

BORDER

eco



New Leadership

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Echoes from the Hilltop Gallery
Helen Chester

CONNECTING SOUTHERN ARIZONA



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Santa Cruz County Fair 2024:
"A Celebration of Artwork & Agriculture"

UPCOMING! GENERAL ELECTION
REGISTER BY OCTOBER 7, 2024

EARLY VOTING STARTS OCTOBER 9, 2024

Register to vote!



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People who "echo" Jesus Valdez



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Let's Talk Health
Domestic Violence Awareness



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Sheriff's Monthly Round-Up

IF HUMAN BEINGS HAD GENUINE COURAGE, THEY'D WEAR THEIR COSTUMES EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR, NOT JUST ON HALLOWEEN.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Boo!

Alfredo I. Velásquez
Santa Cruz County
School Superintendent
&
Staff

21 E Court St,
Nogales, AZ 85621
Phone: 520.375.7940



Border Eco Updates

We wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support. Your loyalty enables us to share inspiring stories about extraordinary individuals, events, and organizations making a tangible impact in Santa Cruz County. Your trust in us is invaluable, and we're honored to serve as a platform for community connection.

At Border Eco, our mission is to unite the diverse communities of Santa Cruz County. This unique region, rich in cultural heritage and tradition, deserves a platform to showcase its spirit. We're committed to supporting local initiatives, promoting community engagement, and fostering a sense of belonging. By sharing stories and information, we aim to strengthen community bonds and celebrate the county's distinct character.

If you have news or updates about upcoming events, meetings, or conferences, please don't hesitate to share them with us. We're always eager to hear from you and keep our community informed. Additionally, we're constantly seeking talented individuals passionate about sales, journalism, and photography to join our team. If you're interested, please send your resume to contact@bordereco.com. Together, let's keep Santa Cruz County connected, vibrant, and thriving.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Border Eco Magazine now offers TV advertisement. Contact us for rates and channels to help promote your business in Santa Cruz County.

Our office is located on :
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Nogales, Arizona 85621
(520) 461-4880

Email: contact@bordereco.com



Please send us information on any upcoming events, meetings, or programs to share with our readers.



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RE-ELECT

RUDY "BUGS" MOLERA

My sincere thank you to the voters of District 2 in Santa Cruz County for selecting me to represent the Democratic Party on the November 5, 2024 ballot. I ask for continued support and suggest you take note of the following important dates:

October 7, 2024 Voter registration deadline for Nov. 5, 2024 General Election

October 9, 2024 Early voting begins. You may vote by mail or in-person at the Santa Cruz County Complex

November 1, 2024 Deadline to vote early in-person

November 5, 2024 General Election Day.

Santa Cruz County residents may vote at any of the 13 voting centers from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Echoes From the Hilltop

"A Haven for Artistic Expression: Hilltop Gallery Continues to Thrive"

Nestled in the heart of Nogales, Arizona, the Hilltop Gallery has been a beacon for artistic expression and community engagement for decades. For Helen Chester, a 25-year resident of Patagonia, the gallery has been a labor of love. Helen's journey with the Hilltop Gallery began serendipitously at a yoga class, where she met Janice, a fellow artist and gallery enthusiast. Janice introduced Helen to the gallery's mission, and soon, she joined the board under the leadership of Elizabeth Weatherbie.

"Elizabeth brought a fresh perspective and innovative ideas that helped expand our programs," Helen remarks, gratefully acknowledging Elizabeth's four-year tenure as president.

"Her vision has been instrumental in shaping the gallery's growth."

"Elizabeth's leadership as president of the Hilltop Gallery has been instrumental in cultivating a vibrant arts community. Her vision and dedication will be deeply missed, and her shoes will be challenging to fill."

At the forefront of Helen's passions is the gallery's commitment to nurturing young artists. The Saturday art classes, open to children and adults, are a top priority. "Watching students discover their creative potential is truly rewarding," Helen says.

However, the gallery faces challenges. Securing funding through grants and donations remains a constant struggle. Yet, the community's generosity and volunteer spirit have kept the gallery thriving.

"We're grateful for the many individuals who donate their time and resources," Helen notes. "Their support is vital to our existence."

As the gallery looks to the future, Helen is excited about its expanding presence in Rio Rico. New art classes and exhibits will foster greater community engagement and creative exchange. The Hilltop Gallery recently elected Helen president.

"We're eager to build connections and involve more people in our mission," Helen says. "The Hilltop Gallery is more than just a space – it's a hub for artistic expression, education, and community building."

With Helen's dedication and the gallery's commitment to artistic excellence, the Hilltop Gallery will continue to flourish, inspiring generations of artists and art lovers in the county and beyond.

"I have a deep affection for Santa Cruz County," said Helen. "This community's unique blend of resilience, compassion, and generosity inspires me every day." "I'm proud to be a part of that legacy, and I'm looking forward to what the future holds for the Hilltop Gallery."

"REGISTER TO VOTE"

Upcoming! General Election

Check the status of your voter registration at www.my.arizona.vote.

Register or make updates by October 7, 2024.

Early voting starts October 9, 2024.

www.servicearizona.com/VoterRegistration

**Anita Moreno
County Recorder**

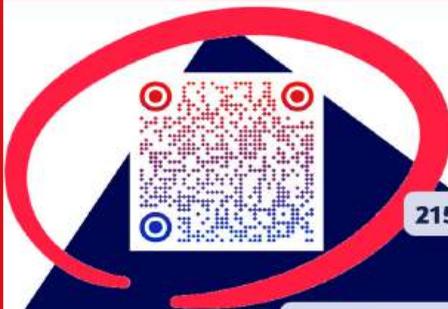


2150 N. Congress Drive, Suite 101

Nogales, Arizona 85621

Phone: (520) 375-7990

www.santacruzcountyz.gov/986/Voter-Information



Santa Cruz County Manager: Leading with Integrity & Innovation

Meet the Santa Cruz County Manager, a true Arizona native, born in Bisbee and raised in Tucson. With a strong educational foundation from the University of Arizona, where he earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering, he was destined for success.

"My support system has been instrumental in my academic and professional journey," said Jesus Valdez, Santa Cruz County Manager. "My family's guidance and encouragement motivated me to earn a degree in civil engineering and become the person I am today."

Jesus Valdez, Santa Cruz County Manager, celebrates 23 years of happy marriage to his wife, Sandra. Together, they proudly support their two adult children, Areli and Issac, both attending the University of Arizona in Tucson. Areli, 22, is pursuing a degree in biochemistry, while Issac, 21, is working towards a law degree.

His journey into public service began in the City of Tucson's Environmental Service Department, followed by a stint in the Town of Sahuarita. Valdez began his tenure at Santa Cruz County in July 2008. For 15 years, he worked tirelessly in the county's Public Works Department, ultimately taking the reins as County Manager in July 2023.

As County Manager, his primary focus is ensuring adequate resources are allocated to state-mandated services, including health departments, road maintenance, and emergency management. But what drives him? "To be willing to serve, approach every day with an open mind and a good attitude, and not be afraid of change but accept it," he advises those aspiring to follow in his footsteps.

Santa Cruz County is on the cusp of transformative change, with projects like the Hermosa Project and the modernization of the DeConcini Port of Entry. The County Manager recognizes the need for a clear vision, prioritizing environmental protection, preserving the community's rural nature, and fostering job and education opportunities.

Looking ahead, his vision for the next 5-10 years is clear: achieving climate adaptability, preserving open spaces, and maintaining clean rivers and environments. "All this can be achieved if the region works together," he emphasizes. Collaboration is key, and he fosters it through planning, communication, and community involvement. His door is open, and his ears are ready to listen to the voices of the local community.



Rio Rico High School's Homecoming Game Ignites Community Spirit

On September 13, 2024, Rio Rico High School's stadium was abuzz with excitement as the Hawks hosted their highly anticipated Homecoming game. The electric atmosphere was contagious, with a sea of enthusiastic fans, alumni, and community members rallying behind their beloved team.

"This was one of the most intense and exciting games I've witnessed in years," exclaimed John Fanning, a loyal Hawks supporter. "The energy in the stadium was infectious, and the team's determination was inspiring." However, the night's magic extended far beyond the gridiron. The HawX Dance Team's high-energy routines, expertly choreographed by Coach Carlos Quihuiz, stole the show. "Our dancers poured their hearts into every step, and their passion was contagious," said Carlos Quihuiz, HawX Dance Team coach. "It was an unforgettable night for our students and the entire community."

The Homecoming game was more than just a sporting event – it was a celebration of community spirit. Local businesses and organizations showed their support through sponsorships and donations. The school's marching band, cheerleaders, and color guard added to the festive atmosphere, while alumni and families reunited to relive cherished memories.

"From an announcer's perception, both teams gave it their all, with intense plays and nail-biting moments keeping the crowd on the edge of their seats. The game was a true battle of heart and determination, exactly what Friday night football is supposed to be all about!

The Hawks faced off against Nogales High School in a thrilling match up that kept spectators on the edge of their seats. It marked the Hawks' third consecutive win, which cements their position as a force to be reckoned with in the region. They had never beaten Nogales before in football.

"This night reminded us that high school sports are much more than winning or losing," said Fanning. The Hawks' 21-7 record became secondary to the sense of pride and unity in the stadium as the final whistle blew. "It's about building character, fostering community, and creating lifelong memories."



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"Where Experience Meets Excellence. 12 Years and Counting!"

"The Santa Cruz County Fair 2024: A Celebration of Artwork & Agriculture"

The Santa Cruz County Fair 2024 once again dazzled participants with remarkable entries of livestock, artwork, and exciting events! Held at the Sonoita Fairgrounds from September 13th through the 15th, the theme for this year was "From Farm to Fair: A Celebration of Agriculture." For many years now, the office of the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent, Alfredo I. Velásquez, has been responsible for collecting artwork from the schools, displaying the pieces, and coordinating the judging. This year was no exception. With Mrs. Patricia B. Preciado overseeing the event and members of the superintendent's team, hundreds of pieces of artwork were categorized and prominently displayed. Judges painstakingly scored the work following an outlined rubric. The judges were selected from all areas of the community and included school administrators. Entries were submitted from all districts, private, and charter schools across the county. The student artwork this year correlated beautifully with the theme. Visitors to the hall were amazed at the wide variety of artwork and the exceptional talent of the students in Santa Cruz County!

For more information of the list of judges and Best In Show Winners, please contact Mrs. Patricia B. Preciado at (520) 375-7940.





Let's Talk Health

As we observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month, it's important to focus on the strength and resilience of survivors. Domestic violence is a devastating experience, but with the right support, healing and recovery are possible. In our community, survivors are not alone. The Domestic and Sexual Violence Program at Mariposa Community Health Center stands ready to assist anyone impacted by domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual violence.

This program provides a comprehensive range of services designed to empower survivors and help them rebuild their lives. Whether it's through mobile advocacy, short-term case management, or support groups, the program is committed to meeting survivors where they are and guiding them toward safety and independence.

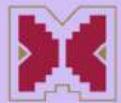
In addition to these services, the program offers emergency assistance, safety planning, and lay legal advocacy, including court accompaniment and help with orders of protection. Referrals to community resources, medical care, and behavioral health support are also available, ensuring that survivors have access to all the tools they need to thrive. Specialized services like sexual assault nursing exams are also offered to address immediate medical needs in a compassionate and supportive environment.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, remember that help is just a phone call away. The Domestic and Sexual Violence Program at Mariposa Community Health Center provides all services free of charge to residents of Santa Cruz County, AZ. You can reach out to them at 520-375-6050, Monday through Friday, to speak with an advocate.

This Domestic Violence Awareness Month let's come together as a community to support and uplift those affected by domestic violence. By raising awareness and providing the necessary resources, we can help survivors find their strength and move forward toward a brighter future.



**END
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE**



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The Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office is in support of Breast Cancer
&
Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October

STOP

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Together, we create a safer Santa Cruz County!



www.santacruzsheriff.org
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office
2170 N. Congress Dr.
Nogales, AZ 85621
520-761-7869

Sheriff's Round-Up



Sheriff Office Command Staff and School Resource Officers participated in this year's 9/11 ceremonial events throughout our community. Public Safety professionals attended an event at the Rio Rico Fire District and the guest speaker was retired FDNY Public Safety professional Dan Rowan. Mr. Rowan provided a very impactful account of the 9/11 event and the aftermath of the horrific day.

The Sheriff's Office participated in this year's National Night Out. National Night Out is an annual event where communities across the country connect with law enforcement. The focus of National Night Out is to get neighborhoods actively involved in preventing crime in their community.

During the month of October, The Sheriff's Office along other professionals will be attending the annual Domestic Violence Awareness event "Candlelight vigil and Unity Peace walk"

The Sheriff's Office breast cancer awareness will display the uniform patch as a symbol of support for the fight against breast cancer.

The Sheriff's office continues to actively recruit for the position of Deputy Sheriff, Public Safety Tele-communicator, Detention Officer and Detention Booking Clerk. You can submit your employment application at the county Human Resources office. All positions will remain open until they are filled.

Sheriff Hathaway testifying to congress in Washington DC about immigration and Border Security.

Sheriff Hathaway and his administration, honor and salute all employees of all divisions. Thank you for everything you do to support and dedication to the Sheriff's Office.

Your Sheriff,
David Hathaway



Sheriff's Office Breast Cancer Awareness



Sheriff Office Command Staff and School Resource Officers



Sheriff Hathaway testifying to congress in Washington DC



National Night Out



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Reminds you to break the Silence:

You Can Make a Difference

This October

You Have the Power!

AWARNNESS MONTH

**DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE**



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