 1,500 families seeking asylum wait several months in limbo for their hearings. The children miss their school days and hunger for learning and activity. And so “Christmas Across the Border” was launched.

First, the group lit on the idea of filling shoeboxes with gifts. Ann Danowitz, a volunteer for Voices from the Border, connected the group with “Voices From the Border” President Kathi Noaker. Noaker provided them with a list of suggested gifts. She pointed out that shoeboxes were not practical for the daily movements of the families to and from charity shelters, and the dining room operated by Kino Border Initiative. Bags and backpacks would be more durable and portable, and would give a child something to call his or her own.

Soon women were fanning out across the county in search of gifts. Emails flew back and forth reporting great finds and suggesting what else was still needed. The Women’s Alchemy Guild and other friends and neighbors donated gifts. The recipient list was expanded to include adults as well. Phyllis Klosterman hosted a sewing bee where the group completed over 70 cloth bags. Mary Spicer found dozens of bright backpacks to fill.

On the morning the group was to gather, Abbie Zeltzer organized the tables at Cady Hall. “Once it was time to put it all together,” Spicer said, “everyone got to work, selecting a bag that inspired them and an age group to fill the bag with gifts that were fun, thoughtful, and needed. A lot of generosity and a bit of organizing led to an amazing feeling of extending kindness to people in need.”

Voices from the Border will distribute the gift bags over the next several weeks as they travel around Nogales, Sonora providing medical care and humanitarian aid. Meanwhile, the ladies will be conjuring up visions of joyful surprise on the faces of children and their parents across the border.
Patagonia Middle School Girls Softball Champions

[Contributed Photo]

School on Dec. 11 with a score of 13-7. “The girls started out a little rough but pulled through. Super proud of the hard work!” said Coach Danitza Valenzuela.

Cooper, Vivi Pelayo, Ari Pelayo, Serenity Dodson. Front: Akaya Pacheco, Brianna Majalca, Alexis De La Ossa, Heaven Shadrick. Middle row: Natalie (From left) back row: Alexis Fimbres, Jayme Dodson, Janelle Valenzuela.

Sonoita Program Hands Out 4900 lbs. of Produce

By Gardenia Moffet

Sonoita Produce on Wheels Without Waste (P.O.W.W.O.W.), a Borderlands program, distributed fresh produce to more than 70 families at their launch market, Dec. 21. With more than 14 Community volunteers and several local churches and businesses participating, their first market was largely a success. Individuals received, grey squash, red peppers, yellow squash, watermelon, cucumbers and grapefruit. The produce distributed is seasonal. If you missed the first local

P.O.W.W.O.W., market, you’ll have a chance to volunteer and/or receive fresh produce the third Saturday of each month. January 18 is the next market date.

How it Works: When you arrive at the market site, get in line to register, (unless you are already registered), contribute your $12 cash and get in line to shop. Being a market site for Produce on Wheels is a labor of love. All contributions go back to Borderlands Produce Rescue for operational expenses. Borderlands Produce Rescue is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that rescues produce and distributes to communities all over Arizona and Mexico with the help of more than 300 non-profit agencies in 24 states. More than 30 million pounds of fresh produce are rescued each year. For more information visit: www.borderlandsproducerescue.org

For more information about the Sonoita market, please follow @SonoitaAZCommunityMarkets on Facebook & Instagram. Here you will find volunteer info, market times/dates, the variety of produce offered for the upcoming Saturday market and recipes to help you use all that produce.

To volunteer with Sonoita Produce on Wheels, please call/text Gardenia: 602.292.1616

Senior Center News

By Valerie Hing

The Patagonia senior center has a new cook. Roxann Valenzuela “provides us with nutritious, recipe-inspired main dishes five days a week,” said spokesman Chuck Kelly. “Our salad bar offers nine different ingredients each day and is kept well supplied,” he said, adding they are often organic as well.

In 2019, the congregate meals program served 8100 meals with a total registration count of 175 people, said Kelly. “We earnestly believe that our congregate meal program, with its nutritious hot meals and well supplied salad bar, is second to none in the entire county.”

In other news, the Annual Meeting of Senior Citizens of Patagonia, Inc. is set for 2 p.m. Monday, January 13 at the senior center.

In 2019, the transportation program tallied 36,000 miles, taking 500 clients to medical appointments and shopping. Drivers contributed 1700 volunteer hours.

The center received grants in 2019 which allowed for the purchase of a commercial refrigerator and freezer, a new office computer, electric generator, new evaporative cooler, emergency food supplies and new overhead lighting. The chef program was financed and the dental program was implemented to help pay for local seniors’ dental needs.

Grant Application Workshop

Nonprofits serving eastern Santa Cruz County are invited to attend the annual Patagonia regional grant cycle workshop, Tuesday, January 7, 2020 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at Patagonia Town Hall; 310 McKeown Avenue, Patagonia. RSVP online at Patagonia-Grants2020.eventbrite.com.

The grant workshop will equip local organizations with helpful knowledge in preparing for the annual competitive grant cycle.

The Patagonia Regional Community Fund grant application will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. on January 6, 2020 with final applications due no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 27, 2020. A selection committee composed of local volunteers will evaluate proposed projects based on their ability to address the needs of the community. Grants of up to $5,000 will be awarded to support projects serving the residents of Patagonia, Sonoita, Elgin, and Caney. The Patagonia Regional Community Fund is a component fund of the Arizona Community Foundation. To learn more about the Patagonia Regional Community Fund, visit www.azfoundation.org/Patagonia, or contact Regional Philanthropic Coordinator Colin Shannon at 520.5050.3678 or CShannon@azfoundation.org.

Circle Z Ranch
Patagonia, Arizona

Arizona’s Original Guest Ranch
Right here in Patagonia!

Arizona’s Sky Islands provides a vacation backdrop that’s thousands of acres wide. Lope our horses through the desert lowlands, explore unspiled beauty, dine fine. This is an all-inclusive getaway. One you will always treasure.

www.circlez.com info@circlez.com 1-888-854-2525
Mesquite Grove Gallery has a new face at 375 McKeown Ave.
now A Working Artists Studio with Hand Weaving, Painting, Jewelry & Soft Sculpture

By Artist Owner Regina Medley

Also Featuring Area Artists for over 30 Years

www.reginamedley.com

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

CASA of Santa Cruz County
2160 N. Congress Dr., Nogales, AZ
(520) 375-8159 or mfish@courts.az.gov

www.reginamedley.com

Photos by Aisha Sander, Sally Reichardt, Amanda Bartine and Marion Vendituoli
January 1: 5 p.m. Friends of the Opera House - First Night Concert Christine Vivona, harp and Sandy Schwoebel, flute

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

February 2: 3 p.m. Newpoly Ensemble Mediterranean $30 Prepay /$35 at the door

Visit www.scfpapresents.org
**MEETINGS**

**AA - Patagonia Methodist Church**
Fridays at 7:30 pm, Sonoita Bible Church Tuesdays 7:30 pm. For more AA meetings call 520-624-4183.

**Overeaters Anonymous - Thurs.**
At 6:30 p.m. Fragrance-free meeting, Patagonia United Methodist Church. (520) 404-3490.

**Al Anon (for family and friends of alcoholics) - Patagonia Community Methodist Church, Wed @ 7 p.m.**

**NEW Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA) - Methodist Church, Tues @6:30 p.m.**

**CHOP (Community Homes of Patagonia, Inc.) - Board meeting 3rd. Mon. at 5:30 p.m in the Patagonia Town Council Room Chambers.**

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

**Rotary Club - 2nd & 4th Thurs.,**
5:30 p.m. at the Steak Out. Info: Sue (520) 990-4648.

**Senior Citizens of Patagonia’s Board of Directors - 2nd Mon, 3 p.m.**
At the Senior Center.

**The So Az Republican Club meeting,**
7 p.m. every third Thursday of the month, Sonoita Fire House Board room.

**The Santa Cruz County Democratic Party Meeting**
every 3rd Saturday of the month 9:30 a.m. at the Bowman Senior Residences located at 189 N Grand Ave, Nogales.

**Community Youth Bible Hang Out (ages 12-18) at the Sonoita Bible Church - 2nd and 4th Wed.**
May Anderson, andeap@msn.com, 520-508-2502 or Steve Lindsey 520-559-0155.

**SPECIAL INTERESTS**

**Patagonia Museum - Oct: 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: Tami, 455-5561.

**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 & 4th Mon, 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 4-6 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@ sonoitatapagonialocal.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**
394-2973
Sunday Mass: 8 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**
San Rafael Rd., Elgin 455-5172
Sunday Service: 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
**HELP WANTED**

**ARE YOU A COMPASSIONATE AND QUALIFIED CAREGIVER AND LOOKING FOR WORK?**
Please contact Patagonia Assisted Care Agency 520-604-8179 or fill out an application online at www.carepatagonia.com

**BORDERLANDS RESTORATION IS SEEKING A VOLUNTEER**
To help plant sale events and opportunities. Email horticulture@borderlandsrestoration.org if interested

**LIVE-ONSITE HORSE CARETAKERS WANTED**
Experienced only, No smoking/drugs/alcohol. 520-455-9246

**ARE THERE WRITERS AND RESEARCHERS OUT THERE?**
If you’re good at research and journalistic writing, talk to us. Paid by the hour, interesting work. David. 520.303.1475

**PROJECT LEADER FOR BALANCEPOINT INSTITUTE**
For nutritional project bringing measurable health benefits to seniors. Funding will be confirmed in December. Please send resume outlining administrative and writing experience to lindajade500@gmail.com

**HOUSING RENTALS**

**OVER 55+ ROOM AVAILABLE**
With common areas in beautiful setting. $450, includes utilities. Call Don at 297-7065

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**SONOITA SELF STORAGE+RV/BOAT STORAGE RENTALS**
5x10, 10 x 10,10x 20. 520-455-9333 or 520-455-4641.

---

**AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION**

- **Meara**
  - A Boxer mix that is estimated to be 2.5 years old. She is very mellow, sweet and loves everyone!! She gets along great with dogs and loves going out on walks.

- **Amber**
  - A three year old tortoise-shell with a very social and sweet personality. She loves to greet everyone and adores being petted.

GOT A DUI OR LICENSE SUSPENSION?
Need an Ignition Interlock???
FREE INSTALLATION - FREE CALIBRATION

We will offer you: **$15.00 OFF**
the first three months
State Certified device and easy to blow
Offer expires Oct. 31, 2019

With Honey Bares,
**SAVE $120.00 for one year**
Offer good only in the Sierra Vista area

**HONEY BARES AUTO**
Professional Auto Service

520-456-9338 1-800-603-0033 • MON - FRI 8-5
109 4th Street, Sierra Vista
Serving Cochise County, Santa Cruz, Safford, Clifton & Tucson

Santa Cruz Humane Society
232 E. Patagonia Hwy (Rt. 82)
Nogales, AZ 85621 (520) 287-5654
$850,000
CROWN C EQUESTRIAN ESTATE
MLS #21906981 16 ACRES w/POND
Price reduced. 4bd/2.5ba, 3848 sf. Remodeled baths, open kitchen floor plan, fantastic patios to enjoy the great views, & private well. LARRY DEMUN 520 732-9179

$1,395,000
AUTHENTIC NAVAJO HOGAN
Built in 2002 under Navajo supervision. Cozy w/ wood stove, full kitchen. Separate bathhouse, 2 storage sheds. Fully fenced. Owner financing. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$749,000
68 DRY CANYON RD. 44.58 PRISTINE ACRES
Private with WOW views. 3425 spacious sq. ft. w/18x30, sunroom. Rec room, full downstairs living quarters. Private well. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$449,000
HILL TOP CLASSIC ADOBE IN SONOITA
MLS # 21906981 16 ACRES w/POND

$469,000
COMING SOON! 2 NEW HOMES ON THE MESA
116 RED MOUNTAIN CT. 4+ ACRES
Currently under construction in this gated community. 2350 sf, 4bd/2.5ba. Open design with a WOW kitchen, 2 car garage, spectacular views! JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$469,000
CROWN C ESTATE HOME
MLS # 21927458 62.93 ACRES
COMpletely REMODELED! Rammed earth construction. Updated kitchen and baths, hardwood floors, new A/C. Barn w/14 stalls. BARBARA HARRIS 602 826-4026

$159,000
HILL TOP CLASSIC ADOBE IN SONOITA
MLS # 21906981 16 ACRES w/POND

$259,000
ELGIN RANCH ON 216 ACRES
MLS# 21931746 PANORAMIC VIEWS
5670 SF, luxuriously remodeled. Land is divisible, w/no HOA. Direct access to Nat. Forest. Great for horses, vineyard, or nature lovers. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$259,000
PANCHAGA COTTAGE W/GUEST QUARTERS
MLS # 21928955 370 N. 3rd AVENUE
Burnt Adobe 1504 SF, 2bd/1.5 Ba home with separate guest quarters or rental unit in a great location. On almost 2 lots w/room to expand. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$375,000
COUNTRY LIVING WITHIN TOWN LIMITS
MLS #21915700 10 ACRES

$159,000
LAZY RR CUSTOM HOME
MLS # 21921120 404 SONOITA AVE.

$449,000
PATAGONIA CROWN C RETREAT
MLS # 21701568 58+ ACRES
Fully fenced, 38x28 bungalow guest house. Great building site for your main home. Lovely views and plenty of room for horses. CAROL FORD 520 604-0162

$135,000
COZY MFR HOME ON LARGE LOT
MLS #21921120 404 SONOITA AVE.

$535,000
PATAGONIA COTTAGE W/GUEST QUARTERS
MLS # 21928955 370 N. 3rd AVENUE
Burnt Adobe 1504 SF, 2bd/1.5 Ba home with separate guest quarters or rental unit in a great location. On almost 2 lots w/room to expand. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$259,000
68 DRY CANYON RD. 44.58 PRISTINE ACRES
Private with WOW views. 3425 spacious sq. ft. w/18x30, sunroom. Rec room, full downstairs living quarters. Private well. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

$159,000
LAZY RR CUSTOM HOME
MLS # 21921120 404 SONOITA AVE.

$135,000
COZY MFR HOME ON LARGE LOT
MLS #21921120 404 SONOITA AVE.

$375,000
COUNTRY LIVING WITHIN TOWN LIMITS
MLS #21915700 10 ACRES

Download FREE Long Realty App for instant Arizona real estate active listings, pending sales and recently sold properties. Dec 2019