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# Givens looking to continue progress

First in a series of stories featuring candidates for Shafter City Council, to be elected Tuesday, Nov. 5.

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

Shafter Mayor Chad Givens is serving his third term on the council, being first elected in 2016. Givens has been an advocate since his first term for the focus of the city to be put on growth and the importance of families in Shafter.

Givens said that the city has made great progress the past few years, but that there is still much work left to do. "The focus for me has been strong community through healthy family engagement and environment."

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During the last two years, Givens said that the city has established a strategic plan to create a new era of quality of life drivers to enhance the city's functionality. "I have been the creative driver for the downtown adhoc committee, which oversaw the startup and continued running of Firsts Fridays and now the Farmer's Market events. This is also leading to additional events downtown and the revamp of the community Harvest Festival sponsored by the Shafter Lions Club."

Givens said that the group also created the economic development committee which has overseen the branding and strategic planning of business

See GIVENS Page 4



Givens and his family, wife Vanessa and daughters Lauren, Faith and Grace.



Miss Wasco Rose Queen Rihanna Sanchez with pageant contestants Briana Gonzalez and Ava Melendrez at the Wasco Rose Festival.

## Rihanna Sanchez: 2024 Miss Wasco Rose Queen

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
Wasco Tribune

**WASCO**

Rihanna Sanchez, the newly crowned 2024 Miss Wasco Rose Queen, is deeply rooted in her hometown. Born and raised in this close-knit community, she's always felt a strong connection to Wasco.

Reflecting on her upbringing, Rihanna said, "It has always been nice how close everybody is in the town. It's just really nice when we have community events, and it feels like everybody is there. I can't imagine living in a town that isn't

Wasco."

Growing up with three siblings, Rihanna looks up to her eldest sister, Kayleen Sanchez. "She's always been a hard worker and very helpful to me and my parents growing up, so she has definitely had an influence in my life."

When asked about her favorite childhood memories, Rihanna's answer is simple: the Rose Festival. For her, it's more than an event — it's a cherished family tradition. "My family was always there, and it

was rare when we missed a festival or a parade," she recalls. Now, as the reigning Miss Wasco Rose Queen, she finds herself at the heart of the festival she has loved since childhood. "Being a part of the festival and parade now feels surreal. It's an unreal feeling."

Despite her busy schedule, Rihanna enjoys simple pleasures in her free time and is an avid reader. She also treasures time spent at home with her family, whether it's going for walks or watching Disney movies with her siblings.

See RIHANNA Page 4

## Rededication of Veterans Park Memorial

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

New flag poles have been installed to represent each branch of the military, and were the centerpiece of a rededication ceremony was Saturday morning at the Shafter Veterans Park.

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At the memorial, City councilmembers, residents and Assemblymember Jasmeeet Bains were on hand to celebrate this addition to city's newest park.

The park's memorial was originally dedicated at a ribbon cutting ceremony in May 2019. On that day, a plaque was at the location, recognizing each branch the military. On Saturday, the Shafter Honor Guard assisted in presenting flags from each branch, and the flag was then raised, displaying the different branches. They even added the newest section of the United States military, the Space Force. Many veterans from the community attended the event, and the city of Shafter says they plan to keep adding military memorabilia to the park.

"This is a place where fathers, grandfathers and brothers can bring their children, grandchildren and other family members, and tell them of what heroes are, and regale them with their experiences of serving their country," Public Works Director Michael James said.



The rededication celebrated veterans and their service.

## Run/walk set for Shafter/Wasco Week

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

**SHAFTER**

A run/walk event has been added to the slate of events scheduled for the annual Shafter/Wasco Rivalry Week this year.

Currently, the students have Dress-Up Days during the week, fun activities at

lunch, and the traditional Exchange Breakfast and Exchange Rally at the two schools. The week culminates with the battle on the football field on Friday night. Principal Russell Shipley of Shafter High School said that this year, Shafter is holding a Tiger Chase

Color Fun Run/Walk, which will be held on Saturday, Oct. 26, beginning at 9 a.m.

The 5K run/walk will feature participants running through colorful bursts of blue and gold along the course.

Students, staff and any Shafter community members who would like to participate are encouraged to come out for this

first event of Shafter/Wasco Rivalry Week.

There will be food vendors, music, and a lot of fun had at the event, Shipley said, and he hopes this would be the start of another tradition.

Anyone interested can go the Shafter High attendance office for a registration form, or just show up at the event to root the participants on.

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Dignity Health, alongside the Shafter Recreation Department, with a few participating seniors.

# Shafter seniors display photos, memories

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

**SHAFTER**

The Shafter Recreation Center, along with Dignity Health, held a photo exhibition including its seniors and their different health journeys with the Dignity Health program for seniors.

The Shafter Recreation Department has been active in the well being and health of many seniors here, offering a variety of classes and activities aiming to keep them active and healthy.

Shafter Recreation Director Phillip Jimenez said that the programs are a great way for seniors to remain active and engaged. "Dignity Health has brought us health screenings, nutrition and exercise classes, and incentives that have helped us

build regular attendance and participation and so much more."

Jimenez also said that the department works hard in maintaining a positive atmosphere for the seniors, making the classes and programs fun and engaging seniors looking to keep active and engaged.

At the photo exhibit and testimonials, community members, along with the seniors, friends and their families, heard individual stories and enjoyed snacks, agua frescas and coffees from Western Woodlands.

The event reflected both the physical and the mental gains of those who participated in the programs held at the Walker Senior Center weekly. They are part of

Dignity Health's Enhanced Fitness programs, which began in 2022.

The Shafter Recreation Department also offers seniors chair aerobics classes, arts and crafts classes, Zumba classes, regular lunches and fun trips for the seniors, such as to the mall, the beach, or other excursions.

One participant who was thankful for the program was local superstar Albert Barrera. Barrera is well-known for his many involvements with the youth of Shafter coaching football and other sports. Barrera had a health setback, and he said the program really came to the rescue. "I was getting real depressed, because I was usually out coaching football, always involved in everything. I started coming here, and it was a lifesaver. Everyone was

always so happy, and I could feel the joy, the love, and I really needed that."

The photos were reflective of the joy that the seniors felt in the program, with all smiles and positive energy. Cecibel Llamas, who also is a participant said, "I had a lot of problems with my knees, and the exercises really helped strengthen me so much. It has been a real big help."

Any seniors in Shafter looking for an activity can come down to the Walker Senior Center, or to the Shafter Recreation Department office for more information. These programs are for any seniors interested, and they are always free. The Walker Senior Center is at 505 Sunset Ave. The Shafter Recreation office is at 700 E. Tulara Ave. in Shafter, and may be contacted at 661-746-3303.

# Wasco Rotary Fall Festival returns

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
Wasco Tribune

**WASCO**

The annual Wasco Rotary Club Fall Festival, one of the community's most anticipated events, will take place on Thursday, Nov. 7, at the Wasco Elks Lodge. The festive evening promises a steak dinner, a silent auction, a reverse raffle with a grand prize of \$5,000 and a 50/50 drawing. Tickets are available for a \$180 donation per couple and can be purchased through any Rotary Club member.

Tony Stout, a Rotary member for more than 20 years, is the chairperson of this year's event, marking his 15th year in the role. Stout has helped guide the festival into a staple event in Wasco, one that continually draws a crowd.

"I enjoy the event, and all the work is worth it," Stout said. "Every year, we expect about 250 guests, plus another 50 people who stop by to pick up around 100 meals. Over the years, we've raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support not only events in Wasco but also global initiatives through Rotary. It's more than just Wasco; it's worldwide. This year, you can expect the same high-quality steak dinner and wine, along with the opportunity to mingle with friends from the community. It's always a special evening, and people have a good time."

One of the key draws of the event is the reverse raffle, where one lucky participant could walk away with \$5,000. The raffle is conducted in a reverse format, meaning that as tickets are drawn, they are eliminat-

ed, leaving the last five ticket holders to decide whether to split the pot or keep drawing until one person claims the top prize.

In addition to the raffle, a silent auction, organized by Rotary members Carol Hamilton and Brad Maberry, will feature an array of items. Hamilton, a Rotary member for over a decade, expressed excitement about the selection of goods up for grabs.

"We usually have 20 to 30 items," Hamilton explained. "In the past, we've had barbecue grills, extravagant gourmet food baskets, decorative wreaths, tickets to sporting events, spa days, beach house rentals, wine baskets and gift cards. The silent auction is just one part of the fundraising that goes primarily to benefit the people in Wasco."

Proceeds from the Fall Festival will go toward supporting a variety of Rotary Club initiatives, both local and global. The funds will benefit local schools, the Wasco Community Scholarship Association, the Wasco Recreation and Parks District, the Wasco Rose Festival, Rose Queen candidates, and youth programs such as Boys and Girls Scouts, the Sheriff's Activities League, the Ronald McDonald House and Tomorrow's Leaders Today. Rotary's global impact also will be felt through contributions to programs such as Polio Plus, an initiative to eradicate polio worldwide.

The event wouldn't be possible without the support of community sponsors. Sponsorships are still available. This



Wasco Rotary Club members Oscar Luna, Jeff Martin, and Martin Lonza with the 2022 reverse raffle winners, who each took home \$1,000.

year's partners include Peter's Funeral Home, Almendros, Richland Chevrolet, Brown-Armstrong CPA, Supreme Almonds, Grocery Outlet and Strata Credit Union.

"We are honored to partner with the Rotary Club, whose dedication to serving the community aligns with our mission to give back," Amor Regis, owner of Grocery Outlet said. "Through this donation, we hope to support their ongoing efforts to make a meaningful difference for those in need."

Kelly Fargo, vice president of com-

munity relations at Strata Credit Union, echoed this sentiment. "We at Strata Credit Union committed to support Wasco when we opened our newest branch back in November. We love to support Wasco, and this is the best dinner in town!"

The Wasco Rotary Club is composed of leaders from the business, education, nonprofit and philanthropic sectors, all committed to making a lasting difference in the community.

For tickets or to learn more about the Wasco Rotary Fall Festival, contact Tony Stout at 661-758-6552.

# Free meals – and fun – at Wasco Library

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
Wasco Tribune

**WASCO**

The Wasco Branch Library, in partnership with the Kern County Superintendent of Schools, offers a program called "Supper & Snacks in the Stacks." This initiative provides free meals and snacks to children ages 2 to 18 on Mondays and Tuesdays, when the library is open.

Tina Garcia, an office services technician who has worked at the library for over 40 years, expressed her excitement about the program. "This is the third year we've been offering it, and it's been successful. It started off slow this year, but it will pick up. It's not just about the food; it's a great place for kids to come and hang out and do their homework with friends or on their own. If they need help, we can assist, and we have computers, copiers and reference materials for school projects."

The library offers much more than just meals. "We have books on just about every subject, and if we don't have something, we can order it from another branch at



**Tina Garcia, office services technician, and Alondra Patino, library associate, take pride in helping patrons with all their library needs.**

no cost," Garcia added. "It's a nice place to come after school. There's so much to offer here. So, it's more than just the meals."

Getting a library card is easy and free

for first-time applicants. "If you're under 18, you just need a parent's ID and a signature on the application. If you're 18 or older, a California ID or driver's license will do. We also offer guest cards for those who need temporary access to computers."

Garcia emphasized the importance of the program for the community, particularly for low-income families. "This program helps address food insecurity in Wasco, especially for those children who may not always get dinner at home. It's a way to feed both their minds and their bodies, so they can play, do well in school and just stay nourished."

Parents have responded positively. "The feedback we get from parents is that they really appreciate what we're doing. They're often surprised but grateful that we're offering this program."

Supper is served from 3 to 5 p.m. and snacks from 5 to 6 p.m., making it a valuable resource for families.

In addition to the meals, the library

provides entertainment during program hours. "We do games, movies, story times and crafts during Supper & Snacks in the Stacks," Garcia said. "Crafts, or as we call them, 'crafternoons,' are always a hit."

The meals vary each day. "Some examples include barbecue chicken with a vegetable and either rice or beans. We'll have pizza, corn dogs and hot dogs. Snacks range from fruits like bananas, apples and pears to crackers and chips with juice. We try to keep it balanced and healthy."

The library also offers programs for teens and adults. "Once a month, we have a teen and an adult program. It could be anything from stained glass to sewing to embroidery. We provide all materials, and these classes are held on Tuesdays, typically the second or fourth week of the month, from 4 to 6 p.m.," Garcia explained.

Garcia encouraged the community to take full advantage of the library's resources. "We want the people of Wasco to use their library as much as possible. It's a great resource and a place to come together, learn and have fun."

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# License plate reader aids in conviction



Arturo Saldivar faces up to five years in prison

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

License plate readers recently installed in Shafter led to the arrest, prosecution and conviction of a Shafter man after the theft of a car and the high-speed chase that followed.

Arturo Saldivar, Jr., was found guilty of felony evading a peace officer, receipt of stolen property, and driving a vehicle without the consent of the owner.

Saldivar is scheduled to be sen-

**SHAFTER**

tenced in the Shafter Courthouse on Tuesday, Oct. 22, where he faces a possible five years in prison.

The District Attorney's office said on Sept. 20, 2023, at around 10:54 p.m., an officer with the McFarland Police Department received a license plate reader alert regarding a stolen vehicle. The officer went to the location of the alert and shortly found the vehicle.

The officer tried to stop the ve-

hicle, however, the car accelerated at a high rate of speed. During the pursuit, the driver, identified as Saldivar, reached speeds of 95 mph and drove in the opposite lane of travel at various times. The officer ultimately lost a visual of Saldivar and ended his pursuit.

According to the DA's office, about one hour later, a deputy saw Saldivar pulling out of an apartment complex in Wasco. After seeing Saldivar in the driver's seat of the vehicle, the deputy tried to

do a traffic stop, however, Saldivar began to accelerate at a high rate of speed through a residential neighborhood.

Saldivar was apprehended in part because the license plate readers in the county communicate with each other and alerted law enforcement that the vehicle that Saldivar was driving was stolen.

Shafter had such cameras installed just a few months ago, linking them to the new technology in Kern County.

# American Pickers seeks unique treasures

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
Wasco Tribune

**REGIONAL**

American Pickers is returning to California this November and is seeking leads in the area to explore hidden treasures. If you or someone you know has an extraordinary item with a fascinating tale about it

and is ready to sell, the production team wants to hear from you. The hit History Channel series, which has captivated viewers since its first season in 2010, follows skilled pickers as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques.

The show is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking." Pickers travel from coast to coast on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics, all while meeting characters with unique stories and fun items. Along the way, the pickers aim to give historically significant objects a new lease on life while learning more about America's past.

Thomas X Carrera, the lead story producer for American Pickers, explained the show's wide appeal. "Our first season aired in 2010, and the show is viewed by millions of people across the United States. It is very popular and easy to get hooked on," he said.

The pickers are eager to connect with local collectors who have eye-catching stories and hidden treasures. "We are trying to reach enthusiastic collec-



The American Pickers team: Jersey John (picker), Rob Wolfe (picker), Danielle Colby (picker/Queen of Rust) and Mike Wolfe (The American Picker and creator of the show)

tors in the area, like people who may have inherited their parents' collection, have things in a barn, or have a diamond in the rough. We're looking for great characters as well. Sometimes, people have amazing stories; sometimes, the item or the property has an amazing story. Our team is really good at finding the history behind that," Carrera said.

The pickers have seen a wide range of items over the years, but they're always on the lookout for something extraordinary. "Sometimes we find that an item has been in a family for five generations, or we meet people who are so eccentric, or we find collections that are mind-boggling or self-made and phenomenal. Sometimes we discover things we've never seen before, and it just wows us!" Car-

ra added.

The show is known for its distinctive approach to recycling old relics and seeing value in what others might overlook. "Sometimes you find something you think isn't worth anything. It might be an old sign or a piece of rusty farm equipment, but [the picker] sees its beauty, like this will look great on someone's shelf. He romanticizes the item in a really nice way. He sees its value, and, as a result, he helps others see its value."

To be considered for the show, send your name, phone number, location and a description of the collection with photos to americanpickers@cinetflix.com or call 646-493-2184. The pickers do not pick stores, flea markets, malls, auctions, businesses, museums or anything open to the public.



Mike Wolfe is the American Picker and creative force behind the show.

# Rihanna Sanchez: 2024 Rose Queen

**From Page 1**

Balancing school, extracurricular activities and her responsibilities as Miss Wasco Rose Queen is no easy feat, but Rihanna manages it with ease. "I just have to manage my time really well," she explains. "School is always going to be my number one priority. Whatever free time I have, I just take it all in and relax when I can."

Since earning the title of Miss Wasco Rose Queen, Rihanna's life has changed in unexpected ways. "It's quite a bit of pressure because everyone knows who I am," she said, "but overall, I'm very honored and grateful that from all of the contestants, I was chosen. I just hope I will represent Wasco in a positive way."

As queen, Rihanna has set meaningful goals. "My goals for the next year are empowering the younger generation and promoting kindness — not only to yourself but to each other as well."

Looking ahead, she's excited to participate in local events, including crowning the Bengals Queen at their home-

coming and attending the Hall of Fame ceremony. She also hopes to host her own events to further connect with the community.

Through the pageant, Rihanna discovered her strength and resilience. "I learned that I am capable of a lot more than I thought. When I was going through the pageant, I was very busy, and now that I got through it, I know I can persevere when things get hard."

Her advice to future contestants? "Be yourself and trust in who you are."

Once her reign ends, Rihanna plans to pursue her dream of becoming a teacher. She is currently applying to colleges, including Fresno State, California State University Bakersfield and Monterey Bay, with plans to major in liberal studies. Her goal is to teach third grade, a year she fondly remembers as both fun and formative.

As Rihanna reflects on her reign, she emphasizes what she hopes people will remember: "I want people to remember my kindness and the positivity I brought to the community."



Rihanna Sanchez, with her parents, Oscar and Denise Enciso, and her little sister, Marcy, at a Wasco High School football game.

# Givens looking to continue progress

**From Page 1**

growth within the city core, including ICSC conferences for business opportunities.

"We should see some incredible an-

nouncements in the next few months regarding planning. This is on top of our council focus on enhanced education partnership opportunities and our continued pursuit to have the safest city in Cal-

ifornia, by hiring, training and retaining the best in class police force.

"The city continues to grow at one of the fastest rates in California, and it requires us to ensure that we maintain a high

level of quality of life and community connections, promoting healthy families and strategic growth that gives our residents what they have asked for over the course of the last 10 years."

Friday, 8/23	at Exeter	7:30 p.m.	W, 22-14
Thursday, 8/29	Arvin	7:30 p.m.	W, 56-13
Friday, 9/13	at Dos Palos	7:30 p.m.	W, 41-38
Friday, 9/20	Edison	7:15 p.m.	W, 50-12
Friday, 9/27	at St. Joseph	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 10/4	Taft*	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 10/11	at Delano*	7:30 p.m.	
Thursday, 10/17	Kennedy*	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 10/25	Chavez*	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 11/1	at Wasco*	7:30 p.m.	

\* League

Friday, 8/23	at Porterville	7:30 p.m.	L, 40-17
Friday, 8/30	Ridgeview	7:30 p.m.	W, 22-14
Friday, 9/6	at Morro Bay	7 p.m.	W, 32-28
Thursday, 9/12	Tehachapi	7:30 p.m.	L, 36-8
Friday, 9/27	at Tulare Western	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 10/4	at Chavez*	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 10/11	Kennedy*	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 10/18	at Taft*	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 10/25	Delano*	7:30 p.m.	
Friday, 11/1	Shafter*	7:30 p.m.	

\* League



Planet Dance Studio dancers represented their studio in this year's Rose Festival Parade.

# 'Intergalactic Space Invasion' coming soon

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
Wasco Tribune

**WASCO**

Get ready for an out-of-this-world experience as Planet Dance Studio presents its 22nd annual dance recital, "Intergalactic Space Invasion," on Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Robert F. Kennedy High School Auditorium in Delano. This highly anticipated event promises to showcase the talent and dedication of the studio's young dancers.

Jacob Hernandez is the studio director. "Our summer theme was a beach theme, and now we're transitioning to an outer space theme," Hernandez explained. "Each class is using space-themed music, putting our own spin on it. We started recital choreography this week, and it's going really well. The students are doing great and are so excited. It's incredibly motivating to see their enthusiasm because that's how it should be!"

This year's recital will feature 22 routines performed by 60 students ranging in age from 4 to 14. The show will include some standout moments, such as Team Galaxy's opening numbers with select-

ed dancers performing with them and a father-daughter performance. "Even our youngest dancers, the 4, 5 and 6-year-olds, are always excited and a treat to watch on stage as well," Hernandez added.

Wristbands for the recital will be available for purchase starting Monday, Oct. 21, at the studio, 641 F St., Monday through Thursday, 5 to 9 p.m.). Tickets are \$30.

The upcoming recital is not just a showcase of talent; it represents months of hard work and dedication from the students. "The recital is the culmination of all the classes the dancers have taken since February of this year," Hernandez noted. "It reflects their growth and all the effort they've put in."

Planet Dance Studio has been a cornerstone of the Wasco community for over two decades. "We've been providing a space for youth to express themselves through dance," Hernandez stated. "Our mission is to continue bringing the art of dance to the community and providing opportunities for expression."

One key aspect that sets Planet Dance Studio apart from others is the heart and passion of its students. "Year after year, our students bring so much enthusiasm and fearlessness to their performances. Our unique style shines through in everything we do," Hernandez explained.

This year, the recital holds special significance for three 10-year members who will be honored: Janice Tamayo, Makenzi Sanchez and Jacqlyn Cervacio. Other dancers will be participating for the first time. "It's inspiring to see them rise to the occasion and understand what it takes to perform at such a high level," Hernandez said.

Attendees can expect a diverse range of dance styles, including tap, jazz, ballet and hip hop, choreographed to provide a captivating experience. "All our dancers will have a polished look with a costume, hair, makeup and accessories, all in front of an

elaborate backdrop, just to name a few. It's going to be a great show."

For the students, participating in the recital symbolizes their passion for dance and the opportunity to display their creativity on stage. "It means everything to them—getting to wear their costumes, performing in front of an audience, and showcasing all they've learned."

Doors to the show will open at 3 p.m., and the performance will begin at 4 p.m. For more information, email [find\\_us@planetdancelive.com](mailto:find_us@planetdancelive.com).

## SHAFTER YOUTH WRESTLING SIGN-UPS

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Son Ben, wife Rocky, Jesse Acebedo, son Keith, Jeff's wife Callie, and son Jeff gather for a family function.

# Celebrating Jesse Acebedo's legacy at golf tournament

**VERONICA JACUINDE**  
Wasco Tribune

**WASCO**

The 8th Annual Jesse Acebedo Memorial Golf Tournament is set to take place on Saturday, Oct. 5, at the North Kern Golf Course. The event honors the life of Jesse Acebedo while supporting the Wasco Community Scholarship Association.

Jesse Acebedo was a cherished figure in the community. His passing in a 2017 auto accident left a lasting impact on his family and friends. After his death, countless stories emerged about Jesse's dedication to others, inspiring his sons — Keith, Ben and Jeff — to create the memorial golf tournament. "We heard all of these stories about who he was, so we decided a great way to give back was to raise some money and give it back to the community," Keith explained.

The idea of hosting a golf tournament was a natural fit, as Jesse, who loved playing golf, passed that passion on to his sons. "He taught all of us how to play, so we all play to this day," Keith added. The tournament not only brings together friends and family but also gives participants the opportunity to support

a cause close to Jesse's heart — the Wasco Community Scholarship Association.

Jesse served 34 years in law enforcement, starting his career with the original Wasco Police Department and later transitioning to the Kern County Sheriff's Office. Outside of work, he coached youth sports teams, served on the school board, taught swimming lessons to neighborhood children, and even announced high school football games. His leadership extended to St. John's Church and the Wasco Rose Parade, where he was the Grand Marshal in 2014. He was a recruiter for the R.M. Pyles Boys Camp, where he would take underprivileged youth on wilderness backpacking trips "to show the kids the world was so much bigger than the streets of Wasco or McFarland."

Jesse's commitment to education stemmed from his own humble beginnings. Born into a family of migrant farmworkers, Jesse understood the value of hard work and education. "That's why he was so pro-education," Keith said. "He believed in making yourself smarter and giving yourself the opportunity

to do more." This belief in education helped inspire his children, all of whom went on to college and successful careers. "It was about, 'Here are the tools to be successful, and one of those tools is education. Be smart; use your head.'"

Known for his wisdom and honesty, Jesse built close relationships with the many young people he had contact with over the years. "When you talked to my dad, you were going to get honesty from him," Keith shared. "Sometimes that's what we need to hear in life — an honest answer." But Jesse was also known for his humor and love of life. "He loved a good laugh, music and was just a good human being. My dad was larger than life. He knew everybody."

"Come join us for this special event and help us celebrate his life. Sponsorships are still available, and we are accepting donations for prizes and giveaways," he said.

The North Kern Golf Course is located at 17412 Quality Road in Bakersfield. The tournament kicks off with an 8 a.m. shotgun start in a four-person scramble format. Participants receive a tee prize for \$130 per player, and breakfast and lunch are in-

cluded. Those interested in sponsoring a tee or learning more can reach out via email at [JesseWCSA@gmail.com](mailto:JesseWCSA@gmail.com) or [JeffAcebedo:Jacepar72@gmail.com](mailto:JeffAcebedo:Jacepar72@gmail.com). All proceeds from the tournament benefit the Wasco Community Scholarship Association.



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Mariyon Sloan on his way to a touchdown. RIGHT: JJ Vasquez races down the sideline for a touchdown.

# SHS undefeated after rout of Edison

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

The Shafter Generals football team recovered from a rather slow start and turned it on in the second half on their way to a 50-12 rout of the Edison Tigers. The win keeps the Generals perfect, with a 4-0 record.

For the second game of the season, Mariyon Sloan filled the quarterback position, scoring two touchdowns with a total of 148 yards rushing on 11 carries. Chris-

## SHAFTER

topher Espinoza had 94 yards rushing, giving Shafter consistency on the ground against the 0-4 Edison team.

The Generals opened the scoring in the first quarter when Sloan ran up the middle of the field for a 56-yard touchdown run. The Generals increased their lead with a touchdown run by Christopher Espinoza.

Edison scored midway through the second quarter, scoring on a long touchdown pass play, cutting the lead to 14-6.

But, as has been the case so far this season, the Generals' special teams made a big difference. On the ensuing kickoff after the Tigers' touchdown, Alex Reyna returned for an 82-yard touchdown, making it his third game in a row with a return for a TD.

Shafter took a 21-6 lead into the locker room. The Generals scored a touchdown in the third quarter, with Espinoza carrying the load on the drive, gaining 52 yards on a run before scoring from six yards out, giving the Generals a 27-6 lead.

In the fourth quarter, Shafter exploded for 23 points, including three touchdowns and a safety.

The Generals' defense kept pressure on the Tigers' quarterback, while stopping their running game cold. They also contributed to the scoring when Aaron Jimenez picked off an Edison pass and returned it for a touchdown, giving the Generals a 50-12 lead.

Shafter will be hitting the road on Friday night, taking on St. Josephs, with kickoff scheduled for 7 p.m. in Santa Maria.

# Lady Generals stay perfect in volleyball

**JAMIE STEWART**  
The Shafter Press

The Shafter High Lady Generals volleyball team stayed perfect in the SSL with a convincing 3-0 win over the Delano Tigers. The Tigers touted a 12-4 record coming into the game, but the Lady Generals dispatched them in straight sets.

Led by the hitting of Sydnee Macias, the team never trailed by more than one point in the match, keeping the momentum the entire game.

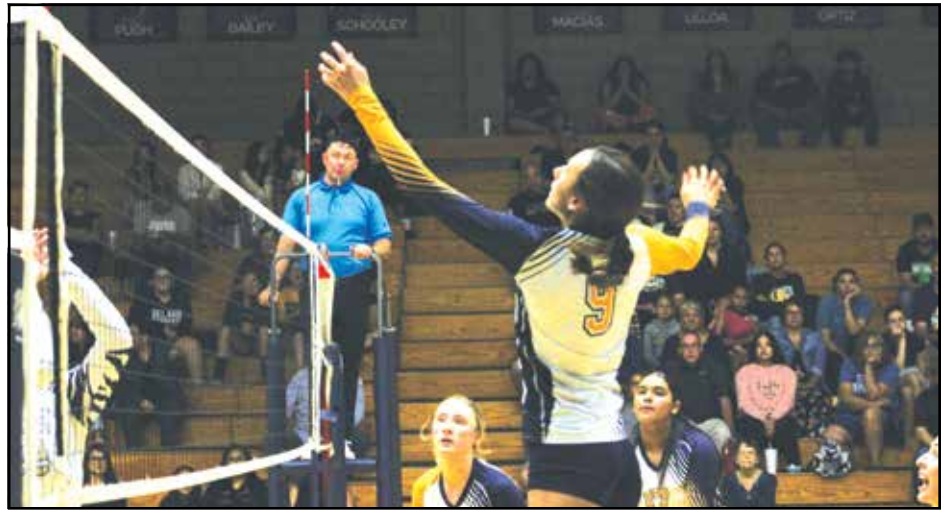
Aided by a boisterous crowd, the Shafter squad stayed unbeaten at home, and in first place in the South Sequoia League. But, the real star of the game for the Lady Generals was the play of Emily

## SHAFTER

Pugh. Pugh was the offensive standout of the contest as she had nine digs and two aces. The dominant performance gave her a new career-high in aces.

Shafter was lethal from the service line and finished the game with 12 aces. That strong performance was nothing new for the team: they've now served at least five aces in three consecutive matchups.

Shafter has been performing incredibly well recently as they've won 13 of their last 15 matches, which provided a nice bump to their overall record of 19-3-1. Shafter's next tough test will be a match with rival Wasco at Wasco on Thursday.



Sydnee Macias goes up for a kill against Delano.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 23-30442-PM-CA Title No. 2878500 A.P.N. 488-281-03-00

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 01/10/2013. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, (cashier's check(s) must be made payable to National Default Servicing Corporation), drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state; will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made in an "as is" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Arturo D. Malanche Jr., a married man, as his sole and separate property Duly Appointed Trustee: National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 01/14/2013 as Instrument No. 000213005574 (or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Kern County, California. Date of Sale: 10/16/2024 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: On the front steps of the City Hall South building at 1501 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$153,608.33 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 347 Beckes Street, Wasco, CA 93280 A.P.N.: 488-281-03-00 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The requirements of California Civil

Code Section 2923.5(b)/2923.55(c) were fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-758-8052 or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 23-30442-PM-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are a "representative of all eligible tenant buyers" you may be able to purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 23-30442-PM-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, on the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send

a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as a "representative of all eligible tenant buyers" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. \*Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only to public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 09/05/2024 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 800-758-8052; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Connie Hernandez, Trustee Sales Representative. A-4824390 09/19/2024, 09/26/2024, 10/03/2024

### PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Qualcare IPA 2024-B5667

11612 Bolthouse Drive, Suite 210 Bakersfield, CA 93311  
County: Kern  
11612 Bolthouse Drive, Suite 210 Bakersfield, CA 93311  
Qualcare, Inc., A Professional Medical Corporation  
11612 Bolthouse Drive, Suite 210 Bakersfield, CA  
State of Incorp. or org.: CA  
The business is conducted by: Corporation  
Date the business commenced: 12/17/2029  
/s/Edward Nichols, M.D. President  
Date Statement Filed: 09/12/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/12/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Cedeno  
Publish Wasco Tribune September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024

### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE  
Fore No: 132667-11 Loan No: 045-6391163 Title Order No: 95314127 APN 489-033-08-00 WHEREAS, on 09/28/2005, a certain Deed of Trust was executed by JOE S. WILLIAMS AND NATHALIOUS O. WILLIAMS, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS, as trustor in favor of SEATTLE MORTGAGE COMPANY as beneficiary and FIRST AMERICAN TITLE as trustee, and was recorded on 10/05/2005 as Document No. 0205273845, and WHEREAS, the Deed of Trust was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and WHEREAS the beneficial interest in the Deed of Trust is now owned

by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment recorded 01/08/2019 in document no. 219002003, of Official records in the office of the Recorder of Kern County, CA, and WHEREAS a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Deed of Trust PURSUANT TO SECTION 9 (A)(i), OF THE LOAN DOCUMENTS "AN IMMEDIATE PAYMENT IN FULL. AS DEFINED, THE LENDER WILL REQUIRE IMMEDIATE PAYMENT IN FULL OF ALL OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AND ACCRUED INTEREST IF; A BORROWER DIES AND THE PROPERTY IS NOT THE PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE OF AT LEAST ONE SURVIVING BORROWER." INCLUDING ALL FORECLOSURE FEES, ATTORNEY FEES AND ADVANCES TO SENIOR LIENS, INSURANCE, TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS. WHEREAS, by virtue of this default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Deed of Trust to be immediately due and payable; NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner, recorded on 06/10/2024 as Document No. 000214065785, notice is hereby given that on 10/09/2024, at 10:00 AM local time, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder: LOT 56 OF TRACT NO. 1483, IN THE CITY OF WASCO, COUNTY OF KERN, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED APRIL 5, 1949 IN BOOK 6, PAGE 196 OF OFFICIAL RECORDS. COMMONLY known as: 1857 GASTON STREET, WASCO, CA 93280 The sale will be held: On the front steps of the City Hall South building at 1501 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301 The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will bid \$225,090.03. There will be no prorations of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his pro rata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale. When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling \$22,509.00 [10% of the Secretary's bid] in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of \$22,509.00 must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered

within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them. The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for a 15-day increments for a fee of \$500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee will be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due. If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder. There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgage or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant. The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD, before public auction of the property is completed. The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be reinstated prior to the scheduled sale is \$224,762.43 as of 10/8/2024, plus all other amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, advertising costs and postage expenses

incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices and for the Foreclosure Commissioner's attendance at the sale, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure Commissioner, and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to reinstatement. Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below. DATE: 09/05/2024 FORECLOSURE COMMISSIONER: MORTGAGE LENDER SERVICES 7844 Madison Ave., Suite 145 Fair Oaks, CA 95628 (916) 962-3453 Fax: (916) 962-1334 Sale Information Line: 916-939-0772 or www.nationwideposting.com TARA CAMPBELL, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT NPP0465212 To: WASCO TRIBUNE 09/19/2024, 09/26/2024, 10/03/2024

### PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Wasco Tint Shop 2024-B5497

77112th St  
Wasco, CA 93280  
County: Kern  
340 Brentwood Ct  
McFarland, CA 93250  
Daniel Paniagua Gutierrez  
340 Brentwood Ct  
McFarland, CA 93250  
The business is conducted by: Individual  
Date the business commenced: N/A  
/s/Daniel Paniagua Gutierrez  
Date Statement Filed: 09/05/2024  
Date Statement Expires: 09/05/2029  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: M Hernandez  
Publish Wasco Tribune September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2024

### PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Alvarez Party Rental

1140 8th Place  
Wasco, CA 93280  
County: KERN  
Mailing address of business:  
1140 8th Place  
Wasco, CA 93280  
Belem Rodriguez  
1140 8th Place  
Wasco, CA 93280  
Business was conducted by: Individual  
/s/Belem Rodriguez, Owner  
Original FBN Statement File Number: 2024-B4696  
Original FBN Statement Filed on: 07/29/2024  
This statement of Abandonment filed on: 08/26/2024  
Aimee X. Espinoza  
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk  
By: /s/ M Torralba  
Publish Shafter Press September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2024

PASTOR'S CORNER

Small gestures in dark times

PASTOR RUBEN ZARTMAN
Ebenezer Reformed Church, Shafter

A few years ago I was at the bedside of a woman who was very near death. She could no longer speak and could barely move, but she was very thirsty. Most of my last visit with her was spent spooning water from a cup into her mouth.

Was there any value in giving water to someone on the edge of eternity like that? I doubt that it prolonged her life. I have no reason to think it made any big difference to her thoughts or feelings. In the moment, I mostly went on with that because I didn't really know that there was anything else I could do. As I look back on that experience, I think it was a meaningful action.

For one thing, there are the words of Jesus in Mark 9:41: "For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward." I'm sure that what is true for a whole cup is also true when it's a few drops on a plastic spoon!

In addition to his words, there is also the example of Jesus. He had been under tremendous stress in the garden of Gethsemane when a sort of raiding party arrived to arrest him. Peter, wanting to defend Jesus, cut off the ear of a man named Malchus (John 18:10). Jesus promptly healed the wound given to Malchus (Luke 22:39-51). If ever there was a time to ignore minor matters, that would have been



Pastor Ruben Zartman

it! But Jesus took the opportunity to perform a relatively small good.

No action of Christ is meaningless. He was under the worst strain of his life. The power of evil and darkness had come upon him. He was engaging in the final few steps of accomplishing salvation. And yet he healed a fairly minor injury.

There are some different lessons in that. One is that we can learn to give a little help to others as we can, even when our own distress is great. Another is that small gestures are still worthwhile. My spoonful of water couldn't save that lady's life, but they could ease her thirst a bit. And the last lesson is the wonderful kindness of Jesus, who heals the ear of one of the very men who had come to arrest him. That small gesture displayed a great truth!

DEATH NOTICES

Jose Javier Alcantar Romero, 56, of Shafter, passed away Sept. 18, in Delano. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Alicia Saenz, 81, of Bakersfield, passed away Sept. 17, in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Maria Estafania Martinez, 81, of Shafter, passed away Aug. 28, in Shafter. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Cerafina Martinez, 76, of Lost Hills, passed away Sept. 7, in El Salvador. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Socorro T. Matta, 71, of Shafter, passed away Sept. 22, in Shafter. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Juan Hernandez Gaytan, 83, of Wasco, passed away Sept. 23, in Wasco. Peters Funeral Home, Wasco.

PET OF THE WEEK

Adopt Lily

Meet Lily, an adorable 2-3-month-old female pit mix with beautiful brown/chocolate fur. She's friendly and gets along well with our staff, making her a potential new best friend for your family. While her behavior with cats, other dogs and children is unknown, Lily is ready to find her forever home. Lily will be available for adoption starting Wednesday, Oct. 2, and her adoption fees are waived. Visit us to meet Lily and see if she's the right fit for you!

-Wasco Animal Shelter



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ONLINE

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

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Our sales representatives are pleased to help you compose the most effective ad at a minimum cost. Here are two key points to remember about your ads:

1. If it's an item you're selling, remember to include as much information as possible. The more potential buyers know about the item you have for sale, the more interest they have in calling you. 2. Our reputation for Classified Advertising

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

GENERAL POLICY

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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS.

1-888-989-5749 (Cal-SCAN)

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1998 Only. Any condition. Top \$ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-339-5994. Email: Porscherestoration@yahoo.com Cal-SCAN

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SWID Immediate Opening Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District 16294 Hwy 43, Wasco There is an immediate opening for a Full-Time Water Tender. Wages starting at \$50,000 per year plus benefits. Applications are available at the District Office and must be received no later than Wednesday, October 9th.

an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN) Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN) Attention: Viagra and Cialis Users! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. Call now: 1-888-256-9155 (Cal-SCAN)

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