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# THE SHAFTER PRESS

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1921

# Wasco Tribune

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1980

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## Local man killed in crash on Burbank

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

A Shafter man was killed after a crash on Burbank Avenue Monday morning. The Shafter Police Department responded to a call involving an accident at approximately 7 a.m. on Monday. A driver of a gray Nissan, later identified as Maribel Pimentel Lopez, 30, was stopped at the intersection of Burbank and Scaroni avenues. Lopez didn't notice the driver of a

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Chevrolet SUV approaching the intersection and pulled into the path of the Chevy, resulting in the Nissan being hit on the driver's side. Both vehicles then ran into a building on the property of a local ranch. Lopez was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident. He was pronounced dead at the scene. The California Highway Patrol is investigating the crash.



The California Highway Patrol investigates the crash.



City Manager Daniel Ortiz-Hernandez

## Conflict of interest cited by Caltrans audit

**TONI DEROSA**  
The Wasco Tribune

A conflict of interest was identified during a recent audit of the pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements and landscape improvements around multiple schools.

Officials from the California Department of Transportation's Independent Office of Audits and Investigations reported the previous public works director's daughter-in-law was employed by Palmetto Engineering. The previous director had directly participated in the selection process of Palmetto and had neglected to note the conflict of interest and confidentiality statement.

Instead, the audit said, the previous director certified he had no personal relationship, which would be incompatible with his participation in the process. He also signed as the approving authority of all Palmetto Engineering invoices associated with the five projects under review.

**WASCO**

The audit was part of a routine process by the Independent Office of Audits and Investigations to determine whether costs claimed by and reimbursed to grantees (the city) were allowable, reasonable, and adequately supported in accordance with the Caltrans agreement provisions and state and federal regulations and to determine whether project deliverables and outcomes were consistent with the project scope. Auditors were onsite in February 2019.

The City of Wasco underwent an audit of five Active Transportation program projects executed between June 21, 2015 and Feb. 28, 2018 that included pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements and landscape improvements within the vicinity of Palm Avenue Middle School, Teresa Burke Elementary School, John L. Prueitt Elementary School, Karl F. Clements

See CITY Page 6

## Help coming for those affected by virus

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

Residents struggling to pay their rent or mortgage now can apply for assistance.

The program, sponsored by the Bakersfield Homeless Collaborative, Community Action Partnership, and the Housing Authority of Kern, is geared toward Kern County residents who have been impacted by the pandemic.

Residents can receive a one-time payment up to \$5,000 paid directly to the mortgage company or landlord. To be eligible, the resident must pay at least 30% of their income toward housing and may have a household income up to 80% of the area median income.

Eligible residents must have a rental contract or mortgage in their name to qualify. Stephen Pelz, executive director of the Housing Authority of Kern, said, "Covid-19 has upended the lives of many Kern County families and put many of our neighbors at risk of losing their homes. Thanks to the City of Bakersfield and County of Kern, our COVID-19 Rent and Mortgage Payment Assistance Programs will help ease some of the instability these households are experiencing, so they can focus on staying safe and healthy."

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For more information on the program you can call 2-1-1.

In Shafter, the number of new cases grew to 1,243, with over 750 of those cases confirmed as recovered.

Local schools are in the first quarter, with all of the schools practicing distance learning. All students were equipped with laptops computers, as well as access to the internet to allow the students to participate in the distance learning programs. Students are led through their lessons by a teacher virtually and the school is able to track students' progress in their work, as well as monitoring an attendance program that keeps records of those students who are attending and participating in the classroom sessions.

The local school districts are preparing for students to return to campus, with the state mandating certain students to be allowed to return to on-site instruction. Facing the possibility of a lawsuit, districts are implementing a "cohorts" plan that will allow up to 16 students to form one group, which will be taught by the same teacher for the entire day. Throughout the day, the

See MORTGAGE Page 8

## Council candidate looking to make a difference

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

There are three seats on the City Council open this November and the race to fill

**SHAFTER**

them involves the three current members whose terms are expiring and three new candidates. Last week, we met candidate Kris Lawrence. In this issue, we will be introducing Pete Espinoza.

Espinoza has been a Shafter resident for 54 years and he said that he has always enjoyed being a part of such a caring community. Espinoza said that he feels that after being a part of this community, he feels that now is his time to give back as a council member.

"I take pride in Shafter's great history and tradition and I believe in the city's potential for future development," he said.

Espinoza said that he has enjoyed being a part of the agricultural industry as a local assistant ranch manager. Through his work,



Pete Espinoza is looking to serve his community as a council member.

Espinoza has been able to interact with the hardworking small business owners of the community. Espinoza

said that to foster economic growth, he would like to support small and big business. See CANDIDATE Page 8

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# Community Calendar

As activities restart and businesses reopen, we will try to update readers on the status of events and activities throughout the area. Please contact Erica Soriano with additions and changes at [esoriano@TheShafterPress.com](mailto:esoriano@TheShafterPress.com) or call 661-292-5100 by Monday at 4 p.m. for that week's paper.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NEW:** Join Congressman TJ Cox in honoring the contribution of Latinos to California's 21st Congressional District by nominating an outstanding leader to receive the Latino Inspire Award. Anyone who resides or works in TJ Cox's district (CA-21st) and is of Latino heritage may apply for this award: Sept. 14-30. Nomination form may be obtained by [bit.ly/CA21LIA](http://bit.ly/CA21LIA). Or call (559) 460-6070. Virtual Awards Ceremony will be Oct. 13 at 5 p.m.

#### Wasco/Shafter

Free Virtual Citizenship Services will be provided by the United Farm Workers (UFW). Beginning Oct. 2, 2020, fee waiver forgiveness will be eliminated. Call (661) 324-2500 for information.

Clases de ciudadanía virtual gratis servicios echos por United Farm Workers (UFW) empezando Octubre 2/2020 para más información llame (661) 342-2500

#### Wasco/Shafter

**Tuesdays:** Griffith Avenue Baptist Church "Impact Program," 408 Griffith St. will be hosting a food distribution for anyone in need in Wasco/Shafter community.

Food will be passed out beginning at 6:00 a.m., but people should show up early because food will be passed out while supplies last.

#### Wasco/Shafter

**Fridays:** Griffith Avenue Baptist Church

Baptist Church "Impact Program," 408 Griffith St. will be hosting a food distribution for anyone in need in Wasco/Shafter community.

Food will be passed out beginning at 7:00 a.m., but people should show up early because food will be passed out while supplies last.

#### Wasco/Shafter

Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month: Griffith Avenue Baptist Church Baptist Church 408 Griffith Street will be giving senior sack program lunches out at 11 a.m. Sponsored by Golden Gleaners.

**Wasco:** The City of Wasco wishes to remind residents that our official city website is the only authorized avenue to pay your Utility Bill online.

**Wasco:** COVID-19 testing to anyone free, if you have insurance they will be billed. Located at the Wasco Library 1102 7th St., Wasco. Appointments made at <http://lhi.care/covidtesting> or call (888)634-1123.

Donde? Biblioteca de Wasco 1102 7th St, Wasco.

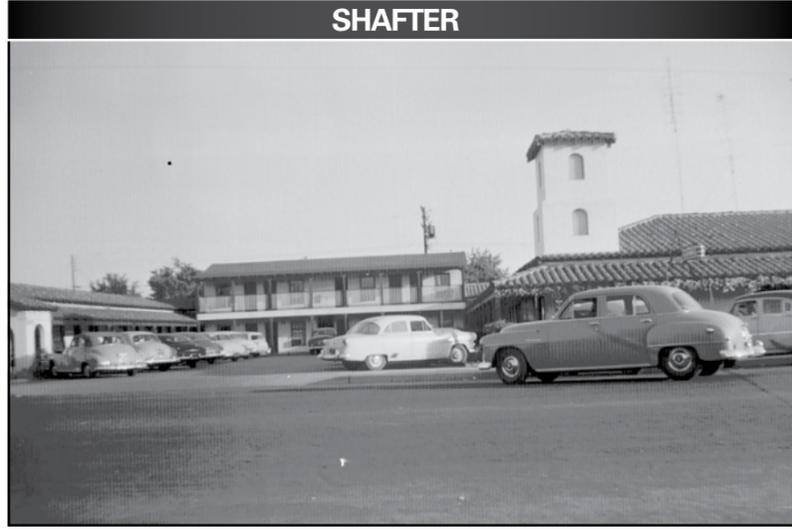
Si no tiene acceso de internet llame al (888)634-1123.

**Shafter:** Shafter City Hall closed to public effective July 24 until further notice.

Oficina-Cerrado Al Publico: Efectivo el Viernes, 24 de Julio-Hasta Nuevo aviso. (Por orden del Gobernador)

## Mystery history

### SHAFTER



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 *The Press*, 406 Central Ave., Shafter 93263, or e-mail it to [mysteryphoto@TheShafterPress.com](mailto:mysteryphoto@TheShafterPress.com). Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** 1973 Miss Shafter and a few contestants. From left, Ellen Sill, Susan Franklin and Jacqueline Janzen.



### WASCO



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](mailto:mysteryphoto@WascoTrib.com). Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** Maggie Lou Gann (Tina Newman's mother). Taken in the 1950s



## HEADLINES IN HISTORY



From The Shafter Press archives:

**10 Years Ago: Oct. 2, 2010**  
Gilbert Alvarado became president of the Shafter Kiwanis Club.

**20 Years Ago: Oct. 25, 2000**  
Shafter High Varsity Football team won over Garces High for the first time since 1984. The score was 14-0.

**30 Years Ago: Sept. 26, 1990**  
Diane Intravia had a 23-year teaching career with the Kern County Superintendent of Schools in Special Education. She loved that her students loving going out to Wildwood Farmers Club to visit with the animals.

## ARREST REPORT

### SHAFTER

As reported by the Shafter Police Department

#### Sept. 20

Earl Wayne Whygle, 47, of Shafter, was arrested for possession of controlled substance for sale, evading a public office, disregard of safety, destroying evidence and unregistered vehicle.

David Becerra, 41, of Shafter, was arrested on an outside agency warrant.

Brianna Danai Perez, 20, of Shafter, was arrested for obstruction of public office.

Luis Enrique Villarreal, 22, of Shafter, was arrested for controlled substance paraphernalia, obstruction and resisting arrest and on an outside agency warrant.

Fernando Garcia Jr., 34, of Shafter, was arrested for threaten crime with intent and obstruction of public officer.

#### Sept 19.

Eduardo Luis Ruelas,

31, of Shafter, was arrested for disorderly conduct: drug and alcohol and on an outside agency warrant.

#### Sept. 18

Jorge Luis Montes, 24, of Shafter, was arrested on an outside agency warrant.

#### Sept. 16

Raul Ojeda Orozco, 26, of Shafter, was arrested for Felon in possession of firearm, receiving known stolen property.

#### Sept. 15

Roselinda Sandoval, 36, of Shafter, was arrested on a misdemeanor bench warrant.

Charles Wilson, 36, of Shafter, was arrested for inflicting injury on child and on an outside agency warrant.

#### Buttonwillow

#### Sept. 15

Kevin Dean Fleetwood, 51, of Bakersfield, was arrested in the 4600 block of Hail Street in Bakersfield

for criminal threats. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

### WASCO

#### Sept. 14

Karlee Shiann Gillean, 23, of Wasco, was arrested in the 700 block of Poplar Avenue for felony inflicting corporal injury on spouse or cohabitant and misdemeanor willful cruelty to a child. She was booked into the Kern County Jail.

#### Sept. 15

Julian Lopez, 55, of Shafter, was arrested at the intersection of Highway 43 and Klassen Street for driving on a suspended license. He was cited and released at the scene.

Erik Ramirez, 30, of Shafter, was arrested at the intersection of Highway 43

and Sunny Street on an active misdemeanor warrant. He was cited and released at the scene.

#### Sept. 16

Maria Arredondo, 38, of Lost Hills, was arrested at the intersection of Highway 46 and North F Street for driving without a license. She was cited and released at the scene.

Vanessa Renne Beltran, 36, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of Poso Drive and Griffith Avenue on an active misdemeanor warrant. She was cited and released at the scene.

Ezequiel Kevin Cabada, 29, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of Poso Drive and Griffith Avenue on an active felony warrant and for felony infliction of

corporal injury on spouse or cohabitant. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Camilo Lopez, 39, of Shafter, was arrested at the intersection of Poso Drive and F Street for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

#### Sept. 19

Alexander Garcia Miranda, 24, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1900 block of 7th Street on an active felony warrant. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

#### Sept. 19

Johnny Angel Castillo, 37, of Wasco, was arrested in the 500 block of North Maple Avenue for felony threatening a crime with intent to terrorize. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Alejandrino Hernandez, 37, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of H Street and 6th Street on his two active felony warrants and misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

#### Sept. 20

Jose Salomon Bravo, 50, of Wasco, was arrested in the 2700 block of Grapevine Lane for misdemeanor disturbing the peace by playing loud music. He was cited and released at the scene.

Emanuel Camacho, 29, of Lost Hills, was arrested in the 2800 block of Highway 46 for misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance and battery on a spouse. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

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**Wasco Tribune**

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# City creating a Wall of Dreams

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

A blank space on a building will become a Wall of Dreams after a few students in Shafter wanted to help beautify it. Advisors Melissa Bergen and Katie

## SHAFTER

Wiebe, from the nonprofit organization Listen To Shafter, encouraged the girls to write their dream for the wall down on paper, making them real and attainable.

“We have helped the kids realize their dream, but the real credit for the project goes to those students who voiced that desire and helped make it happen,” said Bergen.

The space is on the backside of the Shafter Learning Center building. The group of students suggested having people give ideas about different dreams that could be captured in the mural. A presentation was then made to the City Council, who gave the group an enthusiastic thumbs-up.

A Mural Committee was formed and the project was off and running. The Art Council of Kern has recently put a call out to local artists who would be interested in contributing their talent to this project. The project will depict a brighter future that can be had with the benefits and importance of



**Khloe Verdugo with her image of dreams.**



**The students were the driving force behind the project.**

a good education.

The city has a proud history that is full of examples of fulfilled dreams, be it economic, educational, spiritual, or civically. The mural will envelop all of these traits and give a message of hope that can translate into realized dreams.

Those interested need to be able to demonstrate a clear, creative, concept-driven design that exhibits the strong artist skills of the muralist.

Listen to Shafter has been instrumental in a variety of projects that have enriched the lives of the residents, especially its youth. As Bergen said at that City Council meeting when the project was proposed, “We are proud to be a part of this project, but the kids have been the driving force behind it.”

The kids of Shafter will be looking forward to a brighter future that keeps their dreams in its sights.

# WHS grad recalls memories of school

**TONI DEROSA**  
The Wasco Tribune

A 1955 Wasco High School graduate, Ned Permenter was a three-sport athlete all four years while he attended high school, and sports have been a constant throughout his life. He even has a stadium named after him at Foothill High School where he taught and

## WASCO

coached.

Raised in Wasco and having attended all Wasco schools through his educational years, he maintains contact with many friends from that time including Harvel Pollard, Chuck Emerson, Dr. Jack Groves, Don Forth, Audra Miller and

Frances Cagle Sinclair.

Permenter stated that most of his friends picked cotton, potatoes and worked in the sheds during the summer. “I also worked at my dad’s G & L Market on 7th Street,” he said.

Even though he is a Tiger all the way, he was able to dismiss the rivalry and marry a Shafter grad named Virginia Chavez. He has two stepdaughters, Jeanine Macias, a counselor at Center for Neuro Skills in Bakersfield and Theresa Yanez, who just retired after serving 30 years in the probation department.

Permenter has three granddaughters who he dotes on and has the pictures to prove it.

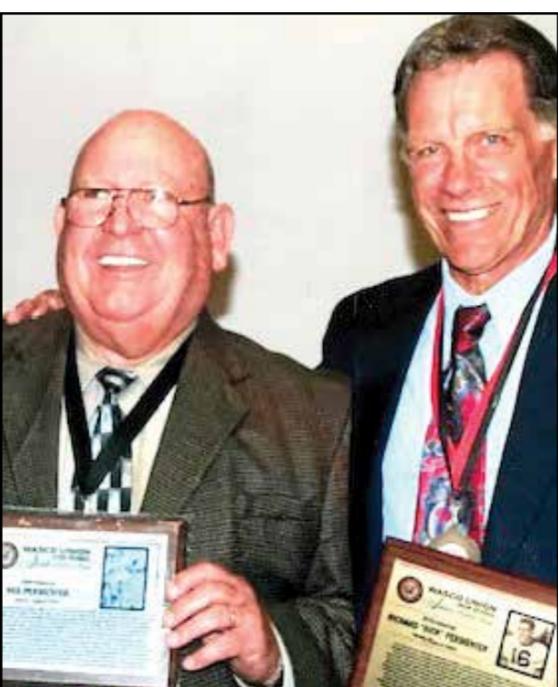
“Some of the events that took place during the old ‘initiation’ into the Wasco W Letterman’s Club were pretty funny... but best not revealed in today’s climate,” Permenter said.

Permenter sometimes finds himself visiting the Wasco cemetery where his parents, grandparents and stepfather are all buried. “I sometimes attend funerals, Hall of Fame ceremonies, reunions or games.”

Permenter revealed that what he loves about being from Wasco is the wonder-



**Ned Permenter stands in front of the entrance to Permenter Stadium at Foothill High School.**



**WHS grads Ned Permenter and his brother Dick were both inducted into the WHS Athletic Hall of Fame in the 1950s.**



**Ned fending off Taft’s Bob Hampton’s block, while Jay Wedel pursues the play. (Wasco is in white).**

ful supportive town folks, having the opportunity to always find some type of work and living a simple, carefree life that didn’t include all of today’s modern electronic gadgets.

“We would go to a movie, hit Beamer’s or the Slush Pit and take in a Wasco Merchant baseball game where the great Art Demery dominated play in the Golden era of Wasco sports when many championships were won.”

The Wasco-Shafter games were also very big back then. He said that planes used to fly over both towns and drop leaflets about the game.

“There was the holding of hands and a long snake dance down 7th Street,” he said. “Of course, there was the big fire and burning of the General. I played ball in college with several former Shafter players and being Wasco won those games; it meant you always had bragging rights.”

He added that during his senior year, he was captain of the football team and was selected Most Valuable

Player in football and baseball as well as took home the Tiger of the Year award. He was also inducted into the Wasco Football Hall of Fame as was his brother, Dick, as well as being inducted into the Bob Elias Hall of Fame.

Permenter has lived in Bakersfield for 58 years since 1962. He was a teacher and coach at Foothill High for 40 years. His last occupation was a probation officer for a year.

He attended the University of Idaho immediately after high school, then transferred to Bakersfield College and ended up graduating from UC Santa Barbara where he received his bachelors in physical education and minor in biology. He then got his master’s de-

gree in physical education from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and has a General Secondary Credential.

While working at Foothill High, he was a teacher and coached football and baseball.



**Ned Permenter before the Spanish Club dance in the early 1950s.**

“I was honored when Foothill High named their football stadium Ned Permenter Stadium,” he said.

All in all, Permenter continues to love his hometown of Wasco and keeps in touch with many of his old friends, even some old football rivals.

# Dispatchers recognized as first responders

**TONI DEROSA**  
The Wasco Tribune

Emergency dispatchers will now be classified as first responders after a new bill was signed into law by Gov. Gavin Newsom after a unanimous vote by the legislature.

“This is a historic day for the thousands of emergency dispatchers who call Califor-

## REGIONAL

nia home,” Assembly member Rudy Salas said. “As wildfires ravage our state, the work of dispatchers coordinating our emergency response has never been more critical.”

The bill was brought to the attention of Salas by a local dispatcher from Kings

County. Previously, the federal government described dispatchers as an “administrative” or “clerical” occupation.

Salas stated that the misclassification does not accurately describe the work of dispatchers who undergo extensive training and whose work can mean the difference between life and death.

California dispatchers answer approxi-

mately 27 million 9-1-1 calls per year and public safety dispatchers play a vital role in the state’s emergency response chain, which extends far beyond calls for peace officers and firefighters.

Dispatchers are often responsible for being the first to respond during life-threatening accidents, wildfires, active shooter situations and potential suicides.

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# Superintendent Lori Albrecht retiring this December

**TONI DEROSA**  
The Wasco Tribune

The first time Lori Albrecht heard the sound of “Pomp and Circumstance” was when she walked along the sideline in the professional as superintendent at Wasco High School.

“Turning to greet Mr. Tallon at the goalpost will be a forever memory,” she said. “It was such a great feeling of accomplishment.”

Albrecht is retiring this December and made the announcement at the September district board meeting.

Born and raised in Michigan, she describes herself as an underachiever when she was in school from grades K-12 and keeps her high school grades framed in her office for proof in case someone doesn’t believe her.

“My mom probably heard from teachers that I never worked to my potential,” she said. “My oldest daughter was born my senior year of high school and so my hopes of going to college seemed out of reach at the time.”

When her husband transferred to Kansas, it gave her the opportunity to start college in 1988. “I drove 180 miles one day each week to Dodge City, Kansas and took 12-15 units all on that one, very long day,” she said. “My kids were 4, 7 and 16 at the time.”

Since her husband worked in the oil industry, before too long, the family transferred to Bakersfield and Albrecht attended California State University, Bakersfield where she received her master’s degree in special education and then Fresno Pacific where she received her Clear Administrative Services Credential.



**Retiring Superintendent Lori Albrecht**

Albrecht says that her mother has been her greatest inspiration.

“I admired her patience, work ethic, integrity and great sense of humor,” she said. Albrecht’s mother graduated from the University of Michigan before she was born and switched careers to become the clerk of the course at several harness racing venues in Michigan.

“She was definitely a trailblazer for women in the industry at the time,” she said. “She was the first woman in the United States to hold the position.”

Albrecht also cites former Wasco High School Superintendent Liz McCray as another inspiration. McCray saw something in Albrecht that she didn’t see in herself

and encouraged her to get her credentials to pursue an administrative position.

McCray recommended that Albrecht apply for a coordinator position that was being offered in the district and when McCray became superintendent, Albrecht followed.

Albrecht lists several significant accomplishments during her time at the district beginning with a continuous school improvement journey with a focus on system alignment, which began about 12 years ago.

“Research says that it takes seven years to see the results of changes that are made,” she said. “So continuity in leadership is extremely important to stay on course.”

She also cites the district’s ability to shift to one of the state’s new indicators of success for high schools, which is college and career readiness.

“When North Kern Vocational Training Center dissolved because of lack of funding a couple of years ago, we reimagined what a new program might look like using the new state requirements,” she said. “The skills learned in vocational training are now embedded into new Career Technical Education (CTE) courses that give students both the hands-on application of skills needed to do a job as well as the science required within the occupation.”

She said that the district has reimagined how it serves the special education students and the district uses a new model program that has served as an inspiration for several other high schools.

Albrecht said she hasn’t even touched on how the district has improved its adult education expansion program and educa-

tion improvements at Independence High School. She takes great pride as the person who allocated an Arts and Music Grant several years ago to fund the Steel Drum Orchestra. Drama classes were also brought back to Wasco High a few years ago.

Albrecht is quick to remind everyone that she did not do these things all by herself. She credits her predecessor Liz McCray as well as her entire staff at the district who enabled a cohesive leadership team that worked well together.

Albrecht describes herself as having a great sense of humor, even if the joke is on her.

“I think laughter is healthy and I am one of those people who can laugh till they cry,” she said. “Life is too short not to laugh.”

When she retires, she is looking forward to life returning back to normal after the covid-19 pandemic so she can travel to watch her grandson play football at Arizona State University.

Albrecht hopes that her story will inspire adults to go back to school if that was their dream.

“It’s never too late to learn something new, even if it’s just to pick up a new hobby,” she said. “I used to be embarrassed to tell my story based on unfounded fears that I would lose my credibility with my peers, or be criticized for being such a young mother. Over the years I have learned that we all have a story, and when our stories are shared and then woven together with respect and understanding, I find that although we are each very different, together we weave the fabric of our community.”

# New admin services director welcomed

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

Bryce Atkins has been hired by the city as the new administrative services director.

Atkins began working for Shafter in July and was previously with the City of Gilroy. He has been working in city government for

**SHAFTER**

14 years.

Atkins has experience as an analyst, finance manager, interim finance director and city manager working in the fields of budgeting, analysis, financial management,

policy development, and grant and contract management.

“The City is extremely impressed with Mr. Atkins’ credentials, financial experience and high ethical standards,” City Manager Gabriel Gonzalez said. “He is clearly a skilled and respected professional who will

bring tremendous amount of value, transparency and experience to the team.”

Atkins holds both a bachelors and masters degree in public administration from Fresno State University. Atkins said he is excited to be joining the Shafter team and its community with its reputation for excellence.



Proudly welcoming

**Amberlee Montarella, MSN, FNP-C**

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**Specialties**

- Family medicine
- Preventative medicine
- Wellness exams
- Women’s health
- Chronic disease management

**Education**

- Master of Science in Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner; Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing; University of Central Arkansas, Conway, Ark.

**Certification**

- American Association of Nurse Practitioners



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## Richland School District Launches New Communication Platform To Facilitate Stronger School-Home Connection

ParentSquare, the new communication platform, allows the Richland School District to unify all parent communication from the district, schools, classrooms and school activity groups under one umbrella.

Shafter 09/10/2020 – Richland School District has launched ParentSquare, a simple and collaborative school-home communication platform, to reach and engage every parent, ensuring all parents have the opportunity to actively participate in their children’s education. By unifying multiple tools into one platform, ParentSquare provides an improved and seamless experience for parents and staff. Parents will be able to keep track of news, activities and events from all their children’s schools in one place. ParentSquare is now available for staff and parents to use on their computers or mobile devices.

Richland School District hopes that ParentSquare’s intuitive, two-way platform will facilitate greater communication. With ParentSquare, parents will be able to enjoy pictures posted by teachers and group directors, fill out forms and permission slips, sign up for parent-teacher conferences, check grades and attendance and much more. School staff and parents can engage in both one-on-one and group messaging with real-time language translation.

Richland School District hopes to lead a truly collaborative relationship to help our schools and families raise confident and accomplished learners together.”

Richland School District’s partnership with ParentSquare will enable a stronger dialogue between school and home, and will help empower everyone within the school community to stay connected and informed. For more information on ParentSquare, please visit [www.parentsquare.com](http://www.parentsquare.com).

**About ParentSquare**

ParentSquare unifies all tools from the district office and classroom to the family, providing oversight throughout and powerful reporting metrics. With extensive student information system integrations, translation to more than 100 languages and access via app, email, text, voice, and web portal, ParentSquare enables schools to engage all families, ensuring equitable communication. Founded in 2011, ParentSquare is relied upon by more than a million educators and families in over 40 states. For more information, visit [www.parentsquare.com](http://www.parentsquare.com) and follow @ParentSquare on Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook.

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COUCH'S CORNER

# U.S. Surgeon General visits Bakersfield

In light of the ongoing battle against covid-19, Kern County received a surprise visit from the U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams.

As the nation's doctor, Vice Admiral Adams oversees the 6,000 member U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and guides public health officials through general advisories and action reports on issues regarding advancing the health of the nation.

During his visit, Dr. Adams encouraged our community to follow public health guidelines to maintain the positive gains made in Kern County. Wear a mask, wash your hands and watch your distance to slow the spread. According to Dr. Adams, the "Three W's" make a significant impact in blunting the transmission of the virus.

While in Bakersfield, Dr. Adams visited the Kern County Public Health Services

Building, isolation units at Kern County Fairground and Kern Medical Center. I'm encouraged to hear from our Surgeon General highlight the decline in positivity rates nationwide and the progress undertaken by the federal government to develop a vaccine.

Also the Surgeon General was pleased with local partnership between the City of Bakersfield and the County of Kern to resolve public health concerns. In the recent months following Gov. Gavin Newsom's Stay At Home order, the Board of Supervisors expanded covid-19 testing and ICU bed capacity at our local hospitals through relief funds from the CARES Act passed by Congress in March.

One of the many accomplishments this year serving as District Four Supervisor is collaborating with KC Public Health Director Matt Constantine, California Farm-

workers Foundation and Good Samaritan Hospital to form a contract with the county for the use of CARES Act funding to create a mobile field testing clinic for farmworkers. The initiative is the first of its kind in the nation and addresses the public's concern of disparities in positivity rates for vulnerable populations. It's a rewarding feeling to hear the nation's doctor praise the mobile testing clinic's effort at combatting the virus. When the public works together as a community, we can improve the health and livelihood of our loved ones and reopen our economy.

While District Four continues to make significant strides in slowing the spread of the virus, I encourage you to remain committed to practicing public health guidelines from the CDC, California Public Health Department, and KC Public Health Dept.

Furthermore, the KC Board of Supervisors is working in close consultation with County Administrative Officer Ryan Alsop and KCPH Director Constantine to voice our concerns with Gov. Newsom's office about the state's new four-tier, color-coded reopening blueprint. I share the same concerns and frustration of the small businesses in my district struggling to keep their business open due to the inconsistent communication from the state on which sectors of the economy are eligible for loosened restrictions of activities. To slow the spread, I look forward to working with the Board to find additional help to District Four and to the County as a whole.

If you have any questions about this or any other matter, feel free to contact us at district4@kerncounty.com or at 661-868-3680. Have a safe week.

# More local residents getting flu vaccines

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

With the covid-19 virus still in the forefront of residents' minds, flu season is arriving, threatening to make this season one of the worst in recent memory.

Kern County Public Health Department officials are urging residents to get their flu shots now and not wait until the customary start of flu season, which is usually in late October.

In fact, the County Health Department, which holds low-cost vaccination clinics annually, will not be receiving its vaccine supply until October.

However, the vaccine is available at various places throughout Kern County, helping residents protect against the virus, which is responsible for several deaths in the county every year.

Residents may get confused about whether they have the flu or the coronavirus, as the symptoms are similar, which makes it challenging for local health prac-

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tioners. Flu vaccines are recommended for anyone over the age of 6 months. It is especially recommended for those in high risk groups. This include adults over 65 years old, people with chronic health issues, such as respiratory illnesses, diabetes, a weakened immune system, and children under the age of 2 years old.

Locally, according to several medical facilities in Shafter, there has been a drastic increase in the number of people getting the flu vaccine.

Kinh Tu, a pharmacist at the Rite Aid store in Shafter, said that there is an increase in vaccines, and vaccination has started a lot earlier than in past years.

"We usually have to promote the vaccine, with the majority of the people coming in starting in mid to late October," Tu said. "This year, we received our vaccines early and people are taking advantage of this, choosing to

get themselves vaccinated earlier."

One factor to consider, said Tu, is the similarity of the viruses, when it comes to the influenza virus and the covid-19 virus. "They are both respiratory in nature, have a lot of the same symptoms, and can attack the same high risk groups."

Tu said being in a high risk group makes it even more important to get a flu shot.

"When you look at the majority of the deaths in Kern County, the cause of death is complications from the coronavirus, not the virus itself," Tu said. "Those infected with the coronavirus are opened up to getting infected by the flu, pneumonia, or other respiratory illnesses that can be fatal."

For those residents who are hesitant about going to get the flu vaccine in fear

of being exposed to the covid-19 virus, health workers said that residents can be assured that patients showing symptoms of the coronavirus are separated from the other patients. Health officials also said the flu vaccine will give an extra boost to residents' immune systems and overall health.

# Kern County welcomes deputy

**TONI DEROSA**  
The Wasco Tribune

Becoming a deputy for the Kern County Sheriff's Office is just following a family tradition for Wasco's newest hire, Rebecca Sanchez Murillo.

Sanchez Murillo's father was an officer for the Half Moon Bay Police Department in the San Francisco Bay Area and was a deputy for San Mateo County.

Her biggest influence and inspiration has been her father because he inspired her to become a pillar of the community.

"He was really involved with his community and the Special Olympics," she said. "I saw what it truly meant to help the community and I wanted to do the same."

**WASCO**

After graduating from Highland High, she worked at Rite Aid for nine years before beginning the P.O.S.T. Academy. She was then hired on with the Kern County Sheriff's Office and assigned to the downtown jail (Central Receiving Facility). She then moved on to Metro Court for a year in between her time at the jail and is now assigned to the Wasco Substation.

Sanchez has worked for the sheriff's office for a little over eight years.

Now that she is on the night shift, one of her favorite things to do is sleep. Other than that, she works around the house and spends time with her daughter.

"My daughter, who just became a sophomore, proofreads writing and gives me tips on how to improve," Sanchez Murillo confessed.

She also advises not to let people tell you that you can't be in law enforcement because of your size or gender. "Don't ever give up," she said. "Don't allow the negativity in the media about law enforcement discourage you."

She loves the outdoors and will do just about anything to be outside.

"I have learned that I am stronger than people think I am, and to never give up," Sanchez Murillo said. "I have overcome multiple obstacles in my adult life and continued to follow my dreams despite those obstacles."

# Local race underway for Richland School Board seat

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

There are three seats on the Richland School Board up for grabs in November, with only one of the areas having two candidates in the race. Current Board of Trustees members Cain Maldonado and Tammy Criswell-Rubio are running unopposed in their Trustee areas, with current Board President Deanna Rodriguez-Root running against newcomer Julian Armando Calvillo in Area 3.

Rodriguez-Root said that she decided to run again because she wants to follow through on the district's vision and finish what the board started to enrich the students of Richland.

"I decided to run again because I have been an advocate for children my entire life and I want to continue," she said.

Rodriguez-Root has over 10 years of experience on the board, with over 30 years serving the children of Shafter in one capacity or another. Rodriguez-Root has served as a Trustee on the Richland board for 18 years, with three times serving as its president. She is currently serving her second consecutive term as

**SHAFTER**

president. She has been on the Richland LCAP Committee, the Richland School District Cafeteria and Nutrition Committee, and on the City of Shafter's School Partnership Committee.

Rodriguez-Root is a member of the California School Board Association, as well as a California School Board Association "Governance in Leadership" Graduate. She has also been a member of the California Association of Bilingual Education, a Get Out the Vote voter registration drive organizer and coordinator. She was co-founder and volunteer coordinator of Youth Ballet Folklorico Ihtotiani of Shafter. Established in 1996, the group has provided quality Cultural Dance Arts education for children and young adults for over 20 years.

Another highlight of Rodriguez-Root's distinguished career was being the organizer of the "Together We Can" project committee. The committee's focus was to bring much needed services into the community and to create a diverse dialog amongst all community members and organiza-

tions. The result of this was the Healthy Start Grant.

Rodriguez-Root, along with her late husband Roy, was co-chairman of the annual Shafter Cinco de Mayo Festival and Parade since 1991. This is just a fraction of the experience and community involvement she has on a lengthy resume.

With the district facing a return to in-person education for special needs students, Rodriguez-Root said, "The children will begin on-site classes under a very detailed plan, as mandated by the state. Also, in order to support families who have been impacted negatively by the covid-19 pandemic, we have buses providing additional meal pickup Monday through Friday at specific locations."

Deanna pointed to the current pandemic and its unique challenges as the main obstacle facing the school district.

"Our main priority has to be to getting our kids back in the classroom but in a safe way. The safety of our children is our main concern," she said.

Rodriguez-Root said that she understands the frustration that parents and children may have with distance

learning, wanting to be back in school with their friends.

"That is our main goal, to get our kids back together again on campus, making their health and wellbeing our top priority," she said.

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# City may have to reimburse state \$219K

**From Page 1**  
 Elementary School and Thomas Jefferson Middle School. The total audited projected costs were \$2,781,433.  
 A conflict of interest such as the one found is contrary to federal and state conflict of interest regulations; therefore, auditors are recommending that the costs associated with the Palmetto Engineering contract be reimbursed. These costs total \$168,584.  
 Because of the concern, Caltrans auditors reviewed the procurement of the city engineer and noted that the 2010 city engineer procurement resulted in the award to Palmetto Engineering.  
 In fact, the auditors asked for an explanation as to why Palmetto Engineering was awarded the contract and Helt Engineering was not, even though Palmetto wasn't the highest-ranked firm.  
 Staff who awarded the contract are no longer with the city and all auditors had to rely on a staff report that indicated Palmetto Engineering provided the best overall

package.  
 Caltrans auditors consulted with the Department of Local Assistance and Federal Highway Administration regarding the concern associated with the conflict of interest between Palmetto Engineering and former public works director.  
 According to additional background information on the subject, on March 26, 2019, Caltrans auditors returned to the city of Wasco to continue their investigation. This resulted in an expanded audit to include consultant procurements that have been or may be used on any current or future federal and/or state projects.  
 On Sept. 2, Caltrans auditors performed the formal exit conference with staff. At this time, the auditors provided the draft audit report, which identified deficiencies, associated with labor charging practices, procurement, consultant and construction management and project reporting.  
 Initially, Caltrans auditors informed the city that they anticipated recommending

a disallowance of \$219,488.03. The draft audit report reflects a recommendation to disallow a total of \$224,699 based on three major deficiencies:  
 Conflict of Interest - \$168,584  
 Deficiencies in labor charging practices - \$45,492.  
 Architectural and engineering procurement deficiencies - \$10,623.  
 City staff has until Oct. 15 to formally respond to the draft audit report.  
 Caltrans auditors will analyze the city's response and attach it to the final report. Upon completion of the final report, Headquarters Division of Local Assistance will work with city staff to prepare a Corrective Action Plan to address the issues found in the final audit report.  
 "It is extremely regrettable that the conflict of interest existed between the former Public Works Director (Bob Wren) and Palmetto Engineering," City Manager Daniel Ortiz-Hernandez said. "It is difficult to understand how such a situation that under-

mines the public's trust and accountability in local government occurs. Unfortunately, the issues identified by the auditors were in-line and similar to other questionable actions and practices uncovered by the city. Given the circumstances which involved former members of the city's executive leadership, the matters were referred to the Kern County District Attorney's Office for their review."  
 Ortiz-Hernandez also said, "The City Council and I have worked diligently since I became city manager to address the city's organizational culture and develop greater accountability and transparency. They have reinforced efforts to cultivate a new executive leadership team and committed to a greater investment in professional development and training for staff at all levels. Our new executive leadership team fosters an ethos throughout the organization of 'who we are,' what public service means, and the importance of ethics and stewardship of the public's trust and resources."

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Trilogy Transport**  
**2020-B3895**  
 2109 Persimmon Street  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business:  
 2109 Persimmon Street  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 Richard Gutierrez  
 2109 Persimmon Street  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 State of Incorporation or Organization: California  
 The business is conducted by: Individual  
 Date the business commenced: Not Applicable  
 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/Richard Gutierrez  
 Date Statement Filed: 09/03/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 09/03/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA,  
 Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 By: /s/M Hernandez  
 Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Premier Tax & Legal Services**  
**2020-B4086**  
 1151 7th St  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business:  
 2300 9th St  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 Susanna Rico  
 2300 9th St  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 The business is conducted by: Individual

vidual  
 Date the business commenced: NA  
 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/Susanna Rico  
 Date Statement Filed: 09/14/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 09/14/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA,  
 Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 By: /s/N Franco  
 Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 24, October 1, 8, 15, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
**CASE NUMBER: SCV-20-000014**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
 1. Petitioner: Michael Ray Linn filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
 Present Name  
 Michael Ray Linn  
 Proposed Name  
 Michael Ray Nickols  
 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
 a. Date: 11/13/2020 Time: 8:30 am  
 Dept: B

b. The address of the court is: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN, 325 Central Valley Highway Shafter, CA 93263. Kern County Superior Court Shafter Branch.  
 3. a. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: *Wasco Tribune* Date: 9-11-2020  
 /s/Jose R. Benavides  
**JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT**  
 Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 24, October 1, 8, 15, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Barsep Logistics**  
**2020-B4097**

1710 Primrose Ct  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business:  
 PO Box 1  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 Leopoldo Barba  
 1710 Primrose Ct  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 The business is conducted by: Individual  
 Date the business commenced: 02/01/2006  
 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/Leopoldo Barba  
 Date Statement Filed: 09/14/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 09/14/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA,  
 Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 By: /s/N Franco  
 Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 24, October 1, 8, 15, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

A public hearing will be held before the Board of Supervisors of the County of Kern on October 20, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., at the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors, First Floor, Kern County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California, to consider the following request(s):  
 Educational Leasing, LLC by QK, Inc. (PP20167); (a) Conditional Use Permit Case No. 10, Map No. 52-2; (b) Cancellation of Land Use Restrictions, Land Conservation Act, Agricultural Preserve No. 5 (Zoning Map No. 52-2) and Contract Amending Land Use Contract; (c) Alteration of the Boundaries of Agricultural Preserve No. 5 - Exclusion; (a) Conditional Use Permit to allow a college preparatory high school (Section 19.12.030.J.1), with accessory buildings, classrooms, multipurpose halls, sports fields, common areas, landscaping, and parking lot to be constructed in two (2) Phases on 18 acres in an A (Exclusive Agriculture) District; (b) Cancellation of a 22.17-acre portion of a 405-acre parcel of a Land Use Contract No. 20-03 and approval of a Contract Amending Land Use Contract on 22.17 acres; (c) Exclusion of approximately 22.17 acres within the boundaries of Agricultural Preserve No. 5; On September 10, 2020, by a vote of five yes to zero no, the Planning Commission recommended the Board of Supervisors approve the Conditional Use Permit in accordance with the recommended conditions; approve cancellation subject to payment of cancellation fees; direct Clerk of the Board to issue a Tentative Certificate of Cancellation and issue a Certificate of Cancellation, subject to payment of cancellation fee and

subject to written verification from the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department that confirms the applicant is in compliance with all other conditions contained in the Tentative Certificate of Cancellation; and approve exclusion as requested; properly located on the southeast corner of Lamberson Avenue and Highway 46 in the unincorporated Lost Hills area (A complete legal description is on file with the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department.) (Environmental Review: Special Situation, Section 15183) Mark Tolentino, Planner 1 ((661) 862-5041)  
 The Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department has determined that pursuant to Section 15183 of State CEQA Guidelines, this project qualifies as a special situation and does not require preparation of further environmental documents.  
 Persons seeking additional information on this matter should contact the Staff planner (listed above) assigned to this case at the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department. We encourage the submittal of written comments by September 29, 2020, so that those comments may be considered when Staff formulates its recommendation; however, written comments may be submitted any time prior to, or at, the public hearing. Written comments may be sent to the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301.  
 Anyone wishing to present evidence or be heard in said matter may appear at said hearing or any continuation thereof. If you challenge the action taken on this request in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspon-

dence delivered to the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing.  
**NOTE:** Due to COVID-19 and subsequent local emergency declarations by the Kern County Board of Supervisors, this meeting may not be physically open to the public. For updates regarding how public participation will be conducted, please contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at (661) 868-3585, during normal business hours, once the agenda for the meeting has been posted.  
 On Thursday, October 16, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., a copy of the agenda for Tuesday, October 20, 2020, including public comment protocol, will be posted on the Kern County Board of Supervisors website at the following location: <https://www.kerncounty.com/government/board-of-supervisors/board-agenda-minutes-and-video>.  
 By order of the Board of Supervisors.  
 DATED September 21, 2020.  
 /s/KATHLEEN KRAUSE  
 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
 County of Kern  
 Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 24, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Wasco Mini Storage**  
 451 N. "F" Street  
 Wasco, CA 93280  
 ONLINE Auction  
 StorageTreasures.com  
 Ending 10/10/20 @ 8 AM  
 Cleaning deposit \$50  
 72 hours clean-out  
 U0426 Karina Velasquez Gomez household  
 U0401 Maria De Soto household  
 U0826 Rosario F Renteria household  
 Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 24, October 1, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**WASCO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Meeting will be held via teleconference/videoconference on  
 Thursday, October 8, 2020  
 5:30 p.m.  
 at the

Board Meeting of the Wasco Union High School District Regarding Increase in statutory school fees ("Level I School Fees") on new residential and commercial/industrial construction pursuant to Government Code Section 65995 and Education Code Section 17620.  
 DATED: September 17, 2020  
 POST UNTIL: October 8, 2020  
**Posting Sites:**  
 Wasco High School  
 Independence High School  
 Wasco High School District Office  
 WUHSD Website

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING AN INCREASE IN STATUTORY (LEVEL 1) SCHOOL FEES IMPOSED ON NEW RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65995 AND EDUCATION CODE SECTION 17620

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees ("Board") of the Wasco Union High School District ("School District") at its regular board meeting to be held on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at approximately 6:00 p.m. or soon thereafter, will consider approving an increase in statutory school fees ("Level I School Fees") that may be imposed on new residential and commercial/industrial construction located within the boundaries of the School District pursuant to Government Code Section 65995 and Education Code Section 17620.

A report entitled "School Fee Justification Study" and dated September 25, 2020 was prepared pursuant to and in accordance with applicable law, which includes information and analysis demonstrating the relationship between new residential and commercial/ industrial development and the School District's need for the construction of school facilities, the estimated cost of the school facilities, and justification for the levy of Level I School Fees on new residential and commercial/industrial development.

The School District wishes to provide continuity of government and communication during the pandemic. As such, the meeting may be held exclusively on-line via teleconference or videoconference. Information will be posted at <https://www.wascouhsd.org/> in advance of the meeting as to whether it will occur in person. If permitted, the meeting may be in person at the Library (Room 1101) at Wasco High School, 1900 Seventh Street, Wasco, CA 93280.

The School Fee Justification Study and any related documents regarding the proposed adoption of the Level I School Fees are available for public review during normal business hours at the School District's administrative office, located at 2100 7th Street, Wasco, CA 932808 and on the School District's website at <https://www.wascouhsd.org/> from September 25, 2020 through October 8, 2020. Due to recent circumstances and the outbreak of COVID-19, members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments, if desired, to Griselda Aceves at [graceves@wascouhsd.org](mailto:graceves@wascouhsd.org). Written comments will be accepted until the close of the Public Hearing. Questions should be directed to Griselda Aceves, Chief Business Official at (661) 758- 8447.

Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 24, October 1, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CITY OF WASCO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND GENERAL STREET VACATION PROCEEDINGS**

(Notice provided Pursuant to California Streets and Highways Code Sections 8320-8325)

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Wasco will hold a public hearing pursuant to the California Streets and Highways Code, Section 8320, on the street vacation described and depicted below in this notice.  
 The public hearing will be held on **Tuesday October 6, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.** or as soon as possible thereafter. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, this meeting will be conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Gavin Newsome on March 17, 2020. For more information or to confirm the format this meeting will be conducted in, please contact the City of Wasco City Clerk at 661-758-7215 or [cityclerk@cityofwasco.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofwasco.org)  
**The Streets to be vacated are described and shown as follows:**  
 A portion of 4<sup>th</sup> Street as shown in yellow on the map below, a portion of 5<sup>th</sup> Street between F Street / Highway 43 and the alley, and the alleys between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, as shown in yellow below:



If you need special assistance to participate in the meetings described in this notice, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (661) 758-7215 to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to these meetings. Telephone (661) 758-7215 or via California Relay Service (Hearing Impaired Only). Requests for assistance should be made at least two (2) days in advance whenever possible.  
 If you have any questions or to obtain additional information, you may contact the Community Development Department at (661) 758-7250.  
 Publish on or before: September 17, 2020 and September 24, 2020  
 /s/Maria O. Martinez, City Clerk

Publish *Wasco Tribune* September 17, 24, 2020

# OBITUARIES

## Erica Colleen Bongberg Sept. 17, 2020

Erica Colleen Bongberg, a pillar of her community and center of her family, died on Sept. 17, 2020, surrounded by family and loved ones. She was 42.

Erica, a resident of Rohnert Park, had been at war with breast cancer for more than four years. She was a graduate of Santa Rosa Junior College and spent 10 years as a human resources professional. Her hobbies included crafting, attending her children's sporting events, coaching cheer and recruiting others to join her fight against cancer.

She is remembered for her sense of humor, compassion and her love of sharing memories and stories. Erica loved to talk. She loved to laugh. She was relentlessly honest and unafraid to make herself vulnerable. She had the gift to see past anyone's flaws.

Erica raised three children with her partner, Justin Ikaika Steverson. Noah Ikaika Blaze, 19, a sopho-



more at Pacific University in Oregon, inherited his mother's big heart, open mind and insightfulness. Nanealani Hannah Kalei-kaumaka, 15, a sophomore at Cardinal Newman High School in Santa Rosa, inherited her mother's resilience, nurturing spirit, and her drive to be self-sufficient. Anuhea Lucille Naniolo, 6, is a first-grader at Montevista Elementary School in Rohnert Park. Anuhea is the embodiment of her mother's free spirit, sense of humor and uncompromising honesty.

She is dearly missed by her large family: her mother, Karen, and stepfather, Ron, live in Santa Rosa; her father, Barry, lives in Shafter;

her aunts, Kathleen, Kellie (Sam) and son, Finn; her cousins, Carrie, Gabe, Gina, Jill, Micah and Nick, Michael, and their families. She is predeceased by her maternal grandparents, Corky Anthony and Johanna Anthony, and her paternal grandparents, Robert Martin Bongberg and Lucille Corbett Bongberg.

Erica also leaves a large hole in her community and many, many friends. Erica's life was too short. But the family, community and legacy she built will survive for years. The family would like to thank Memorial Hospice, Kenna, Rachael, Lilli and Zoe, as well as Dr. Zhang and Dr. Nguyen, and the many nurses at Kaiser Santa Rosa.

Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 25, at Daniels Chapel of the Roses, 1225 Sonoma Ave., Santa Rosa. A visitation will be held at the funeral home on Friday from 2 p.m. until the time of service. Website: daniel-schapelotherses.com

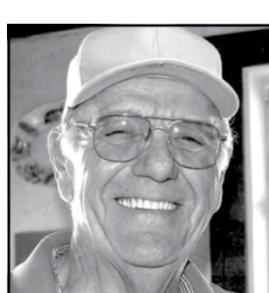
## Robert Earl Duke July 12, 1935 – Sept. 1, 2020

Robert passed away peacefully and went Home to the Lord September 1, 2020.

Robert was born to Calvert Winsea & Dona Duke on July 12, 1935 in Stratford, Ok. Robert grew up on the family farm. After graduating High School, Robert left the family farm and moved to Wasco, Ca. in 1953.

Upon arriving in Wasco, Robert worked at varied jobs. While in Wasco, Robert found his True Love and married Barbara Sue Coffman in 1954 and had three sons: Mikal, Roger, and Tim. Robert was a long time member of the First Southern Baptist Church in Wasco. Robert loved raising his family and being involved in the community.

After working at various jobs, Robert joined the Wasco Police department in



1956 working through the rank as Captain then Chief of Police for many years.

After the City of Wasco switched over to the Kern County Sheriffs, Robert transferred to Lerdo Correctional Facility as Sergeant for 9 years and retired in 1990.

Upon retirement Robert enjoyed restoring old cars and spending time with his family & friends, playing his guitar and Sonny Rivers Band along with meeting close friends & family at various local coffee.

Robert was a very kind

and giving person who helped family and friends in time of need without reservation and always willing to lend a hand.

In 2005 Robert married Debbie Nelson and spent 13 happy years with her until her passing in 2018.

Robert leaves behind ex wife and good friend Barbara Duke Phillips, two sons, Tim Duke of Bakersfield, Ca. and Roger Duke of Grover Beach, Ca. Grandchildren Jared Duke, Daren Duke, Crystal Duke, Michal Duke, and sister Juanita Woods and Talequah Ok.

He is preceded in death by his mother & father, Winsea and Dona, Wife Debbie Nelson Duke, Eldest son Mikal Duke, brother Daryl Duke & Joe Carl Duke.

Our Dad will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He is now reunited with all of his loved ones in our Fathers mansion.

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### BY FAX

Fax your ad to 661-292-5077.

### ONLINE

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

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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:

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2. Our reputation for Classified Advertising results 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.

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## 6 MISC WANTED

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# RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

**General Education Instructional Aide - Substitutes.** Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent AND an AA Degree or 48 semester units OR a Paraprofessional Certificate (CODESP Exam - administered at the District)

To review the essential job functions and apply, visit the Richland School District website at: [www.rsdshafter.org](http://www.rsdshafter.org)

## 7 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

# RICHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Special Education Instructional Aide (Mild/Moderate Class) - 3.75 hrs/day**

**Special Education Instructional Aide - Substitutes.** Hours: as needed.

**Minimum Qualifications:** High school diploma or equivalent AND an AA Degree or 48 semester units OR a Paraprofessional Certificate (CODESP Exam - administered at the District)

To review the essential job functions and apply, visit the Richland School District website at: [www.rsdshafter.org](http://www.rsdshafter.org)

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E-mail: [knapp\\_she@yahoo.com](mailto:knapp_she@yahoo.com)

## 17 REAL ESTATE

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**746-1010**

# Candidate looks to advocate for local businesses

**From Page 1**  
 ness endeavors by illustrating Shafter's strong and stable infrastructure.  
 "Shafter is a great place for business because of our opportunity for growth, our safe environment, and our business friendly community," he said.  
 Espinoza said that while the downtown area poses some challenges, he believes the area can be revitalized through working with his colleagues and listening to the community.

As a City Council member, Espinoza would like to continue to support local businesses while also exploring the needs of the community. Espinoza asks for the community's support and wants to thank them for trusting him to represent them if elected.  
 "In times of uncertainty, you can be certain that I will unite the city of Shafter for a better, healthier safer tomorrow," he said.



Parents picked up laptops for their children to use for the distance learning program.

## SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM.

- Read • Advertise
  - Contribute to
- Shafter Press and Wasco Tribune**

# Mortgage, rent relief on its way

**From Page 1**  
 same group of students and teacher would be together, keeping track of the contact trail by limiting the exposure of the students to staff and other students.  
 "We are preparing for the return of our Special Needs students, which has been mandated by the State of California. We have the safety and health of our students as our first priority, which we feel we have accomplished

with our plan," said Richland School Board President Deanna Rodriguez-Root. "Our main goal for this school year is to bring our kids back on campus, to be with their friends and teachers, in a safe and responsible manner."  
 On the business scene, the situation is still the same as last week, with the majority of the businesses adhering to county and state guidelines, enforcing the mask policy and limiting service to take-out and outdoor dining for res-

taurants, and by appointment only for those businesses that have personal interactions with customers. An example of this policy is the city of Shafter, who is serving residents while keeping the city buildings closed to the public. A window in the back of the building is being used to serve customers, as well as other departments, such as the Planning Department and Animal Control, among others, serving the public by an appointment only basis.

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## PASTOR'S CORNER

# Pray for America

### PASTOR PAT COYLE

I don't need to tell you that 2020 is an election year. As the field of contenders for president has narrowed down, as well as other offices of various kinds, we'll see more and more airtime devoted to supporting a particular candidate. I believe it's important for each of us to participate in the process of voting and the freedom we often take for granted. But I also believe in the importance of praying for our elected officials at every level

of government. With that in mind I'd like to encourage you to consider a resource I've been using this year called, "Pray for America Bible." The format of the Bible is laid out so you read a passage from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs each day. At the end of the year you've not only read through the Bible, but this format also has you praying each day for different aspects of our nation. You can find the Bible on several websites such as "Christian

Book Distributors" (www.cbd.com), Amazon books (www.amazon.com) or Google books (www.book.google.com). Even if you don't decide to use this particular resource, let me encourage all of us to keep our nation in prayer. Whether it's once per week or every day our elected officials need our prayer support and the Lord welcomes our requests.  
 Praying with you,  
 Pastor Pat Coyle  
 Shafter Mennonite Brethren

## DEATH NOTICES

- Trinidad Lopez**, 75, of Delano, passed away Sept. 22 in Delano. Services pending.
- Arnoldo Macias Sr.**, 61, of Shafter passed away Sept. 15 in San Diego. Peters Funeral Home Shafter.
- Ruben Reyna Fernandez**, 41, of Shafter passed away Sept. 19 in Bakersfield.
- Arcelia Carranza**, 70, of Buttonwillow passed away Sept. 20 in Bakersfield. Basham-Lara Funeral Care Shafter.
- Dominga Becerra**, 45, of Bakersfield passed away Sept. 13 in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home Shafter.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement SantaCruz Transport 2020-B3659**  
 639 Wiedmann Ave Shafter, CA 93263  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business: 639 Wiedmann Ave Shafter, CA 93263  
 Abel Santa Cruz  
 Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 Date Statement Filed: 08/14/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 08/14/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 Publish *Shafter* Press September 10, 17, 24, October 1, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement La Imperial Taqueria 2020-B3826**  
 422 Rosedale Hwy 308, 309 Bakersfield, CA 93308  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business: 422 James St. Suite #5 Shafter, CA 93263  
 La Imperial Taqueria  
 422 James St. Suite #5 Shafter, CA 93263  
 State of Incorporation or Organization: CA  
 The business is conducted by: Corporation  
 Date the business commenced: N/A  
 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/Katie Gardenhire  
 Date Statement Filed: 08/26/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 08/26/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 Publish *Shafter* Press September 3, 10, 17, 24, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Dartfogg Volleyball Club 2020-B3813**  
 15935 Quintero Pl. Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business: 15935 Quintero Pl. Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 Katie Gardenhire  
 15935 Quintero Pl. Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 Melissa Sapp  
 3844 Meadowlake Drive Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 The business is conducted by: Gen-

**PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement La Imperial Taqueria 2020-B3825**  
 189 E. Lerdo Hwy Shafter, CA 93263  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business: 422 James St. Suite #5 Shafter, CA 93263  
 La Imperial Taqueria  
 422 James St. Suite #5 Shafter, CA 93263  
 State of Incorporation or Organization: CA  
 The business is conducted by: Corporation  
 Date the business commenced: 08-13-2020  
 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/Maria Solis, President  
 Date Statement Filed: 08/26/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 08/26/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 Publish *Shafter* Press September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE Statement of Abandonment Of Use Of Fictitious Business Name Central Valley Local Network LLC 15343 Sequoia Grove Ave Bakersfield, CA 93314**  
 County: KERN  
 Mailing address of business: 15343 Sequoia Grove Ave Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 Gilbert F. Granillo  
 15343 Sequoia Grove Ave Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 Central Valley Local Network LLC  
 15343 Sequoia Grove Ave Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 I declare that all information in this Statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true infor-

mation, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.)  
 Business was conducted by: Limited Liability Company  
 /s/Gilbert F. Granillo, CEO  
 Original FBN Statement File Number: 2017-B7419  
 Original FBN Statement Filed on: 11/03/2017  
 This statement of Abandonment filed on: 09/02/2020  
 I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA  
 Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 By: /s/R Edmiaston, Deputy  
 Publish *Shafter* Press September 24, October 1, 8, 15, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Essential Business Media LLC 2020-B3881**  
 15343 Sequoia Grove Ave Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business: 15343 Sequoia Grove Ave Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 Essential Business Media LLC  
 15343 Sequoia Grove Ave Bakersfield, CA 93314  
 State of Incorporation or Organization: CA  
 The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company  
 Date the business commenced: 09/27/2017  
 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/Gilbert F. Granillo, CEO  
 Date Statement Filed: 09/02/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 09/02/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 By: /s/R Edmiaston  
 Publish *Shafter* Press September 24, October 1, 8, 15, 2020

**PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**  
 On or soon after October 6, 2020, the County of Kern Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing to provide the opportunity for public comment regarding the following proposed substantial amendment to the County's fiscal year (FY) 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan and Consolidated Plan for Community Development Programs. The Board of Supervisors will consider the following proposed substantial amendment pursuant to Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and Citizen Participation Plan requirements, as permitted under Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act. The CARES Act provides federal funds issued by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for County appropriation to local emergency response plans related to the Coronavirus epidemic. Subsequent to consideration at public hearing, the Board of Supervisors may authorize the Department to substantially amend the existing Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded programs to include the following:  
**Create - CD Project No. 18.19.2** - City of Shafter - COVID-19 Public Service and Facilities Improvements - Utilize approximately \$93,621 in CDBG CARES funds for COVID-19 response activities in City of Shafter including: new office and warehouse air filtration systems, portable toilet and handwashing stations, park and playground sanitizing equipment, public outreach signs, PPE including gloves, face shields, protective masks, office and warehouse restroom upgrades and sanitizing stations. In addition to the above sanitizing and protective equipment, the City has proposed to include portable disinfection system with chemicals, driver barrier protection and sanitizing dispensers for transit van improvements.  
 Immediately after the public hearing, the Board will consider the following actions as described above:  
 1. Approve the proposed amendment to the County's FY 2019-2020 Annual Action; and  
 2. Authorize the Planning and Natural Resources Department make all necessary budget transfers; and  
 3. Authorize the County Planning and Natural Resources Department Director to submit all required Community Development documentation to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.  
 The County's public hearing will take place on **Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.** or soon thereafter, in the Kern County Administrative Center located at 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301.  
 If you are unable to attend the public hearing, you may direct written comments to Dennis McNamara, Division Chief, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 250, Bakersfield, CA 93301; or you may telephone (661) 862-8624, send via facsimile to (661) 862-5052, or access TTY Relay 1 (800) 735-2929 (English) and 1 (800) 855-3000 (Spanish) for persons with hearing impairment.  
**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT** (Government Code Section 54953.2)  
 The Board of Supervisors Chamber is accessible to persons with disabilities. Disabled individuals who need special assistance to attend or participate in a meeting of the Board of Supervisors may request assistance at the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Fifth Floor, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California or by calling (661) 868-3585 or via TTY Relay: (800) 735-2929. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in alternative formats. Requests for assistance should be made five (5) working days in advance of a meeting whenever possible.  
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**PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement SantaCruz Transport 2020-B3659**  
 639 Wiedmann Ave Shafter, CA 93263  
 County: Kern  
 Mailing address of business: 639 Wiedmann Ave Shafter, CA 93263  
 Abel Santa Cruz  
 Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
 Date Statement Filed: 08/14/2020  
 Date Statement Expires: 08/14/2025  
 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
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