



5 Echoes from the Hilltop Gallery David Fernandez

#### **CONNECTING SOUTHERN ARIZONA**



### Congratulations! Class of 2023

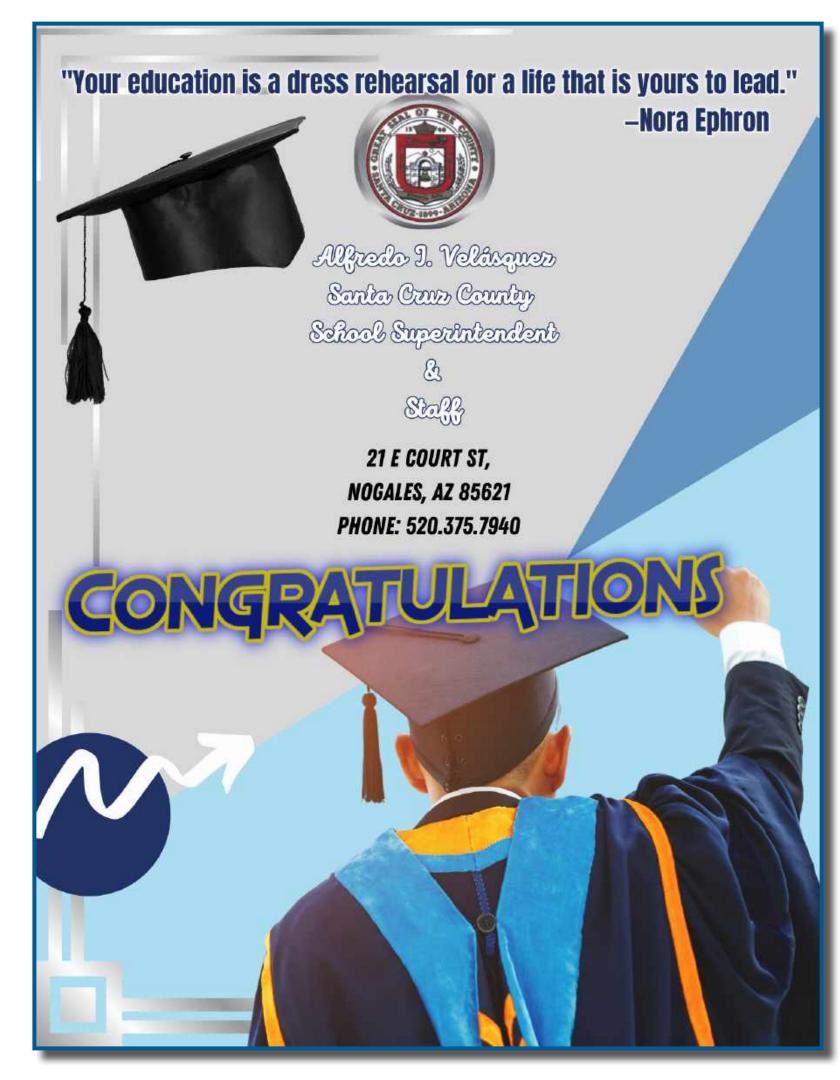






People who "echo"
Anita Moreno

14 Mental Health & School Safety



## **Border Eco Updates**

### Congratulations Class of 2026!

Your commitment, work and dedication have paid off and we are proud of your accomplishments. You have shown exemplary determination and commitment to your studies, and we have no doubt that you will continue to achieve great things in your future endeavors. Your success is a testament to your perseverance and we wish you all the best as you embark on the next chapter of your lives.

Border Eco Magazine is committed to telli

Border Eco Magazine is committed to telling the stories of people who are making a difference in our community. We believe that by highlighting the positive stories in our community, we can start to change the way people see us. We are a voice for the community and we are committed to using our platform to make a difference.

#### CONTENT

- 4 ROBOFEST
- 5 Echoes from the Hilltop Gallery

  David Fernández
- Rio Rico Soars at the 2023 GoldenHawk Awards Ceremony/ Written byLoree Johnson
- 9 Sheriff's Office Congratulates

  Class of 2023
- 10 Recording the past, protecting the future!
- 11 People who "echo" Anita Moreno
- 12 Are you up to date on your COVID 19 vaccines?
- 13 Let's Talk Health- National Men's Health Week
- 14 Mental Health & School Safety
- 15 Sheriff's Monthly Round-Up









We are always looking for new talent. If you have an interest in sales, journalism, and photography send us your resume at contact@bordereco.com

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram for the latest events, people, and organizations who make a difference in Santa Cruz County.

Follow us on YouTube for the latest community videos.
Follow us on Social Media



Chief Editor: Adriana Romero
Student Intern Reporter: Nadia Sandoval
Student Intern Reporter: Chris Alcaraz
Magazine Graphic Designer
Consultant: Adriana Romero
Sales Representative:
Tony Montanez
Information is correct at press time.

Check www.bordereco.com for updates.

Border Eco, LLC © 2023 copyright all rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without the permission of Border Eco Magazine is prohibited. Any material produced is the property of Border Eco. Any material published is not necessarily the opinion of Border Eco and will not be held responsible. Border Eco Magazine accepts material from advertisers, clients, readers and various sources which are not necessarily the opinion of Border Eco Magazine in print or on Border Eco websites and will not be held responsible.



# ROBOFEST

On Tuesday, May 2nd Santa Cruz County Elementary Schools celebrated the first ever Santa Cruz County South32 ROBOFEST organized by the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent's Office led by Santa Cruz County School Superintendent Alfredo I. Velasquez and sponsored by the mining company South32. The Robotics tournament featured second, third, fourth and fifth grade students from Lincoln Elementary School, Patagonia Elementary School, Challenger Elementary School, Mary Welty Elementary School, Calabasas School and Francisco Vasquez de Coronado Elementary School. Lincoln Elementary School took home first place in both the fourth and fifth grade Soccer Competition and also the second and third grade Sumo Competition. Patagonia Elementary School took home first place in the fourth and fifth grade Sumo Competition.

ROBOFEST was the culmination of a semester long afterschool robotics program created by Zigma Consulting for elementary students. During the school year, the ROBOFEST participating schools and schools that did not participate in ROBOFEST, operated an afterschool robotics program for two to three hours every week. This is the fourth year of the Elementary Robotics Afterschool Program which is designed to promote Science Technology Engineering and Math ("STEM") careers. Through the program, the students apply theory of the functioning of a robot, understand the mechanics of the assembly process, and comprehend the function of electronic cards. The Curriculum for the program and the ROBOFEST Tournament design comes from Zigma Consulting and ROBO ED. South 32 is a global resources company, producing products that are used in nearly every aspect of our daily lives and they understand the important of working with local communities.









Zachary George Silva graduated from Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law with a Juris Doctorate degree. He will work for the law firm DLA Piper. David Zuniga, Bachelor of Architecture from UofA CAPLA

## **Echoes From the Hilltop**

David Fernandez, the talented artist behind Hilltop Artist Echoes, creates paintings and artwork that are a true reflection of his innermost thoughts and emotions. Each piece is a carefully crafted masterpiece that is born out of his unique experiences and the moments that have shaped his life. David said, "I have been constantly experimenting with my style throughout my career. I believe that naming styles from past movements does not capture my evolution as an artist." With a keen eye for detail and a deep understanding of color and composition, David's work is a true feast for the senses. His paintings are rich and vibrant, with each stroke of the brush conveying a sense of depth and meaning that is truly awe-inspiring. Whether he is working on a large canvas or a small sketch, David pours his heart and soul into every piece he creates.

Fernandez said, "My creative process varies greatly depending on the work and medium. I usually start with an inspiring moment in my head and work quickly from there. Whether I'm creating a portrait, an expressive figure, a thought-provoking statement, or an emotional abstraction, the process is just as creative as the work itself."

One of the most memorable reactions I received was when someone threw a glass of wine at one of my paintings during an opening reception. His art is a testament to the power of creativity and the human spirit, and it is sure to leave a lasting impression on all who view it.

David stated, "My paintings and artwork are a distillation of my experiences, thoughts, and emotions in a given moment. I have worked in oils, enamels, water, glass, wood, and steel. I prefer oil paint or pastel on canvas, paper, or wood."

A lifetime's worth of artwork is priceless. My goal is to engage the viewer in my work. Artists who sell and promote their work struggle to balance their creative and business sides.

Currently, I am exhibiting at La Linea Art Studio on Morley, "At The Wishing Wall." My most recent exhibition was at Hilltop Art Gallery, "Shim Sham Mish Mash."

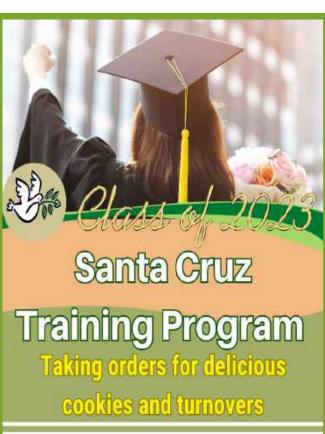
David describes himself as simple. Originally from Nogales, Arizona, he studied art briefly in Dallas and Italy, and engineering in Tempe. For 62 years, his life has been dedicated to art. No matter how good or bad his work is, his goal is to keep creating until he dies.







www.bordereco.com | Border Eco | June 2023 Pg. #5

















### **Making Connections 4U**

Live for Today,
Hope for Tomorrow!



## Free Community Resource Guide

Order your free copy at: admin@makingconnections4u.org



Making Connections 4U www.makingconnections4u.org (520) 216-5058

#### RRHS Seniors Soar at the 2023 Golden Hawk Awards Ceremony

Rio Rico High School seniors were recognized for their achievements and awarded scholarships on Wednesday, May 3rd at the Golden Hawks Awards ceremony. They received \$109,450 in local scholarships and over \$4.2 million in scholarships from colleges and universities.

The ceremony began with recognition of the students whose GPA ranked in the top 5% of RRHS seniors. The Friends of SCVUSD issued \$750 to the following students: Ilian Islava (valedictorian), Kazandra Navarro (salutatorian), Ivanna Garcia, Atticus Birkett, Sabrina Ceja, Ishaya Shukla, Edward Racine, Lluvia Suarez, Alexa Lizarraga, Andrea Verdugo, Aniella Ruiz, Miren Miranda, David Reyes, Dior Velez, Andrea Hernandez Pina, Amy Contreras, Karla Figureroa Valdez, and Airyle McIlrath.

Both the Tubac Rotary and Rio Rico Rotary awarded generous scholarships to high achieving students. The Tubac Rotary awarded \$750 to Tamera Pantoja and Garcia and \$1,500 to Islava, Martin Battu, Racine, Reyes, Navarro, and Jazmin Lopez. The Rio Rico Rotary awarded \$1,500 to Verdugo, Velez, and Shukla. Lourdes Sarmiento was chosen as the Comeback Kid by both clubs and received \$1,000 from the Tubac Rotary and \$500 from the Rio Rico Rotary.

Alexa Monique Gonzales Scholarships issued a \$3,000 scholarship to Velez. Shukla, Reyes, and Battu received \$2,500 scholarships from South32. Navarro, Ariana Montes De Oca, and Viridiana Terriquez received \$2,500 each from The Women at Quail Creek.

Association de Maquiladoras de Nogales awarded \$500 to Uriel Quintero and \$700 each to Ceja, Hernandez Pina, Islava, Navarro, Racine, Shukla, and Velez. Erick Ramirez and Sophia Renteria received \$200 each from Tubac Fire. Real Wishes Santa Cruz County REALTORS® issued \$500 to Shukla and \$1,000 each to Pantoja and Terriquez.

Jando Meza Rio Rico Alumni Association awarded \$1,500 to Sheila Mendivil; \$1,000 to Racine, Danitza Mendoza, Navarro, Jesse Octavio-Callejo, Kassandra Perez, Sophia Teso, and Velez; \$750 to Alejandro Flores, Jonathan Bejarano, and Shukla; and \$500 to Renteria. Mendivil and Ceja received \$500 each from It Takes a Big Heart. Velez and Garcia received \$500 each from Bazua Builders LLC Sinclair Trust Scholarship awarded \$1,000 each to Terriquez and Teso. Marco Villareal received \$1,000 from Santa Cruz Community Foundation Scholarship, Jesus Cordova Scholarship Foundation issued a \$1,000 scholarship to Ceja. Velez garnered \$1,000 from the Nogales Women's Club. Lizarraga and Velez received \$10,000 each from Mariposa Community Health Center. Unisource awarded \$750 to Velez, Islava, Marlene Ozuna, and Racine. Atticus Birkett received a Andrea Ferrell Memorial Scholarship of \$2,500. Carlos Encinas Jr. and Renteria each received Nogales Firefighter Local 2763 scholarships of \$1,000. Velez received \$1,000 from Rich River Athletics. David A. Alvarez and Cindy V. Munoz Lopez received Romero-Cerezo Excellence Scholarships of \$600 each.

Hernandez Pina and Reyes received \$1,000 SCV #35 Hall of Fame Awards, Sergio Cota and Paulina Fontes received \$100 Tubac Mid-Hi Art Show Scholarships, Santa Cruz County Cowbelles awarded \$1,500 each to Hannah Munoz, Lopez, and Terriquez. Munoz also garnered the Santa Cruz County Fair Livestock Committee Scholarship of \$1,000.

The following students were recognized for outstanding academic achievement: Fine Arts, Alfredo Haro; English, Birkett; Alternative Pathways, Ana Martinez Cordoba; Science, Hernandez Piña; Social Studies, Navarro; Math, Miranda; PE, Teso; Helpful Hawk, Rafael Vasquez; Foreign Language, Erick Ramirez; CTE, Cindy Munoz; Counseling, Isaac Acosta.

The Principal's Award went to Islava, the Assistant Principal's Awards went to Moises Fonseca and Miguel Ibarra, the S.O.A.R award went to Daniel Ramos, and the Outstanding Student Athlete Award went to Octavio-Callejo. Each received \$100 awards from Artistry in Glass. Many students received scholarships from colleges and universities. The University of Arizona issued 49 scholarships.

Anamaria Mohinea received the J.R. Cullison Scholarship Award worth \$80,000. Birkett received the National Rural Small Town Scholar award, and Aniella Ruiz, McIlrath, Suarez, Miranda, Sarmiento, and Reyes received National Hispanic Scholar Awards, all worth \$72,000. Ivan Becerril received a Wildcat Distinction Award of \$50,000. Battu received the Global Wildcat Award of \$44,000. Islava and Hernandez-Pina received Wildcat Distinction awards of \$40,000. Carlos Encinas received the Arizona Recognition Award of \$30,000.

Mendivil, Garcia, Racine, Shukla, and Lopez each received Wildcat Excellence Awards of \$32,000, and Ayadec De La Cruz, Raquel Garavito, Alfonso Gavino, Hannah Munoz, Gamaliel De La Rosa Villegas, Paulette Ledezma, Karima Hafez, Navarro, Sofia Bojorquez, Pantoja, and Ceja received Wildcat Excellence Awards of \$20,000. Andromeda Leovara, Trinidad Beemer, Quintero, Vianney Balganon, Mendoza, Esteban Ramirez, Velez, and Angela Bustos received Wildcat Recognition Awards of \$12,000; Jessica Vega, Diana Sanchez Pacheco, Gina Gonzles, Heidi Tautimez, Fonseca, Pier De Saracho, Terriquez, and Michelle Nunez received Wildcat Recognition Awards of \$8,000; and Stephanie Villela, Vandan Ahir, and Susset Aviles received Wildcat Recognition Awards of \$3,000.

Bojorquez received the Bluechip Leadership Scholarship of \$250. Suarez received the A.B. Miller Scholarship worth \$64,000 and the Big Future Scholarship worth \$500.

Verdugo received the National Football Federation 12th Man Scholarship worth \$500. Renteria received the Scholarship Day Scholarship of \$8,000. Terriquez received the James Accomazzo Memorial Scholarship worth \$1,000. Trinidad Beemer was awarded the Ford Trucks - Built Ford Tough Dealer Scholarship Horne Ford of Nogales scholarship worth \$1,000. Munoz earned the Southern Arizona International Livestock Association scholarship worth \$800.

Northern Arizona University awarded 55 scholarships. Aly Bregon, Alejandro Flores, Amy Contreras, Garcia, Islava, Mendivil, Racine, and Reyes received the Lumberjack Scholarship of \$46,000. Lyvier Alvarez, Birkett, Ceja, De La Rosa, Ezra Hafez, Munoz, Navarro, Genesis Pacheco, Ruiz, Ledezma, and Isabella Silva received the President's Tuition Scholarship of \$36,000.

Aiden Roquet, Lourdes Flores, Verdugo, and Garavito received the Dean's with Distinction Tuition Scholarship worth \$26,000. Jardell Castro, Francisco Arellano, Esmeralda Arochi, Vianney Balganon, Angela Bustos, Edgardo Davilla, Fonseca, Gina Gonzales Haro, Michelle Nunez, Jesus Nuno, Renteria, Camila Salazar, Alida Semidey, Emmanuel Tapia, Lourdes Vasquez, Fernanda Villegas, Monique Duran, and Tautimez were awarded the Dean's Tuition Scholarship worth \$20,000.

The Opportunity Tuition Scholarship worth \$10,000 was awarded to Maria Armenta, Isaac Acosta, Aviles, Beemer, Javier Castro, Pier De Saracho, Christine Doyle, Matthew Gonzales, Elda Isabel Hernandez, Octavio-Callejo, Itzel Paz, Sanchez Pacheco, Villela, and Fiona Solis.

Grand Canyon University awarded 27 scholarships. Suarez, De La Rosa Villegas, McIlrath, Shukla, Verdugo, and Lizarraga received the President award of \$28,200. Pacheco and Flores received the Provost award of \$24,200. Battu, Clark, Renteria, Balganon, Tautimez, Viviana Ibarra, and Tapia received the Dean's award of \$20,200.

Teso, Jardell Castro, Semidey, and Arellano received the Faculty award of \$16,200. The Antelope scholarship of \$10,200 was awarded to Ambar Vasquez, Cota, Isabella Silva, De Saracho, Arochi, Villegas, and Marianne Gonzales. Aviles received the Canyon award of \$6,000.

Arizona State University awarded 20 scholarships. Suarez, McIlrath, and Reyes received the National Recognition Finalist awards of \$64,000 and Ruiz received an award of \$60,076. Lizarraga, Velez, Racine, Islava, and Becerril received the Provost award of \$28,000.

Ledezma received a University award of \$20,000, and Munoz, Duran, Clark, Balganon, and Cota received \$8,000. Tautimez, Pantoja, Garavito, Tapia, and Gonzalez Haro received the Dean's award of \$20,000.

New Mexico University awarded nine scholarships. Axel Covarrubias received the Athletic scholarship worth \$80,000. Ceja, Islava, Garcia, and Reyes received Hadley Honors Out-of-State scholarships of \$16,000. Garavito, Ledezma, and Mendoza received the 1888 Leadership Out-of-State scholarship worth \$12,000. Cynthia Castro received the Crimson Out-of-State scholarship of \$8,000.

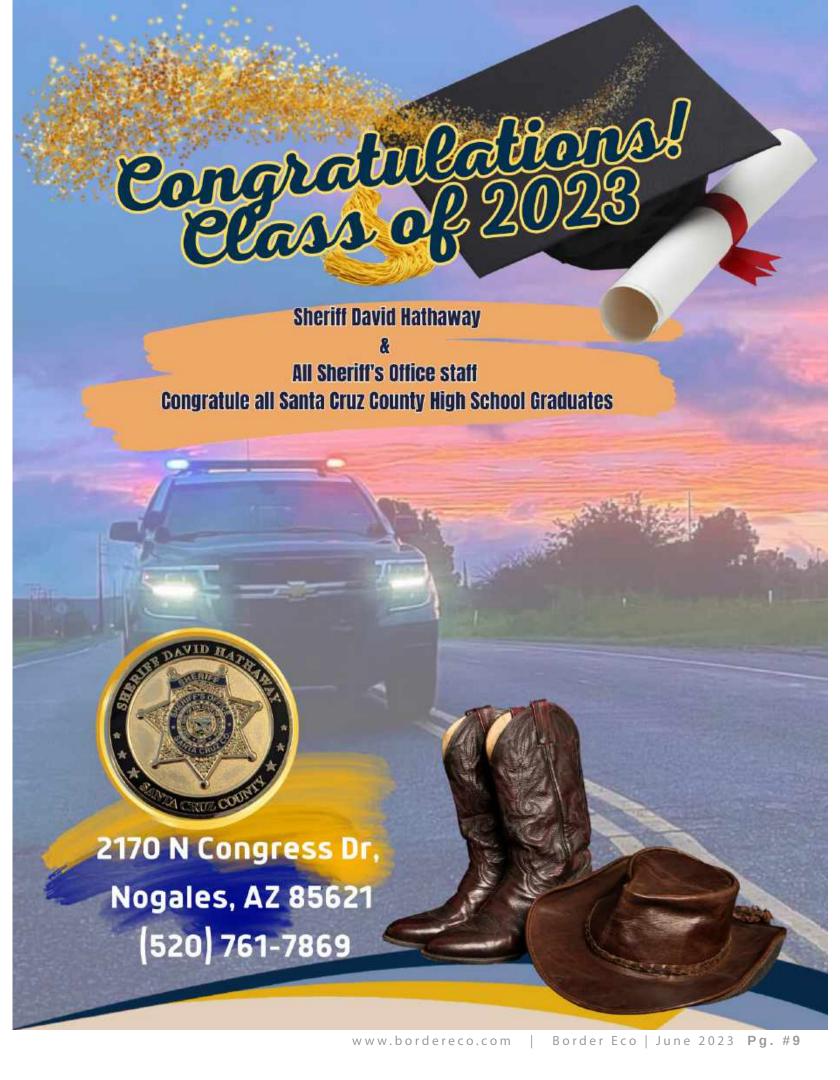
Pacific University awarded the Academic scholarship of \$80,000 to Octavio-Callejo. Adrian College awarded the Presidential scholarship of \$60,000 to Renteria. Waynesburg University awarded the Waynesburg State

Award \*National Hispanic Recognition to Suarez.

Pima Community College awarded a Merit Scholarship to Johnathan Bejarano, and Jorge Trujillo received an Athletic scholarship for two full years.

The following students were recognized for completing Law Enforcement Internships: Veronika Ramos, Lizbeth Alejo, Flores, Navarro, Tautimez, Catherine Mendez, and Brady Johnson.





## Recording the past, protecting the future!

The Santa Cruz County Recorder's Office is a public agency that is responsible for maintaining and providing public access to records related to real estate and elections. The office has five staff members who work to ensure that these records are accurate, accessible, and secure.

Saibet Gastelum, Senior Recording and Elections Clerk

Rosa Anna Fajardo, Recording and Elections Clerk
Angel Aguilar, Recording and Elections Clerk
Monica Gutierrez, Recording and Elections Clerk
Victoria Padilla, Recording and Elections Clerk
The Recorder's Office maintains a variety of records
related to real estate, including deeds, trust deeds,
maps, and surveys. These records are used to track
ownership of property and to resolve disputes. The
office also provides copies of these records to the
public upon request.

The Recorder's Office also manages the election process in Santa Cruz County. The office is responsible for providing voter registration forms, retaining voter registration information, facilitating early voting, mailing ballots, and verifying signatures. The office works to ensure that all eligible voters have the opportunity to participate in the electoral process.

The Santa Cruz County Recorder's Office is a vital part of the county government. The office's work helps to ensure that the public has access to important information about real estate and elections. The office also works to protect the integrity of the electoral process.

We strive to provide the highest level of customer service in the recording or election process. Our service area includes all of Santa Cruz County.

'We are funded by the State of Arizona,' says Anita Moreno County Recorder.

People from Santa Cruz County benefit from having our organization in their community in a number of ways.

We provide a convenient and affordable way for people to record important documents, such as deeds, mortgages, and business agreements. This helps to ensure that these documents are legally valid and that they are accessible to the public. We also make it easy for people to register to vote and to obtain voting materials. This helps to ensure that all eligible voters have a voice in our democracy.

As a public servant, we serve the community, but we also attend to the needs of individuals outside Santa Cruz County who require documents to be recorded in our county.

We are committed to providing quality services to all members of our community, regardless of their location. We are proud to be a part of the Santa Cruz County community and we are committed to serving the needs of our residents. Anita Moreno, the Santa Cruz County Recorder, said: "We are a new team. When I came into office on January 3, 2023, most of the team had only been here for a few months. In the past four months, I have seen their positive attitude and eagerness to learn and be the best in their game." According to Mrs. Moreno, "In anticipation of the 2024 Presidential Election, I am committed to ensuring that the Santa Cruz County Recorder's Office is prepared to handle the increased workload." While the election process is challenging, I am confident that we can overcome any obstacle and ensure a successful and undeviating outcome.

Anita Moreno considers her accomplishments to include building strong relationships with her staff and other departments within the county, being accessible to residents, and actively involved in community affairs.



#### Congratulations

I've achieved many accomplishments throughout my years of education. Now that I am graduating I will be entering the real world by continuing to achieve and strive in my planned goals. I plan to continue my education by attending Aveda Institute to become a Certified Esthetician. As well as getting licensed as a Real Estate Agent. I will continue to put lots of effort and encouragement to reach my goals. -Suzzette Ramos 2023

Nogales High School Graduate



## People who "echo"

This month, we are privileged to spotlight a remarkable individual who has been a beacon of leadership in our community. Anita Moreno, not just a community activist but also a diligent public servant, continuously strives to uphold social justice and inclusivity. A true advocate for integrity, she is unwavering in her commitment to the well-being of our community. For over two decades, Anita's voice has resonated powerfully across our community, embodying a deep sense of commitment and care. In her new role as county recorder, Anita Moreno stands out for her meticulous documentation, discussions, and decisions. Our community's history and progress are preserved and accessible through this often-overlooked responsibility. She adds a valuable layer of transparency to the community's living environment through her work in this role.

It is clear that Anita is dedicated to our community through her work as a recorder. Using her meticulous documentation, she ensures that no voice is left unheard, no event is forgotten, making her an invaluable asset to us all. Thanks to her contributions, our community's narrative and future have been enriched.

"Taking on the duties of the Recorder's office with professionalism and diligence is my commitment as County Recorder," said Anita Moreno. The integrity of our public records is my top priority.

"With 35 years of experience in the title and escrow industry under my belt, I've gained a profound understanding of the significance of public records. This wealth of experience has equipped me with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively manage this office while maintaining public trust. I am confident in my ability to enhance the efficiency and efficacy of this office. I am committed to ensuring the accuracy and accessibility of public records."

In my role as County Recorder, it is my responsibility to fulfill the office's responsibilities professionally and diligently. My top priority is to maintain the integrity of our public records. Consequently, I will ensure that records are accessible in the proper manner in order to fulfill my commitment. I plan to use innovative technologies to improve accessibility to records. Furthermore, I will make sure that our records are accurate and consistent with those of other government agencies." As her words demonstrate, she is

As her words demonstrate, she is not only dedicated to preserving public records but also to making them more accessible to the community. In addition to maintaining the integrity of our public records, I am also committed to ensuring that every voting citizen in Santa Cruz County has the opportunity to make their voice heard. I will do this by:

Making sure that all registered voters are properly registered to vote.

Making it easy for people to register to vote and to cast their ballots.

Working to increase voter turnout in all elections.

I believe that voting is a fundamental right, and I am committed to ensuring that every citizen participates in our democracy.

Anita Moreno shared, "My deepest gratitude goes out to my husband and mother for their unwavering support. I am equally grateful to my dedicated staff, who tirelessly strive each day to ensure our office is a fantastic work environment. When I first stepped into this role, I was lucky to receive immense support from many colleagues. Each county office extended their hand, ensuring I felt supported and encouraged."



Follow us on Twitter at: @contacteco



## DON'T LET YOUR GUARD DOWN!





ARE YOU UP TO DATE
ON YOUR COVID-19
VACCINES?

520.281.1550 mariposachc.net

## Lets Talk Health

#### June 12-18 is National Men's Health Week and

experts from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) have research findings related to some of the more serious medical challenges that affect men like: sleep apnea, excess belly fat, and high blood pressure. All of these are linked to an increased risk for heart disease in men. The good news is that men can take steps now to prevent these problems or find out if they are at higher risk, early detection and treat them early to make changes against heart disease.

Loud and frequent snoring is not just an annoyance but may be a sign of a serious health problem called sleep apnea. According to a NHLBI study published in the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, the condition is associated with an increased risk of stroke in middle-aged and older men. Michael J. Twery, Ph.D., director of the NIH National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, which is administered by the NHLBI.

Men are also more likely than women to develop high blood pressure before age 55. Studies show that men can successfully lower their pressure by following the DASH diet, which stands for Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension. Developed with help from the NHLBI, the DASH diet recommends eating vegetables, fruits, whole grains, low-fat dairy products, lean protein, and low-sugar foods. NHLBI-funded research shows men with high blood pressure can get an extra health boost by combining DASH with sodium reduction, exercise, and weight loss. Excess belly fat often increases at midlife, but aging may not always be driving the increase. An NHLBI-supported study in Circulation linked regular consumption of sugar-sweetened drinks (such as sodas and fruit drinks) to increased visceral fat, a type of body fat that may contribute to a higher risk of diabetes and heart disease. Getting regular screenings is also important. These appointments can help make you aware of potential health concerns, even if you don't feel sick. Your doctor can help identify problems, like being overweight, experiencing depression, or anxiety.



It isn't just important to see a doctor for regular checkups and preventive screenings, but also to review your family health history. Your provider can assess your risk of disease based on your family history and other factors that might play a huge role in your overall health. Your doctor can help you decide what tests you need based on your age and risk factors. Important health screening tests for men include:

- · Blood pressure screening
- · Cardiovascular screening
- · Colorectal cancer exams



This June as we celebrate Men's Health Month, make it an opportunity to take command of your health. Taking preventive steps and making changes to your lifestyle can improve your health. If your primary care physician is at Mariposa Community Health Center, please call 520 281-1550 to schedule an appointment.

Mariposa will also have a presentation on Men's health by Dr. Eladio Pereira, Chief Medical Officer in collaboration with the Mexican Consulate's Ventanilla de Salud program. Be on the lookout for more information coming soon on the date, time and location of this presentation.







## Mental Health & School Safety

The last week of April was packed with activities at the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent's Office. Mr. Velásquez hosted his monthly Superintendent's Leadership Consortium on April 26th. The theme for the meeting was Mental Health and School Safety. May is Mental Health Awareness month. The agenda included former football player, Vance Johnson, and visitors from the University of Michigan's Center for School Safety (NC2S).

The guest speaker, Mr. Vance Johnson, spoke to the group about his career highlights, his continuous and constant struggle with mental illness, and his path back from an overdose that almost took his life. The moving testimony was painful and powerful, ending in his message of hope and recovery. Mr. Johnson also spoke to youth at the City of Nogales Rec Center. The event concluded with raffles and prizes donated by County Attorney George Silva and SOSA director Yara Castro. Snacks were provided by the Justice of the Peace team and Martin Felix.

Allison Schreiber, Marc Zimmerman and Ben Jennett from NC2S also participated in the meeting. Dr. Marc Zimmerman shared insightful comments on how to develop safety strategies that meet the needs of our community. He reviewed evidence-based programs that have been successful in other parts of the country, challenged the group to implement anonymous reporting systems and encouraged the development of threat-assessment teams at each school.

The latter portion of the meeting included a video produced by the team at SEAHEC. The fifteen-minute film covers three local stories of individuals who have been able to recover from addiction. The video includes re-enactments and commentary from the actual recoverees re-telling their touching and moving journeys. The meeting concluded with the unveiling of paintings created by counselors, people in recovery and Detention Officer Jimenez. All of the paintings depict mental health and stigma.

Later that afternoon, Mr. Johnson also spoke to youth at the City of Nogales Rec Center. The event concluded with raffles and prizes donated by County Attorney George Silva and SOSA director Yara Castro from the Mariposa Community Health Center.

The team from NC2S remained in Nogales for an additional day, leading a study session on school safety for community members. All branches of law enforcement, city and county representatives, mental health providers, school leaders, and counselors participated in discussions regarding school safety. All activities were planned in collaboration with Mariposa Community Health Center, SOSA, SEAHEC, Nogales Rec Center, and personnel from Justice of the Peace, Emilio G. Velásquez's office. Promoting Healthy Students would like to thank all of our collaborators for their contributions including Martin Felix, Elia Felix, Erin Sol, Lupita Gonzalez, Pablo Albeis, Yara Castro, Reneé Travers, and the entire PHSI



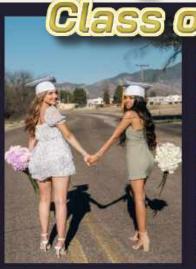








Anakaren Quijada, San Cayetano



Suzette Ramos & Kailey Ramos Nogales High School



Claudette Jimenez University of Arizona



Hector Manuel Salazar, Coatimundi Middle School

## Sheriff's Round-Up

Sheriff David Hathaway and all Sheriff's Office staff congratulate all Santa Cruz County High School Graduates.

We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

The Sheriff's Office is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all students in Santa Cruz County. As part of this commitment, we are working to implement a new common communication platform that will connect partners across the county. This technology will provide schools and law enforcement partners with interoperability technology and allow schools to communicate with 9-1-1 directly, providing them with situational awareness in case of an emergency.

The Sheriff's Office was awarded \$750,000 from a state grant to connect directly with multiple public schools. This system is a robust information-sharing platform that has already been launched in nine counties and Santa Cruz County will be the tenth.

We would also like to congratulate our new D.A.R.E. graduates from all the Santa Cruz County Schools. This was another successful year! Thank you to DARE Instructor Deputy A. Estrada for his dedication and hard work.

We are proud to serve the students and families of Santa Cruz County. Together, we can make our community a safe and secure place for everyone.

Your Sheriff, Sheriff David Hathaway











# CONGRATULATIONS

"Be bold, be courageous, be your best."



You have the power!

2150 N Congress Dr, Nogales, AZ 85621 (520) 375-7780

