

Schools dealing with virus

Meals, academic help in place

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

Schools in the Richland School District closed on March 18, but they still continue to serve the children of Shafter, be it with free meals or packets of learning.

New learning packets were made available online May 5, updating the learning materials to be completed for credit. Included in the packets are English and math assignments, activity sheets and exercise models.

There also is assistance available for students and parents online. Links are available on the district's homepage leading to each school's website and learning tools, with teachers and advisors there to help.

An updated schedule for the free meal program is there, too. Meals are available Monday-Thursday at different locations throughout the city. Students in the Smith's Corner area can get their meals at Richland and Shafter Avenues between 10:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. The Colony bus stop at Big John Road is the site for students in the La Colonia area between 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Golden Oak Elementary and Redwood Elementary have meals available from 10-11:30 a.m. at their valet areas.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., meals are available at S&A Market, 861 Central Valley Highway, Grimmway Academy Shafter and Shafter High School.

If a child has a food allergy on file with Richland School District and wants to participate in the program, parents are asked to call 661-746-8640 or email mholing-sworth@rdshafter.org by 2 p.m. the day prior to picking up a meal.



Ken Kirschenmann with some of his grapes.

Real impact still to come for farmers

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

The current coronavirus pandemic had an immediate effect on businesses, schools, churches and just about every facet of our lives. But when it comes to the industry responsible for producing our food, the impact may not be fully realized for a while.

Local farmers say there has not yet been a huge impact on day-to-day operations, but the long-term effects will be felt in the next year.

Stan Wilson, a local farmer and historian, said it is business as usual on the farm, but it is unclear how large of an impact the virus will have on the market prices this coming year.

"I know dairy farmers have been hit pretty hard because of the closure of schools that usually buy the bulk of their milk. This ends up affecting the prices of alfalfa, which has gone down," Wilson said.

Michelle McManus of Wilson Ag said their workers are outdoors and have not had a problem in their daily operations. "We have been careful with our workers and their needs when it comes to safety. We practice social distancing and adhere to the guidelines."

See FARMERS Page 5

8th graders' virtual graduation

TONI DEROSA
Wasco Tribune

Eight-graders in the city's two middle schools will graduate virtually due to the coronavirus restrictions.

The on-line ceremony is still being planned, but it is expected to take place on Wednesday, May 27, Palm Avenue Principal Oscar Luna said this week. Thomas Jefferson School is also planning for a virtual ceremony.

Meanwhile, graduating students and their parents got a chance to have a live experience when they came to Palm Avenue on Monday to pick up their black caps and gowns and have graduation pictures taken.

Students stood in line to have their photos shot by Betty's Comparan Photography.

In order to deal with the coronavirus situation and the closed school, the district divided the pickups across the week by days, Monday through Thursday.

Palm Avenue had a station set up in the library with volunteers directing students where to go for their items and then escorting them to the photographer.

"We have about 25-29 students coming each hour," Principal Oscar Luna said. "We are working each day to make sure students are on track."

Luna also said that while following the recommendations from the County Office of Education and Public Health Department, "We have made the difficult decision to have the first-ever graduating class of Palm Avenue Middle School class of 2020 with a virtual graduation," Luna said. "Currently we are holding social dis-

See GRADUATING Page 5

Working to build positive community

Chalk it up to unity

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

It is the second week of Shafter Strong month. Last week, residents decorated their homes in a patriotic theme. This week, they are encouraged to take to their sidewalks and driveways with chalk, thanking those first responders who are working to keep Shafter safe and healthy.

A number of residents have already created masterpieces and posted them online.

The month-long event was dreamt up by Colleen Diltz, Diana Barnett, Debbie Haley and a host of other citizens who were determined to find a way for the people of Shafter to do something during the stay-at-home order. An idea was hatched to showcase the past and present unity, strength and patriotism of Shafter.

The Villagomez family had a great time together designing their drawings on the sidewalk. Another artist on display was 3-year-



A picture drawn by 3-year-old Vivian Lewis.

old Vivian Lewis, daughter of Jordan Lewis, who drew a big sun to celebrate the special week.

Families came out at different times of day so the suggested social distancing practice could be observed. This is an important point that the city of Shafter wants to ensure residents

See CHALK Page 6

Awards for service

The City of Wasco announced is introducing a new service award program.

Here is the official announcement:

We all know that person who is always willing to pitch in, rises to the occasion when help is needed or residents who perform acts of kindness for the less fortunate. They are our neighbors, former classmates, church members, coworkers or family members; simply put, they are members of our community who contribute to the vitality of our city and enrich the lives of other Wasconians.

The idea for the program began as a vision from a longtime City Councilmember and current Mayor Tilo Cortez. "I wanted a way to recognize those citizens of Wasco, who lead by example, who speak through actions and selflessness, citizens who take positive action

See AWARDS Page 6

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Due to the rapidly changing environment, be aware that scheduled activities may change on a moment's notice. Check out [TheShafterPress.com](#) or [WascoTrib.com](#) for updates, and contact event organizers for current status.

Event organizers: E-mail esoriano@TheShafterPress.com or call *The Press* at 661-292-5100 with changes to your activities.

NEW: Blood drive – Saturday, May 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Truth Church, 101 Beech Road, Shafter.

TAKE-OUT & DELIVERY SERVICES

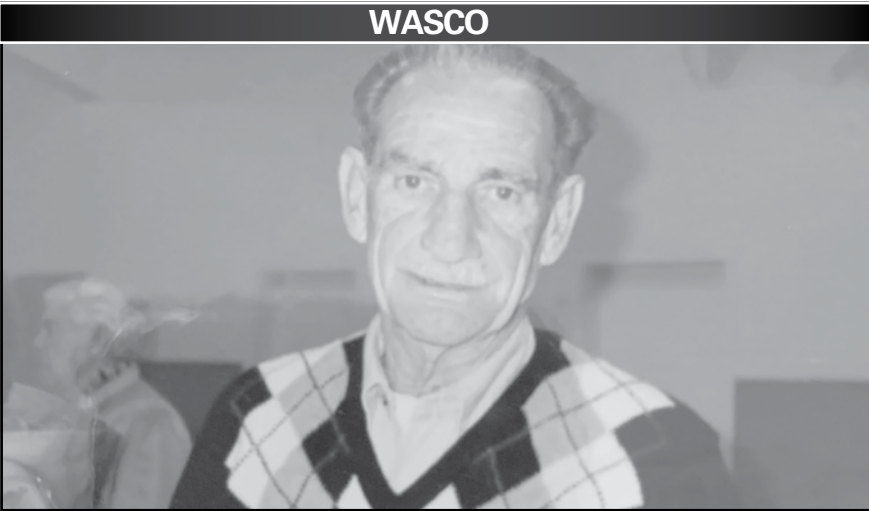
A listing of area eateries that are open and ready to serve you with takeout. Call ahead to confirm hours and availability.

SHAFTER		
Tin Cup Coffee 1101 E. Lerdo Hwy. 661-630-4061 Drive through Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-3 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Sun. closed	General's Headquarter 710 E. Lerdo Hwy. 661-746-6075 Open every day 8 a.m.-11 p.m.	La Cocina Del Pablo 931 7th. St.
Rocy's Mexican Food 749 S. Shafter Ave. 661-746-2619 Open every day 8 a.m.—9 p.m.	Burger Factory 313 Central Ave. 661-746-9135	Blue Sushi & Teriyaki 915 7th St. 661-758-2236 Open Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-p.m., Sun. & Mon closed
Tony's Firehouse Restaurant 300 E. Lerdo Hwy. 661-746-9244 Open every day 11 a.m.-7 p.m.	Frosty King 683 Central Valley Hwy. 661-746-6951 Open every day 10 a.m.-10 p.m.	Carol's Dari Freeze 1501 Highway 46 661-758-2606 Open every day 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
El Michoacano 237 Central Ave. 661-746-4872	McDonalds 101 W. Lerdo Highway Open every day 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.	Frosty King 1032 Highway 46 661-758-2606
La Fonda Taqueria and Mariscos 358 Central Ave. 661-746-0034	Del Taco 135 S. Central Valley Highway Open every day 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.	Hoyett's Sandwich Shop 727 6th St. 661-758-2065 Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and reopens 5 p.m. -7 p.m.
Don Pepe's Bar & Grill 301 E. Lerdo Hwy. 661-746-6183 Reopens Friday, April 24, or pickup only.	WASCO Barraza's Delicioso Tacos 601 F. St. 661-758-8944 Mon-Thurs 11 a.m. -midnight Fri. 11 a.m.-2 a.m., Sat. 4 p.m.-2 a.m., Sun. 4 p.m.-12 a.m. Take out only	El Burrito Loco 803 7th St. 661-758-4945
China Cuisine 563 James St. 661-746-3266	Hong Kong Restaurant 912 7th St. 661-758-3338 Tues.-Sun.: 11 a.m.-8 p.m.	Café 101 2339 Highway 46 661-758-1983 Open every day 6 a.m.- 9:30 p.m.
Giovanni's Italian Eatery 130 Walker St. 661-746-2000	Teresa's Tacos Villa 441 F. St. 661-758-2027	Pizza Hut 2340 Highway 46 661-758-5184 Delivery and takeout Open every day 9:30 a.m.-11 p.m.
La Imperial Taqueria 327 State Ave. 661-746-1717	La Imperial Taqueria 922 7th St. 661-758-2955 Open every day 8 a.m.-9 p.m.	Rocy's Mexican Food 1157 7th St. 661-758-5837
	La Cabanita 169 Highway 46 661-758-4915	La Fonda 1001 F St. 661-758-9901

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*, 406 Central Ave., Shafter 93263, or e-mail it to mystery-photo@TheShafterPress.com. Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** Peter and Debbie Reimer with their daughter, and Dale and Nadine Sperling dressed up with their car decked out for the Shafter parade 1979.



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ARREST REPORT

As reported by the Shafter Police Department

MAY 10

Jose Torres Juan Garcia, 31, of Shafter, was arrested in the 400 block of East Ash for obstruction of a public officer and disorderly conduct.

Luis Marvin Climaco, 43, of was arrested for inflicted corporal injury on spouse, child cruelty, possession of controlled substance, driving without a license and no proof of financial responsibility.

MAY 9

Miguel Garza III, 29, of Shafter, arrested for grand theft of property of \$950-plus and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Jesus Renteria, 44, of Shafter, was arrested for grand theft of property of \$950-plus and conspiracy to commit a crime.

Santos Gutierrez III, 29, of Shafter, was arrested for receiving/knowning stolen property.

MAY 8

Zane Alan Billings, 34, of Shafter, was arrested for possession of controlled substance and domestic violence.

Margarito Ortega, 33, of Shafter, was arrested for disorderly conduct.

rested for disorderly conduct.

MAY 7

Jose Guitron Jr., 39, of Shafter, was arrested for carry a concealed dirk/dagger, on an outside agency warrant and possession of controlled substance for sale.

MAY 6

Robert Steven Veiga, 51, of Shafter, was arrested possession of controlled substance and on an misdemeanor bench warrant.

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

MAY 4

Omar Amado Franco, 29, of Wasco, was arrested in the 2000 block of Prosperity Lane on the felony charges of torture, aggravated mayhem, false imprisonment with violence/etc., inflicting corporal injury on spouse/cohabitant, willful cruelty to child and force or assault with a deadly weapon not a firearm with great bodily injury likely. He was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

Favian Infante, 30, of Wasco, was arrested in the 700 block of Oak Avenue for felony corporal injury of spouse or cohabi-

tant. He was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

Ramon Martinez Perez, 65, of Wasco, was arrested in the 2500 block of Yellowstone Court for misdemeanor battery on a spouse. He was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

Amber Ponce, 38, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1800 block of Poplar Avenue for misdemeanor battery on a spouse. She was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

Alejandro Ruiz, 30, of Wasco, was arrested in the 700 block of Maple Avenue for felony theft of access card data, grand theft of money/labor/property, and getting and using other's credit card and ID. He was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

Brianda Uriarte, 27, of Wasco, was arrested in the 700 block of Maple Avenue on two outstanding misdemeanor warrants. She was cited and released at the scene.

MAY 5

Ray Daniel Hamilton, 47, of Ceres, was arrested in the intersection of 11th Street and E Street in for disorderly conduct. He

was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

Juan Hernandez, 36, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1000 block of Griffith Avenue for felony first degree burglary. He was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

MAY 10

Raphael Boytes, 29, of Wasco, was arrested at the intersection of 7th Street and Broadway for misdemeanor obstruction of a public officer, and a failure-to-appear warrant. He was arrested and booked into the Central Receiving Facility in Bakersfield.

BUTTONWILLOW

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

MAY 4

Steven Hanshew, 37, of Buttonwillow, was arrested in the 400 block of Milo Avenue in Buttonwillow for burglary. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

David Fajardo, 28, of Buttonwillow, was arrested in the 400 block of Milo Avenue in Buttonwillow for disorderly conduct/alcohol. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

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Wasco Tribune

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1980

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

Adjudicated a legal newspaper by Superior Court Order No. 183950. Entered as Standard Mail at Wasco Post Office.

Postmaster: Send change of address to Wasco Tribune, P.O. Box 789, Shafter, CA 93263.

Publisher: Michael Schroeder
(661-292-5100; mschroeder@WascoTrib.com)

General Manager: Diane Givens
(661-292-5100; dgivens@WascoTrib.com)

Editor: Toni DeRosa
(661-292-5005; tderosa@WascoTrib.com)

Office Manager: Erica Soriano
(661-292-5100; esoriano@TheShafterPress.com)

Production Manager: Bobby Sirois

Distribution Coordinator: Romero "Mickey" Enriquez
(661-292-5100; dgivens@WascoTrib.com)

Contact the Wasco Tribune at P.O. Box 789, Shafter. CA 93263. Office hours at 406 Central Ave., Shafter, are from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. E-mail info@WascoTrib.com or call 661-292-5100; fax 661-292-5077. Production by Central Connecticut Communications LLC.

THE SHAFTER PRESS

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1921

The Shafter Press (#491700) is published each Thursday and is available at no charge at locations throughout the Shafter area and by subscription at \$49 per year. Send payment, along with name, address and email address, to P.O. Box 789, Shafter, CA 93263.

Adjudicated a legal newspaper by Superior Court Order No. 29926. Entered as Periodicals at Shafter Post Office Aug. 1, 1935, under Act of Congress.

Postmaster: Send change of address to The Shafter Press, P.O. Box 789, Shafter, CA 93263. Periodical postage paid at Shafter, California, permit PE491700.

Publisher: Michael Schroeder
(661-292-5100; mschroeder@TheShafterPress.com)

General Manager: Diane Givens
(661-292-5100; dgivens@TheShafterPress.com)

Editor: Jamie Stewart
(661-292-5005; jstewart@TheShafterPress.com)

Office Manager: Erica Soriano
(661-292-5100; esoriano@TheShafterPress.com)

Production Manager: Bobby Sirois

Distribution Coordinator: Romero "Mickey" Enriquez
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ABOVE: The orchid greenhouse, where the magic begins. RIGHT: Bob Reeves attending to his orchids.



Couple shares a garden of creativity



Barbara Reeves attending to an anthurium in the greenhouse.

They build an oasis in the desert

TONI DEROSA
Wasco Tribune

Bob and Barbara Reeves share a love for gardening, and their front and backyards are great testimony to their passion.

Barbara was born in Porterville; however, Bob is Wasco born and raised. The two married 58 years ago.

They built the house they live in. It was the same house they had constructed when they lived in Porterville, kept the same plans and rebuilt it in Wasco, where they have lived for 27 years.

Barbara says that they were quite a party couple that liked to go big while decorating for holidays, such as Christmas and Halloween. Their house was always the party place where friends, neighbors and co-workers gathered to celebrate just about anything.

One of Bob's jobs included his managing the old Paola's Top of the Hill bowling alley in Bakersfield. At the same time, Barbara worked at the Wasco office of Finance and Thrift.

Their house is one of the fully landscaped homes on Sunset. Topiaries are placed throughout the front yard, and the main sculpture is Barbara's. "She's in charge of creating the bushes into animal sculptures," Bob said. "She's been doing it for years."

As you enter the sidewalk to their front yard, the sound of water his noticeable. Hidden on one side of the driveway is a lush area with two Koi ponds that have water hitting the ponds through them. The greenery and the Koi ponds are very tropical, with lush green palms and lots of rock. This is not something expected in the dry dessert of Wasco.

The inside of their house is almost as green as the outside. There are plants throughout the house that give it a cool, fresh-air feeling, and with the ceiling fans swirling, the leaves rustle as if you are outside enjoying a summer breeze.

In the living room, Bob has his own tiki bar, with a large stuffed brown bear with a lei around its neck nearby. This is where Bob relaxes and enjoys tending bar at parties.

On their living room wall is the family crest and genealogy plaques for both families. One of Barbara's passions is researching their family history.

Barbara mentioned that both she and Bob's families came over on the Mayflower. They have been able to trace their ancestors back that far.

Upon entering their backyard, a large crystal-blue swimming pool beckons someone to jump in and cool off during the hot summer days and evenings.

Another special holiday for the Reeves

WASCO

is Christmas. They are well-known for their lights displayed outside and their automated Christmas decorations inside their garage. "Our house was the house to see at Christmas time," Barbara said. "We stopped decorating a couple of years ago."

Both are crazy about poodles. They unexpectedly got their first poodle a year after they were married, when Bob brought one home from work to nurse its broken leg. Barbara was adamant that they were not going to keep it because "dogs don't belong inside the house," she said.

"She changed her mind after a couple of weeks and wouldn't let the dog out of her sight. It was love after only a couple of weeks," Bob said.

Now, their home is graced by the presence of two brown poodles. At one time Barbara said that they had six poodles.



One of the several topiaries Barbara has sculpted.

There are three greenhouses on the property behind the pool.

It is almost impossible to count the number of plants in the greenhouses. Hundreds are in small repotting containers where both have divided plants and repotted them. A fan constantly blows in each of the greenhouses to keep the air circulating.

Bob has in the past and currently runs the Orchid Plantation, where he raises several different kinds and colors of orchids and sells them. "This is the first year we didn't make it over to Santa Barbara to the orchid show," Barbara said. "The virus kept us away."

Both have traveled extensively, Bob several times around the world and Barbara once around the world. "I love Malaysia," Barbara said. "Didn't like Guam too much. There isn't anything there."

Strong reserves helping city weather pandemic

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

The Shafter City Council held a special meeting that served as a strategic budgetary workshop in which they were shown a presentation on how the city performed this fiscal year compared to the budget estimates.

They also discussed the revisions in the estimate with the current pandemic affecting the city's services and public accessibility. For the past two meetings of the council, the public was able to view the meeting activities on YouTube, but were not able to join the meeting and participate unless they pre-registered to get the login instructions.

City Manager Gabriel Gonzales and his staff, with assistance from Bill Strader, a consultant specializing in municipal governments and their finances, gave a presentation that showed the city's strong financial position, and is still enjoying in large part to its strategic planning.

Strader said that the city had the foresight to plan ahead for situations that may result in a downturn in the economy and had reserves strong enough to weather the storms, while the majority of cities in the state are struggling and having to do whatever they can to stay afloat.

"There are cities that have a strong financial pedigree, such as Beverly Hills and Santa Monica, that are now struggling because they didn't have the strong reserves that Shafter has to handle our current situation," Strader said.

One reason for the strong position is that the city met its goal of having at least 50% of

SHAFTER

the city's operating expenditures in its general fund. In the review, it was stated that the actual number was at 59%.

Strader commented that another unique position the city is in is the decrease in sales tax revenue that all cities are facing. With the closure of nonessential businesses, and the special state program that allows small businesses to defer up to \$50,000 in sales revenue and giving them up to 12 months to pay the taxes on that revenue, dramatic cuts in this revenue source are expected. "Most cities are facing drastic losses when it comes to sales tax revenue. Shafter is not immune to this challenge, but with the businesses that are open, coupled with the strong performance of the online sales from retailer Williams Sonoma, the decrease in sales tax revenue was much less than other cities," Strader said.

Williams Sonoma, with its call center at Minter Field, supplies 60% of the city's sales tax revenue, according to Bob Meadows, the city's business development director.

Strader stressed that the main goal of a budget is to identify community needs and organize programs required to provide for those needs. You also set goals and put programs in place to meet those goals, he said. Strader commented that it is beneficial to have goal status reports and a midyear budget review in which the council reviews the city's fiscal condition.

The next step in the budget process comes on June 1 when the council will review a preliminary budget.

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Men escape injury in rollover crash

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

A last-minute use of a seat belt may have saved a man from serious injury in a recent auto accident.

Two men escaped with minor scrapes and bruises when the vehicle they were traveling in crashed into an orchard off of Lerdo Highway last week.

On May 5 at approximately 2 p.m., Shafter Police Department officers were dispatched to Lerdo Highway, just east of Driver Road, responding to a report of a single-car accident.

Upon arrival, officers found a grey sedan upside down, two rows deep in the orchard off of Lerdo Highway. They learned

SHAFTER

that there were two occupants in the vehicle. Officers said that the men were lucky to escape the accident with no serious injuries. They also mentioned that the passenger of the vehicle told officers that he had just put his seat belt on moments before the accident occurred.

Officers said that it appears the driver of the vehicle left the roadway and rolled over. The car continued on after hitting the first tree nearest the shoulder of the road, taking out two more trees before landing on its top, coming to rest. The accident is still being investigated.



The vehicle ended up on its top two rows of trees deep in the orchard.

Making masks as a way to help

TONI DEROSA
Wasco Tribune

Jessica Nicole Valdivia (or Jessica Nicole V, as she likes to go by) has been making protective face masks and giving them away to anyone who contacts her.

Valdivia is a 20-year-old Shafter High graduate, born in Bakersfield but raised in Wasco.

“A little over a month ago, I saw a post on Twitter for free masks in Bakersfield, so I reached out and was kindly given masks for my family,” she said.

Valdivia wanted to do more, so on April 6 she reached out to Yesely Elizondo at @yeselyscreations to see if she had any fabric available to purchase.

“I told her how I wanted to buy supplies so they could be used to make masks that are given away for free,” Valdivia said. “Yesely Elizondo was so kind and generous and donated a bag full of fabric,” she said. “I ended spending the whole night thinking about how there were no options for people in smaller communities to get free masks outside of the bigger cities, and I wanted to do something.”

Valdivia said she was aware of the need for someone in town to make the masks for those who could not travel out of town to get them.

“That’s when I decided to start what I call my ‘small project for small communities,’” she said. “I personally do not know how to sew, but that wasn’t going to stop me. I have always been a person to help in any way I can.

Since she was 16, she has been a volunteer, rescuer, foster and adoption specialist for an animal rescue organization. “I reached out to find volunteers to sew



Two masks created for a customer by Valdivia.

Halfway through her studies at Bakersfield College, she realized her heart was in cosmetology; however, due to COVID-19, she is currently unemployed but plans on attending cosmetology school to become a hairstylist (@hairbyjessicav) as soon as she is able.



Hall Ambulance EMT Nikki Lose models one of the masks made by Jessica Nicole Valdivia. (Photo by Jesus Reyes).

masks while I supplied materials for them to do so.”

Valdivia went out and bought elastic, and within a few days found “some amazing women” who wanted to be a part of this and help sew.

She dropped off the supplies to Tammy Thullen and Patty Benavides, both of Shafter, and Mei Xi, Destiny Musick Griffith and Mayela Guerrero, all of Bakersfield, and picked them up when the masks were completed.

“These women allow me to be able to keep my communities safer,” Valdivia said. “So far I have been able to distribute over 500 masks.”

She has dropped off masks to the veterinarian’s office in town, the Wasco Fire Department, the Shafter Fire Department, Hall Ambulance, the Shafter Police Department, the Wasco Sheriff’s Department, the Wasco Prison, Wasco Omni

Family Health, Wasco Walmart employees, the Wasco and Shafter Post Offices, as well as any other adults and children who need masks.

“For first responders, I have also been able to supply over 100 mask ear relievers thanks to Aubri Anne Chacon,” she said. “Also, Shelley Goodell, executive director for the Society of Disabled Children, was kind enough to donate several bags of fabric, which I am so incredibly grateful for.”

This venture is self-funded by Valdivia, and she also accepts donations.

“I appreciate everyone who has donated to allow me to keep doing this,” she said. “I would not be able to do this without all the support. I also would not be able to do this without my mom, Diana. I am the person that I am today thanks to her.”

To contact Valdivia, use the app at @jessicanicolev or send a text message to 661-232-9887.

EDITOR’S NOTE | TONI DEROSA

It’s not a matter of ‘control’

This is not about who is “afraid” or “not afraid” – this is about what kind of human being you are.

■ First of all, I wear a mask in public, not for me, but for *you*.

■ I want you to know that I am educated enough to know that I could be asymptomatic and still give you the virus.

■ No, I don’t live in fear” of the virus; I just want to be a part of the solution, not the problem.

■ I don’t feel like the “government is controlling me.” I feel like I’m being a contributing adult to society, and I want to

teach others the same.

■ The world doesn’t revolve around me. It’s not all about me and my comfort.

We need to protect all of those around us, please!

■ If we all could live with other people’s consideration in mind, this whole world would be a much better place.

■ Wearing a mask doesn’t make me weak, scared, stupid or even “controlled.” It makes me considerate.

I went to two supermarkets in town this past Saturday and noticed more than half the people were not wearing masks. I’m

not being judgmental, but for all our protection, people, please consider wearing a mask to protect not only yourself but others.

However, I am happier following the rules.

Unless you have been tested for the COVID-19 virus, you don’t know if you have it or have had it. You could be a carrier.

One of the stores I visited has painted footsteps near the business window and signs instructing shoppers which direction they should enter each aisle in order

to avoid crowding and bumping into others while shopping; however, this didn’t go as planned because in several aisles, people were entering the wrong way.

It is time for us to be considerate to everyone, practice our manners and to do our part to help stop this pandemic from continuing to spread.

Thank you to all you mask wearers for protecting everyone.

Toni DeRosa is editor of the Wasco Tribune. The opinions expressed are those of the writer, and not necessarily those of the paper or its management.



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Walk-in welcome

Farmers await virus' impact

From Page 1

Wilson Ag grows almonds, pistachios, grapes and alfalfa. One immediate impact McManus has seen is a decline in the price of alfalfa. "The price of alfalfa has gone down due to the virus, which is hurting the dairy market."

McManus said it would take time to realize what sort of long-term impact COVID-19 will have on the market prices.

Jay Kroeker, whose farm grows almonds and pistachios, said the harvest season for almonds is August and

September for pistachios. "Right now, we are plugging along with not much change to our daily operations. It will be months before we see the extent of the effects it will have."

Farmer Randy Bergman has a different perspective on the virus situation.

"The main problem I have had is workers who would rather not work and make just as much, if not more than if they would come to work. This ridiculous incentive package that the Unemployment Department and the governor have put in place makes it

easy for workers to just sit home and collect a big payday."

Bergman noted that this is on top of the daily challenge of finding reliable workers. "It is hard enough to find people willing to work in the fields. A lot of people today think they are above it."

Collectively, local farmers say they are working hard in the day-to-day operations, keeping the safety of workers at the forefront. As to the ramifications this pandemic will have on the industry long-term, it's a waiting game.

Graduating in pandemic

From Page 1

tancing graduation picture day(s) for our eighth-grade graduates. We are in the developmental stage of our virtual graduation program."

Luna added that the district's goal is to release the virtual graduation on Wednesday, May 27.

Additional information will be forthcoming.

The "We encourage all of our students and parents to contact our office with any questions or concerns at 758-7130," Luna said.

WHS update

A statement posted for parents by WHS Superintendent Lori Albrecht:

After consultation with the Kern County Department of Public Health, and the other 46 Kern County School Districts and the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, the Wasco Union High School District will follow the recommendation of Gov. Gavin Newsom, and complete the 2019-20 school year utilizing alternative teaching methodologies, including online distance learning.

This is part of a concerted effort to limit the community spread of COVID-19 and address the important continued safety of our students.

In the meantime, we will continue to follow the governor's orders, which include:

- Schools will continue to deliver high-quality educational opportunities to students, to the extent feasible, through distance learning.

- Schools will provide meals in non-congregate settings.

- Schools will arrange for, to the extent practicable, supervision for students during ordinary school hours; and;

- Schools will continue to pay employees.

At this point we do not know when the current shelter at home order will be lifted.

We understand how challenging this decision is for our families, and we appreciate your support, dedication and patience. We are very grateful for all that our students, parents and staff are doing to support safety, continuity of education and addressing the nutritional needs of our students during school closures.

Over the past several weeks, we have rapidly adapted to this pandemic to provide online distance learning, "grab-and-go" meal distribution and telecommuting for our employees and will continue to do so despite the physical closure of our schools.

In the coming days and weeks, districts will receive clarity regarding how grades, graduation, transcripts, scholarships, summer school, con-



A student walks away after receiving her cap and gown.

tinued distance learning instruction and a myriad of other issues will be addressed. We will communicate that information to you as soon as it becomes available.

Extended School Closure Timeline

The Wasco Union High School District and all of its schools will remain physically closed through the current 2019-20 school year, in response to the COVID-19 emergency. Teachers, students and staff will continue to work remotely to provide distance learning and other critical services.

Meal Service Distribution

The Wasco Union High School District will continue to provide "grab and go" daily lunches and breakfast for children 18 years and younger at the following times and locations: Wasco High School Cafeteria: 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Semitropic Elementary School: 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

There are also "grab and go" meal distributions provided by other school districts and available for any children 18 years and younger at the following times and locations:

James Forrest Elementary School: 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Teresa Burke Elementary School: 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Lost Hills - Trailer Park: 10-11 a.m.

Lost Hills - Lamberson Apartments: 10-11 a.m.

Lost Hills -- Martin and Tulare: 10-11 a.m.

Lost Hills - Blackwells Corner: 10-11 a.m.

Wonderful Academy - Wasco Barker: Park 8-9 a.m.

Wonderful Academy - Lost Hills: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Prevention

During school closures, it is important that staff, students and families follow the governor's orders to stay home and minimize social contact to the extent possible.

Furthermore, the Kern County Public Health Department recommends the following everyday personal prevention actions:

- If you are sick or mildly sick for any reason, stay home! Call your doctor if you are concerned and/or if your symptoms worsen.

- Symptoms to watch for include a fever over 100 degrees; respiratory illness such as cough or difficulty breathing.

- Wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds.

- Stay 6 feet or more away from strangers and those who are ill.

- Do not shake hands with others.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

- Sneeze and cough into a tissue or your sleeve; safely throw away tissues in a safe manner.

This is a dynamic situation where information and circumstances can evolve quickly. We are grateful to you and our entire school community for your tremendous care, collaboration and understanding during these challenging times.

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Awards to honor contributions

From Page 1

to improve the quality of life in Wasco not just for themselves but for everyone who lives here,” Mayor Cortez said.

The service awards program aims to recognize the volunteer service, dedication and hard work of those individuals and/or agencies who do so much for Wasco, its residents and the community. The program will have six categories: youth, citizen, educator, nonprofit, public safety, service and lifetime service.

“These service awards will give our citizens an opportunity to recognize and express their appreciation to the recipients,” the mayor added.

The city is looking for three residents to serve on the service awards program committee. Interested residents are encouraged to complete and apply prior to the deadline on or before May 28, 2020. Applications can be obtained on the city’s website at cityofwasco.org and emailed to the city clerk at cityclerk@cityofwasco.org, or can

be dropped off and placed in the mailbox located outside City Hall.

An ad hoc committee consisting of two council members will review the committee applications and will take the recommendations to a future council meeting for approval. Candidates selected for the Wasco Service Awards Program committee will serve terms ranging from two to three years.

Once the Service Awards Program committee is formally established, more details regarding the awards nomination process and deadlines will be advertised. We recognize that many Wasconians have served the community past and present, and we truly desire to memorialize their efforts to make Wasco a community that enriches the lives of all residents.

For more information regarding the Wasco Service Awards committee, please contact the City Clerk’s office at (661) 758-7214.

—Mariana Sabolewski, assistant to the city manager, City of Wasco

Chalk it up to unity

From Page 1

are aware of: Until the governor and the Public Health Department say otherwise, there is still a social distancing policy in place throughout the state.

Next week will be Light the Night week in Shafter. Residents are encouraged to light up their houses and yards with red, white and blue lights.

“I think that this is such a great way for us to be doing something positive,” Diltz said.



For the Villagomez household, creating a picture to show their appreciation is a family affair.

EDITOR’S NOTE | JAMIE STEWART

To work or not to work

With this pandemic still in the headlines, and the Governor’s stay at home order still in place, people are getting antsy to get back outside, living their lives fully, without hinderances. Well, I think that we are a long way from that right now. Even when businesses start to open up, schools gear up to open back up in August, and our beloved sports teams are back in action, there will still be certain precautions and requirements in place for awhile.

This really is just common sense. The worst thing we could do is step out too early and see a recurrence of the onslaught of virus cases.

I agree with the governor on this point, emphasizing the need to protect the public while slowly getting back to some sort of normalcy.

But, as with my conversation with local farmer Randy Bergman the other day, the governor and the State of California have really let common sense fly out the window when it came to this COVID-19 unemployment program.

There are people right now who are

SHAFTER

making more money sitting at home than when they were at their respective jobs. With a record number of unemployment claims being filed, the state is shelling out millions of dollars to people who are either laid off or not working because of the virus situation. I feel that there is merit to a program that helps workers who cannot work because their places of business are temporarily closed, or their hours get cut in half like my wife’s did.

But, with the extra \$600 given out, and the easier eligibility requirements in place, this is another case of big government pandering to masses. Instead of penalizing people for keeping their jobs and going to work every day, it would be a great idea to make it more attractive for employees to keep working instead of waiting for that magic money card.

Jamie Stewart is editor of *The Shafter Press*. The opinions expressed are those of the writer, and not necessarily those of the paper or its management.



This drawing salutes the mail carriers.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE SEMIROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT Kern County, California NOTICE INVITING BIDS COX CANAL INTERTIE PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS NO. 20-01

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the SEMITROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT (hereinafter “District”) until **2:00 p.m.** on **May 29, 2020**, for the construction of Specifications No. 20-01, Cox Canal Intertie Project (“Project”) including, but not limited to, the furnishing of all labor, services, materials, tools, equipment, supplies, and facilities necessary therefore, and transportation, utilities, and all other items as provided in the Contract Documents associated herewith, of which each and every document comprising the entirety of the Contract Documents are incorporated at length as if fully set forth herein. The Project is located within Kern County and in the vicinity of Wasco, California. Bids will be received at the offices of the District, 1101 Central Avenue, Wasco, CA 93280, until the stated time and date, at which time and place the bids will be opened.

If a contract is awarded, it will be awarded to the responsible Bidder submitting the lowest responsive Bid Proposal on the basis of prices in the Bid. The bidding requirements and the Work are fully described in the Contract Documents. Electronic Adobe Acrobat ® Portable Document Format (PDF) of Contract Documents are being made available to Bidders either by email or a download link. No paper (hard) copies of Contract Documents will be provided to Bidders. Requests for electronic Contract Documents may be requested from Grace Martin, GEI Consultants, Inc. at gemartin@geiconsultants.com. Request must include company name, requesting person’s name, requesting person’s physical address, requesting person’s email address, and requesting person’s phone number. Addenda will only be distributed to requesting person. In light of the California Governor’s March 19, 2020 executive order, and other emergency executive orders regarding COVID-19, and consistent with applicable laws, regulations and orders, the District will conduct the bid opening and mandatory pre-bid conference via teleconference. The District is requiring all bidders to perform a mandatory self-guided tour of the project site. Bidder shall contact Grace Martin, GEI Consultants, Inc. at gemartin@geiconsultants.com or (661) 716-3010 to schedule appointment for self-guided tour. Self-guided tours will be limited to a duration of two (2) hours. Self-guided tours will be limited between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm and start May 11, 2020 and end May 14, 2020. A sign-in form will be provided at time appointment is made for Contractor to sign and return after completion of self-guided tour. The mandatory pre-bid teleconference will be conducted by the Semitropic Water District on May 15, 2020. The pre-bid teleconference will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. It is anticipated that the teleconference will last approximately two (2) hours. The call-in telephone number and passcode for the bid opening and mandatory pre-bid teleconference will be provided on the bid-tour sign-in form.

While the Work to be performed with respect to the Project is more fully described and detailed in the Plans and Specifications, the principal components of Work to be performed includes the following:

- Construction of a 200 cfs pumping plant, including inlet and outlet structures, vertical axial flow pumps, 48-inch diameter pipelines, valves, couplings, and pipe supports.
- Construction of a concrete spillway and stop log facility.
- Construction of concrete electrical equipment slabs.
- Construction of a pre-engineered electrical equipment shade structure.
- Furnishing an installing chain-link fencing and gates.
- Furnishing and installing crushed rock ground cover.
- Construction of canal lining.
- Demolition of existing canal concrete lining.
- Clearing, grubbing, and stripping.
- Furnishing and installing rip-rap.
- Site grading and earthwork.
- Furnishing, installing, maintaining, and removing temporary canal isolation structures.
- Dewatering
- Furnishing, and installing stilling well.
- Site electrical, instrumentation, and SCADA.

Work must be completed during the periods identified in the Specifications.

Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 6100(b), any contractor, subcontractor, and/or specialty contractor, as defined under Business and Professions Code Section 7026, submitting a proposal shall possess, at the time the contract is awarded, that classification of contractor’s license required by law to enable the contractor to perform the Work contemplated under the Contract Documents, as more specifically set forth in the specifications. Specifically, a Class A – General Engineering contractor’s license is required for the project. Contractors shall provide the District with their Contractor’s license number and expiration date as provided in the proposal. It is the District’s intent that “plans,” as used in Public Contract Code Section 3300, is defined as the construction contract documents, which include both the drawings and the specifications.

No contractor or subcontractor may be qualified to submit a Bid, be listed on a Bid proposal, or engage in the performance of any Work associated with this project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 et seq. [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)]. No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded the contract for the project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.

The District reserves the right, after opening bids, to reject any or all bids, to waive or to make award to the lowest responsible bidder and reject all other bids. This published notice does NOT reproduce all the bidding requirements; accordingly, the above-referenced Plans and Specifications are hereby incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Notice Inviting Bids. An acceptable bid can only be prepared by reading and following all of the instructions that are found in the Specifications, which includes Sections A and B thereof. Each Bidder is required to sign a Noncollusion Affidavit and submit it with his bid. The successful Bidder is required to furnish a Payment Bond in an amount of 100% of the contract and a Faithful Performance Bond in an amount of 100% of the contract; the bonds to be secured by a surety company or surety companies satisfactory to the District.

Bids shall be based on the payment of not less than the prevailing rate of wages for this locality and project as determined by the Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code Section 1770 et seq. and the Davis-Bacon Act, whichever is greater. Prevailing wage schedules for Kern County are available from the Department of Industrial Relations-Division of Labor Statistics & Research via the internet at www.dir.ca.gov. Copies of the prevailing rates of per diem wages are on file at the office of the District and will be made available to any interested party on request. Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage schedules can be found at www.wdol.gov.

This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. (See Labor Code section 1771.4(a)(1).) Each contractor and subcontractor shall furnish the records specified in Labor Code section 1776 directly to the Labor Commissions, in the manner set forth in Labor Code section 1771.4(a)(3)(A)-(B). Contractors shall be required to post job site notices, as prescribed by regulation. (See Labor Code section 1771.4(a)(2).)

Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22300, equivalent securities may be substituted for monies withheld to ensure performance of the contract.

Questions regarding the type of work required, or requests for electronic Adobe Acrobat ® Portable Document Format (PDF) plans and specifications may be addressed to the following: Grace Martin, GEI Consultants, Inc. at gemartin@geiconsultants.com.

This project is funded in part by a federal grant: WaterSMART Drought Response Program. The grant is being administered by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Since a Federal grant is providing funding for the project, the Contractor, its Subcontractors and Suppliers will be required to comply with all applicable Federal requirements.

Date: April 30, 2020

Semitropic Water Storage District

By: /s/ Jason Gianquinto

General Manager

Publish *Shafter Press* May 7, 14, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Notary Now! 2020-B2100

785 Tucker Rd #G243

Tehachapi, CA 93561

County: Kern

Mailing address of business:

785 Tucker Rd #G243

Tehachapi, CA 93561

T Engel

814 S Mill St

Tehachapi, CA 93561

The business is conducted by: Individual

Date the business commenced: 2/20/2000

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/T Engel

Date Statement Filed: 04/07/2020

Date Statement Expires: 04/07/2025

Mary B. Bedard, CPA,

Auditor-Controller-County Clerk

By: /s/M Hernandez

Publish *Shafter Press* April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF HEARING AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE RESIDENTIAL NON-TAX ROLL BILLED ZONE 1 FRANCHISE AREAS 9 AND 42 SOLID WASTE COLLECTION CHARGES AND RECYCLING SURCHARGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

On the 19th day of May, 2020, at the hour of 2:00 p.m., in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Kern, in the Kern County Administrative Center, located at 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California, a Public Hearing will be conducted to consider the enactment of, and hear any objections to, an Ordinance establishing the schedule of Solid Waste Collection Charges and the Recycling Surcharge for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for residential property in Garbage Franchise Zone 1 Franchise Areas 9 and 42 that is not located within any Universal Collection Area. This Ordinance will establish a schedule of service charges for all residential properties. The Board of Supervisors will also consider a report filed by the Public Works Department titled “Residential Non-Tax Roll Billed Zone 1 Franchise Areas 9 and 42 Solid Waste Collection Charges for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.” Issues and recommendations in the report include the following:

Designate the use of each parcel of real property in the Residential Non-Tax Roll Billed Zone 1 Franchise Areas 9 and 42 as residential or non-residential;

Describe the amount of the proposed service charge for each parcel of real property in the Residential Non-Tax Roll Billed Zone 1 Franchise Areas 9 and 42 should the proposed Ordinance be enacted and the report approved;

Maximum monthly rates for solid waste collection for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the Residential Non-Tax Roll Billed Zone 1 Franchise Areas 9 and 42 are set forth in the following table for residential properties with four units or less. This maximum rate

includes the Solid Waste Administration fee which is charged on an account basis per provisions in County Ordinance and contracts with the individual haulers. In some instances, this maximum rate may be slightly lower per unit based on the number of accounts actually served on that property.

Res NTRB Zone 1 FA 9 & 42

Maximum Monthly Fees

Residential Service per unit

July 2019 Fee: \$22.78

July 2020 Fee: \$22.78

Recycling Service per unit

July 2019 Fee: \$7.17

July 2020 Fee: \$7.17

Recycling Surcharge per unit

July 2019 Fee: \$0.57

July 2020 Fee: \$1.14

Recycling Services (blue cart hauling and rental) are a separate charge and will be set at \$7.17 per month.

Continue the implementation of the Recycling Surcharge which is currently being phased in over three years. Fiscal Year 2020-2021 is year 2 of the implementation and the rate will be \$1.14 per unit per month.

Any affected person may submit written protests to the report. Written protests must be signed by the objecting party, indicate the subject property and be delivered to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors prior to the conclusion of the public hearing.

Upon the conclusion of the hearing, the Board of Supervisors may adopt, revise, change, reduce or modify any charge set forth in the report filed by the Public Works Department or overrule any or all objections, and shall make its determination upon each charge as described in that report.

The Director of the Public Works Department has considered the environmental impacts of this action and concluded that this action will not have a significant effect on the environment and the action is statutorily exempt from further CEQA review per Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(8) and Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15273 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

Complete copies of the proposed Ordinance and the report filed by the Public Works Department are on file for inspection with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Fifth Floor, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California. Alternatively, you may request copies by calling the Public Works Department at (661) 862-8940 or by making a request via email at waste@kerncounty.com.

Anyone wishing to present evidence or be heard regarding this matter may appear at the hearing of this matter or any continuation thereof. However, in accordance with the current public health declarations, it is requested, and highly recommended, that any comments or concerns be submitted prior to the hearing via email at waste@kerncounty.com. If you challenge the action taken by the Board of Supervisors on this matter 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 correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Dated: April 21, 2020

KATHLEEN KRAUSE

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: /s/Theresa M. Derouchie, Deputy Clerk

Publish *Shafter Press* May 7, 14, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
SECTION 00 11 13
SOLICITATION NOTICE
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALLING FOR BIDS

1. OWNER: Wasco Elementary School District

2. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NAME: Outdoor Classroom Seating Project Number 1516

3. PROJECT LOCATION: 305 Griffith Avenue, Wasco, California 93280

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Outdoor Classroom Seating is two (02) reinforced concrete structures. This project is anticipated to start on approximately 23 June 2020 and shall have a 60 calendar day performance period to complete the Work.

5. BID DEADLINE: Bids are due on 2 June 2020 at 2:00pm PST or at any other date or time as modified by Addendum.

6. PLACE OF BID RECEIPT: Wasco Elementary School District, District Office, 1102 Fifth Street, Wasco, CA 93280

7. METHOD OF BID RECEIPT: Personal delivery, courier, or mailed via United States Postal Service to above address.

8. PLACE PLANS ARE ON FILE: Availability of Contract Documents (plans, specifications and bid forms) are at local builder exchanges in the Kern County area

9. SEALED BID MARKING: Print the Project Name and Project Number on the envelope.

10. ALTERNATES: If alternate bids are called for, the contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder on the basis indicated below:

[check only one]

(a) The lowest bid shall be the lowest bid price on the base contract without consideration of the prices on the additive or deductive items.

(b) The lowest bid shall be the lowest total of the combined bid prices on the base contract and alternates [specify].

(c) The lowest bid shall be the lowest total of the bid prices on the base contract and alternates, taken in order, up to a maximum amount to be publicly disclosed before the first bid is opened.

(d) The lowest bid shall be determined in a manner that prevents any information that would identify any of the bidders or proposed subcontractors or suppliers from being revealed to the public entity before the ranking of all bidders from lowest to highest has been determined.

(e) Not applicable to this project, as no alternates are requested.

1. JOB WALK (NOT MANDATORY): Meet at: Wasco Elementary School District, District Office, 1102 Fifth Street, Wasco, CA 93280. Date: 19 May 2020 Time: 9:00 am Location: Job Site - Wasco California

2. PLAN DEPOSIT REQUIRED: \$0.00 Bid Documents, plans and specifications available to download or review from local builder exchanges only.

3. This is a prevailing wage project. OWNER has ascertained the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality in which this work is to be performed for each craft or type of worker needed to execute this contract. These rates are on file at OWNER's office, and a copy may be obtained upon request, or at www.dir.ca.gov. Contractor shall post a copy of these rates at the job site.

ALL PROJECTS OVER \$1,000 ARE SUBJECT TO PREVAILING WAGE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT BY THE LABOR COMMISSIONER.

It shall be mandatory upon the contractor to whom the contract is awarded (CONTRACTOR), and upon any SUBCONTRACTOR, to pay not less than the specified rates to all workers employed by them in the execution of the contract.

4. A Payment Bond for contracts over \$25,000 and a Performance Bond for all contracts shall be required prior to commencement of work. These bonds shall be in the amounts and form called for in the Contract Documents.

5. Pursuant to the provisions of Public Contract Code Section 22300, CONTRACTOR may substitute certain securities for any funds withheld by OWNER to ensure CONTRACTOR's performance under the contract. At the request and expense of CONTRACTOR, securities equivalent to any amount withheld shall be deposited, at the discretion of OWNER,

with either OWNER or a state or federally chartered bank as the escrow agent, who shall then pay any funds otherwise subject to retention to CONTRACTOR. Upon satisfactory completion of the contract, the securities shall be returned to CONTRACTOR.

Securities eligible for investment shall include those listed in Government Code Section 16430, bank and savings and loan certificates of deposit, interest bearing demand deposit accounts, standby letters of credit, or any other security mutually agreed to by CONTRACTOR and OWNER. CONTRACTOR shall be the beneficial owner of any securities substituted for funds withheld and shall receive any interest on them. The escrow agreement shall be in the form indicated in the Contract Documents.

6. To bid on or perform the work stated in this Notice, CONTRACTOR must possess a valid and active contractor's license of the following classifications: (B) General Building Contractor or (C-13) Fencing Contractor. No CONTRACTOR or subcontractor shall be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, subject to the requirements of § 4104 of the Public Contract Code, for a public works project (submitted on or after 1 March 2015) unless currently registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Labor Code § 1725.5. No CONTRACTOR or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded after 1 April 2015) unless registered with the DIR. DIR's web registration portal is: www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/Contractors.html

7. CONTRACTOR and all subcontractors must furnish electronic certified payroll records (eCPR) to the Labor Commissioner [specify weekly, bi-weekly or monthly] in PDF format. Registration at www.dir.ca.gov/Public-Works/Certified-Payroll-Reporting.html is required to use the eCPR system.

The following notice is given as required by Labor Code Section 1771.5(b)(1): CONTRACTOR and any

subcontractors are required to review and comply with the provisions of the California Labor Code, Part 7, Chapter 1, beginning with Section 1720, as more fully discussed in the Contract Documents. These sections contain specific requirements concerning, for example, determination and payment of prevailing wages, retention, inspection, and auditing payroll records, use of apprentices, payment of overtime compensation, securing workers' compensation insurance, and various criminal penalties or fines which may be imposed for violations of the requirements of the chapter. Submission of a bid constitutes CONTRACTOR's representation that CONTRACTOR has thoroughly reviewed these requirements.

8. [check only one]

(a) OWNER will retain 5% of the amount of any progress payments.

(b) OWNER will retain 10% of the amount of any progress payments because the project has been found to be substantially complex on the basis of

9. This Project [] requires [] does not require prequalification pursuant to AB 1565 of all general contractors and all mechanical, electrical and plumbing subcontractors. If required, a Prequalification package may be obtained by downloading the necessary forms from district web site. A bid package will not be accepted from any bidder that is required to submit a completed questionnaire and supporting documents pursuant to AB 1565, but has not done so at least ten (10) business days prior to the date fixed for the public opening of sealed bids or that has not been prequalified for at least five (5) business days prior to that date.

Publish Wasco Tribune May 7, 14, 2020

LOCATION/ADDRESS Semitropic Boardroom
25300 Hwy 46, Wasco, CA 93280
3. Budget/LCAP Adoption Date: June 18th
/s/Bethany Ferguson, Superintendent
Date: 4/15/2020
Publish Wasco Tribune May 14, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice

The Wasco City Council is recruiting three individuals to serve on the Wasco Service Awards Board.

The initial terms are as follows: Two (2) committee members will serve a 3-year term and one (1) committee member will serve a 2-year term. After the initial term is completed, all future appointments will serve a two-year term.

Members are nominated and appointed by the full Council and must be a resident of the City throughout their term.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 746 8th Street. Applications must be returned to the City Clerk's Office or via email at cityclerk@cityofwasco.org by 5:00 p.m., Thursday, May 28, 2020.

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

Publish Wasco Tribune May 14, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Petition to Administer Estate of Michael Mettler, aka Michael L. Mettler, aka Michael Lynn Mettler
Case Number: BPB-20-002322

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Michael Mettler, aka Michael L. Mettler, aka Michael Lynn Mettler

2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Ronald D. Mettler in the Superior Court of California, County of: Kern

3. The Petition for Probate requests that: Ronald D. Mettler be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

5. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act.

(This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

6. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
a. Date: 06/25/2020 Time: 10:30 a.m. Dept.: P
b. Address of court: Superior Court of California, County of Kern, 1215 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301, Metropolitan

7. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

8. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

9. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

10. Attorney for petitioner: Dawn Kennedy
1301 L Street
Bakersfield, CA 93301
661-829-1891

THIS MATTER IS SUBMITTED AS "PROPER TO BE SUBMITTED ON THE PLEADINGS (PSP)." ALL MATTERS APPROVED AS PSP WILL BE GRANTED UNLESS YOU APPEAR AT THE HEARING AND OBJECT WHEN THE PSP IS CALLED.

Publish Wasco Tribune May 14, 21, 28, 2020

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF HEARING AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE COMMERCIAL ZONE 1 SOLID WASTE COLLECTION CHARGES AND RECYCLING SURCHARGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

On the 19th day of May, 2020, at the hour of 2:00 p.m., in the Chambers of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Kern, in the Kern County Administrative Center, located at 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California, a Public Hearing will be conducted to consider the enactment of, and hear any objections to, an Ordinance establishing the schedule of Solid Waste Collection Charges and the Recycling Surcharge for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for commercial property in Garbage Franchise Zone 1. The Board of Supervisors will also consider a Report filed by the Public Works Department titled "Commercial Zone 1 Solid Waste Collection Charges for Fiscal Year 2020-2021." Issues and recommendations in the report include the following:

1. Designate the use of each parcel of real property in Commercial Zone 1 area as commercial (non-residential);
2. Describe the amount of the proposed service charge for each parcel of real property in the Commercial Zone 1 area should the proposed Ordinance be enacted and the Report approved;
3. Maximum monthly rates for solid waste collection for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the Commercial Zone 1 area are to be set by container size as per Table A for commercial properties. This maximum rate includes the Solid Waste Administration fee which is charged on an account basis per provisions in County Ordinance and contracts with the individual haulers. In some instances, this maximum rate may be slightly lower per unit based on the number of accounts actually served on that property.
4. Recycling Services are a separate charge and will be set by container size as per Table A.
5. The Recycling Surcharge was established in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and will be continued and will be set by container size as per Table A.

Any affected person may submit written protests to the report. Written protests must be signed by the objecting party, indicate the subject property and be delivered to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors prior to the conclusion of the public hearing.

Upon the conclusion of the hearing, the Board of Supervisors may adopt, revise, change, reduce or modify any charge set forth in the Report filed by the Public Works Department or overrule any or all objections, and shall make its determination upon each charge as described in that Report.

The Director of the Public Works Department has considered the environmental impacts of this action and concluded that this action will not have a significant effect on the environment and the action is statutorily exempt from further CEQA review per Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(8) and Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15273 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

Complete copies of the proposed Ordinance and the report filed by the Public Works Department are on file for inspection with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Fifth Floor, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California. Alternatively, you may request copies by calling the Public Works Department at (661) 862-8940 or by making a request via email at waste@kerncounty.com.

Anyone wishing to present evidence or be heard regarding this matter may appear at the hearing of this matter or any continuation thereof. However, in accordance with the current public health declarations, it is requested, and highly recommended, that any comments or concerns be submitted prior to the hearing via email at waste@kerncounty.com. If you challenge the action taken by the Board of Supervisors on this matter 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 correspondence delivered to the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Dated: April 21, 2020

KATHLEEN KRAUSE

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: /s/Theresa M. Derouchie, Deputy Clerk

TABLE A

Commercial - Garbage Franchise Zone 1

Commercial Bin Service Monthly Rates	Size (CY)	First Commercial Container	Each Additional Container	Each Additional Service Pick-up
Trash Service				
July 1, 2020	1	\$88.13	\$83.31	\$50.92
July 1, 2020	1.5/300 gals	\$102.86	\$98.04	\$58.11
July 1, 2020	2	\$123.88	\$119.06	\$68.77
July 1, 2020	3	\$156.42	\$151.60	\$76.94
July 1, 2020	4	\$194.84	\$190.02	\$99.14
Recycling Service				
July 1, 2020	300 gals	\$52.94	\$52.94	\$48.94
July 1, 2020	3	\$90.74	\$90.74	\$76.74
July 1, 2020	6	\$121.31	\$121.31	\$101.31

Commercial Cart Service Monthly Rates	Size (gallons)	First commercial Container	Each Additional Container	Each Additional Service Pick-up
July 1, 2020 Trash Cart	96/101	\$41.34	\$36.52	\$17.53
July 1, 2020 Blue Recycling Cart	96/101	\$24.26	\$24.26	\$20.26

Commercial Organic Service Monthly Rates	Size	First commercial Container	Each Additional Container	Each Additional Service Pick-up
July 1, 2020 Organic Cart	96/101 gals	\$41.34	\$36.52	N/A
July 1, 2020 Organic Bin	3 CY	\$312.84	\$303.20	\$153.87

Commercial Recyling Surcharge Monthly Rates	Collection Frequency	Recycling Surcharge
96/101 gal Cart	Weekly	\$3.03
96/101 gal Cart	Bi-weekly	\$1.52
300 gal Cart	Weekly	\$9.10
300 gal Cart	Bi-weekly	\$4.55
3 CY Bin	Weekly	\$18.20
3 CY Bin	Bi-weekly	\$9.10
6 CY Bin	Weekly	\$36.40
6 CY Bin	Bi-weekly	\$18.20

Commercial Roll-Off Services Monthly Rates	Per Dump	Rental Rate	Delivery Charge	Per Hour Charge	Roll-off Compactor Service Fee
July 1, 2020	\$251.30	\$212.78	\$115.86	\$139.83	\$306.44

Publish Shafter Press May 7, 14, 2020

PASTOR’S CORNER

A living hope

PASTOR PAT COYLE

Wow, how quickly life can change! Not that many weeks ago we heard about “COVID-19” on the news, and now we’re a part of that news.

Like you, I’ve been observing a variety of reactions throughout our local area, nation and the world. In some ways it has brought out the best in many people but in other ways the worst. I

also find it interesting that this is all happening around Easter, when believers in Christ celebrate the “living hope” that is found in Him due to his resurrection.

Whether it’s a pandemic like the current one, weather-related tragedies, economic downturns or sometimes a combination of events, people’s hope is challenged. Experiences like the current one often raise the question

in everyone’s mind of where hope is ultimately found. I Peter 1:3-9 tells us that we can have a “living hope” through faith in Jesus Christ because He is alive. My prayer for Shafter, our nation and the world is that this current situation will lead many to find their ultimate hope in Jesus!

—Pat Coyle is pastor of Mennonite Brethren Church in Shafter.

OBITUARIES



up time, for so many years of being away from them all. You see, he turned to drugs at an early age and just a few years ago found the strength to get clean and sober. He found his way back from addiction; he tried to live a good life by doing for others as much as he could, by being a kind and caring person.

He shared the love of his new life with others. Johnny was an inspiration to many. He always talked about his children and grandbabies; he would express how much he loved them all. He only wanted the best for his family in life. His biggest regret was making the choice to do drugs, which stole so much from him, his children and family.

He loved God as a young man and was an altar boy at St. Joseph’s Church. He

loved his Raiders, music and being funny. He was always making you laugh or putting a smile on your face. Johnny touched so many lives and will dearly be missed.

Johnny is survived by his parents, Domingo and Rafaela Ortega, of Bakersfield; his children, Raquel Ortega, Alyssa Townsend and husband Cory, Johnny Ray Ortega; grandchildren Destiny, Adrian, Lisette, Monica, Ce-

cilia, Angelina, Cora, Owen, Zane and Reanna; two great-grandbabies, Zaynah and Ziyllah; brothers Domingo Ortega and sister-in-law Lupe, Jerry Ortega and sister-in-law Rosa; sisters, twin Jolene Ortega, Flora Ortega, Rosie Ortega, Diane Lowe, Linda Martinez, Nellie Rodriguez and brother-in-law Alex, Maryann Rosas and brother-in-law Steve; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

Johnny was preceded in death by his estranged wife Donna Aaron Ortega, daughter Corina Marie Ortega, nephew Enrique Ortiz Jr. (Henry) and nieces Mona Jara and Mia Lowe.

Viewing at Hillcrest Mortuary on Thursday, May 14t, 2-5 p.m. and burial at Union Cemetery at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 15. Must wear a mask.

Geneva Katherine

Peterson

Aug. 19, 1924 –
May 6, 2020

Geneva Katherine Peterson, 95, passed away May 6, 2020, at San Joaquin Valley Hospital in Bakersfield. She was born on Aug. 19, 1924, in Hawley, Texas, to Willie B. Withers and Donnie O. Price.

Geneva attended Hermleigh High School and graduated in 1942, lettering in basketball and volleyball. After high school, she attended college courses in accounting that later led to a career in bookkeeping. Geneva married Boyce W. Peterson Dec. 1, 1945, in Colorado City, Texas. The couple honeymooned in

California and eventually moved to Wasco, where they remained.

She worked as a bookkeeper for Petersons Shell Service Station and Garage in Wasco for 27 years. She also worked as a librarian for Wasco High School for 15 years. Geneva enjoyed travelling, baking and crafting, and donated many of her quilts, mittens, hats and scarves to assist veterans, cancer patients and the women’s shelter in Bakersfield.

Geneva was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, Boyce W. Peterson, and her daughter, Bonnie F. Simpson, as well as her 4 siblings, Calvin, Quest, Jean and Theston. She is survived

by her daughter, Sandra E. Soles, and her husband, Stuart of Bakersfield; three grandchildren, Kimberly Toorop and her children, Tory, Christopher, Katherine and Rainey, Derek Simpson and his children, Karlee, Derek and Dustin, and Leslie Thompson and her children, Kyrstee and Kaden; as well as four great-great grandchildren.

Due to the current circumstances, a memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Cambria Post 442 Woman’s Auxiliary, P.O. Box 732, Cambria 93428 or the American Cancer Society, 1831 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield 93301.

DEATH NOTICES

Daniel Gomez, 21, of Shafter passed away in Wasco May 7. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Patrick Phelan, 72, of Bakersfield, passed away May 5 in Bakersfield. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Future of 2021-2022 school year uncertain

TONI DEROSA

The Wasco Union Elementary School District discussed what the 2021-2022 school year could look like.

Superintendent Kelly Richer’s report discussed the problems with the incoming school year. “With reference to the COVID-19, nothing has changed since the Governor shut down the schools,” Richers said. “That makes opening the schools problematic using the current state-mandated guidelines. There is not room in a 960 square foot classroom for more than 12 students at one time.”

He added that it could mean there will have to be several shifts to get an entire class at the school. “That indicates severe

limits on the total population at the school, also, in addition, transportation, lunch and other activities will have huge impacts to whether we are allowed to have sports or band or any other activity that involves gatherings,” he said. Richers then said that the district will be starting school August 10 in some form. “We are studying how to do a more-effective job with distance learning to be prepared,” Richers said.

Other matters discussed by the board were the approval of the Superintendent’s and Assistant Superintendents’ contracts extending them to the end of June 2022.

Additionally, the teachers’ and classified unions opened contract negotiations with the district.

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