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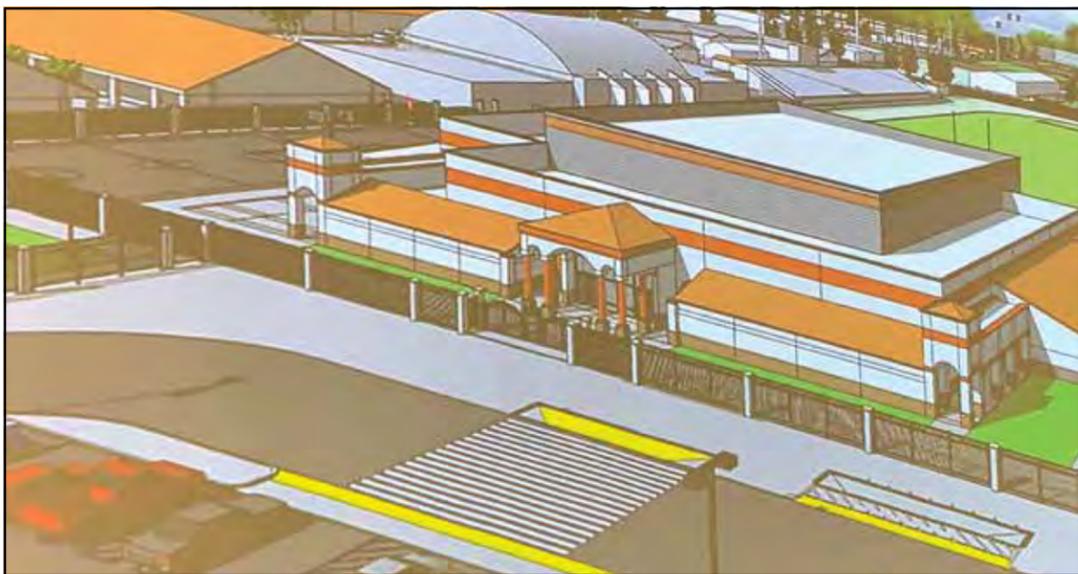
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Wasco Tribune



SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1980

Vol. 42 No. 29 • Wasco, California • Thursday, January 16, 2020



WHS architect's rendering of future gymnasium.

New \$30M gym for WHS?

TONI DEROSA
Wasco Tribune

In March, Wasco High School will be asking taxpayers to pass a bond for nearly \$40 million to build a new gym and renovate the old one.

A town hall meeting was held Tuesday in the cafeteria at the high school, where Assistant Superintendent Rob Cobb presented an outline of why the district needs a new gym.

"The \$38.9-million bond is pared down from the one the district attempted to pass in 2018," Cobb said. "The gym will have a seating capacity of 2,000."

Cobb stated that the assessed value of someone with a home worth \$200,000 would pay \$60 a year more in taxes, which calculates to only \$30 per year per See **VOTE Page 5**



Assistant Superintendent Rob Cobb presents case for bond issue.

WUESD improves in tests

Scores almost twice county average

JAMIE STEWART
Wasco Tribune

Assistant Superintendent David Bowling gave the school board a report on the progress made by the students of the Wasco Union Elementary School District -- and it was a positive one.

Wasco students showed improvement in the series of tests that are conducted every year to assess where a school and a district as a whole is progressing according to state standards set by the State Board of Education.

Wasco's overall score was 3.0, on a 1-5 scale. The state average was 1.8.

In 2018, as a district, Wasco Elementary was working below the state average with a score of 2.8, with the majority of their categories, including English and Math, in the Orange category. The colors range from Red as the lowest on the scale, to See **WUESD Page 5**

The district hit Green in two categories, having a low of 6.2% in absenteeism, and a 0.8% in suspensions.

A warden with a giving heart

TONI DEROSA
Wasco Tribune

The twin boys had a taste of what a farmer's life would be like when they worked in the cotton, potato and alfalfa fields as young boys.

Both played sports at school and were both equally talented in their respective positions. "We played sports together throughout school," John said. "We started out playing T Ball, youth football with the packers, ran track, baseball and Little League. "I got a varsity letter in track and

football where I was the quarterback, and Nick was a receiver.

Sutton has been in law enforcement since he decided on a career track while in college. His brother works at PG&E on the Central Coast.

Originally, Sutton thought he was going to go into education and become a teacher, but during college he enrolled in the police academy. "I had a change of heart," he said.

Sutton first worked for the Porterville Police Department. "I was hired as an un-

See **WARDEN Page 3**



Wasco State Prison Warden John Sutton.

Reserve names new assistant coach

TONI DEROSA
Wasco Tribune

A new coach has been added to the staff of the Wasco Reserve baseball club.

Coach Jason Stowers, head coach at Kentucky Christian University, will assist Coach Bill Moore once practices begin in May.

Stowers is originally from Bristol, Tenn., but lives in Grayson, Ky. He played high school ball at Tennessee High School in Bristol, and his collegiate experience was at Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes, Ky.

Stowers said that he has coached five 1st-round draft choices in the major league baseball draft. In addition, he has coached eight players that have played in the major leagues

"I have also coached six All-American Honorable Mention players," he said. "I have also recruited four Conference-Freshman-of-the-Year players, as well as one runner-up.

Stowers has also coached two players chosen as National Player of the Week (US-CAS), 14 Gold Glove Award winners, over

30 collegiate All-Conference players and record-setting pitching staffs.

Stowers is looking forward to working with Moore this summer.

"His coach freed Jason up for us," Moore said. "Jason has already taken care of what he needed to do for next his next season, and I was able to make an arrangement where we were able to get him."

"I've known Jason for several years," Moore said. "I'm looking forward to having his experience on the field with the guys from Wasco."



Jason Stowers, new assistant coach of the Wasco Reserve.

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Community Calendar

For updates or to submit additional information about a club, organization or meeting listed in this public service column, call the Wasco Tribune at 661-292-5100 or email calendar@WascoTrib.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW: Blood drive — Wasco Knights of Columbus is having a Houchin Community Blood Bank drive Friday, Jan. 17, 1:45-6 p.m., at 810 8th St., Wasco. Donors receive a free Star Wars shirt. SSponsored by Kern Family Health Care.

NEW: Free tax filing — The United Way of Kern County is once again offering free VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Services for Shafter residents to help file their 2019 tax returns. The service begins in February. You can contact the city at (661) 746-5001 for more details.

NEW: Libraries closed — All libraries will be closed Monday, Jan. 20, for Martin Luther King's Day.

Volunteer readers -- Karl Clemens Elementary School is looking for volunteer readers to read to classrooms Monday through Thursday from 9-10 a.m. Volunteers need to be trained for this project. Contact academic coach Tara Rojas at 661-758-7120, ext. 42007.

Seeking all veterans -- A meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 27, at 6 p.m. at the Shafter Veterans Hall, 309 California Ave., Shafter. Call Mike Miller for more details, 661-477-9261.

Wasco Animal Shelter — Donations are welcomed: nonplumping cat litter, kitten/puppy chow and stainless steel buckets. Drop off donations at the shelter, 5409 7th St. Open Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MOFA -- Mexican American Opportunity Foundation of Bakersfield is a vocational training program at no cost. Career enhancement classes, externship, computers, typing and GED. Call for more information, 661-336-6821 or email MAOF.org

Class of 1969 — Wasco High School Class of 1969 is looking for members for its 50th reunion. The classes of 1966-1972 also are invited. Contact Earl Grizzell or email grizzell@comcast.net or 550-300-4410.

ONGOING

Senior lunch — Senior center serving meal Monday-Friday at 11:25 a.m., 1280 Poplar St.

MONDAY

Free Fit Camp — Get fit with Giselle, 6:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, at the Shafter Youth Center, 455 E. Euclid Ave. On Instagram at getfitgigi.

Zumba Gold (modified Zumba) — FREE for all ages, 9:30 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at 505 Sunset Ave., Shafter, at the Walker Senior Center. Call Shafter Recreation for information, 661-746-3303.

North Kern 4H -- Meetings 7 p.m. second Monday of each month at Karl Clemens Elementary School cafeteria, 523 Broadway St.

Mayor's office hours -- Mayor Alex Garcia holds office hours on the second Monday, 3-6 p.m., at 810 8th St.

Rotary Club -- Wasco Rotary Club meets every Monday at the Wasco Recreation Center at noon.

Adult education -- Enroll for classes at 1445 Poso Drive. High school diploma program, ESL, citizenship and Microsoft Office.

Mystery history

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 the *Tribune*, 406 Central Ave., Shafter 93263, or e-mail it to mysteryphoto@WascoTrib.com. Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** From a 1960s Wasco 20-30 Club meeting. From left are Bob Waugh, Harold Steward, John Camp, unknown, Art Parratt and Wolfgang Renken.



TUESDAY

Free yoga — White Wolf Wellness Foundation offers a free yoga class starting Jan. 7 and continuing Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and Feb. 18 at 7:15 p.m. at the Wasco Community Center, 1280 Poplar Ave. Yoga instructor Yani Valdez teaches stretching to help with pain, stress and anxiety. Provided by Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services.

FREE Adult Hip Hop Class -- 7 p.m. at the Shafter Recreation Walker Senior Center at 505 Sunset, Shafter. Classes are \$3 donation. Led by Brandi Root.

Woman's Club -- Meeting second Tuesday at noon until May at clubhouse, 1601 7th St.

WUESD -- Wasco Union Elementary School District meets second Tuesday in the board room at 6:30 p.m.

City Council -- Meets first and third Tuesdays at 6 p.m. on 8th Street.

WEDNESDAY

NEW: Game On — Family Fun Jan. 22 at 3:30 p.m. at the Wasco Branch Library.

Free Fit Camp — Get fit with Giselle, 6:30 p.m. Mon-

days and Wednesdays, at the Shafter Youth Center, 455 E. Euclid Ave. On Instagram at getfitgigi.

Zumba Gold (modified Zumba) — FREE for all ages, 9:30 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at 505 Sunset Ave., Shafter, at the Walker Senior Center. Call Shafter Recreation for information, 661-746-3303.

THURSDAY

ACTS Class —Alcohol and chemical treatment series meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the Sounds of Pentecost, 2000 Palm Ave. Rides are available.

FRIDAY

Storytime and craft — At 3:30 p.m. at the Wasco Library. Seniors exercise -- Wasco Senior Center exercise class, starting at 10 a.m. 1280 Poplar St.

Family Storytime & Crafts -- 3:30-5 p.m. at the Wasco Library.

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PET OF THE WEEK

Stella is looking for a loving home

Stella is a small female black, yellow, tan, blond and fawn spaniel mix. She came in as a stray. She is approximately 10 months old and was scanned for a microchip but nothing was found. Stella is good with other dogs and people. Give us a call to visit Stella at 758-7240. #AC19-638. Stella is available at the Wasco Animal Shelter, 5409 7th St.



Stella is about 10 months old.

ARREST LOG

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

JAN. 6

Jaime Ernesto Alas, 38, of Bakersfield, was arrested in the 300 block of North Leonard Avenue for disorderly conduct. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Alfredo Figueroa, 39, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of Highway 43 and Jackson Street for driving a vehicle without a license and an expired vehicle registration. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Adrian Perez, 39, of Wasco, was arrested in the 2000 block of 9th Place for being an active gang member carrying a loaded firearm, being an active gang member carrying a concealed firearm, felon in possession of prohibited ammunition, possession of a controlled substance while armed, felon in possession of a firearm, possession of unlawful paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance, failure to maintain a vehicle

license plate lamp and vehicle tail lamp violations. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

JAN. 7
Esmeralda Mata, 34, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of Poso Drive and Broadway for driving a vehicle without a license and failure to stop at a crosswalk. She was cited and released at the scene.

Antonio Soto, 55, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of 6th Street and F Street for possession

of a controlled substance. He was cited and released at the scene.

JAN. 8
Esteban Lara, 34, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of 6th Street and D Street for possession of unlawful paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance, obstructing/delaying a peace officer and riding a bicycle during the hours of darkness without a headlamp. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

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WUESD going green in moving forward

TONI DEROSA
Wasco Tribune

A meeting on "green" goals included a review of the WUESD's progress in dealing with longterm issues the district faced over the last decade, and how the environment was considered in implementing solutions.

Superintendent Kelly Richers hosted the meeting with the Electric Vehicle Partnership, Project Clean Air and the San Joaquin Valley Clean Air Coalition on Tuesday at the district office.

He reported on issues the district has been working on for several years:

- The district was expected to gain about 50 students annually.
- There was no capacity to build out Thomas Jefferson, Clemens or Prueitt schools.
- There were too many middle school students for one site.
- No school was located north of Highway 46.
- All elementary students were transported.
- The district office had outgrown its original building.
- There was insufficient

room for Student Services (Special Education).

■ There was insufficient parking at Prueitt, with a dangerous traffic situation

the district office complex and the Prueitt parking lot, and built a new elementary school on the other side of Highway 46 for students in

an electric car.

Richers also added that with electric cars, the savings would be about \$7,000 yearly for the first four years, probably double that with additional cars now being used. "The district has saved about \$28,000 so far since the inception of the program," he said.

He also mentioned that when using the electric cars and going from school to school, air pollution will be virtually stopped.

He also stated that he has calculated the district won't need another school before 18 years.

He presented a list of the current enrollment numbers at each of the school sites, as well as the maximum capacity allowed per school.

■ Forrest currently has 610 and has the capacity for 750 students with room for 140 more.

■ Prueitt also has 610 students and has the capacity for 750 with room for 140 more.

■ Clemens has 598 students, with a capacity of 700, with room for 52 more.

■ Burke has 611 students, with a capacity for 750, and room for an additional 186.

■ Palm Avenue currently has 614 students and a capacity of 800, with room for an additional 186.

■ Jefferson has 570 students and a capacity for 750, with room for 180 more.

Richers mentioned that the district has saved 204,000 gallons of water per month due to using artificial turf, which adds up to 2,448,000 gallons a year.

He said that additional charging stations will be placed at Palm, and the Clemens office on Griffith will have off-street unloading of students to replace the current MOT location. In addition, artificial grass will be placed at Clemens.

Rob Lichtman from Charge Point EV described how the electric vehicles worked and what the range of travel is with the different charge levels.

"People will be 'topping off' their vehicles as they drive them," Lichtman said "much like some top off their gas tank while driving to keep it at a full level."

He also said that the distance a car will go on a single charge depends on the type of battery installed in the car. "The first electric

When using the electric cars and going from school to school, air pollution will be virtually stopped.

arising during student drop-off and pickup.

■ The city had changed its water pricing structure, dramatically increasing costs for the district. The district used to get a special rate and it is now being charged the industrial rate, which is more expensive.

Richers continued to talk about what the district has done in order to "go green," such as completing a district office complex overhaul and relocating office personnel, solar-powering

that area - James A. Forrest Elementary.

In 2019, the district completed the Palm Avenue gymnasium and converted the school to a second middle school. Richers added that because of the cost, it was more cost-effective to build a new elementary school. "An elementary school costs \$25 million to build while a middle school costs \$50 million," Richers said. "It's all in the numbers."

The district also placed shade structures at Prueitt, Palm, Burke, Clemens and Forrest and replaced natural grass with artificial grass or a substitute at Palm, Forrest and the district office.

A regional planner for the Kern Council of Governments. Linda Urata, initiated a discussion on the school district's "green" goals, specifically electric automobiles.

The district also obtained six electric cars with charging stations at the district office site. "Because of various grants, these vehicles did not cost the district money," Richers said.

The district is also planning on installing solar panels at Jefferson, Palm, Clemens and Forrest.

The new Maintenance, Operations and Training Building will be completed soon, and additional charging stations will be placed at Burke, Forrest and the new MOT building. The district is also planning on putting in artificial grass at those sites.

Richers also talked about a need for electric cars for several reasons, such as instead of paying mileage with stipends for staff members when using their own vehicles, it would be cheaper for them to use



Superintendent Kelly Richers hosted the "green" meeting.

cars go about 140 miles," Lichtman said. "The newer cars will go much further."

He said that charging stations are cropping up everywhere and by 2025, there will be 6 million electric cars on the road. Due to liability issues, the charging stations will not be available to the public.



Charge Point EV's Rob Lichtman shared information about electrical vehicles.



Regional Planner Linda Urata of Kern COG opened the meeting.

Warden tries to give back

From Page 1

dercover cop for the high school - much like the TV show '21-Jump Street.'

It was at that time that Sutton made a career

choice by applying to the Department of Corrections. "I chose that because of the unlimited opportunities and availability for advancement."

Twenty-nine-year-old Sutton was assigned to Ironwood Prison in Blythe. "It was a new prison at that time," he said.

Then it was on to Wasco in 1991. "We have 5,000 prisoners at Wasco State Prison," Sutton said. "The prison used to be an annex but now it is incorporated into the city."

The site was originally a dove-hunting spot.

Sutton's goals for 2020 include maintaining the safety within the prison and keeping up with the new laws provided by the Department of Corrections.

"I am proud of the staff here at the prison," he said. "Staff doesn't hesitate to give back to the community."

"To be able to live and be in a position to give back in Wasco is a special feeling."

Sutton has been at Wasco State Prison



Wasco State Prison Warden John Sutton with M. J. Pae at the December Woman's Club Special Education Christmas Party.



Warden John Sutter presents a donation for the July fireworks show to Orange Heart's Traci Mills-Clendenen and Orquidea Ocampo.

for 29 years.

"The state is a great provider," he said. "I never thought I would have this opportunity to work with such a dedicated staff."

Even though Sutton and his wife are getting ready to move into a home on the Central Coast, he plans to drive back to Wasco Monday mornings and stay through Friday.

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PASTOR'S CORNER

The true definition of riches

PASTOR JIM NEAL

Lucius Annaeus Seneca, a Roman statesman who lived from 5 BC-65 AD, made a statement that should be written and remembered in 2020. He said, "We become wiser by adversity; prosperity destroys our appreciation of the (what is) right."

A very profound statement, isn't it? Especially when we consider it was written by a man who died in 65 AD. This thought kinda runs counter to the prevalent thought of today, doesn't it? In a day when prosperity, ease and opulence seem to be the norm for most people, it might be a good idea to slow down and consider where such ideas have driven us.

I read an article the other day written by a 26-year-old MBA student that really stirred my innards. She began her writing with the profound statement, "My generation is blind to the prosperity around us!" She went on to share how anesthetized her generation has become to the ease and prosperity that permeates our society. However, I hasten to disagree with her; for it is not just the younger generation but, the entirety

of the American populace that has grown for the most part complacent to our state of opulence.

Most families have two cars, a warm/cool home, a refrigerator full of food, pockets or purses filled with money (or plastic cash) -- not to mention we carry a cell phone that has more computer capabilities than was even known when man first set foot on the moon.

It is so easy to get complacent to all the glitter, gadgets and gizmos that we lose sight of the most important aspects of life such as love, compassion and community, all of which cost little in dollars and cents. We live in a world where it is too easy to fall prey to the thought that all we need is more money, more programs or a different administration in the White House. The truth of the matter is this, when we "boil down" all our challenges, thoughts and desires, when will come to the realization that it is really a heart problem and nothing else?

It is how we perceive things, not how they really are. In truth, most do not worry about unemployment until they lose their

own job, or about the hunger issue until there is no money for food, nor even the housing issue or lack thereof until financial straits hit and they are forced to move to a less desirable neighborhood or worst lose their home.

Those types of incidents are what Seneca refers to as adversities. When they, adversities, hit what happens? Do we become wiser as he suggests, or do we become cynical and blame the system, the government or worst of all others.

King Solomon said it this way in Proverbs 24:10, "If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength (faith) is small." Solomon does not deny that adversity will come, as some in the faith community imply today, but seems to imply that they are a way of life for everyone. The challenge continues; can we remain strong, stay the course and come out a stronger more faith-filled individual in the midst of the adverse conditions. Of course we can, if we remember that ever situation of life, adversity or prosperity, will either make us better or bitter, civil or cynical, thankful or thankless -- it is

our choice. Let me wrap this up lest I become too "preachy" by saying as you look around today, take stock of the blessings that you have received by the grace of God. Do not take anything for granted, but flip it over and remember who or what came into your life to allow you to have or to be what you are.

Smile as your mind brings into focus the adversity that came to bear on you at some point and that through and by faith you weathered the storm and became stronger, wiser and more resilient. It helps to remember the words of the Apostle Paul who wrote to those same Romans that Seneca wrote to when he instructed, "All things work together for good for those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose."

And for goodness sake do not take for granted the prosperity you enjoy; for truth be told in a world where the medium per capita income is less than \$4,000 per year, you are indeed rich.

Jim Neal is pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Shafter.



Mark Your Calendar!

2022 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)/ Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) Stakeholder Roundtable Meeting

MEETING PURPOSE: To review the 2022 RTP/SCS outreach process and receive input from our stakeholders.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 22, 2020
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

WHERE: Kern Council of Governments
1401 19th Street, Suite 300
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Please plan to attend and provide your input.
RSVP to Susanne Campbell at scampbell@kerncog.org, or 661-635-2906



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Wasco High School 1900 7th St.	76 Station 1445 Hwy. 46
Wasco High School District admin 2100 7th St.	Shear Design 1801 Hwy. 46
Omni Family Health..... 2101 7th St.	O'Reilly Auto..... 1950 Hwy. 46
Wasco Medical Plaza & Urgent Care 2300 7th St.	Chevron 2033 Hwy. 46
Wasco City Hall 746 8th St.	American Tire Depot..... 2150 Hwy. 46
St. John's Catholic Church 1300 9th Pl.	Tropicana Supermarket..... 2425 Hwy. 46
St. John's School 929 Broadway St.	Circle K 1395 Palm
Cecilia's..... E St.	Wasco Senior Center..... 1280 Poplar Ave.
Rosie's Cakes 440 E St.	Fiesta Super Market 915 Poso
VFW 603 E St.	Joe's Market..... 1010 Poso
Unique Touch 628 E St.	Wasco Tire Service 850 Poso Dr.



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Independence High among state's best
Model continuations school, state says

Council includes participation from WHS

City proclaims February Safety Surrender Month

Wasco High qualifies for decathlon state meet

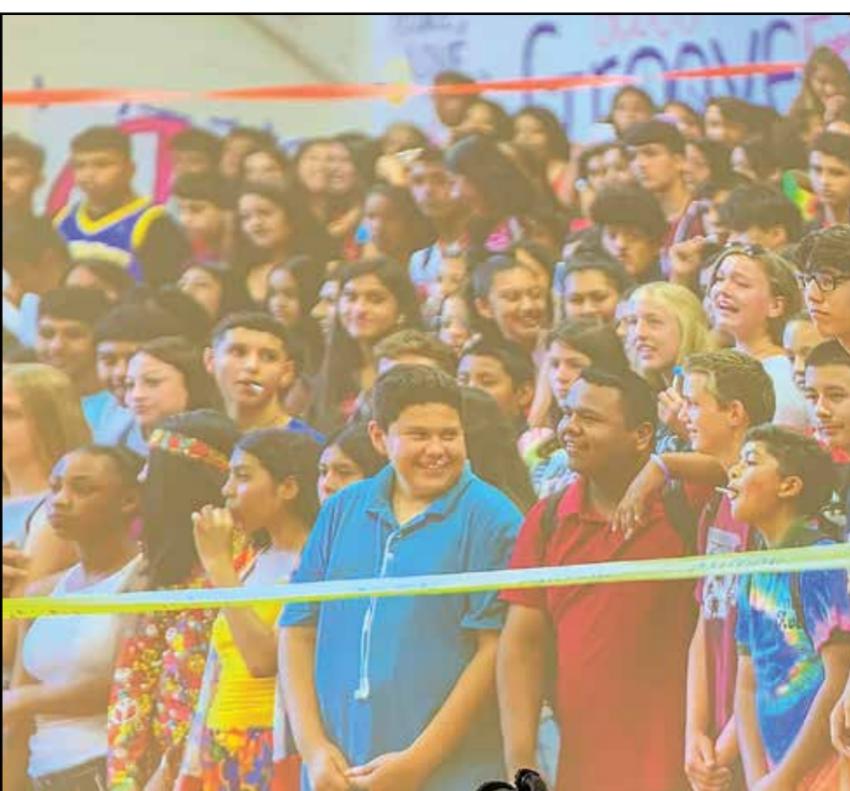
Wasco man arrested for murder in court

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With little room to spare, the students look like sardines packed in the gym.

Vote set on \$40M gym bond for WHS

From Page 1

\$100,000 of assessed value, which means \$5 extra a month.

He also said that the district receives 80% of its funding from the assessed value of agricultural, natural resources and industrial properties, while only 14% comes from property owners.

Cobb provided a brief historical outline of the district's previous bonds. In 1915, the district passed a \$45-million dollar bond to construct the school and in 2008, Measure C was passed for \$33.5 million to expand and modernize the school's sports complex, upgrades, three new classroom wings (English, social science and math), a new cafeteria and a new student services building. The district also modernized the library wing and the old science building. "The old cafeteria is now the library," Cobb said.

Cobb estimates the new gym will cost

\$29 million and renovating the old gym \$10 million.

"In 2018 we tried to pass Measure E for \$55 million," he said. "We had a 54.6% approval; however, we needed 55% to pass."

He also stated that future needs will be addressed at a later time such as the aquatic center, a Maintenance, Operations and Technology building expansion, and a Language Arts building.

"This bond measure will add either \$5 or \$10 a month to each property owner's tax bill," he added.

Cobb also addressed the question about adding a second high school in Wasco and said if this bond passes; the projected growth is the school won't reach capacity for 20-plus years. "Wasco High needs 2,700 students to reach saturation," Cobb said. There are 1,716 now.

WUESD moving up in test scores

From Page 1

Blue which is the highest. In between are Orange, Yellow, Green and Blue.

scores rose dramatically. In English, they went from an Orange to Yellow, as well as the same thing in math. They are still 40 points

below the standard in English and 70 points behind in math, but there was improvement in their numbers. The district hit Green in two categories, having a low of 6.2% in absenteeism, and a .8% in suspensions. These numbers are improved and are significantly lower than the rest of the county.

The overall score for the Wasco district was up from a Yellow to a high Orange, with a score of 3. The county average was 1.8.

Bowling also said that for each year they progress, the better Wasco's overall academic climate will be, including the high school.

Superintendent Kelly Richers also talked about the upcoming bond mea-



Cherylee Wegman



President Richard Reding starts the regular school board meeting.

sure for the district. Plans for the money include a new office building at Karl

Clemens School, an athletic field at James Forrest, as well as an Alternative

School for those students who might need more special attention.

EDITOR'S NOTE | JAMIE STEWART

Building the right kind of muscle

Well, 2019 is in the rear view mirror, and the next decade is underway. This past year has been such a busy one for me. It has been full of some great times, like having a job that I just love, covering events, writing, taking photos and always learning.

This job is really different every week, you never know what is going to happen. I am so thankful for this job, doing something that I love to do.

It has also been a good one in our family, with everyone staying relatively healthy, safe, and most of all, together.

It seems like everyone makes resolutions at the end of the year, something or some goal that they want to accomplish in the next year. I have made many resolutions over the years, everything from making more money, getting a car, a new television or losing weight.

The weight thing is a popular one for a lot of people. They vow to get back in shape, drop some pounds, being able to fit back into that pair of jeans that have spent

the majority of the last year in the closet. I didn't make any resolutions last year, preferring to make a resolution to not make any. But, surprisingly, I did lose about 18 pounds this past year. I didn't change the way I ate or anything. I did walk quite a bit, walking the dog, sometimes as much as three times a day.

I made a resolution this year to gain some weight. "What?" you say. Why would you want to gain weight unless you were so skinny that you couldn't function right. Well, in a way I am. No, I am not talking about my 182 pounds, 18 less than I was at last year. I am talking about the 80 or 85 pounds I lost in my spiritual body. See, there were times when I was really fit, maybe not with washboard abs, or muscles like Charles Atlas, but I was at a healthy weight and felt very confident and content.

This past year, I have let my spiritual body go. I love sports so I tend to relate things to different sports. My grandson is

a wrestler. There have been times when he has had to drop as much as a few pounds in one day, so he could make weight for a match or tournament. It is grueling and can be dangerous if not watched. I have seen wrestlers drop so much weight that even if they do make weight, they are going to be so weak that they probably wouldn't be able to go against their opponent effectively. They just don't have the strength.

Well, that is the way I feel about this year. I dropped a bunch of weight due to starvation and no exercise. If someone wants to be fit, it is said that the best thing is to eat sensibly and exercise, turning that fat into muscle. Well, I have not eaten right, and the exercise has been very rare.

For one thing, I haven't been using my personal trainer. The Holy Spirit I see as our personal trainer, telling us how to exercise our faith, how to build that muscle so we can fight the enemy. Another no-no is the

way I have treated Jesus. He should be my best friend, my soulmate, my true BFF. But, I am ashamed to say I have treated Him more like my Uncle Junior I had when I was little. Everyone has one of those uncles that was very well-off, that your family would have over every once in a while, mostly at holidays. Or, of course, you got in a jam. You knew that if you were in a bad bind, that uncle would come to the rescue. Doesn't that really sound like a true friendship. Sad, but true, this was what it was like this past year.

If I could make one resolution this year, it would be to gain about 50 pounds of muscle. Build my spiritual body up enough that I would be useful if He needed me to go against any opponent.

So, I am going to bulk up on that Daily Bread, drink from that Living Water, and exercise my faith, building that muscle up until I am ready to help those who are stumbling a little, needing that hand-up, as well as ready to go against anyone or anything that comes against me.



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OBITUARY

Robert Alan Parrott March 11, 1958 – Dec. 18, 2019

Robert Alan Parrott, 61, passed on Dec. 18, 2019, in Bakersfield.

Robert is survived by his wife Debbie, son Matt and his wife Sarah, daughter Amanda and her husband Ryan, and son Brad, as well as his mother Norma and sister Debbie. He is preceded in death by his father, Art Parrott.

Robert was born March 11, 1958, in Bakersfield. He graduated with his BA from



Fresno State and earned his teaching credential from Cal State Bakersfield.

Robert taught second grade for 31 years at Karl F. Clemens Elementary.

He strived to instill a love of reading in his students. Robert was very proud to have taught multiple generations of families. He got great joy from seeing former students around town.

Robert was a great family man and a loving father. He and wife Debbie married on July 28, 1990. Together they raised three children and were blessed with four grandchildren, Molly, Olive, Jude and Christopher. Robert enjoyed spending time with his grandkids. He was al-

ways so proud to share photos and stories of them.

Robert also loved cooking, sharing random facts and dad jokes, and taking trips to Morro Bay. He was an active member of the Wasco Free Will Baptist

Church, where he helped build the Spanish Ministry. Robert and his family also helped run the church's Food Ministry. He was lovingly known by the church kids as "Skittle Bob" because he always had Skittles

on hand, ready to share.

Funeral services were held Dec. 23 at Peters Funeral Home in Shafter. A graveside service immediately followed in Wasco. The viewing was held on Dec. 22 at Peters Funeral Home in Shafter.

DEATH NOTICES

Ricardo Villegas, 27, of Wasco, passed away Jan. 6 in Bakersfield. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Rey De Jesus Antonio Osorio, 18, of Wasco, passed away Jan. 8 in San Bernardino. Peters Funeral Home, Wasco.

Francisco J. Martinez Ramirez, 59, of Wasco, passed away Jan. 12 in Palmdale. Peters Funeral Home, Wasco.

COUCH'S CORNER

NAFTA update good news for county

Much thanks to the Valley Ag Voice for their article "Local Leaders React to Passage of USMCA," in their January issue.

For those of you who may not know, USMCA is an updated NAFTA, and stands for United States Mexico Canada Trade Agreement. It was passed by the House of Representatives on Dec. 19 in a very bipartisan vote (385-41). Its impacts on the Central Valley -- and especially Kern County -- are profound, and it seemed appropriate to share parts of their story here.

According to Valley Ag, the seven key provisions that impact agriculture are:

Increasing dairy market access. America's dairy farmers will have expanded market opportunities in Canada for a wide variety of dairy products. Canada agreed to eliminate the unfair Class 6 and 7 milk pricing programs that allowed farmers to undersell U.S. producers.

Biotechnology. For the first time, the

agreement specifically addresses agricultural biotechnology -- including new technologies such as gene editing -- to support innovation and reduce trade-distorting policies.

Geographical indications. The agreement institutes a more rigorous process for establishing geographical indicators and lays out additional factors to be considered in determining whether a term is a common name.

Sanitary/phytosanitary measures. The three countries agree to strengthen disciplines for science-based measures that protect human, animal and plant health while improving the flow of trade.

Poultry and eggs. US poultry producers will have an expanded access to Canada for chicken, turkey and eggs.

Wheat. Canada agrees to terminate its discriminatory wheat grading system, enabling US growers to be more competitive.

Wine and spirits. The three countries agree to avoid technical barriers to trade through nondiscrimination and transparency regarding sale, distribution, labeling and certification of wine and distilled spirits."

Many local elected officials were featured in the article, including Congressmen Kevin McCarthy and TJ Cox, Assemblymen Vince Fong and Rudy Salas, and me. As I stated in the article, "The passage of USMCA is a positive for our country, Mexico and Canada. Increased trade creates jobs, which increases the economic output of Kern County and benefits our residents. It's especially good for farming and agriculture which is a \$7 billion-a-year industry for Kern County. I thank our leaders that ensured the passage of this historic deal."

The agreement builds upon NAFTA and proves that sometimes our divided parties can work together for the common good. We need this sort of bipartisanship in DC

for a host of issues, and we need this type of agreement here in the Valley as our economy is so tied to agriculture.

While these agreements are made at the federal level, as your county supervisor we engage our leaders all the time on matters like these. As you can tell from my record, I will always work to help our economy and I will generally support the drivers of our economy, in oil and ag, and in local entrepreneurship, among other job creators, so that businesses can succeed, and we can have good jobs.

Again, thanks to the Valley Ag Voice. If you have any questions, give us a call at 661-868-3680 or email us at district4@kerncounty.com.

David Couch is county supervisor in the 4th District, representing the Shafter and Wasco areas. The opinions expressed are his own, and may not reflect those of the newspaper or its management.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No.: FHAC.277-555 APN: 488-120-13-00 Title Order No.: 191076097-CA-VOI NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED. YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/30/2008. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: MARY L. PEREZ, A WIDOW, AS SURVIVING JOINT TENANT Duly Appointed Trustee: PROBER AND RAPHAEL, ALC Recorded 7/8/2008 as Instrument No. 0208107006 in book N/A, page N/A of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Kern County, California, Date of Sale: 2/5/2020 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: At the front entrance to the city hall, 1501 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$183,249.72 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 2110 5TH STREET WASCO, CA 93280 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be

obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (714) 730-2727 or visit this Internet Web site www.lpsasap.com, using the file number assigned to this case FHAC.277-555. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. Date: 12/30/2019 PROBER AND RAPHAEL, ALC 20750 Ventura Blvd. #100 Woodland Hills, California 91364 Sale Line: (714) 730-2727 Rita Terzyan, Trustee Sale Technician A-4714587 01/09/2020, 01/16/2020, 01/23/2020 *Wasco Tribune*

Fictitious Business Name Statement C&D Spa Nails 2019-B7828

1720 High St
Delano, CA 93215

County: Kern
Mailing address of business:
1720 High St
Delano, CA 93215
Cuong M Nguyen
2519 Milan Dr
Delano, CA 93215
Dung T Nguyen
2519 Milan Dr
Delano, CA 93215
The business is conducted by: Married Couple
Date the business commenced: 03/01/2010
A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions code.)
/s/Cuong M Nguyen
Date Statement Filed: 12/18/2019
Date Statement Expires: 12/18/2024
Mary B. Bedard, CPA,
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: /s/R Roberts-Martin
Publish *Wasco Tribune* December 26, 2019 *Wasco Tribune* December 26, 2019 January 2, 9, 16, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Herbalife Nutrition 2019-B7474 1330 F St

Wasco, CA 93280
County: Kern
Mailing address of business:
1330 F St
Wasco, CA 93280
Galdina Zarco Villasenor
245 Kern St
Shafter, CA 93263
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: 09/11/2019
A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions code.)
/s/Galdina Zarco Villasenor
Date Statement Filed: 11/27/2019
Date Statement Expires: 11/27/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Alvarez Tune-Up & Exhaust 2020-B0001

1203 Cecil Ave Ste B
Delano, CA 93215
County: Kern
Mailing address of business:
1815 12th Ave
Delano, CA 93215
Angel Anthony Medina Alvarez
1815 12th Ave
Delano, CA 93215
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: 01/02/2020

Mary B. Bedard, CPA,
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: /s/E Del Villar
Publish *Wasco Tribune* December 26, 2019 January 2, 9, 16, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement S & G Truckline Inc 2020-B0056

902 2nd St
Wasco, CA 93280
County: Kern
Mailing address of business:
902 2nd St
Wasco, CA 93280
S & G Truckline Inc
902 2nd St
Wasco, CA 93280
The business is conducted by: Corporation
State of Incorporation or Organization: CA
Date the business commenced: 03/27/2019
A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions code.)
/s/Salvador Sanchez, President
Date Statement Filed: 01/03/2020
Date Statement Expires: 01/03/2025
Mary B. Bedard, CPA,
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: /s/M Hernandez
Publish *Wasco Tribune* January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Alvarez Tune-Up & Exhaust 2020-B0001

1203 Cecil Ave Ste B
Delano, CA 93215
County: Kern
Mailing address of business:
1815 12th Ave
Delano, CA 93215
Angel Anthony Medina Alvarez
1815 12th Ave
Delano, CA 93215
The business is conducted by: Individual
Date the business commenced: 01/02/2020

A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions code.)
/s/Angel Anthony Medina Alvarez
Date Statement Filed: 01/02/2020
Date Statement Expires: 01/02/2025
Mary B. Bedard, CPA,
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: /s/M Hernandez
Publish *Wasco Tribune* January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE Statement of Abandonment Of Use of Fictitious Business Name TPWC

5117 Laura Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308
County: KERN
Mailing address of business:
5117 Laura Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308
Thomas Ray Putman
5117 Laura Court
Bakersfield, CA 93308
I declare that all the information in this Statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.)
Business was conducted by: Individual
/s/Thomas Ray Putman, owner
Original FBN Statement File Number: 2019-B7082
Original FBN Statement Filed on: 11/08/2019
This statement of Abandonment filed on: 11/20/2019
MARY B. BEDARD, CPA
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: /s/R Edmiaston, Deputy
Publish *Wasco Tribune* January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT PROCESSING

MARCH 3, 2020
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: The processing of vote by mail ballots shall be open to the public, both prior to and after the election. (Pursuant to California Elections

Code, Section 15104) The processing of ballots will take place at: Kern County Elections Division 1115 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA. 93301 And will commence on: Monday, February 3, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. The counting of ballots will take place at: Kern County Elections Division 1115 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA. 93301 And will commence on: Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 8:00 p.m. By: Mary B. Bedard, CPA Auditor-Controller-County Clerk County of Kern (A copy of this notice is available in Spanish.) (Una copia de este aviso en español está disponible.)
Publish *Wasco Tribune* January 16, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE OF A DOPTION OF ORDINANCE BY THE WASCO CITY COUNCIL ORDINANCE NO. 2020-707

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on January 7, 2020, the City Council of the City of Wasco adopted Ordinance No. 2020-707 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASCO AMENDING TITLE 13 PUBLIC SERVICES OF THE CITY OF WASCO MUNICIPAL CODE, AMENDING CHAPTER 13.08.030 WATER RATES - SERVICE REQUIREMENTS, SAID AMENDMENT MODIFYING DELINQUENCY PROCEDURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATE WATER SHUTOFF PREVENTION ACT AND CLARIFYING CERTAIN OTHER LANGUAGE
The Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:
AYES: CORTEZ, ESPITIA, GARCIA, PALLARES, REYNA
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE
A copy of the full text of Ordinance No. 2020-707 is available for review in the Office of the City Clerk, City of Wasco, 746 - 8th Street, Wasco, CA 93280. You may contact the City Clerk at (661) 758-7214 with questions regarding this proposed Ordinance.
DATED: __1/13/2020__
/s/MARIA O. MARTINEZ
Clerk of the City of Wasco and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Council
Publish *Wasco Tribune* January 16, 2020

Wasco Tribune

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Over \$10K in debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief, 888-508-6305. (CAL-SCAN) 10tf

15. HOMES FOR RENT

FOR RENT -- 1 bedroom, 1 bath HOUSE for rent in Shafter. \$700 rent + \$700 deposit. 661-319-4313.

Shafter Room for Rent/ Shafter Re camera de rent -- Information/Información call/ llame 661-623-9273.

17. REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE

Fourplex housing on .33 Acres. Shafter. Main house partially remodeled. All currently rented. CALL (661) 319-4313. \$360,000

39-ACRE NORTHERN ARIZONA WILDERNESS RANCH, \$183 MONTH -- Outstanding buy on quiet secluded off-grid northern Arizona homestead at cool, clear 6,000-foot elev. Blend of mature evergreen woodlands and grassy meadows with sweeping views of surrounding mountains and valleys from elevated ridgetop cabin sites. Borders 640 acres of uninhabited state trust woodlands. Free well water access, rich loam garden soil, ideal climate. No urban noise and dark-sky nights amid complete privacy and solitude. Camping and RV ok. Maintained road access. \$19,900; \$1,990 down with no qualifying seller financing. Free brochure with additional properties, prices and descriptions, photos/terrain maps/weather data, nearby town/lake info. 1st United Realty 800-966-6690. (Cal-SCAN)

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17. REAL ESTATE

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17. REAL ESTATE

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- 1530 Lupine Ct - Wasco - Asking Price \$217,000
- 314 Lopez Ct - Shafter - Asking Price \$275,999
- 399 Cotton Ave - Buttonwillow - Asking Price \$155,000
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17. REAL ESTATE

HOMES FOR SALE
Absolutely darling 3bedroom 1.5 bath home \$195,000.
Country living at its best, zoned R-S 3 bedroom 2 bath large lot. \$249,999.
Charming 4 bedroom, 2 bath \$254,900.
Lovely 3 bedroom, 3 bath with a 3 car garage. \$345,000.
Newly remodeled 2bd, 1 bath. \$155,000.
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7. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
After School Education & Safety Program Activity Leader (2 positions), M-F 2:30 pm-6:15 pm
To review the essential job functions and apply, visit the Richland School District website at: www.rsdshafter.org
Deadline: January 22, 2020
Equal Opportunity Employer

7. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
Parent Educator: AA Degree or 48 Semester Units. Child Development Teacher Permit and bilingual (English/Spanish) required.
Special Education Instructional Aide (Mild/Moderate Class), 2 positions: M-F 8:00am -11:15am M-F 11:45am - 2:45pm
To review the essential job functions and apply, visit the Richland School District website at: www.rsdshafter.org
Deadline: January 17, 2020
Equal Opportunity Employer

7. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

KERN COUNTY CEMETERY DISTRICT GROUNDSMAN I
Shafter and Wasco Cemeteries
JOB: Under supervision, maintain grounds and related cemetery work, experience preferred (job description available upon request). Individual must be reliable, motivated person for full time grounds man position including health and retirement benefits. Salary \$12.50 to \$14.00 per hour depending on qualifications.
Qualifications: Applicant must be a high school graduate, have a valid driver's license, must pass complete physical and drug test. Interested parties may pick up an application at either the Shafter Cemetery office, 18662 Santa Fe Way, Shafter or Wasco Cemetery office, 300 Leonard Ave., Wasco.

YOU CAN ADVERTISE HERE FOR AS LOW AS \$10 A WEEK
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Call 661-292-5100 or email: classified@theshafterpress.com or classified@wascotribune.com

17. REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE ...1130 Rose Ave
3 bdrms, 3 baths, office. TONS of cabinets, 3100 sq ft. & more. Great for entertaining. Call for your appointment today. \$384,900
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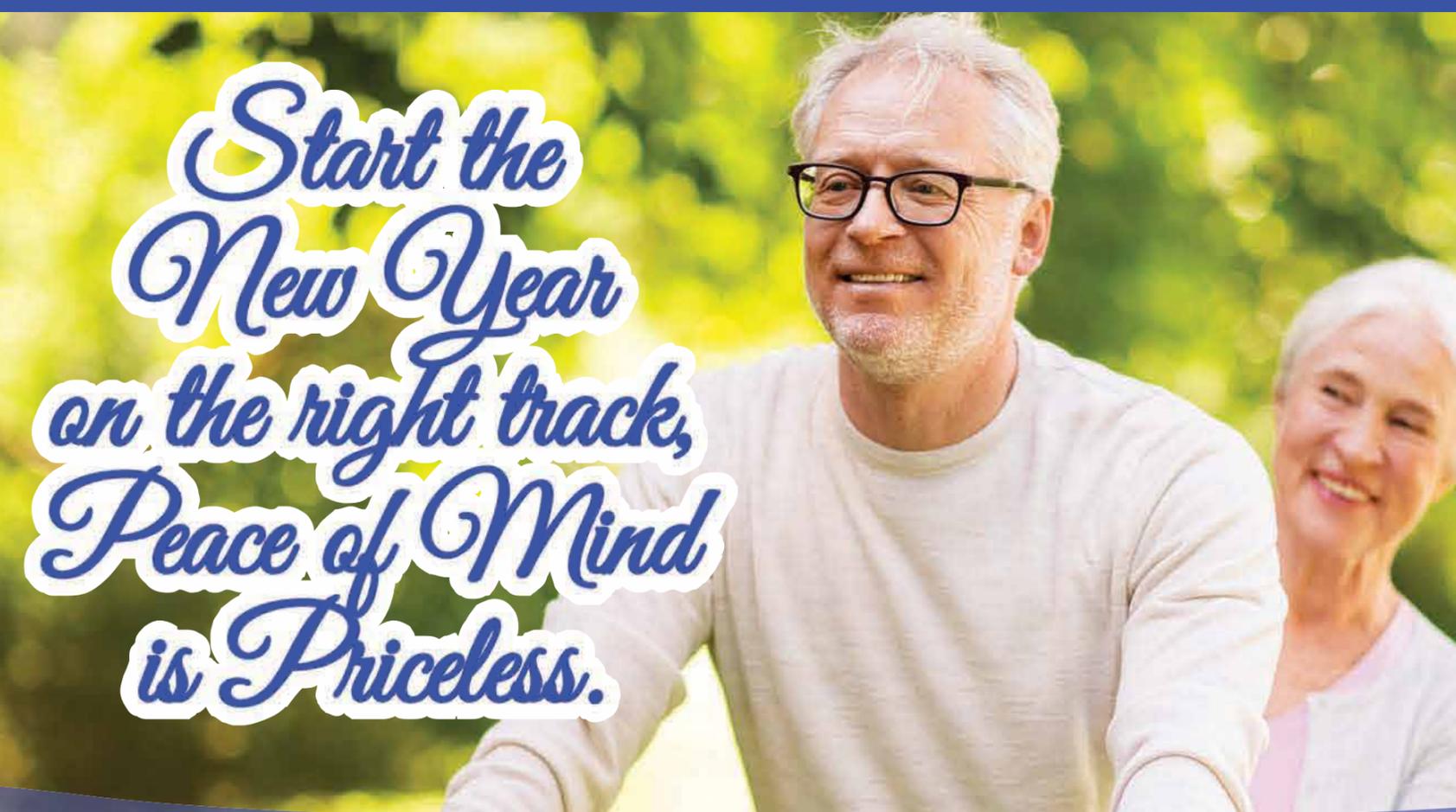
17. REAL ESTATE

New Construction FOR SALE in Shafter
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1354 sq.ft., 2 car garage, 3 bdrm, 2 full bath, covered patio, stainless steel appliances, 9 ft. ceilings throughout, tankless water heater, acrylic stucco + much more. Call Victor Saldana @ 661-809-0225

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Status Belliz 900 7th St.
Divas Beauty Salon 935 7th St.
Tilo Cortez 1001 7th St.
La Canasta Market 1017 7th St.
Wasco Library 1102 7th St.
Fiesta Latina Market 1220 7th St.
Casa Bonita 1300 7th St.
Wasco High School 1900 7th St.
Wasco High School District admin 2100 7th St.
Omni Family Health 2101 7th St.
Wasco Medical Plaza & Urgent Care 2300 7th St.
Wasco City Hall 746 8th St.
St. John's Catholic Church 1300 9th Pl.
St. John's School 929 Broadway St.
Cecilia's E St.
Rosie's Cakes 440 E St.
VFW 603 E St.
Unique Touch 628 E St.
Adolfo's Beauty Salon 652 E St.
El Pueblo Meat Market 741 E St.
Juanita's Barber Shop 640 F St.
La Norteno 1000 F St.
Mario's Barber Shop 1336 F St.
Peterson Auto Supply 1348 F St.
J&J Market 1375 F St.
Thomas Jefferson Middle School 305 Griffith Ave.
Amigos Meat Market 829 Hwy. 46
El Pueblo Market 1101 Hwy. 46
Napa Auto 1129 Hwy. 46
Towne and Country Liquors (Fastrip) 1209 Hwy. 46
Shear Design 1445 Hwy. 46
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They're ready to rum
Wasco Festival b
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Tilo Cortez takes ove
Trees for Toys for Tigers
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*Start the
New Year
on the right track,
Peace of Mind
is Priceless.*

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“The entire staff at Basham & Lara Funeral Care will create the perfect tribute for your loved one.”

Happy New Year
COUPON
Transfer any Pre-Plan Arrangements and receive one item below:

- Cremation Urn up to \$400 in value
- Rose and Carnation Casket Spray
- 24x12 Headstone (no photo) (Grey, Red or Black)

*Coupon/Certificate only valid for pre-planned arrangements
Coupon/Certificate exp. 2/29/2020

Happy New Year
COUPON
Open a new Pre-Plan Arrangement and receive one item below:

\$200 Discount on pre-planned Cremation Arrangement **-OR-** **\$400 Discount** on any pre-planned Burial arrangements

*Coupon/Certificate only valid for pre-planned arrangements
Coupon/Certificate exp. 2/29/2020

4 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

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