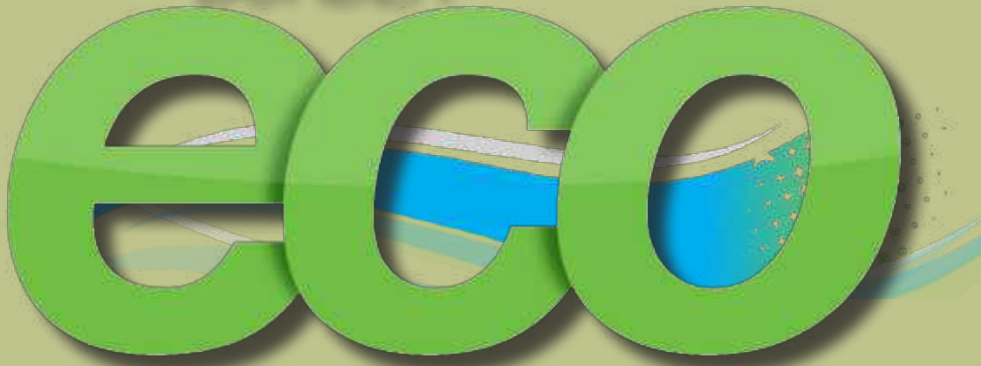


BORDER



5 Echoes from the Hilltop Gallery
Ytzel Sanchez Art Teacher

CONNECTING SOUTHERN ARIZONA



Teacher of the Year 2023

6 Santa Cruz County 2023 Teacher of the Year

Sept. 10 National Suicide Prevention Week



10 Tubac Day of the Dead



13 Let's Talk Health
Leading a Healthy Lifestyle



15 Sheriff Hathaway's
Monthly Round-Up

CONGRATULATIONS!

*Teacher of the Year
Nominees*



Mr. Abraham Sanchez



Mr. Michael Inzunza



Mrs. Jani George



Mrs. Journee Hayes



Mrs. Kerry Newberry



Mrs. Loree Johnson



Mrs. Martina Martinez



Mrs. Patricia Moore



Mrs. Tania Barojas



Mrs. Uma Gupta



Ms. Gabriela Zamudio



Ms. Ayda Sandoval



Mrs. Celina Landa



Ms. Christine Bastilas



Ms. Ivonne Valenzuela



Ms. Kate Peake



Ms. Maria Esther Yanez



Ms. Maria Ozuna



Ms. Rowena Langbis



Ms. Viviana Perez



Ms. Yemille Quihuiz

Border Eco Updates

As part of **National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**, Border Eco will shed light on the critical issue of suicide prevention in September. Individuals, communities, and organizations can participate in this annual observance to raise awareness about mental health and suicide prevention.

The purpose of our platform is to amplify the voices of mental health advocates, survivors, and experts fighting this pressing issue. We believe that by dedicating our resources and efforts to this cause, we can contribute to breaking down the stigma surrounding mental health and fostering a more supportive environment for those struggling with suicidal thoughts.

Throughout the month, Border Eco will feature a series of articles, interviews, and personal stories that highlight various aspects of suicide prevention.

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



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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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Gear Up 2 Work Internship Program

The Santa Cruz County School's Superintendent's Office and Gear Up C-CREO (College-Career Readiness and Educational Opportunities) is proud to announce the completion of another session of the Gear Up 2 Work Internship Program. Juniors and seniors throughout the county collaborated with businesses and agencies to create a project-based internship opportunity that focused on training and development, while also providing a workforce experience and day-to-day operations and business model. The program began with workforce development workshops in May, and finished with three weeks of team project building. County Schools Superintendent Alfredo Velásquez understands the importance of students learning from community business leaders and gaining experience in the workforce.

On June 21st, the Gear Up Program recognized the students by showcasing their recommendations to their businesses, school administrators, community leaders, and parents at the Business Showcase held at the 1904 Historical Courthouse. The students then met with their business "clients" and shared their recommendations. Samples of the projects included an outdoor space and online presence for an animal clinic, ideas for an informational entryway for a government agency, workforce alignment for jobs in industry, updated logo for a community agency, informational handout for programs from the county court system, and several others. For more information about the Gear Up 2 Work Internship Program, please contact Kerri Muñoz in the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent's Office at (520)375-7960.

Participants:

Businesses
US Forest Service
Tubac Fire
Kory's Bridal
Carondelet Hospital
Santa Cruz County Justice of the Peace
South 32
Companion Veterinary Clinic
Border Eco

Students
Antonio Murrieta
Javier Martinez
Kayla Martinez
Michelle Villa
Obed De Lusignan
Gabrielle Reyes
Helian Plaza
Esmeralda Astorga
Valeria Castellanos
Camila Fonseca
Joanna Silva
Angel Coronado
Juan David Vasquez
Vanessa Martinez
Zoe Bartholomew
Artaya De La Ossa
Jorge Heredia
Adrian Castro



Echoes From the Hilltop

Ytzel Sanchez, a young artist, has truly made a name for herself in the art community. Her dedication and passion for her craft have not only earned her recognition but also the opportunity to be featured in our prestigious September issue of Echoes from the Hilltop Gallery.

We are thrilled to honor Ytzel for her remarkable accomplishments and celebrate her artistic journey. From the moment she started working at the Hilltop Gallery, it was evident that she possessed an extraordinary talent that needed to be shared with the community.

Ms. Ytzel Sanchez's gratitude for her position at the Hilltop Gallery is evident in her words. "The opportunity to work at a gallery was something I never even knew existed in my hometown of Nogales," said Ytzel Sanchez, art instructor for the gallery.

"However, once I discovered the possibility of exhibiting my artwork, I became captivated by the Hilltop Gallery. From the very first day, I met Janice Johnson, who encouraged me to continue my art journey. I knew then that I wanted to be a part of the Hilltop Gallery family," commented Sanchez.

Not only is Ytzel an exceptional artist, but she also possesses a natural ability to inspire and teach others. As the lead instructor for the Hilltop's Gallery City of Nogales Summer Arts Program for children, she has been instrumental in nurturing young minds and helping them discover their own creative potential.

In addition to her role as a lead instructor, Ytzel has been teaching Saturday morning art classes for kids for the past two years. Her dedication and commitment to fostering creativity in children is evident in the way she goes above and beyond to create a supportive and encouraging environment. Ytzel understands that every child has a unique artistic voice, and she takes the time to nurture and develop their individual talents.

Not only does Ytzel excel in teaching art, but she also has a deep understanding of art history and various artistic techniques. She effortlessly incorporates this knowledge into her lessons, providing her students with a well-rounded education in the arts.

Ytzel's passion for teaching extends beyond the classroom. She actively seeks out opportunities to showcase her students' artwork in local galleries and community events, giving them a sense of pride and accomplishment. Her dedication to her students' success is truly inspiring.

Overall, Ytzel's exceptional artistic skills, natural ability to inspire, and commitment to teaching make her a valuable asset to any art program. Her impact on the lives of young artists is immeasurable, and she continues to shape the next generation of creative minds.

She feels immensely happy just being a part of this program and organization. It is a testament to her dedication and talent as an artist that she has been given this chance to showcase her work in such a prestigious setting. The Hilltop Gallery has not only provided her with a platform to display her art but has also become a source of inspiration and motivation for Ms. Sanchez.

Ytzel said, "Having the opportunity to work at the gallery has allowed me to immerse myself in the world of art, surrounded by like-minded people who share my passion. Being part of a community that appreciates and celebrates creativity brings me solace and fulfillment."

Ms. Sanchez's work at the gallery not only allows her to be surrounded by like-minded individuals, but it also provides her with endless opportunities to learn and grow as an artist. She is constantly exposed to new art forms, techniques, and perspectives, which fuel her own artistic journey. The supportive environment at the gallery encourages her to take risks and push the boundaries of her creativity, resulting in a constant evolution of her artistic style.

Ytzel said, "Through this experience, I would like to thank Elizabeth Weatherbie, Executive Director & Board Member President, for her advice and guidance. I am grateful as she continues to inspire and motivate me. I would also like to thank Lourdes Campos, Secretary of the Hilltop Gallery, for her continued support and encouragement."

Ytzel Sanchez graduated from Nogales High School in 2022. She is currently attending Pima Community College. She is working towards a degree in Liberal Arts. She is also pursuing a certificate in Dental Hygiene.

To find out more about the various programs offered by the Hilltop Gallery, call (520)287-5515.



2023 Santa Cruz County Teacher of the Year Awards

On Friday, August 11, 2023, the 16th Annual Santa Cruz County Teacher of the Year Awards Dinner Ceremony took place at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall. Given the difficult task of selecting the 2023 Santa Cruz County Teacher of the Year, were five incredible judges chosen from across the county. We are proud to announce and congratulate Mrs. Loree Johnson from Rio Rico High School on being the recipient of the 2023 Santa Cruz County Teacher of the Year Award.

The mesmerizing sounds of Middle Eastern music in the background and the room decorated in the theme of Arabian Nights greeted the twenty-one nominated teachers who made their way to their assigned seating. The room was filled with guests from the educational community from throughout the county. The splendid event, co-sponsored by the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent Alfredo I. Velásquez, South 32, Santa Cruz Community Foundation and the Nogales Rotary Club.

Santa Cruz County School Superintendent Alfredo I. Velásquez welcomed all guests and thanked all nominees and every teacher in our county, for their extraordinary dedication and commitment to the students of Santa Cruz County. While the guests enjoyed dinner, over 25 door prizes donated by local businesses and organizations were raffled during that time. All proceeds from the raffle tickets are designated to the William I. Rothstein Memorial Scholarship for graduating students in our county.

Master of Ceremonies, Mrs. Patricia Barraza-Preciado, introduced each of the twenty-one Teacher of the Year Nominees with a short video on their philosophy of teaching. As they took center stage Santa Cruz County School Superintendent Alfredo I. Velásquez presented them with a trophy. They also received a Teacher of the Year Appreciation Platter consisting of cash and assorted gift cards valued over \$700.00.

Mrs. Johnson was awarded the Teacher of the Year Trophy, a \$3,000.00 check, a Stainless Steel BBQ, a Chrome Book, a one-night stay and a round of golf for two from Tubac Golf Resort, \$500.00 for Professional Development and prizes and gift cards from local community members, valued close to \$4,800.00.

We also want to congratulate the 2023 Santa Cruz County Teacher of the Year Runner-up from Patagonia Elementary School, Ms. Kate Peake. Ms. Peake, who received the Runner-up Trophy along with a \$2000.00 check, a porch swing, a Chrome Book, a gift certificate for Tubac Golf Resort, \$250.00 for Professional Development along with prizes and gift cards from local community members, valued close to \$3,100.00.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Sponsors that made this event a great success and especially for supporting and recognizing our County Teachers for their commitment and dedication.

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Santa Cruz County Sheriff	Mr. David Hathaway	Manos Hair Salon	Ms. Cynthia Costa
Tubac Golf Resort and Spa	Ms. Noel Fulton / Ms. Daphne Skinner		

On behalf of the 2023 Sponsors, we would like to thank all the community organizations and businesses for all their support in making the 2023 Santa Cruz County Teacher of the Year Awards Dinner Ceremony the most celebrated event in Santa Cruz County.

A very special thank you to Ms. Patricia Barraza- Preciado, Accounting Specialist/Special Events Coordinator and staff from the Santa Cruz County School Superintendent's Office for making this event a memorable evening for all the Teacher of the Year Nominees.



Mrs. Loree Johnson Winner



Ms. Kate Peake Runner-up





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A graphic with a bokeh background of light-colored circles. The text 'hello' is in a white cursive font, and 'SEPTEMBER' is in a white, bold, sans-serif font. Below this, there are three green rounded rectangular boxes containing the following text: 'Cookies', 'Pecan, Orange, Cajeta', and 'Turnovers'. At the bottom, another green rounded rectangular box contains the text 'Pineapple, Apple, Pumpkin'.

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Jorge Guayante Agent

A photograph of Jorge Guayante, a man with grey hair wearing a maroon polo shirt, sitting at his desk in an office. He is looking towards the camera. Behind him is a glass door with various signs, including one for 'Santa Cruz Insurance Agency' and another for 'SIPC'. The desk is cluttered with papers and a computer mouse.

dhinsurancellc@yahoo.com

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A photograph of a modern, dark-colored building with large windows. A sign on the building reads 'ARIZONA @ WORK SANTA CRUZ COUNTY'. The building is surrounded by greenery and a paved area.

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**Free Community
Resource Guide at:**

www.makingconnections4u.org



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Santa Cruz Community Action Coalition
(520) 216-5058

"Spirits of the Past, Celebrated Today: Tubac's Day of the Dead Legacy"

The Day of the Dead event in Tubac has quickly become a beloved tradition for both locals and visitors alike. Inspired by the rich cultural heritage of Mexico's Dia de los Muertos, this event aims to honor and celebrate the lives of loved ones who have passed away.

Since its inception in 2014, the event has grown in popularity, attracting people from all over the region. In 2014, a group of 5 Tubac business owners and community leaders initiated the event.

Wisdom's Cafe - Celeste Wisdom; Casa Maya of Mexico - Gaby Centeno; Art of Beauty Salon - Donna Dowodzenka; The K Newby Gallery & Sculpture Garden - Kim Roseman; Tubac Presidio State Historic Park Executive Director Shannon Stone

The five Tubac business owners and community leaders who initiated the event had a vision of showcasing the town's vibrant arts scene while also paying homage to the Day of the Dead traditions.

During this annual celebration, Tubac transforms into a lively hub of activity. The streets are adorned with colorful decorations, including intricate altars and vibrant papel picado banners. Visitors can explore numerous art galleries that feature unique Day of the Dead-inspired artwork created by local artists.

In addition to art exhibitions, there are also various workshops and demonstrations where attendees can learn about traditional Mexican crafts such as sugar skull decorating or making papel picado. As part of these festivities, mariachi bands and traditional folk dancers will perform live music. Food stalls line the streets, offering delicious Mexican cuisine like tamales, churros, and pan de muerto, a sweet bread traditionally enjoyed during this holiday.

"It was a lovely event and we were so pleased that we could share and educate about the cultural customs of Dia de los Muertos with locals as well as people who are not originally from Southern Arizona. It was a great experience that everyone loved, so it continued and grew," said Kim Roseman from K Newby Gallery & Sculpture Garden.



Families and friends gather at cemeteries to honor their loved ones, decorating graves with marigolds and lighting candles to guide their spirits back to the world of the living. The Day of the Dead celebrations are not only a vibrant display of Mexican culture but also a time for reflection and remembrance. It is a beautiful way to honor and celebrate the lives of those who have passed, creating a sense of unity and connection between the living and the deceased.

Over the years, the Mariachi Apache have become an integral part of the event. Their lively performances during the procession have captivated both locals and visitors alike. The enchanting melodies and rhythmic beats echo through the streets, infusing a sense of joy and celebration into the air.

As they march alongside the Nogales High School Marching Band, their harmonious blend of traditional Mexican folk music and contemporary tunes creates a unique fusion that resonates with people from all walks of life. The combination of brass instruments, guitars, violins, and powerful vocals creates a symphony that brings smiles to faces and evokes a deep appreciation for cultural diversity.

The mini-concert held at the finale in the sculpture garden has become a highly anticipated event in the community. People gather from far and wide to witness the mesmerizing performance that showcases the rich heritage and artistic talent of the Nogales High School Marching Band.

As the music fills the air, it transcends language barriers and unites people in a shared experience of pure joy and admiration. The infectious energy of the band members radiates through their passionate playing, captivating the audience and leaving them in awe. The fusion of traditional Mexican folk music with contemporary tunes not only showcases the band's versatility but also serves as a reminder of the importance of embracing cultural diversity. It is a testament to the power of music to bridge gaps and foster a sense of unity among people of different backgrounds.



The mini-concert not only entertains but also educates, as the band members take the opportunity to share the stories and meanings behind the songs they perform. This adds an extra layer of depth and appreciation for the music, allowing the audience to connect on a deeper level with the cultural significance of each piece.

Overall, the mini-concert by the Nogales High School Marching Band in the sculpture garden is a celebration of music, culture, and community. It is a testament to the band's talent and dedication, as well as a reminder of the power of music to bring people together and create lasting memories.

"We're looking for vendors, food trucks, or face painters to be part of this event. Contact the committee if you're interested in participating. We have partnered with the Nogales Dia de Los Muertos Altar Tour for the past few years and you'll find over 20 altars throughout the village. We invite everyone to join us in the procession and walk with us to the finale in the sculpture garden," said Roseman.



Border Echoes: Alexia Robles

At Border Eco, we believe in nurturing young talent and providing them with opportunities to grow and excel in their chosen fields. That's why we are thrilled to welcome Alexia Robles, a promising 17-year-old student from Rio Rico, to our family. Alexia's passion for photography is evident in her exceptional skills and the dedication she puts into every shot. Her ability to capture the essence of a moment and tell a story through her lens is truly remarkable. We have no doubt that she will make a significant impact in photography.

As an organization committed to supporting aspiring professionals, we are excited to provide Alexia with the platform she needs to further develop her talents. Through mentorship programs, workshops, and exposure to industry experts, we aim to equip her with the knowledge and skills necessary for success.

Alexia's decision to pursue a career as a freelance photographer showcases her determination and entrepreneurial spirit. We admire her drive and are confident that she will thrive in this dynamic field. Her passion for capturing moments and telling stories through her lens is evident in every photograph she takes. With an innate ability to connect with her subjects and a keen eye for detail, Alexia has the potential to create powerful and impactful visual narratives.

We believe that by providing her with the necessary resources and support, she will not only excel in her chosen career but also make a significant contribution to the field of photography. Her dedication to her craft is unmatched, as she constantly seeks out new techniques and pushes the boundaries of her creativity.



Alexia's photographs have a way of evoking emotions and transporting viewers to different worlds. With each click of her camera, she captures the essence of a moment, freezing it in time for eternity. We are confident that her talent and passion will continue to shine through in her future endeavors, leaving a lasting impact on the world of photography. Alexia will be graduating this year and will be pursuing her post-secondary education at Northern Arizona University. We are excited to be a part of her journey and are confident that she will go on to achieve great things in her career.



CELEBRATE WITH TUBAC

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS DAY OF THE DEAD PROCESSION

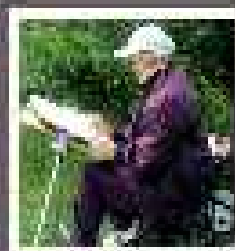
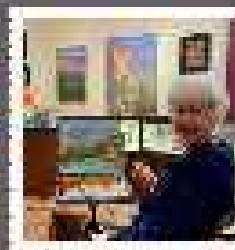
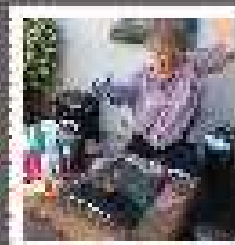
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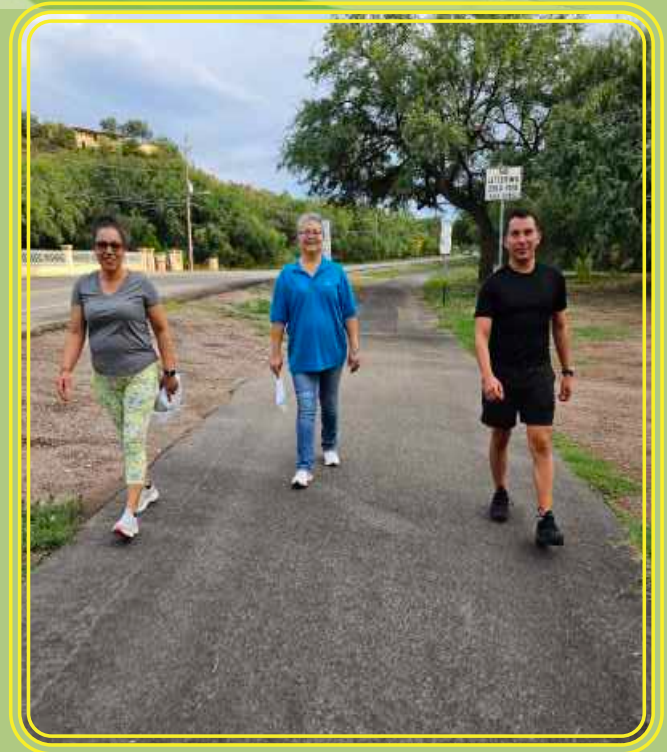
Let's Talk Health

How to lead a healthy lifestyle.

A healthy lifestyle can help you thrive throughout your life. Making healthy choices isn't always easy. We are all busy and it is hard to find the time and energy to exercise regularly or prepare healthy meals. However, making small efforts will pay off in the long run. Start with simple steps on daily basis till they become habits. There are days when all goes well and days when you won't get done what you planned to do. We are humans after all. Be kind to yourself and treat your body well.

Here are a few steps to take towards leading a healthy lifestyle:

- Be physically active for 30 minutes most days of the week. Break this up into three 10-minute sessions when pressed for time. Healthy movement may include walking, sports, dancing, yoga, running or other activities you enjoy.
- Eat a well-balanced, low-fat diet with lots of fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. Choose a diet that's low in saturated fat and cholesterol, and moderate in sugar, salt, and total fat.
- Don't smoke or quit if you do. Ask your health care provider for help.
- Drink in moderation if you drink alcohol. Never drink before or while driving, or when pregnant.
- Brush your teeth after meals with a soft or medium bristled toothbrush. Also brush after drinking and before going to bed. Use dental floss daily. Dental health is linked to heart health.



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Sheriff's Round-Up



During this past month, schools went back in session. Along with the new school season, our School Resource Officers went back into action to keep our schools safe. Parents, please remember to follow traffic orders and guidelines to keep everyone safe. Be sure to remind your children how kindness and respect goes a long way to create a great school environment.

This past month, we put on a Basic Field Training Officer training program to certify new Field Training Officers, or "FTO's." Congratulations to our deputies and officers who are now certified to train and to lead the next generation of future officers!

Other training that the Sheriff's Office participated in included the Honor Guard Academy at the Marana Police Department. Congratulations to our officers who successfully completed this training. That training included all aspects of Law Enforcement Honor Guard operations and included classroom presentations, discussions, practical application drills, and scenario-based training. A big thank you to our Honor Guard officers who volunteer to represent our agency!

As always, we extend a special thank you to all of our Sheriff's Deputies, Law Enforcement Assist Volunteer Officers, Search and Rescue personnel, Communications Officers, Detectives, Detention Officers, and everyone who serves and keeps our beautiful county safe.

Your Sheriff, David Hathaway



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Save the date!

October 2, 2023

5:30 p.m.

County Complex
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We invite you!

It is time to paint your
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**2023 Domestic Violence
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*This event is open
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Join us in promoting nonviolence by taking part in the Unity Peace Walk!

With this awareness event, we are beginning our National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in memory of the victims of crime who have lost their lives due to Domestic Violence, and in honor of all survivors and their families and the many dedicated professionals and volunteers who advocate on their behalf.

For more information please contact the Santa Cruz County Attorney's Office at:

(520)375-7780