

BORDER

# eco



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# A Message from the Santa Cruz County Attorney



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# Border Eco Updates

## Happy Holidays!

Dear customers:

On behalf of Border Eco, we wish to convey our greetings to all of our customers this holiday season as you are very important to us and a very key part of our organization. We are very grateful for your loyalty throughout the years, so we renew our commitment to you.

Santa Cruz County is a beautiful community with lots of history and cultural background. "We will continue to report on the great people, organizations, and services in our community that make us unique."

We are currently celebrating the end of the year holiday season, so we want to send our customers and their loved ones our best wishes, and hope you rediscover the magic of the holidays. We thank our customers for their continued support and we look forward to having your preference in the years to come.

Wishing you the best for the holidays!



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

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

Our office is located on :  
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Please send us information on any upcoming events, meetings, or programs to share with our readers.

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Downright Awesome



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# Borderlands Film Festival: Gear Up Showcase

On November 8th, the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent's Office in conjunction with Gear Up and the Borderland Film Festival hosted a student film festival at Oasis Theater. The group of 8th graders created 1 minute films all centered around the theme of life on the border. All 8th graders had been given workshops about the different aspects of filmmaking by Arts Coordinator, Nick Mansfield. Fifty kids from Desert Shadows, Wade Carpenter, Coatimundi, Callabasas, Lourdes and Little Red took part in the film festival.

At the event there was a red carpet, photo booth, interviews from various journalist and all the fanfare expected at any movie premiere. Approximately 100 people attended the event. Along with students, principals, parents and other spectators were in attendance. The goal of this event was to give students an opportunity to creatively express how they feel about their community, culture and lives in a creative and introspective way. Following the success of this event the Superintendent's Office would love to continue with the possibility of more workshops or summer camps centered on filmmaking and storytelling.



# 4th Annual Meet and Greet Event

Adolescent Wellness Network, the Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT) and the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent's Office sponsored the Fourth Annual Meet and Greet at the Santa Cruz County Complex on November 6, 2019. Attendees included school staff and personnel from all districts in the county, along with thirty-two community outreach agencies.

The event included an introduction by the CCRT's co-chairman, Tom Mcalpin and a welcome by Santa Cruz County Superintendent, Alfredo I. Velásquez. The honorable Emilio G. Velásquez was the guest speaker this year.

He spoke to the group about the need to establish a Mental/Behavioral Health Court Coalition that brings together courts, law enforcement, schools, and agencies in order to address the issues and needs of individuals with behavioral and mental disorders and addictions. The goal is to get individuals the specialized help and support they need. The coalition training will take place next month in order to map out resources available.

The latter portion of the event gave schools and agencies the opportunity to meet and make those crucial connections that can benefit parents and students. Participants also received an updated Community Outreach Guide outlining the various resources and agencies available locally.

**If you would like more information regarding this event or for copies of the Community Outreach Guide, please contact Teresa Sprigg at (520) 375-7952 or via email: [tsprigg@santacruzcountyaz.gov](mailto:tsprigg@santacruzcountyaz.gov).**



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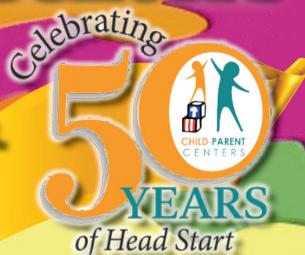


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# happy holidays

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Santa Cruz County Resource Guide  
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# Providing Opportunities

The Santa Cruz Training Programs are dedicated to serving children and adults with disabilities in Santa Cruz County for 50 years. Last year in November, they celebrated their 50th anniversary. The training program was founded by Ana Maria Coppola. An advocate for children with disabilities who started to get other parents involved in starting a program to meet the needs of children with disabilities. It started as a pilot program during the summer of 1968. It was being offered to children with disabilities who were not attending elementary schools within Santa Cruz County. Later the pilot program developed into a year-round schooling program for children with disabilities.

The program receives direct funding from the state. The number of funds they receive throughout the year depends primarily on the number of members. Donations and grants also help to support the program. Personal donations, as well as big business donations, are accepted, to help keep the program in our community.

Marina Galhouse is the director of the program She is one of 94 employees who work in assisting 78 children and adults with disabilities. The program serves children from birth through adulthood. The training program also provides transportation and many other services to help meet the needs of its members.

“Our training program is centered on providing quality care to our members. We go out of the way to help our members receive the best vocational and rehabilitation services in Santa Cruz County. Our members are our top priority they are like family to us,” said Mrs. Galhouse. One of the services the training program offers is employment to adults with disabilities.

Another part of their programs consists of helping 23 members develop social skills and learn hands-on a specific trade of choice. The training program has a kitchen as well as a Café where members learn to cook, bake, sell, serve, and waitressing skills. The program also has a nursery where adults with disabilities learn about gardening. Members learn about planting seeds, and caring for plants and cultivating vegetables, which are later sold at the Farmer’s Market.

Groundskeeping is another trade members learn at the training program. The program consists of having members do contract work within the community, such as Unisource, Liberty Waters, and for private contractors. Another program the SCTP offers is the rehabilitation and recreational with 28 members. This program helps members learn soft skills such as how to communicate and interact with the public. The members participate in a variety of social activities like bowling, going to the movies, visit the Santa Fe Ranch and Nogales Infantil.

These activities are therapeutic helping the members socialize and stay active. La Española DTTA is a program that provides specialized sensory-motor, cognitive, communicative, social interaction, and behavioral training. The Santa Cruz Training Program has 2 group homes, which includes 24/7 staff who care for our members.

The program for children is different from the adult services they provide. The services they provide to children with disabilities are done at the convenience of their home. These are basically respite care and rehabilitation services. Children learn occupational skills and personal care. All these types of services are available to families in Santa Cruz County. Not every child or family has the same needs. The services offered to them are dependant on eligibility.

“All our staff members are dedicated individuals who work the extra mile to provide quality care to members. We work hard to maintain a safe and healthy environment for our members,” said Marina Gallahouse.

**The Santa Cruz Training program has grown into a successful vocational training program for individuals with disabilities providing them with an opportunity to live healthy productive lives. For anyone interested in having a loved one with disabilities enroll in our program please contact us at: (520) 287-2043.**



**Santa Cruz Training Programs**



**Find us on Facebook!**

# People that “echo”-

## The Legacy of Anna Maria Coppola

This month Border Eco Magazine pays tribute to the legacy of Anna Maria Coppola for her lasting contributions to serving children and adults with disabilities in Santa Cruz County.

**Anna Maria Coppola lived her life in such a way that she will be remembered for her advocacy, kindness, and compassion towards individuals with disabilities. She found her purpose in life.**

On Saturday, Oct. 26, 2019, services were held for Anna Maria Coppola at Sacred Heart Church at 2 p.m. followed by a celebration of her life at the Santa Cruz Training Programs. Relentlessly driven by love and compassion for a then underserved group in our community, Anna Maria and a handful of determined women established the Santa Cruz Training Programs “La Escuelita” in 1968 for people with disabilities. She was 43 at the time.

By then, she and her husband had brought eight children into this world, one of them was diagnosed with a learning disability. That sweet beady-eyed boy, “Nayito,” inspired her mission to ensure special needs people in Ambos Nogales would have a safe and warm place to be active and become productive members of society to the best of their abilities.

Forty-three years later that ongoing mission earned her a spot on prestigious Arizona’s 48 “Most Intriguing Women” list as part of the Arizona Centennial Legacy Project. While flattered she was not one to lavish in special recognition for what became her life’s passion. She didn’t attend the awards ceremony. She sent her eight very proud children instead.

Anna Maria or “Baby” as she was endearingly nicknamed, died on Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2019. She was 94.

We remain “intrigued” by mom, especially now as people from all walks of life have come forth to express how she helped them on a personal level in a multitude of ways, materially, emotionally and spiritually. To say she was giving is an understatement.

**Until the end, Anna Maria remained on the board of directors of the Santa Cruz Training Programs, a pillar of wisdom and a guiding light to keep the course of serving SCTP participants whom, she was convinced, earned their angel wings the moment they were conceived. What a noble mission indeed for those who carry on her legacy.**

Anna Maria was an active member of the Catholic Daughters of America, the Altrusa Club, and was a member of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Finance Committee. Among her other jobs, she worked for U.S. Customs Service and Citizens Utilities Co.

She was born Anna Maria Bonorand on Oct. 21, 1924, in Nogales to Arcelia and Manuel Bonorand, who was a local customs broker.

She was predeceased in 2005 by her husband of 59 years, Leonardo B. Coppola. She is survived by her daughters Ana Patricia (David) Kemp; Michele Cecilia (Fred) Mahler; Maria Elena (Miguel) Dominguez and Marina Berta (Thomas) Galhouse; sons Leonardo Manuel Coppola; Jose Antonio (Cheri) Coppola; Ygnacio Arturo (Jane) Coppola and Manuel C. Coppola (Irene); brother Manuel Ernesto Bonorand; 15 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.





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# Happy Holidays!

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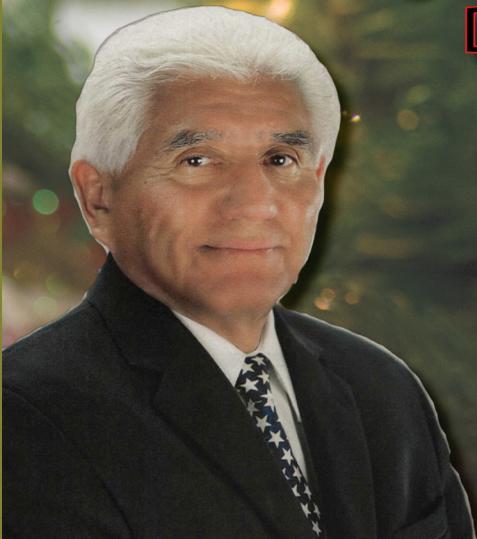
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# Happy Holidays

Wishing everyone a safe holiday!

**Drinking & Driving**

**Don't Mix!**



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# Baha'i Faith

On Saturday, October 26th from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. the Bahá'ís Faith of Santa Cruz County celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of the Báb, one of the Twin Founders of the Bahá'í Faith at the Rio Rico Community Center.

The Baha'i Faith is the youngest of the world's religions. It is based on the teachings of two Divine Educators, the Bab and Baha'u'llah. Both lived during the mid-1800s in Persia and shared revolutionary concepts about the oneness of humanity. This month the Baha'i community celebrates the birthdays of both the Bab and Baha'u'llah. This year is significant because it is the 200th anniversary of the Birth of the Bab.

Baha'is believe that there is one God who, out of love for humanity, reveals Himself and His Will through Divine Educators – the Founders of the world's religions. Some of these Educators are Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Muhammad, Buddha, Krishna, and most recently, the Bab and Baha'u'llah. The Baha'i teachings tell us that we can know God through studying the lives, scriptures, and guidance of these Holy Messengers.

The Bab (meaning “the Gate”) encouraged everyone to seek spiritual truth with independent hearts and to let go of superstition and dependence on clergy. He was put to death for His teachings after a turbulent ministry of only 6 years, but His primary objective was fulfilled - to prepare humanity for the coming of Baha'u'llah, who envisioned a future where all of humanity operates as one loving family.

The Baha'i Faith is organized without priests or clergy. Each person is responsible for his or her own search for truth and a relationship with God. Our purpose in life, according to Baha'u'llah, is to draw closer to God by offering selfless service to others. Together, we are all citizens and caretakers of one planet. Baha'u'llah calls upon each individual to actively root out our prejudices and systemic inequalities that divide people of different ethnic backgrounds, national origins, genders, and social classes.

Baha'is believe that lasting social change starts in the family and at the neighborhood level when we build relationships based on love and mutual respect. Baha'is gather in homes and community centers, offering opportunities for all age groups to worship, learn, and serve their communities together.

Anyone (regardless of their religion) can participate and even host core community activities, which include:

- \* Classes for children that help them discover and strengthen their inherent spiritual qualities like kindness and patience, through stories, songs, prayers, and art.
- \* Groups of pre-teens and teens develop wisdom, compassion, decision-making skills and a mindset of service to others.
- \* Study circles where adults learn together about the spiritual nature of life and initiate service projects relevant to their communities.
- \* Prayer gatherings to nourish souls and inspire meaningful friendships among neighbors.



**For more information about the Baha'i Faith go to <https://www.bahai.org>. For information about local core activities, please contact Jill Moritz at 520-455-7151 or by email at [jillmoritz@me.com](mailto:jillmoritz@me.com).**



# "Wild Javelinas" Roam Free in Tubac

"Wild Javelinas" are now roaming free in various locations around Tubac. Javelinas de Tubac, a unique outdoor exhibit available to the public through the end of March 2020, consists of 40 adults and six sets of baby javelinas painted by local artists and organizations.



The project is coordinated by the Tubac Center of the Arts, and the main goal is to increase visitation to the area. The javalina's "wild" artistic styles are so varied, they have to be seen to be believed. Artists that participated in the project include the likes of Bobb Vann and Virginia Hall. Designed by internationally renowned sculptor and artist, Nick Wilson, the peccaries are all one-of-a-kind with plaques on each identifying the artists and sponsors.

In addition to those located in Tubac, six javelinas will be greeting people at the Tucson International Airport, one will be welcoming visitors to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, another will be "joining the herd" that shops at Mesquite Valley Growers in Tucson, and two will be in Green Valley pointing the way to Tubac. South of town, "Wild Javelinas" will also be located at Wisdoms Café, the Santa Cruz Chili & Spice Company and at Tumacacori National Historical Park. Since the exhibit has opened, visitors to Tubac have been spotted taking selfies and photos with their favorite javelinas. People who do this are encouraged to share the photos on their Facebook and Instagram pages and tag them with #WildInTubac. Coordinators would also like to see these photos shared on their Javelinas de Tubac Facebook and Instagram pages.

Those who don't have photos to share are welcome to "like" these pages to learn more about individual javelinas in the project and be updated on the events and activities that the javelinas are "wild" about that will occur in the Tubac area through the end of the exhibit on March 31, 2020.

"The Javelinas de Tubac exhibit is an opportunity for visitors to enjoy the beauty, uniqueness and variety of talent exhibited by Tubac's many artists," said Karin Topping, executive director of the Tubac Center of the Arts. "The javelinas will be located at various shops, restaurants, and even some of our most historic locations like Tumacacori National Historical Park and Tubac Presidio State Park. In the end, an auction of the javelinas will benefit several local non-profits. The project really showcases what Tubac is all about: art, history and community." A live auction of many of the javelinas will be held on April 4, 2020. The money raised from the auction will benefit the Tubac Center of the Arts and several local charities. Brochures including a map are of the javelinas locations are available at the Tubac Center of the Arts and the Tubac Chamber of Commerce. For full information about the artists and the project visit: [javelinasdetubac.com](http://javelinasdetubac.com).



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# HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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*"Christmas is the season of joy, of gift-giving, and of families united."*

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



**Alfredo I. Velásquez**  
Santa Cruz County  
School Superintendent  
&  
Staff

**"Peace on earth will come to stay when we live Christmas every day."**

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# Mayor's Corner

December is the month of celebrating joy, gifts, family gatherings, food, and candy. I would like to extend warm greetings on behalf of the City Council and myself... my first year as Mayor has been productive and has definitely been successful. I can honestly say that there has been a lot of activity happenings from paving and maintaining our streets to improving the services we provide to our citizens. I appreciate our resident's support and patience as we navigate through many ongoing projects. Again, it is truly an honor to serve you and to continually improve our economy and partnership with the community.

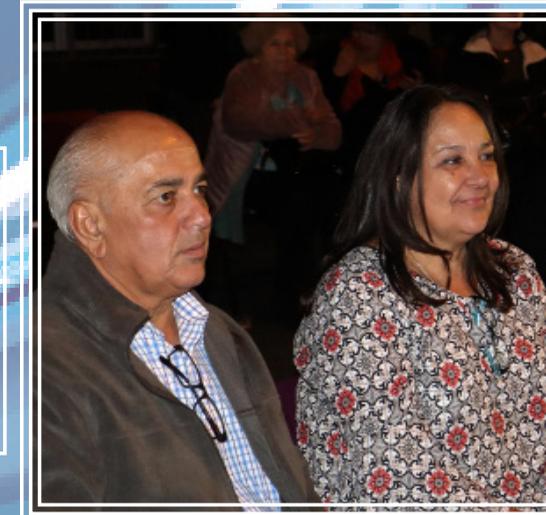
## Events and Happenings at City Hall:

1. *The Fiestas de Los Muertos* took place on October, Saturday 26 at Karam Park. I personally want to thank the City of Nogales personnel for setting up and ensuring the arrangements were made prior to and after the event. There were many people in attendance and the entertainment was a success.

2. *The 3rd Annual Down Syndrome Walk* took place on October 27 at Teyechea Park. Thank you to all the organizers and the community for attending this successful event!

3. *The Veterans Day Ceremony and Parade* took place on Monday, November 11. It was a success thanks to the many community members who attended to honor our Veterans and their families.

4. *Attended the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail Ribbon Cutting* event on Friday, November 1 at Karam Park. The event took years of hard work and commitment and partners. The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail connects history, culture and outdoor recreation across 20 counties of Arizona and California.



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# Parent Love Connection

## Downright Awesome

October is the month of international Down syndrome awareness. It is estimated 1 in every 691 babies in the United States are born with Down syndrome. Down syndrome affects people of all races and economic levels. According to the National Down Syndrome Society, Down syndrome is the most commonly occurring chromosomal condition. The Santa Cruz Parent Love Connection celebrated during the month of October with a walk to spread awareness on Down syndrome awareness.

On Sunday, October 27th, the Down syndrome community in Santa Cruz County gathered to celebrate people with Down syndrome to promote awareness and inclusion. The Santa Cruz Parents Love Connection committee held its "Third Annual Walk for Down Syndrome" at Teyechea Park in Nogales Arizona from 11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. The event was funded by Parent Love Connection and Southern Arizona Network for Down syndrome SANDS.

During the month of October, the Parent Love Connection celebrates people with Down syndrome by making people aware of their capabilities and their accomplishments. "Our celebration is focused on recognizing our Down syndrome population in Santa Cruz County, it's about empowering families," said Maria Scholnick, Program Director.

"Our goal is to empower families across Santa Cruz County to advocate for their family members with Down syndrome.

Today, many individuals with Down syndrome are active participants in our society. They are active community members engaged in the educational, vocational, social and recreational aspects of our community. Every year teens with Down syndrome are graduating from high school, they are going to college, finding meaningful employment and living independently," said Maria Scholnick.

The walk took place at the city hall. The procession started in the park behind city hall, then went around the front of the city hall on Grand Avenue before ending in the park again.

"We would like to thank our special guests who participated in the event, the Mayor of Nogales Arturo Garino and his wife Kathy Garino, David Verdugo Superintendent from SCVUSD #35, Sheriff Tony Estrada, Judith Mendoza Director of Student Services from NUSD, and Tom Mcalpin from CCRT. The Mariposa Community Health Center, Southern Arizona Girls Scouts, Dependable Health Services, the Nogales Public Library, DDD and Milestone Pediatric Therapy are among the organizations that participated in our event.

Dr. Melisa Lunderville Assistant Superintendent from SVUSD #35 was the Grand Marshal of the event. The Parent Love Connection gave out awards to community members who have made a difference for our children with special needs," said Scholnick. Our Grand Marshal Dr. Melisa Lunderville Assistant Superintendent for SVUSD #35 was selected this year by the committee for her dedication, advocacy, and experience working with children with disabilities. Upon her arrival, she was greeted by Jimena Garcia with a beautiful bouquet of white roses as a token of appreciation for accepting her title as Grand Marshal.

The event included a variety of entertainment with performances from Mariachi Plata, the Mousey Zumba Crew, and a musical group from the Southern Arizona Girls Scouts. Francine Scholnick a cheerleader from Rio Rico High School did a cheer for the audience. Parents and supporters of families with Down syndrome showed their support by displaying their yellow t-shirts with the theme "Downright awesome." Committee members decorated the park in a beautiful bright yellow and blue color using ribbons, flowers and dozens of balloons.

**The SCPLC is a support and advocacy organization founded in 2010 for families raising children with special needs living in Santa Cruz County. For more information or to become a volunteer please call 520-470-5833 or email Maria Scholnick at [mariascholnick@yahoo.com](mailto:mariascholnick@yahoo.com). Please like the SCPLC on Facebook, or leave them a message.**



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**happy**  
*holidays*

**Have a Wonderful and Safe Holiday Season!**



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