

# PATAGONIA REGIONAL TIMES



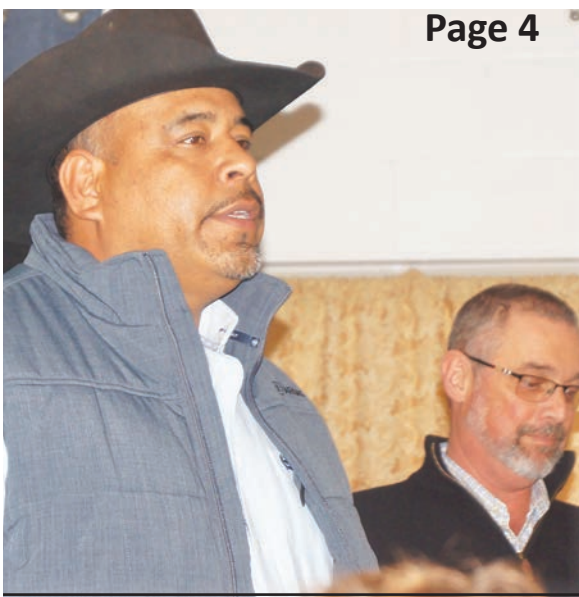
FEBRUARY 2020

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

VOL. 10 ISSUE 2

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## Sonoita Resident Throws Her Hat in the Ring for County Office

By Pat McNamara

“If you aren’t going to do something about it, don’t complain!” is the mantra of Donna Federici, Independent candidate for Santa Cruz County Supervisor for District 3.

A resident of the Sonoita/Elgin area, Federici has decided to indeed “do something about it” and with the support of her husband, Dave Ciesielski, is running against the current district 3 County Supervisor, Bruce Bracker.

Noting that the Sonoita, Elgin, Patagonia part of the county is being under-represented and with the many complaints Federici has heard about the current situation, she vows that she will work tirelessly for change in the way ‘things have always been done.’

The daughter of a blue collar, Midwestern steel worker family, Federici has been schooled in the importance of hard work from her early years. She has been successful in middle and upper management and was most recently self-employed as a business consultant before moving to Sonoita in 2008.

She feels she has the vision and creativity to steer the county in a more fiscally responsible way. Not one to point fingers at the past leaders, Federici wants to be more solution oriented and find ways for the county to expand while being more creative in finding ways to relieve the current fiduciary challenges.

When asked about the salaries at the local fire department, Federici stated that since we live in such a fire prone area, the fire department is especially indispensable, and the budget must reflect that. However, the salaries must be studied, and any discrepancies or unfairness addressed and corrected.

Federici stated that our local schools reflect the lack of younger

families in the area. She would like to offer ideas on how to keep families here. Agri-tourism is one of her thoughts as a way to offer jobs for local residents. Finding other ways to promote our natural resources with opportunities to market the hiking, biking and activities around the lakes was another idea addressed, keeping in mind that businesses should be mindful of the water availability in the long term.

Bringing back the courthouse and the storage of road maintenance equipment is something that Federici discussed. She stated that local committees have filed paperwork to obtain the financial results of that decision made by managers in Nogales. She stated that an ‘all or nothing’ approach is not the answer and would like to introduce a part-time solution to the court in Sonoita. Change starts in Nogales and working with the managers there will be another part of her function should she be elected. If the courthouse is not deemed necessary as such, using it as a community center is another option.



Contributed Photo

**Donna Federici would work to re-open the Sonoita Courthouse as part of her program to correct the present "under-representation" of the eastern part of the county.**

“The position as county supervisor should not be a partisan issue!” stated Federici, as it is “for the community and its residents and the money belongs to the people.” This is why she is running as an Independent. Federici is a fiscal conservative and a compassionate advocate for the community and willing to ‘rock the boat’ for economic reform.

When asked how she plans on getting her name out there, Federici stated that she will knock on doors, use social media and ask for help to canvas for her as an independent candidate. She is currently building a website. She can be contacted at [donna@federiciforsupervisor.com](mailto:donna@federiciforsupervisor.com).

# PRT

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

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

## **WHO WE ARE**

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

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# GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE PRT

**By Marion Vendituoli**

As we head into the 2<sup>nd</sup> month of 2020, we at the PRT are still buzzing about our recent fundraising campaign. We were surprised and overwhelmed by the community's response. Not only did we reach the cap of \$20,000 for matching funds in just five weeks of the campaign, we also were able to reach two bonus goals of 100 new donors and a 57% increase of donors over last year.

Everyone who makes the PRT possible does it out of a commitment to the community and to the role we play in it. Our donors show us that what we are doing matters and being a part of a national fundraising campaign showed us that local non-profit newsrooms matter. Below you will

see the list of our amazing donors and Press Core members. Thank you, as well, to our generous advertisers that support the PRT each month. Be sure to mention to them that you saw their ad in the PRT. They deserve our community's support.

Thank you, as well, to our hard working volunteers. We couldn't do this without you!

We are so proud to be a community resource, and we encourage you to take advantage of all that we have to offer. Utilize our website, www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org. Get an early preview of the monthly edition of the PRT before the print edition hits the newsstands the first Thursday of each month. Review back issues. Check the online calendar for local events. Send us a news tip through the website or

email us directly.

Subscribe to our email list and receive our twice a month e-newsletter that includes mid-month new stories announcements, calendar updates and links to top stories in the PRT monthly edition.

Subscribe to the PRT and receive the print PRT in your mailbox, or give it to a friend as a gift. If you live out of town all or part of the year, receive the paper copy of each issue of the PRT at your home address.

Attend the new PRT sponsored public events. In January, the PRT sponsored a public forum on Recycling. (see article, page 4). Future community events include a debate, to be scheduled for this summer, featuring candidates running for Santa Cruz County Sheriff.

Thank you for making all of this possible, and please, send us your news tips, your ideas for community outreach and let us know how we are doing. We love to hear from you!

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## JARED KRIKORIAN JOINS PRT TEAM

The Patagonia Regional Times is extremely pleased to welcome Jared Krikorian as our new ad manager / administrative assistant. Jared brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the paper in so many fields. Originally from Rhode Island, with a BA in graphic design, Jared also has worked in sales and customer service, has worked on newspaper advertising, poster design for local performances and events, and has created banners and ads for local business websites.

Jared is going to be invaluable in our drive to increase our online presence, in

organizing our data and in our outreach programs, as well as increasing our advertising revenue.

We are so excited to add Jared to our team. Teamwork is the key to the success of the PRT. It is sustained by the unique collaboration between our hard-working board, our staff, our volunteers and, above all, our community and local businesses, who support us, not only financially, but with the gathering of news and opinions from throughout our region. Thank you.



Photo by Cynie Murray

# SCC Recycling Update

By Aisha Sander

On Jan 8, 2020 Santa Cruz County officials John Hayes, manager for solid waste / flood control and Jesus Valdez, Director of Public Works met with Santa Cruz Environmental Stewards (SCES), a group of volunteers who have been advocating for increased recycling since the county almost completely ceased recycling in 2019.

The proposal for recycling in the county is currently in Phase One. The county is preparing the sites at the Rio Rico landfill and the Tubac transfer station, is working to find buyers for the recyclable items, is educating the public and is increasing its presence on social media.

The county presented two site plans for the Tubac transfer station recycling area and the Rio Rico landfill recycling area. In both plans they would place seven bins under a covered area to accept plastics 1 and 2, other plastics (3-7), cardboard, mixed paper, glass, aluminum cans, and tin.

The approximate cost to develop the two sites would be between \$40,000-\$60,000. The cost for employees to work on these sites every day would be approximately \$25,000 for six months.

The concern about the Patagonia recycling site is contamination because the current site is not secure. County officials do not believe that residents are at fault, but it is more likely that it is used as a dumping site for garbage by people traveling through the area.

## Patagonia Recycling Forum

Approximately 50 people attended a PRT-sponsored public forum on Jan.25 to discuss the state of recycling in Santa Cruz County, facilitated by PRT board member Bob Brandt.

Santa Cruz County Public Works Director Jesus Valdez spoke at the forum and answered questions from the audience. He explained why most recyclables are going into the landfill. Until a little over a year ago a company was coming to pick up the recyclables from all the receptacles in the county. When the firm abruptly stopped collections, the county did not have the operational power to pick up and transport the recyclables to Tucson. For now, the county is still recycling aluminum, tires, cardboard and some glass.

Valdez said that the county wants a better system for collection of recyclables. They are learning more about what happens once recyclables are picked up and before the end of the fiscal year want to create a list of recyclables that have buyers in the market. Once they set up sites for collection in Tubac and Rio Rico they will extend it to other parts of the county, including Sonoita and Patagonia.

Joel Block, Tom Gelvans and Homero Lopez, representing the Santa Cruz Environmental Stewards, shared the work being doing by their group of community activists based in Tubac. They have visited possibly the most sophisticated recycling program in the state, the Southern Sedona Recycling Program, and have toured the Sierra Vista compost facility. They encouraged people from Patagonia to attend their bi-monthly meetings at the Tubac Community Center the first and third Tuesday of the month at 5p.m.

The meeting concluded with a group of people committing to form a Patagonia task force for recycling. Anyone interested in joining this task force can email prtasted@gmail.com or leave a message at (740) 2069594.

# County, Residents Meet to Discuss Roadwork



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

## Roads Superintendent Howdy Aguilar answers questions about chip sealing in the Papago Springs neighborhood in Sonoita.

By Marion Vendituoli

County officials and public works staff met with concerned residents from the Papago Springs area of Sonoita on Jan 16 at the Sonoita Fairgrounds to address concerns raised about the chip sealing of roads in that neighborhood.

District 3 Supervisor Bruce Bracker, Director of Public Works Jesus Valdez and Roads Superintendent Howdy Aguilar addressed the audience of approximately 45 people.

The project to chip seal seven miles of Holbrook Dr, Terry Lane, Frazier Dr, Collie Dr and parts of Papago Springs Rd had been put on hold last fall when concerns were raised by a few residents about the project. A number of residents felt that they had not received any notice about the project, and some felt that the chip sealing would change the nature of their community and cause people to speed.

County officials scheduled the Jan. 16 meeting to explain the project, to answer questions and to hear the concerns of the residents. Ironically, one of the first questions raised addressed the lack of communication between the county and residents. "Why did we not get a good notification of this meeting?" an audience member asked. Valdez apologized, saying that the county did not have good mailing addresses for many of the residents.

Bracker explained that there is, at present, HURF funds available, federal gasoline tax dollars distributed to cities and counties, to pay for chip sealing,

which will save the county money in reduced maintenance costs. Chip sealing costs between \$45,000 - \$50,000 per mile to install.

Dirt "native" roads require periodic grading, on average four times a year, while chip sealed roads require little maintenance, he explained. Chip sealing is considered a better surface than native roads because of less dust and better drainage. He also cited the lack of county employed heavy equipment operators. "At one time we had 11 people working in the area. Now we have two people," he said.

Several people commented on the state of the road at this point, asking if the work done last fall before the project was suspended has been undone by the winter rains. "This is the worst I've ever seen," one woman commented. "It's a mess."

Richard Collins, of Sonoita, asked if speed bumps could be added to the roads, but Valdez stated that speed bumps were too hard to maintain and were dangerous at night when they were not visible.

Another audience member asked, "Is this already set in stone? Do we have a say in this? Is this a discussion or is this a project you have already decided on?" "We're here to listen," Bracker responded. After the end of the meeting Aguilar commented, "I think the project is going forward. Bracker agreed. "People were overwhelmingly in favor of it, based on emails and phone calls after the article [in the Dec. issue of the Patagonia Regional times]."

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# Mining Opponents stage a "Peaceful Presence"



Photo by Lynn Davison

State Representative Rosanna Gabaldon speaks with "peaceful presence" demonstrators in Patagonia after she had toured the Trench Mine remediation site with representatives from South32.

By Lynn Davison

Local residents gathered to create a peaceful presence on Jan. 10, 2020 at the corners of McKeown and 3rd Ave. in Patagonia, seen here meeting with State Representative Rosanna Gabaldon outside the South32 office. The group was there to offer a counterpoint to the briefing and tour led by South32 for local and state elected officials and staff on that morning.

Participants on the South32 tour included State Representative Rosanna Gabaldon, Santa Cruz County Supervisors Bruce Bracker and Manuel Ruiz, Patagonia Vice Mayor Michael Stabile, Patagonia Town Manager Ron Robinson, ADOT board member Mike Hammond and Amanda Stone, ADEQ Director of Intergovernmental and Community Affairs.

# Local Winery Wins Big in Competitions

By Jo Dean



Photo by Jo Dean

Some of the many award winning Callaghan Vineyards wines, hung with their medals, line the counter in the vineyard's tasting room.

Callaghan Vineyards has a long history of winning medals at both state and national wine competitions, and 2019 saw the Elgin vineyard continue this winning tradition.

Callaghan was one of the Arizona wineries to receive awards at the 2019 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, the largest competition for American wines in the world. In the 2019 competition, 6,800 wines from 1,132 wineries were judged.

The Vineyard has received many awards, including gold medals, at the San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition over the years. In this year's competition, their AZ Tannat 2016 won the Double Gold Medal and Best of Class.

Callaghan Vineyards also won two gold medals at the 2019 Jefferson Cup Invitational Wine Competition, held in November in Kansas City, MO, for Claire's 2017 and Rhumb Line Tannat 2017.

Closer to home, Callaghan Vineyards won more medals than any other winery in the 2019 azcentral.com Arizona Wine Competition, held last fall. Their Amor Fati Malvasia Bianca won best in class for dessert wines, and their 2018 Tannat earned a double gold. The winery also won two gold medals, three silver medals and eight bronze medals.

Founded in 1990, Callaghan is one of the earlier wineries to open in the Sonoita area, established by Harold and Karen Callaghan and their son Kent. To prepare for owning and operating a winery, Harold and Kent completed an extension class in viticulture at UC Davis, and continued to educate themselves by hard work and travel to vineyards in Spain, France, Italy, and Sicily. Karen Callaghan also owned and operated Karen's Wine Country Café, first in Elgin, and then in Sonoita.

Spanish varieties of root stock work best for Callaghan's constant search for grapes that

thrive in the Sonoita region with its dramatic temperature swings, drought, wind, heat, and cold. They now have 25 acres of vineyard and approximately 15 varieties of grapes with 85% of the bottled wine sold directly from their tasting room. Their approach to wine making is to keep it simple and work hard with a significant emphasis on soil health and nutrition.

Kent Callaghan started running the vineyard solo in 1996. He and his wife, Lisa Callaghan, are third generation and fourth generation Tucsonans. This is a family business employing a few local residents. The couple have a combined family of four daughters between the ages of 22 and 26. Each daughter has a wine named after her: Waverly's Dry Rose Wine, 2016; Barrett's Sparkling Wine, 2017; Claire's, 2016, and Caitlin's, 2016.

Callaghan has received many accolades and awards since 1991, including the honor of having their wine being served four times at the White House, at the White House Governors' Dinner in January 2017; at President George W. Bush's dinner for retiring U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor; at President Bill Clinton's last State Dinner with the Prime Minister of India in 2000 and at a White House dinner for the Democratic National Committee in 1996.

Visit Callaghan Vineyards at 336 Elgin Road, Elgin, Arizona. Tasting room hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday – Sunday. For information, call (520)455-5322 or visit [www.callaghanvineyards.com](http://www.callaghanvineyards.com).

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# Committee Working to Save Pool

By Aisha Sander

Two motions were presented at the January 2020 Joint Patagonia School District Board Meeting pertaining to the future of the swimming pool. The first motion, which was approved by both the Elementary and the High School Boards, agreed to let The Friends of the Patagonia Pool (FOPP), a citizens' committee, raise money to keep the swimming pool open and agreed to let Mountain Empire Rotary be the fiscal sponsor until FOPP forms a non-profit corporation.

The second motion, which asked the school boards to commit in ad-

vance to investing its one-third share (\$10,000) for 2020 and 2021 was tabled. The boards requested a member of FOPP present at a future meeting to further discuss their plans.

FOPP is working with a pool company to evaluate the condition of the pool and to make an estimate for the anticipated cost for the operational costs to keep the pool open.

The Elementary and High School Boards elected representatives to form an executive committee for the swimming pool. The Elementary Board elected Kathleen Pasierb and the High School Board elected Jim Cosby. The town elected Mayor Andrea Wood. This executive committee will be responsible to meet with and make recommendations to the pool manager hired by the school board.

The Town of Patagonia has set a special study session to discuss the pool on Wed. Feb. 5 at 6:00 p.m.

# The Art of Asylum



Contributed Photo

A young asylum seeker from Honduras draws a picture of his homeland. An exhibit of art created by children from Casas Alitas Shelter in Tucson will be on display at Cady Hall in Patagonia March 12 - March 21.

By Sarah Klingenstein

Paints, crayons, and art paper cover a table at the Casa Alitas shelter in Tucson, where several children are busily drawing and telling volunteers about their work. In response to the question "What do you love?" they draw vibrant images of home, family, and pets. They also portray images of their journeys from Central America, showing fear, hope and longing.

A traveling exhibit of the children's work called "Hope and Healing: The Art of Asylum," co-curated by Valarie James, Casa Alitas Trauma-informed Arts and Activities Coordinator, and Arivaca sculptor Antonia Gallegos, will be shown at Cady Hall in Patagonia March 12 through 21. There will be an opening reception and gallery talk by James the evening of March 12, catered by Patagonia Youth Enrichment Center.

The exhibit came out of Catholic Community Service's work with asylum-seekers at Casa Alitas. Since 2014 they have provided those travelers a short-stay stopover with food, lodging, basic necessities, and travel assistance. The asylum-seekers are en route to live with sponsoring family members as they await their upcoming hearings. Families, mostly from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, are welcomed daily by staff and volunteers at the shelter.

They've traveled by various means - overland, on foot, or by bus - for days or weeks. Some flee from immediate danger and/or after the murder of family members. In the immediacy of getting situated, the emotional toll can be overlooked. The art program gives refugees an opportunity to reflect on what they are going through

and perhaps find comfort through the act of making art.

"The children draw and paint quietly with singular focus. They are intent on conveying what cannot be said in words, James said. "Their feelings rise up and through their art. Young guests draw what's in their hearts. They draw prayers to God for having spared them and multiple thanks to volunteers. Drawings rich in symbols, paintings of birds in flight, volcanoes erupting, roads and rivers, vehicles and barriers, testify to the trauma of migration and family displacement. Art-making eases the trauma and lends a bit more resiliency for the rest of the journey."

The exhibit also includes four large quilts stitched from dozens of drawings the children did on cloth. In addition to making these quilts, Esperanza Quilters, a group from Oracle, has designed, created, and given away over 150 child-sized quilts and children's books to the youngest travelers at Casa Alitas. Gale Hall, a member of the Esperanzas and the education coordinator for the Art of Asylum exhibit, shares part of the mission of the quilt group. "Memories of how we are welcomed to a new place last a lifetime. We hope that when the children wrap themselves in our quilts, they will feel safe, warm, and covered with love. We hope that this will help to create a positive lasting memory of when they first came to the United States."

Local partnering organizations are planning ancillary events during the exhibit's run. These will include a film series, guest speakers, a storyboard walk in Town Park, a portrait gallery at the Gathering Grounds, and a culminating celebration. Details will be made available as the exhibit nears.

## Southern AZ Quail Forever Family Day

The Southern Arizona Quail Forever (SAQF) chapter will hold its annual Family Day on Saturday, Feb. 29, 2020, at the Empire Ranch Airfield Group Site between 8 a.m and 3 p.m. Family Day is open to all ages, is free of charge and includes lunch.

Activities include trap shooting, archery, BB gun range, fly casting & fly tying, GPS instruction, animal

tracking, police dog demonstration, and a supervised live quail hunt for ages 12 and up. No hunting license is required.

Please register on the Arizona Game & Fish Outdoor Skills Events website ([register-ed.com/events/view/142030](https://register-ed.com/events/view/142030)). Contact Tony Valentino at [avalen18@aol.com](mailto:avalen18@aol.com) for additional information.

## SOUTHERN ARIZONA QUAIL FOREVER

### Family Day & Youth Hunt

#### Activities Include:

- Trap Shooting
- Archery
- BB Gun Range
- Fly-Fishing/Fly-Tying Intro
- GPS Instruction
- Animal Footprint ID
- Quail Hunt w/ Bird Dogs (ages 12 & up)
- Bird Cleaning
- Police Dog Demo
- Free Breakfast & Lunch
- Youth Prizes

**\*\*No Fee\*\***



**Location:** Las Cienegas National Conservation Area, Empire Ranch/Airfield Site (north of Sonoita, AZ)

**Time/Date:** Saturday, February 29, 2020 (8:00am - 3:00pm)

Sponsored by: Southern Arizona Quail Forever Chapter

Register at AZ Game & Fish Outdoor Skills (<https://register-ed.com/events/view/142030>)

For additional info contact:

Tony Valentino | 520-465-6569 | [avalen18@aol.com](mailto:avalen18@aol.com)  
Zack May | 520-301-8135 | [zmay@comcast.net](mailto:zmay@comcast.net)

# Forest Service Plugs Lead Queen Mine

By Robert Gay

The historic Lead Queen Mine in the Patagonia Mountains, which produced lead, silver and small amounts of copper between 1898 and 1940, has intermittently leaked toxic minerals, both visible and invisible, ever since.

In 2014, monsoon rains caused a dramatic orange outflow that attracted media attention, followed by two Coronado National Forest (CNF) projects attempting to detoxify the flows.

What's the status of the mine in 2020? In 2019 CNF installed a "hydraulic plug" at the tunnel entrance, or adit, in all probability closing outflow for good and stopping a major source of acidic drainage into a tributary of Harshaw Creek. A mid-January 2020 visit confirmed that there appears to be no new seepage coming directly from the former adit opening.

The Forest Service project at the Lead Queen also included significant surface remediation. Earthmoving to the tunnel covered the plugged mouth with a slope shaped like a natural grade. The approach route, starting at a newly improved turnaround, was also graded in a natural-appearing way, eliminating the formerly drivable access to the mine opening.

On the steepest of the entry slopes there were straw wattles to help with erosion prevention. Across the stream a relocated pile of tailings, estimated at 30 tons, was shaped like natural ground and given a soil cover.

The regraded surfaces, about a half-acre in all, were left rough and a little scarified with some random placement of small and medium rocks. All but the rocky bottom of the streambed was seeded with a straw and fiber mix that the CNF "Fact Sheet" on the project (July 2019) described as including local wildlife seeds. Few plants have sprouted over the fall and winter, but during spring and monsoon season new plants are expected to appear. No plants were transplanted in for this project.

Monitoring over decades will be needed before the project revegetation can be called fully successful. The surface-healing and revegetation part of this project could potentially become an example of creative and scientifically informed restoration processes which enhance wildlife habitat and return disturbed ground to nature.

There was evidence at the January visit of a low flow of clear water coming from upstream of the mine near the former mine entrance. Below the former adit a small yellow-orange flow was observed that continues downstream. Within about 200 feet, the stream water became white with tinges of green; further downstream along Forest Service Road 4684, white coloring is visible in the stream bed as

far as Harshaw Rd.

Dave Ellis, of Patagonia, who volunteers for the Patagonia Area Watershed Study, explained the white precipitate was non-toxic. "The white sludge" Ellis said, "is calcium carbonate precipitate." This reaction can occur when very acidic water meets more neutral stream water, or even when rainwater meets acidic water.

Chemically, the reaction is a move toward neutralization, so the incoming acidic water ends up less acidic. Additionally, some of the reactions liberate CO<sub>2</sub>, a gas which likely explains the white foam occasionally spotted in the numerous other local washes.

Calcium carbonate occurs naturally in limestone, marble, chalk and sea-shells and is not considered a problem for living creatures. However, the stream bed below the mine has been accumulating many dissolved minerals, mostly invisible, in its 80 years of seasonally varying flows since the Lead Queen stopped production in 1940. These include, as local environmentalist Gooch Goodwin explained, "quite a mineral soup of heavy metals."

Among minerals in mine drainage that were studied in a University of Arizona Master's thesis project by Susan Ann Dean in the Patagonia Mountains are sulfates (a sulfur-based salt), iron, copper, manganese, zinc, arsenic, lead, cadmium, chromium, selenium, mercury, silver and aluminum.

The study concluded that just as the minerals in the ground around here are wildly varied, so also are their levels in water in different places, sometimes being negligible and other times being above acceptable levels for humans.

Mineral levels change with the season, the distance from a mine, the amount of flowing water they are in, the rock they flow over, and the acidity of water they are found in. Except for a little seepage into the ground, all are being moved downstream, dropping out here and there as they head to the large settling basin of Patagonia Lake, which has been chemically researched in the past by United States Geological Survey (USGS) geo-hydrologist Floyd Gray and others.

Questions have been raised about the long-term public health effects of these water-borne minerals to residents, but extensive epidemiological studies have yet to be conducted. The long-term biological effects of multiple minerals dispersed into local watersheds are not fully understood, whether for humans, for cattle, horses or any other species. A strong case exists for further research into the complex hydrology and biochemistry of the entire watershed.

# Expert Addresses Human, Wildlife Interaction

By Sarah Klingenstein

"It was a sad day when we had to kill a mountain lion in town last spring," said Cholla Nicoll, a Friends of Sonoita Creek board member commenting on the killing of an 18-month-old mountain lion in Patagonia that had become habituated to people and town.

Nicoll had met Rosemary Schiano, a wildlife field biologist, tracker and educator, at a wildlife tracking workshop and learned about the techniques Schiano teaches to communities to help wildlife and humans co-exist. Through her work at the Sonoran Desert Project, Schiano records human impact on the desert, as well as rescuing injured animals.

Patagonia Animal Control Officer Karina Hilliard and the Marshall's office asked Schiano to train them and to address the community in January. "The Marshall, deputies, Nicoll and I spent almost a day with Rosemary, learning techniques to protect predators in our midst. Now we can see even more clearly how events led to the lion's demise last May," Hilliard said. "We asked people to leave him alone, to make a lot of noise around him, rather than trying to get close. Unfortunately, people became too excited, following the cougar, taking selfies too close to him, and even giving him a name. Someone began feeding him. We forgot that he was wild, and a natural predator."

Schiano, who has tracked and studied wildlife all her life, sees this scenario all too often. "When an animal is killed by law enforcement, many people blame the officer or the department, but the officers are required, by this point, to kill these animals. They do not enjoy having to kill the animal and it is quite painful for them to have to carry this out."

During the training, and at the lecture she gave to approximately 75 community members the following day, Schiano reminded her audiences that apex predators, like the cougar, are instrumental in maintaining the balance of nature, ensuring that, for example, ungulates like deer, don't destroy the vegetation in an area.

"All predators are also necessary to keep the system in equilibrium," she explained. "To protect these important and beautiful creatures we need to be versed in the natural history, ecology, and behavior of each species. Then we have to be responsible for our own behavior to avoid drawing them into residential areas, where they are likely to be perceived as a threat."



Photo by Sarah Klingenstein

**Rosemary Schiano holds a mountain lion skull while she describes predator biology and behavior during a talk held Jan 18 at Cady Hall.**

Pet food left outside, compost, unsecure garbage, small pets, and the feeding of wild animals can all attract predators. "I know this is difficult to hear in Patagonia," Schiano said, "but bird feeders draw small prey, such as javelina, skunks, and packrats, which draw cougars and coyotes."

A big part of the professionals' training was how to humanely remove predators. The Marshall's office has been trained to use proper aversion and hazing techniques to remove and haze predators from town. "Now we know just how to take a predator to the edge of town, release her and scare the heck of her, so that she'll roam far away," Hilliard explained. "We ask the public, when in doubt, to alert us to a sighting so we can advise them how to respond." She emphasized that the public should not haze these animals; only professionals who have been trained should do so.

Schiano suggested that residents encourage state lawmakers to change policy to protect predators. Local laws with stiff fines can be established to prevent people from feeding wildlife. The public was encouraged to anonymously report people who are feeding wildlife, so the town can address this concern.

Hilliard is enthusiastic about the new practices they learned. "Now we are developing detailed plans for how and where to chase a future predator out of town, if and when it happens again. We hope to address properties that have attracted predators in the past."

"We can become a community that coexists happily with wildlife of all sorts," Nicoll commented. "We each have to pick ... something that we can do better. We should be personally accountable to our wild animals."



## CAUSE FOR ALARM

By Cassina Farley

Sometime during the day (January 3, 2020 for the record), unbeknownst to us, a random man in a random van parked across the street from our house. This time of year, it is no surprise to see cars lined up along the street with empty bike racks, adven-

turers off on an epic ride leaving their car behind for our safe keeping. Ordinarily this unspoken agreement between out-of-towners and locals goes well - right up until it does not. This is my story.

So, Van Man, or Bike Dude as we will now refer to him, parked his van innocently under the big oak tree. Upon leaving, he secured his belongings and set his high dollar car alarm. Aware he was parked so near the border, he made sure his van was safe from traveling marauders.

He was right about marauders except these four-legged ones were scrounging under his van for the crumbs of his pre-ride Cliff bar and whatever else javalinas scrounge around for at one a.m.

Now, Patagonia isn't somewhere where you hear car alarms. The locals don't use them. So, when the screeching, honking, night penetrating sound of a car alarm goes off at one a.m. you hear it. We both woke up and realized it was a car alarm. We also both had the rational thought that surely someone accidentally set it off, it would stop, we would drift off back to sleep and all would be right with the world.

It paused and we both began to relax - at last, peace. What we didn't know is somewhere in the manufacturing of the alarm they decided to add a 30 second pause. It started up again.

This time we both got up and made our way to the sound. The horror. Right out our front window, parked across the street was the van, lights blinking, horn honking and alarm blaring. I couldn't be sure, but I thought I saw javalinas running in all directions. We went back to bed. What could we do? This went on for 5 HOURS.

We lay in bed listening to the alarm, almost syncing our breathing to the honk, honk, honk. I scrounged around for ear plugs. Praying for mercy. Then the 30 second pause would happen. A gift and perhaps a promise of ending this descent into madness. Nope it would start up again. Honk, honk, honk, honk, honk, honk.

Sometime in the wee hours of the morning we discussed how to end this ourselves. We'd have to break a window, open the hood and disconnect the battery. We could call the police. We both realized if there was an officer on duty, he would have surely heard this by now and dealt with it. (We

would later find out that there was nothing they could have done anyway)

By 5:45am I was suffering from extreme madness and called the Marshall anyway. I explained what Bike Dude (by this point we were referring to him in a more derogatory manner) had done and what was happening now. He vowed to come and handle it, but before he could make his way here the alarm suddenly stopped. We were giddy. We were sleepy. We were pissed. I wrote a sharply worded letter and taped it to his van. We hoped that his battery was dead.

This is not the end of the story. His van went on to terrorize McKeown Avenue for several more hours. The alarm mysteriously started up again. The Marshall did get in contact with Bike Dude and he ended our suffering finally by driving that menace away.

I have decided to watch a few YouTube videos about dismantling car alarms and I'm investing in a baseball bat. I realize how important biking is to our economy. I also realize how important it is to have a good night's sleep.

## MILESTONES A FORTUITOUS BIRTH



By Aisha Sander

Perhaps there is no greater milestone than the day of our birth. I heard the story of why I was the only American citizen in my family all the time growing up.

The story begins with how a series of unexpected events led my parents and three older brothers to leave Dubai, U.A.E. where my father had been running his own business for ten years and move to Miami, Florida to join his younger brother's business. The year was 1980.

My father is a dark skinned South Asian. He would tell us the story of how he walked every day for a mile to and from work in the hot sun of the Arabian desert more than a few times a day. His tan skin darkened over the years, and often when he was in Miami he was mistaken for an African-American.

Shortly after arriving in the U.S., my

father decided that he would return to Pakistan with his family. Later he would tell me that he thought it was better to be a first-class citizen in a poor country than a second-class citizen in a rich country. My father also followed the teaching of Islam that all beings, irrespective of caste, color and creed, are equal in front of Allah's eyes and therefore he was unsettled by the racism he experienced in the U.S.

As my parents prepared to leave, my mother who was newly pregnant with a surprise baby had serious concerns about the health of the baby. Her doctor asked that she remain on bed rest for the rest of her pregnancy and advised against any long travel.

Despite my father's restlessness to return to Pakistan, my parents had no choice but to stay in Miami until I was born. On the night of August 10, 1981, my mother's water bag burst and my father drove her to the hospital in the middle of the night. Early the next

morning I arrived, dark skinned and dark haired, into a destiny of unorthodox fortune for a girl born in my conservative community. A mere 17 days later my parents took me home to Karachi, Pakistan, not knowing how much U.S. citizenship would shape my entire life.

38 years later, my parents and one of my brothers and his family still live in the same house that I arrived in as a newborn. My children and husband walk the same corridors, drive the same streets and experience much of the same world that I grew up in. For all that has changed, so much has remained the same.

And yet my life now is entirely removed from anything that I knew as a child. As my Shaykh teaches, we often see our lives and make "small" plans for ourselves. We do not know how much grander the design of our lives are and how big our purpose because

we manipulate, control and try so hard to plan our own lives. I was lucky, as the Sufis see it, because none of my "small" plans transpired. I learned the hard way to give up and let God be in charge of my affairs.

I never planned to meet an American while traveling and teaching yoga in the mountains of Pakistan. I planned to meet a good Pakistani man who was like me and live in Karachi for the rest of my life. I never planned to teach yoga or travel to be close to nature or be alone in my twenties. I planned to meet my partner young and have all my children before I turned thirty. I definitely did not plan to be born in the U.S. and surprisingly neither did my parents.

When I look back at the milestone of my birth on the cusp of the birth of my third child, I experience waves of wonder in my body. This is the wonder in which I can so easily plant my faith because the seeds for what was to grow into the life I have now had been planted even before I took my first breath in this world.

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# INGE'S STORY

By Inge Meijer

**On February 25 Inge Meijer became a United States citizen, together with 50 other people from 21 countries. She was asked if she would be willing to talk about World War II and encourage people to vote. Here is what she shared at her naturalization ceremony.**

I was just six years old when the war started. I was playing in my sandbox singing a song about the queen, when my mother, in total panic, lifted me out of the sandbox and said, "You can not sing this. It is dangerous because we have traitors next door".

The following week my mother took me to a meeting place where we had to give up our radio. Radios were absolutely forbidden. In the next few weeks the Germans had total control over everything. Gasoline was only for the Germans, cars were confiscated unless one was able to hide them. Stores closed. All food was only available on points, the amount dependent upon family size. Curfew was installed immediately and by eight o'clock everyone had to be indoors.

This lasted for all five years. The Germans meant business. Once I was a few minutes late, thinking I could sneak through the bushes, when I got a warning shot over my head.

The town I grew up in was between two canals so things were usually a distance away. It was an agricultural town with potatoes and sugar beets as its main products. Several factories did the processing and my father had one of the factories. The Germans would close a factory if the owner would not be willing to produce for the Germans.

Nobody wanted to work for them, but the alternative was that everyone would be sent to Germany in order to work in the war factories. There was not really any choice. We were not hungry because of the potatoes, but there was just very little else. For my eighth birthday my father had obtained with great effort one egg and one ounce of raisins. I was to have a cake for my birthday. However after one slice I fainted. The food was too rich.

We were lucky that my father had potato flour to trade, but we were not so lucky that my retired grandfather had settled in our town. He was German and a hard core Nazi and a highly unpleasant man. This situation sometimes made people suspicious of my family.

My role in the war was running those errands that my parents could not do. I was more invisible as a child. My school was half an hour away. On a bike that is nothing, but early in the war my father took the bike away. Things were getting worse and he had the foresight to know we might need this bike in the future and getting new bike tires would be impossible.

When my mother became pregnant we needed milk. My father made a deal with a cousin farmer quite a way out of town and it became my frightening job to get the milk every week. It was forbidden to get milk from farms and very close to the farm there was always a soldier lifting his loaded gun. This trauma stayed with me long after the war was over.

And so we struggled along in those horrifying years. There was nothing, no toys, no stores, no candy. There were not even the basics, like toilet paper, soap or shampoo. All playing was indoors.

All this changed very drastically when the Allied forces hit the beaches in Normandy. The German occupiers changed into enemies and there was tension everywhere. My father was a member of the resistance and nobody was hated more by the Germans than the resistance. If they found out somebody was a member, they searched their house. If they could find proof, they took the person out and shot him by the front door. One winter evening my father came home with a bunch of papers to distribute. He was unhappy and pacing the house and finally threw the whole bundle of papers into the fireplace. Two minutes later the Secret Service rang the bell. They made a thorough search throughout the house, but did not look at the burning fire. We were saved!

Finally came the day when my father woke me up at 5:30 a.m. because the Canadians were coming through town in big tanks, throwing out oranges and Lifesaver candies.

The war was over, but the misery would take some more time. After the liberation, the local government sprang into action. All traitors were rounded up and put into a jail, all girls who had flirted with German soldiers got their hair shaved off, and people who had had any connections with the Germans were put into a camp.

My grandmother fell into that category. My grandfather had biked to Germany the day before the liberation and was out of the picture. His only son was put away for five years and later was put out of the country. My father was held for five days but was entirely cleared.

Since we had been isolated from the rest of the country we now learned that people in the west of the country had no food anymore and were surviving on tulip bulbs.

But of course nothing was as shocking as the news that came through of the death camps the Allied forces found. Five million Jews had been killed in the gas chambers. It was horrifying. There was a Jewish family in our street and they were gone one day. Nobody associated this with them being Jewish because other people had also disappeared. All boys 15 years and older were rounded up and sent to the war factories in Germany. So many of them were hiding out on farms and attics just like the family of Anne Frank did.

The aftermath of the war was awful and very frightening. There were many incidents between Dutch people and



Photo by Dave Ellis

**Inge Meijer holds up her certificate of naturalization presented to her on January 10 when she became a U.S. citizen. Because she remembers growing up under Nazi occupation in the Netherlands, she was asked to speak at her Naturalization Ceremony.**

Germans in the first few years after the war and the death camp stories stayed with us for a very long time. When the diary of Anne Frank was published and made into a play that every one wanted to see, there never was an applause, just ten minutes of deep silence.

In these times, when I listen to the rhetoric of the current president I am reminded of my experiences during the war. As a new citizen of the United States it is my right and privilege to vote and I encourage everyone to also PLEASE VOTE. It can make a difference.

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# MY FAVORITE THINGS



Contributed Photo

By Allegra Mount

After 5 years learning and growing with Borderlands Restoration Network, I'm excited to be moving on to further my career working with land and community healing. As I prepare to leave the Borderlands for a long travel break before pursuing further education, I am reminded of all the things that make this place special and how they have formed my sense of compassion, duty, and community. I'd like to share

some of the things that have meant the most to me with you here:

### The Plants

The Madrean Archipelago eco-region – made up of “sky island” mountain ranges separated by “seas” of desert – has been a sublime locale for me to cut my teeth as a botanist. The sheer number of individual species (well over 4,000 plant species!) makes this an excellent place to study plants that can be found all across the American West. Working alongside

other passionate botanists, horticulturists, and plant lovers, I have cultivated a deep empathy for the plant beings with whom we share this space (especially my favorites, the desert grasses!). I have known many of them from seed, to sprout, to plant, and then on to their role as healer of landscapes and human bodies. It has been a profound experience that I will always treasure.

### The People

As for the human beings that move through these spaces, this region again does not disappoint. The complexity and uniqueness of the current era's Borderlands community is one of the greatest I have ever experienced, right next to the sense of compassion among its residents. Living in a tri-national space where joy and laughter stand right alongside historic and current traumas nurtures a community of individuals able to stand uniquely present, acknowledging the past and working hard towards a vision of an inclusive and thriving Borderlands. Living here, you have so many role models of strong, persistent, and compassionate people surrounding you that you are inspired to believe in your own strength, as well.

### The BRN Mission

BRN's courageous mission of striv-

ing to address issues of environmental health within a vision of creating economic systems and human communities that exist in reciprocity with nature is what drew me to the Borderlands region and continues to inspire me to this day. It is not easy work, but so worthwhile, and I know the growing team of passionate folks at BRN will keep the spirit alive.

We have seen so many successes in the organization's young lifetime, and met so many people that have also been inspired by this work and taken this mission beyond Borderlands and around the world. And certainly, I will continue to be inspired by and connected to this great work as I take the next steps on my path.

My time in the Borderlands has been illuminating, demanding, and enriching in so many ways. It has engaged every part of my being; head, heart, and hands. I'm so grateful for everyone I've met through this job, from passionate restoration practitioners and justice workers all over the southwest to the thousands of plant and animal beings I've spent time with, and I am excited to take all these connections and experiences forward with me into the next chapter of my life. Thank you, BRN!

# AZ TRAIL RIDER HAS A MISSION

By Bob Brandt



Photo by Bob Brandt

**Jimmy Christensen rides with his daughter's shoes to raise awareness of the teen suicide epidemic.**

I met Jimmy Christensen and his companion, Boyd Anderson, as they rode on mule and horse into town recently to secure provisions for their planned ride of the entire Arizona Trail, a trek they intend to complete by doing a segment at a time between now and September. They had only the day before started their northward journey at Parker Canyon Lake, so I thought it a bit unusual that they were already stopping to take on more

provisions, especially since they had two pack mules already laden with provisions. Perhaps their mention of ice cream was a clue that their prime “supply” need might have been something to satisfy the sweet tooth.

During their stop on the helipad opposite town hall Christensen called my attention to the lavender running shoes tied to his saddle. He shared that the shoes belonged to his daughter Zibby who died about a year ago.

She was just 17 years old and ran track and cross country. “She was a heck of a runner and an honor student,” he said proudly “and I'm dedicating this ride to her memory.”

Zibby's death has led Christensen to take on a much more urgent mission than merely riding the length of the Arizona Trail. Her shoes are symbolic of his intent to use his loss to raise awareness of the tragedy of teen suicide, which he believes is epidemic in this country. “Kids have so much pressure these days,” he says. “These kids need to know ... there's people who love them.”

As the riders headed out of town on First Avenue, the hope of helping someone else avoid the pain Christensen endures was unmistakable, as he told me several times to include the hashtag #choosetostay. “The kids will understand it,” he said with conviction.

Perhaps my chance encounter with this veterinarian from Gilbert will help all of us “understand it” and help a young person “choose to stay.”

## Errors and Omissions

In the article about the changes coming to downtown Patagonia in the January PRT we incorrectly referred to Family Health Care Amigos as a home health agency. It should have been identified as a charity providing durable medical equipment, adult incontinent supplies and assistance with advance directives. The organization was created in 1975 by people in the community wanting to support the Carolyn Montoya Medical Clinic. Linda Huffstetler-Dearing, president of the board, did not move to Patagonia until 2012.

Also in that same article, Anne Anderson's name was incorrectly spelled. She and her husband, Andy, are the owners of Creative Spirits Gallery, not the managers, as we incorrectly stated in the article.

**Our apologies for these errors.**

***The Patagonia Regional Times encourages everyone to comment publicly on the events and times in which we live. Letters must be signed by the author and include town of residence. Letters are limited to 200 words. PRT reserves the right to edit all letters for language, length, and content. Please send your letter, in MS Word, to prteditor@gmail.com***

# COUNCIL NOTES

By PRT Staff Reporters

**Wednesday, January 8**

The Mayor & Council decided that the Town manager can facilitate financial assistance in a case of hardship for one of the tenants of the town's apartments.

Significant larger-scale work would be needed to keep the town's pool in use. A citizens' committee has formed to analyze what would be needed for the pool to stay open, and possibly to build a new pool at a site off the PUHS grounds. Mayor Wood said she knew companies that could do an evaluation of all aspects of the pool.

Marshal Patterson said there was new learning about orders of protection, and that "it's challenging."

The Planning and Development (P&D) Committee requested a study session for capital improvements for Jan 29 at 6 p.m., open to the public but comments should be submitted in writing.

The Mayor and Council went into executive session to review Manager Robinson's six-month evaluation. His continuation was approved, with salary increase, same benefit package, and the benefit of a volunteer Personal Assistant. He was enthusiastically applauded.

**Wednesday, January 22**

The Mayor mentioned that the town map would be approved before the local census began this year.

Marshal Patterson described a recent program dealing with local wildlife and that several people in his department had received training in dealing with wild creatures, including safe removal when necessary.

P&D committee member Melissa Murietta gave the Committee's recommendation that a carport variance at 240 Duquesne Av. be approved with the condition that the materials be non-flammable. P&D committee requested scheduling for a study session to continue discussion of proposed changes to the Town's General Plan, to be presented subsequently to the Town for general discussion and possible action.

Councilman Finch reported that the Town's CERT volunteer group (Certified Emergency Response Team) and Red Cross recently installed free smoke

alarms in 61 households of the 250 or so in the Town, or 20-25% of the homes.

The Trail Riders of Southern Arizona received permission to hold an event similar to last year's, to be called "There will be Dust VIII." It will include camping at Doc Mock Park. The main riding day will be Nov. 21, 2020. George Wysopal presented the town with a plaque of appreciation.

Similarly, the WINS (Wandering Individual Network Singles) group was given permission for their event which will again include camping at Doc Mock Park.

The new group "Friends of the Patagonia Pool," represented by Jan Herron received scheduling for a study session on the new committee's role for February 5 at 6 p.m. Herron added that the committee was arranging pool inspections and exploring grant applications.

For the Flood and Flow Committee, Chairperson Carolyn Shafer summarized the "Roadmap" project to generate the best possible "baseline" picture of the water conditions in the Sonoita Creek Watershed. The project has no cost to the town.

Shafer introduced Bryce Kirkpatrick of NextGen Engineering who presented powerpoint slides explaining the kinds of data being gathered and the mineral contaminants most commonly found.

He discussed the data sources they've used for their study. Both the Forest Service and South32 have been asked to provide data they are known to have, for groundwater and surface waters, and neither has yet complied. Data gaps, both in time and in location, were also mentioned in some of the slides. The water samples in the Town's wells were mentioned, and the results have never turned up any red flags.

NextGen hopes to have their report done soon. The Mayor showed interest in a proposal to continue the study. The studies will be available online and the "Patagonia Water Information" tab of the Town's website, <https://patagonia-az.gov/patagonia-water-information/>.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am a big admirer of your local newspaper, and enjoy every edition. A correction to last month's article concerning the mural painted on the end of the block. It was not a student work, but the work of a talented local artist who had family here, and perhaps still does. Daniel Randolph is the artist who conceived the project and did most of the work. He had a small studio in the

building, maybe where the Gathering Grounds is now. He perhaps had helpers such as Rhonda Brew. It was first painted at least 25 yrs ago; over time it became faded. A few years ago, my husband decided it was worth keeping. He contacted the owner for permission, and commissioned Rhonda to touch it up.

Phyllis Klosterman, Patagonia

# News From the Firelines

By Justin McEldowney

Recently, several Patagonia residents helped to put out a fire reported in someone's yard. I want to commend whoever it was that called in the smoke report because we at Patagonia Volunteer Fire & Rescue believe we can keep damage to a minimum when we respond early.

In this case, leaves were being burned in someone's backyard in all innocence, like so many do all across the country. Here in Patagonia I believe there's a town ordinance that all such burns be conducted in an enclosed barrel with a lid to keep cinders from floating away. If you plan to burn, I strongly suggest, in consideration of those whose time may be wasted on a false alarm, you make a phone call or two, one to the Sheriff's office (520) 761-7869 and another to a member of PVF&R, if not the chief himself; currently Ike Isakson (520) 604 2973. And please announce the location and duration of the controlled burn and your contact number so people can check up if needed.

Please also, stick around to keep an eye on your burn, with a hose at hand. An alternative is that some of your neighbors would be happy to take your leaves for their garden compost piles, so talk to your neighbors and let them know.

Some of you may have noticed a group of us practicing our skills near

Costello Drive earlier in the month. We plan to have more regular drills and training after our monthly meetings. These generally occur the first Sunday of the month starting at 9a.m. Please drop in to see how you can participate or even join us. Patagonia could always use more people trained to assist our neighbors when the going gets rough. The more available hands, the lighter the load for each. Kudos to our newest certified EMTs, Karina Hilliard, Dan Goff, and Starr and Todd Norton.

I'd like to thank folks for their end of year contributions. Our "thermometer" has been updated to show that we have about \$32,000 set aside for the purchase of a new, reliable water truck to add to our fleet. Deliver donations to Denise Bowden, treasurer, Ike or Diane Isakson, or c/o PFV&R PO Box 497.

Bob Ollerton, our Fleet Manager, has been hard at work getting our antique truck spruced up for the next century, having sent out the wheels for its second set of tires. We hope to have it in good repair and leading this year's Independence Day parade. This is a separate budget item from regular operations and donations to this project are asked for and appreciated.

Please feel free to specify a preference for where your donations should be put to use: general operations, the new water truck or tires for the antique truck.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Local Fire Safety Project a Success

It started with a newspaper article about Nogales Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) joining with the American Red Cross (ARC) to install smoke alarms in residents' homes. The Patagonia CERT decided to do the same in Patagonia. Patagonia CERT and Red Cross teams installed 111 smoke alarms in 62 homes in Patagonia.

When we contacted the ARC we found them eager to supply the alarms, come to Patagonia, provide installation and fire prevention training, and team with CERT volunteers to install the alarms.

The ten members of CERT signed up residents and made reminder calls a week before the event. Only a handful of Patagonia residents had to cancel, and we filled their spots from a waiting list. There were 64 households on our final list, and of those only two were not home when we arrived.

We also provided breakfast and lunch, a headquarters, some of the vehicles, and the local logistics of installation routes and maps. Town Manager Ron Robinson and his wife, Debbie, joined our installation teams

as volunteers.

We could never have succeeded without ARC. They supplied the alarms, all the equipment to install the alarms (from screws to stepladders), and educational material to encourage people to create fire escape plans and reduce fire hazards in their homes.

Even more impressive were the 11 ARC volunteers and two ARC employees who gave up their Saturday to help install the alarms. They came from Tucson, Sierra Vista, Hereford and Green Valley, so they had to wake up quite early to be in Patagonia by the 8:30 start time.

We formed seven installation teams with Red Cross and CERT members or Patagonia volunteers on each team. The two supply teams and the headquarters staff were also mixed teams. We worked together well.

I'm proud of the work of our CERT volunteers, thrilled at the generosity of the Red Cross volunteers, and just plain happy with what we succeeded in doing.

Marilyn Miller  
Patagonia

# Water Quality Report Presented

By Aisha Sander

The Town of Patagonia Flood and Flow Committee and the Friends of Sonoita Creek (FOSC) hosted an event on Jan. 22 focusing on the conclusion of their water quality study, conducted by the Nextgen Engineering firm, based in Tucson. The report, to be released to the public in March 2020, gathered data regarding the watershed to create a baseline for water quality, critical for monitoring the health of a watershed. Nextgen Engineering studied all available reliable data on both groundwater and surface water spatially and over time.

There has been continual presence by humans in Santa Cruz County for 12,000 years. The town of Patagonia is located within the Sonoita Creek Watershed, which is also used by ranchers, fishermen, miners and the US Forest Service. It is a wildlife corridor, because of its riparian habitat and elevation, and a tourist attraction. Along with historic ranching there has also been poor land management. All these are sources of stress for the watershed.

In the last century, the north and south sections of the watershed have had a lot of mining activity, but there is little data from the north and eastern parts of the watershed. Currently the southern part of the watershed, that is regularly sampled by Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), shows that there are parts of the watershed that are impaired and have chronic or acute exceedances of pollutants as defined by the ADEQ.

Exceedances is the term used by ADEQ when pollutants in a sample exceed the limit safe for humans. Some samples get categorized under exceedances because of a one-time measurement (acute) while others are measured over time (chronic). Other sections of the watershed are not impaired but have had chronic or acute exceedances in their samples and are categorized as “non-attaining.” There are sections of the watershed that are unimpaired. A majority of the watershed is not currently sampled or monitored by the ADEQ.

“With the geology of this area it is not surprising to see metals in the watershed”, said Bill O’Brien, head engineer for NextGen. However, exceedances of certain metals in the historical data can be assumed to be due to mining activity, said NextGen consultant Bruce Kirkpatrick.

It is important to consider the impact of acidity. Acidity in the sur-

face water makes it uninhabitable for aquatic life, affecting the southern part of the watershed and specifically Adam Gulch. The groundwater in this area is naturally “hard” caused by Calcium Bicarbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>). CaCO<sub>3</sub> affects plumbing infrastructure, plants, “may add a salty flavor to the water,” and affects the way erosion occurs, bringing naturally occurring elements into the watershed.

Despite the exceedances in nearby streams, the study shows that the “Town of Patagonia municipal well samples have been tested for 89 different contaminants, with zero samples exceeding health standards.”

The gaps in the current data reveal that testing for groundwater is concentrated in the middle of the watershed and there is very little information about the north and south sections. There are almost no samples from springs throughout the watershed. For surface water, the data is concentrated in the southern part of the watershed

The number of samples have also dramatically reduced in the last decade, though there is no conclusive answer to why that is the case. Nextgen suggested that we need citizen scientists to gather data for the areas of the water-

shed that have never been sampled and continue to sample more where there is existing data.

The presentation concluded with recommendations that a watershed committee or council be formed to develop long-term thinking around the health and management of the watershed.

Currently the Sonoita Creek watershed is not under active management by the state. When a watershed is designated as an active management area (AMA) it sets in motion a set of policies to protect the watershed. AMA areas in Arizona include the Santa Cruz River, which is the water source for Tucson.

O’Brien said that the stakeholders should not wait for Phoenix to make the Sonoita Creek Watershed an AMA and to take action now to begin the process to secure protection and funding from the state.

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July 2019 Aerial Photo of Hermosa Project Site

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Patagonia Area Resource Alliance  
www.PatagoniaAlliance.org

# A New Face at Patagonia Montessori

By Aisha Sander

Verena Miller, or Miss V as her students call her, has roots in Patagonia, having moved here from Georgia when she was 10 years old. After graduating from PUHS, Miller moved to Tucson to attend the University of Arizona and then Pima College to complete an associate degree in Early Childhood Education.

In the summer of 2019 Miller had just completed her degree and was planning to move to Oregon. However, her great-grandmother was moving from Georgia to

Patagonia and Miller was asked if she would be interested in moving home to help with her caregiving.

Miller said, "I always knew I wanted to be with my great-grandmother in the last years of her life but thought that I would have to uproot and move to Georgia to be with her. When the chance came for me to be with her in Patagonia, I took it."

As Miller prepared to move to Patagonia, her father told of her a job opportunity at the Patagonia Elementary Montessori School for a preschool teacher. When school principal Jessie Beebe interviewed Miller, she knew that she was the right fit for the school. Within three weeks Miller had to move, find a place to live and begin preparing for the new semester.

A semester into her role as the new preschool Montessori teacher, Miller has committed to training in the Montessori method under the supervision of Beebe. "The Montessori method and this small-town school is a perfect fit for me," Miller said, "and



Photo by Aisha Sander

**Verena Miller has returned to Patagonia to teach preschool at Patagonia Montessori.**

the individualized, intimate setting of the school is best for a child's development."

Miller is guided by a number of core principles in her classroom. First, she aims to be an observer and, rather than correcting children, she watches and waits for an opportunity to model how to use the materials in the classroom. Second, she sets up the classroom in a way that students are guided by their individual interests to the Montessori materials. Third, she gives students the time to figure things out for themselves. Lastly, she models and demonstrates how to use the materials without using a lot of words.

Growing up in Patagonia has shaped Miller's personality and returning to her hometown as a teacher has been unexpectedly wonderful, she said. "I never knew it would feel so good to give back and serve my community."

## Local Poet Honored at National Finals Rodeo

Janet Clyne Anderson of the Clyne Cattle Ranch near Elgin, AZ was presented with an engraved medallion for being honored as a Famous Woman of the West during the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas, Nevada in Dec. 2019.

Anderson's poem, "Brandin' Time" is published in "Treasured Poems of America."

She attended California Polytechnic State University,

and is a former Cal Poly Royal Rodeo Sweetheart Princess. She is an associate member of the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association and the Santa Cruz County Fair & Rodeo Association.

Anderson attends Pro Rodeo Cowboy Association Rodeos, Little Britches Rodeos, Indian Rodeos, and is a contributor to National Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame.

## Crossing Over the Stream

By Robert Druchniak

Like a cluster  
of leaves  
we set out  
with the wind  
on a brook path  
where juncos gathered  
taking flight,  
streaking white  
against dark trees.

We gave up  
the busy stream  
of the workplace  
for mountain air  
and sunlight,  
left the traffic

and the noise  
for the soft sound  
of footsteps  
and our breath  
climbing up  
to those views  
we dreamt of  
sitting behind  
a desk.

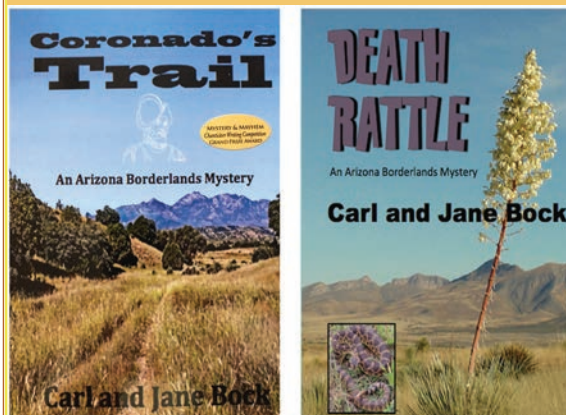
We let go  
the language  
of business,  
the office chatter  
for birdsong  
and river music.



Photo by Johnny Chapin

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# SECG Marks First Anniversary

By Becky Cooper

January 1 marked the one-year anniversary of the closure of the Sonoita Courthouse by the county, and the beginning of the grassroots Sonoita Elgin Community Group (SECG). SECG has had an active and productive year and plans to continue to advocate for eastern Santa Cruz County in 2020.

Over this past year SECG has worked with officials and members of the community and conducted two community town halls to capture and prioritize community concerns. The group has also hosted two county training sessions at the Sonoita Fairgrounds about understanding and appealing property taxes, expanded watch-dog efforts by attending numerous Board of Supervisors, School and Fire Board meetings, coordinated community presentations by the School and Fire Boards with focus on their budgets, conducted two community surveys and published nine articles in the Patagonia Regional Times and the Nogales International. SECG has also worked to expand outreach via email and Facebook.

At the state level, SECG assisted Representative Gail Griffin in developing HB2486 on county boundaries and, after that bill failed in the legislature,

assisted with the establishment of the current study group exploring a boundary change with results due by the end of 2020.

The group coordinated at the state level to bring awareness of high taxes and residential assessments impacting Eastern SCC, met with Cochise and Santa Cruz County officials on community issues and connected with the Tubac Santa Cruz Valley Citizens Counsel.

Future plans include discussions about how to repurpose the Sonoita Courthouse and exploring the creation of a 501.c.(3) or (4) foundation to facilitate grants and county contributions to benefit the community. The group would like to facilitate election debates and discussions, inform the community of vacancies on various boards and encourage citizens to run.

SECG will continue to monitor and inform the State Study Group and continue to monitor and report on the Board of Supervisors, and the School and Fire Boards

For more information about the Sonoita Elgin Community Group, contact [sonoitaelgincommunitygroup@gmail.com](mailto:sonoitaelgincommunitygroup@gmail.com).

# South32 Finishes Remediation at Trench Mine

South32 today announced completion of its voluntary remediation project at the former Trench Mine, a closed mine last operated more than 50 years ago on the present-day Hermosa Project site.

The project involved remediating tailings from historic mining activities. Previously, the tailings had high moisture content and were placed directly on native ground. This type of tailings storage facility (TSF) allowed for stormwater to soak through and enter local waterways during heavy rainfall, carrying heavy metal contaminants.

The TSF has now been redesigned as a dry stack system, which means the tailings are highly compressed with low moisture levels. A multilayer liner system with sophisticated lead detection underlays the tailings, collecting rainwater that soaks through and directing it to an on-site treatment plant.

The remediation work was completed in accordance with the Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. The approach adopted, which was selected to ensure the

highest standards of safety and water conservation, cost over \$30 million.

The project, commenced in 2017, involved over a million work hours from South32 employees and contractors, most local to Santa Cruz County.

Pat Risner, President of the Hermosa Project, said "South32 works to high standards because that matters deeply to our stakeholders, whether they own wells downstream from our site, livestock close to the waterways, or shares in our company. It also matters deeply to all of us who work at Hermosa. We need to be able to hold our heads high when we talk about our work, and I'm proud to say that our project team can do that."

"South 32 has done a great job in designing and working with the VRP to ensure that we have the right system in place to address everything that's coming off their property, to include their future processing," said VRP program director for ADEQ Laura Malone. "It's a win for the environment, and that's first and foremost. It's a win for South32, because they have a viable mine site, and they're going to be able to be in that area for a long time. And it's a win for the agency, because we know we have a site that is being managed appropriately and works well with the agency to address any of our concerns."

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South32 owns the Hermosa Project, a zinc, lead, and silver development option in the Patagonia Mountains.



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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](https://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](mailto: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](https://careers.south32.net)



# Nature Journeys

By Vince Pinto

## February's Far-flung Fruits

February can be a rather bleak month, dietarily speaking, for our native wildlife. While most prudent invertebrates, reptiles, and amphibians give it a miss altogether, our broad array of birds and mammals must somehow tough it out and find sufficient food. Fortunately for these stolid February foragers, several key plant species dangle their fruits predominantly in winter. Not only does a wild animal gain nutrition and fitness from dining upon winter's wild fruits, but the fruits themselves gain much in the bargain as well.

In the game of "eat or be eaten" superficial examination of the relationships between native plants and wildlife seem to be heavily skewed towards animals taking advantage of plants. After all, when a wildlife species consumes part of a native plant, the animal benefits, while the plant loses part of its hard-earned flesh. Right?

Well, sometimes this relationship actually can benefit the plant. In fact, a good number of plants lure in various birds and mammals to eat their fruits in the hope that their seeds might be successfully dispersed.

The obvious dilemma here from the plant's perspective is that its seeds are immobile and therefore condemned to be moved only by wind, water, or gravity. While many plant species employ these means of dispersal,

others have recruited warm-blooded vertebrates - our birds and mammals - in an effort not only to transport future generations to more distant locales, but even to help them germinate better in the process. Surround your seed with tasty flesh and there's no telling just who might come in and sup upon the free feast, ultimately scarifying the seeds in stomach acids, thus improving germination rates!

This year the fruits of netleaf hackberry heavily bedeck their branches in an ongoing feast. Living up to its alternate name, sugarberry, the fruit tastes like rich date sugar - a sure temptation for mammals and birds alike. A cursory glance at the range map of this tree species virtually screams "birds ate me!" as many isolated populations are found in the western U.S. I have witnessed American robins, Townsend's solitaires, and cedar waxwings, among others, downing the tasty orange-red fruits of this species.

A slew of medium-sized, omnivorous mammals also partake of the sweet treats adorning the netleaf hackberry. The next time you pass this leaden-barked tree notice its rather gangly, often horizontal limbs. Despite their lack of girth these branches of about finger-to-wrist thickness easily accommodate the weight of a medium-sized foraging mammal. During the day watch for white-nosed coats

greedily devouring the fruit. They pull in smaller branches with their paws and artfully hang - even upside-down - in order to reach as much of the bounty as possible. Watching a troop of these neotropical procyonids is truly a marvel.

Seeing other mammals ferry fruits is decidedly more difficult, as they tend to be mostly nocturnal. Still, scat doesn't lie, and even less observant forest wanderers may notice the seeds and remaining bright orange flesh of hackberries in the scat of northern raccoon, ringtail, grey fox (yes, they can climb trees with alacrity), Virginia opossum, and possibly some of our skunk species as well.

Coinciding with this sugarberry banquet are the truly different fruits (really unopened, fleshy cones) of red-berry juniper. This widespread conifer, like hackberry, has variable fruiting years. This year has been a boon, much to the benefit of our frugivorous native birds and mammals.

Despite its aromatic taste, juniper fruit draws in much the same lineup of mammalian munchers as netleaf hackberry, leading this time to bright purple remnants in scat. Interestingly, the branches of this juniper are very mammal-friendly as well in regards to bearing their weight.

This juniper hedges its bet by luring in a number of birds as well. Cedar waxwings properly should be called juniper waxwings, as the name refers to their habit of eating the fruits

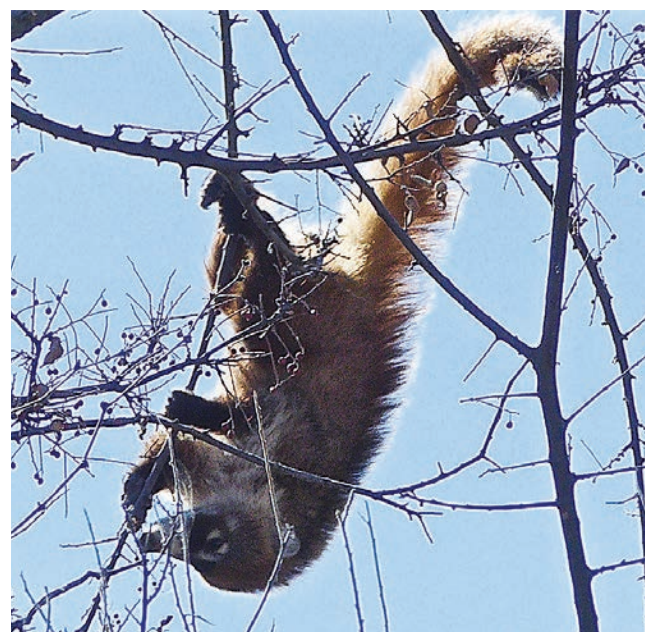


Photo by Vince Pinto

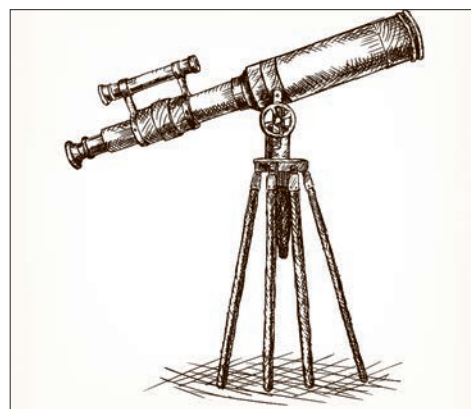
**A coatimundi feasts on the fruits of the netleaf hackberry.**

of various Juniperus species. Sage thrashers, uncommon winter visitors to our parts, can be found hanging out in red-berry juniper, often consuming the fruit they're surrounded by. Once I marveled at a red-berry juniper tree near my home that simultaneously housed multiple sage thrashers, a northern mockingbird, a curve-billed thrasher, and a crissal thrasher!

Adding to February's frozen fruit feast are various mistletoes (as per my last article), snakewood or Warnock's condalia, fishhook barrel cactus, cane cholla, and silverleaf nightshade - each with their own fascinating and literally alluring natural history tales to tell.

*Vincent Pinto and his wife, Claudia, run RAVENS-WAY WILD JOURNEYS LLC, their Nature Adventure & Conservation organization devoted to protecting and promoting the unique biodiversity of the Sky Islands region. Visit: [www.ravensnatureschool.org](http://www.ravensnatureschool.org)*

## STARSTRUCK



By Harold Meckler

Everywhere you turn there's evidence of the cycle of life. It's obvious and, for all of us, it's altogether comforting. It's in the trees, in the flowering bushes crushed by the winter cold and yet in full bloom by June, and certainly in eyes of every newborn, human or otherwise. And, it's in the stars. They're born, they age, they die, and from their deaths new stars are created.

One of the brightest and most observable objects in our winter night sky is

Betelgeuse in the huge constellation Orion, The Hunter. The "red giant" is a variable star. It has brightened and dimmed for as long as people have gazed upon it. It is so immense that if it were to replace the sun at the center of our solar system, its mass would overtake and engulf our planet.

We normally think that it takes time to grow so large. But that is not the case with Betelgeuse. While the sun is, perhaps, around 4.5 billion years old, the red giant is a baby at just 10 million years of age. Just like us, stars are not all the same. Sometimes, the best and brightest among us are not rewarded with long life. Scientists have always known that red giants behave this way. Their growth is too great to be sustained.

Recent articles have pointed out that Betelgeuse has, of late, dimmed much more than usual. It may simply be an anomaly, a function of an old star having a coughing fit of sorts. But

Betelgeuse is clearly at risk. It may just have another 100,000 years of life, a mere blink of the eye in the life of a star. But the recent dimming has led some to wonder whether its end may come even sooner. When it does finally succumb, when its core finally burns up the last of the helium and is left with solid, heavier elements, it will shrink and then explode violently into a supernova that will be unmistakably visible to all.

And then what? Well, researchers have been analyzing a meteorite that fell in Australia some 50 years ago. They have been able to date embedded, microscopic particulates, and have concluded that some of these tiny grains or, as they phrase it, stardust, are 7 billion years old. Just as Betelgeuse will explode, so did an ancient star in our galaxy. Its remnants flew into space billions of years before our sun was born, before any of the planets we are so familiar with were created. And, while the explosion of that star helped to generate new stars, bits and pieces continued to fly

around and by chance embedded in a meteor that fell to Earth. Even crazier, the same researchers found evidence of other, much younger stars, more stardust, in the same piece of rock that found its way to Australia.

But it's much more than that. At a lecture I attended many years ago, someone asked the speaker whether his study of astronomy and the awe he felt on a regular basis made him feel small or whether, being a part of something so grand, he felt larger than life.

The thing is, I don't remember his answer. I was too busy forming my own. I was too busy trying to understand that there is no distinction between the heavens and the earth. One reflects the other. The cycle of life is everywhere. Matter is neither gained nor lost, it's just moved from one object to another. We're the stardust. Does it matter whether the emotion of awe makes one feels bigger or smaller? I don't think so. It only matters that we know that we can experience it because we're part of it.

# Ranch Tour to Benefit Local Scholarships

By Betty Barr



Contributed photo

**The ZZ Cattle Corporation is a fourth-generation, family owned ranch which stretches from the border northward to Peña Blanca Lake.**

The Santa Cruz County Cowbelles Ranch Tour 2020 will be held Saturday, March 28 at the ZZ Cattle Corporation, located northwest of Nogales.

The daylong event begins at the ranch headquarters at 9 a.m. and features a guided tour of the historic house led by a family member, as well as a pack mule demonstration by Shane Lyman, U.S. Forest Service. Mike and Beth Hughes will interact with guests on a calf roping dummy and Pat Fischer will explain the art of reading brands.

Shuttle bus transportation will be provided to the corral area for working ranch horse/cattle demonstrations and horseshoeing along with Michaela and Andrew McGibbon showing the latest innovations in handling cattle.

Live music and cowboy poetry by Eldon Housley will entertain during the luncheon, which features Rex Dalton's authentic chuckwagon bbq steaks with all the trimmings and Dutch oven fruit cobbler. Campfire coffee and wine will also be served.

County 4-H and FFA students will help direct parking and have some of their exhibits and produce available for purchase.

A brief discussion of how ranchers, farmers, and various agencies cooperate with each other to facilitate working along the border will be emceed by Dean Fish of the Santa Fe Ranch. The panel includes representatives of Arizona State Game and Fish and U.S. Border Patrol, ZZ Cattle Corporation rancher Dan Bell, John Fleischer of JM Cattle Corporation and Chris Ciruli of the Produce Distributors Industry.

The purpose of the tour is to fund the Santa Cruz County Cowbelles' scholarship program for graduating high school seniors and to aid in the organization's beef and agricultural promotional efforts. Registration is \$85 per person and includes all the above plus complimentary gift bags for each guest.

To request a registration form or for additional information, please contact [brockingbooks@gmail.com](mailto:brockingbooks@gmail.com).

# South32 Exec Meets With School Bd.

By Marion Vendituoli



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

**Pat Risner says that the Hermosa Project is committed to minimizing risk, noise and dust at the Patagonia Schools.**

Pat Risner, president of the Hermosa Project, addressed the joint Patagonia School Boards on Jan. 15 to discuss potential traffic concerns near school property.

Eight members of the Elementary and High School Boards, as well as four staff members, were present for the meeting. Safety concerns about increased truck traffic from mining activities had been raised by local environmentalist and author Gary Nabhan in an opinion piece in the December issue of the PRT, which had also been circulated throughout the community. The School board invited both Nabhan and Risner to address the Board, but Nabhan was unable to attend.

Risner opened his remarks by saying that the Hermosa Project

was committed to safety. "If we can't keep people safe, we will not do it," he said. He refuted Nabhan's statement that the mine had chosen a route that passed by the school. "He stated that we have revealed our preferred option bringing trucks by the school. That is not accurate at all," Risner said. "We have paused, took a step back, and are studying how to move product to market."

"We have evaluated up to 13 different routes," he stated. "Going by the school is not the preferred route." The mine has a "three-tiered approach" to the school safety issue, he explained. "Our first preference is to eliminate that risk entirely." If the trucks were to be routed past the school, he suggested that "there is all kinds of technology to eliminate risk." He restated that "Any level of risk is totally unacceptable," and said that there would be full transparency about what technology would be utilized on trucks being used by the mine.

The issue of dust raised by passing and possible increased exposure to Valley fever was also raised. "We can minimize dust," he said. He added that dust would only be an issue during construction of the potential road, which would be paved.

The issue of truck noise going by the school was raised, with Risner responding by stating "I am very confident that we can address noise with technology. He mentioned that the company was looking at electric trucks as an alternative. PUHS Board member Jim Cosby asked if the material shipped by the mine would be going to different ports. Risner answered that there are ports in CA, on the Gulf Coast and in Mexico that are potential destinations, but that they would prefer to use one port. He mentioned Guaymas as one option, but that "none of those decisions have been made." Patagonia Elementary Board Member Nancy McCoy asked about the possibility of a light rail system be installed. "A light rail system all the way to the site is unlikely," Risner answered.

South32's pre-feasibility study will be released in April, according to Risner, which should provide some clarity regarding, among other issues, the preferred routes and method of transport for the ore being shipped to market.

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# Glimpses Into Our Past

By Alison Bunting

Six of the nine one-room schools built in Eastern Santa Cruz County in the early 1900s were in close to Elgin, where the population was booming. The 1900 U.S. Census had one enumeration district (Elgin) for the area and recorded a total of 154 residents. By the 1920 Census there were four enumeration districts (Canille, Elgin, Sonoita, and Vaughn) and 409 residents. As a result, schools were built in Elgin, Canelo, Parker Canyon, Rain Valley, Sonoita and Vaughn, and teachers were needed for all. In addition to the newspaper sources cited below information for this article comes from Betty Barr's "Hidden Treasures of Santa Cruz County" (2006).

Three women from two pioneer families in the Elgin area played a key role in the education of area children. Dixie Collie, age 16, and her brother Stone joined her parents, Ruben and Lucinda, in Elgin about 1910. An older brother, Bill, had begun homesteading in Vaughn a few years earlier. Dixie was certified to teach second grade at age 17. [AZ Republic 6/18/1911]. Chopeta, age 20 and Fern, age 18, moved with their parents, Marcus and Nellie Bartlett, to homestead in Elgin in May 1912. Within a month Chopeta had passed the certificate exam to teach first grade. [Arizona Republic, 6/12/1912]. The Bartlett and Collie families quickly became intertwined by

friendship and marriage. Fern and Dixie became close friends and in 1913 attended the summer session at Arizona Normal School [now Northern Arizona University] in Flagstaff. In August, Fern received her second-grade teacher's certificate. [Tucson Citizen, 7/1/1913; Arizona Republic, 8/28/1913].

In 1913 Chopeta married Bill Collie. They had one daughter, Leslie Fern, born in 1918. Chopeta took the civil service Postmaster exam in 1914, was secretary of the Santa Cruz County Fair Association in 1915, and the WWI registrar for Elgin in 1918. She taught in Cochise County, Vaughn, and Rain Valley. [Tucson Citizen 5/22/1922, 9/4/1923; AZ Daily Star, 8/30/1924].

By 1925 the family was living in Tucson. Chopeta began to work at the Fisher Music Company where she headed up the record and sheet music departments. She and Bill divorced in 1929; she remarried in 1933. A talented pianist, trained at Oberlin Music Institute, Chopeta was active in the Tucson music scene. She died in 1977, age 84.

Dixie's first teaching assignments were in the mining towns of Mowry, Greaterville, and Russelville, while Fern began teaching at the Elgin school. In 1917 Fern organized the program for Children's Day, and Dixie was part of a quartet that provided musical accompaniment. [The Border Vidette, 6/17/1917]. In 1919 Fern married

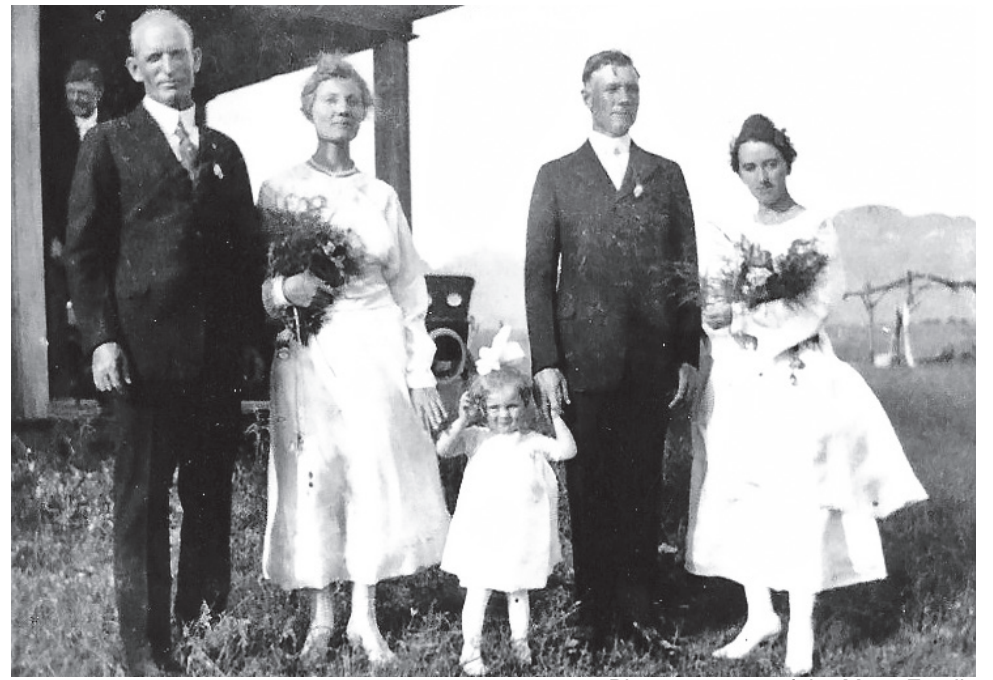


Photo courtesy of the Moss Family

From left: ) Almond Walker, Dixie Collie Walker, Leslie Collie (Bill & Chopeta Collie's daughter), Stone Collie, and Fern Bartlett Collie on their double wedding day, August 28, 1919.

Stone Collie and Dixie married Almond Walker in a double wedding ceremony. Almond was a cowboy Dixie had met in Russelville; he was disabled by pleurisy not long after they wed. They moved to Tucson in 1922 where Dixie worked as a cafeteria cook for many years. The couple also owned and operated the Walker Riding Stables. Almond and Dixie had three children, Philip, Robert and Mary. Almond died in 1960, age 71; Dixie died in 1991, age 97.

Fern and Stone Collie ranched on Stone's Vaughn homestead until 1925 when they were forced to sell their ranch and move to Tucson when cattle prices dropped. The 1930 U.S. Census

lists Stone's occupation as carpenter and Fern's as teacher. They had three daughters, Marka, Jane, and Faye. In 1929 Fern ran unopposed for the school board post in the Amphitheater District, a position she held for several years. She was a member of the executive committee that arranged for the first concert of the fledgling Tucson Symphony in 1929 and was first violin chair of the symphony in 1930. [AZ Daily Star, 1/12/1930, 9/12/1948]. By 1940 the couple had returned to Elgin where they operated a guest ranch and Fern once again taught at the Elgin School. Stone died in 1982, age 90 and Fern in 1984, age 89; both are buried at the Black Oak Cemetery in Canelo.

## Mountain Empire Rotary Hosts Recycling Event By Anne Gibson



Contributed photo

**Michael Sweedo unloads material from his truck at the Fairgrounds to be hauled away by Suburban Miners of Tucson.**

The Mountain Empire Rotary sponsored a community recycling event on Dec. 28. Spearheaded by Clare Bonelli, the Suburban Miners of Tucson came to the Sonoita Fairgrounds on a very cold, snowy morning to haul off unused electronics, scrap metal and packaging foam.

All morning folks came with their cars and truck beds full of old stuff, including fencing, metal bed frames, appliances (large and small), computers,

monitors, rusty old stuff that had been laying around their property for years.

Given that the county is recycling a small percentage of items deposited at the Sonoita dump and in the recycle bins in Patagonia, it's a tremendous community service to have the opportunity of getting junk hauled away by a company that not only recycles, but refurbishes items and donates the items to their "Free

Store" in Tucson to be re-used.

Many household items are available at the Free Store, 3820 E. Blackledge Drive. The store is open on Wednesday mornings and on the first Saturday of each month.

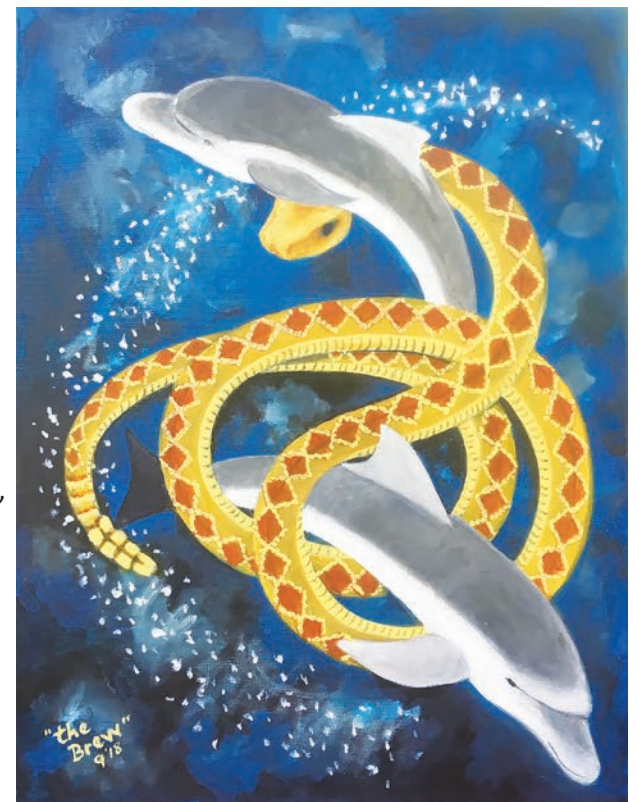
The Mountain Empire Rotary Club hopes to sponsor this event every six months as a community service and an effort to further beautify our landscape.

## Undercurrents

By Patra Kelly

Ages ago,  
it seems,  
I fell into a river  
rushing toward a Sea  
with no name or shore.

Now I float  
on the Sea's surface,  
drawn beneath  
by undercurrents  
when we speak of things  
that take us places  
known and unfathomed,  
shadowed and luminous,  
and back again  
from earth's magnificence  
to human wastelands,  
in and out  
of thinking  
asking  
marveling  
musing  
lamenting  
playing  
sinking  
into the depths  
of this Sea  
where we can never  
touch  
bottom.



Artwork by Rhonda Brew

# Open for Business

## New Business News

### Eatery to Serve Fast, Fresh Tacos and More

By Marion Vendituoli

Fans of street tacos in Patagonia have reason to celebrate with the opening of Crown B Taqueria this February at 328 W. Naugle Ave. James and Alexis Banks have remodeled the space that was formerly Mercedes Restaurant and, more recently, MJ's Restaurant, and have created a menu based on a variety of street tacos.

Street tacos are smaller tacos intended to be eaten as finger food. Customers will be offered a choice of corn or flour tortillas or lettuce cups filled with carne asada, pork (al pastor), chicken, ground beef, and portobello mushroom and green chili. There will be a 'fixings' bar with toppings that include fresh and pickled vegetables and locally made salsa. The couple will also be serving Mexican corn on the cob topped with crema, butter, queso fresca, chili and cilantro. Mexican sourced soda will be available, and the couple is planning to serve alcohol, as well. The restaurant will be open Tues – Thursday, 11a.m. – 7p.m. and Friday, Saturday, 11a.m. – 9p.m. as soon as the liquor license is approved.

The Banks were inspired by their frequent trips to Mexico to focus on this cuisine. "We love street tacos," Alexis said. They wanted to provide an inexpensive, fast food option for diners in Patagonia. They have remodeled the restaurant and patio area and added a small bar. The couple plans to hire PUHS students and plans to extend their hours on high school game nights to provide a place where players and fans can grab a meal after the games.

The Banks consider their venture to be a tribute to James' late father, David Banks, a well-known racehorse trainer. The walls of the dining area are covered with winner's circle photos of family owned and trained horses and the TVs broadcast live racing. David Banks ran his racing stable on Harshaw Rd. in Patagonia, where Spirit Tree Inn is now located, from 1983 – 1999, when the family moved to Kentucky and then Louisiana. James' aunt, Virginia Banks Lazenby, who helped to finance the Taqueria, continues to run both flat and steeplechase



Photo by Aisha Sander

**James and Alexis Banks want to create a welcoming atmosphere for locals and tourists at the Crown B Taqueria in Patagonia.**

racehorses at tracks across the country.

The couple both grew up in eastern Santa Cruz County. James attended PUHS, and Alexis grew up in Elgin, the great-granddaughter of Cassie and Clint Mellor, of Canelo. They moved away from the area but returned in 2019 with their three-year-old daughter Sophia. They continue to train horses on their Lake Patagonia property. James, who had worked breaking the young horses in his father's stables, is now concentrating on team roping horses, while Alexis continues working with barrel horses.

At the restaurant, James is the chef, while Alexis takes care of the front of the house. Alexis has been involved in the restaurant business for several years. Her first job was at the Steakout in Sonoita. "It's a dream to have your own place," she said. "I want this to be the neighborhood 'Cheers.' I want the cowboys, the miners, law enforcement, the birdwatchers and the locals to come in and feel welcome."

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# Something New Brewing in Sonoita

By Pat McNamara



Photo by Pat McNamara

**Sonoita Heritage Coffee displays their products at a recent Empire Ranch Event. From left: Stephanie Drefs, Kelsey Perez, Mike Wright.**

"Good coffee and a good story just go together," said Sonoita Bible Church Pastor Mike Wright. His goal for his newest venture, Sonoita Heritage Coffee, located next to the Sonoita Bible Church, across from the Fire Station on Hwy 83, is to produce artisan coffee and, ultimately, provide a community gathering place.

As pastor of the church and chaplain for the fire department, Wright already had his dance card full but a little idea, planted by his friend Steve Gamble was still lurking in the back of his mind. Gamble introduced Wright to artisan coffee roasting. Wright was so taken by the smell of the roasting coffee beans and taste of the final brewed product that, with the encouragement of his sister and brother-in-law from California, Sonoita Heritage Coffee was born.

An electric roaster was purchased and a special attachment for his propane grill was procured. The coffee beans were ordered online, as were the special packaging and labels. Wright had done extensive research into the art of coffee making and picked the brains of fellow coffee connoisseurs in the area to help him produce the best, artisan coffee possible. Sonoita Heritage Coffee was off and running, or rather 'roasting.'

But that was only part of the whole picture that Wright had in mind. The word 'Heritage' is in the name of his business because he is especially interested in honoring the heritage of the Sky Islands and sharing the history and atmosphere of the Sonoita / Elgin area.

Wright has a passion for bringing people together as a community. His tasting room next to his office offers books to share and comfortable seating. His dream is to eventually own a coffee house where people could meet and relax in a comfortable atmosphere while savoring artisan, specialty

coffees and sharing stories of their experiences.

Wright states that the making of really good coffee is in the bean selection, how it is roasted and then how it is brewed, similar to the production of a good wine.

Wright stated that coffee beans are not beans at all but seeds from a fruit, much like a pit in a cherry. Coffee is grown at higher altitudes close to the equator. He purchases his beans from Africa, Chiapas Mexico, other parts of Central America and Hawaii. Preferring to support the Mexican economy, Chiapas is where he tends to get most of his product.

Once dried, raw coffee beans have a very long shelf life and can keep for years. Once the beans are roasted, the shelf life is shortened and once ground, the decomposition is even quicker.

Wright offered tips in storing coffee. "The trick to keeping it fresh is to keep the oxygen out, moisture out, light out and keep it away from heat," he said. "Keeping coffee in the freezer or refrigerator is not recommended unless the container remains sealed. Once opened, it is best to keep the coffee in an airtight container in a cabinet away from heat."

Wright hopes that his little coffee shop takes hold in Sonoita and will bring the community together for friendship and a perfectly brewed cup of coffee. Sharing the history and stories of this special place in Arizona with locals and travelers is his goal. Wright trusts that this atmosphere captures the warm spirit of his customers as the aroma of roasting coffee beans has captured his.

For more information, visit Sonoita Heritage Coffee at Facebook@ Sonoita Heritage Coffee. Wright can be contacted at Info@SonoitaHeritageCoffee.com.

# Check It Out At The Library



Photo by Laura Wenzel

**Tucson Wildlife Center volunteers enthrall the audience with tales of baby javelinas, skunks, and hawks at their recent presentation at the library**

By Laura Wenzel Patagonia Library is in the thick of winter programming, from the Arizona Humanities Road Scholar Series "AZ Speaks," to Music and Coloring evenings, to the Short Attention Span discussion group.

In addition, we've added the Foreign Policy Association's "Great Discussions 2020" for eight weeks on Wednesdays from 4-6 p.m., beginning February 12. The Great Discussions program is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The topics this year include Climate Change and the Global Order, India and Pakistan, Red Sea Security, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, and more. Sign up at the library to be part of the discussion and to get your reading material.

If you've been wondering where the Little Free Pantry has gone, look no

further! Donated by Steve Niichel and Nancy Coyote, the pantry used to be at the Eastern Arizona Food Bank location at the 7th Day Adventist Church. The pantry is now attached to the front of the library facing Duquesne Avenue. Stop by anytime, day or night, to replenish the shelves with non-perishable items or take something for yourself if you need it.

The library is currently looking for volunteers. Do you have a passion for helping people, working with computers, organizing, learning about your community, or being surrounded by literature and art? Then you might fit in perfectly with us! Contact Laura at 520-394-2010 for more information.

We've still got room for more teams at the Friends of the Library Trivia Fundraiser on Saturday, February 8 from 7-9 pm. Tickets are \$25.

## Behind The Scenes of Town Government

By Aisha Sander

Meet Andrea Sanchez, the Town of Patagonia's Administrative Assistant. Sanchez began working in 2010 and is the friendly voice that answers all calls to the town. She enters utility payments into the system, makes deposits to the bank, payroll, accounts payable/receivable, answers the phones, gets the council books ready for the meetings, and issues business license.

The most difficult aspect of her job is prioritizing her time throughout the day and making sure all her work is completed.

Sanchez enjoys time with her co-workers and looks forward to seeing members of the community as they come in to pay their bill and to help resolve any issues they may have.

Sanchez said that she hopes "the



Photo by Aisha Sander

residents of Patagonia continue to keep making our little town a beautiful place to live."



Four new members have joined the Santa Cruz County Fair and Rodeo Association 2020 Board of Directors. New officers are Harry Dotson, president; Doug Van Epps, vice-president; Paul Brosseit, secretary and Tiffany George, treasurer. From left: Ken Karrells, Doug Van Epps, Ed Gaines, Paul Brosseit, Randy Scouten, Harry Dotson, Nick Robbs, Tiffany George. Not present, Jim Rowley.

## Senior Center News

By Valerie Hing

The Patagonia Senior Center will begin a Guest Chef meal program on Saturday, Feb. 29 at 5 p.m. Town Manager, Ron Robinson, will be the first "guest chef," said Chuck Kelly, spokesman for the Center.

Future guest chefs will offer German, Mexican, Hawaiian and other cultural food specialties, said Kelly. Tickets can be purchased at the senior center.

The Senior Center will celebrate Valentines Day on Friday, Feb. 14 with

a party and raffle.

598 meals were served in December. The transportation program drove 2,493.6 miles in December with 44 clients and 119.25 volunteer driver hours.

In other news, Delta Dental recently awarded the Center another grant to help pay dental bills for our seniors.

The evaporator cooler was replaced and an electric generator will be installed to provide electricity during blackout periods.



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## The Town of Patagonia Garbage Code Lets do our part RIGHT!

1. Cover your Bins
2. All your Bins should be accessible by placing them outside of your fence at 6 a.m
3. Garbage bags must be sealed and less than 50lbs and placed into the bins.
4. Containers must be in good condition.
5. Any Garbage that is disturbed or fallen will not be picked up.
6. Remove your containers from the sidewalk as soon as practically possible after pick-up.



**Improperly disposed garbage is a dangerous hazard for everyone.**



**Thank you to the Town Employees for keeping Patagonia clean.**

## Critter of the Month

By Cami Schlappy

Desert Centipedes (*Scolopendra polymorpha*) spend the daytime under cover and come out at night to hunt things like insects, lizards, mice, and frogs.

Centipedes swing their body around when envenomating prey. This has led to the misconception that centipedes "pinch" with their tail; while in fact, they use the first pair of modified legs to inject their venom.

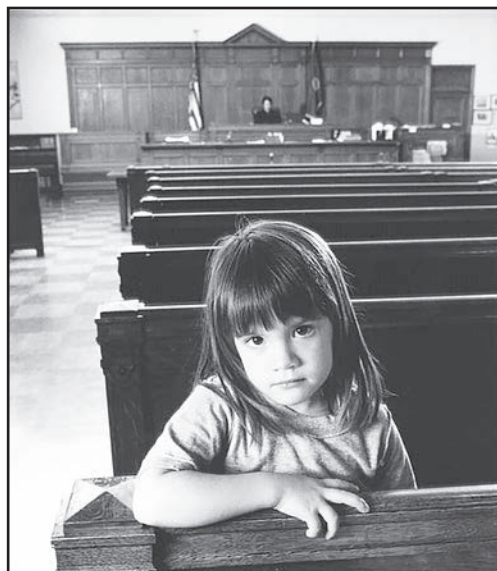
Badgers, ringtails, coyotes, owls, and bobcats prey on centipedes.

Interestingly, female centipedes coil around their eggs and groom



Photo by Cami Schlappy

them. They also care for hatchlings for a few days until they disperse. It is thought that wild centipedes live for about five years.



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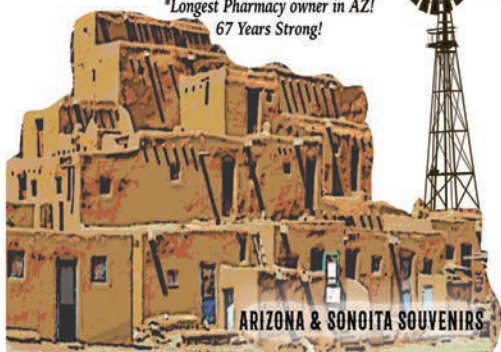
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## Feb & March 2019 Schedule

**February 2: 3 p.m.** Newpoli Ensemble  
Mediterranean \$35 Prepay /\$40 at the door

**February 16: 3 p.m.** Duo Yumeno - Japanese koto  
and violoncello \$35 Prepay /\$40 at the door

**March 1: 3 p.m.** U of A Musicians on Tour  
\$20 Prepay /\$25 at the door

Visit [www.scfpapresents.org](http://www.scfpapresents.org)  
for more information

## KPUP Broadcast Schedule Fall / Winter 2019-2020

- Monday:** 7:00pm to 8:00pm; eTown repeat of Saturday's show.  
**Tuesday:** 10:00am to 12:00pm; World Jazz with Mark Berg  
7:00pm to 9:00pm; Jazz and Blues with Fred Hansen  
**Wednesday:** 10:00am - 11am: Ordinary People Radio Hour. Interview  
with Inge Meijer on Feb 12. Emphasizing the ordinary  
within each of us, expanding our awareness through  
topics of interest.  
7:00pm to 10pm; Sean Alexander show  
**Thursday:** 7:00pm to 10:00pm; Possibility Explorers.  
"Celebrating the Evening of Mushkil Gusha, the Remover  
of All Difficulties". Hosted by Graves  
**Friday:** 7:00pm to 9:00pm; Hook's Sunken Roadhouse  
**Saturday:** 12:00pm to 1:00pm; eTown - "Educate, entertain and  
inspire listeners through music and conversation"  
**Sunday:** 6:00pm to 8:00pm; Acoustic Café "Today's great  
songwriting talents. A bit of country, rock, blues, folk, pop"  
8:00pm to 10:00pm; Folk Alley "Folk Music Radio from  
WKSU-FM in Kent, OH"  
**Daily Shows:**  
Swing Hour: 5:00pm to 6:00pm.  
Best of the Oldies: 1:00pm to 2:00am.  
Feature Story News (FSN.com) Mon - Fri. 8 am., 12pm and 6pm.,  
Sat. 8am & 6pm., Sun. at 8am.

# MOVIES AT THE TIN SHED THEATER

## FEBRUARY 2020 SCHEDULE

**February 1: 6p.m.** TV Dinners at the Tin Shed  
\$20 per person includes a home cooked dinner and  
some of your favorite vintage TV shows (TV tray in-  
cluded!)

**February 16: 4p.m. COMEDY EVENT:** New York  
Comedian Vanessa Hollingshead *Cocktails and hors  
d'ouvres served pre-show.* \$25 per person in advance. Call  
520-394-9369. Limited seating

**February 20: 6p.m "Sunú,"** directed by Teresa  
Camou Guerrero. "A multiple award winning documentary  
about Maize, a treasured seed and one of the most important  
staples of the world. As genetically modified seeds threaten its  
existence, farmers are fighting to remain free, independent, and  
to protect maize." A film presented by the Mexican Con-  
sulate FREE

**February 29: 2p.m** Royal Opera House Cinema:  
"The Sleeping Beauty" Suggested Donation \$10

**March 14, 5pm** PCAA and Tin Shed Theater  
Fundraiser: A NIGHT AT THE OPERA featuring "La  
Boheme," from the Royal Opera House. *Doors open at  
5pm with cocktails and French and Italian inspired hors d'oeu-  
vres, LIVE MUSIC, and the presentation of La Boheme at 6p.m.*  
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email [makeart1@msn.com](mailto:makeart1@msn.com) to reserve tickets

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

Visit [www.patagoniacreativearts.org](http://www.patagoniacreativearts.org) or 394-9369 for more information.

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# Calendar

EVENTS	EVENTS	SPECIAL INTERESTS	COMMUNITY SERVICES
<p>Feb 3: 4-5:30 p.m. <b>Tergar Meditation</b> in Sonoita. bdruchniak@yahoo.com</p> <p>Feb 1-29: <b>Robert Berk: Recent Paintings</b>, at Camel Parts, Patagonia. Eva Wright (520) 668-7768 for viewing.</p> <p>Feb 5: 5-10 p.m. <b>Deep Dirt Institute Fundraiser</b> at La Cocina Restaurant &amp; Cantina, Tucson</p> <p>Feb 6: 6:30 to 8 p.m. <b>Borders, Walls, and Immigration with Scott Warren</b>. Patagonia Library</p> <p>Feb 8: 8 to 10 a.m. <b>Breakfast in the Bay</b> at Sonoita Fire Dept.</p> <p>Feb 8: 6:30 p.m. <b>Friends of Patagonia Library 3rd Annual Trivia Night</b>. Tickets \$25 per person.</p> <p>Feb 11 &amp; 28: <b>6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Music &amp; Coloring Night</b> at Patagonia Library</p> <p>Feb 12: 8:30 a.m. <b>"Working Lands &amp; Productive Watersheds Workshop"</b> Sonoita Fairgrounds. RSVP to smw85611@gmail.com before Feb 9. Lunch is provided. No fee.</p> <p>Feb 12 (for 8 weeks): 4 to 6 p.m. <b>Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions 2020</b>. Pre-register. Suggested donation \$32.</p> <p>Feb 1, 6 to 10 p.m. <b>Valentine's Day Dinner Dance</b> at the Sonoita Fairgrounds. Couples \$50/Singles \$30. Tickets at ccmarodeobiblecamp.com</p> <p>Feb 15: 8 to 11 a.m. <b>Sonoita Produce on Wheels</b> at Harvest Christian Fellowship. \$12 donation for produce.</p> <p>Feb 18 to 20: <b>Banamichi Bus Tour. Patagonia Museum</b>. German Quiroga, 520-343-5641</p> <p>Feb 22: 5:30 to 9 p.m. <b>Mardi Gras Casino Night</b> at the Fairgrounds by Rotary. \$50 Tickets. events.ticketprinting.com/event/Mardi-Gras-Casino-Night-35950. Sue Archibald (520)880.4648</p> <p>Feb 25: 6 p.m., <b>"Comic Relief: Make America Laugh Again."</b> At Wild Horse Restaurant. Arizona Borderland Democrats. Free. mandfar@gmail.com.</p> <p>Feb 29: 8 a.m to 3 p.m. <b>Southern Arizona Quail Forever (SAQF) Annu-</b></p>	<p><b>al Family Day</b>. At the Empire Ranch Airfield Group Site. Free.</p> <p>Feb 29: 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. <b>Empire Ranch docent training class</b> at Empire Ranch. RSVP by Feb 15. Register (520)-490-3605 alisbunting@gmail.com.</p>	<p><b>Patagonia Museum</b> - Oct: open Thurs-Sat 2-4 p.m. Info: www.thepatagoniamuseum.org.</p> <p><b>San Rafael Community 4-H Club</b> - 2nd Mon, Patagonia Methodist Church, Thurber Hall, 5:30 p.m. Info: Tami, 455-5561.</p> <p><b>Santa Cruz Singers</b> - rehearsals Thurs at 5 p.m., Beverly-Kendall Opera House, 348 Naugle Ave., Patagonia. New members welcome!</p> <p><b>Bingo</b> - 1st &amp; 3rd Mon., St. Theresa Parish Hall in Patagonia, 6 p.m. Info: 455-5681.</p> <p><b>Crossroads Quilters</b> - 2nd &amp; 4th Mon, Sonoita Fire Dept., 9 a.m. Info: (520)-732-0453.</p> <p><b>Open Tennis</b> - Saturdays, PUHS at 9 a.m. Info: 394-2973.</p> <p><b>Border Community Alliance</b> - Monthly cross-border tours. Info: www.bordercommunityalliance.org.</p> <p><b>Gratitude Drum Circle</b> - Tuesdays 4-6 p.m at the Gazebo in Patagonia Park. Open to everyone. Bring water, chair, &amp; drum. Extra instruments available.</p> <p><b>Tai Chi</b>- Tues &amp; Thurs 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Senior's Center. Free. All welcome.</p>	<p><b>Lunch for Seniors</b> - Fresh-cooked meals, Mon - Fri, noon-1 p.m. At the Patagonia Senior Center.</p> <p><b>Sr. Citizens of Patagonia Van Service</b> Medical transportation, Mon - Fri for seniors &amp; disabled by appointment only. Info: 394-2494.</p> <p><b>Patagonia Methodist Church Thrift Shop</b> - Fri &amp; Sat 10 -2 p.m.</p> <p><b>Angel Wings Thrift &amp; Gift Shop</b> Thurs - Sat, 10 - 2 p.m. Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church, 12 Los Encinos Rd, Sonoita.</p> <p><b>Sonoita/Patagonia Email Newsletter</b> - Free. Sign up at clarebonelli@sonoitapatagonialocals.com.</p> <p><b>Patagonia Farmers Market</b> Thursday 10 a.m - 1 p.m. In front of Red Mountain Foods</p> <p><b>Nogales Mercado Farmers' Market</b> Fri 2-5 p.m. 163 N Morley Ave. Nogales, AZ.</p> <p><b>Flea Market at Heart of Gold Antiques</b> 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.</p> <p><b>East SCC Community Food Bank</b> 2nd Wednesday of the month 9-10 a.m. at the St Teresa's Church.</p>
<h3>MEETINGS</h3>			
<p><b>AA</b> - Patagonia Methodist Church Fri at 7:30 pm, Sonoita Bible Church Tues 7:30 pm. For more AA meetings call 520-624-4183.</p> <p><b>Overeaters Anonymous</b> - Thurs. at 6:30 p.m. Fragrance-free meeting. Patagonia United Methodist Church. (520) 404-3490.</p> <p><b>Al Anon</b> (for family and friends of alcoholics) Patagonia Community Methodist Church, Wed @ 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>NEW Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA)</b>, Methodist Church, Tues @6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>CHOP (Community Homes of Patagonia, Inc.)</b> Board meeting 3rd. Mon. at 5:30 p.m. in Town Council Hall</p> <p><b>Patagonia Town Council</b>, 2nd &amp; 4th Wed. at 7 p.m. in Town Council Hall.</p> <p><b>Rotary Club</b> - 2nd &amp; 4th Thurs., 5:30 p.m. at the Steak Out. Info: Sue (520) 990-4648.</p> <p><b>Senior Citizens of Patagonia's Board of Directors</b> - 2nd Mon, 3 p.m. at the Senior Center.</p> <p><b>The So AZ Republican Club meeting</b>, 7 p.m. every third Thurs of the month, Sonoita Fire House Board room.</p> <p><b>The Santa Cruz County Democratic Party Meeting</b> every 3rd Sat. of the month 9:30 a.m, at the Bowman Senior Residences located at 189 N Grand Ave, Nogales.</p> <p><b>Community Youth Bible Hang Out</b> at the Sonoita Bible Church. 2nd and 4th Wed. April Anderson, andeap@msn.com, 520-508-2502 or Steve Lindsey 520-559-0155</p>			
<h2>CHURCH SERVICES</h2>			
<p><b>Patagonia Community United Methodist Church</b> 387 McKeown Ave., Patagonia 394-2274 Sunday Service: 10 a.m. Youth Group: Sun. - 5:30-7:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church</b> 222 Third Ave., Patagonia 394-2954 Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Canelo Cowboy Church</b> Hwy 83, MP 14, Elgin 455-5000 Sunday: First Service: 8:30 a.m. Second Service: 11:00 a.m. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m. (except third Sundays) Ranch Family Fun Day: 7 a.m. every 3rd Sunday.</p> <p><b>Sonoita Hills Community Church</b> 52 Elgin Rd., Elgin 455-5172 Sunday Service: 10 a.m.</p> <p><b>Sonoita Bible Church</b> 3174 N. Highway 83, Sonoita 455-5779</p>		<p>Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. Youth Group: 2nd &amp; 4th Wed. 6-8 p.m.</p> <p><b>Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church</b> 12 Los Encinos Rd., Sonoita 394-2954 Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.</p> <p><b>Harvest Christian Fellowship/ Sonoita Foursquare Church</b> 3107 Hwy 83, Sonoita 602-292-1616 Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m</p> <p><b>St. Andrews Episcopal Church</b> Sonoita Hills Community Church 52 Elgin Rd., Elgin 2nd &amp; 4th Saturdays: 10 a.m</p> <p><b>Quaker Worship Group</b>, 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</p>	

\*For Tin Shed Theater and Benderly-Kendall Opera House schedules, see page 21

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

# Classifieds



## 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](http://www.carepatagonia.com)

### BORDERLANDS RESTORATION IS SEEKING A VOLUNTEER

To help plant sale events and opportunities.  
Email [horticulture@borderlandsrestoration.org](mailto:horticulture@borderlandsrestoration.org) if interested

### LIVE-ONSITE HORSE CARETAKERS WANTED

Experienced only, No smoking/drugs/alcohol.  
520-455-9246

### 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](mailto: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.

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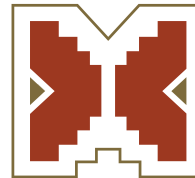
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Molly Anderson - M.D.



Timothy R. Penniston  
F.N.P. - C

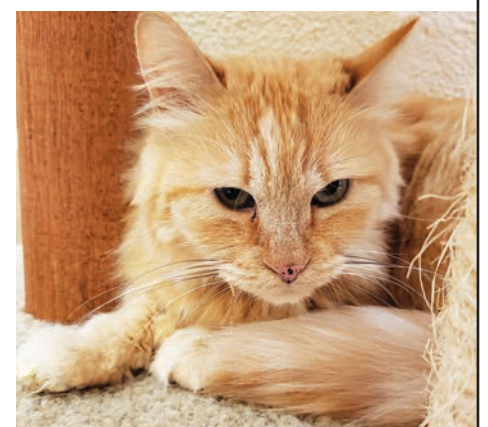


Appointments: 281-1550 • 101 Taylor Street • [mariposachc.net](http://mariposachc.net)

## AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION



Clyde is a 1.5 year old Heeler mix that is very smart! He knows how to sit and stay on command. He gets along great with dogs and enjoys spending time sun bathing.



Maya is a 6 year old DMH orange tabby, she had an owner but unfortunately they had to surrender her. She is sweet but at times she likes her own space.

**Santa Cruz Humane Society**  
**232 E. Patagonia Hwy (Rt. 82)**  
**Nogales, AZ 85621 (520) 287-5654**



\$825,000



**CROWN C EQUESTRIAN ESTATE**

**MLS #22000162 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



**AUTHENTIC NAVAJO HOGAN**

**MLS# 21920191 716 REDROCK AVENUE**  
 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



**CROWN C ESTATE HOME**

**68 DRY CANYON RD. 44.58 PRISTINE ACRES**  
 Private with WOW views. 5425 spacious sq. ft w/3Bd/3ba, sunroom, Rec room, full downstairs living quarters. Private well. **JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335**

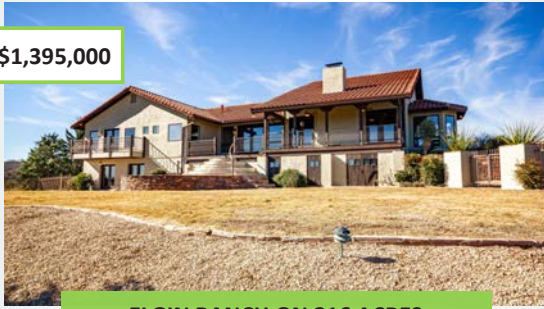
\$449,000



**HILL TOP CLASSIC ADOBE IN SONOITA**

**MLS # 21906981 16 ACRES w/POND**  
 Price reduced. 4Bd/2.5Ba, 1984 sf. Remodeled baths, open kitchen floor plan, fantastic patios to enjoy the great views, & private well. **LARRY DEMUN 520 732-9179**

\$1,395,000



**ELGIN RANCH ON 216 ACRES**

**MLS# 21931746 PANORAMIC VIEWS**  
 5670 SF, luxuriously remodeled. Land is dividable, w/no HOA. Direct access to Nat. Forest. Great for horses, vineyard, or nature lovers. **JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335**

\$375,000



**BISCUIT VIEW BEAUTY—ELGIN**

**MLS # 21926459 10 ACRES**  
 1399 sf, 2Bd/2Ba with fabulous views, direct access to BLM land & plenty of room for horses. New Pella doors, completely furnished. **CHERYL VOLK 520 975-7271**

\$469,000



**NEW LUXURY HOME ON THE MESA**

**116 RED MOUNTAIN CT. 4+ ACRES**  
 Currently under construction in this gated community. 2250 sf, 3Bd/2.5Ba. Open design with a WOW kitchen. 2 car garage, spectacular views! **JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335**

\$399,000



**JUST LISTED! LAZY RR RANCH ESTATES**

**12 CAMINO LA PAZ 8 ACRES**  
 Built in 2008. Split floor plan, 3Bd/2Ba, 1716 sq ft. Lovely back patio w/fireplace and great views of Red Mountain. Separate studio/workshop. **JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335**

\$525,000



**LAZY RR CUSTOM HOME**

**MLS #21917028 20 ACRES**  
 Artistic home w/loads of modern green features. AAC/Adobe, radiant floor heating, mini-splits. 2Bd/2Ba w/lg studio. Room for guest house. **JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335**

\$535,000



**PATAGONIA CROWN C RETREAT**

**MLS # 21701568 58+ ACRES**

Fully fenced, 3Bd/2Ba 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

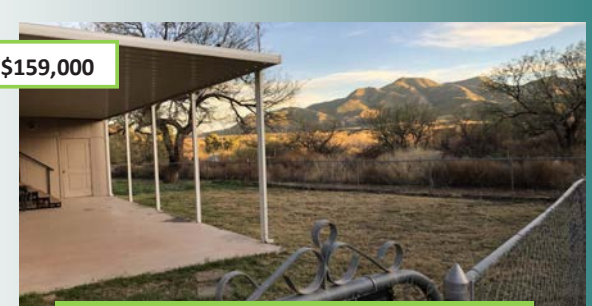


**COZY MFR HOME ON LARGE LOT**

**MLS #21921120 404 SONOITA AVE.**

Comfy double-wide Mfr home on almost 2 lots. Lots of trees for shade & privacy. 2 Bd/2 Ba, storage building, fully fenced. Great location. **BARBARA HARRIS 602 826-4026**

\$159,000



**COUNTRY LIVING WITHIN TOWN LIMITS**

**MLS #21931570 .58 ACRES**

3Bd/2Ba Mfr home just steps from Montessori School. Room for a horse, workshop, garden or hobbies. Private well, nice views, easy living. **JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335**

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

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

[www.buysonoita.com](http://www.buysonoita.com)

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

Carol Ford  
 Co-Owner, Designated Broker  
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