

SPD carrying on with absence of chief

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

With the absence of Chief Kevin Zimmermann, who has been on an extended leave, the Shafter Police Department is working as "business as usual," according to Acting Chief Randy Milligan. The department has refused to give details about the leave, citing it as a "personnel matter." The only reason given for the leave that has lasted nearly six weeks is that it is related to a workers compensation claim. City Manager Gabriel Gonzalez said that Zimmermann would not elaborate any further. In a wide-ranging interview Tuesday

SHAFTER

with Milligan and Gonzalez, the two talked about the current state of the department. Milligan said that there is no timetable on Chief Zimmermann's return but said that the city is in good hands with the staff that the chief has put together. When asked about the recent defamation of over 50 graves in the Shafter Cemetery, Milligan did say that he would like to clarify initial responses to the incident by the police. "While it is within a person's right to practice their religion, it is not lawful to defame someone's grave that is not related to

you, or is not affiliated with that religion." Milligan said that there was a case documented and that they would file it as vandalism. "We misspoke on that and would like to clear that up," he said. "The practice of one's religion does not include messing with graves other than your loved ones or those involved in the religion. It is not okay to include persons who you are not affiliated with." The Shafter police have seen the departure of four officers and two dispatchers who joined the new department in Wasco, including former Shafter Sgt. Lionel Lopez. Milligan said that with the "excellent

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Randy Milligan is acting chief of the Shafter Police Department.



Anthony, Miguel Jr., Mike, Magda Elena and Kassandra Martin with their 2020 Family Owned Business of the Year award and certificates of recognition. (Photo courtesy of Mike Martin)

Martin family works the fields to success

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

Mike Martin is a story of inspiration from humble beginnings, from a family of hardworking farm laborers to owning multiple companies, including a spreading, composting and pistachio company. He is an example of the values of perseverance and the importance of dreaming big. He was born in Visalia in 1965 to parents who worked in the fields. From an early age, he started working alongside them. This experience taught him the lessons of a strong work ethic that would serve

FOCUS ON FARMING
R&M Organics

him well in life. "I learned that I wanted more out of life than just working in the fields," he remembers. After moving around California with his family following the crops, he moved to Wasco in 1986 when he married his wife, Magda Elena. "It's been a happy life, and I love my town," he said. "It's the community, the people I've met over time, talking to the farmers and dairy people, working with them, enjoying the country and the freedom of being out in the open, not enclosed

in the city. I just enjoy it."

Martin attended trade school and worked as a mechanic for 17 years at a local dealership. In 2006, he began his first business, servicing the dairy industry under R&M Farm Service. "It is what first inspired me to be an entrepreneur."

"In 2014, we saw that there was a need for compost and started supplying it directly to farmers, but it was in 2019 that we decided to expand and bag it to the individual consumer, launching R&M Organics."

"We started bagging compost and selling it on Amazon, Walmart,

See MARTIN Page 6



Brad Maberry believes that his student's needs come first.

Maberry strives to make Wasco a 'showcase district'

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

Brad Maberry, a dedicated educator and community leader, has been an integral part of the Wasco Union Elementary School District since 1996. Starting as a teacher, he has gradually climbed the ranks and, in 2023, assumed the role of superintendent.

He is a native of Bakersfield but has worked in Wasco since 1996. "It's a magnificent small town with caring parents and community members; the small-town culture is really what has kept me here."

Maberry has stayed involved in the community as a member of the Wasco Rotary Club since 2011, sits on the board of directors of the Ronald McDonald House in Bakersfield and was with the Exchange Club from 2003 until 2010.

He attended Bakersfield High School and has a bachelor's degree in physical education from Cal State Bakersfield and a master's in educational management from the University of Laverne.

Maberry has been in education for 28 years, holding positions as a teacher for the district for seven years, assistant principal for four years at Palm Avenue and Thomas Jefferson middle schools, the first principal at Teresa Burke Elementary School, assistant superintendent for the district and now as superintendent.

He said his position is challenging but exciting. "There's a multitude of responsibilities when running an entire school district. It is a very satisfying job. I have several departments and six school sites under my supervision. The directors and coordinators who run the departments and the administrators who run the schools are top notch. Wasco is certainly lucky to have such dedicated individuals working in the community."

See MAYBERRY Page 5

Landfill on the verge of self-operating

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

The Shafter/Wasco Landfill took one more step to being a completely self-operating facility when it announced the completion of a system that will bag compost for local residents.

The landfill has made compost available for Kern County residents for a little over a year, allowing them to pick it up for their gardens, compost piles and many other uses.

"More and more people are getting involved in operating their own compost piles, letting them fertilize their own gardens," says Lynda Martin, of American Refuse in Wasco. "We have had several events in which residents have taken tons

SHAFTER

of the compost material at each event." One of the downsides of this practice is the inability for some residents to transport the compost material to their homes. "Before, if people didn't have a pickup truck, they had a problem being able to get it home. Now, we'll have pallets of this available. People will be able to come to the corporation yard in the very short future and pick this product up," said Shafter Assistant Public Works Director Kevin Gibson.

Gibson said that this new development is an example of the county helping residents comply with new laws intended to reduce emissions in the air.



New machinery is making it possible for residents to pick up compost already bagged, ready to take home.

Community Calendar

The Shafter Press and Wasco Tribune encourage local organizations to let the public know about coming events and activities through this column. Drop off or mail items at the office, 455 Kern St., Suite E, in Shafter, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, call 661-292-5100 or email esoriano@TheShafterPress.com. Deadline is 4 p.m. Thursday prior to publication. Updates will be on TheShafterPress.com and WascoTrib.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Self-serve sandbag station – Sand to combat flooding is available for Shafter residents and businesses. The station is located at 1251 E. Ash Ave., next to the recycling drop-off).

"Anne of Green Gables" tryouts – Auditions on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 2-3, 4-6 p.m. at Tin Cup, 1101 E. Lerdo Hwy. Open to all actors from high school through college. Auditions are free and an information packet will be provided upon request. For any questions, call 661-630-4059.

Waste collection – Kern County Public Works is hosting a household hazardous waste collection event Saturday, Feb. 17, at 17621 Scofield Ave., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Accepted materials include batteries, motor oil, paints, light bulbs, pool chemicals, automotive supplies, cleaning products and more.

Recolección de Residuos – Kern County Public Works evento de recolección de residuos peligrosos del hogar, Sábado 17 de Febrero, 17621 Scofield Ave., 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Materiales aceptados: baterías, aceite de motor, pinturas, bombillas, objetos punzantes, productos de limpieza ya mas.

Colours coming – A Celebration of the Arts in Shafter Thursday-Sunday, Feb. 22-25.

Distinguished Young Women scholarship competition – Sixteen contestants vie for the title at the Fred Starth Performing Arts Center at Shafter High School on Friday, March 22, at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and are available from Toni Franz (661-805-7672) and at the SHS office.

ONGOING

Warm clothing drive – Supervisor David Couch invites the public to donate gently used or new warm clothing through the remainder of the year. Shafter drop off location is 329 Central Valley Hwy.

Basic office skills classes – Wasco Adult School offers Bakersfield College basic office skills certificates. Register now. Call 661-758-7414 for more information.

PRIDE Pantry donations needed – Help hurting families at Shafter High through donations of personal hygiene items, clothing, household items and nonperishable food. Drop off at the school office, 526 Mannel Ave. Call Katie Young on-campus intervention, 661-746-4961.

MONDAY

North Kern 4H – Meetings are held at Karl Clemens cafeteria at 7 p.m. the second Monday of the month. For more information, contact Chris at 661-809-2851.

Richland School board – Meetings are held the second Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at Golden Oak Cafeteria, 195 S. Wall St.

TUESDAY

Shafter Recreation & Parks District – Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month at 505 Sunset Ave., the Shafter Senior Center.

Shafter City Council – Meetings the first and third Tuesday of the month at City Hall, 336 Pacific Ave.

Wasco City Council – Meetings first and third Tuesday of the month. Meetings are held at 746 8th St. at 6 p.m.

Wasco Woman's Club – Meetings at the clubhouse, 1601 7th St., on the second Tues-

day of the month. There is a \$15 fee for the lunch meetings.

Senior lunch program – Meals offered the first and third Tuesday of the month at Griffith Avenue Baptist Church, 408 Griffith St. Sack lunches for seniors will be given out at 11 a.m. Sponsored by Golden Gleaners.

Senior Food giveaway – Westside Family Fellowship hosts free senior food giveaway every fourth Tuesday of the month, 9-10 a.m., 60 or older (ID required). 2150 Palm Ave., Wasco.

WEDNESDAY

Shafter Rotary – Meetings at 7 a.m. at the Shafter Veterans Hall.

Shafter Kiwanis – Meetings Wednesdays at 12 p.m. at the Shafter Veterans Hall.

Shafter Woman's Club – Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month, September through May, starting at 11 a.m. at the Shafter Youth Center, 455 Euclid Ave.

THURSDAY

Wasco High School board – Meetings the second Thursday of the month at 900 7th St. in Room 202, or alternatively in Library Room 1101. Visit wuhs.wascouhsd.org for agenda information.

Wasco Recreation and Park board – Meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Hall at Barker Park.

Food distribution – Shafter Recreation and the Gleaners have food distribution every first and third Thursday of each month at the W.C. Walker Senior Center, 505 Sunset Ave.

Free farmer's market – Westside Family Fellowship hosts every fourth Thursday of the month, 8-10 a.m. 2150 Palm Ave., Wasco.

FRIDAY

Food giveaway – The Impact Program is a weekly food giveaway provided to anyone in need, Fridays beginning at 7 a.m. First come, first served. Griffith Avenue Baptist Church, 408 Griffith St., Wasco.

Bulky waste pickup – American Refuse offers free bulky waste pick-up service Fridays to all City of Shafter core residents. To schedule a pickup, use the app or call 661-758-5316. No sabes que hacer con esos artículos de basura grande? Llame a American Refuse 661-758-5316 o use su aplicación para programar una recolección de estos artículos. Este servicio es gratis para todos los residentes de la ciudad de Shafter (core residents).

SATURDAY

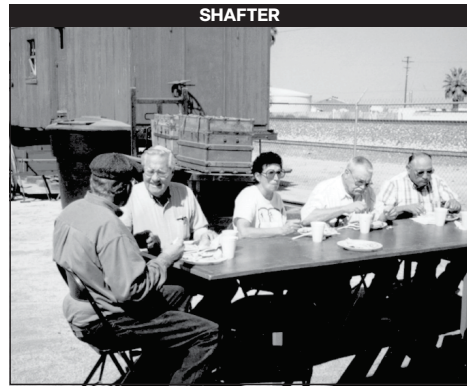
Depot Museum – Shafter Historical Society presents the city's history. Free admittance. 150 Central Valley Highway. Open Saturdays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Green Hotel tours – Shafter Historic Green Hotel is open to tours on the first Saturday of each month from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information about renting the hotel for events, email thegreenhotel@gmail.com or phone 661-746-1913 and leave a message.

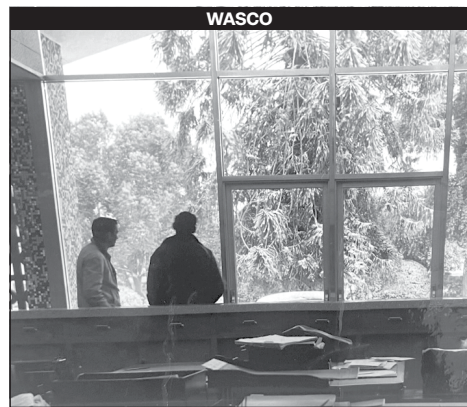
Minter Field Air Museum – Open Fridays and Saturdays 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 401 Vulture, Shafter. Admission free, donations accepted.

Wasco Museum – Open every second Saturday of the month, 1-3 p.m., at 918 6th St. Free to the public. Wasco High School artifacts from over the last 100 years are featured.

Mystery history



Here's this week's challenge, courtesy of the Shafter Historical Society. If you know the location, circumstances, exact or rough date and/or people in the photo, send your educated (or semieducated) guess to ThePress, 455 Kern St., Suite E, Shafter, CA 93263, or e-mail it to mysteryphoto@TheShafterPress.com. Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** Carola Rupert Enriquez and Stan Wilson in 1994.



Here's this week's challenge, courtesy of the Wasco Historical Society. If you know the location, circumstances, exact or rough date and/or people in the photo, send your educated (or semieducated) guess to TheTribune, 455 Kern St., Suite E, Shafter, CA 93263, or e-mail it to mysteryphoto@WascoTrib.com. Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** An X-ray machine from a Wasco doctor's office in the 1940s.



ARREST REPORT

SHAFTER

As reported by the Shafter Police Department

JAN. 29

Jaime Marcelino Mendez Jr., 45, of Shafter, was arrested in the 400 block of Rodriguez Avenue for violating a court order for domestic violence.

Kristen Herta Roberts, 34, of Shafter, was arrested in the 200 block of Faber Avenue on a bench warrant/failure to appear on a misdemeanor charge.

Orlando Lopez Flores, 33, of Shafter, was arrested in the 100 block of West Orange Avenue for false personation, on a bench warrant/failure to appear on felony/misdemeanor charge and for an unregistered vehicle.

JAN. 31

Erik Richard Torres, 34, of Shafter, was arrested in the 400 block of Calloway Street for obstruction of a peace officer and possession of unlawful paraphernalia.

FEB. 2

Derek Dennis Haley, 36, of Shafter, was arrested at North Central Valley Highway and

Venable Lane on a bench warrant/failure to appear on a felony charge.

BUTTONWILLOW

As reported by the Kern County Sheriff's Department, Buttonwillow substation:

FEB. 1

Efrain Cruz, 20, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of Buttonwillow Drive and 4th Street in Buttonwillow for Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, Commit Mail Theft, one (1) Felony Warrant and one (1) Misdemeanor Warrant. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

FEB. 2

Paulino Emanuel Cota Mercado, 29, of Buttonwillow, was arrested in the 200 block of West 3rd Street in Buttonwillow for Possession of a Controlled Substance and four (4) Misdemeanor Warrants. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

WASCO

As reported by the Kern County Sheriff's Department, Wasco substation:

JAN. 29

Martin Torres, 44, of

Wasco, was arrested near the intersection of Broadway Street and 7th Place on felony and misdemeanor bench warrants. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

JAN. 30

Victor Adame, 20, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1000 block of 9th Place for misdemeanor giving false ID to an officer. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Abel Castillo, 36, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1000 block of 9th Place on a felony arrest warrant. He was booked

into the Kern County Jail.

David Castillo, 33, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1000 block of 9th Place on misdemeanor bench warrants. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Johnny Castillo, 40, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1000 block of 9th Place for misdemeanor possession of controlled substance paraphernalia. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Joseph Rene Castillo, 39, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1000 block of 9th Place for

misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance, possession of controlled substance paraphernalia, destroying or concealing evidence, and on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Jesse Garcia, 57, of Wasco, was arrested near the intersection of Barker Place and 5th Street for misdemeanor obstruction of an officer, resisting arrest, possession of controlled substance paraphernalia, and on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He

was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Stella Penalber, 46, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1000 block of 9th Place on a felony out of county warrant and a misdemeanor bench warrant. She was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Raenna Ribera, 25, of Wasco, was arrested in the 900 block of 6th Street for misdemeanor battery on spouse and contempt of court. She was booked into the Kern County Jail

See ARREST Page 3

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Wasco Tribune

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Wasco Tribune is published each Thursday and is available at no charge at locations throughout the Wasco area and by subscription at \$49 per year. Send payment, along with name, address and email address, to P.O. Box 789, Shafter, CA 93263.

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(661-292-5100; mschroeder@WascoTrib.com)

General Manager: Diane Givens

(661-292-5100; dgivens@WascoTrib.com)

Editor: Veronica Jacuinde

(661-292-5005; vjacuinde@wascotrib.com)

Office Manager: Erica Soriano

(661-292-5100; esoriano@TheShafterPress.com)

Distribution Coordinator: Romero "Mickey" Enriquez

(661-292-5100; dgivens@WascoTrib.com)

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(661-292-5100; mschroeder@TheShafterPress.com)

General Manager: Diane Givens

(661-292-5100; dgivens@TheShafterPress.com)

Editor: Jamie Stewart

(661-292-5005; jstewart@TheShafterPress.com)

Office Manager: Erica Soriano

(661-292-5100; esoriano@TheShafterPress.com)

Distribution Coordinator: Romero "Mickey" Enriquez

(661-292-5100; dgivens@TheShafterPress.com)

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SHS students broadcasting to community

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

Anyone wanting to know what is going on at Shafter High School only needs to tune in daily for an update, presented by the students at SHS, over their HQTV broadcast, which is available on their YouTube channel.

The broadcast journalism class, taught by Jerald Pierucci is getting ready to upgrade so the class will be able to broadcast across even more mediums, allowing them to cover volleyball and basketball games live for the entire community.

When Pierucci started at Shafter High, he talked to Principal Russell Shipley about offering a broadcast journalism class, similar to the one that he taught at East High School. "Mr. Shipley was all for the idea, and we moved forward on obtaining the equipment needed for the class. We began with a simple broadcast of the daily announcements, plus a few highlights, such as what is in our daily bulletin."



Laurel Franz works on a recent morning's broadcast.

This grew into a regular broadcast of school news and activities. "Every year, we worked on getting more equipment, so we could do more things for the class. We just finished producing a broadcast of the play put on by the Shafter High Drama Club, which can be viewed by anyone in the community."

According to Pierucci, the school received a grant from the state, as well as

equipment from the Kern High School District that improved their facilities and capabilities. "We are nearing about \$750,000 worth of equipment that we are using in our projects," he said.

Pierucci also said that he is in the process of writing up a proposal that would make the class a two-year program. "After finishing this class, the students will have knowledge that would help them advance in the field if

they are interested in pursuing it."

These students include Laurel Franz, who is in her second year of the class. "My counselor suggested this class to me, and at first I wasn't real excited about it. But I realized that it is such a fun class, and it is now my favorite."

Franz, who plans on pursuing a career in film production, said that one thing she loves about the class is that the students are given tasks to do to meet goals, but they are pretty much left on their own to get the jobs done. "We do a lot of the production by ourselves, responsible for the jobs, giving us a real feeling of accomplishment," she said.

Another student is Alexis Lopez. Lopez has been in the class for over a year and said that she enjoys it a lot and is using the experience to prepare her for after high school. "I want to be a sports broadcaster after school, so this class has been perfect for me, giving so much valuable experience and skills that I can use for the rest of my life."

The daily broadcasts and sports events can be viewed on YouTube. Just search for HQTV News on the site.

Pastor Brian Klassen serving with purpose

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

Pastor Brian Klassen is the new chaplain of the Wasco Police Department, being a bridge between the police force and the community. He comes with almost three decades of experience in ministry and said it is an exciting opportunity.

"I believe coming to Wasco means that I'm called not only to pastor a church but also to serve the community. It's working with Chief [Charles] Fivecoat; he is an amazing man. I've had the pleasure to meet several police officers, and I think they are tremendous individuals who are also looking to serve the community of Wasco."

As a chaplain, he said there are times when an individual may feel more comfortable talking to a chaplain rather than a police officer. "And it's helping assist the officers and the community in crisis scenarios when sometimes there are traumatic events where a chaplain can be beneficial."

Klassen is enthusiastic about getting to know the people of Wasco. "I've been here since September last year when my wife

WASCO

and I became the lead pastors of Tabernacle of Praise here in Wasco. Since we arrived, we fell in love with the community. We want to benefit and help them lead the life God has designed for them.

"And one of the greatest examples of leadership was Jesus. And he came to serve and not to be served. So, both as a pastor and chaplain, that is my motivation. To serve the community of Wasco and the surrounding areas."

He believes Chief Fivecoat, the mayor and the City Council have a great vision for the city. "They really do care about those in the community, and I'm looking forward to working with all of them, the other pastors in the community and the other two chaplains."

Klassen was born in Porterville, but spent much time living in Terra Bella, a small town in Tulare County. "I've been in ministry for over 25 years. I spent the last three years as an assistant pastor in Grover Beach and then was asked to come to Wasco. After coming here the first time, we



Pastors Brian and Melissa Klassen at Wasco City Hall at the swearing-in ceremony.

knew this was where God wanted us."

As the new pastor of the Tabernacle of Praise, he said it's going well. "We are multicultural, multigenerational and faith-based, and are part of the Church of God in Cleveland, Tennessee. We have tremendous members who love Wasco. Many have been here at the church for 30 years or more. We are all praying for the city of

Wasco and those that live here."

He said that being a spiritual servant is a calling. "I enjoy helping people and supporting people through different life events. And it's really a call to serve people. As a pastor, you love people and care about people, which drives me. I want people to live to the fullest of what they can accomplish."

At Esmeralda's, a woman's dream blooms

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

Esmeralda Diaz is the proud owner of Esmeralda's Flower Shop & More, a quaint flower shop and secondhand store that offers a variety of new and gently used items. She bought the establishment from a previous owner who had the business for over 40 years, and she wants to continue with the legacy.

"I opened two years ago and have been blessed so far. The community has supported me, and for that, I am grateful. After being around for so long, the business has great potential, and I'm looking to expand and grow."

Esmeralda sells perfume, jewelry, shoes and clothing for men, women, children and babies, along with nutrition products. "We have a little bit of everything."

Her prices are economical, she said. "Many of my customers are farm laborers, so I am considerate of them because I

WASCO

know they work hard for their money."

Esmeralda is a people person and said providing good customer service is a priority for her. "I'm friendly and try to make my shoppers feel comfortable and well attended."

The flower shop is especially thriving. "I source my flowers from Los Angeles, and they are always fresh. I do arrangements for weddings, quinceaneras, funerals, baptisms and just about any occasion."

She enjoys being helpful. "When someone comes in and has a request, I can guide them and advise them. They might want an orchid for a burial, but I'll let them know that might not work well with the weather and suggest another."

"I feel happy when customers say they are content with my work. It's very rewarding and satisfying. It's the best feeling."

Esmeralda has over 20 years of experience in the floral industry and owned an-



Esmeralda Diaz with an arrangement of flowers she designed for a wedding.

other flower shop in Bakersfield for seven years.

She said she has a unique eye for design and loves the creativity that comes with it, including "all the beautiful colors and how

they can transform a room into a magical space. It's just amazing."

Esmeralda perfected her skills with classes she took in Los Angeles. She said she was inspired to embark on a career as a florist because she was always passionate about flowers.

It was her husband who encouraged her to follow her dreams. "If that's what you love, pursue it." She believes she made the right choice. "Being an entrepreneur is the best decision I could have made for me and my family. I appreciate the freedom it has given me."

Although not from Wasco, she said she enjoys the city. "It's a great community, and I'm glad to have opened my business here. I have grown to love the town. The people are very welcoming, and it's just a special place."

Esmeralda's Flower Shop & More, 1234 E St., is open Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 661 376-3850.

ARREST REPORT

From Page 2

WASCO

As reported by the Kern County Sheriff's Department, Wasco substation:

FEB. 1

Victor Adame, 20, of Wasco, was arrested in the 900 block of Cedar Avenue for felony carrying a concealed dirk or dagger. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Jose Luis Ruiz, 41, of

Wasco, was arrested in the 700 block of Cedar Street for felony assault with a deadly weapon. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Ryan Sims, 51, of Wasco, was arrested in the 2100 block of Highway 46 on a felony bench warrant, and for misdemeanor petty theft and possession of controlled substance paraphernalia. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

FEB. 2

Bernardo Montanez, 38, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1800 block of Griffith Avenue for felony possession of a firearm, possession despite being prohibited from owning ammo, possession of a controlled substance while armed, misdemeanor possession of controlled substance and possession of controlled substance paraphernalia. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

County Jail.

FEB. 3

Rachel Moor, 37, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1300 block of 1st Street on a misdemeanor bench warrant. She was booked into the Kern County Jail.

FEB. 4

Jose Armando Velasquez Duran, 28, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1300 block of 6th Street for felony burglary, threatening with intent to ter-

rorize and exhibiting a deadly weapon: not a firearm. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Ramiro Cortez Enriquez, 29, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1500 block of G Street for felony possession of a stolen vehicle, vehicle theft, conspiracy to commit a crime, possession of a controlled substance for sale, and on a felony bench warrant. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Astrid Iniguez, 33, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1500 block of G Street on felony and misdemeanor bench warrants. She was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Abel Martinez, 33, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1500 block of G Street for felony receiving stolen property, conspiracy to commit a crime, and on misdemeanor bench warrants. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

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Reserve Police Officer Jose Garcia, Police Sergeant Lloyd Galutira, Police Officer Maria Rocha and Police Dispatcher Olivia Ayon with Police Chief Charlie Fivecoat, City Manager Scott Hurlbert and Wasco City Councilmembers.

WPD employees form association

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

At the City Council meeting on Tuesday, the Wasco City Council recognized the newly formed Wasco Police Officers Association. Employees of the department formed the WPOA to represent officers and other staff when negotiating a memorandum of understanding with the city.

In Wasco, as is common in most cities, the MOU document acts as a labor contract to establish hours, wages, working conditions and policies for its members in collective bargaining.

"We are happy to see our Police Department employees take this step. I look forward to working with the WPOA going forward," City Manager Scott Hurlbert said.

Also at the meeting, a proclamation for National Pesticide Safety Education Month was presented to Lideres Campesinas del Comité de Kern Norte.

February is designated to raise awareness around national pesticide safety education.

Local organizations such as Lideres Campesinas del Comité De Kern Norte are ensuring the health and safety of agri-

WASCO

cultural workers and communities affected by treated pesticide areas. "Their work is essential," Mayor Alex Garcia said.

He added, "Education is important, as is the work they do by advocating and providing information to the community, especially for those affected here locally."

Also, at the meeting, new police department recruits were honored with a badge-pinning ceremony. Police Sgt. Lloyd Galutira said, "It was great. We had a lot of support from the community and some of the prior agencies."

Galutira has been in law enforcement for nearly 18 years, having worked for the Delano Police Department as a school resource officer, K-9 officer, SWAT operator, range master, less lethal instructor and a leader supervising the traffic unit and the communications center.

"I joined to help establish this new Police Department," he said "I want to create a strong foundation and positive work environment. I'm excited to be here and provide excellent service to our community."

Working with WPD Chief Charlie Fivecoat, he added, "He is an amazing leader

and is very supportive of his troops; he leads by example. I'm so grateful, and I've heard nothing but great things. I'm here to learn from him."

Another honoree, Reserve Police Officer Jose Garcia, said about the ceremony, "It was beautiful and well attended. It's just another step for the city of Wasco in its growth to provide services to the community."

He has a bachelor's degree in business and comes with 30 years of experience in the private sector. It is his first year as a reserve officer.

Officer Garcia thinks Wasco is a beautiful community and an opportunity to make a difference.

He said Chief Fivecoat inspired him to join law enforcement. "Because of what he has accomplished. Not only in the city of Wasco but in other cities he has worked in.

He's made huge contributions, and he is someone I admire. Seeing what he's done, I wanted to be part of his mission."

Police Officer Maria Rocha also expressed her enthusiasm for the ceremony. "I feel happy to be able to start a new department and work as a team to make Wasco safe, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work as a police officer for the city of Wasco."

She has 11 months of experience serving as a police officer with the Delano Police Department. "And expand my knowledge here in Wasco and get to meet the community, to help with community relationships to work together to fight crime."

Rocha said her message to the community is, "Let them know they can trust us, and if they ever need us, they can ask for help."

Arrest made in violent Wasco assault and carjacking

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

On February 6, at approximately 4:30 pm, the Reedley Police Department

WASCO

in Reedley, California, arrested Randy Flores-Lopez, a 21-year-old suspect from Wasco, in connection with an investigation that began on February 5, following a vicious assault that left a 52-year-old woman with multiple life-threatening stab wounds.

The incident occurred around 10:00 am in the 400 block of Peppermint Court in Wasco when deputies from the Wasco and North Area Substations responded, identifying Flores-Lopez as the suspect.

The victim was rushed to a local hospital to be treated for her injuries. Flores-Lopez not only assaulted the woman but also carjacked the victim's silver 2005 Chrysler Minivan with California License Plate 6LQE901.

Following the arrest of Flores-Lopez, he was transported back to Kern County, where he was subsequently booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility



Randy Flores-Lopez, 21, of Wasco, was arrested on charges of assault and theft.

on several assault and theft charges.

Anyone with additional information on this investigation is asked to call the Kern County Sheriff's Office at 661-861-3110. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous can call the Kern Secret Witness line at 661-322-4040.

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Council recognizes outstanding citizens

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

In the absence of any notable items on their Tuesday night agenda, the Shafter City Council presented proclamations to outstanding individuals, both two and four-legged, for their representation of the city.

Mayor Chad Givens presented an award to David Espinoza, an 11-year-old student at Maple School, who recently represented Shafter in the All American Bowl in Florida. Espinoza is a 4.9 GPA student who plans on making football his career, looking to be the future quarterback for the Shafter Generals, as well as the Ohio State Buckeyes.

He was invited to the bowl game after being named the Camp MVP at the Offense/Defense Football Camp in Carlsbad.

SHAFTER

Espinoza competed in three games during his week in Florida, as well as participating in two quarterback clinics. He trains with a personal quarterbacks coach twice a week, in addition to traveling with an Elite Traveling Football Team, when he is not competing with the Shafter Commanders. Espinoza also received certificates from representatives from the offices of state Sen. Melissa Hurtado, as well as a presentation by County Supervisor David Couch.

The council also recognized a four-legged hero in Shafter. Ecco, who has served in the Shafter Police Department's K-9 Unit for over four years, was honored for his years of service. Ecco was unable to continue his duties with the department and had to retire his position. Ecco

was honored because of his bravery and service that included detecting illegal substances, as well as finding numerous weapons, caches, and items that protected the community from a variety of illegal activities. Ecco will now be retired and live out his life with his human partner, Officer Luca Graves, who has worked with him for the past two years.

Terry Knight, public relations manager for the Kern Mosquito and Vector Control agency, made a presentation to the council about the upcoming year and the impact that the wet winter will have on the amount of mosquitoes in the county we could expect this year.

Knight said that the year saw Kern County receive its wettest winter in 40 years, and some much needed rain, but it will also mean a long year when it comes to

the mosquito population in Kern County.

Knight said that residents can make a difference in the fight against mosquitoes, especially the *Aedes aegypti*, or "ankle biter," variety of mosquito, with some precautions.

He said that the mosquito can lay thousands of eggs in just a capful of water in a soda bottle lid, or a small saucer used for potted plants. "These mosquitoes are very aggressive and will bite a human several times in one attack. They attack especially in the daytime, belying the myth that mosquitoes only bite at dark or dusk."

Knight said that cleaning potted plant containers regularly, preferably with bleach, as well as making sure not to keep any small containers with any water in them at all will go a long way in deterring a problem.

Maberry strives to make Wasco a 'showcase'

From Page 1

"It's rewarding because we're able to run our district in a manner that provides a strong educational experience for our students, and we strive to provide an enjoyable and rewarding work environment for our employees."

He was inspired to pursue education because of his father. "I grew up in a family of educators. Education was always held to a high standard and level of importance. My dad was an administrator. And just growing up and watching him was a positive example and a natural direction for me to follow."

His desire to run the district efficiently is important and drives him, including "being able to lead the district from a position of high values, strong integrity, a supportive environment and a culture where all students and adults have the ability to

grow and become the best they can be."

He describes his leadership style as surrounding himself with excellent people and then matching their talents to the goals and objectives of the district. "I provide them with the support they need and then get out of the way and let them do their jobs."

His vision for the district, he said, is very simple. "Excellence for all. To recognize the needs of all students and staff and provide them with the academic and professional support they need."

Maberry believes his students are amazing. "They are smart, articulate and hard-working."

Of the teachers in the district, he said, "We have the absolute best teaching staff in all of Kern County. We have teachers who go above and beyond the regular workday to provide our students with the instruc-

tion they need and the opportunities to participate in enrichment and extracurricular activities."

When asked about the district's biggest challenges, he said, "The biggest barrier is the state budget, which we will face this coming year and the following years. So due to the budget, the district will evaluate its practices and procedures to become as efficient as possible with the goal of not limiting the services, supports and opportunities for our students."

He strives to foster positive relationships with the community, parents and other stakeholders. "By trying to be proactively available and intentional about attending community events and creating opportunities such as parent informational nights and our district parent universities. It's about building partnerships with the community."

He believes district support for professional development is paramount. "We're sending teacher leaders out of the district to be trained to be experts, and then they return and provide that new learning to our entire district."

His approach to budgeting and resource allocation to meet the diverse needs of the district involves curriculum and assessment alignment. "It's critical that the data we receive from these assessments is not only accurate, but prescriptive. In a nutshell, we let the data drive our decisions."

He said his vision for the future "is that the Wasco Union Elementary School District will be a showcase district within the county. A district where our processes and procedures are held as exemplars and our employees are viewed as experts in their craft. WUESD will be a district that students want to attend and adults want to work for."

PASTOR'S CORNER

How language works

RUBEN ZARTMAN

Ebenezer Reformed Church, Shafter

Do you remember the *Amelia Bedelia* books, by Peggy Parish? Amelia Bedelia works as a housekeeper, but is constantly causing disasters because she inevitably misunderstands what she is told.

At one point she's roped into a neighborhood baseball game. When she's encouraged to steal the bases and run home, she picks up the object used to mark third base and sprints back to her house. Another time when she was told to give the chickens scraps, she took small pieces of cloth to the hen coop.

Amelia Bedelia's problem is that she always takes words strictly at face value, in one meaning she has learned for them, without understanding that the same word can include more than one idea or that words are sometimes used figuratively.

The books about Amelia Bedelia have often made me laugh. But in this little comedy of errors suitable for children, there is also a deep lesson. Really understanding what someone says requires understanding words in context. A word doesn't just have one



ideas. Understanding what it means calls for careful attention to how the words are working together. This science or art of interpretation is called hermeneutics.

A huge part of proper hermeneutics is understanding the sentences of the Bible inside the Bible's own frame of reference. With reference to baseball, "home" means "home base." With reference to chickens, "scraps" means leftover food, not leftover fabric. In the same way, as the late Alec Motyer would say, "Bible words have Bible meanings."

One way we act like Amelia Bedelia with the Bible is when we approach Scripture to find out what the Bible says about some special question we have — about history or prophecy, science or behavior. But it may be that the Bible didn't mean to answer that particular question. If we squeeze an answer out of the Bible when a subject doesn't fall within its sphere of reference, we run the risk of making a mistake just as silly as any in Amelia Bedelia.

Rev. Ruben Zartman has been the pastor at Ebenezer Reformed Church in Shafter since 2017.

meaning. Words communicate meaning by working together. "Home" when talking about baseball does not mean the house where you live!

When it comes to reading and explaining the Bible, there are a lot of Amelia Bedelias out there these days. The Bible uses ordinary human language to communicate some very big

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Local player represents Shafter at bowl game

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

David Espinoza, an 11-year-old Maple School student, recently represented Shafter at the All American Bowl in Florida. Espinoza was only one of two players in the state selected to participate in the game.

Espinoza, who now plays on a travel team that competes all over the state, played for two years with the Shafter Commanders of the Golden Empire Youth Football League. Espinoza represented Shafter, Kern County and California.

In June, Espinoza traveled to the Army/Navy Academy in Carlsbad for the Offense/Defense Football Camp. There, he was awarded Camp MVP with an invitation to the All American Bowl Game held at the IMG Academy in Florida.

Every participant in the game was chosen from an elite list of young athletes from throughout the nation. He was one of the starting quarterbacks in his age group and one of two from California.

Espinoza spent a week at the IMG Academy, attending a quarterback clinic for two days and played in three games on the campus, in addition to the All Star Game. Espinoza currently plays on the travel team and trains twice a week with a private quarterbacks coach.

Espinoza, who dreams of playing for Ohio State in college and then playing in the NFL, is looking forward to continuing play for the Commanders and then head to Shafter High to compete for the Generals.



David Espinoza was one of only two players from California selected for the All American Bowl.

Martin family works the fields to success

From Page 1

some of the local stores and everywhere from Kings County to Los Angeles. It took off and [we] never looked back."

The company was so successful that he was awarded the 2020 Family Owned Business of the Year from SBDC CSU Bakersfield and certificates of recognition from local elected officials. "I felt honored, and it was a privilege to receive the acknowledgment. It showed that hard work paid off."

Martin donates his organic compost regularly to local schools, such as Wasco High. "We donate to them and other community gardens in Los Angeles, Bakers-

field and wherever we find out they need it; we just give it to them."

Six years ago, he opened M. Martin Ranch and began growing pistachios on 20 acres. He said his wife got him into it to keep him busy.

"This year was the first year we got our first crop. It takes six years for a pistachio crop to start producing, and every year after that, it gets better."

He said that nowadays, it's the only crop that is profitable. "Almonds have been in the slumps for the last couple of years. It's been rough for the farmers these last few years."

Martin said that farming in Wasco has changed in a big way. "It's more corporations buying out the little farmers – the local farmers. Take a trip to Wasco, and you'll see all the land for sale."

He said the cost of farming has also changed. "It's a lot more expensive. Most of the time, you find yourself breaking even or taking a loss."

"Everything is so hard now. When we planted pistachios, we were hoping for good crops and making a little bit of money, but last year, the price of pistachios dropped. But other than that, I love it. Working around cows and composting, I

love it. That is what keeps me going."

His is a family business with his three children, Miguel Jr., Anthony, Kassandra, and wife Magda Elena, all working together.

He sees himself working in the industry for many more years to come. "It's something I like doing, and I want to see my kids take over the business and do better than I do and grow it."

"I'm hoping to get the kids compost bagging distribution throughout the country. We already do that through Amazon and Walmart, but I would love to see the company grow. That is what I expect for the future; that is what my dream is."

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
LEDN Production
2024-80750
Legaye Digital Media
2024-80751

316 Ashe Rd., Ste 316
Bakersfield, CA 93313
County: Kern
316 Ashe Rd., Ste 316
Bakersfield, CA 93313
Steven Lee Rodriguez
316 Ashe Rd., Ste 316
Bakersfield, CA 93313
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: N/A
Date the business commenced: N/A
Date Statement Filed: 02/01/2024
Date Statement Expires: 02/01/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: P Del Villar
Publish Shafter Press February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Top Auto Performance
2024-80562

676 E Lerdo Hwy
Shafter, CA 93263
County: Kern
676 E Lerdo Hwy
Shafter, CA 93263
Top Auto Performance LLC
676 E Lerdo Hwy
Shafter, CA 93263
State of inc., or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Date the business commenced: 02/13/2023
Date the business commenced: 02/13/2023
Date Statement Filed: 01/24/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/24/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: P Del Villar
Publish Shafter Press February 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Rey's Leather Craft and Repair
2024-80501

2721 Meacham Rd.
Bakersfield, CA 93314
County: Kern
2721 Meacham Rd.
Bakersfield, CA 93314
Reymundo Lopez
2721 Meacham Rd.
Bakersfield, CA 93314
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: N/A
Date the business commenced: N/A
Date Statement Filed: 01/22/2024

Date Statement Expires: 01/22/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Cedeno
Publish Shafter Press February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Emmy's Child Care Services
2024-80570

508 Rodeo St.
Shafter, CA 93263
County: Kern
508 Rodeo St.
Shafter, CA 93263
Esmeralda Trujillo Garza
508 Rodeo St.
Shafter, CA 93263
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: 02/03/2023
Date the business commenced: 02/03/2023
Date Statement Filed: 01/25/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/25/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Cedeno
Publish Shafter Press February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Westrock General Engineering
2024-80547

1313 Linda Kay St.
Bakersfield, CA 93314
County: Kern
1313 Linda Kay St.
Bakersfield, CA 93314
Westrock LLC
1313 Linda Kay St.
Bakersfield, CA 93314
State of inc., or org.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Date the business commenced: 04/01/2020
Date the business commenced: 04/01/2020
Date Statement Filed: 01/24/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/24/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Cedeno
Publish Shafter Press February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
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and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid, by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924(c) of the Civil Code, so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Date: America West Lender Services, LLC P.O. Box 23028 Tampa, FL 33622 America West Lender Services, LLC MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. FOR TRUSTEES SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 1-866-539-4173/3NP0445855 to: SHAFTER PRESS 02/01/2024, 02/08/2024, 02/15/2024 Publish Shafter Press

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Bloemhof Ag Enterprises
2024-80164

142 E Tulare Ave
Shafter, CA 93263
County: Kern
142 E Tulare Ave
Shafter, CA 93263
Tedd Bloemhof Sr
17851 Palm Ave
Shafter, CA 93263
David Bloemhof Jr
2350 Camino Edna
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403
The business is conducted by: General Partnership
Date the business commenced: 01/05/2024
Date Statement Filed: 01/05/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/05/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: T Cabrera
Publish Shafter Press January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Creative Landscape & 3D Design
2024-80379

289 Nickel Street
Shafter, CA 93263

County: Kern
289 Nickel Street
Shafter, CA 93263
Jose Luis Lamas Guzman
289 Nickel Street
Shafter, CA 93263
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: N/A
Date Statement Filed: 01/16/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/16/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: Z Arellano
Publish Shafter Press January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Tower Motel and Apartments

3215 Chester Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93301
County: KERN
Mailing address of business:
3215 Chester Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Bakersfield Properties, Inc.
21405 Devonshire Ste 209
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Business was conducted by: Corporation
Date the business commenced: 11/29/2023
Date Statement Filed: 01/09/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/09/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: J/P Del Villar
Publish Shafter Press January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business Name Statement
Tower Motel
2024-80233

3215 Chester Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93301
County: Kern
3215 Chester Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93301
Bakersfield Properties, Inc.
21405 Devonshire Ste 209
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: P Del Villar
Publish Shafter Press January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 2024

OBITUARIES

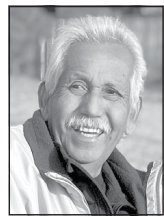
Raul Lopez March 2, 1956 - Jan. 30, 2024

Raul Lopez, 67, passed away on Jan. 30, 2024, in Bakersfield. He was born on March 2, 1956 in Mercedes, Texas to Juan and Flavia Lopez.

Raul migrated to California at the age of 9 to Huron, Calif., later moving to Shafter, where he made Shafter his permanent residence.

Raul attended all the local Shafter schools. At a young age of 18 he went searching for jobs in various locations. Without any luck, Raul went to Buttonwillow Warehouse in Buttonwillow and asked for a job. Again, he was turned down until he told the manager, "How am I supposed to find a job if no one wants to take a chance on me?" He was hired. He worked at Buttonwillow Warehouse until he moved to Simplot, ending his working career at Nutrient, formerly Crop Production.

He was an agricultural technician for 48 years un-



til his illness made him retire.

Raul married the love of his life, Esther, at a very young age in 1974 in McFarland. They were happily married for 49 years.

Raul loved spending time with his children and grandchildren. He also was known as the Tio that visited everyone: his brothers, his sisters, nephews, nieces, friends, co-workers. He had such a contagious smile and laughter, making everyone around him feel welcomed.

Raul is survived by his wife, Esther; his son Gabriel (Jessica); his son Reyes (Jenny) of Shafter;

and his daughter Priscilla (Fred) of Bakersfield; his grandchildren Alexander, Alyssa, Elizabeth (Andy), Iliana, Raul, Gabriel, Reylen, Natalie, Isaac, and Jaime (Alondra) from Shafter; Irene (Trinidad), Mariah, Alice, Freddy and JD from Bakersfield; his great grandchildren Vincent from Shafter and Olivia from Bakersfield; his siblings Estevan (Lupe) and Diana (Lupe) from Shafter; Josie (Bentura) from McFarland; Raquel (Adan) from Wasco; and Ramiro (Jackie) from Bakersfield; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Raul was preceded in death by his daughter Alicia; his parents, Juan and Flavia; his brothers Ruben, Fernando, Juan, Jose, Ricardo, Alejandro and his little sister Maria Isabel.

A funeral service will be held today, Thursday, Feb. 8, 10 a.m.-10:45 a.m. at St. Therese Catholic Church, 300 W. Lerdo Hwy., Shafter, followed by a graveside service at the Shafter Cemetery, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Bernelle Wells Carlton Jan. 27, 2024

Long time Shafter resident, Bernelle Wells Carlton was called home by her Lord and Savior on January 27, 2024. She was 97 years old. Bernelle was born on December 16, 1926 in Alexander, Arkansas to James and Ethel Thompson. She was the sixth of eleven children.

Bernelle is survived by her four children, Betty (Gene) White, Larry Wells, Russell (Mary) Wells and Andrea (Martin) Affentranger, eleven grandchildren, twenty-one



great grandchildren, and six great great grandchildren. Ted Thompson is her one surviving sibling. She is preceded in death by two husbands, JC Wells and

Charlie Carlton and many other family members.

Bernelle was active in the Shafter community and a kind and caring person who touched the lives of the many who knew her. A devoted Christian first, and a loving wife and mother, and grandmother.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, February 17, 2024, 1:00 PM at First Southern Baptist Church, 250 Kern Street, Shafter, California. Interment will follow the service at Shafter Memorial Park. Peters Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

DEATH NOTICES

Rusty Carrasco, 69, of Shafter passed away Jan. 27, in Lancaster. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Ramona Monique Melendrez, 43, of Shafter passed away Jan. 29, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Sue Hernandez, 83, of Bakersfield passed away Jan. 31, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Raul P. Lopez, 67, of Shafter passed

away Jan. 30, in Bakersfield. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Italy Gonzalez, 10, of Shafter passed away Jan. 26, in Los Angeles. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Longino E. Gonzalez, 92, of Shafter passed away Feb. 3, in Shafter. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Lee Antoinette Jones, 73, of Shafter passed away Feb. 3, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

PET OF THE WEEK

Meet the loveable Bella

Bella came into the Wasco Animal Shelter as a stray. She is approximately a 1-3 year old red pit mix. She is great with staff and other dogs. It is unknown if Bella is house/crate trained at the time. Dogs are not tested with children. Her behavior towards children is unknown. Bella is now available for

adoption.

Everyone is welcome to adopt from our facility, and we like to give everyone the same opportunity to adopt. Adopters can be from out of town and/or local. We do not place holds for adoptions. Adopters are responsible for transportation. Adoptions are on a first-come,

first-serve basis, beginning at 8 a.m. on the date they are available. You are welcome to call us the day before their availability to ensure the pet is still for adoption.

More information is available by emailing rifueroa@cityofwasco.org or masilva@cityofwasco.org.

— Wasco Animal Shelter



661-292-5100 TO ADVERTISE

CLASSIFIEDS

661-292-5100 TO ADVERTISE

1. WASCOWARD SALE

Big Yard Sale-Sun 2/11th 8am-4pm. Furniture, baby bed, clothing, baby clothing 50 each (Carter & Oshkosh) boys and lots of misc. 2785 Central Park Ave. #A. Located in back driveway.

2. AUTO/MOTORCYCLES

WANTED!
Old Porsche
356/911/912 for
restoration by hobbyist
1948-1998 Only.
Any condition. Top \$ paid!
PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE
1-707-338-5894. Email:
Porsche4restoration@
yahoo.com
Cal-SCAN

Get your deduction ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind today at 1-844-491-2884 today! (Cal-SCAN)

HOW TO ORDER YOUR CLASSIFIED

IN PERSON

Our Offices at 455 Kern St., Suite E, Shafter. Open 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

BY MAIL

Mail your ad, or prepayment to our office: Shafter Press, P.O. Box 789, Shafter, CA 93283, 661-292-5100.

BY FAX

Fax your ad to 661-292-5077.

ONLINE

Send an email to classified@theshafterpress.com or classified@wascotrib.com

HOW TO ADVERTISE EFFECTIVELY AND ECONOMICALLY

Our sales representatives are pleased to help you compose the most effective ad at a minimum cost. Here are two key points to remember about your ads: 1. If it's an item you're selling, remember to include as much information as possible. The more potential buyers know about the item you have for sale, the more interest they have in calling you. 2. Our reputation for Classified Advertising results

(SCAN)

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS Fast Free Pickup - Running or Not - 24 Hour Response - Maximum Tax Donation - Help Find Missing Kids! Call 1-888-491-1453. (Cal-SCAN)

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR? Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pickup. Running or not! Call 24/7 1-877-529-0495 (Cal-SCAN)

Tiene un vehiculo no deseado? Donde a Patriotic Hearts! Recogida rapida y gratuita en los 50 estados. Patriotic Hearts ofrece programas para ayudar a los veteranos a encontrar trabajo o iniciar su propio negocio. Llama ahora: 1-844-244-5441 (24/7) (Cal-SCAN)

5. MISC FOR SALE

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time,

is excellent. But not every potential buyer will read your ad on the same day. The majority of our private party advertisers take advantage of our discount rates. This simply means that you order your ad for two consecutive issues, but should you get the results you desire before the ad has expired, you may call and cancel the ad and be refunded for the days the ad did not appear. Except for GR - no refunds or changes accepted.

GENERAL POLICY

1. Rates and deadlines subject to change without notice. 2. The Shafter Press and Wasco Tribune make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each ad is carefully read back for approval. However, mistakes sometimes slip through. We ask that you check your ad carefully. If you should find an error, report it to the Classified Department right away by calling 661-292-5100 and asking for Classified. We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect publication if you do not call the error to our attention. The Shafter Press and Wasco Tribune cannot be liable for an amount greater than the amount paid for such advertising.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS.

We're waiving all installation costs in half and offering a FREE safety upgrade! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/31/24) Call 1-833-985-4766 (Cal-SCAN)

DID YOU KNOW? Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-289-6011 or email cecilia@crpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. CNPAs Advertising Services' power to connect to nearly 13 million of the state's readers who are an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecilia @ (916) 289-6011 or cecilia@crpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-439-5645 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move. (Cal-SCAN)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal, 15 GB Internet Service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copy.

Free shipping & handling. Call Maxx Telecom today! 1-855-480-0769 (Cal-SCAN)

DIRECTV Sports Pack 3 Months on Us! Watch pro and college sports LIVE. Plus over 40 regional and specialty networks including NFL, College Football, MLB, NBA, NHL, Golf and more. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-644-5762 (Cal-SCAN)

DIRECTV OVER INTERNET - Get your favorite live TV, sports and local channels. 99% signal reliability! CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12 months. HBO Max and Premium Channels included for 3 mos (w/ CHOICE Package or higher). No annual contract, no hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call 1-855-404-2509 (Cal-SCAN)

SHAFTER CINCO DE MAYO 2024

Saturday, May 4th

ATTENTION: BOOTH, PARADE & SPONSOR APPLICATIONS. Will be available by Mid or before the end of February

On Website - shaftercincomayo.com, Facebook - like us @shaftercincomayo & email - shaftercinco@gmail.com to request applications.

HAVE A SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER!

Promote your business. Advertise your new business in the parade (for free)

Help us promote our Cinco Festival and Scholarship fund by being a Sponsor! Join us in the fun in making Cinco de Mayo 2024 a great event!

6. MISC WANTED

BE WARY OF out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send any money for fees or services. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

7. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing - Trusted by Authors Since 1920 Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-877-538-9554 or visit dorranceinfo.com (Cal-SCAN)

9. BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now - 1-855-667-0380 (Cal-SCAN)

10. SERVICES

Villalobos Lawn Service

• Lawn Mowing
• General Cleaning
• Sprinkler Repair
• Professional Tree Trimming
Licensed & Insured
661-900-3439 Espanol
661-817-2367 English

Switch and save up to \$250/ year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605 (Cal-SCAN)

17. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Wasco
GROW WITH US

Billing & Collections Specialist I
(\$1,676.11 - \$2,139.19 Biweekly)

To review the essential job functions and apply, please contact the City of Wasco Human Resources located at 746 8th Street, Wasco, CA 93280 or download an application and job description via the city website at www.cityofwasco.org.

The City of Wasco is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Open Until Filled

BIG JOE'S POOL SERVICE

Shafter-Wasco Bakersfield
FREE QUOTES
661-314-2697

Over \$10K in Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 1-888-231-4274. (Cal-SCAN)

Martinez Home Repair & Remodeling

Drywall, Electrical, Roofing, Framing & Painting
Miguel 661.340.5888

SAVE BIG ON HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurance companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central) (Cal-SCAN)

INTER COUNTY HEATING & COOLING

REPAIRS • INSTALLATION
Call or Text
Mario 661-428-1064
Jesus 661-203-4297
Se Habla Español
Lic#1043948

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-888-892-5558 (Cal-SCAN)

11. PETS

When veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, ask for Happy Jack's animal

16. APARTMENT FOR RENT

WASCO STUDIO APARTMENT FOR RENT
Completely furnished
Call 661-205-0352

17. REAL ESTATE

healthcare for cats, dogs, & horses. At Tractor Supply (www.happyjackinc.com) (Cal-SCAN)

RETIREDCOUPLE \$\$\$\$

for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit important. VLP Trust Deed Company www.vlploan.com Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)

Sherry Knapp

Loan Officer, DRE#0174802 • NMLS#242213
(661)758-3003
Cell: (661)303-9556
Fax: (661)758-3670

1136 7th Street • Wasco, CA 93280

E-mail: knapp_she@yahoo.com

17. REAL ESTATE

Buying or Selling? Call us!

WINGATE REALTY SERVICES

1532 5th St. 2 bed + office/bonus room - SOLD

1930 F St. 3/2 - SOLD

791 Redwood - SOLD

661-758-6435

1701 Hw 46, Wasco CA 93280

Broker License #01746968

17. REAL ESTATE

OPEN DOOR REALTY

411 E Los Angeles • PRICE REDUCED!

\$1,450,000 - Almost 20 acres for residential development. Three 2bd/1ba rentals. One 3bd/2ba home & 1 mobile home sit on the property. Call me for information.

NEW LISTING - 5902 Current Court

\$438,000 - Bakersfield, 4 bdrm, 2ba on 1/3 acre lot, Large pool

Jerome Preston

Realtor/CalBRE#01500105
Jeromepreston@gmail.com

Sonia Bravo

Lic# 01983424

661-342-6474



The Wasco High School wrestling team's South Sequoia League 2024 Champions. (Photo courtesy of Juan Gallardo)

Wasco High wrestling team triumphs

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

The Wasco High School wrestling team, under the guidance of Head Coach Juan Gallardo, has emerged victorious from the South Sequoia League Championship. The team's achievements and the dedication of both players and coaches have led to a memorable season.

About the win, Coach Gallardo said, "It's wonderful. Overall, with varsity boys, varsity girls and the JV boys, we had 20 champions."

As the head coach, Gallardo oversees 48 wrestlers with the help of eight other coaches. "I've got a great coaching staff with coach Garth Wara [varsity boys], Garrett Johnson [varsity boys], Joe Blanchard [varsity girls], Danny Arellano [varsity girls], Anselmo Arellano [varsity girls], Angel Romero [JV boys], Christian Aranda [JV boys] and Jose Robledo [varsity boys]."

WASCO

Gallardo said winning was significant. "This group of kids has put a lot of work in the off season [so] that they could be this successful this year. The trips these kids made in the off season, where they went to Utah and Las Vegas twice, when they went to San Diego and Reno, Nevada, wrestling at these national tournaments, got them ready for the tournament in Kern County."

He said a lot of hard work went into it. "For the kids, it was all year long. We do a yearlong program, and they sacrifice their time from their friends and families to attend these tournaments and practice. Because there is no program without the kids."

The competition was difficult. "Our competition for the last five years has been Cesar Chavez [in Delano], and they always bring a good group. They put in a lot of good time all year just like we do, so their coach, Roman [Salcedo], makes me a better coach because I know they are working

hard, too."

Gallardo said that the wrestlers relied on their superior skills and strengths. "It was their work ethic; they stayed focused, showed up to practice, they were leaders in the mat room and weight room. They had good grades at school and showed leadership in the classroom."

He explained that to prepare for the championship, "Mentally, we talked to them and gave them daily goals, then weekly and monthly goals. And then we tell them they must be good students and a good kid at home. If you take care of those things, it makes it easier to be successful."

During critical moments, the team comes together to support one another. "They call each other out when they have an issue with each other. They call each other out when they see a guy or girl wrestling incorrectly; they'll go and correct them. So, they hold each other accountable. And when one of our wrestlers wrestles, they'll

go to the mat and cheer them on."

He said the camaraderie between the wrestlers is strong. "It's good. They have a lot of fun. They've been with each other all year long. They spend a lot of time together. They know each other like brothers and sisters. And if they get into arguments together, you have to let them work it out by talking through it, which helps build that bond."

The wrestlers have improved and developed throughout the season. "By being consistent and showing up at 5:30 in the morning to work out and then go to school all day, with practice at 4 until 6:15 and still having to go home to do homework. So that's them being consistent day in and day out. That allows them to be successful, having structure."

His goal for the future? "That we're in playoffs. Next week, we are wrestling at Hoover High School in Fresno and hoping to win a Valley title. We have a legitimate shot at winning it."

SPD carrying on with absence of chief

From Page 1

recruitment" that the department has and the cadets that they have going through the Kern Sheriff's Academy now, the staffing at Shafter will be fine. "We have quite a few new recruits and some cadets who will be finishing the academy soon, so we are in good shape when it comes to staffing," he said.

Milligan also commented on the new substation that will be located in the Gosamer Grove area. "We are on track with the plans for the substation, and by all accounts, we should be able to open the substation by the end of the year."

Milligan, who has been in charge for over a month now, has been with the Shafter force since 2003.

Capt. Milligan was raised in a small town in Kern County. He became a county Sheriff Reserve in 1999, and was hired as an extra help deputy sheriff shortly after

During the off season, as an extra help deputy sheriff, he worked as a Kern County Child Support Investigator and Housing Authority investigator, assigned to the Shafter area, where he realized how much Shafter reminded him of the town he was raised in, with the presence of hometown and community values.

He was hired as a Shafter police officer in June of 2003. He quickly volunteered for the special assignments of traffic officer and police fleet manager. As a fleet manager, he worked diligently to bring the fleet to a professional and functioning level. He soon realized that emergency vehicles were becoming more complex and that a tremendous amount of work was required to get these units service ready. In 2004, he began to standardize the fleet by converting the fleet patrol units back to black and white patrol vehicles, as well as outfitting the fleet with consistent emergency equip-

ment.

In 2004, he became the department's K-9 handler, where he demonstrated how a highly dependable and devoted K-9 program should function. He worked with his partner Dak until Dak's retirement in 2007.

He was selected as officer of the year in 2004 by his peers. He distinguished himself by receiving commendations from the Kern County and Denver Colorado District Attorney Prosecutors for his high quality of arrest and investigations. He has received numerous positive comments from his supervisors regarding his high level of loyalty and dedication.

In 2006, as he advanced in his career, he saw an opportunity to influence the future of the department and became a field training officer. In 2006, he was promoted to a senior patrol officer and in February of 2010 was again promoted to sergeant. In

July of 2021 he was promoted to lieutenant; two years later, he was promoted to Captain.

When asked about the recent article in the Shafter Press about the defamation of over 50 graves in the Shafter Cemetery, Milligan did say that he would like to clarify something for the record.

"While it is within a person's right to practice their religion, it is not lawful to defame someone's grave that is not related to you, or is not affiliated with that religion."

Milligan said that there was a case documented and that they would file it as vandalism. "We misspoke on that and would like to clear that up. The practice of one's religion does not include messing with graves other than your loved ones or those involved in the religion. It is not okay to include persons who you are not affiliated with."

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Wasco Mini Storage
451 N. F Street
Wasco, CA 93280
ONLINE Auction
Storage treasures.com
Ending 2/9/24 @9am
Cleaning Deposit \$50
72 Hours clean-out
U415 Michael Munoz
household
U312 Odi Rivera
household
Publish Wasco Tribune February 1, 8, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fictitious Business
Name Statement
A.G Truck and Transport
2024-80617

1054 16th St
Wasco, CA 93280
County: Kern
1054 16th St
Wasco, CA 93280
A.G Truck and Transport LLC
1054 16th St
Wasco, CA 93280
State of Incorp, or corp.: CA
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company
Date the business commenced: N/A
Is/Is/ Miguel Gonzalez, Manager
Date Statement Filed: 01/26/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/26/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: P Del Villar
Publish Wasco Tribune February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fictitious Business Name
Statement
Cisco's Mobile Rly Service
2024-80499

1010 Palm Ave
Wasco, CA 93280
County: Kern
1010 Palm Ave

Wasco, CA 93280
Francisco Gerardo Garcia Jr.
1010 Palm Ave
Wasco, CA 93280
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: N/A
Is/Francisco Gerardo Garcia Jr.
Date Statement Filed: 01/22/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/22/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: Z Arellano
Publish Wasco Tribune January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fictitious Business Name
Statement
TMM Hay and Feed Sales
2024-80218

763 Oak Avenue
Wasco, CA 93280
County: Kern
763 Oak Avenue
Wasco, CA 93280
Todd Northrup Miller
763 Oak Avenue
Wasco, CA 93280
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: 03/01/2010
Is/Todd Northrup Miller
Date Statement Filed: 01/09/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/09/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: T Cabrera
Publish Wasco Tribune January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fictitious Business Name
Statement
Firmes Barber Shop
2024-80499

917 11th Ave
Wasco, CA 93215
County: KERN
Mailing address of business:
PO Box 698

Richgrove, CA 93261
Edwin Lopez
290 Wheatland Dr
Richgrove, CA 93261
Business is conducted by: Individual
Is/Edwin Lopez, Owner
Original FBN Statement File Number: 2022-87745
Original FBN Statement Filed on: 11/29/2022
This statement of Abandonment filed on: 01/09/2024
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: Is/P Del Villar
Publish Wasco Tribune January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fictitious Business
Name Statement
Delano 76 Inc
2024-80259

2200 Girard St
Delano, CA 93215
County: Kern
201 Norwalk St
Delano, CA 93215
Delano 76 Inc
2200 Girard St
Delano, CA 93215
State of Incorp, or corp.: CA
The business is conducted by: Corporation
Date the business commenced: N/A
Is/Saleh Saeed, President
Date Statement Filed: 01/10/2024
Date Statement Expires: 01/10/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: T Cabrera
Publish Wasco Tribune January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fictitious Business
Name Statement
Prime Performance Academy
2023-87657

1121 Main Street

Delano, CA 93215
County: Kern
2227 Santa Barbara Circle
Delano, CA 93215
2029 Isiah Jasso
2227 Santa Barbara Circle
Delano, CA 93215
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: 09/01/2023
Is/Angel Isiah Jasso
Date Statement Filed: 12/08/2023
Date Statement Expires: 12/08/2028
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: P Del Villar
Publish Wasco Tribune January 18, 25, February 1, 8, 2024

CITY OF WASCO

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Wasco will conduct a public hearing on February 20, 2024, at 6:00pm, at the Wasco City Hall, 746 8th Street, Wasco, CA 93280, in order to discuss the 2023 Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) Program and City of Wasco PLHA Plan under the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development.

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) dated December 29, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: February 20, 2024

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Wasco City Council Chambers

746 8th Street, Wasco, CA 93280

The City Council will consider public comments related to the City of Wasco Permanent Local Housing

Formula Allocation for the following years (2020-2023), eligible activities, PLHA 5-Year Plan and provide

direction for staff to prepare and submit an application.

The State of California Department of Housing and Community Development

is authorized to provide up to \$296 million under the SB2 Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program Formula Component from the Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund for assistance to Cities and Counties (as described in Health and Safety Code section 50470 et seq. (chapter 364, Statutes of 2017 (SB 2)).

On December 29, 2023, the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) published a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program (PLHA). Eligible local governments can submit applications for PLHA funds under the prescribed NOFA. The City of Wasco is eligible to receive funds based on a formula allocation provided by HCD.

Eligible activities to be paid for with State PLHA funds must include housing supply, facilitate housing affordability, increase affordable owner-occupied workforce housing, and assist persons experiencing or at-risk of homelessness and Homelessness Opportunities. The principal goal of this program is to make funding available to eligible local governments in California for housing-related projects and programs that assist in addressing the unmet housing needs of their local communities.

With this program funding, cities and counties may: Increase the supply of housing for households at or below 60% of Area Median Income Facilitate housing affordability, particularly for lower- and moderate-income households, up to 120% AMI or 150% AMI in high-cost areas, Increase assistance to affordable owner-occupied workforce housing, Assist persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness, Homeownership opportunities, In-

cluding but not limited to a down payment assistance program.

The City of Wasco PLHA Formula Allocation is:

2020 PLHA \$142,283.00

2021 PLHA \$215,433.00

2022 PLHA \$257,194.00

2023 PLHA \$120,083.00

The purpose of this public hearing is to allow the public to make their

comments known regarding the proposed PLHA-eligible activities, the City of Wasco PLHA Plan under the State-administered 2023 Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program Formula Component Notice of Funding Availability.

If you require special accommodations to participate in the public hearing, please contact Maria Martinez, City of Wasco, 746 8th Street, Wasco, CA 93280, or you may telephone Keri Cobb (661) 758-7211. In addition, information is available for review at the above address between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday, State Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program (PLHA) can be accessed at: <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/programs-active/permanent-local-housing-allocation>

The City of Wasco promotes fair housing and makes all its programs available to low- and moderate-income families regardless of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual preference, marital status, or handicap.

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Is/ Monica Flores, Deputy City Clerk

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