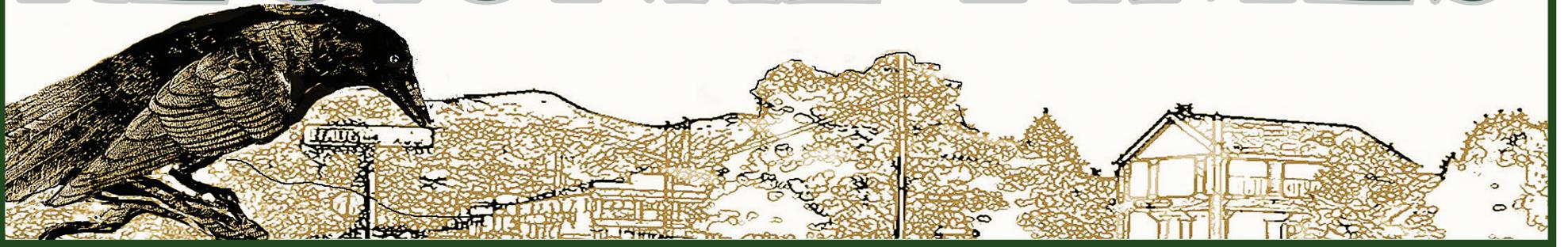


# PATAGONIA REGIONAL TIMES



DECEMBER 2021

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

VOL. 11

ISSUE 10

## Art Walk 2021



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

**Phyllis Klosterman demonstrates bobbin lace weaving during Art Walk in Patagonia.**

**By Dottie Farrar**

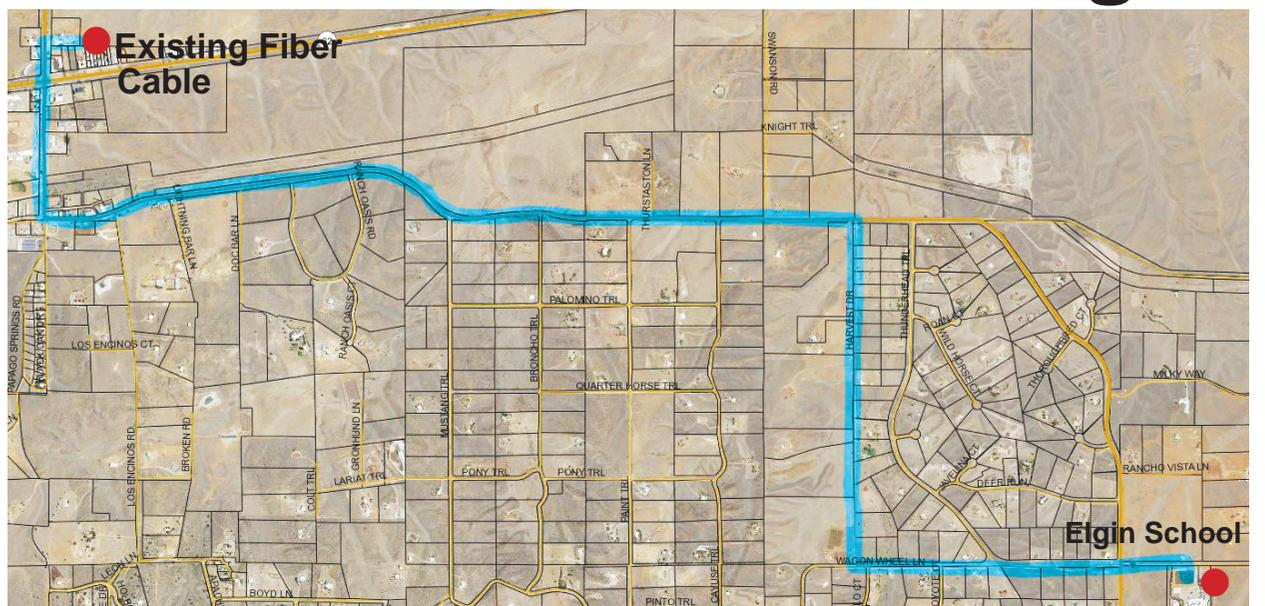
The nineteenth annual Patagonia Art Walk, an all-volunteer event, took place Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving, showcasing 40 local artists, a quilt exhibit, children's activities, and special offerings at local businesses and restaurants, along with live music everywhere – in the park, in courtyards filled with art, and on the walkway along McKeown Ave. Abundant warm sunshine invited people to enjoy strolling the streets, studios and courtyards which featured paintings, textiles, sculptures, jewelry, hand-crafted birdhouses, quilts, musical instruments, and much, much more.

The venue for Art Walk included downtown Patagonia, McKeown Ave., Naugle Ave., and the parks, as well as three pocket locations a block or so on either side of the main streets. Two vacant lots on McKeown Ave. were converted into Art Courtyards, thanks to John Shelton and Ted Piper. Parking was easy, so people of all ages and abilities were readily welcomed.

At the Artisans Courtyard, birdhouses, created by Mary Sky Schoolcraft, who organized the Art Walk, included a barn, a brilliant red and blue three decker house, houses with nautical

See **Art Walk p.3**

## Broadband Breakthrough



**The proposed route for the new fiber cable to upgrade the internet at the Elgin School will run from the center of Sonoita along SR 83, Harvest Dr. and Wagon Wheel Dr. to Elgin Rd., thanks to funding secured by the Sonoita School District.**

**By Sarah Klingenstein**

At a Special Elgin School Board meeting held on Nov. 17, 2021, Sonoita School District Superintendent Mary Faley, along with the school's Information Technology Specialist, Leonard Sadorf, and several state and business representatives, provided an overview for the public and the Board on the school's Fiber Project, and Final Mile Project.

### The Fiber Project

Faley reported that the school started about one year ago to bring broadband fiber to the school, and after considerable collaboration with staff, county, and state officials, issued a bid solicitation in Spring 2021. Two bids were reviewed by a panel who selected Zayo, a leading provider of infrastructure, and networks in major markets in North America and Western Europe. Zayo currently provides services to over 8,000 schools, libraries and district offices serving over 4 million students across 24 states and is also constructing over 2,000 miles of fiber build for schools.

The cost to bring the fiber to the school is \$782,000; however, the Federal Communication Commission's National E-rate program will fund 90% of the cost. The E-rate program was established for schools and libraries to receive discounts on telecommunications and services, and internet access, as well as internal connections, managed internal broadband services and basic maintenance. Discounts range from 20% to 90% based on the poverty level of the schools. Rural schools and libraries may also receive a higher discount. The national E-Rate Program 2021 budget exceeds

\$4.2 billion.

Due to declining enrollment, Faley said she was hesitant to use district funds for the remaining 10% cost (\$78,200). She contacted Milan Eaton, the Arizona E-Rate Director, who agreed to fill the void with state grants. Faley also confirmed that there would be no costs for the project that would impact the district taxpayers' rates and no impact on the local budget. According to Eaton, the cost of cable will be less than what the school pays now for internet, and they will receive ten times as much power at one gigabyte.

At the public meeting Greg West, project director for Zayo, reported that the fiber project is in progress. Cable would begin at their existing structure near the Elgin-Sonoita Fire Station and then traverse both above and underground, following SR 83 to Harvest Rd., up Wagon Wheel Dr., then east to the school. Zayo already has all the fiber, conduit, and pole attachments on hand.

Along the route there are approximately 20 property owners, with existing poles, that are outside the ADOT right of way. Zayo will reach out to these owners to obtain permission to use these poles. The cable would be placed on the poles, above existing wires and will not impact electrical lines.

To cross SR 82, Zayo will drill under the road, work they plan to begin in a few weeks pending ADOT approval. The project is targeted for completion during the first quarter of 2022. Once the fiber reaches the school, the infra-

See **Broadband p.4**

# 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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## KUDOS TO THE SONOITA SCHOOL DISTRICT

By Kat Crockett and Marion Vendituoli

The PRT would like to thank Mary Faley, Sonoita School District Superintendent, Leonard Sadorf, Elgin School Information and Technology Specialist, and the Elgin School Board for taking a giant leap forward by bringing broadband to our school district and for their work on the Final Mile Project to bring high speed internet to the homes of our students. We also applaud Faley's collaboration with state officials to ensure the project was funded with no cost to our district.

During this past year, the pandemic exposed inequities across our rural communities in the lack of access at home and in schools to reliable, high-speed internet service and technology. We remain underserved and overlooked for broadband internet services often because of the high cost to lay cable and the low potential customer base to entice providers to invest in

rural networks. The rural broadband gap is one of the biggest educational obstacles for our community and across our state and nation.

The lack of technology in the home can deny a child access to an education. Access permits students to create or download videos, conduct research with other students across the world, engage in on-line courses not locally available, learn from home in emergencies, develop technological skills needed for advanced studies and prepare them for future employment.

Learning cannot be limited to the confines of the school day or school building. It's important for all our children to be connected to their school, community, and the world from their home.

The coming of broadband to our area is exciting news for our community and has the potential to benefit all of us by bringing reliable, high-speed internet to all residents, businesses, our fire district, non-

profits and a host of others. If we can bridge this gap as a community, our area will become much more attractive for people to live, work from home, and could provide opportunities for more on-line businesses to expand or start up in our area.

The PRT encourages everyone in our community to get behind this project and help to make it happen, including property owners outside the ADOT right-of-way. We encourage them to say "yes" to Zayo and allow them to use existing utility poles to help avoid additional project costs and delays in getting the broadband to the school and our children.

Also, if you know of potential and reliable vendors for the Final Mile Project, please share that information with the school.

Broadband connectivity in our rural area will afford our students the opportunity to compete in a 21st century economy with 21st century tools.

## Local News Matters Support the Patagonia Regional Times

By Marion Vendituoli

As 2021 winds down, we at the PRT have been reflecting on our roots. We believe that Walter Andrew and Donna Reibslager would be so pleased with how far their paper has come, and would be just as excited as we are looking to our future. But in order for that future to become reality, we need your help.

On that note, we want to share some exciting news. If you make a gift to the PRT during our News-

Match campaign, through Dec. 31, your donation could be tripled.

The first \$2500 raised in December will be matched, not only by NewsMatch, the national nonprofit news funding campaign, but also by generous donors who have stepped up to fund a local challenge grant. That means that your gift of \$50 could mean \$150 for the PRT! The PRT will also receive a bonus of \$500 if we can meet the \$2500 challenge.

The PRT is of the community, and by the community. As a reader

of the PRT, you've come to depend on our reporting. And, as a nonprofit, we depend on readers like you to make this work possible. Will you consider making a donation to the PRT today? NewsMatch will match your new monthly donation 12 times or double your one-time gift, up to \$1,000. Just think of the impact that could have - not just in our newsroom, but in our community. To donate, visit our website [www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org/contribute/](http://www.patagoniaregionaltimes.org/contribute/)

## SHOP LOCAL THIS SEASON

**Christmas is not in danger.  
The work of small business owners,  
local artists and makers, is not stuck  
on a dock in a shipping container.  
This is the perfect opportunity to shop  
local, buy and give gift certificates to  
your neighborhood restaurants, B&B's,  
and neighborhood businesses.  
Help local artists and small business  
owners live their dream.**

## Receive Breaking Local News Sent Straight to Your Inbox

Sign up for the PRT E-Newsletter!

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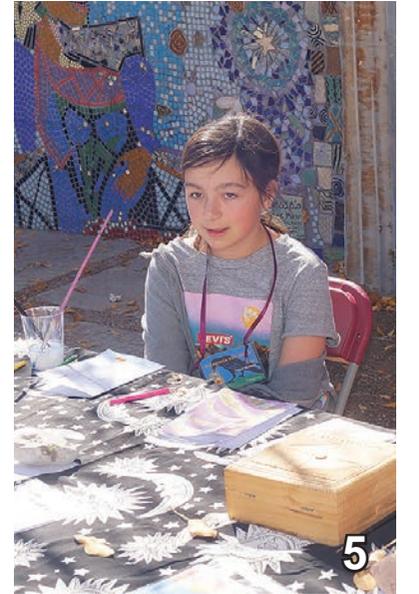
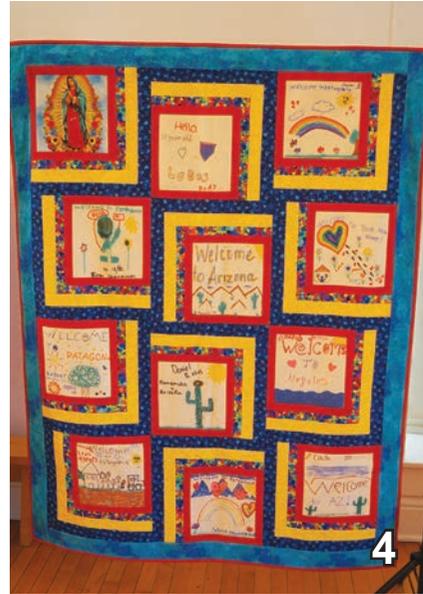
## Art Walk (cont.)

and western themes. "Each house has a story and was so much fun to make," Schoolcraft said. "I just want them to go to happy homes."

A special exhibit at Cady Hall, curated by Voices from the Border, was titled "Migration Through the Eyes of Children." Patagonia Elementary School students drew messages of welcome to migrant children on fabric squares which Gale Hall assembled into eight quilts. The quilts are "like a conversation between the Patagonia kids and the migrant kids," volunteer Maggie Urgo said. "And now the kids get to be a part of figuring out where the quilts go."

The Textile Courtyard at the home of Barbara Kuhns featured mittens recycled from wool sweaters, beautiful bags and jackets. Pottery at the Tin Shed, by Martha Kelly, sculpture by Keith Spooner, cards created by 11-year-old Violet Nicolls at the Creative Arts Center, and paintings at the Fine Arts Pavilion along with prints and photography, provided plenty of buying opportunities for holiday shoppers and browsing art lovers.

Schoolcraft credited the many Art Walk volunteers, including Keith Spooner, Mary Tolena, Gisa Koeger, Martha Kelly, Cassina Farley, Regina Medley, and Heather Dodge for the success of the event.



1. Mary Tolena and Zach Farley play at the Artisans Courtyard Saturday.
2. Mesquite Grove Gallery featured handmade cats, complete with mice necklaces.
3. Aishah Lurry, owner of Patagonia Flower Farm, visits with customers by the Town Park.
4. One of the 'Welcome quilts' for migrant children on display at Cady Hall.
5. Violet Nichols displays her homemade cards
6. Robin Kulibert holds a pair of her handmade mittens, for sale in the Textile Courtyard.
7. Brightly colored and embellished birdhouses for sale in the Artisans Courtyard.
8. Jacquie Treinen greets customers at her booth.
9. Maggie Urgo stands with a quilt, made by Phyllis Klosterman, raffled off by Voices From the Border.
10. Mary Kay Schoolcraft, with the help of several volunteers, organized the Art Walk this year.

Photos by Marion Vendituoli

# Aggregate Expenditure Limit May Impact Local Schools



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

**Students head to class at Patagonia Union High School. Potential spending limits for schools would have a serious impact on school budgets both locally and statewide.**

By Sarah Klingenstein

In addition to the many challenges students, parents and educators have faced during the COVID19 pandemic, a possible funding crisis is looming for Arizona public schools this spring.

The potentially drastic cut of \$1.2 billion will have to be made from April through June of 2022, due to a constitutional amendment called the Arizona K-12 Aggregate Expenditure Limit. It does not limit the money that can be raised; it limits what can be spent. Schools can collect tax funds. They just won't be able to spend all the money.

If not derailed by a two-thirds vote of the Legislature by March 1, 2022, districts will have to find ways to reduce, by 17%, what they had budgeted to spend in Fiscal Year 2022, which ends in June. In other words, three-fourths of the fiscal year will have passed when the cuts come about. Charter schools are not subject to the limit on spending.

It would mean almost \$1400 less per student, according to an analysis by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. Arizona's current spending of \$8,239 per student already places it at 48th out of the 50 states before these cuts would go into place.

Patagonia School Superintendent Kenny Hayes says that the District, from preschool through 12th grade, would be expected to find cuts of \$450,000, if the limit is not waived.

Elgin School would need to reduce its spring spending by \$330,000, according to Superintendent Mary Faley. And since 80% of all school funding goes to teacher and staff salaries and benefits, school officials throughout the state are fearing that the cuts would mean layoffs or an inability to come through with expected salary raises. Arizona teacher salaries rank

46th out of the states, amid a crisis of teacher shortages.

According to Senator Rosanna Gabaldon, Democrat from District 2, "Schools across Arizona and especially in rural parts of Arizona have been devastated by COVID and have been working overtime to keep our schools safe and open. This cut would wipe out many recent funding increases, like teacher salary increases, restoration of district additional assistance, increased special education funding and others. We have to address it at the beginning of the legislative session so parents, students and school districts aren't panicking about what the cuts would do to students and school programs."

The amendment was voted in by citizens in 1980 to cap education spending in the state. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the country saw a wave of voter-approved measures to limit government funding, spurred by nationwide inflation and recession.

The limit has been waived several times in the past 40 years. Recently a combination of lower student enrollment in Arizona schools during COVID19 and the impact of several funding changes have led to this huge discrepancy between the money raised and the spending allowed.

Republican lawmakers are quoted in recent articles on the website "tucson.com" as being in support of a waiver. Senate President Karen Fann, R-Prescott, said she is personally interested in helping schools avoid a crisis. "The intention is never to do these kind of draconian cuts," she said.

However, education funding has recently been a controversial topic in the Arizona Legislature. The outcome for the Aggregate Limit will be revealed in March of 2022.

# COVID and the Classroom: Area Schools Differ in Response to Pandemic

By Sarah Klingenstein

The Patagonia Public Schools have experienced an increase in COVID19 cases this fall, as would be expected with the increased exposure of in-person learning this fall. "We've come close to having to go back to distance learning, but we have avoided it by using a 'pool testing' system with staff and students," Patagonia Superintendent Kenny Hayes said.

Pool testing utilizes weekly COVID testing of staff and those students whose parents have given permission. The test samples are combined in a pool, which is tested for presence of the virus. If the pool test shows evidence of COVID19, each person in that pool is tested to determine who has the virus. Then the school follows CDC policies for that student. "The more students who participate", said Hayes, "the more we can keep COVID away from our campus. Currently, 55% of students participate; more would be even better."

Keeping school open is the top priority. Sports programs are continuing, but some events, such as the November Harvest Festival and the Middle School dance, were cancelled due to concerns about spreading the virus. The Homecoming Dance was held outdoors on the tennis court.

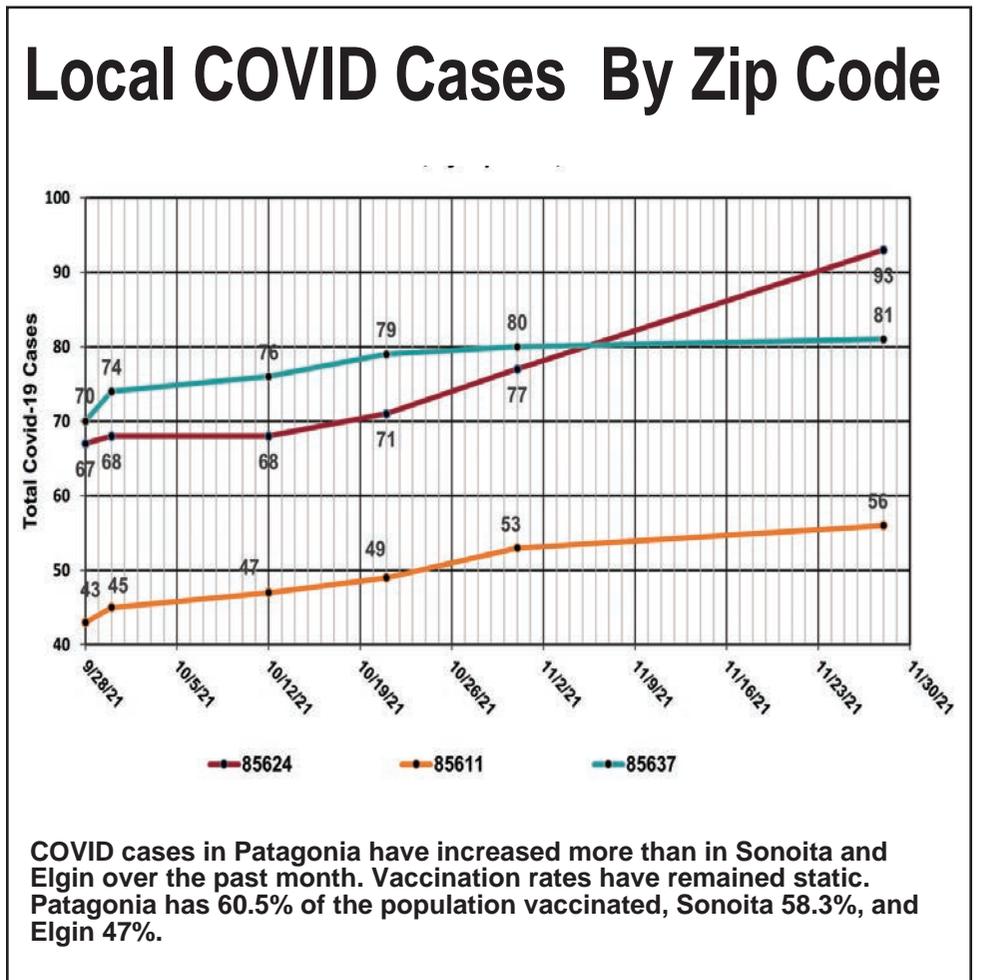
While masking is required at Patagonia Public Schools, masks are

optional at the Elgin School, where parents register their preference for their children. "In efforts to keep students safe", Superintendent Mary Faley said, "we brought old school desks from storage to spread the students out in the classrooms, and instituted social distancing during lunch, allowing only two grades at a time in the cafeteria."

When a student has symptoms of COVID, school nurse Annette Koweek evaluates and sends children home to quarantine as necessary. Students who are home, either due to illness or to a parental/student preference to learn from home, can participate via Zoom throughout the day. Or the parents can pick up learning materials for their child at the school.

Because of the pandemic, enrollment in Elgin School dropped from 137 in grades kindergarten through eighth grade to 112 students last year. Numbers have rebounded this year, but only to 120 students. Some families who opted for home schooling last year have stayed with that option. Others, who prefer not to send their children to in-person schooling, have chosen to enroll them in online school in another district. "It's not, in many cases, what is best for students," Faley said. While the school is using federal grant funds to offset the decrease in enrollment, the shortfall makes it harder to maintain staff and programming.

With COVID19 cases increasing in Santa Cruz County, local health officials encourage parents to pay special attention to their children's health and COVID exposure, and to have their children vaccinated.



# A Spirited Gravel Weekend

By Robert Gay

After a year off for Covid, the Spirit World 100 (SW100) event returned to Patagonia on the first weekend in November, and the weather cooperated superbly. Race day, Saturday, was bracketed by warm-up and cool-down rides on Friday and Sunday, offering visitors a look at still more of the varied gravel-riding opportunities in our valleys and mountains.

To an already full schedule, promoters Heidi Rentz Ault and Zander Ault added a benefit dinner for Borderlands Restoration Network, with a hun-

dred tickets sold, and simultaneously opened a wine and coffee bar in the repurposed Patagonia Lumber Company. It was open and busy during the weekend, staffed by locals, and will continue as a new venue in town.

The Lumber Company remodel added both shaded and unshaded outdoor areas, with windowed serving counters on two sides. Featured beer of the weekend was an India Pale Ale from Tucson's Pueblo Vida Brewing Co, and the event branding included the races's iconic Spirit World painting on the Pueblo Vida cans. Local wines from Rune Winery were also available.

The main race started at 7a.m. Collectively, something over 20,000 miles were ridden with only one bone injury and a few common "mechanicals," such as a broken pedal, a chain problem, and flat tires.

The first two finishers, Connor Steward and Bucky Shafer, powered through the hundred mile course in 5:32, finishing shortly after noon in a road-racing style sprint at the Stage Stop Inn finish line, milliseconds apart. The duo beat the prior course record by about a half hour. Women's winner Caroline Tory also bettered the previous record, with her time of 6:11. By dark the riders had all made it back to town.

After crossing the finish line, riders circled back for their "rider's crystal," a SW100 tradition. Some would stay around "in recovery," restoring electrolytes & hydration, and greeting more arriving finishers while sharing race stories.

Not every rider was burned out, though. One of the top women finishers had enough energy left after she finished for a run up Harshaw Road on foot.

Not all riders were racers. One rider related that she'd chosen the 50-mile alternative route in



Photo by Jared Krikorian

## Riders line up for the start of the Spirit World 100 gravel bike race

order to have more time to enjoy the overwhelming beauty of the natural world she'd ridden into, and thus hadn't been time-driven. Several who hadn't been in the San Rafael Valley before said they were "blown away by the beauty of the course."

Other riders, when asked the most memorable part of the route, said it was the grueling 2,200-foot climb east from the Santa Cruz River crossing near Lochiel to the high point, 6,863 feet at Montezuma Pass. One rider said he loved that 10% grade, and wanted the climb to keep going! Riders who chose the 80-mile alternative route bypassed this spur but otherwise had the same course as the 100.

One experienced long-course rider said his most enjoyable parts were the softest sand stretches, because the looseness reminded him of snowboarding and powder skiing back home in Colorado.

As the sun got lower and the last racers were coming in, the earlier arrivals spread themselves out under trees in the park and enjoyed beer, wine and gourmet pizza by 'Ugly Onion,' run by the Aults' friends from Montana, who'd trailered down their wood-fired oven. A few riders got their

exhausted legs massaged on a table under the trees.

After sunset, a brief awards ceremony featured gifts, in several categories, of ceramic bowls by Patagonia potter Martha Kelly, who'd also made SW100 coffee cups.

The evening concert was by a Grateful Dead band cover band, 'Half a Mile from Tucson.' Foot tapping turned to dancing for some, but for others it had a been a long time since some vigorous drumming had started off the day at 6:45a.m., so the option to just sit and enjoy was taken too.

Enough complaints about the early drumming were heard by the Town Manager that the drumming won't be repeated in future years. Other complaints by locals involved noise, crowding, a sense the park had been taken over, and that the town was overfilled. On the flip side, the local eateries all did great business, as probably did the providers of lodging, so the overall energy seemed positive and accepting.

A lot of happy and tired riders headed home after the weekend, and Patagonia had been a little further discovered. Heidi Rentz Ault summarized the weekend in one word - "Awesome."



Photo by Robert Gay

Riders who have completed the course watch later finishers cross the finish line.

# Bikepacking on the Arizona Trail

By Robert Gay

On Oct. 28, the Arizona Trail Bike Race put a group of mountain bike riders grinding past Patagonia on an 800-mile endurance run from Mexico to Utah, using the full length of the Arizona Trail (AZT). This year's version was called the Arizona Trail Race Grand Depart 2021, and included a 300-mile race option within it - a race within a race - ending near Superior. Eighteen of the 50 starters tried for the full 800 miles.

The bikepacking riders who tackle either of these routes are an elite among outdoor riders, ultra-endurance athletes who push themselves day after day in a wild variety of conditions on our state's iconic trail. By the time they've bisected the state, they chalk

up 56,000 feet of elevation gain. This race is free to enter, and offers no prizes to its winners.

Patagonian Tomás Jonsson was perhaps the only race fan near Patagonia who saw these hard-riding visitors. A seasoned rider who's been making, grooming and riding local trails for years, he knew some of the riders and cheered them on at the new crossing of the AZT at SR82 and Casa Blanca Canyon.

Riders geo-locate as they push ahead. The GPS app 'Trackleaders' shows in real time where each rider is, with popup data, such as their miles completed, elapsed time, current elevation, and accumulating total elevation gain. On its map, Trackleaders provides a moving pointer for each rider, by initials. There is a time-lapse

movie of the moving pins along the trail.

After they left the AZT start at Montezuma Pass, the riders fanned out along the trail. The route used a few paved miles to Hog Canyon, in order to reconnect with the AZT at Gardner Canyon.

The race included a 21-mile bike portage across the Grand Canyon. The first finisher arrived in Utah on Nov. 4. Leading rider Nate Ginton did 797 miles in 9 days, 10 hours and 44 minutes, a new record. Nine of the 18 starters in the 800 mile race "scratched," i.e. did not finish.



Photo by Tomas Jonsson

Bikepacker Kait Boyle rides the Arizona Trail near Patagonia during the Arizona Trail Race

## Broadband (Cont.)

structure is already in place to get broadband into the classrooms.

### The Final Mile Project

The Final Mile Project is the school's second broadband priority, designed to bring internet equity to rural students and families who have either no home internet, slow internet, or unaffordable internet. The project is spearheaded by the Arizona Rural Schools Association along with the Arizona Business and Education Coalition and the Arizona Association of County School Superintendents.

According to Kathy Hoffman, Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Arizona Department of Education funded \$1.5M for the Final Mile Project in March 2021. They are working through the federal E-Rate program to help bridge the digital divide for rural students.

Superintendent Faley stated that "Milan Eaton recently contacted me to see if Sonoita Elementary District would be interested in participating in the Final Mile Project. The goal of the program is to connect families in rural districts to high-speed internet, sufficient to participate in remote learning."

Faley said that, based on a survey, they identified 36 families who either cannot receive existing internet, cannot afford internet, or have internet that is not reliable.

She is working with Eaton to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) which will include the addresses of the families requiring high speed internet and expects soon to issue the solicitation for bids.

The vendor bids must include a description as to how they plan to reach the identified addresses. She will then convene a panel and select a vendor.

According to Eaton, the state is working on the first phase of the Final Mile Project with five rural district sites that already have fiber capability and will soon move on to the next five, which will include Sonoita Elementary School District.

Eaton also stated that the cost to families under the program will be \$10 per month; however, use of the internet will be limited to educational materials, which excludes programs such as Netflix, but includes distance learning, google searches, and remote teacher meetings.

In addition to utilizing existing towers, Eaton stated the state may be able to fund one or two additional towers to support the Final Mile Project.

Although the School's RFP will only cover families needing the high-speed internet, the vendor would have the opportunity to generate considerable funds by expanding the enhanced broadband structure to the community. This would create more internet options for residents and potentially reach those who require additional infrastructure.

Ultimately, the Sonoita School District, the Fire District, business community, non-profits, and residents may all benefit from the infrastructure that the school district and state and federal programs partnered to achieve to enhance educational tools for local students.

## BERNICE POMEROY MARCH 17, 1923 - NOVEMBER 17, 2021

Another of Patagonia's bright stars went dark on November 17 when, at age 98, Bernice Pomeroy died peacefully at her home with daughters MaryAnne and Ruth Ellen by her side.

Born March 17, 1923 in Wakarusa, Indiana to Nelson and Iva Holdeman, Bernice was, for all practical purposes, a life-long Arizonan, her family having moved to Solomonville when she was five for her mother's health.

Bernice became a devoted and admired teacher after graduating as valedictorian from Arizona State Teachers College (now ASU). It was in her freshman year that she met the love of her life, Talmage Pomeroy, whom she married two days after graduating.

The couple had five children. After her children started school, Bernice began her teaching career in Tucson where Tal also had secured a teaching position. The couple taught there for some 30 years before retiring to Patagonia where their good friends Doris and Don Wenig had also taken up residence.

Bernice and Tal bought a house on Pennsylvania Avenue and renovated it extensively over the years. For nearly four decades, it was a place of refuge and creativity where she tended a garden that reflected her colorful character and where she practiced, perfected and offered her twin competencies of playing and teaching piano.

Bernice's interest in music took root in her early childhood years when she became fascinated with the pump organs and player pianos enjoyed by members of her Mennonite extended family. Although she always played for her personal enjoyment, it wasn't until she retired to Patagonia that the piano became a dominant force in her life and her mastery of it one of the community's cultural gems. One beneficiary of her musical talent was the Methodist Church where she played the organ every Sunday morning since 1984 as well as special recitals.

Bernice loved to dance. She would dance whenever and wherever she had the opportunity. Dancing was so important to Bernice that for years she went to La Roca restaurant in Nogales, Sonora every Sunday after church to dance to the music there. Not surprisingly, the restaurant staff came to embrace Bernice, eventually dubbing her "La Reyna." Although very weak from Merkel cell carcinoma, the rare



disease that was claiming her life, just two months before her death Bernice, went to La Roca for what would be her last time. Unable to climb the stairs, she was carried up by the restaurant staff to the dining room who, recognizing the inevitable, joined Bernice and her party in a joyous celebration of this dancing queen.

Though small in stature, Bernice was a huge force for good in the community. No stranger to adversity, she truly cared for others, especially those less fortunate than she. She gave generously of her self, her possessions and her musical gifts to lighten burdens, lift spirits and quietly spread joy wherever she went. She practiced not random, but uniform acts of kindness and those who were privileged to know her will miss the warm, cheery countenance she brought to everyday life in this community.

Bernice was preceded in death by her husband, Talmage, son Robert Nelson Pomeroy, infant son William Grant Pomeroy and sister Lucille H. Meyers. She is survived by her sister Gene Stapley of Glendale, daughters MaryAnne Pomeroy-Fulton of Savannah, GA, Ruth Ellen Frost Snedecor of Wales, UT and Nita K. Pomeroy, of Delano, CA.

She is also survived by six grandchildren: Isaac Obezo, Joseph Obezo, Layla Crosby, Stephanie Jones, Michelle Goodman, and Patrick Fulton; 15 great grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Bernice loved this community and endowed it with gifts. Following her wishes, in lieu of flowers, those who wish to honor her life with a contribution are encouraged to donate to Community Homes of Patagonia (CHOP) P. O. Box 1063, Patagonia, AZ 85624.

A memorial service in Patagonia is planned for next March 17, on which date Bernice would have celebrated her 99th birthday.

## Veterans Day At Elgin School



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

7th grader Alayna Swanson reads her prize winning essay at the Veterans Day Ceremony held at the Elgin School Nov 10. Patriotic songs, poetry recited by Pastor Steve Lindsey, guest speaker Manny Gatica, a veteran and former teacher at the school, tributes to service members, and brunch were also included in the program.

**PATRICIA ELIN (HOPKINS)  
CARNEVALE**  
AUGUST 18, 1937 - NOVEMBER 14, 2021



Patricia Elin (Hopkins) Carnevale passed away peacefully on November 14, 2021. Born on August 18, 1937 to Tom and Zona (Kinsey) Hopkins in Wheeling, WV, her family moved to Hawaii to join her father who was serving as director of the USO Club in Honolulu.

A 1955 graduate of the Sacred Heart Academy, she soon thereafter met the love of her life and was married to Major Peter E. Carnevale of the US Air Force in 1959 in Honolulu. Afterwards the couple lived in Georgia, Texas, Ohio and New York. They settled in Southern California after Pete's retirement from the service and she continued raising their seven children in Canoga Park and later Yorba Linda.

Once her youngest child was in school fulltime, she began a career as a travel agent and meeting planner, specifically helping groups of WW2 veterans reunite.

When Pete retired in 1991, they moved to Sonoita AZ where Pat continued her career and was a founding member of the Sonoita Merchant's Association. Active in the local

Catholic church community at St. Therese's in Patagonia, she was instrumental in the formation of Our Lady of the Angels mission church in Sonoita. In addition to playing the organ at Sunday Mass, she and Pete ran the bingo for many years, helping raise funds for the mission church.

She was also an active member of the Elgin Club and the Santa Cruz County Fair & Rodeo Association.

Patricia was preceded in death by three pre-born children, her parents, and her sister, Mary (Sue) Haley. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Peter Carnevale of Sonoita AZ, her son Tony Carnevale of Las Vegas NV, her daughter Lisa Carnevale of Noblesville IN, her son Joseph (Stephani) Carnevale of Cicero IN, her son Robert Carnevale, of Tucson AZ, her son John (Tammy) Carnevale of Riverside CA, her daughter Donna (Tim) Bergman of Boise ID, and her son Michael (Mary) Carnevale of Tucson AZ, 17 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her brother, Tom (Karen) Hopkins of Eutis FL.

**JUAN CARLOS GALLARDO**  
NOVEMBER 10, 1985 - NOVEMBER 2, 2021



Our precious and much-loved Juan Carlos left us very suddenly for the arms of Jesus on November 2nd (All Souls Day). We are heartbroken because we couldn't get from New Mexico to Tucson in time to say our goodbyes.

Juanito will be remembered by many long term residents of East County, especially in Patagonia.

He was born with debilitating scoliosis which caused him to have to wear body casts as a baby and, when he was 13, he underwent an eight-hour surgery and double spinal fusion.

Juan was the bravest child we had ever, ever experienced. Although he suffered great pain as a child and as an adult he never ever complained. He bore his health conditions with dignity and strength all of his days - always.

As a youngster he even played Patagonia Little League, up until his ability to run was so seriously compromised that he realized he was a detriment to his team. It was always such a wonderful experience to see him give his all on the ballfield.

As we recently gazed at so many photos of Juanito many more memories came flooding back, including his days at Patagonia Elementary, in the beautiful little school on the hill. He remembered the staff from those days fondly, Nancy Hale, Kate Musick, Gerry Boling, Elvia Miranda, Dusty Hudson and more, along with numerous friends and classmates. He also spoke of his friends from St. Therese's, especially Lupe Urquidez whom he rode to weekly catechism classes with.

Juan proudly obtained his associate degree from Cochise College in Sierra Vista, with an emphasis on the hospitality industry. At the time of his passing he was a long-time employee of Desert Diamond Casino & Entertainment in Sahuarita. We've been absolutely amazed and touched by the outpouring of love

and affection by his fellow employees and casino staff. We shouldn't be surprised at all because they are simply returning the warm feelings Juanito had for all of them. Our beloved Juan was a very caring man.

Juan is survived by his dear mom, Irma Fuller, his loving brother Thomas Fuller and the only dad he ever knew, Brock Fuller. He is also survived by his significant other, Ileana Conklin of Tucson. He is survived by all his family in Santa Cruz County, most especially his loving 93-year-old Abuelo, Adolfo Raul Gallardo, his heartbroken aunts, Tia Martha Wagner, Tia Ana Rodriguez, and Tia Patty Gallardo, and his loving Tio, Adolfo Arturo Gallardo. Juan was predeceased by his cherished 'Tita', Clemencia Ibarra de Gallardo. He is mourned by numerous cousins from southeast Arizona and stretching to the states of Sonora and Sinaloa in Mexico.

We will miss Juanito forever and he will never be forgotten. We will cling tightly to our fond memories and hold onto our faith for strength. We know that we'll be reunited with him (tall and strong) when God calls us

Juan was remembered at a small family service at Carrillos Mortuary in Tucson. He will be inurned at Sunset Memorial Park in Albuquerque at a later date.



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# Thrifty Shopping For the Holidays

By Pat McNamara

“Christmas presents will be in short supply!” “Be sure and shop early since there will be few items to choose from for your loved ones!”

“Christmas will be a lot different this year because of the delay in goods being held offshore due to Covid, tariffs, the politicians, etc. etc...”

These familiar headlines in both digital and print media are causing the public to seek out alternative ways of getting through the purchasing part of the holidays. “Shop local” is the mantra for 2021 Holiday season and the Sonoita/Patagonia area has some sustainable and recyclable places that will be a viable answer to those



Photo by Pat McNamara

## The Purple Elephant offers quality used furniture and household items

tions throughout the local and world communities. Hours are limited to 10-12 on Fridays and Saturdays at this time.

Just north of the PCUMC on McKeown Ave. is the recently opened Purple Elephant Resale Shop. Though only in operation for one year, it has been busy recently and looking for more volunteers to increase their hours which are currently Thursday - Saturday, 10-3. They have medium to higher quality used furniture and household items for sale and their profits also support other local and national organizations. They send any surplus supplies to Native American communities, Africa, and Mexico. The Purple Elephant is part of the Family Healthcare Amigos organization which offers durable medical equipment to anyone, regardless of income. As part of the Southern Arizona Senior Diaper Bank, they provide incontinence supplies for lower income seniors, as well.

Angel Wings, located at 12 Los Encinos Rd. in Sonoita, moved into a new facility in August 2021. As part of the Our Lady of the Angels Mission, they donate their profits in goods rather than cash to local foundations for the needy.

Angel Wings was started in 2005 by women in the congregation selling homemade dog biscuits at fairs and at the local Mercantile. They also held rummage sales along with the dog biscuit sales to finance the new church building.

Angel Wings offers quality household items, furniture and gently used clothing. Hours are 10 -2 Thursday – Saturday.



Photo by Pat McNamara

## Angel Wings Thrift Shop has moved into a new building with a good selection of merchandise.

NIA COMMUNITY CHURCH & THRIFT SHOP GAVE \$16,810 IN 2019	
GIFTS	\$600
DOG HUNT	\$117
TREAT	\$249
BIBLE SCHOOL	\$1,183
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM	\$29
MENT PROGRAM	\$965
ER	\$600
KID'S CLUB	\$3,435
SUPPLIES	\$357
FIRE DEPT	\$500
MOSAIC WALLS IN PATAGONIA - REPAIR	\$117
NOGALES CROSSROADS MISSION	
TUCSON FAMILY MINISTRIES	
U OF A WESLEY FOUNDATION	
AGUA PRIETA FUENTE DE VIDA	
OTHER COMMUNITY AID	
MISSIONARIES MARK & LORI LLOYD	
HEIFER INTERNATIONAL	
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY	
SCRIPTURES IN USE	
UMCOR DISASTER RELIEF	
OTHER INTERNATIONAL GIVING	



Photo by Pat McNamara

## The PUMC Thrift Store has a long tradition of making charitable donations.

looking to fill that empty space under the Christmas tree. Local thrift shops look forward to helping the community provide gifts for this holiday season with quality recycled products.

The Patagonia Community United Methodist Church (PCUMC) thrift shop is located at 387 McKeown Ave. in Patagonia. Established in 1983, it's the oldest of the area thrift shops. They have a wide array of used clothing and some household items at bargain rates. They are known to offer special, on the spot discounts for those particularly in need. Profits are shared with both religious and non-religious organiza-

# Visitor Center Reopens, Plans to Move

By Lynn Davison



Contributed Photo

## This caboose will be moved to Patagonia and refurbished to serve as the new Visitor Center in Doc Mock Park.

The Sky Island Tourist Association (SITA) reopened the Visitor Center on October 1, 2021 after an 18 month covid related closure. Current hours are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10-4p.m. The VC is located at the corner of McKeown and 3rd Avenue in Patagonia, at least for now. It will soon be located to a caboose, gifted to the Town of Patagonia. Linda Shore, SITA president, explained that the \$5500 annual rent paid by SITA for the current site was too much for the 65-member tourist association to sustain. Once the caboose is delivered to Patagonia and refurbished for use as a visitor center, there will be no rent to pay.

The caboose, a Southern Pacific bay window model 1848, is the gift of Peter Robbins, owner of the Little Outfit Ranch in San Rafael Valley. South32 will cover the cost of transporting the 55,000 lb. caboose from Casa Grande to Patagonia, where it will be placed in Doc Mock Park next to the gazebo on 4th Ave. The plan is to have it sit on the McKeown side of the park running parallel to the highway. A caboose, located in the former switching yard, will be a fitting symbol of the Town of Patagonia's railroad history.

The caboose is scheduled to arrive in the near future but getting it ready

to serve as the Visitor Center will take some work and time.

In the meantime, JoAnn Wales, SITA board member, is coordinating the volunteers who greet visitors and provide information about local sites in Patagonia, Sonoita, and Elgin and beyond. Visitor Center hours are limited by the number of available volunteers. Wales says they are very actively looking for volunteers to handle two-hour shifts, especially on Saturdays. “The main qualification for volunteers is enjoying meeting people” she said.

New volunteers will get an orientation and a regular time slot to cover. It is quite an enjoyable volunteer job. You can tout the wonders of the Sky Islands when visitors arrive and sit outside and hold court with your friends and neighbors when there are none. In the month of October, 72 visitors signed in at the Center, which likely represents less than half of those who stopped and talked. Looking to the future, Shore and Wales said that they hope once the caboose is refurbished, to expand the hours and the volunteer corps to staff it.

If you are interested in volunteering, send a message to [sitavolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:sitavolunteers@gmail.com) or leave a voicemail for JoAnn Wales at 503.944.9757.

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## DISPENSING SOLUTIONS



By Cassina Farley

I never thought I'd see the day that Patagonia would have a marijuana dispensary. Some would say that, for generations, Patagonia has been self-sufficient in that field. The long-time local folks took it in stride, giggled about it and went about their lives. Those in opposition loudly sipped their wine and vodka while touting the dangers

of marijuana to whoever would listen, which turned out to be nobody.

Sometime quietly in the night the pot shop opened, and everyone began to watch. First it became a mission to find out who worked there. Did we know them, and more importantly would they talk? It's one thing to quietly sneak in the front door of the local "den of sin" undetected but when the guy serving you is so-in so's neighbor it's enough to send any closeted smoker running.

That's the thing about Patagonia, you can't throw a rock without hitting a pot smoker. The only problem is getting them to admit it. They've been hiding for so long that they are not likely to admit it now, so I can only see the dispensary failing.

Recently I heard a rumor that Sonoita would be the new location for a dispensary. What! Sonoita? I can hear the collective gasp from here. Lines of people in pajama bottoms milling around dropping the property

values is a real concern. But remember, not unlike Patagonia, Sonoita has a few of those undercover smokers who would rather die than let their neighbors know that when they are all alone, they enjoy funny brownies and getting mellow by the hot tub.

So, I propose a solution. Let's do a swap. Sonoita, you shop here. Drive in, park without anyone recognizing your truck and fulfill your heart's desire. Our guy won't know you so there will be no talk. Patagonians in return will make the drive to Sonoita (hopefully not wearing pajama bottoms), park their hybrids and shop without the rumor mill calling them out. It's a win-win.

For the professionals, you can still hit the

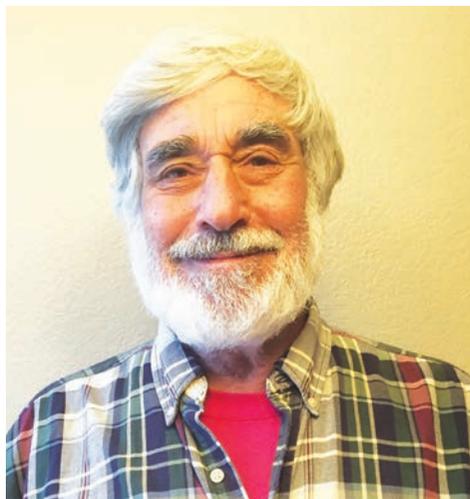
dispensaries in anonymity in Tucson and Green Valley with your medical cards for insomnia. The bottom line is this: a lot of people use marijuana. It doesn't make them bad. Being a bad person makes them bad. I can see the dispensary from my house and to tell you the truth I often forget that it's there. Will they make it? It's hard to say. To tell you the truth I'd rather see it than a McDonald's any day.



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

ReLeaf 85624 Marijuana Dispensary in Patagonia

## LIFE AMONG THE HUMANS



By Martin Levowitz

At The Tin Shed last month, local resident Laurie Monti brought together a group of Native American activists from several Southwestern tribes to show a short movie and discuss "Healing the Border."

Not surprisingly, these folks were resentful of the U.S. government's hostile treatment of their people over two centuries - including outright extermination policies - and of the current, demented wall project which has defiled some of their sacred sites, noteworthily Quitobaquito Springs, in Organ Pipe National Monument. I'm pretty sure the Trump administration would have kept a more respectful distance from an evangelical megachurch with 45,000 conservative parishioners/voters, but that's just a paranoid hunch.

The actual wall is an abomination, of course, but even more obscene is the notion of WALL as an appropriate solution to differences between neigh-

bors. What more primitive, unfriendly solution could one imagine? It thumbs its nose at Brotherhood and Christian Charity...not to mention the ecological disaster. The only good thing one can say about Trump's famous wall is that it's less ugly than the grotesque concrete monolith Israel built to keep it's dark-skinned neighbors in their place.

The tribal speakers had come to talk mostly about current border problems. This engendered interest and empathy among the audience, but, by keeping the topic local, failed to address the larger, seemingly universal patterns of racism.

One truly admirable aspect of indigenous culture, repeatedly cited that evening, is it's general, humble sense of mutuality; awareness that we are all creatures of the same creation/creator; that plants and other animals are equal to and no less important than we are. (Their conduct is often less nasty than ours.)

Carlos Castaneda's Don Juan, the Yaqui shaman, explains that indigenous people often become custodians of spiritual wisdom by default, since mainstream (colonialist/conquistador)

culture generally focuses on wealth and power, becoming blind to natural and spiritual law. (N.B.: current Climate Crisis, species extinctions, etc.) The sacred sites and practices of Native people, in fact, almost everything about Native people, is seen as primitive and, at best, quaint, not taken seriously by the affluent, tech-savvy conqueror. In modern society, those who express respect for the welfare of plants and animals, especially if suggesting that they are our equals, are thought to be soft in the head.

To some minds, powerlessness "proves" inferiority. In a kind of unconscious, self-serving Social Darwinism, the empowered majority can't take those "beneath them" - i.e., less rich and powerful - very seriously. Indigenous people, of course, like other minorities, are routinely barred from acquiring wealth and power, good jobs or housing, none of which can be found on the remote, infertile wastelands called

reservations.

Both comfort and unconsciousness are really forms of sleep. It's normal to dislike that which disturbs our sleep. Let's thank Allah that there are always just a few who, out of decency or rage, will not turn a blind eye. Like prophets in the Bible, they campaign to make us see, and are, thus, both reviled and disliked, and, for the most part, simply seen as pests, like mosquitoes or flies.



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## DO YOU HAVE RESERVATIONS, SIR?

***It is our objective as a community newspaper to present many views to our readers. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the views of this publication.***

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# OPINION & COMMENT

## BIKE RACE TO GENTRIFICATION OR MINING, I CHOSE NEITHER

By Cholla Rose Nicoll

This is my opinion, not my employers or any other group I am affiliated with, and it probably won't win me too many new friends, but it needs to be said. Everyone knows that mining has irreversible devastating effects on the environment. Still, everyone doesn't know that gentrification brought on by elitist recreational sports can have an irreversible and catastrophic impact on any community's culture and working-class people. Patagonia is no exception.

According to the article "When Nowhere Becomes Somewhere" by Mat Payne, there are three factors of gentrification in rural communities. The first factor is "occupier developer" types move in with a mindset to change the existing community physically and culturally. The new occupiers then create an economy based on serving their needs. As I have witnessed, traditional or meaningful rural jobs like agriculture and small business ownership disappear, replaced by the frequently dead-end jobs of the catering/service industry. If the pandemic has taught us anything, people don't rush back to these types of jobs, and for a good reason. The final factor is the want and ability for the new gentrified population to buy into the fantasy they perceive as rural life. As this fantasy becomes a reality, multi-

generational families are pushed out of the area, and the previous culture is effectively erased.

I am a passionate person, and those who know me know I care deeply about many things, but this topic hits me in the heart. My family was pushed out of Colorado by gentrification. I know the feeling of having to sell a home and say goodbye to a place you used to love because it no longer welcomes the working class. Luckily for me, my original home of southern Arizona was there to catch me and welcome me home. It is heartbreaking to imagine the multigenerational and tri-national culture here being erased. The kindness and family feeling tight-knit communities cherish fades away when gentrification destroys and divides communities. That hasn't happened quite yet, but the occupier developers are here, clearly stating their intentions on their website. They saw this community as their goldmine. Only they're not mining for minerals; they are mining for a change in culture that would directly benefit their bank accounts and upper-class lifestyle.

I urge the people in power in this community to take this as seriously as a physical threat; we owe that to the working-class people of Patagonia and the multigenerational families who will inevitably be erased if we do nothing to mitigate the coming shift.

# Curbside Recycling Could Start This Month

By PRT Staff Reporters

For the first time, local readers of the print version of the PRT will soon be able to recycle newspapers curbside where they live and be relatively certain it won't end up in the landfill. This responsible act, an example of the third part of the sustainable lifestyle mantra - reduce, reuse, recycle - will be possible due to the curbside pickup service now being launched in the Patagonia area by Recyclops.

Dennis Wise, Recyclops Vice President for Business Development and Sales, recently reported that the company has enrolled sufficient numbers of subscribers to begin providing curbside recycling service. However, about one-third of the subscribers still need to provide their billing information.

Wise also revealed that the company has purchased a Sierra Vista-based recycling company from its owner, Eric Holeman, and has hired Holeman to help launch the service in Patagonia.

Bob Brandt, Chair of the Patagonia Recycling Task Force, said he's pleased that Recyclops is willing to bring the service to this area. According to Brandt, Recyclops founder and CEO Ryan Smith is committed to serving this market despite the small size and dispersed population in the Patagonia, Sonoita, Elgin area. That commitment, Brandt said, has come about because of the enthusiasm and support exhibited by members of the task force including Patagonia Town Manager Ron Robinson, who has been a regular participant in the task force's meetings and monthly recycling events.

Robinson met with Holeman in early November to discuss the possibility that the company might use the town's chipper site to place large containers where it would aggregate its collected recyclables prior to transporting them to a materials recovery

facility in Tucson. However, according to Holeman, the company found a site better suited to its operations on vacant land owned by Native Seed Search. "We really appreciate Mr. Robinson's efforts to find a suitable site in the town, but the site we settled on offers easier access for our heavy containers," Holeman explained.

With a site for aggregating their collected materials identified, Holeman said the company is on target to begin curbside service in early December if enough of the households who have signed up submit their billing information.

When interested parties enroll, they will be asked to select whether to pay monthly, quarterly, semiannually or annually and the method of payment. Subscribers can cancel or suspend service at any time, a feature sure to be popular with many seasonal residents.

Recyclops will serve people living in remote areas of eastern Santa Cruz County during a startup period, after which they will require a minimum of 30 customers on a single route to make the pickup financially feasible.

Brandt noted that the curbside pickup was not originally envisioned by the task force when it first began meeting nearly two years ago, but since learning from J.B. Shaw, recycling specialist at the AZ Department of Environmental Quality, of Recyclops' operations elsewhere in Arizona, the task force invited Smith to bring the company's unique brand of curbside recycling to Patagonia while continuing to work on bringing back a drop-off facility that will serve households that don't subscribe.

"We know that not everyone will be able to subscribe to this service, but those who do will be able to easily and confidently recycle and the town will save on tipping fees," Brandt said.



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## Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

By Cynie Murray

The goal: To clean up Patagonia, beautify our town, rid it of unwanted garbage and eliminate the litter.

Securing our garbage is a huge step in this. By securing your garbage, the javelinas, dogs, birds and wind cannot turn your garbage into litter. Please do not litter! Don't throw anything out of your car or truck windows or toss things in the back of your pickup truck, this all creates litter. Be conscientious of tossing anything on the ground whether it be a gum wrapper or the plastic cup and straw you just drank out of. Do your part to Reduce, Reuse & Recycle. Let's be proud of our clean town!



Photo by Ron Robinson  
**Judge Concepcion Bracamonte swears in new Town of Patagonia Attorney and Prosecutor Enrique Gonzales, Jr. Gonzales is an attorney from Nogales. His father was the Town Attorney in the 1990s.**

# TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

By PRT Staff Reporters

November 17, 2021

The Town approved for Mayor Wood to sign Subdivision Settlement Participation Forms for the ongoing opioid settlement against distributors and Janssen, in completion of the Settlement Agreement dated July 21, 2021.

To clarify and simplify the Town's regulations on truck movements within the Town, a Study Session was approved, for January 5 at 6 pm.

Recommendations from the Town's Tree and Park Committee concerning maintenance, horticulture and landscape care in the Doc Mock Park, were approved. Committee Chairman Caleb Weaver explained the new additions to the final version, including incorporation of the County's Water Harvesting Guidance Manual (available at [santa-cruzcountyaz.gov](http://santa-cruzcountyaz.gov)).

The Mayor and Council responded to concerns of Paulette Gatlin, about large groups and vehicle gatherings in Town, such as a large group of loud ATVs for a day in August. The visiting group was described as "renegade"

by one Council member, explaining that it wasn't a single event, nor had requested permission of the Town, but word had been spread ahead of time on Facebook. There were several other vehicle and traffic related issues brought up, and a study session was approved for 6p.m., December 8, 2021 in the Council Chambers .

The Mayor and Council approved Murphy Musick as a member of the Town's Municipal Property Corporation. Corporation President Steve Finch explained that the Corporation is a financing tool for the town that meets formally only once a year, yet would benefit from a couple more members.

It was approved for Mayor Wood to sign a termination agreement with South32 which finalizes this year's road improvement agreement.

South32's support for the relocation of the caboose donated to the town by Peter Robbins will be written up as a Community Support Agreement, and Manager Robinson was authorized to sign it.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Cattlegoman Responds

As a rancher and cattlegoman, I was startled at the outlandish claims made about beef and water in a November Letter to the Editor. Of course it takes water to raise and grow food – both veggies and animal protein – a precious resource we highly respect in agriculture. And, after all, we have to eat. The high water use number claimed by the author (more than 5,000 gallons to produce one pound of beef) simply isn't true. Actually, it takes about 308 gallons of water to produce one pound of boneless beef (Asem-Hiablje et al., 2018). To break that down, that is green water (rainwater that landed on the field or pasture), blue water (irrigation water for crops and drinking water for

animals), and gray water (used for cleaning animal facilities, processing plants, etc.). More than 90% of the water footprint for beef production is green water. Unlike blue and gray water, green water cannot be used directly by humans, but it is critically important to grow forages on the range.

Cattlemen and women, in every step of the way from the ranch to the feed yard, and on to processing, take environmental sustainability seriously and work to continuously improve the way we raise cattle here in Arizona and across the country, to raise nutritious beef for our families and yours.

Sincerely,  
Linda Brake  
Rose Tree Ranch

## In Gratitude

I'm writing to express my gratitude to the key players who have come together to get turkeys to our local families this week. First, a big thanks to Supervisor Bruce Bracker, who responded to our community's request for turkeys to distribute - in addition to being the champion for the produce boxes that are distributed twice a month in Sonoita. Second, a big thank you to the Villa family of Villa's Mar-

ket in Nogales, who so generously provided turkeys for the community. And last but not least, thanks go to the Benson Chapter of the Arizona Rangers for delivering turkeys to our neighbors!

We truly are a blessed community. This couldn't be accomplished without the efforts of all, plus the ongoing efforts of the local volunteers who help with distribution.

Gail Christmann  
Sonoita

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Wonderful Event

A huge thank you to the Spirit World 100 for their wonderful event that brought so many guests to celebrate and enjoy being in our community. The day began in the early morning with the gathering of the riders downtown and the magnificent drumming that totally enhanced the mood. Riders, visitors, and we town-folk were excited throughout the day as they watched participants return

from this epic race. The event was capped off that evening with the great music and party in the park. I met riders and visitors who had traveled from Kansas, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Colorado and elsewhere. All came to Patagonia to celebrate being in our special town and region. "Hats off" for all of the efforts involved in hosting this spectacular event!

John Waldrop  
Patagonia

## Thank You to Patagonia Assisted Care Agency

We have been so fortunate to have here in our little community, a little business that was compassionate, loving and dedicated.

Annie Mihalik, Tony Mihalik, and

her wonderful staff served so many of us with care, kindness and love. Their years of care helped so many here at home.

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to Patagonia Assisted Care Agency.  
Anonymous

## Protecting Our Groundwater

Earlier this year Dave Ellis and I showed in the PRT how the water level in one of Patagonia's town wells varied with area rainfall. It not only showed a remarkable correlation, but also a longer term trend downward, most probably due to global warming. Rising temperatures cause less surface water to reach ground water wells, it is as simple as that.

Recently, PARA and I passed the Appeals Board of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) in an appeal to revoke ADEQ's Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) allowing South32 to pump more than 6 million gallons per day so that it can proceed to full scale operation in the Patagonia Mountains. The appeal will now be heard at the AZ Office of Administrative Hearings at a date still to be determined unless ADEQ lawyers succeed in convincing the judge that appellants have no standing. Apparently that is more important to ADEQ than "to Protect and Enhance Public Health and Environment", as per ADEQ's own mission

statement.

Among the arguments I will use in this case is a study of the United States Geological Survey on the water balance of the Cienega Creek Basin, of which Patagonia, Sonoita and Elgin are part of. It does not take much calculation to conclude that with the ADEQ permit in place, the basin water balance will become hugely negative and will not only affect the already sensitive balance of the Patagonia town wells, but also those who rely on basin groundwater at other locations.

ADEQ argues that it only regulates water quality but it apparently has the power to issue permits that deplete our aquifers even in times of water rationing. As usual, multinationals have been able to manipulate elected politicians and regulators to approve laws that do not cover in a consistent way the protection of water. ADEQ therefore is not truthful to its own mission statement and you may wonder why it actually still has its budget approved by the people.

Chris Werkhoven  
Sonoita

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

# LITTER IS PREVENTABLE!

# New Film By Local Filmmaker Opens on Both Sides of the Line



Photo by Linx Selby

A crowd of approximately 160 people gather on Morley Ave. outside the La Linea Gallery to view "Pueblo Magica," a film about people living on both sides of the border, and for a discussion with the filmmaker, Linx Selby.

By Lynn Davison

Friday November 12 was The first southwest showing of "Pueblo Magico," a film made by Patagonia native Linx Selby. There were two showings, one at the street end where Morley Avenue abuts the border in Nogales, AZ and one in a large art space near the line in Nogales, Sonora.

About 160 people showed up at the event on Morley, even though there was very little advertising of the event. The atmosphere was festive as the crowd watched the film, participated in a Q & A with the filmmaker, and enjoyed Mexican food prepared for the event. On the Sonoran side of the line, the crowd was much smaller and

younger, but equally enthusiastic.

The 30 minute "Pueblo Magico" includes a series of vignettes of people living in the borderlands. With a deft sense of place and very human touch, Selby captured a slice of the day-to-day life in Patagonia, Nogales AZ, and Nogales Sonora. Her lens painted a quite a different picture than typically seen in films and stories about the border.

Selby thanked the major funders for Pueblo Magico: Diana and Rick Nash at Circle Z Ranch, Marcey Olajos, Ron and Janice Pulliam, Quentin Lewton and Annie McGreevy, Dianne Ladd and Bruce Holland, the Women's Alchemy Guild and many more.

Aissa Huerta, director of the La Linea Gallery, and Evan Kory, Arts Director, Santa Cruz County, School Superintendent's Office, were hosts for the event on the Arizona side and Tony Plak, a well known muralist, hosted the event at his Churea Creative Space on the Sonoran side.

Selby's vision for these showings and others to come is

"building a cross-border community through shared art and music."

She is already at work with new ideas and has been inspired by the response from the Nogales audiences and follow up calls from other artists interested in expanding cross border connections.

Selby plans additional local showings of "Pueblo Magico" in Patagonia and Tucson, perhaps before the holidays, as well as other sites, and will be distributing the film online soon. Selby can be contacted at [linx.selby@gmail.com](mailto:linx.selby@gmail.com).

Treasures from around the corner & around the world

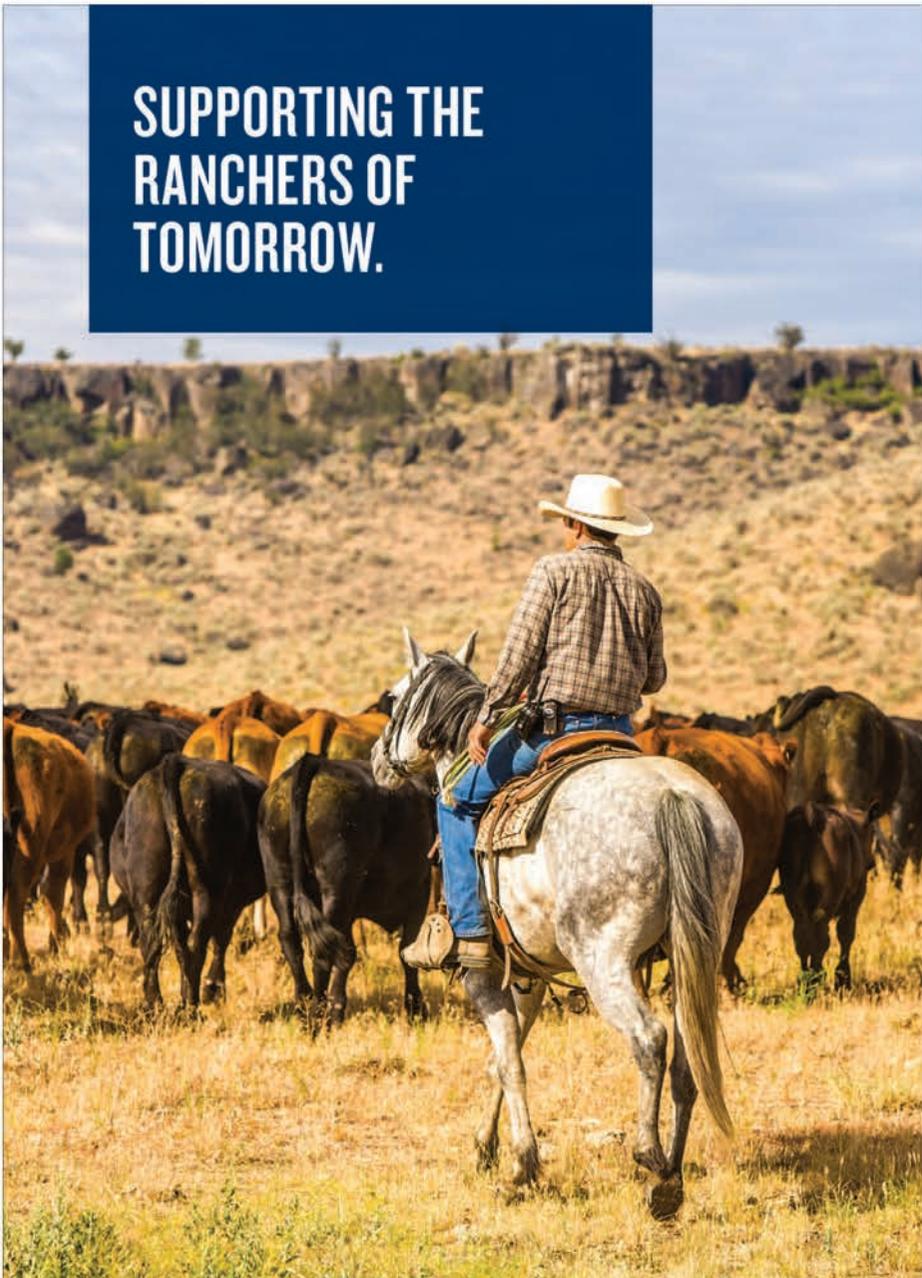
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# Ranch Festival Draws Large Crowds

By Alison Bunting



Photo by Chris Leon

**Silversmith Byrd Moss demonstrates his craft at the Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival.**

The historic Empire Ranch came alive again for the 20th Empire Ranch Cowboy Festival on November 6-7. For the first time, the Festival was expanded to two days, and over 2,400 excited participants enjoyed the beautiful weather and wealth of activities.

B Troop 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment (Memorial) provided precision riding performances in the arena. Lanny Leach, Joel Eliot, and George Masek demonstrated horsemanship and cattle handling techniques. Working cattle dogs, The BLM Wild Horse & Burro performances were enjoyed by all. Demonstrations by the Spanish Barb Horse Association allowed a close look at these historic horses. And the skilled and colorful riding of the Charros y Modelos de Tucson and Copper State Renegades Drill Team never cease to impress.

Performers on the Music Stage included Dan McCorison, the Broken Chair Band, Randy Huston, Jon Messenger and Way Out West. The Dance Group of Tucson performed

traditional Mexican dances. Western skills demonstrators included Bill Schock (branding), Osuna Boots (boot making), Phil Parks (leatherworking), Dick Schorr (reata braiding), Brad Faulkner (saddlemaking), Byrd Moss (silversmithing), and Jeff Eppley (vintage engines).

The Cowboy Conversations were led off by author Nancy E. Turner and musician Janice Deardorff. Their presentation, "These is my Words & Music," featured Turner's stories of her great grandmother, Arizona pioneer Sarah Agnes Prine, and Deardorff's songs inspired by Sarah.

Bunker DeFrance, Marty Freese, and Gene Freese spoke about Western movie making and the movies filmed in Empire Ranch territory. Authors and podcasters H. Alan Day and Russell True entertained with their Cowboy Up stories. Faith Boice and Ian and Addie Tomlinson provided personal perspectives on Empire Ranch history. Local history stories were shared by Charles Hancock (Buffalo soldiers) Doug Hocking (train robberies), and JJ Lamb (the story of Vail, AZ).

Rex Dalton's EZ Cattle Company Cow Camp Café & Chuckwagon demonstrated chuckwagon cooking during the day and served up a steak dinner on Saturday evening to 150 guests. Joel Eliot serenaded the dinner guests with his guitar and Western songs. On Sunday morning Pastor Larry Whitney of the Mustang Mountain Cowboy Church led the Cowboy Church service, with music provided by the Broken Chair Band.

Livestock exhibitors included Horse'n Around Rescue Ranch (Steve Boice & Theresa Warrell), Susan Shea's mini horses, 'Dinky Donkeys,' Forever Home Donkey Rescue & Sanctuary, and the Sahuarita 4-H Club. Nine authors and 17 vendors reported brisk sales, and 18 nonprofit organizations provided exhibits and educational opportunities. 119 riders enjoyed the 45-minute trail rides of Las Cienegas National Conservation Area.

Over 200 presenters, demonstrators, authors, and volunteers made the 2021 Cowboy Festival possible. The Empire Ranch Foundation is so grateful for their contributions.



Photo by Kevin Deardorf

**Author Nancy Turner & musician Janice Deardorff perform "These are My Words and Music," based on stories of Arizona Pioneer Sarah Agnes Prine.**

# Check It Out At The Library



Photo by Laura Wenzel

**1st and 4th grade students from Patagonia Elementary School watch a frybread demonstration after reading an NEA Big Read StoryWalk of "Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story" in Patagonia's Town Park.**

By Laura Wenzel

This month, Patagonia Library is launching our Act One Culture Pass collection. Act One's Culture Pass provides access to the arts for students, retirees, and families that would not otherwise have the financial capabilities to visit Arizona's arts and cultural treasures.

Initiated by library clerk Kayla Miller, the program offers free weekly passes to the following destinations: Arcosanti, Cave Creek Museum, Desert Botanical Garden, Desert Caballeros Western Museum, The Heard Museum, Museum of Northern Arizona, Pueblo Grande Museum, Reid Park Zoo, Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, Sedona Heritage Museum, and University of Arizona Museum of Art. Patrons will receive two free

passes to the museum of their choice to use within seven days of checkout. For more information, contact us at 520-394-2010.

We're about two-thirds complete with the NEA Big Read program, hosted by the Patagonia Library and the Patagonia Creative Arts Assn, and the time is flying by! There are many more events to come this December; view our schedule on page 15 in this newspaper, or visit [patagoniapubliclibrary.org/events](http://patagoniapubliclibrary.org/events). Please note, the author talk and documentary with Brian Jabas Smith was rescheduled to December 11 at 7pm at the Tin Shed Theater. Many thanks to everyone who has been patient with us while we navigate event coordinating in our COVID world.

# Gold Buckle Bash

**11 December, Saturday**

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Contributed Photo

Several PUHS athletes were recognized by the Arizona Interscholastic Association. From left: Alec Escoboza (1A All-Conference Honorable Mention, First Team Team All-Region Soccer), Diego Carranza (1A Second Team Team All-Region Soccer), Sergio Carranza (1A Honorable Mention All-Region Soccer), Leo Nunez (1A Honorable Mention All-Region Soccer), Santiny Aguilar (1A All-Conference Honorable Mention, First Team Team All-Region Soccer), Ivan Carranza (1A Second Team All-Region Soccer), Madison Vines (Volleyball Second Team All-Region)

Due to the increase in COVID cases in Patagonia and Santa Cruz County, The Patagonia Schools are adjusting safety protocols. To limit the crowd size, there will be two fans per athlete allowed to attend Patagonia home games. No other fans will be permitted. Everyone attending must wear a mask unless they are actively playing in the game. Please feel free to contact Athletic Director Nate Porter if you have any questions or concerns.

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# December Calendar of 'Big Read' Events

The Patagonia Public Library and Patagonia Creative Arts Association (PCAA) have been selected to receive a 2021-2022 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Big Read grant. The \$5,350.00 grant awarded to Patagonia supports a host of programs and events all inspired by "An American Sunrise" by Joy Harjo. Harjo, who serves as Poet Laureate for the United States, is a Native American poet, writer, musician, singer, and activist. Project partners include Borderlands Restoration Network, Friends of the Patagonia Library, PCAA, Patagonia Public Schools, the Patagonia Regional Times, the Patagonia Museum, KPUP and Town of Patagonia.

**December 3: 6:00pm - 7:30pm: Indigenous Film Series "RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World" Tin Shed Theater**

*This documentary shows how pioneering Native American musicians helped shape the soundtracks of our lives. All ages welcome.*

**December 9: 6:30pm - 7:30pm: AZ Speaks Keynote: Metalsmith Matriarchs: Makers, Memory, and Reciprocity - Patagonia Public Library**

*Nanibaa Beck addresses the ways Native women metalsmith integrate indigenous knowledge, practice and tradition into their craft. Beck is a 2nd generation Diné (Navajo) jeweler. This presentation and Nanibaa's work demonstrate the connection of Native artists to Arizona and beyond as a place and identity.*

**December 11: 9:00am - 11:30am: Two-Part Art Workshop: Pottery and Clay Making the Indigenous Way - Patagonia Creative Arts Center:**

*Martha Kelly, will instruct students on how to identify and collect natural clay from our area and help them to create one of a kind pottery pieces. Workshops include instruction on natural glazing techniques as well as traditional firing methods. Workshop #1 on December 11 will detail pottery-making, This series of workshops will be available to Patagonia students and area adults.*

**December 11: 7:00pm: Author Reading and Discussion with Brian Jabas Smith - Tin Shed Theater**

*Tucson author and journalist Brian Jabas Smith will read selections from his new book of Tucson Salvage columns accompanied by a new documentary directed by his wife Maggie Smith.*

**December 15: 4:00pm - 5:00pm: NEA Big Read Book Discussion: "Secrets from the Center of the World" - Patagonia Public Library**

*The final book discussion of our NEA Big Read program, Deb Goff will facilitate this discussion of Joy Harjo and Stephen Strom's collaborative 1989 book of poetry and photography, "Secrets from the Center of the World."*

**December 17: 6:00 pm - 8:00pm: Poetry Slam - Gathering Grounds**

*The Patagonia High School English classes under the direction of their instructor, Journee Hayes, will perform original poetry inspired by An American Sunrise, along with the winners of the PRT's middle and high school poetry contest. Open to all lovers, readers, and practitioners of the spoken and written word. Members of the community are highly encouraged to share their own or someone else's poetry.*

**December 18: 9:00am - 11:30am: Two-Part Art Workshop: Pottery and Clay Making the Indigenous Way, Part 2 - Patagonia Creative Arts Association**

*Martha Kelly will instruct students on how to identify and collect natural clay from our area and help them to create one of a kind pottery pieces. Workshop #2 will include instruction on natural glazing techniques as well as traditional firing methods.*

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.



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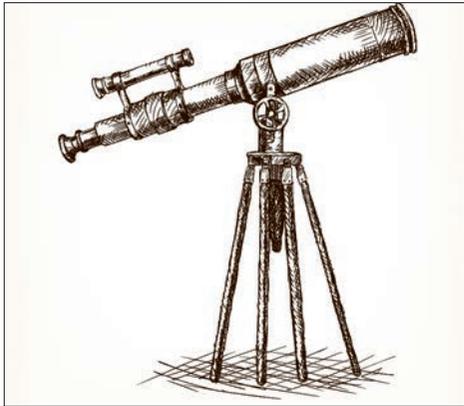


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# STARSTRUCK



By Harold Meckler

It's the time of year for gift giving. Sometimes, the best gifts are the ones that arise spontaneously. You can look for hours for something special and you may still come up short. There are other times, though, that the magic breaks through, when the receiver's face lights up, when words come tumbling out from the heart. Those are the gifts that go way beyond money spent and mean more than can ever be expressed.

I accidentally gave - and received - such a gift a few weeks ago. Friends had come to Patagonia for a few days to visit, hike and get away from the city lights. We had a clear night for stargazing, so we headed outside to look at the sky for an hour of relaxation and serendipity. What would be confirmed was that while gifts can bring great joy to the receiver, they often bring greater joy to the giver. I don't think I can take credit for what we saw, but the simple act of pointing my telescope in a specific direction let me in on the prize.

We started with Jupiter, well up in the South. Its bright Galilean moons were visible, as were the dark bands of clouds that circle the planet. Jupiter has, at last count, 79 moons, but Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto grab all the attention. Ganymede is the largest moon in our solar system, while Callisto comes in third, just behind Saturn's Titan.

Just looking at Jupiter is enough. It's like walking along the rim of Grand Canyon. There's so much to see. But, step under the canyon rim and a new world opens. So it is with the giant planets. As I stepped back to the eyepiece I knew what was next on our

viewing list. Rather than announce it, I centered Saturn in the view finder and said something like, "Here, take a look at this" as calmly as I could.

My friend of 40 years switched places with me. Maybe a full second passed. Maybe not. He pulled back his head. "Dude," he yelled out, "that's fantastic. I see it. I see the rings!" Even in the darkness his face was glowing, in awe of something he'd seen countless times in magazines, but never through a telescope. He looked again, and then again and repeated himself, struggling to speak through a smile that would not relax.

There are times, due to our orbits, that Saturn's rings are better angled to give us a glorious view. On this night, that was the case. Though appearing like a solid halo, there are actually seven major rings that spectacularly evoke wonder in all of us, despite our differences, perceived, imagined or real. And, while they appear stationary, these rings of rocks and dust are spinning around the planet at speeds over 30,000 mph.

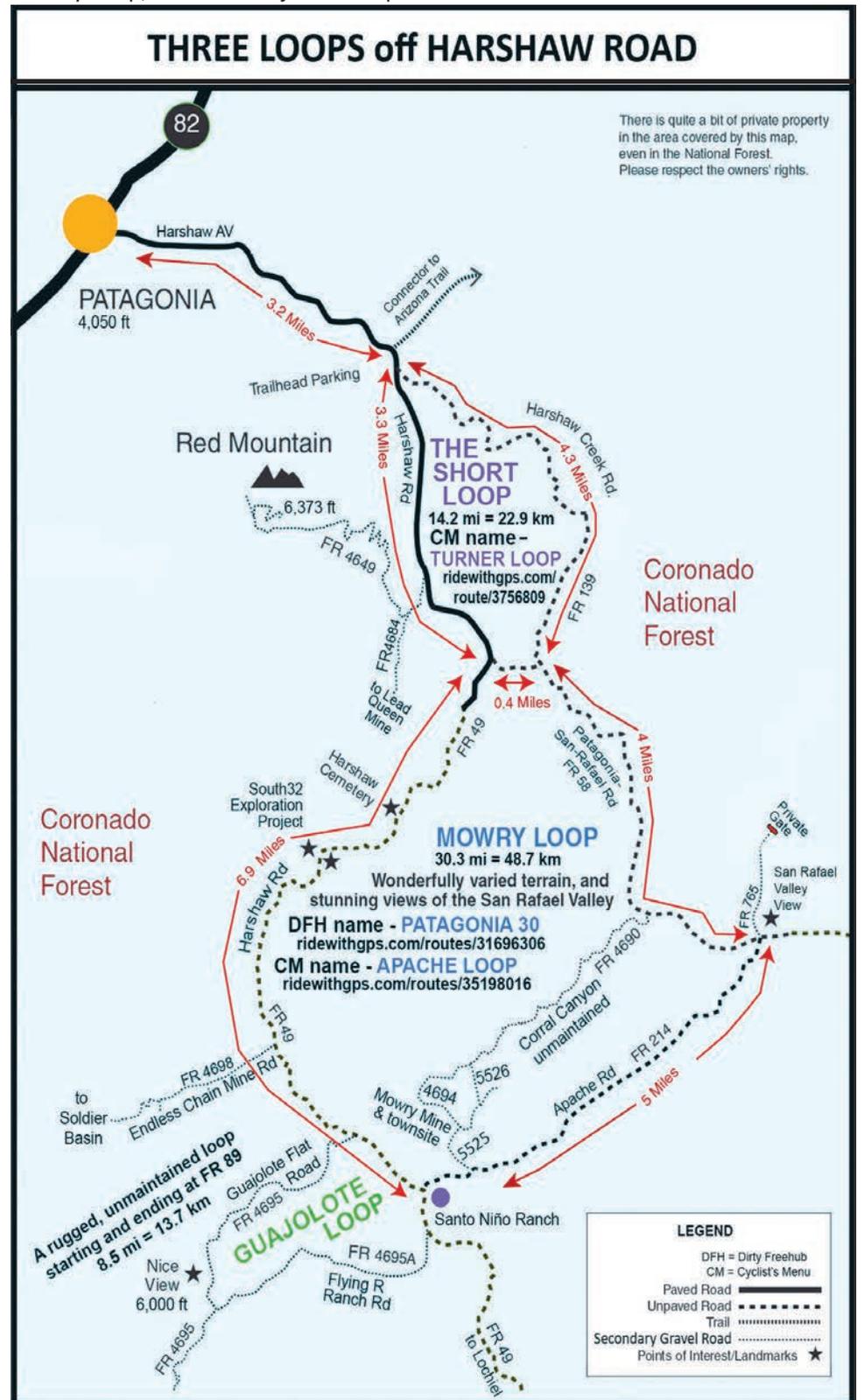
I'm sure my friend thought that would be it. But, I said, there was one more thing we should take a stab at. Partially hidden by a tree, I wasn't sure if my telescope would be able to capture it. Now, it was my turn to be flabbergasted. It was a gift for me. I knew I was looking at Venus, but didn't expect to see it in one of its phases. It had been many years since I'd seen it this way. Looking like a baby half-moon, it shone brightly and proudly, determined not to let any leaves or branches get in its way.

Venus orbits nearer to the sun than Earth. When it is closest to us, we are only able to see the part of it that is reflecting the sun's light toward us. At its furthest, there's a full reflection so it appears as a solid disk, similar to a full moon.

We finally headed inside, content that we'd shared gifts that could not be topped. One leaves a lot unspoken at times like this. I guess words can't carry the thoughts, the emotion one feels when gazing into the enormity of space. Where does one begin? For me, I just tilt my head a bit and whisper "thanks."

# Take a Hike!

PRT contributor Robert Gay is working on a trail map of Patagonia and surrounding areas. The PRT will be featuring sections of his map in the next several issues. This month, we are including a map, originally made by Maggie Urgo that shows three trails in and around the San Rafael Valley, the Short Loop, the Mowry Loop, and the Guajolote Loop trails.



Map by Maggie Urgo, Updated by Robert Gay

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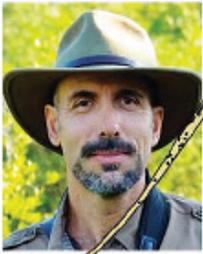
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**Hay Rides \* Dummy Roping \* Tree Lighting at Sundown**



# Nature Journeys

By Vince Pinto

wildflowers had to be seen to be believed.

Many species of butterflies were lured in by the glut of nectar. In Early September several species of sulphur butterflies migrated en masse into our region. Mantids, ever

hungry and alert, waited patiently for them to land

## Milking The Monsoon

Rain, glorious rain...we were due! The relief, however temporary, brought by an abundant and persistent 2021 monsoon season is difficult to put into words. Our summer rains in Santa Cruz County were well-spaced and deep reaching. The resultant blitzkrieg of life was, and is, something to behold.

Many species, especially native plants, took the opportunity to breed profusely. Summer annual wildflowers like summer poppy (actually not a poppy) formed seas of orange near my home. Spiced below them were the flaming magenta flowers of trailing windmills in the four-o'clock family. At the peak of summer flowering, I counted well over 30 species of native wildflowers at Raven's Nest, our 42 acre nature preserve. A few species of morning glory vines conspired to make our mesquite woodland a mini Costa Rica. The tangle of life and myriad of

near flowers they had staked out as their hunting grounds, wasting no time in laying into their hapless prey, usually consuming them head first.

In November, legions of sparrows, towhees, pyrrhuloxias, and even the rare Lawrence's goldfinch were feasting upon the seeds spawned by the monsoon. Birds in general seem so well fed that I am witnessing many more chases and other behaviors due to the extra energy from the monsoon. A few species of butterflies were still lingering at the sparse remnants of flowers left blooming. The deer and collared peccaries are fat. Life is good.

Still, one good monsoon does not an ecological recovery make. It will take years of good rains and proactive habitat restoration to make that happen. Climate change is happening every year. The COP26 climate summit was instrumental for countries



Photo by Vince Pinto

### Birdsfoot Morning Glory

to make key policy changes, but real, grassroots action starts at home.

Yesterday's green carpets and walls of vegetation are today's and tomorrow's fire hazards, which would put even more greenhouse gases into our atmosphere. To me, this begs the question - how can I artfully manage the land while maintaining as much monsoon momentum as possible, all the while battling climate change?

Over the years I've devised several useful strategies that make use of what might otherwise be thought of as mere liabilities. Instead of fighting the land, we try to work with it, creating a paradigm of ecological abundance - a stark contrast to the "ecological deserts" we see locally created by overgrazing and other land mismanagement.

Take, for example, Palmer amaranth or 'careless weed,' a tall, native annual many of which topped out at over seven feet this year. Left as is, they present a fire hazard. Enter my battery-powered weed whacker and a metal rake. Between these two tools I have carved out many fire breaks and nature trails that transform the towering amaranth into mulch. This fine ground cover promotes maximum soil moisture, which aids any plants living in those mulched areas.

During the monsoon, I began to thin plants near structures and trails, hand pulling them and laying them densely at the base of our many native landscaped trees and shrubs. Many folks would throw away that mulch as so much trash. Why not use it creatively instead? Milk the monsoon!

Most of our landscaping is planted in islands with numerous species placed close to each other. This minimizes watering and maximizes resources, such as shade

and mulch. We have also created "habitat islands" across our landscape.

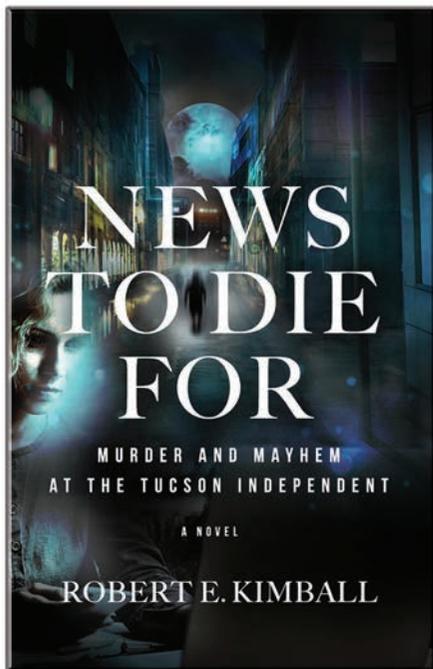
Having seen the negative effects of erosion prior to our arrival here in 2008, we set our minds to creatively controlling this destructive force. It all came together as we noticed that many of our mesquite trees sported dead lower branches. These we collected in quantity and placed in mounds in bare areas. Next, we piled loose gravel atop the branches. The final cover came in the form of old and otherwise useless metal fencing, which was secured with rebar.

The resultant habitat islands have created areas where fossorial (i.e. underground) species can live, breed, or forage. They slow the water down during floods, such as during this past monsoon, and "plant" it in the ground. Equally important, they greatly reduce the fire hazard to the landscape by creating a purpose for those dead branches.

Climate change is here to stay, but by creatively repurposing the abundance of this and other summer rainy seasons yet to come we can all collectively milk the monsoon!

Vincent Pinto & his wife, Claudia Campos run RAVENS-WAY WILD JOURNEYS LLC, their Nature Adventure and Conservation organization - devoted to protecting and promoting the unique biodiversity of Sky Islands region. RWWJ offers a wide variety of private, custom-made courses including Birding and Biodiversity Tours. Visit: [www.ravensnatureschool.com](http://www.ravensnatureschool.com)

## Murder and Mayhem Make for a Good Read



Local author Bob Kimball has spun a good tale in "News To Die For." It's a mystery, a love story, and perhaps most of all, a window into the newspaper business.

The Lafferty family owns and manages The Tucson Independent, a daily newspaper, with a proud history and a fragile present. The heroic protagonist, publisher Meghan Lafferty, faces multiple adversities, including the violent deaths of two of the most important people in her life, her dying newspaper, an evil stepmother, embezzlement, a lightning strike, and her own illness.

Throughout the twisting and twisted plot, we get a bird's eye look into the daily running of a newspaper. Kimball, a retired (2005) editor and publisher of the Nogales International also includes some local landmarks and a foul-mouthed, but talented, reporter who hails from Patagonia.

THANKS TO THE MORE THAN 60 PEOPLE WHO HAVE PURCHASED MY BOOK. MANY SAID THEY SAW MY AD IN THE PRT.

THANKS TO THE PATAGONIA TRADING POST FOR SELLING 11 BOOKS.

THANKS TO BETTY BARR FOR HER BOOK SIGNING EVENT AT THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FAIR WHERE I SOLD 16 BOOKS.

THANKS TO THE EMPIRE RANCH COWBOY FESTIVAL WHERE I SOLD 21 BOOKS.

THANKS TO TOD BOWDEN WHO SOLD 5 COPIES.

AND THANKS TO THOSE WHO BOUGHT MY BOOKS FROM AMAZON.COM.

THANKS TO LYNN DAVISON, MARTI CHASE, ANNIE MCGREEVY AND DAVID NAUGLE FOR THEIR GREAT BOOK REVIEWS.

-Bob

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# Glimpses Into Our Past

By Alison Bunting

*Gardner Canyon bears the name of Arizona pioneer Thomas Edward Gardner, whose Apache Springs Ranch was located about 4.5 miles west of Highway 83. Boulder Crest Arizona now owns the land where Gardner's ranch was located. "The Other Side of the Mountain" by Tom Wood and Joan Kane Wood, 2007, provides a fascinating and in depth look at the lives of the Gardner family, and was a significant resource for this article.*

Thomas Edward Gardner was born April 13, 1830\* in Buffalo, New York. His family moved to Michigan when he was about seven years old, and at age 16 he and a cousin headed west to Oregon Territory. Tom never made it to Oregon but ended up placer mining for gold in California where he met miners from Sonora, Mexico. Around 1854 he began mining in Sonora and by 1859, at the urging of friend and fellow miner Jesus Torres, had relocated to Arizona Territory. Tom began farming near Casa Blanca Canyon and Fort Crittenden along the Sonoita Creek. It was a dangerous time for settlers, as the Apaches, led by Cochise, were constantly raiding in the area.

In 1861 Tom married Gertrudis Apodaca, known as Tula, who was

born in Santa Cruz, Sonora, Mexco. The couple had 11 children, five of whom lived to adulthood. Shortly after his marriage, Tom was shot by Cochise while driving cattle in Sonora. He was nursed back to health by his wife and mother-in-law, but the bullet remained lodged near his heart. The bullet was eventually removed around 1872 by a military surgeon at Fort Crittenden.

Between 1861 and 1868 Tom and family lived in Santa Cruz, Mexico. During the Civil War there was no military presence in the Sonoita area to protect settlers. The family returned to their farm on the Sonoita creek by 1868 where Tom's leadership provided some protection against continuing raids. "The Indians have not made any attacks in Sonoita Valley since the 24th ultimo. All the farmers in the valley from Gardner's ranch down, have concentrated since that time at Gardner's ranch; sentinels have been constantly kept on the hilltops to prevent a surprise, and the force on the ranch has been kept in condition to resist an attack." [Arizona Citizen 7/6/1872].

By 1874 Tom and Tula were living in Gardner Canyon on the Apache Springs Ranch, where he raised horses. He continued to farm along Sonoita Creek and managed the lumber mill in the Santa Rita Mountains he purchased

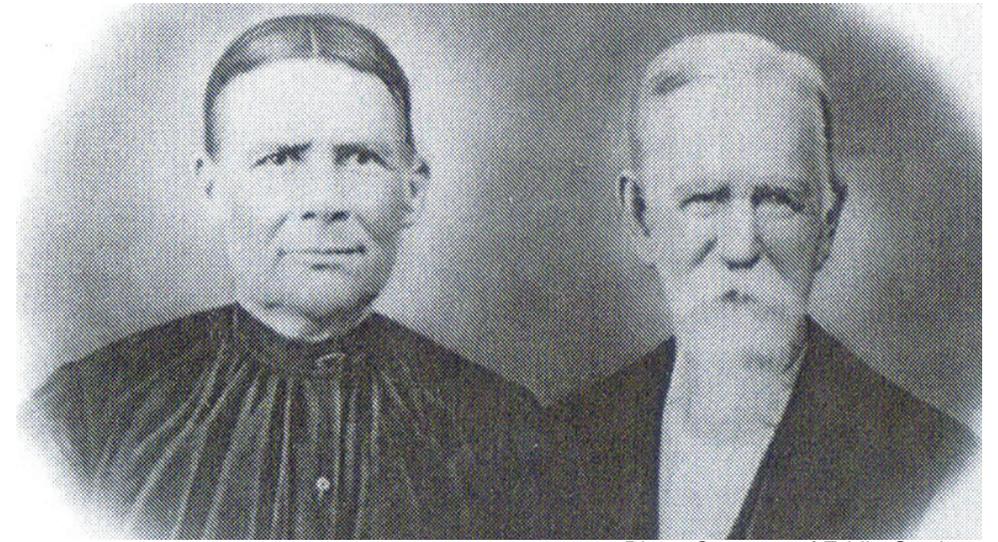


Photo Courtesy of Eddie Gardner

Gertrude & Tom Gardner, ca. 1905

from E.N. Fish.

Throughout his life Tom kept his hand in mining, as an operator or investor. In 1874 he and several partners patented the Trench Mine, in the Patagonia Mountains, which proved highly successful.

Tom was quite involved in horse racing activities in Tucson. He was a member of a committee appointed to raise funds to build a racetrack. [Arizona citizen, 12/12/1874]. He often raced his horse Grey Eagle and published challenges in the local papers "for any distance from 300 yards up to 1 mile, or farther if we can agree; the stakes to be \$500 to \$1000." [Arizona citizen, 7/3/1875].

In 1896 Tom sold the Apache

Springs Ranch to Walter Vail, owner of the nearby Empire Ranch. Tom, Tula and their youngest children, Tom Jr. and Elizabeth, relocated to Crittenden. Tom died on March 26, 1906. Tula died on January 2, 1923. Both are buried in the Patagonia Cemetery where an impressive monument, erected by the "people of Patagonia" marks Tom's gravesite. [The Oasis, 4/7/1906].

\*Thomas Gardner's headstone lists his birth year as 1820, but consecutive census records document his birth year as 1830, and the family tree published by Tom and Joan Kane Wood also uses 1930. Another discrepancy is found on Tula's headstone which lists her death year as 1921; her Arizona death certificate documents the year as 1923.

## Redistricting Maps Deadline Approaching

By Marion Vendituoli

The Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission (AIRC) will have held its final draft map public meeting on Dec. 4, at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Tucson. Seven final decision-making meetings are scheduled to be held Dec. 6 – 22.

The AIRC has been working to re-draw both the legislative districts (LD), which determine the districts for state lawmakers, and the congressional districts (CD), which determine the districts for U.S. congressmen, a process that takes place every ten years based on updated census information.

The first step, completed on Sept. 14, was to create a grid map of the

state. The second phase was the drawing of draft maps, which was completed Oct. 28.

The draft CD map for Sonoita, Elgin and Patagonia showed little change from the current CD3. Designated as CD7, the district would encompass all of Santa Cruz County, along with parts of Pima, Pinal and Yuma Counties.

At the state level, however, the draft map differs greatly from the present district, where Santa Cruz County is all within LD2. In the draft map, the County would be split in two, with the northern and eastern portion of the county placed in LD19, which also includes the southeastern part of Pima County, and all of Cochise, Graham and Greenlee Counties.

Several residents submitted public comments to the Commission. Santa Cruz County Supervisor Bruce Bracker, who represents Sonoita, Elgin and Patagonia, commented, "When I addressed this commission at the meeting in Nogales, I emphasized that

it was very important to keep Santa Cruz County whole ... As a rural county, it is very important that our need as a community be important to our Congressional Representative. If you divide us you weaken that voice."

Carolyn Schafer, of Patagonia, wrote, "I implore you not to divide Santa Cruz County into different legislative districts. All of Santa Cruz County is a community of interest with visible geographic features...In order to best protect this community of interest, it is critical that all of Santa Cruz County continue as one district rather than being divided in two and assigned to other districts."

Linda and George Vensel, of Patagonia, however, expressed their wish to be included with Cochise County. "We would like to be included with the Sonoita, Elgin group and Cochise County in the redistricting maps.

We are not represented politically as we currently are. We are conservative Republicans along with many in Patagonia, and hope to be removed from the current liberal district."

The public can still comment on the redistricting maps by attending meetings in-person, or by submitting comments online by emailing [ircadmin@azdoa.gov](mailto:ircadmin@azdoa.gov).

After the last public meeting on Dec. 22, the IRC will deliberate for seven days, before adopting the final redistricting maps.

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# Five Reasons to Wear Jewelry

By Janice Pulliam

- Reasons for jewelry are:
- 1 - to enhance or accent color in an outfit.
  - 2 - to show off wealth, status, membership or achievement.
  - 3 - for sentimental reasons.
  - 4 - to signify the importance of a day.
  - 5 - for fun.

During the period of pandemic separation, I have not accessorized with any of the earrings or decorative necklaces that I normally would have. Why have I chosen the jewelry that I have worn during this time?

Reason #1: Since I didn't expect anybody to see me most days, when I got dressed I didn't think about enhancing my outfit. I selected harmonizing tops and pants, so I won't appear to be mentally diminished, and I check in the mirror to make sure I'm not too bedraggled, but that's it.

I like to think that I never put on jewelry for wealth display a la #2, but I'm sure you've seen photos of Hollywood stars draped in diamonds. Some folks sport their medals or jewelry signifying membership in a certain organization. Do you still have the Girl Scout/Boy Scout/fraternity pin you stuck on for every meeting? Where's your Phi Beta Kappa key now? And those little American flags on your lapel shout out, "I'm a patriot." My wedding and engagement rings would qualify for #2 by showing the status of being "unavailable," but since injuring my ring finger, I keep these on a chain around my neck, so they're often tucked inside my blouse. I consider them to be there for reason #3.

I have worn jewelry because of #3 all the time during this pandemic, as I did before. On a ribbon around my neck, I have a cluster of rings with the birthstones of my children, their spouses, and my grandchild. To me,

this is a form of constant prayer for their wellbeing. I keep them close to my heart, because I treasure them and not for display

Ah, reason #4. Recently, for the ceremony of scattering the ashes of a friend, I slipped on a decorative necklace for the first time during the pandemic. I wanted to dress myself up for this meaningful occasion.

On a more joyful note, those "Kiss Me, I'm Irish!" pins qualify as #4 for Saint Patrick's Day, and the same goes for Christmas-themed jewelry during that season. I didn't wear my snowflake or holly berry earrings this past Christmas. Sure, I acknowledged the holidays, but celebrations were definitely tamped down.

Reason #5 is the best one. This morning was an exception in the recent history of my relationship with jewelry. Though I haven't looked at them for months, I was pawing through my earrings because I thought it was about time to get with it and prevent my ear piercings from closing up. Accidentally, I came upon a fragile, narrow ring with an oversized, turquoise-blue "stone," either plastic or glass. It looked like something a little girl might choose at Target. I think I actually bought it at Target as part of my costume for a play in the Tin Shed Theater.

Nowadays, I'm washing my hands so often that rings are a nuisance, but I slid this one on just for fun. It doesn't match today's purple tunic and capris, but I'm enjoying seeing it on my hand. What a contrast to the way I've been NOT wearing jewelry for so long.

Tomorrow I plan to dig out my childish hairclip made of many looped, bright-colored rubber bands. It will go great with whatever I wear. Or not. But forget reasons 1 through 4. It'll be fun!

# Open for Business New Business News

## Patagonia Lumber Company Offers Beer, Wine and Coffee



Photo by Lynn Davison

The Patagonia Lumber Company bar features two outside spaces and a small indoor area for relaxing with a drink.

By Lynn Davison

On October 29, Zander Ault and Heidi Rentz opened the doors of the Patagonia Lumber Company, a beer, wine, and coffee bar,

The idea was hatched when Ted Piper, owner of the building at 295 McKeown, asked the couple for ideas for a new business that would be a fit with the growing number of people coming to Patagonia to enjoy the outdoors. It did not take them long to envision the indoor/outdoor bar that they named the Patagonia Lumber Company, after the old sign that hung on the front of the building.

Current hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 7a.m. to 9p.m. In the mornings you can get coffee or a beer if that's your fancy. There are a rotating series of beers on tap from regional breweries and a nice selection of local wines. You can sit at the out-

door bar or at one of the many tables on the porch or the back patio. Masks are recommended in the small inside

space, but the rest is open to the fresh air. In its first month, the Patagonia Lumber Company has served a lot of locals, many of the riders in the Spirit 100 race, a good number of our neighbors from Nogales, and folks from Tucson and elsewhere in Arizona who are visiting Patagonia. The venue is good for live music. Recently, our own local Hog Canyon Band drew a nice crowd.

Ault and Rentz have made Patagonia their home and run their gravel bicycling business throughout our local region. "There is just no place better for gravel biking" says Ault, "and we intend to be good stewards of the land." Five of their gravel bike clients have recently bought property in the area and more are expected. Both Ault and Piper see outdoor recreational tourism as the economic future of Patagonia.

The couple hopes that the Patagonia Lumber Company will "become a starting point and an ending point in the day for people enjoying their outdoor passions." They will add food slowly into the menu. "We want to do it thoughtfully and well," Ault said. In the meantime, you can bring takeout or home cooking to the patio tables to enjoy with the local libations on offer.

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# MOVIES AT THE TIN SHED THEATER

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2021 SCHEDULE

**December 3: 6:00p.m. - 7:30p.m. NEA Big Read Indigenous Film Series: "RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World"** *This documentary brings to light the profound and overlooked influence of Indigenous people on popular music in North America. RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World shows how these pioneering Native American musicians helped shape the soundtracks of our lives. All ages welcome. Free. Donations Accepted.*

**December 10: 6p.m. A Celtic Winter Live Concert** *The Celtic/Folk/World music duo Four Shillings Short present a special Celtic Winter Concert featuring music, poetry, folklore and stories from the Celtic Lands in celebration of the Winter Season. Doors open at 5:30 \$10 per person*

**December 11: 7p.m. NEA Big Read Author Reading and Documentary: An Evening with Brian Jabas Smith. Smith, is a Tucson Weekly columnist, award-winning journalist, editor and the author of "Spent Saints & Other Stories" and "Tucson Salvage: Tales And Recollections From La Frontera." Brian will be reading from his latest book and giving a sneak peak of Maggie Smith's newest documentary. Books will be available for purchase and signing. FREE. Donations Accepted.**

\*Dates and Times Subject to Change\*

*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.

## The Santa Cruz Foundation For The Performing Arts

Benderly-Kendall Opera House,  
344 Naugle Ave., Patagonia, AZ

### December - January Schedule

**December 12: 3 p.m. Duo Yvapurû- Jennie Gubner violin and Maxi Larrea guitar, with guest artist Andrés Pantoja**  
\$25 Prepay / \$30 At the Door

**January 6: 5 p.m. Santa Cruz County Singers "Legends of Christmas," Cantata written by Virginia Benderly**  
Free Donations accepted

**January 16: 3 p.m. Violin Duo and piano - Grace Nakano and Emily Chao, Evan Kory piano**  
\$25 Prepay / \$30 At the Door

*All audience members will be required to show proof of vaccination against Covid19 the first time they attend a concert. We also ask that face masks covering the mouth and nose are worn during the performance.*

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

# Garden Guides

## Houseplant Care

By Mary McKay

Houseplants can bring a feeling of nature into your home when the weather and temperatures turn inhospitable to gardening outdoors.

Research shows that having houseplants in your home, office, or classroom can reduce stress and anxiety and boost productivity. There are several varieties that purify the air, as well. Rubber plants, ficus, Boston ferns, and spider plants are among some of the proven air purifying plants that are easily available.

Once you have chosen a houseplant to call your own, consider where in your home it would do the best. The intensity and direction of light is a big one to consider when finding the right location for your houseplant.

Your home or office has different light intensities depending on window location. A south facing window has the most hours of bright light, while a north facing window has the least. West and east windows would be considered medium light with the west window having a few hours of direct bright light. Place your bright light plants in the south, east or west facing windows and low light plants on the north.

Bright light plants include ficus, orchids, begonias, herbs, coleus, most succulents, and geraniums. Low light plants include pothos, philodendron, snake plant, dracaena, peace lily, zz plant, and lucky bamboo. If your space has no natural light at all but has fluorescent lights such as in an office, then many of the plants listed as low light can still do reasonably well.

These lists are definitely incomplete. Most houseplant tags will tell you recommended lighting conditions for a specific plant.

Don't leave a houseplant in the pot it came in for very long after purchase. Most of the time they have started to become rootbound and need a bigger pot in order to continue to grow.

Make sure your pot has good drainage. Overwatering is, in my opinion, the number one killer of houseplants and succulents. When watering your plant, remove the drain saucer and let it drain in the sink.

This will keep excess salts from building up in the soil. If your plant has started to develop crusty brown edges or tips, salt burn is probably the culprit.

Fertilize with ¼ strength liquid houseplant fertilizer every time you water.

Rotate your house-

plant every time you water. If you have a badly leaning plant, rotation can correct it. Start with a ¼ turn every time you water then gradually get to 180 degrees over time.

Be aware of toxicity of some plants if you have pets or small children. Again read tags to find out this info. Some common toxic plants are peace lily, pothos, dieffenbachia, and philodendron.

Insect infestations common to houseplants are fungus gnats, spider mites, and mealybugs among others. To control fungus gnats (tiny little flies seen flying and crawling around the soil) simply sprinkle mosquito controlling bits around the soil or mix into the soil when repotting. When watered in, the Bt is released. It is not toxic to people, plants, or pets.

To control spider mites (tiny white spider-like bugs that create webs) first quarantine the infected plant. Spray or wipe off as many of the mites as you can. Spray the foliage evenly and completely with Neem oil or insecticidal soap. Tops and bottoms of leaves. Mealy bugs (white, cottony, and waxy looking) often infect succulents and some other plants. I found the best control for succulents is to dip a q-tip in rubbing alcohol and gently wipe away the white cottony looking bugs. You will have to repeat a few times until the problem is controlled.

Most of all, inspect your plants before you bring them into your home. If you notice an infestation, quarantine the plant from your healthy plants and act right away on a method of control.

Fungal problems often start from overwatering or excessive moisture in the air and lack of air circulation. Fungal disease can often manifest as spots, sooty black or white mold, black rotting stems or leaves. Make sure you have proper soil drainage. Only water when you stick your finger down into the soil and its dry. Don't allow leaves to become wet or stay wet.

As always, feel free to email questions or comments to [kmmckay810@gmail.com](mailto:kmmckay810@gmail.com) and don't forget to follow me @patagoniaplants on Instagram or Facebook.



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# PRT 2021 Student Poetry Contest Winners

The Patagonia Regional Times 2021 Poetry Contest, in collaboration with the Patagonia Public Library and the Patagonia Creative Arts Association, awarded prizes to eight local students. Local middle school and high school students were asked to write a poem inspired by the poetry of U.S. Poet Laureate Joy Harjo, whose work has been the focus of NEA sponsored Big Read programs in Patagonia. 101 poems were submitted to the contest from Patagonia Middle and High Schools, Elgin Elementary, Patagonia Montessori, Little Red School, and home schooled students. Look for more student poems in upcoming issues of the PRT.

## HIGH SCHOOL FIRST PLACE (TIE)

### *Green*

By Sydney McKay  
Patagonia Union High School - Grade 12

Green like the hedges of home,  
Green, like the reflections of the greenhouse panels,  
Green, like the beautiful, winding vines, that trail up and down trees  
Green, one amongst her favorite colors.  
Green, deeply embedded, braided in her eyes,  
Green, the color of her plant stained thumbs,  
Green, always encouraging growth of the garden, of us,  
Green, braided in my hair, and saturating my eyes,  
Green, my favorite color, because to me,  
She is green.  
She, keeping things green when they should be withered away  
She, my definition of natural beauty.  
She,  
My green thumbled mama

## MIDDLE SCHOOL FIRST PLACE

### *Arizona's Beauty*

By Omar Chacon  
Little Red School - Grade 8

From the sunny days to the cloudy nights  
Her beauty is vast and wide  
From blazing weather were the sun's rays burns  
To winter nights with the snows soft touch  
From the forests to the deserts  
The rivers and canyons that stretch  
Below the golden sky and blue moon

To Saguaro that are old and wise  
And the Pines whos needles are forever green  
The rattles of the snakes who hunt for prey  
And the coyotes coat of grey  
All day and night, the deer play

Most of all her treasures  
The rivers which peacefully twist and turn  
Which echoes of her waters through the valleys  
And whispers into the desert life  
To ease upon the blooming flowers

To which we are honored to conserve  
So that generations to come will  
Enjoy her beauty as we do



Photo by Marion Vendituoli

Madison Vines accepts her award for her first place winning poem in the PRT Poetry contest. (From left: Cassina Farley, PCAA Director, Madison Vines, PRT Board President Jac Heiss)

## HIGH SCHOOL FIRST PLACE (TIE)

By Madison Vines  
Patagonia Union High School - Grade 12

### *Roots are Always Planted*

Some fight and win  
Some fight and lose  
The story's still the same  
Some people are known  
Some people are shadows  
Still people know their name  
Leaving their homes  
Leaving their families  
But never far away  
Leaving the past  
Leaving too soon  
But never here to stay  
No one is ever ready  
No one is ever prepared  
Don't take time for granted  
No one wants to say goodbye  
No one wants to die  
But roots are always planted

#### PRT Poetry Contest Winners

##### High School

###### First (Tie):

Sydney McKay "Green" (PUHS)

Madison Vines "Roots Are Always Planted" (PUHS)

###### Second:

Nicholas Mentone "Dear Mama" (PUHS)

###### Honorable Mention:

Ivan Carranza "Honoring Tata" (PUHS)

##### Middle School

###### First:

Omar Chacon "Arizona's Beauty" (Little Red)

###### Second:

Corinne Benevich "Let There Be No Regret" (Patagonia Middle)

###### Honorable Mention:

Wenzi Hirata "The Hungry Coyote" (Little Red)

Gavin Arbizo "The River" (Patagonia Middle)

# Calendar

EVENTS	EVENTS	SPECIAL INTERESTS	MEETINGS
<p><b>Dec. 3: Indigenous Film Series "RUMBLE: The Indians Who Rocked the World"</b> 6-7p.m. at Tin Shed Theater. All ages welcome.</p> <p><b>Dec. 4: Christmas In Elgin:</b> Sat. 10a.m.-4p.m. Fine Arts and Crafts Holiday event at the Historical Elgin Community Club. Call 520-559-4835 for more info</p>	<p><b>Dec. 18: Two-Part Art Workshop: Pottery and Clay Making the Indigenous Way, Part 2</b> - 9 - 11:30a.m. Patagonia Creative Arts Association info.</p> <p><b>Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Ceremony</b> 5p.m. Sonoita Hills Community Church</p>	<p><b>Sonoita Produce on Wheels:</b> every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. Winter hrs 8-11a.m. VINE Church. Contact Gardenia for more info 602-292-6161.</p> <p><b>Patagonia Museum:</b> Open hours 2p.m.-4p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. www.thepatagoniamuseum.org for more info.</p>	<p><b>Crossroads Quilters:</b> 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month 9a.m. at the Sonoita Bible Church. Contact 520-860-0173 for more info.</p>
<p><b>Dec. 4: SCCFRA Membership Dinner:</b> 6p.m. at the Sonoita Fairgrounds</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SPECIAL INTERESTS</b></p>	<p><b>Patagonia Library:</b> Now OPEN without appts. Mon-Fri 10a.m.-5p.m., Sat. and Sun. 10a.m. - 2p.m. Call for more info. 520.394.2010</p>	<p><b>CHURCH SERVICES</b></p>
<p><b>Dec. 9: AZ Speaks Keynote: Metalsmith Matriarchs: Makers, Memory, and Reciprocity</b> 6:30p.m. - 7:30p.m. Patagonia Library</p>	<p><b>Lunch for Seniors:</b> Fresh-cooked meals. <b>Take out @ 11:30-12:15p.m. In-house dining 12:15 to 1:30p.m. Must be vaccinated for dine in.</b> Patagonia Senior Center.</p>	<p><b>MEETINGS</b></p>	<p><b>Canelo Cowboy Church</b> 14 McCarthy Lane, Elgin 520-604-6990 Sunday Service: 8:30a.m. Sunday School: 10a.m.</p>
<p><b>Dec. 11: Two-Part Art Workshop: Pottery and Clay Making the Indigenous Way</b> - 9a.m. - 11:30a.m. Patagonia Creative Arts Center. Avail. to area adults and students</p>	<p><b>Sr. Citizens of Patagonia Van Service:</b> Medical transportation, Mon - Fri for seniors &amp; disabled by appointment only. Info: 520-394-2494.</p>	<p><b>AA: Alcoholics Anonymous</b> In person meetings weekly <b>Tuesdays at 7p.m.</b> at The Sonoita Bible Church 3174 N. Highway 83, Sonoita. Social distancing honored This meeting is also on Zoom at 544-376-9576 (no password required) <b>Fridays at 7p.m.</b> Methodist Community Church 387 McKowen Ave., Patagonia Contact Dave at 207-249-8302</p>	<p><b>Patagonia Community United Methodist Church</b> In person Sunday service 10a.m. Services will continue to be broadcasted to KPUP 100.5 as well. Several other services are being offered throughout the week. <b>Call/email church office</b> for info. 520-394-2274 patagoniaumc@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>Dec. 11: Gold Buckle Bash:</b> 6 -11p.m. Fashion show, Dinner, Music Pioneer Hall. Contact sonoitafairgrounds.com/christmas \$25 per person</p>	<p><b>Santa Cruz County Native Plant Society (SCCNPS)</b> Meetings held on the third Thurs. of the month. 6:00p.m. -7:30p.m. Meeting ID is: 874 9175 9629. Questions contact int60@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Overeaters Anonymous:</b> to find a meeting go to www.oasouthernaz.org. Contact Adrienne H. for more info 520-404-3490</p>	<p><b>St. Therese of Lisieux Catholic Church</b> 222 Third Ave., Patagonia In Person Service resumed. Call for time &amp; schedule 520-394-2954</p>
<p><b>Dec. 11: The Snow Queen:</b> 6p.m. Presented by Elgin Students at the Elgin School Gym</p>	<p><b>Sonoita Farmers Market:</b> Saturdays 9a.m.-12p.m. Located at post office parking lot, NW corner Hwy 82 &amp; 83</p>	<p><b>Patagonia Town Council:</b> Meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of the month. 7p.m. in Town Council Room. Public invited. CDC Guidelines will be followed.</p>	<p><b>Sonoita Hills Community Church</b> 52 Elgin Rd., Elgin Sunday Service: 10a.m. <b>Sonoita Bible Church</b> 3174 N. Hwy 83, Sunday Service: 10:30a.m. Youth Group: 2nd &amp; 4th Wed.</p>
<p><b>Dec. 11: Author Reading and Discussion with Brian Jabas Smith</b> - 7p.m. Tin Shed Theater</p>	<p><b>Patagonia Farmers Market:</b> Thursday- Summer hrs 9a.m. - 12p.m. In front of Red Mountain Foods</p>	<p><b>Rotary Club:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs. 5:30p.m. has moved online. Info: Sue 520-990-4648.</p>	<p><b>VINE Christian Church</b> 3107 Hwy 83, Sonoita Sunday Service: 10a.m. Cafe, 10:30a.m. service</p>
<p><b>Dec. 11: Sonoita Small Town Christmas</b> 10a.m. - 5:30p.m. Team Roping, craft fair, kids activities, wine garden, and Santa from 10-12p.m. Free admission</p>	<p><b>Nogales "Little" Mercado:-</b> Fridays 4-7p.m. 163 Morley Ave, Nogales. email c david@mariposachc.net for more info.</p>	<p><b>Senior Citizens of Patagonia's Board of Directors:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon. 3p.m. at the Senior Center.</p>	<p><b>St. Andrews Episcopal Church</b> 969 W. County Club Dr. Nogales Services are weekly, however times change frequently. Visit standrewsaz.org for additional info.</p>
<p><b>Dec. 11: Christmas at The Empire Ranch:</b> 10a.m. - 2p.m. Entertainment, lunch, trail rides, and Santa. \$10 suggested donation for parking.</p>	<p><b>Flea Market at Heart of Gold Antiques:</b> First Sat of every month. 10a.m. - 2p.m. Free to set up. Call 520-394-0199 for any additional information. Open from Tues.-Sat.:10 - 6p.m.</p>	<p><b>The Constitutional Conservatives of Southern AZ Club Meeting:</b> 6:30p.m. every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, Sonoita Bible Church. All are welcome.</p>	<p><b>Quaker Worship Group</b> Meets via Zoom. Contact Janice Pulliam if interested 706-614-6959</p>
<p><b>Dec. 12: Duo Yvapurû- Jennie Gubner violin and Maxi Larrea guitar, with guest artist Andrés Pantoja Sun. 3 - 4p.m.</b> Benderly Kendall Opera House-SCFPA. Tickets are \$25 ahead or \$30 at door.</p>	<p><b>Angel Wings Thrift &amp; Gift Shop:</b> New location: 22 Los Encinos Rd, Sonoita</p>	<p><b>The Santa Cruz County Democratic Party Meeting:</b> every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of the month, 9:30a.m. NOW hybrid. In person at 32 Morley Ave, Nogales or www.azsantacruzdem.org/meetings</p>	<p><b>Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church</b> 12 Los Encinos Rd., Sonoita 520-394-2954 Sat 10:30a.m. 5:30p.m. Sunday Mass: 8a.m.</p>
<p><b>Dec. 15: NEA Big Read Book Discussion: "Secrets from the Center of the World"</b> 4 - 5p.m. Patagonia Library</p>	<p><b>Patagonia Community United Methodist Church Thrift Shop:</b> Please note it may not be every weekend. Look for thrift shop signs and flags. Items will be located in Thurber Hall.</p>	<p><b>Community Youth Bible Hang Out:</b> at the Sonoita Bible Church. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. April Anderson at andeap@msn.com, 520-508-2502 or Steve Lindsey at 520-559-0155.</p>	<p><b>Email prtasted@gmail.com with any event or updates you would like listed.</b></p>
<p><b>Dec. 17: Poetry Slam:</b> 6 - 8p.m. Gathering Grounds PHS English classes and instructor, Journee Hayes, perform original poetry. Members of the community are encouraged to share their own or someone else's poetry.</p>	<p><b>East SCC Community Food Bank:</b> Every Monday from 10:30a.m. - 11:30a.m. Distribution of fresh vegetables at the Senior Center in Patagonia through vegetable season.</p>		

# Classifieds



## HELP WANTED

**WHISPER'S SANCTUARY IS SEEKING EXPERIENCED ANIMAL CARETAKERS**  
Couple with RV preferred. 520-455-9246. Start date negotiable.

**WANTED: PERSON OF QUALITY, INTEGRITY AND RELIABILITY**  
Seeking household managerial or horse caretaker position to include room and wage. Part-time caretaker negotiable. Contact prrwnd@yahoo.com

## BARN HELP WANTED

Fri. Sat. Sun: Feed hay, water, pick up manure for two horses. Approx. 1 hr/day \$20/day. Located in Sonoita 1 mi. south of Fairgrounds. Call: 520-975-

## NOW HIRING DETENTION OFFICERS

Incentives Include: Health Insurance, Paid Vacation, Paid Sick Leave, Shift Differential Pay, Double Time Holiday Pay, \$32,181.00  
Please Apply Online [www.santacruzsheriff.org](http://www.santacruzsheriff.org) Or call: Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office 2170 N. Congress Dr. Nogales, AZ 85621 • 520-761-786

## FOR RENT

### TRAILER FOR RENT

Trailer for Family in Patagonia \$300/month  
520-394-2007

### PATAGONIA RENTAL INCLUDES ALL UTILITIES

Furnished, Very Clean and available now. Easy In and easy out.  
520 678 1011

## 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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**Sleeves  
Up**

**Get Vaccinated!**

**Get your FLU shot today!**



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COMMUNITY  
HEALTH CENTER

**(520)394.2262**

mariposachc.net

## KPUP Broadcast Schedule - Winter 2021- 2022

<b>Mon:</b>	7:00pm to 8:00pm: eTown repeat of Saturday's show.
<b>Tues:</b>	10:00am to 12:00pm: World Jazz with Mark Berg 7:00pm to 9:00pm: Jazz and Blues with Fred Hansen
<b>Wed:</b>	Wednesday, 3pm: Jackson's 10 Songs 7:00pm to 10pm: Sean Alexander show
<b>Thurs:</b>	7:00pm to 10:00pm: Possibility Explorers. "Celebrating the Evening of Mushkil Gusha, the Remover of All Difficulties." Hosted by Graves
<b>Fri:</b>	7:00pm to 9:00pm: Hook's Sunken Roadhouse
<b>Sat:</b>	12:00pm to 1:00pm: eTown - "Educate, entertain and inspire listeners through music and conversation"
<b>Sun:</b>	10:00am: Patagonia Community United Methodist Church service 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"
<b>Daily Shows:</b>	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 / Patagonia Weather Forecast: Every odd hour.



\$499,999



**GARDENER'S DELIGHT—SONOITA**

MLS # 22125954 4.67 ACRES

1828 sf, 3Bd/2Ba home built in 2005. Steel frame construction, 4 car garage, 2 story barn/storage area. Landscaped w/greenhouse .. CHERYL VOLK 520 975-7271

\$198,000



**TOP OF THE WORLD VIEWS ON 18 ACRES**

MLS # 22100804 18.01 PRISTINE ACRES

Spectacular land with 360 degree views! High on a ridge with several lovely building sites. Private with no HOA, gentle deed restrictions. SAMANTHA SHORE 602 743-7833

\$249,000



**COMPLETELY PRIVATE ELGIN LAND**

MLS 22117918 36.43 ACRES

Beautiful rolling grassland bordered by public land on 2 sides. Unobstructed panoramic views. Great building site. Electricity & phone at lot line. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

\$149,000



**PANORAMIC VIEWS —LAKE PATAGONIA**

MLS # 21622738 41.7 ACRES

379 Circulo Montana. Bring your horses! Next to State land with wow views of Sonoita Creek marshland. Private Well, electricity at lot line. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

\$698,000



**NEW LUXURY HOME ON THE MESA**

JUST LISTED! 120 RED MOUNTAIN COURT

Spectacular views from every room! 3Bd/2.5Ba, office, great room w/high ceilings & fireplace, dining room & 2 car garage. Gated community. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

\$450,000



**THE BEST IN PATAGONIA LIVING**

MLS # 22110657 297 DUQUESNE AVE.

Well maintained home in the heart of town. 2262 sf, 3Bd/2.5Ba, fireplace. Built by Patagonia's legendary Dr. Mock. On 2 town lots. BARBARA HARRIS 602 826-4026

\$600,000



**2 HOMES ON SALERO RD**

MLS # 22116228 APPROX 20 ACRES

Gorgeous mountain views and just 15 minutes from Patagonia. 2 secluded homes. Live in one & rent the other. Well is shared by both. BARBARA HARRIS 602 826-4026

\$375,000



**2 VACATION RENTALS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE**

MLS # 22117902 220 & 222 HARSHAW ROAD

2 Houses now used as Airbnb rentals. 3Bd/2Ba Mfr home & 2Bd/1Ba site built home. Completely furnished. Walking distance to town. BARBARA HARRIS 602 826-4026

\$575,000



**RAMMED EARTH BEAUTY**

COMING SOON! 3048 sq ft ON 3 LOTS

Nestled in the oaks in Sonoita's Casas Arroyo. Rammed earth home, plus guesthouse, & beautiful studio/office. 3Bc/2Ba, lg. carport, patio. JEAN MILLER 520 508-3335

PATAGONIA: 327 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)

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