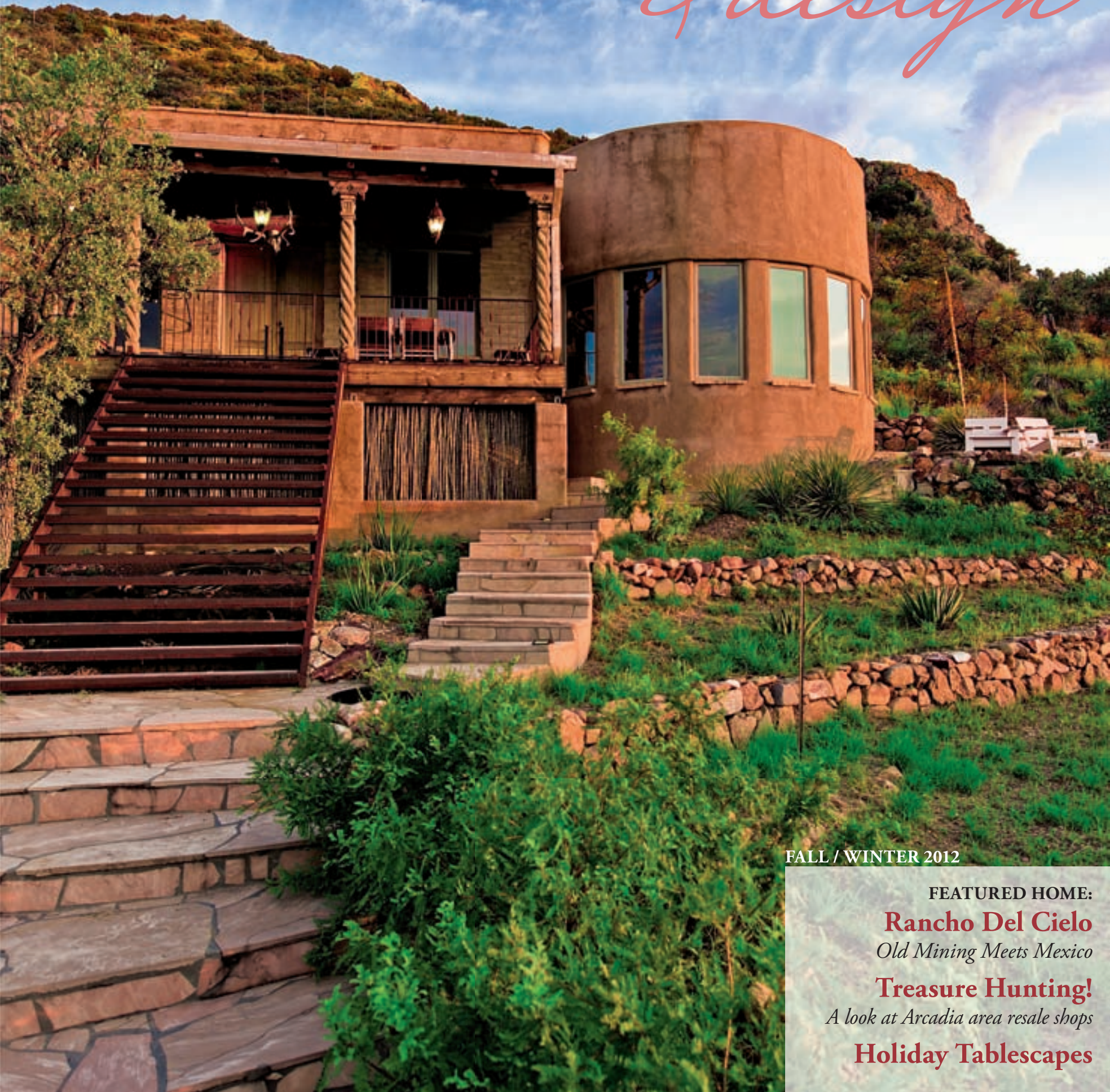


A R C A D I A Home *& design*



FALL / WINTER 2012

FEATURED HOME:

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Old Mining Meets Mexico

Treasure Hunting!

A look at Arcadia area resale shops

Holiday Tablescape

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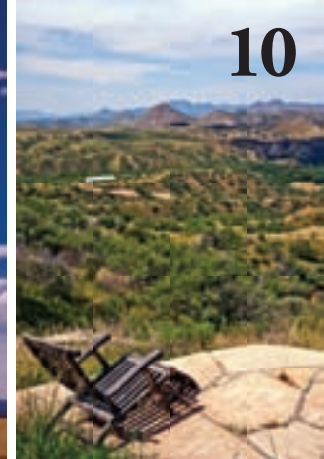
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WHY PATAGONIA?

by Greg A. Bruns

While it's not a geographically-specific Arcadia Home, *Rancho del Cielo* (Ranch in the Sky) is owned by an area resident and long-time reader of the *Arcadia News*. The location – and the

home – is unique and fresh, and a nice detour from our standard theme.

I've been back to Patagonia several times since my park ranger career ended here. This rural town and I go back a couple decades (see *Straight Up with a Twist* in *Arcadia News*, November 2012), but the unpleasant memories have been overthrown by newer, more blissful ones.

South of the Patagonia proper, nestled into the side of a large hill, is where our photo shoot begins. The last 500 yards of the trip are up a 4x4 access road, which is a cool hazard of living in an area where no cement mixer or asphalt sealers can tread. It makes it feel like a compound of sorts; only missing a moat and a drawbridge.

This publication has grown a bit and that includes a few additions. The name has been clarified and it is now *Arcadia Home & Design* (the "& Design" part is new). We also have added an editor, Amanda Goossen, who has been writing for our flagship publication for a year or so now. Amanda is very talented and a fantastic addition to our staff.

Looking forward, next year we're trying to make this a quarterly publication. If you have a home that you think would make a good subject, contact us: amanda@arcadianews.com. Thank you for reading this Fall/Winter issue of Arcadia Home and Design.

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Treasure Hunting: Redecorating on a Budget

Local consignment and resale stores are the perfect place to find amazing treasures to redecorate your home. We share tips and advice for discovering just the right piece for you.

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Out of this World Finds: UFO

Re-cy-cle-tude is the mantra at UFO. Owner and operator Leonardo Ramirez proves that with a little imagination and help from his artists, your old furniture can become new again.

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Featured Home: Rancho del Cielo

Novelist Jim Harrison once called Patagonia "preposterously beautiful," and this "Old Mining meets Mexico" home nestled in the hills, proves it.

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Historical Holiday Home Tour

Kick off the holiday season on Saturday, December 1 and Sunday, December 2 with The FQ Story Historical District's 28th Annual Home Tour.

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Holiday Tablescapes

Creating beautiful holiday table settings and centerpieces can be done simply and on a budget. Local designers show us how to accomplish this for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanukkah.

TREASURE HUNTING:

redecorating on a budget

by Elizabeth Henson

Look around your home. Is it screaming out to be updated, modernized or simply given a splash of creativity after remaining stagnant for five, ten or twenty years?

During an economic downturn it may seem impossible to think of redecorating your home, yet doing so is not only possible, it can be simple and fun. With the plethora of consignment, resale and antique stores filling the valley, a bit of household charm is merely a treasure hunt away.

When seeking out new items for your home, there are a variety of choices within the resell market. Types of stores include:

- **Resale:** This term is most commonly associated with stores that buy outright from an individual owner. Consignment and thrift stores can also be known as resale stores.

- **Consignment:** Stores that work by consignment pay the owner of the merchandise a percentage of the sale, when and if the item sells.

- **Thrift:** Thrift stores are run by a non-profit organization to raise money for a cause. Examples of such stores range from the large Salvation Army and Goodwill chains to individual school, church or hospital thrift shops. Items may be donated, on consignment or purchased from an individual seller.

Once you're ready to embark on your search for hidden treasures it helps to determine what you're looking for. Maybe you need a standout piece to liven up a tired room or accents such as candleholders, artwork or other accessories. Bed frames, armoires, bookshelves and end tables are often in abundance at resale stores, either in tip-top shape or in need of a simple refinish or paint job.

Tom, part owner of Switch Consignment in Scottsdale said, "It's important to keep an open mind."

"Repurposing an item is a great way to get what you want, in a way you would have never imagined. A wall panel can become a headboard, a dining table can become an amazing kids art table.

The experience and knowledge of the owners and employees of resale stores can help to not only point buyers in the right direction but also open their eyes to an entirely new idea.

"Something may have been X," Tom said, "But now it can be Y. Ask questions, get advice, think outside the box."

Adding a punch of color or something unique can dramatically change a space without requiring a complete room overhaul.

"One of my favorite things to do to freshen up a room and give it some personality is to change out the lamps or lampshades, change or recover the pillows to the season and reframe pictures in all the same color frames," said Crystal Botto, an Arcadia area interior decorator.

"Another great update is to use something discovered at a consignment store such as a console table or dresser and refinish it with black or white paint. It really makes a statement & freshens up the whole room," said Crystal.

While looking for the perfect item for your home, it's important to remember these helpful used furniture tips.

- **Notice the quality of the product.**

The craftsmanship, style and value of the used items are important to consider. Are you purchasing something that needs a lot of TLC? Will it be worth it in the end? Is the item overpriced or an amazing deal?

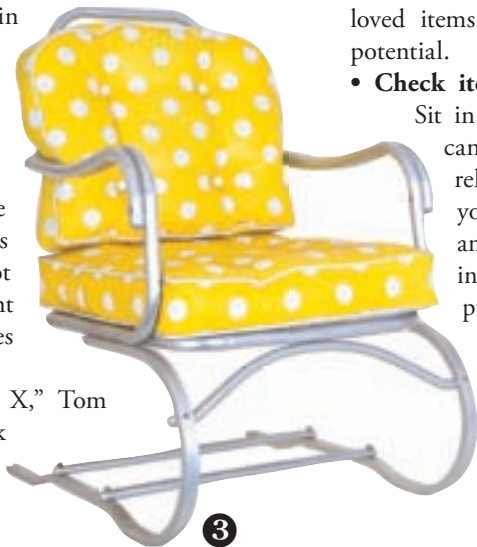
- **What is the retail price?**

An item might seem overpriced at the resale shop unless you know what it would cost brand new. Although it's impossible to know what every item would cost, it's important to do some research. Using your smart phone for quick Internet searches while shopping will expedite the process.

- **Look around.** Visiting multiple stores will give you a better idea of merchandise and standards. Before long you'll realize who carries the types of items and quality you're looking for. Some may specialize in new or like-new furniture, while others carry well-loved items with fabulous potential.

- **Check items carefully.**

Sit in the chair you can't live without, relax on the couch you've had your eye on and open the drawers on the dresser you picture in your daughter's room. Understand what you're purchasing. No one likes being surprised when they get home and unload the truck.



A few local places to hunt for hidden treasures:

Switch Consignment
2728 N. 68th St. • Scottsdale 85257
480-874-5813 • switchconsignment.com

Prepare yourself for a surprise. Walking in to Switch Consignment you will check and double check that you're, in fact, inside a consignment store. The owners take great pride in their store and are prepared to help you find the perfect piece for your home. The merchandise is stunning, presented well and comes in a variety of prices.

Ozzie's Furnishings (St. Vincent de Paul)
3927 E. Indian School Rd. • Phoenix 85018
602-955-1460 • ozziesfurnishings.com

Filled with the most beautiful items so kindly given away to St. Vincent de Paul from local residents, Ozzie's Furnishings is overflowing with greatness. The kindness of the management, the top notch furniture and the fact that your money is going to a great cause, make this shop one of the best for a quick browse and maybe even a great purchase.

Knick Knacks Antique Store
4234 E. Indian School Rd.
Phoenix 85018 • 602-955-4555

Step inside a cottage full of unique treasures. Knick Knacks will take a bit of digging but from the abundance of stuff comes vibrant chairs, hundred-year-old vases and hand carved chests.

Turtle's Treasures
2133 E. Indian School Rd.
Phoenix 85016 • 602-374-8317
turtles-treasures.com

Walking through Turtle's Treasures, I was sure I was going to discover an item that would become my Antique Roadshow million dollar find. Turtle's is a large space, with multiple rooms and a variety of items. An antique school house desk and a stunning Southwestern chair caught my eye on first glance and without a doubt, you will find something worth taking home. Some need work, others are take home ready, all are great.

Smarty Pants Consignment
3142 E. Indian School Rd.
Phoenix 85016 • 602-957-0989
smartypantsconsignment.com

Whether looking for clothes, toys, furniture or accessories, Smarty Pants is the place for you. With regular sales and constantly changing merchandise, this shop is a great place to spend a few hours just browsing and searching. The best part about Smarty Pants is that the space almost feels like a resale department store, with different areas of the store for each category of items. Well run and fun to explore, this store is a must for everyone.

Featured Items Include:

1. Asian Display Unit from Ozzie's - \$175.
2. Red Wicker Chair from UFO- \$250.
3. Yellow Polka Dot Chair from Knick Knacks - \$50.

4. Tall Striped Chairs from Smarty Pants - \$69 ea.
5. Blue Console w/ 4 drawers from Switch Consignment - \$589.99 (accessories also from Switch)
6. Red Retro Chairs from Switch Consignment - \$69.

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"As an Arcadia Native, I thank you for allowing my team to build your dreams for over 10 years." --Jonathan Stamatis

Out of this world finds

By Amanda Goossen

Walking into UFO, you feel as if you've walked into an alternative reality. Leonardo Ramirez runs his business based on one simple word.

Re-cy-cle-tude – noun/verb- a way of thinking or feeling about converting or using previously used or unwanted items or resources into renewed, creative, artistic or useful items or resources.

"We're not about following a style," said Leonardo "We're about feeling an energy."

"Your home is the only place you have control of. Surround yourself with good energy," said Leonardo. "Hold onto what you love. It's hard to let go of the things you don't...but do it, release the negative energy."

Walking through the door of UFO (Universal Furnishings and Offerings) the positive energy smacks you in the face. Each item inside the store appears to be born from a dream, inspiration or the simple love of creativity.

Owner Leonardo Ramirez works with his team to re-upholster and redesign both the basic and the unusual.



The Austin Powers

"The stuff we show in our store is couture," said Carinne, a contracted designer for UFO.



Captain Kirk

A Captain Kirk chair, complete with electronic arm rest gadgets, greets you at the door. A psychedelic Austin Powers chair hangs out in the window and a Captain America chair sits proudly, waiting to be seen.

"The piece gets a nickname as soon as it walks in" said Carinne. "The chair which became Captain Kirk was Kirk as soon as it walked in. I just knew by the style what I wanted it to become."

A large space in the back of the store is the workroom, filled with orders to be worked on and pieces UFO has purchased from individuals to eventually redesign and sell in the store.

"We want people to see the value in things," said Leonardo.

"The parts are all there, maybe it's just a broken leg. We can fix it. We can put a new style on things."

"We are very iconoclastic about it all," said Leonardo.

Iconoclastic, which means, one who attacks and seeks to overthrow traditional or popular ideas or institutions, perfectly represents the overall feeling of UFO.

"Things work in different ways in different times," said Carinne. "We want to bring out the creativity in everyone, to see what their things can become."



The Captain America

UFO - 3602 North 16th Street,
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tourfactory/826440
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Rancho del Cielo



The saga started innocently enough.

An Arcadia businessman decides to build a humble retreat near a picturesque Southern Arizona town. You know, a place for him and his friends to get away from the hustle and bustle, drink some wine and get acquainted with nature.

Thus began a two-decade odyssey—including seven years of painstaking site development, construction and ahead-of-its-time green living ingenuity—resulting in a property modest in appearance yet richly therapeutic.

As a lifelong Phoenician, Steve Farrell grew up with a rather typical experience with seasonal properties. His family had two cabins, one in Pinetop and another in Prescott, where they'd escape the heat and get a taste of the snowy seasons. When he reached his thirties and decided to build a second home of his own, Steve wanted something atypical. He considered Southern Arizona. He'd never really been south of Tucson and had heard wonderful stories about the sleepy artist community of Patagonia. He imagined a retreat off the grid, away from the horde and modern conveniences.

So one Presidents Weekend (Farrell likes to say "in the early 90s" as if the exact date isn't really important) he and some friends drove down to Patagonia to connect with a Realtor. The Realtor showed him a property offering exactly what he envisioned. Destiny, perhaps.

Continued on page 12

Cielo

BY: R.J. PRICE

RANCHO DEL CIELO

OWNER: Steve Farrell

YEAR BUILT: Finished in 2000

ARCHITECT/DESIGNER: Steve Farrell

SQUARE FEET: 1300 + 1000 s.f. of Decks

ALTITUDE: 4350 FT.

NEAREST NEIGHBOR: 1/2 MILE

UTILITY COSTS IN 2011: \$600





PATAGONIA

A small town in Santa Cruz County, the city of Patagonia was once called “preposterously beautiful,” by U.S. novelist, poet and food critic Jim Harrison.

In 1698 Father Eusebio Francisco Kino brought his people who had once settled along the San Pedro River, to the Sonoita Creek, where they would eventually set up overnight houses between their missions. The area became part of the Mission Guevavi.

In 1853, the northern part of Mexico would become the southwestern corner of Arizona during the Gadsen Purchase and Patagonia became part of the United States. In the 1950s the Patagonia Mountains were mined for silver, ore, and lead, which helped the city grow. Eventually, the railroad as well as ranching brought the town a variety of advantages.

Eventual changes in technology brought Patagonia’s ‘boom’ to an end in the 1960s. Cattle ranches are still a

prominent part of the area and many families who came to town during the economic growth have remained for generations.

Restored historical buildings, The Nature Conservancy’s Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Preserve, Patagonia State Park and a charming artist community help drive tourism to Patagonia. Three hundred species of birds have come to call the gorgeous surroundings home and because of this, Patagonia has become a renowned birding destination.

With an elevation of 4,300 feet and within close distance to Nogales, Patagonia enjoys four seasons (monsoon being a fifth) and a similar climate to Sedona. Hiking is king in Patagonia and Patagonia Lake State Park provides a bevy of outdoor activities.

The Patagonia Fall Festival is a major tourist attraction that serves as a stage for the region’s renowned painters, sculptors, jewelry designers and musicians.

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JENNIFER Sheedy

Continued from page 9

Farrell negotiated to buy 13 rocky acres in the side of a mountain, just naive enough to think he could plant a home on the land for \$150,000.

"Turned out \$150,000 barely got me the road," Farrell said with a chuckle.

Farrell bought a trailer and for the better part of three years he and his friends would camp out on weekends and "massage" the site. They observed which way the sun rose and set, gauged the wind, got a feel for how the property related to the seasons and devised how the property would eventually be laid out.

Once plans were in place Farrell hired a local builder crazy enough to take on the job and construction of the 1,200 square-foot home began.

Rancho del Cielo, or "Ranch of the Sky," sits four miles outside of Patagonia and is literally straight up a hill so a traditional construction process was next to impossible.

"It was a slow process," Farrell said. "I was doing it as I made money and contractors had to be changed a few times. Plus, as an absentee owner I overpaid on some things and was a little too trusting. Building time was three or four years start to finish."

Rancho del Cielo's "opening party" was held December 31, 1999.

The architectural design is "Old Mining meets Mexico" and the home



is constructed from Colorado timbers and 5,500 45-pound adobes. The insulating adobes add to the self-sufficiency of the home, holding in the heat during the winter months and keeping it cool in the summer. There is no central heat or cooling. Potbelly stoves provide additional warmth and small AC units are available for the stickier June nights.

The interior is comprised of double-pane windows, reclaimed wood, cement and wood plank floors and lots of Mexican tile. The floor plan is built around a central circular kitchen and living area, which is where Farrell says the vast majority of time spent at Rancho del Cielo is spent cooking, drinking wine, playing games and enjoying good company.

There's a master bedroom, secondary bedroom, loft area, living room, shower room and one toilet (see sidebar on page 14). A thousand square feet of deck capture mesmerizing valley views that stretch for miles and there's an outdoor barbecue area and hot tub.

The doors and furnishings found in the home were purchased over "five years of acquiring stuff" during countless trips to Mexico. Much of the artwork found throughout the home was painted by Farrell himself. Framed photographs serve as a history lesson telling the property's amazing story.

Beyond the sticks and bricks, however, there's another story to Rancho del Cielo that demands to be told. Somehow every person who visits this remote property comes back profoundly changed.

Continued on page 14



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Continued from page 13

“The place has some sort of spiritual or healing component to it,” Farrell said. “Who knows what happened on the land or maybe it’s just the beauty of the area but people borrow the keys after a major problem or hiccup in their lives and they come back thinking that maybe those problems weren’t so bad.”

There’s no 24-hour news cycle, no phone calls (Farrell has a “Doctor or Dying Rule”), no green lights, no highways and no people. He says that you can stay on the property for days and never see another car.

When pressed to describe the spiritual component in more detail, Farrell is nearly lost for words. He attributes the therapeutic powers to the way the property was designed, with most of the quality time taking place in the grand kitchen, on one of the decks or in the hot tub. And when you don’t have anywhere to be, and your face isn’t buried in a phone or a computer, opportunity for deep conversation and self-reflection is abound.

“I created a place where people can get off the train. Get off the ride. Let whatever happens down there really soak in,” Farrell said. “Something about sitting on a patio staring out into the world and maybe feeling how small we are in it keeps you in perspective.”

Farrell designed the home to be turnkey and he considers it a community property that should be maximized.

“Any weekend it’s not in use is a sin,” Farrell said.



“The place has some sort of spiritual or healing component...”

‘GREEN BEFORE GREEN WAS COOL’

By RJ Price

The über-Green features that have become one of the hallmarks of Rancho del Cielo weren’t necessarily intended. The rough terrain and virtually unbuildable lot dictated many of the design decisions made by Farrell. Fortunately, there was power running to the mines located on the other side of the mountain but because the rock-hard land wouldn’t “perc” (a test that determines the absorption rate of soil) septic was out of the question. A water well was also a no-go.

That’s when Farrell got Green “before going Green was cool.”

Handling waste was the first challenge. If a lot can’t *perc* you can’t build a house. Those are the rules. So rather than grade out the 13 acres with leach fields, Farrell began researching composting toilets.

Abby Rockefeller developed the modern composting toilet, which achieves enclosed, odor-free and low-maintenance long-term composting by employing bacteria. Composting toilets are often used at rest stops and in national parks where there’s no access to sewer.

Farrell placed his six-foot composting toilet bin below a high-efficiency porcelain Japanese toilet that uses disinfecting soap and just a pint of water. Waste from the Japanese toilet drops into the composting bin, which is filled with wood shavings and aggressive bacteria that eat everything. Over 12 years, with twice-yearly maintenance, the composting toilet has been flawless.

“I called up the company and said, ‘I’ve had this thing for years but how do I know it’s working?’ and the guy said, ‘Do you smell anything? If you don’t, it’s working.’”

The next challenge for Farrell was water. He equipped the home’s 1,400 square feet of metal roof with gutters that collect and store rainwater in two 3,150-gallon cistern tanks. Patagonia gets 14 inches of rain a year and just two monsoon storms will fill both cistern tanks.

Additionally, all the non-toilet water used by the home passes through a greywater tank, where it is filtered before being used to irrigate the property.

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PATAGONIA IN PICTURES



"Charlie's Corner, as it is sometimes called, is one of the communication hubs in town. A gathering place for man and beast (lots of pooches present the day we strolled by), it's the quintessential town center for the guys who want to sit around and let an afternoon quietly drift away." – GAB



"When the photographer and I pulled over to see if this gentleman needed some assistance, we ended up in a mini-summit about how to bring more money to the little southern towns like Patagonia. Once the truck fired up we all shook hands to go our separate ways, we were introduced to John Maynard, the current Supervisor of Santa Cruz County." – GAB



Photo: Greg Bruns



"Startrails" photo by Greg Bruns.
"This long exposure taken with a fisheye lens turned out better than expected. Shot with the new Nikon D800, the image is comprised of nearly 500 individual shots, stacked and processed in Photoshop." – GAB



"Like many things in this ever-adapting town, a former hardware store has been revived as a community spot for arts classes and theater performance: the Patagonia Creative Arts Center." – GAB

FACTS

Patagonia is just north of the Mexican border. Railroad and mining activity crept to a halt in the early 60s but the town has enjoyed a new identity as a tourist destination and artist community.

The population of Patagonia is 918.

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~ **Tommy Leale**, Arcadia Roofing

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~ **Debbie Rode**
Phoenix, AZ

The FQ Story

HISTORICAL DISTRICT

By Amanda Goossen

On Saturday, December 1 and Sunday, December 2, The FQ Story Historical District will hold its 28th Annual Home Tour, giving participants the only evening tour of a historical neighborhood in Phoenix. Brimming with holiday spirit, this spectacular tour will feature 10 examples of Tudor, Spanish, Revival, Bungalow and English Cottage homes between 7th Avenue and 16th Avenue on West Lynwood, complete with seasonal décor.

This historical home tour is \$15, with a \$1 discount if a donation of non-perishable food is made. The entire street of Lynwood will be on display, Dickens Carolers will serenade guests as they make their way through the street and holiday shopping and a variety of food options, including the neighborhood baked goods booth will be offered.

The FQ Story Historical District was named after Francis Quarles Story. Francis played a major part in numerous developments in early Phoenix, including the construction of Grand Avenue in 1887 and its eventual streetcar line. In 1920, with the population of Phoenix reaching 29,000, construction began on a new neighborhood.



The neighborhood was advertised as a streetcar suburb because of its close proximity to multiple car lines. This area would become known as the FQ Story neighborhood and although it began clustered near the car line, the neighborhood would continue to grow westward throughout the 1920s.

This glorious and historically rich area of Phoenix has been beautifully restored throughout the years. All proceeds from this two-night home tour will go towards the continued efforts to install period street lighting, support historical integrity, host other community events, maintain a website and help spread the word about life in a historical community.

For more information call 602-258-9282 or go to www.fqstory.org.

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Gourmet HOLIDAY RECIPES

Let this be the year you wow your dinner guests with your culinary finesse! Chef Cullen Campbell of Crudo and Chef Steve Freidkin of TEXAZ Grill help to make your holiday meal a bit more unique.

BRUSSEL SPROUT SALAD WITH PANCETTA VINAIGRETTE

From Cullen Campbell owner and Executive Chef at Crudo

- 2 lbs brussel sprouts
- 1/4 cup white balsamic
- 1/4 olive oil
- 1/2 lb pancetta
- 2 tbsp sugar
- 1 tsp salt
- fresh ground pepper
- 1 cup croutons
- 2 oz fresh grated parmesan

Shave or slice brussel sprouts & place to the side

Dice pancetta & sauté until crispy

Drain fat out of the pan & add white balsamic, sugar, salt & black pepper

Let cool for 10 minutes

Pour over brussel sprouts & toss to cover the leaves

Place in a bowl & garnish with Parmesan, croutons & olive oil

BREAD PUDDING STUFFING

From Cullen Campbell owner and Executive Chef at Crudo

- 4 cups ciabatta or focaccia cubed (day old)
- 5 large eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1/4 stick butter (softened)
- 2 cups celery (chopped)
- 1 medium sweet onion
- 4 sprigs thyme
- 1 sprig rosemary
- 1/2 bunch parsley
- 1 tbsp salt
- Freshly ground pepper

Beat the eggs, milk & butter together

Rough chop all herbs & dice onion

Mix bread, herbs, onion, celery, salt & black pepper in a large mixing bowl

Pour egg, milk & butter mixture over the bread & let sit for 10 min

Spread out the bread mixture in a greased baking dish & cover with foil

Bake at 350 degrees for 35-45 minutes

TEXAZ GRILL'S ADAPTATION: BOURBON MILK PUNCH

By Chef Steve Freidkin at TEXAZ Grill Phoenix, AZ

- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 1/4 oz. bourbon (TEXAZ uses Jim Beam Bourbon)
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 scoop Bluebell vanilla ice cream (ends up being about 6 oz.)
- 1 dash nutmeg

Combine all ingredients and blend for 8 seconds. Garnish with nutmeg.

*Recipe originated from Dickie Brennan at the Bourbon House in New Orleans



TABLESCAPES for the HOLIDAYS

By Elizabeth Henson

Holiday decorating is a right of passage to the celebratory season. Fall leaves, vibrant red and green and the sparkling silver, white and blue are exuberant signs that the festivities are about to begin.

As boxes are pulled from the attic and holiday cheer threatens to burst from the seams, it's easy to become a bit overwhelmed. Multiple holidays, however, are easy to manage with an open mind and a bit of preparation, no matter what your budget.

Weeks before Thanksgiving, as soon as the leaves begin to change throughout the country, Americans begin preparing their homes for fall.

Jennifer Benavidez from Do Me A Favor in Arcadia said, "Color is the most important part of decorating for Thanksgiving. Especially fall colors. Simplicity is also important."

"A new trend we've taken notice of are intermixing similar colors and pattern as well as using things you already have," said Jennifer. "For example, using an everyday white salad plate to display colorful food, and allowing the food to be part of the décor. It's what the holiday is truly about and looks great."

"For a more detailed look use glass domes over the plates, accent with ribbon or bows and use bursts of color with a water pitcher or fine china."

Jennifer also adds that a great way to add originality to your table is to design it yourself. Using wrapping paper, Do Me A Favor, creates paper flowers that are inexpensive and a true statement piece, whether used on a napkin ring or other accent. Instructions for creating paper flowers can be found on their blog: <http://domeafavorphx.squarespace.com>

Christmas décor is some of the most recognizable of the season.

Paige Bailey, owner and designer at One Posh Place in Arcadia said, "One thing I must have for Christmas decorating is Greenery. Long needle pine."

Paige adds that one of her favorite thing to decorate with during this holiday is white pottery, green pottery, and fresh flowers.

While all the Christmas details can become costly, they don't have to break your bank.

"Being creative and using what you have is important," said Paige.

When decorating a table for the holidays, Paige mentions she likes to use items she already owns. These items don't have to be red and green.

"White and gold are great. Even try all white," said Paige.

For Hanukkah, a beautiful menorah is key.

"On a Hanukkah table, I can't live without a menorah. One that stands out. It's what the holiday is all about and brings elegance to the table" said Linda M. Barreira, owner of Arcadia Design and Stitch.

Lighting the candles is at the core of this gathering and creating a modern presentation for this tradition can be simple and understated.

"Go homemade," said Linda. "Use what's on your property. Lemon branches smell good and look great. Use them in your decorating."

"I have apple trees so I make homemade applesauce for our Latkes" said Linda. "More and more, people are going back to cooking from scratch. It's great."

Glassware and serving pieces can enrich a tabletop.



Left: Thanksgiving table design by Jennifer Benavidez, Do Me A Favor. Top: Hanukkah table design by Linda M. Barreira, Arcadia Design and Stitch. Bottom: Christmas table design by Paige Bailey, One Posh Place.

Glassware with intricate detail comes in a range of prices, with stores such as IKEA and Target beginning to carry inexpensive sets everyone can appreciate.

An antique such as a beautiful dreidel is a great way to tie a tabletop together and add a family treasure. Small party favors labeled with names make terrific place cards and when wrapped in blue and white, are perfect for Hanukkah.

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