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TECHNOLOChicas Conference  
2024

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# Border Eco Updates

*We want to thank you for your continued support. Your support helps us report on the great people, events, and organizations that make a difference in our community.*

*Our goal is to help connect Santa Cruz County. Santa Cruz County is a unique border town rich in culture and traditions. We are here to support our community.*

*Please send us any information on any upcoming community events, meetings, and conferences. We would be happy to share them with our readers and customers.*

*Thank you again for your support. We appreciate it!*

*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.*

*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](mailto:contact@bordereco.com)*

*Follow us on YouTube for the latest community videos.*



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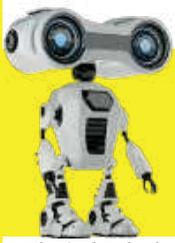
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Please send us information on any upcoming events, meetings, or programs to share with our readers.



# ROBOFEST

20  
24

The 2nd Robotics Tournament ROBOFEST 2024 took place last Thursday, May 2nd, 2024.

This event was organized by ROBOED and the Santa Cruz County Superintendent Mr. Alfredo Velasquez Office with the sponsorship of South 32. 64 students that are part of the robotics clubs in Elementary Schools from Nogales, Rico Rico and Patagonia participated in this year's tournament.

The schools that participated are:

- A. J. Mitchell
- Calabasas
- Challenger
- Francisco Vasquez de Coronado
- Lincoln
- Mary L. Welty
- Patagonia

Students participated in 3 different categories:

Category 1-Soccer for 2nd and 3rd grade students.

- 1st place: A. J. Mitchell
- 2nd place: Lincoln
- 3rd place: Mary L. Welty

Category 2-Sumo for 4th and 5th grade students.

- 1st place: Lincoln
- 2nd place: Calabasas
- 3rd place: Francisco Vasquez de Coronado

Category 3-Soccer for 4th and 5th grade students.

- 1st place: A. J. Mitchell
- 2nd place: Lincoln
- 3rd place: Patagonia



ROBOFEST Is becoming a beautiful tradition where we can greet each other every year and share our experiences working with robotics. The purpose of this event is to have fun and to motivate students and teachers to continue with this exciting project that is teaching robotics to all Santa Cruz County students from an early age.

Working with robotics helps students develop personal skills such as leadership, creativity, communication, respect, problem solving.





# TECHNOLOCHICAS CONFERENCE

The 7th Annual TECHNOLOchicas Conference organized by the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent, Alfredo I. Velásquez, was held on May 9th at the Rio Rico High School Performance Arts Center. Approximately 135 girls from Wade Carpenter Middle School, Desert Shadows Middle School, Calabasas School, and Coatimundi Middle School attended the conference. Patagonia participants were unable to attend.

This year, the featured professional TECHNOLOchicas panelists consisted of former graduates from Santa Cruz County schools. Dr. Marysol Luna, the keynote speaker and Nogales High School graduate, spoke about her educational journey in her pursuit of a doctoral degree in Mechanical Engineering, becoming the first Latina to earn that degree from Cornell University. Dr. Luna also sat on the panel along with her sister Marianna Luna (Mechanical Engineer), Dr. Elise Muñoz (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology), Jennifer Baeza Arriola (Cardiovascular Perfusionist), Sobeira Castro (Emergency Management Director), and Alexandra Gomez (Cybersecurity Analyst). Sonia Sánchez interviewed the panelists and led the question and answer portion of the event.

Additional activities included a presentation on Coding Skills by Ms. DaNel Hogan, Director of the STEMAZing Project for the Waters Center for Systems Thinking. The girls also attended break-out sessions by the following presenters: Jennifer Baeza Arriola, SEARHEC, South 32, Marianna and Marysol Luna, Office of Emergency Management, and Mariposa Community Health Center. Middle School girls involved in TECHNOLOchicas during the school year participate in an after-school club designed by the Televisa Foundation for young Latinas. They spend two to three hours a week being educated on how to code and program while learning about the journey of different Latina women in STEM professions. South 32 sponsors the TECHNOLOchicas clubs and conference, and partners of the Superintendent's Office include NUSD, SCUUSD, PUSD, and Sodexo.

Currently, only 2% of the STEM workforce is Latina women. TECHNOLOchicas is an international initiative of the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) and Televisa Foundation designed to raise awareness among young Latinas and their families about opportunities and careers in technology. For more information, or to volunteer to be an inspiring role model for club members contact the Superintendent's office at 520-375-7940.





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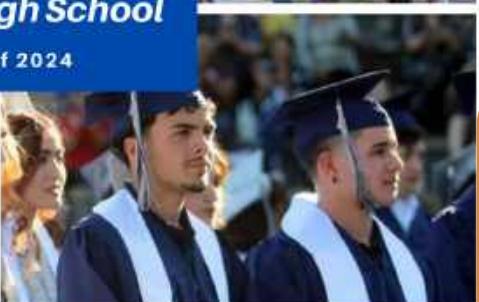
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MAKING GRADUATION MEMORIES  
**Pierson High School**  
Class of 2024



Mark Martinez  
Rio Rico High School Graduate



Board Members  
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Ronald Pitt, President





MAKING GRADUATION MEMORIES  
**Rio Rico High School**  
 CLASS of 2024



Border Eco is thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the incredible Class of 2024 for all their hard work and dedication. From conquering challenging classes to participating in extracurricular activities, this group of students has truly excelled in every aspect. We are so proud to see these bright young minds achieving their goals and reaching new heights. The passion, drive, and determination demonstrated by these graduates is truly inspiring, and we have no doubt that they will continue to make a positive impact on the world around them. As they embark on this new chapter in their lives, we are excited to watch them flourish and succeed in all their future endeavors. As you continue to explore new possibilities and push the boundaries of innovation, you are constantly reminded of the importance of creativity and perseverance. It is through your dedication to excellence and willingness to take risks that you are able to achieve great things. Never lose sight of our goals and continue to strive for greatness in everything you do!  
 Congratulations Class of 2024 – the world is yours for the taking! Choose actions that will unlock fresh opportunities.



# Transforming Lives: The Power of Behavior Consultation Services in Santa Cruz County

Border Eco is thrilled to introduce an organization in our community that is making a positive impact on people's lives. Intermountain Centers for Human Development oversees the Behavioral Consultation Services program. This program, known as BCS, was established in Northern Arizona in 2007 by Dr. Andrew Gardner, Brian Van Meerten, and Becky Watson. In 2016, Intermountain acquired BCS and expanded its services statewide to reach more rural areas.

In 2021, they began offering services in Santa Cruz. Intermountain Centers and its affiliates are committed to providing high-quality, evidence-based health and human services to promote self-sufficiency within diverse communities. They serve individuals of all ages who require assistance with communication, social skills, and challenging behaviors. Services are customized to meet the unique needs of each individual, regardless of background or diagnosis. The program takes a personalized approach to behavioral consultation services, focusing on assessments, behavior intervention plans, and ongoing support.

The team specializes in Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA), a scientific method that applies empirical strategies to improve socially significant behaviors. The program's multidisciplinary team includes Behavior Analysis Trainees, behavioral technicians, and Board-Certified Behavior Analysts who work collaboratively to provide comprehensive services. BCS currently serves around 100 clients statewide, with 14-16 individuals in Nogales. The team is dedicated to offering personalized and cost-effective support to help clients achieve their goals and enhance their well-being.

Octavio Blanco, a Behavior Analysis Trainee, shared his role within the organization, which involves conducting assessments, designing intervention plans, and providing support to clients and caregivers.

The Nogales team consists of five employees, (BAT- Octavio Blanco, BT- Berenice Murrieta BT- Laura Guerra, BT- Stephanie Abril), including three behavioral technicians and a BCBA supervisor, who play a vital role in ensuring effective and evidence-based services are delivered. Intermountain Centers, a non-profit organization funded primarily through Medicaid, has 900 employees statewide, with 31 dedicated to the Behavior Consultation Services program. The program receives an average of 50 referrals monthly and welcomes community support through referrals and spreading awareness of their services. Intermountain Centers aims to set a standard for health and human service organizations, striving to provide comprehensive and individualized support to help individuals progress towards their goals.



**Nogales Team**

# Leading the Charge for Change in Arizona

## Stephanie Hamilton

In 2020, Stephanie Hamilton was elected to serve in the Arizona House of Representatives. From 2021 to 2022, she served as Arizona Senator for LD 21, filling a vacancy. She was reelected in 2022 to the Arizona House of Representatives to represent LD 21. During her time in the House and Senate, she had the privilege to serve on the Natural Resources, Energy, and Water Committee, Finance and Appropriations Committees, and Judiciary and Ethics Committees.

She began her civic engagement by serving on the School Site Council and the PTO. In 2018, Save Our Schools hired her to work on the NO on Prop 305 campaign to stop the voucher expansion that was first signed into law in 2017.

Representing Santa Cruz County in LD 21 has been a privilege for Arizona House of Representative Stephanie Hamilton. Building connections within the county and prioritizing the well-being of all residents has been a top priority. Providing constituent services, securing funding for road infrastructure, promoting investments in broadband and healthcare, backing public schools, and taking the lead on water issues in the Active Management Area (AMA) and rural groundwater areas have been fulfilling responsibilities.

Santa Cruz County is a place of historical significance and a dynamic hub for international trade, economic investment, and tourism. "It is an honor to represent a community that thrives on its multicultural heritage, which plays a pivotal role in cross-border relations and global connectivity," said Stephanie. Representing Santa Cruz County is special to me because it stands as a gateway between two countries where diverse cultures converge. This unique position fosters a rich tapestry of cultural interactions and traditions, enhancing the quality of life in Southern Arizona.

The current projects that the Arizona House Representative is currently working on are two key investments that would significantly enhance Santa Cruz County. These projects include the installation of broadband internet and electric vehicle charging stations. Expanding broadband access would bridge the digital divide, fostering economic growth, education, and innovation. Meanwhile, electric vehicle charging stations would promote sustainable tourism and reduce our carbon footprint, making the county more attractive to eco-conscious travelers.

*"Together, these investments would drive economic development, boost international tourism, and ensure a more sustainable future for Santa Cruz County."*

*One of my top priorities is to increase funding for education, especially in rural Arizona where public schools need more resources to operate effectively. Investing in our children is crucial for the future of our community.*

Another important focus is on improving water infrastructure. Without sufficient quantity and quality of water, our other policies will not be effective.

Additionally, we need to invest more in fire districts by providing capital for new engines and training programs to retain personnel. Ensuring access to clean and reliable water sources is crucial for the health and well-being of our communities. By investing in water infrastructure, we can better protect public health and support economic growth.

"Any elected official who represents Santa Cruz County has great potential to affect and shape the lives of people. The person you elect should care deeply about the well-being and livelihood of the community and should be motivated by compassion and care, leading with an eye to the future, and striving to create the highest quality of life available," stated Hamilton.

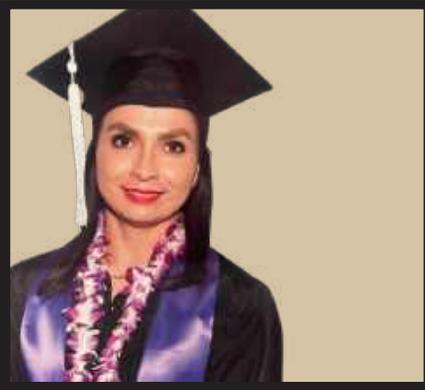


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# People who "echo" Melody Gastelum



**Class of  
2024**



## THE POWER OF PERSISTENCE: REACHING YOUR GOALS NO MATTER YOUR AGE

Border Eco is honoring Melody Gastelum this year for achieving her goal of earning a bachelor's degree. It took her 26 years after graduating high school to accomplish this milestone. Melody plans to move to Tucson to further her career and apply the knowledge she gained through her education. As a student, Melody faced challenges such as prioritizing her education over social events, often leaving gatherings early to complete assignments. Balancing her studies with adult responsibilities, including working full-time and being a single parent, was also difficult. Melody's advice to others is to stay motivated by accepting failure as a natural part of life. She encourages setting goals and pursuing them, regardless of how long it may take.

She believes that our minds, not the sky, set our limits, and urges people to create their own timelines instead of following society's expectations. Melody's philosophy is rooted in the idea that success is not defined by how quickly one achieves their goals, but by the determination and perseverance shown along the way. She emphasizes the importance of self-belief and resilience in the face of setbacks, knowing that each failure is simply a stepping stone towards eventual success. By staying true to oneself and forging one's own path, Melody believes that anyone can overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.

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# Let's Talk Health

Imagine this: you had a tough day at work, and now your head starts to hurt. The nagging headache soon turns into a pounding migraine. You're nauseous, the light is irritating, you feel foggy, and yet you still need to make dinner, take care of the kids, and clean up the house. You're suffering in silence, trying your usual remedies of water, aspirin, and pushing through the pain. This pattern continues day after day. Occasional headaches may be due to stress or dehydration. However, frequent headaches and migraines can be linked to various medical conditions and environmental factors. They are associated with anxiety, depression, heart disease, hypertension, menopause, epilepsy, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Headaches and migraines can indicate underlying health issues, making it crucial not to ignore these symptoms. Instead, see them as clues. When discussing your health history and concerns with your medical provider, don't overlook your headache and migraine issues.

Understanding the triggers of headaches and migraines can be a crucial step in managing them. Some common triggers include:

- 1. Allergies:** Allergic reactions can cause inflammation and congestion, leading to headaches. Identifying and managing allergies can help reduce headache frequency.
- 2. Caffeine:** While small amounts of caffeine can relieve headaches for some people, excessive intake or withdrawal from caffeine can trigger them. Monitoring your caffeine consumption can be beneficial.
- 3. Dehydration:** Not drinking enough water can lead to dehydration, which is a common cause of headaches. Ensuring adequate fluid intake throughout the day is essential.
- 4. Diet:** Certain foods and additives, such as processed meats, aged cheeses, and artificial sweeteners, can trigger migraines in some individuals. Keeping a food diary can help identify and avoid these triggers.
- 5. Lack of Exercise:** Regular physical activity can reduce the frequency and severity of headaches. Conversely, a sedentary lifestyle can contribute to their onset. Incorporating regular exercise into your routine can be beneficial.

**6. Light Sensitivity:** Bright or flickering lights, including screen glare from computers and smartphones, can trigger migraines. Using screen filters, adjusting lighting, and taking regular breaks can help manage this trigger.

**7. Screen Time:** Prolonged use of digital devices can lead to eye strain and headaches. Following the 20-20-20 rule (taking a 20-second break to look at something 20 feet away every 20 minutes) can reduce eye strain.

**8. Stress:** Emotional stress and anxiety are significant headache triggers. Practicing stress management techniques such as meditation, deep breathing exercises, and mindfulness can help alleviate stress-related headaches.

By identifying and managing these triggers, you can take proactive steps to reduce the frequency and severity of your headaches and migraines. Remember, your health is important. If you experience frequent headaches or migraines, seek professional advice to find the underlying causes and appropriate treatments. This information and more can be found at "www.headache.org" through the National Headache Foundation.



## Class of 2024

## Congratulations!



Anita Moreno  
County Recorder



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The new date for the Primary Election is July 30, 2024. Visit our website for updated information  
[www.santacruzcountyaz.gov/287/Recorder](http://www.santacruzcountyaz.gov/287/Recorder).

"It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are."

— E. E. Cummings

*Congratulations!*

**Class of  
2024**



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# Sheriff's Round-Up



*Sheriff Hathaway and his Command staff hosted the Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony this month. The gathering was at the Morris K. Udall Courtyard located in the Santa Cruz County Complex. During the event, the lives of the fallen officers in Santa Cruz County were honored. We also took the opportunity to recognize officers that have passed after having served at the Sheriff's Office. Pictured with Sheriff Hathaway and his wife is Ms. Billy Thompson, widow of Sergeant Patrick D. Thompson, End-of-Watch 09/02/1994.*

*Sheriff Hathaway and his Command staff participated in the dedication of the new Drug Enforcement Administration Nogales District Office building that was named in honor of deceased Special Agent Shaun Curl.*

*This month, Sheriff's office personnel also participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run, an annual event that honors Special Olympics. There are over 97,000 law enforcement members across the country that carry the "Flame of Hope" each year. The flame symbolizes courage and celebration of the diverse members of our communities around the globe.*

*The Sheriff's Office participated in the Circles of Peace 20-year anniversary. The celebration took place in Tubac, Arizona. Congratulations for 20 years of restorative justice!*

***A big thank you to all Sheriff's Office employees and all divisions for your dedication and everything you do to support the Sheriff's Office and the community.***

***Your Sheriff  
David Hathaway***



Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony



Roll Call of Fallen Officers Honored



Law Enforcement Torch Run



Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony

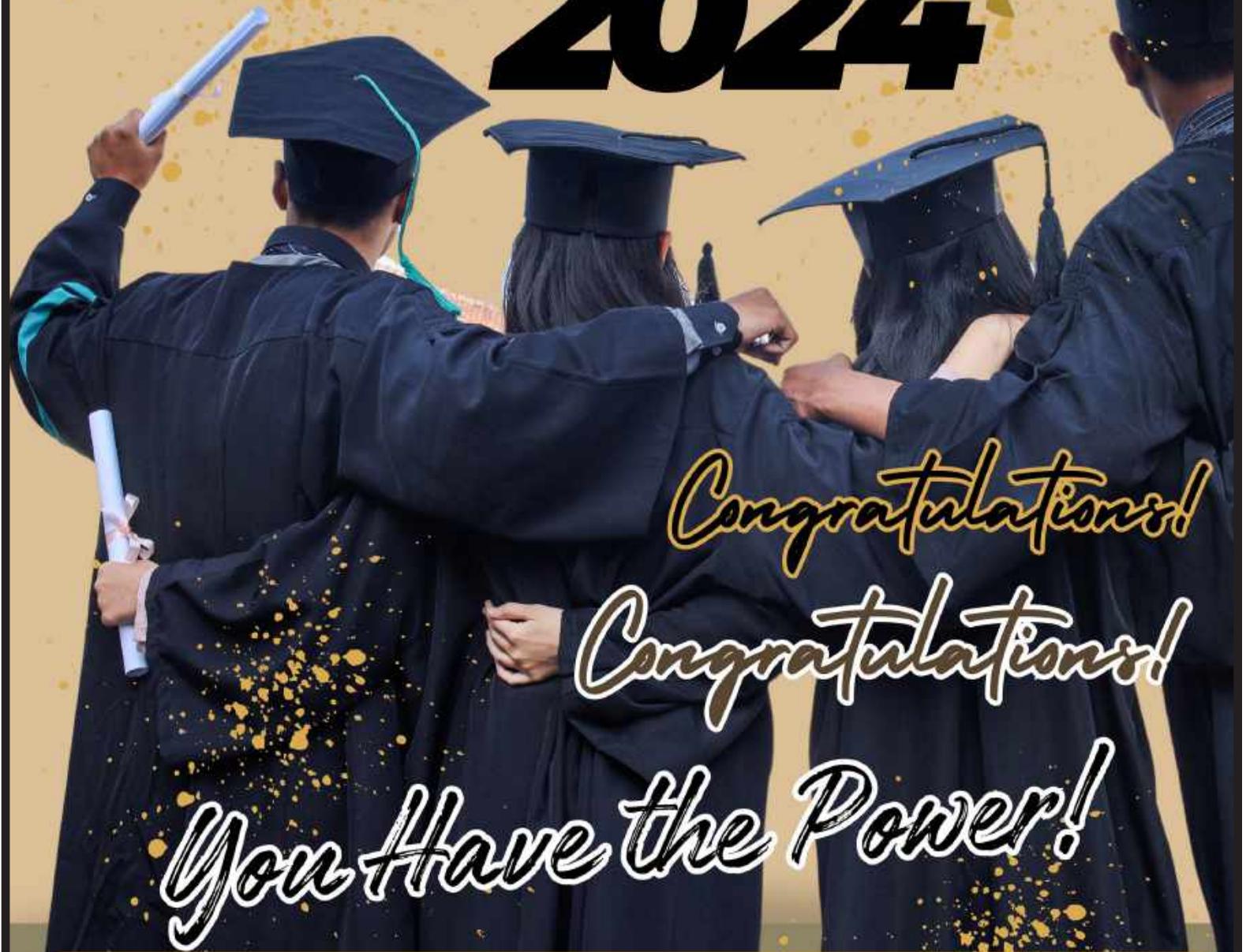


Sheriff Hathaway



Sheriff Hathaway and his wife is Ms. Billy Thompson, widow of Sergeant Patrick D. Thompson

# Class of 2024



*Congratulations!*

*Congratulations!*

*You Have the Power!*

**"Believe you can, and you're halfway there." – Theodore Roosevelt**

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