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# FREE

## THE SHAFTER PRESS

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1921

## Wasco Tribune

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1980

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# Pete Espinoza wants Shafter to prosper

## FOCUS ON THE COUNCIL CANDIDATES

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
The Press and Tribune

### SHAFTER

Pete Espinoza has served on the Shafter City Council since 2020, demonstrating a commitment to the community by advocating for economic development, safety and youth support. He is seeking re-election for a second term, motivated by a straightforward goal. "I don't like complicated things. To me, when I first ran, it was all about that. It's pretty much the same thing. It hasn't changed. I've only gotten more focused on what I've been doing, which I believe has been very helpful for the city of Shafter."

Espinoza takes pride in the many accomplishments he has achieved as part of

the council. "I am very happy to be a part of many things going on in Shafter, like the Shafter Library & Learning Center. I'm proud to back educational and recreational opportunities for our youth. I'm excited about the new swimming pool that is near completion. We've opened a new skate park, made improvements to our existing parks and we're getting ready to break ground on a new park in north Shafter. I'm proud to support First Fridays, the Farmer's Market, the Christmas Parade and Cinco de Mayo. Finally, I'm also proud to be a part of the new police substation and fire department at Gossamer Grove."

See ESPINOZA Page 5



Shafter City Councilmember Pete Espinoza with his son Peter Jr., an EMT and U.S. Air Force Reserve flight medic; his wife Elena, with whom he has been married for 40 years; and his daughter Valerie Espinoza, MD.



Dean of Student Behavior and Support Graham Wilson, Assistant Principal Jennifer Webb, Principal Russell Shipley, Assistant Principal Valarie Labrentz and Dean of Student Behavior and Support Bobby Hinzo.

# Programs, pride on display in SHS programs

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
The Press and Tribune

SHS held its Principal Partners' Day on Wednesday, with Principal Russell Shipley proclaiming it a success.

"Today's event showcased all of the special programs, course offerings and opportunities at Shafter High and highlights our Shafter community, local support and generations of Shafter pride," he said after the annual event. "The turnout was great, and we continue to be the best and largest Principal Partners' Day in all of Kern County."

Guests included local feeder schools, SHS alums, council members, business leaders, Mayor Chad Givens, Chief of Police Randy Milligan, local governance, educators, school administrators, representatives from elected officials, and members of service clubs such as the Rotary Club, Lions Club and Kiwanis Club. They were greeted by the Shafter High Associated Student Body officers, Link Crew and Jazz Band, and treated to a continental breakfast.



Josue Villalobos, a senior, is honing his skills in the industrial automation class.

### SHAFTER

Following a warm welcome and presentations, including a discussion by Shipley about the school's upcoming 100th anniversary and the role of the archiving class, attendees took part in an interactive

campus tour. The tour provided an inside look at innovative courses such as industrial automation, ag mechanics, ag biology, video production, ag sales and marketing, ethnic studies, publication/archiving, computer manufacturing, See PROGRAMS Page 5

# Spooky fun awaits at Barker Park

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
The Press and Tribune

Get ready for a spooky good time at the 5th Annual Trunk or Treat on Thursday, Oct. 31. Bring your favorite costumes and enjoy collecting candy at Barker Park, where there will be music and costume contests.

Hosted by the Wasco Recreation and Parks District, District Manager Chris Serna promises a fun-filled experience for kids. "They'll be lots of candy! Kids get the thrill of trick-or-treating, but instead of walking through an entire neighborhood, they quickly visit multiple decorated cars, collecting candy at every stop. This means more treats in a shorter amount of time, which is super exciting for them. Seeing the decorated trunks is like a mini pop-up attraction. Kids love dressing up in their Halloween costumes, and the Trunk or Treat event is the perfect opportunity for them to proudly show off their costumes."

Serna emphasizes that the event is great for families. "This is a free event to the community; it provides a safe, controlled, secure environment for all, reducing concerns

See SPOOKY Page 5



A trick-or-treater dressed as Cruella de Vil from the "101 Dalmatians" cartoon at the 2023 event.

### WASCO

# Spooktacular Trunk or Treat this Saturday

Villagers Inc. will sponsor its annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, Oct. 26. This year's celebration promises to be bigger and better than ever, with an array of community organizations ready to distribute Halloween treats for both the young and old at heart.

### SHAFTER

The Community Park in Gossamer Grove is the site of the event, and it's free to the public. Music, games, food and a bouncy house will be featured. And, of course, there will be plenty of candy. Costumes are encouraged.

Villagers is run by James Osborne, the Shafter City Council, with his wife, Cur'Neisha. It serves underprivileged youth by offering educational study trips, life skills training, leadership development, and food and home resources to parents.

-Veronica Jacuinde



# Community Calendar

The Shafter Press and Wasco Tribune encourage local organizations to let the public know about coming events and activities through this column. Drop off or mail items at the office, 455 Kern St., Suite E, in Shafter, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday, call 661-292-5100 or email [esoriano@TheShafterPress.com](mailto:esoriano@TheShafterPress.com). Deadline is 4 p.m. Thursday prior to publication. Updates will be on [TheShafterPress.com](http://TheShafterPress.com) and [WascoTrib.com](http://WascoTrib.com).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ground-breaking ceremony – Shafter Recreation and Park District is having a celebratory ceremony for the new Community Sports Complex on Thursday, Oct. 24, beginning at 10 a.m. at East Ash and Golds Avenue.

Shafter Historical Society – Annual meeting Thursday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m., at the Shafter Police Station conference room, 201 Central Valley Hwy. Speaker is Dr. Mike McCoy, director of the Kern County Museum.

Halloween fun – Shafter Trunk or Treat Saturday, Oct. 26, 4 p.m. at Community Park. Free candy while supplies last.

Harvest Festival – Shafter Lions Club's trunk 'n' treat Wednesday, Oct. 30, 1150 E. Ash Ave., at the old Correctional Holding Facilities, at 6:30 p.m.

Shafter Bulky Waste Collection – Sat. Nov. 2, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 329 Central Valley Hwy. County Administrative Building, in partnership with Cesar Chavez Environmental Corps and American Refuse. Collecting household appliances such as refrigerators, water heaters, green waste, hazardous waste grills and large household items.

Park ribbon cutting – Veterans Memorial Park celebration Thursday, Nov. 7, at 749 7th St., Wasco, at 10 a.m. Refreshments and project tours following the ceremony at the new downtown plaza.

16th Annual Christmas Tree Display – Shafter Depot Museum presents "The Lights of Christmas!" If you want to set up a tree or know of anyone who does, contact Stephanie, 661-330-8769, or Stan, 661-747-0324, for more information. We love community involvement and accept last minute entries. Setup for the display will be the first week of December. Trees will be on display Saturdays, Dec. 14, 21, 28 and Jan. 2, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

## ONGOING

Wardrobe for Wildcats – Semitropic School is seeking donations to provide two full uniforms, school t-shirt and school sweatshirt to each student for the 2024-25 school year. All donations will directly benefit students at the school and are tax deductible. Bring a donation directly by the school at 25300 Hwy. 46 in Wasco or contact Melody Gebhardt at 661-746-4439.

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

## MONDAY

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

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

## TUESDAY

Senior Sack Program – First and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m. at the Griffith Avenue Baptist Church in Wasco.

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

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

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

Wasco Woman's Club – Meetings at the clubhouse, 1601 7th St., on the second Tuesday of the month. There is a \$15 fee for the lunch meetings.

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

## WEDNESDAY

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

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

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

## THURSDAY

Wasco High School Board – Meetings the second Thursday of the month at 1900 7th St. in Room 202, or alternatively in Library Room 1101. Visit [wuhs.wascouhsd.org](http://wuhs.wascouhsd.org) for agenda information.

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

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

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

## FRIDAY

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

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

## SATURDAY

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

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

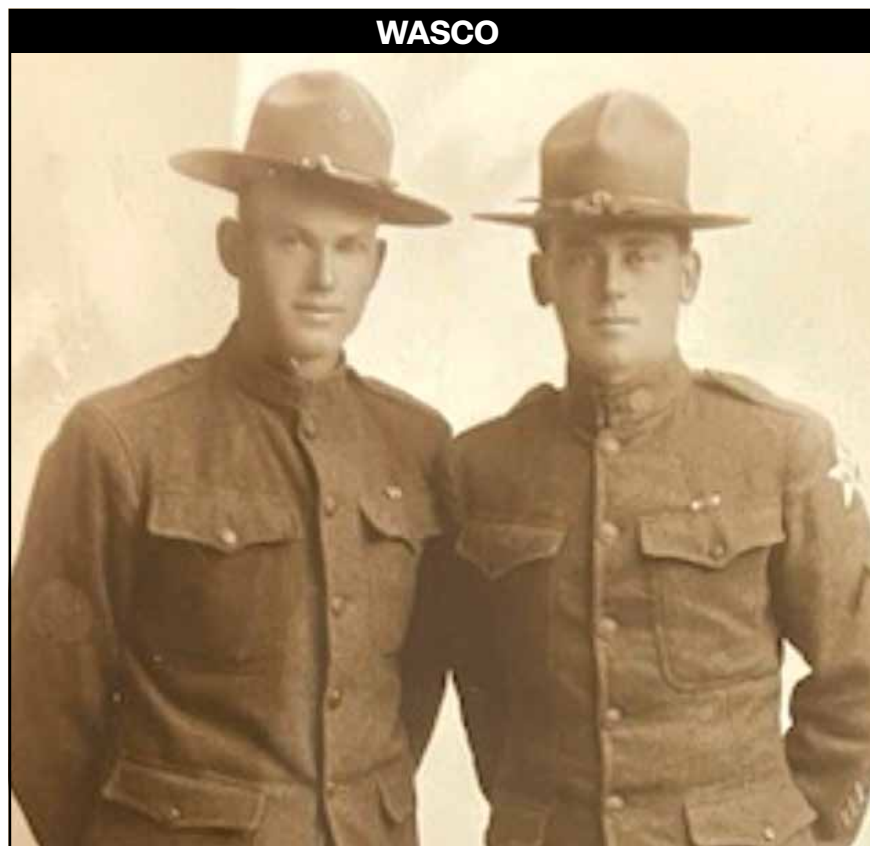
Minter Field Air Museum – Open Fridays and Saturdays 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 401 Vulture, Shafter. Admission free, donations accepted.

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

# Mystery history



Here's this week's challenge, courtesy of the Shafter Historical Society. If you know the location, circumstances, exact or rough date and/or people in the photo, send your educated (or semieducated) guess to *The Press*, 455 Kern St., Suite E, Shafter, CA 93263, or e-mail it to [mysteryphoto@TheShafterPress.com](mailto:mysteryphoto@TheShafterPress.com). Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** An aerial view of the Shafterwater tower Aerial View on Central Avenue. Photo taken in 1941 by Rodger William.



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*, 455 Kern St., Suite E, Shafter, CA 93263, or e-mail it to [mysteryphoto@WascoTrib.com](mailto:mysteryphoto@WascoTrib.com). Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** A spud crew on a loading dock in front of a Wasco potato shed in 1936.



## ARREST REPORT

### SHAFTER

As reported by the Shafter Police Department

#### OCT. 10

Edith Dulce Alfaro, 21, of Shafter, was arrested on Santa Fe Highway and Galpin Street for DUI.

Adam Duane Taylor, 35, of Shafter, was arrested in the 600 block of Munzer Street for disorderly conduct: alcohol.

Carl James Mathews, 34, of Shafter, was arrested at East Orange Street and Shafter Avenue on an outside warrant and for disorderly conduct: alcohol.

#### OCT. 12

Miguel Vera Jr., 47, of Shafter, was arrested in the 700 block of East Lerdo Highway for DUI.

Guillermo Zamora Jr., 33, of Shafter, was arrested for

possession of unlawful paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance, driving with a suspended license, and on a bench warrant/failure to appear on misdemeanor charge.

Andrew Mejia, 19, of Shafter, was arrested in the 400 block of Christine Court for disorderly conduct: alcohol.

Victor Manuel SantaCruz Jimenez, 31, of Shafter, was arrested in the 400 block of East Lerdo Highway for obstruction.

Daniel Carlos Munoz, 31, of Shafter, was arrested in the 400 block of East Lerdo Highway for DUI.

#### OCT. 13

Joseph Anthony Sanz, 33, of Shafter, was arrested in the 100 block of East Lerdo Highway on an outside agen-

cy warrant and for possession of a controlled substance.

#### OCT. 14

Andrew Acosta, 27, of Shafter, was arrested in the 300 block of West Los Angeles for battery onto a spouse and child abuse.

#### OCT. 15

Jose Juan Tovar, 50, of Shafter, was arrested on the 700 block of South Shafter Avenue on an outside warrant and a bench warrant/failure to appear on a misdemeanor charge.

Andrew Acosta, 27, of Shafter, was arrested in the 200 block of Central Valley Highway for violating a court order for domestic violence.

#### OCT. 16

Alejandro Cebreros Trujillo, 32, of Shafter, was arrested on the 300 block North

Shafter Avenue on a bench warrant/failure to appear on a misdemeanor charge.

#### OCT. 17

Michael Anthony Nethererton Jr., 38, of Shafter, was arrested on East Lerdo Highway and Zerker Road for possession of unlawful paraphernalia.

Martin Zamora, 28, of Shafter, was arrested at Poplar and West Tulare on a bench warrant/failure to appear on a misdemeanor charge.

#### OCT. 18

Alfredo Moreno Jr., 37, of Shafter, was arrested in the 100 block of Central Valley Highway for disorderly conduct: under the influence of a narcotic.

#### OCT. 19

Omar Chavez, 35, of Shafter, was arrested in the 100 block of Stone Avenue

for destroying evidence and possession of a controlled substance.

Jose Juan Tovar, 49, of Shafter, was arrested in the 200 block of South Shafter Avenue on a bench warrant/failure to appear on a misdemeanor charge.

#### OCT. 20

David Wayne Jones, 54, of Shafter, was arrested in the 100 block of West Lerdo Highway on an outside agency warrant and for disorderly conduct: alcohol.

#### BUTTONWILLOW

As reported by the Kern County Sheriff's Office, Buttonwillow substitution:

#### OCT. 11

Antonio Diaz Lopez, 32, of Lost Hills, was arrested in the 21900 block of Highway 46 in Lost Hills for disorderly conduct, obstruction,

resisting, delaying a peace officer, and on two misdemeanor warrants. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

### WASCO

As reported by the Wasco Police Department:

#### OCT. 14

Frank Matthew Gonzales, 37, was arrested at 7th Street and Highway 43 on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

#### OCT. 16

Anda Magallanes, 32, was arrested at 7th Street and Broadway Avenue for obstructing or resisting a peace officer, possession of unlawful paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

See ARREST Page 3

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# Shafter's Harvest Festival has arrived

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
The Press and Tribune

On Wednesday, Oct. 30, the Shafter Harvest Festival will feature a Trunk or Treat, a Haunted House, food trucks, music, games and activities. A collaborative effort from many, this event celebrates community.

Mayor Chad Givens explained how it came together: "There are a lot of organizations in Shafter that put together Harvest Festivals. I spoke with Shafter High's ASB students, and they expressed it would be nice if service clubs worked on one big event." Givens reached out to Councilmember Gilbert Arado, president of the Shafter Lions Club, which agreed to take the lead and sponsor the event with the city's backing. Shafter High joined, offering to host the Haunted House.

"With this festival, the intent is to bring the community together. The mantra I've had on the council and continue to speak about is having healthy families and creating strong communities. This is just one way that we connect as a community."

Givens credited Shafter High students for the idea. "Kids are an absolute uniter – most people will get behind a child. When you have a situation where the kids are up for it, how do you make it work? This is a perfect example."

## SHAFTER

A highlight will be the Trunk or Treat, with event chair and Lions Club member Jessica Peña leading the way. "The Lions Club has been very successful in running the Trunk or Treat program in the past, coordinating with the car clubs and the Fire Department. They had 900 to 1,000 people at the last event."

Peña foresees a bigger event from the last one. "We anticipate an even bigger turnout this year, with around 30 cars decorated in fun Halloween themes," she said last week. "They'll give out candy, and one of my trunks will give out pumpkins. Different car clubs will participate, including Los Acelerados." She wants to make the Harvest Festival a tradition and added that everybody is encouraged to wear costumes.

It's not just cars – there will be many information booths with games and activities set up by organizations including the Shafter Woman's Club, Kern Family Health Care, Clinica Sierra Vista, Shafter Recreation and Parks District, schools of the Richland School District, CAPK, CAPSLO and the Shafter Library & Learning Center. The Shafter Police Department, Kern Fire Department and Hall Ambulance also will be present. A DJ and MC, Aaron Perlman, will keep things



Community members celebrated with festive costumes and creative trunks filled with candy at the 2023 Shafter Lions Club Trunk or Treat event.

moving throughout the night.

"There'll be lots to do and eat," Givens said. "We have food trucks selling tacos, hot dogs, hamburgers, Korean barbecue, poke bowls, Asian fusion, barbecue, pizza, baked potatoes, churros, cotton candy and lots of candy treats."

Another big draw is the Haunted House, organized by Shafter High event coordinators Giada Rodriguez and Lauren Givens. "It will be age-appropriate spookiness for the little ones – ages nine and un-

der – and a separate room with more scare factor for kids 10 and older," Givens explained. Rodriguez added, "There will be surprises, and you will definitely be entertained. It will be Halloween at its finest." Donations for the Haunted House will be accepted to support the event.

The free festival, located at 1150 E. Ash Ave., begins at 5:30 p.m. with food trucks, followed by the Trunk or Treat and activities at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jessica Peña at 661-677-1414.

# Food, fun and unity at parish gathering

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
The Press and Tribune

The aroma of fragrant flavors filled the air at the annual St. John the Evangelist Parish Harvest Festival on Sunday. With over a dozen food vendors, it was a foodie's delight. Coupled with live music, it made for an afternoon of family fun and community unity.

## WASCO

Event chair and Councilmember Gilberto Reyna enthusiastically expressed his gratitude to all the contributors. "It is through the very important contributions of the various church groups that we can bring this festival celebration to fruition every year. They are the ones that prepare all of the dishes available."

Reyna also noted the day's beautiful weather. "People brought their lawn chairs and came early to relax and enjoy the entertainment. Others brought their blankets to sit on the grass under the shade of a tree. It was so nice to see so many families come out united in the spirit of the festivities."

After almost a decade of organizing the event, Reyna shared that the most rewarding aspect is knowing that all the funds raised support the parish. Father Loji Pilonos, who joined the parish in August, explained, "It's one of our church's major fundraising initiatives to support our needs of the parish, and I think there is nothing more attractive to have than this kind of festival because it combines music and rich food."

Every year, the festival features live performers



Emeralda Torres took a dance break to relish some carne asada tacos.

beloved by attendees, and this year was no different. One of those performers was Jessica Alberto. "I attend St. John's, so it's nice to be a part of these events that give back to the church. God is a big part of my life, so any event related to the church is a lot of fun and brings me joy."

Additionally, members from Shafter's W.C. Walker Senior Center performed at the festival. Dancer Maria Martinez explained the significance behind the group's routine: "That people see that age is not a barrier to doing what one wants. And emphasize that planting and harvesting are important for life."

Martinez aimed to create enthusiasm, participation and happiness through the

performance. "The dances were reminiscent of indigenous culture, performed to give thanks to God and for the harvest that nourishes us. This dance is called the Dance of Work."

Estela Aguilar, a regular festival attendee, particularly enjoyed the pozole. "I always like the variety of food. It's a really nice event to celebrate the harvest season. It's a great family event, and the children love it. The church does a fantastic job organizing it."

Among the parish organizations providing food was Grupo San Juan Evangelista, a chorus group that performs at the parish every Saturday. Leader Faustino Venancio shared, "We prepare all our dishes with lots of love and care."



Event chair and Councilmember Gilberto Reyna, with performer Maria Martinez, expressed that he was overjoyed with the support of the community who attended the festival.



The U.S. Chamber of Commerce announced its endorsement of Rep. David Valadao's re-election at an event Tuesday at Almond Girl Orchard in Wasco. Nikkie Nguyen, western region manager of the chamber, said, "The U.S. Chamber is proud to stand with Congressman Valadao."

Nguyen added that Congressman Valadao supports pro-growth policies that lower costs and expand job opportunities for Central Valley families and noted Valadao's bipartisan efforts in enhancing water infrastructure and tackling immigration and workforce challenges. At Almond Girl Orchard are Jenny Holtermann, owner of the farm and president of Kern County Farm Bureau, Rep. Valadao, Nguyen and Rob Duchow of the Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce.

## ARREST REPORT

**From Page 2**  
**WASCO**  
As reported by the Wasco Police Department:

Kevin Deon Sharp, 60, was arrested at 1st Street and Griffith Avenue for possession of unlawful parapherna-

lia and driving without a valid license. He was cited and released on the scene.

Eduardo Saucedo, 34, was arrested at Filburn Street and Palm Avenue on a felony bench warrant, possession of a narcotic-controlled substance

and possession of unlawful paraphernalia. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

**OCT. 18**  
Jacob Augustine Zavala, 19, was arrested at Highway 43 and Poso Drive for participating in an illegal speeding

contest. He was cited and released on the scene.

**OCT. 19**  
Noel Mesa Rosas, 29 was arrested at D Street and 10th Place for driving under the influence of alcohol and driving without a valid license. He was

booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

**OCT. 20**  
Jose Gomez-Aguilar, 36, was arrested at Filburn Street and Poplar Avenue for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked into

the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Victor Adame, 21, was arrested in the 600 block of North Maple Street for obstructing or assisting a peace officer and disorderly conduct. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

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# Programs, pride displayed in SHS programs

## From Page 1

computer sciences, industrial arts, restorative practices and essentials of personal fitness. Attendees also learned about the school's Career Technical Education Pathways, dual enrollment courses and early college programs through a partnership with Bakersfield College.

Shipley shared his excitement about the archiving project. Yearbook and archiving teacher Larissa Davis elaborated, "The archiving class has been working hard on our first project of digitizing all the Shafter High yearbooks [dating back to 1931] to be searchable and easily accessible online. This project quickly became a window into the past; spurring ideas of future passion projects like creating a timeline of Shafter High history to be displayed in the front office, to showing the many legacy students and staff members through the years. A favorite fun project that the class has also been working on is the Throwback Thursdays to share with the community on our

social media. We are excited to see what this class will uncover and share with the community of Shafter."

Mayor Pro Tem Cathy Prout remarked, "I come every year, and I learn something new each time, and each time I am impressed. He's [Principal Russell Shipley] been here for 10 years, and he's built the support of the community, and you can see that."

Roy Pierucci, a 1968 SHS graduate, said, "I came last year, and this year, I saw an automated production class, which was new to me. I was talking to another parent, and we both wished we had that when we were here, so the kids have an advantage, mostly with BC courses. To come out of high school with an AA, I mean, how much money and time does that save you? So, I think Shafter High is doing an outstanding job."

Assistant Principal of Administration Jennifer Webb emphasized the strong community support, saying, "It's so nice



Victoria Leyva, a junior in the Project Lead the Way program, is learning to build robots.

to see so many familiar faces in one room. I see parents and former administrators, and we're all coming together to celebrate Shafter High and all we do for the kids."

# Pete Espinoza wants Shafter to prosper

## From Page 1

Regarding his role among fellow councilmembers, he said, "It is an impressive list, but I'm just one of five. I'm happy to serve with a council that is like-minded and focused on improving the community. I just want to be a brick in the pillar. I want to help move things along and make Shafter a better community."

When asked what sets him apart from other candidates, he replied, "I'm not looking for a title or a position; I am look-

ing for what is best for the city. It's not about putting one group over another or one side of Shafter against the other side. I'm for what is good for the city, and I believe if the city is doing well, then the people of Shafter will be doing well. I don't have an agenda; I want the city of Shafter to prosper."

He wants to continue serving because he believes the council is moving in a positive direction. "We are working well together, and I would like to continue on

the projects we were working towards. I feel like I have something to contribute to Shafter, and I still want to be on the council for one more term to complete some of the things that are still in progress."

Espinoza has a passion for young people. "I've been a youth football coach for 22 years, starting back in '02. On Fridays, you can find me at Shafter High watching the football games, where many of the boys I coached as kids are now playing."

He is dedicated to Shafter, stating, "I'm not planning on going anywhere. My roots are in Shafter. I've lived my whole life here. I'm not going to move. I'm probably going to be here until the end. I call myself the small-town farm boy ... Shafter, through and through. That is all I've ever been. I'm blue and gold, and the deeper you get, the brighter the colors."

His message to the community of Shafter is, "Thank you for trusting me with your support."

# Spooky fun awaits at Trunk or Treat

## From Page 1

parents might have about traditional trick-or-treating in unknown neighborhoods. The event is organized with safety in mind, ensuring kids can enjoy the festivities in a well-monitored, well-lit area without the risks of street traffic or strangers. The Trunk or Treat event is inclusive and fun for kids of all ages. Younger children can participate in a safe, non-scary environment, while older kids enjoy the festive trunks and costume contests. It's an event the whole family can enjoy together, regardless of age."

This year's trunk or treat promises to be new and improved. "This year's event may stand out due to new themes, enhanced entertainment, and larger community involvement - all of which can bring fresh energy and make it a more engaging experience compared to last year. Families who attend will likely notice the effort put into improving the event, making it even more enjoyable for kids and parents alike."

Expect lively music, as DJ S will be on hand. "Music helps maintain a high level of engagement while kids collect candy from decorated trunks. Background music creates an entertaining ambiance that keeps everyone involved and excited. We will have a costume parade with prizes, along with a trunk/booth contest. Lots of



Children in their Halloween costumes pose with Spider-Man at last year's Trunk or Treat.

dancing and laughter."

The Trunk or Treat is also an opportunity to start or continue family traditions. "Each year, the event becomes something the family can look forward to, from picking out costumes together to enjoying the excitement of the decorated trunks and activities. With creatively decorated trunks and kids in their costumes, it's an ideal event for capturing memorable family photos. Many local businesses, schools, and community organizations participate in these events, and by attending, families help support our community efforts to provide fun, safe and engaging events for residents."

The Trunk or Treat is from 6 to 8 p.m. at Barker Park, 1280 Poplar Ave.



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## SHAFTER

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sábado 2 de noviembre de 2024

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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- Construction Waste
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**ARTÍCULOS ACEPTADO:**

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- Calentadores de Agua
- Llantas sin Rines\*

**ARTÍCULOS NO ACEPTADO:**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Wasco City Council is recruiting one (1) individual to serve on the **Wasco Parks and Recreation Board** due to the resignation of the appointed member, Miguel A. Raya, to fill the remainder of the term through November 30, 2025.

Members are nominated and appointed by the full City Council. They must be residents of the City throughout their term and attend a monthly meeting.

**Applications are available online on the City website:**

<https://www.cityofwasco.org/FormCenter/Applications-9/Commission-Committee-Board-Application-50>

Applications will be accepted for submission until the open position is filled.

For further information and assistance regarding this appointment, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (661) 758-7215 or by email at [cityclerk@cityofwasco.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofwasco.org)

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# Generals stay perfect in SSL with 34-28 win

**JAMIE STEWART**  
For the Shafter Press

## SHAFTER

The Shafter High Generals football team saw their record improve to 3-0 in the SSL with a 34-28 victory over the Kennedy Thunderbirds on Thursday night. Shafter and Kennedy both came into the game unbeaten in the SSL, with the winner of the contest getting a big boost toward the league title.

Kennedy drew first blood in the game, taking up the majority of the first quarter on their opening drive, culminating with a short touchdown run by Jace Demacabalin, making the score 7-0. The Generals didn't make any time in answering, with quarterback Mariyon Sloan scoring on a 64-yard touchdown run on Shafter's first play from scrimmage, tying the score at 7-7.

The Generals' defense had a little trouble in the first half in containing the powerful offense of the Thunderbirds. Shafter took the lead at the beginning of the second quarter when Sloan found the end zone again, this one an 11-yard run to

make the score 13-7.

Kennedy took the lead late in the second quarter when Demacabalin scored on an 11-yard run. The PAT made the score 14-13.

The Thunderbirds took a 21-13 lead into the locker room when they scored on a six-yard run.

On their first drive of the second half, Shafter narrowed the margin when Sloan scored the third of his five touchdowns on the night. This one was a run from four yards out, set up by a long run from the speedy Jesus Vasquez, giving the Generals a first and goal. The PAT made the score 21-20.

After the Generals' gave the offense the ball in good position with a turnover, Sloan scored again just 37 seconds after the previous score, giving the Generals their first lead of the game.

With the Thunderbirds having no answer for the rushing offense of the Generals, Shafter made the score 34-21 in the fourth quarter. Sloan ended the game with 252 yards rushing, a career high for Sloan. Shafter piled up almost 400 yards



The Generals' defense upend the Thunderbirds.

on the ground, rushing for 384 yards on the night. Kennedy scored to make the score 34-28, but the Generals' defense held tight against the Kennedy offense on their last series, securing the win and the

current top spot in the SSL.

Shafter will face off against the Titans of Chavez High on Friday night, with rival Wasco looming on Nov. 1. The scheduled kickoff on Friday night is at 7:30 p.m. in Shafter.

# Tigers best Taft, with 500+ yards rushing

**JAMIE STEWART**  
For the Wasco Tribune

## WASCO

The Wasco Tigers upped their SSL record to 2-1 with a rout of the Taft Wildcats, 53-14, on Friday night.

Wasco was unstoppable on offense, racking up over 500 yards on the ground for the game.

Hammie Lopez had 203 yards rushing on the night, leading the way. But, there were plenty of Tigers in support, with five other Wasco players gaining yardage on the night.

The Tigers scored early and often, with Lopez scoring two first quarter touch-

downs, one of them for 43 yards. Wasco ended the game with a season-high 502 yards on the ground on offense.

The Tiger defense dominated the line of scrimmage and didn't let the Wildcats mount any sort of comeback. The Tigers had the game in hand before the end of the first half. Wasco scored four times in the first half, racing out to a 32-0 lead be-

fore the halftime whistle blew.

Other Tiger players that contributed to the cause was Daniel Hulsey, who had 92 yards, freshman Aiden Hulsey with 83 yards and Moroni Carranza with 43 yards.

Wasco rebounded after their loss to Kennedy last week. The Tigers will look to keep the momentum when they host Delano Friday night. Kickoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Soil Supplements Services**  
**2024-B6340**  
5722 Calatrava Dr.  
Bakersfield, CA 93311  
County: Kern  
5722 Calatrava Dr.  
Bakersfield, CA 93311  
Carmen Louise Walker  
5722 Calatrava Dr.  
Bakersfield, CA 93311  
The business is conducted by: Individual  
Date the business commenced: 01/03/2007  
/s/Carmen Louise Walker  
Date Statement Filed: 10/17/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 10/17/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Honesto  
Publish Shafter Press October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 2024

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend the DA to extend the term by six (6) months in order to allow sufficient time to conclude negotiations; and WHEREAS, in order to ensure the development of the Property takes place and the DA is implemented, this Urgency Ordinance is adopted to extend the DA immediately so that it does not expire and the City can continue to work with Owner in the implementation of the DA; and WHEREAS, the extension of the DA is for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety because the MLSP and DA are considered critical projects for the City and a lapse in the DA would have significant detrimental impacts which cannot be easily remedied by other methods; and WHEREAS, development of the Property in accordance with the DA will provide substantial benefits to City and will further important policies and goals of City; and WHEREAS, the DA eliminates uncertainty in planning and provides for the orderly development of the Property, ensures progressive installation of necessary improvements, provides for public services appropriate to the development of the Project, and generally serves the purposes for which development agreements under Sections 65864, et seq. of the Government Code are intended; and

the residents of the City as a whole. B. The Sixth Amendment will not adversely affect the orderly development of property or the preservation of property values. C. The Sixth Amendment eliminates uncertainty in planning and provides for the orderly development of the Property, ensures progressive installation of necessary improvements, provides for public services appropriate to the development of the Project, and generally serve the purposes for which development agreements under Sections 65864, et seq. of the Government Code are intended. D. The Sixth Amendment is consistent with the provisions of Government Code sections 65864 through 65869.5 and Title 15 of the Shafter Municipal Code. SECTION 2. Based on the entire record before the Council and all written and oral evidence presented to the Council, the Council hereby finds and determines, that it can be seen with certainty that adoption of this Urgency Ordinance and approval of the Sixth Amendment will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Thus, the adoption of this Urgency Ordinance and approval of the Sixth Amendment is exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines. SECTION 3. The Council hereby approves the Sixth Amendment in substantially the form presented to the Council, together with such additions favoring the City and non-substantive revisions as may be approved by both the City Manager and the City Attorney during execution of the Sixth Amendment. SECTION 4. The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the Sixth Amendment on behalf of the City and City staff is authorized to take any action and execute any and all necessary documents to implement the Sixth Amendment. SECTION 5. The City Clerk is directed to record the Sixth Amendment with the Kern County Recorder, no later than 10 days after the Sixth Amendment is fully executed. SECTION 6. This Ordinance shall be in full force immediately upon its passage. SECTION 7. A summary of this Ordinance shall be published in the manner required by law. Printed certified copies of Ordinance No. 759 are available for inspection by any person at the office of the Shafter City Clerk, City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California. The ordinance was passed by the City Council on October 15, 2024, with the following vote: AYES: Alvarado, Espinoza, Givens, and Prout. NOES: None ABSENT: Olvera ABSTAINING: None Dated: October 17, 2024 Yazmina Pallares, City Clerk Publish Shafter Press October 24, 2024

Date Statement Expires: 09/04/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Torralba  
Publish Shafter Press October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Vive Bella**  
**2024-B6084**  
299 E. Lerdo  
Shafter, CA 93263  
County: Kern  
299 E. Lerdo  
Shafter, CA 93263  
Ana Laura Santana Soto  
299 E. Lerdo  
Shafter, CA 93263  
The business is conducted by: Individual  
Date the business commenced: N/A  
/s/Ana Laura Santana Soto  
Date Statement Filed: 10/03/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 10/03/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Honesto  
Publish Shafter Press October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Backyard Games 2 Go**  
**2024-B5695**  
10014 Silverthorne Drive  
Bakersfield, CA 93314  
County: Kern  
10014 Silverthorne Drive  
Bakersfield, CA 93314  
Shawn Christopher Pannel  
10014 Silverthorne Drive  
Bakersfield, CA 93314  
Lesley Ann Pannel  
10014 Silverthorne Drive  
Bakersfield, CA 93314  
The business is conducted by: Married Couple  
Date the business commenced: N/A  
/s/Lesley Pannel  
Date Statement Filed: 09/16/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/16/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Torralba  
Publish Shafter Press October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**MW Welding**  
**2024-B6074**  
2913 Loch Fern Ct  
Bakersfield, CA 93306  
County: Kern  
2913 Loch Fern Ct  
Bakersfield, CA 93306  
MWWelding LLC  
2913 Loch Fern Ct  
Bakersfield, CA 93306  
State of incorp. or org.: CA  
The business is conducted by: Limited Liability Company  
Date the business commenced: 02/22/2024  
/s/Michael Wade, President  
Date Statement Filed: 10/03/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 10/03/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Honesto  
Publish Shafter Press October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Orion Transportation**  
**2024-B5399**  
457 Mark Ave  
Shafter, CA 93263  
County: Kern  
457 Mark Ave  
Shafter, CA 93263  
Ernan Roman Sanchez  
457 Mark Ave  
Shafter, CA 93263  
The business is conducted by:

Individual  
Date the business commenced: 06/13/2018  
/s/Ernan Roman Sanchez  
Date Statement Filed: 08/30/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 08/30/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Honesto  
Publish Shafter Press October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**General Testing Services**  
**2024-B5883**  
28905 W. Lerdo Hey  
Shafter, CA 93263  
County: Kern  
1605 Glacier Way  
Wasco, CA 93280  
Higinio C Barraza  
1605 Glacier Way  
Wasco, CA 93280  
The business is conducted by: Individual  
Date the business commenced: 11/07/2007  
/s/Higinio C Barraza  
Date Statement Filed: 09/24/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/24/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Cedenno  
Publish Shafter Press October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Light Mortgages**  
**2024-B5990**  
4600 American Ave W Ste 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
County: Kern  
407 N Maple Dr Ground 1  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
Uhler Mortgage Solutions Inc  
4600 American Ave W Ste 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
State of incorp. or org.: CA  
The business is conducted by: Corporation  
Date the business commenced: 01/05/2016  
/s/Donald U Paulino, President  
Date Statement Filed: 09/30/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/30/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Cedenno  
Publish Shafter Press October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**EMORTGAGELOCK.COM**  
**2024-B5989**  
4600 American Ave W Ste 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
County: Kern  
4600 American Ave W Ste 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
Donald Uhler Paulino  
4600 American Ave W Ste 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
The business is conducted by: Individual  
Date the business commenced: 08/01/2024  
/s/Donald Uhler Paulino  
Date Statement Filed: 09/30/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/30/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Cedenno  
Publish Shafter Press October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024

Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
Uhler Mortgage Solutions Inc  
4600 American Ave W Suite 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
Business was conducted by: Corporation  
/s/Donald U Paulino, President  
Original FBN Statement Filed: Number: 2024-B4977  
Original FBN Statement Filed on: 08/12/2024  
This statement of Abandonment filed on: 09/30/2024  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: /s/M Cedenno  
Publish Shafter Press October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Abandonment Statement**  
**EMORTGAGELOCK.COM**  
4600 American Ave W Suite 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
County: KERN  
Mailing address of business: 4600 American Ave W Ste 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
Donald Uhler Paulino  
4600 American Ave W Ste 201  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
Business was conducted by: Individual  
/s/Donald Uhler Paulino, Owner  
Original FBN Statement Filed: Number: 2024-B5150  
Original FBN Statement Filed on: 08/19/2024  
This statement of Abandonment filed on: 09/30/2024  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: /s/M Cedenno  
Publish Shafter Press October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Navi Boutique**  
**2024-B5899**  
**Navi New Beginnings Boutique**  
**2024-B5900**  
**Navi Wellness Studio**  
**2024-B5901**  
17837 Brimhall Rd  
Bakersfield, CA 93314  
County: Kern  
17837 Brimhall Rd  
Bakersfield, CA 93314  
Jasmine Christina Garcia  
17837 Brimhall Rd  
Bakersfield, CA 93314  
The business is conducted by: Individual  
Date the business commenced: 09/24/2024  
/s/Jasmine Christina Garcia  
Date Statement Filed: 09/25/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/25/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Honesto  
Publish Shafter Press October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
**Stealthvue Investigations**  
**2024-B5806**  
5329 Office Park Center Ct., Ste130  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
County: Kern  
5329 Office Park Center Ct., Ste 130  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
BPL Security, Inc.  
5329 Office Park Center Ct., Ste 130  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
State of incorp. or org.: CA  
The business is conducted by: Corporation  
Date the business commenced: N/A  
/s/Brandon Long, CEO  
Date Statement Filed: 09/19/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/19/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Torralba  
Publish Shafter Press October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024



PASTOR'S CORNER

# God is our help in times of trouble

**PASTOR BEVERLY PERELLO**  
Home Fellowship Church, Shafter

1 Samuel 7 tells an interesting story of what sometimes happens when we get serious about obeying God. Obedience to God always brings blessing – that is a truth proven throughout the scriptures and in so many lives throughout history. But sometimes we twist this idea to mean that submitting completely to God will mean we have no more problems, no more struggles and that a blessed life is an easy one.

1 Samuel 7:2 ends with an interesting declaration, "... then all the people of Israel turned back to the Lord." They had decided to live God's way! But their spiritual leader, Samuel, warned them that they would have to make a real change. They had been saying, "We belong to Jehovah," but at the same time, they were worshipping the pagan gods of their neighbors and bowing down to their idols. He said, "If you are returning to God with all your hearts..." then you need to get serious and get rid of anything else you are trusting in to save you. He told them that if they trust 100% in God, He would save them from their enemies, the powerful Philistines.

Amazingly enough, they did just that. They threw away their idols and gathered to worship God and ask for His help. They confessed their sin of half-heartedness and disloyalty to God. So they were a little shocked to learn that the very enemy from which God was to protect them was on its way to attack them, even as they prayed. And they were afraid!

Even so, they decided to trust God and asked Samuel to keep crying out to Him on their behalf. As he did so, God did something miraculous. 1 Samuel 7:11 says God, "thundered with loud thunder," against their enemies and "threw them into such a panic," that they ran away so completely defeated that they stopped even trying to invade.



It really shouldn't surprise us that when we get serious about obeying God, our enemy, Satan, is not going to applaud our faith. In fact, while we claim to be Christians, but continue to compromise, living life our way, instead of God's. He is happy with our hypocrisy and glad to let us continue without interference. However, when we decide to make a real commitment to live a radical Christian life, he will do anything to discourage us. To some it feels like making a serious commitment to God marks the onset of all kinds of problems.

It would be easy to turn back when that happens, but it is precisely when we need to follow the example of the Israelites. We need to double down on praying and trust that God is able. That if our commitment has put us in the line of fire, it has also placed us in the watchcare of the Almighty God who is able to defend us.

The story closes in 1 Samuel 7:12, where Samuel puts up a memorial, a reminder that in all their history, God has always helped them without ever failing them. Each time we take steps of faith and obedience to God, the enemy will attack us. But if we will cry out to God and trust Him, we too will be able to say, "Ebenezer... I've gotten this far with God's help, so I know I can trust Him now too."

# This week's Super Students at Karl Clemens



Karl F. Clemens Elementary School announced its Super Students for the week of Oct. 21. Criteria for selection were based on significant math improvement, showing kindness to all friends, respect and hard work, following class procedures, helping other students understand new concepts and improving learning English. From left are Principal Anabel Garrison, Jackie Angel (kindergarten), Alex Pelayo (1st grade), Leonardo Rios (2nd grade), Yeslynn Ayala (3rd grade), Edgar Osorio (5th grade), Emmanuel Ontiveros (4th grade) and Vice Principal Angela Devin

## PET OF THE WEEK

### Will Mavis be your new best friend?

Mavis is a sweet and playful 4-5-year-old female German shepherd mix who came to the Wasco Animal Shelter as a stray and has quickly won over the hearts of the staff with her friendly nature. She gets along great with other dogs, both male and female, and is always ready to play. Mavis already knows how to sit and spin, making her a fun companion to train and bond with. While it's unknown if she's house/crate trained, her loving personality shines through. She'll be available for adoption on Thursday, Oct. 24. Give Mavis the forever home she deserves!

-Wasco Animal Shelter



## DEATH NOTICES

**Kristen Bozarth**, 42, of Bakersfield, passed away Oct. 8, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Wasco.

**Melvin Dean**, 72, of Wasco, passed away Oct. 14, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Wasco.

**Rafael Rios Fernandez**, 53, of Wasco, passed away Oct. 15, in Delano. Peters Funeral Home, Wasco.

**Ignacio Hernandez Banderas**, 29, of Wasco, passed away Oct. 13, in Bakersfield. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

**Ramiro Frausto Rodriguez**, 61, of Shafter, passed away Oct. 13, in Bakersfield.

Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

**Margarito Esquivel**, 72, of Wasco, passed away Oct. 7, in Wasco. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

**Martha Turpin**, 73, of Bellflower, passed away Oct. 2, in Bellflower. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

**James R. Waldron Jr.**, 81, of Bakersfield, passed away Oct. 18, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

**Mary Kroeker**, 65, of Shafter, passed away Oct. 18, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

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Applications are available at our website [shafterrecreation.com](http://shafterrecreation.com) or at our office at 700 E. Tulare Ave. Call 661-746-3303 for more information.

Deadline for applications is Monday, November 4

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS.**





Coach Rosie Villagomez with the junior varsity team, made up of 12 players from 6th and 7th grade.



Coach Rosie Villagomez, with the varsity team, said she encourages teamwork and open communication among the players.

# A season of triumph Lady Trojans

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
The Press and Tribune

The Richland Junior High Lady Trojans varsity volleyball team is undefeated, while the junior varsity team boasts 12 wins and two losses. Both teams have had an exciting season on the court, under the guidance of their dedicated and passionate coach, Rosie Villagomez.

"They are athletes, really hard workers, and when I tell them where they need the work, we go over it, they work on it, and we fix it. They listen, they get it, and that is what has made us successful," Villagomez explained.

The players are on the court Monday through Friday, whether for games or practice. "The girls are extremely committed. They are very passionate about it. They are a lot like me; they don't want to lose. We want to win. I don't allow them to bring each other down on the court.

## SHAFTER

We build each other up – it doesn't take one person to win or lose a game; it takes a team."

Villagomez shared about the best part of coaching this group. "They are a bunch of good-hearted girls. It's an awesome feeling to be around them, and they are good-natured young ladies. I enjoy spending time with them, and seeing the connection beyond just volleyball is phenomenal. It will carry on into their school years and become a part of who they are.

"All of the games are really good. Some schools have made us run for our money, but the team is committed overall. They attend practice, and we want to win. Both teams have outstanding captains who constantly motivate the girls on the court. The players are very supportive of one another. They've built a sisterhood and a bond because they spend so much time together. I

feel so proud, which is why I keep coaching."

She said coaching an undefeated team is very stressful. "And there is a lot of pressure. I might look calm on the sidelines, but inside, I am on edge for the girls, hoping for another victory."

Villagomez stays busy year-round as a volleyball coach. When she isn't coaching at RJH, where she also leads the boys' volleyball team, she coaches at the Shafter Recreation and Parks District and with the competitive club STG, based in Shafter but playing its games in Bakersfield. She loves it, especially her girls at Richland Junior High.

As the season continues, she hopes to win the upcoming tournament. "Our goal is to take first place in the tournament on October 26th. I think we have an excellent chance of winning. We played every team in the league two times and have beaten them both times. With hard work and determination, our chances should be high."



Valery Lovera during her standout moment, scoring 21 points in a row.

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Date the business commenced:  
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By: M Torralba  
Publish Wasco Tribune October 24,  
31, November 7, 14, 2024

# Measure D would aid Wasco tech ed, "bring excitement" with gym overhaul

To the editor:

This letter is written in support of Measure D.

As a retired industrial arts teacher, work experience coordinator and adjunct professor of drafting technol-

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ogy I appreciate the improvements Measure D would bring to the technical education program at Wasco High School.

I played basketball in the Wasco High gym in the late 1950s, so the remodeling of the gym should bring new excitement to the game.

**Bud Engel**  
Alumni, Shafter High School, 1960

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