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Vol. 92 No. 42 • Shafter, California

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1921

Thursday, April 16, 2020

Virus continues its attack



Social distancing was the order of the day at Tuesday night's school board meeting.

'Doom, gloom' for WUESD

TONI DEROSA

Wasco Tribune

WUESD Superintendent Kelly Richers is looking at the consequences of the coronavirus pandemic and the empty classrooms its created - and what he sees is not good.

"It's doom and gloom for the next couple of years."

Since schools are paid for each student's daily attendance, and schools are now closed for at least two months,

a lot of income has been lost.

"We are sure funding will be cut significantly, but the Local Control

WASCO

Accountability Plan (LCAP) will probably stay similar to what we have for next year," Richers said in an email. "The following year (2021-2022) will almost assuredly see deep cuts; however, it is too late to give notices of certificated layoffs for the coming year, so we will not be cutting significantly -- just moving money around where allowed."

At Tuesday's board meeting, the Wasco Union Elementary School District eliminated one uncredentialed position and will move another classified position around to accommodate the district's needs.

At its meeting on Tuesday night, the board unanimously voted to eliminate a special education aide, since their sole responsibility was for a student who is graduating eighth grade and moving onto high school.

A migrant outreach aide will be moved to another position, since the need is seasonal and there is a fulltime migrant outreach employee already in place.

Area goes virtual, even for Easter

JAMIE STEWART

The Shafter Press

The coronavirus pandemic had taken its toll on the cities of Shafter and Wasco, along with other cities in Kern County, with closed schools, businesses and churches.

Easter Sunday was a good example of the disruption the virus has caused.

Mannel Park, usually filled with worshipers **SHAFTER**

PAID Shafter, CA

watching the sun rise as they celebrate the rising of the Son, was empty as residents were heeding the warnings of local officials about gathering in large groups for the holiday.

This is on top of the churches in town closing their doors to the public. But churches still are able to hold virtual worship services on Facebook and YouTube.

Besides the confirmed case of Joel Herrera, 19, of Shafter, it is unclear how many cases of the virus there have been in the city.

Despite other areas of the state and nation giving more detailed numbers of the amount of cases are confirmed in a specific city, the Kern County Public Health Department has opted to

Easter Sunday was a good example of the level of disruption the virus has caused.

limit the information given to the public to a regional map that breaks the county into different regions. Each region has four or five different ZIP codes in it, making it difficult to pinpoint the number of victims in a community.

There have been 516 confirmed cases in Kern County as of Tuesday night, with 63 of them occurring in the Valley Region of the map, which includes Shafter, Wasco, Delano, Taft and other rural cities. In recent days, Target confirmed that an employee working at the distribution center in Shafter had tested positive.

"We are working in close partnership with local health departments and can share that a Target team member at our distribution center on Zachary Avenue in Shafter has a positive case of the coronavirus," Target Communications Director Jake Anderson said in a statement Tuesday.

The team member is on paid leave during their quarantine, following local health department guidelines. "We've also worked quickly to clean and sanitize the distribution

See VIRUS Page 6

Shafter Rec finds way to celebrate the holiday

JAMIE STEWART

The Shafter Press

The Shafter Recreation Department gave the families of Shafter a chance to celebrate the holiday even from the safety of their own homes last Friday with a Quarantine Egg Quest.

On Friday, families drove by the Recreation Office on East Tulare Avenue, and District Manager Phillip Jimenez and his staff handed out 6,000 eggs filled with toys and candy.

SHAFTER

The participants then took the eggs home to hold their own egg hunts. The only rules were to hold the egg hunt at their homes, post pictures and videos on social media, and tag the Recreation Department with them. Those who followed the guidelines were entered into a drawing that was held on Monday.

Entrants watched on Facebook Live as **See ANOTHER Page 6**



Lorena Ayon and Hannah Ramirez helped hand out 6,000 eggs.



This tiger was sent by Alice Kehoe, a Wasco High alum now living in Stockton.

Tigers spotted all over town

JAMIE STEWART

Wasco Tribune

The city has seen an influx of sightings of its mascot in recent days, with striped felines spotted all over the

city. They can be seen mostly in neighborhood windows, thanks

to the industrious mind of Sharon Sharp and other com-

munity members.

Sharp was inspired by events recently held in other communities, in which residents put teddy bears in the windows of their homes for passersby to take pictures of when spotted. Sharp thought this would be a great way to See 'TIGER TREK' Page 5

WASCO

This tiger was spotted peering out of a neighborhood window.

Hi, neighbor! Drop by anytime. GEICO LOCAL OFFICE

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Peters to help out with free meals

Peters Funeral Home will be providing warm meal "to those who really need it" on Friday, April 24, says owner Rick

Any resident of Shafter or Wasco can drive by and pick up a plate of pulled pork, beans, rice and bread between 5 and 6:30

p.m. Seniors are invited to come by between 4 and 5 p.m.

There is a limit of two meals per vehicle, with identification showing Shafter or Wasco residency required.

The drive-through will be at Peters' Shafter location, 844 E. Lerdo Highway.

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

Rocy's Mexican Food 749 S. Shafter Ave. 661-746-2619 Open every day 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Tony's Firehouse Restaurant

300 E. Lerdo Hwy. 661-746-9244 Open every day 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

El Michoacano 237 Central Ave. 661-746-4872

La Fonda Taqueria and Mariscos 358 Central Ave. 661-746-0034

Don Pepe's Bar & Grill

301 E. Lerdo Hwy. 661-746-6183

China Cuisine 563 James St. 661-746-3266

Giovanni's **Italian Eatery** 130 Walker St. 661-746-2000 La Imperial Taqueria 327 State Ave. 661-746-1717

General's Headquarter

710 E. Lerdo Hwy. 661-746-6075 Open every day 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

Burger Factory 313 Central Ave. 661-746-9135

Frosty King 683 Central Valley Hwy. 661-746-6951 Open every day 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Catrina's Mexican

Grill & Cantina 1345 F. St. 661-758-3435

Barraza's Delicioso Tacos 601 F. St. 661-758-8944

> **Hong Kong** Restaurant 912 7th St. 661-758-3338 Mon. closed, Tues .-Sun. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Teresa's Tacos Villa 441 F. St., Wasco 661-758-2027

La Imperial Taqueria 922 7th St., Wasco 661-758-2955 Open every day 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

La Cabanita 169 Highway 46 661-758-4915

La Cocina Del Pablo 931 7th. St. Blue Sushi & Teriyaki

Mystery history

Here's this week's challenge, courtesy of the Shafter Historical Society. If you know the loca-

tion, 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@The ShafterPress.com. Winners will be

revealed here next week. LAST WEEK: From

a 1939 Shafter High Laurion advertising photo

for the Shafter Variety Store - "We don't know what Elmer [Anderson] wants with the spool of

knitting yarn, but we do know that he and Mary

came to the right place to get it. When you are

in need of anything you don't know where to

get, just drop into Christensen's; they'll have

Here's this week's challenge, courtesy of the

Wasco Historical Society. If you know the loca-

tion, circumstances, exact or rough date and/ or people in the photo, send your educated (or semieducated) guess to the Tribune, 406

Central Ave., Shafter 93263, or e-mail it to mysteryphoto@WascoTrib.com. Winners will be revealed here next week. LAST WEEK: Nan

Reedy, Clarence Smith and Minnie Carr in an

undated photo.

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915 7th St. 661-758-2236 Open Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.p.m., Sun. & Mon closed

> Carol's Dari Freeze

1501 Highway 46 661-758-2606 Open every day 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Frosty King 1032 Highway 46 661-758-2606

Hoyett's Sandwich Shop 727 6th St. 661-758-2065 Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Sun 9 p.m.-1 p.m., Sun. closed

> Loco 803 7th St. 661-758-4945

El Burrito

Café 101 2339 Highway 46 661-758-1983 Open every day

6 a.m.- 9:30 p.m.

Pizza Hut 2340 Highway 46 661-758-5184 Delivery and takeout Open every day

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9:30 a.m.-11 p.m.

La Fonda 1001 F St.

661-758-9901

ARREST REPORT

As reported by the Shafter Police De-

partment **APRIL 11**

Miguel Angel Ortega Franco, 36, of Shafter, was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon, threatening a crime with intent, vandalism more than \$400, attempted burglary and obstruction of a public of-

Octavio Anthony Montoya, 29, of Shafter, was arrested for battery.

Bridget Evalee Martinez, 41, of Shafter,

was arrested on a felony bench warrant. Samuel Castillo Sepulveda, 46, of Shafter, was arrested on an outside agency warrant, under the influence and showing a false ID to a specific public

officer. **APRIL 7**

Vincent Ortiz Hernandez, 60, of Shafter, was arrested for trespassing and refusing to leave, disorderly conduct: alcohol and on an outside agency warrant.

Ramiro Conrado Enriquez, 31, of Shafter, was arrested for obstruction of a public officer, evading public officer: disregarding safety and a broken head-

rested in the 100 block of North Shafter Avenue for obstruction of a public officer, transparent material on windows and license not in possession.

Julian Bazan, 37, of Wasco, was arrested in the 1800 block of 16th Street for domestic violence, false imprisonment and assault with a deadly weapon. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Heriberto Ramirez-Rodriguez, 20, of Wasco, was arrested in the 400 block of North Central Avenue in Wasco for shoplifting and

disorderly conduct. He was booked into the Kern County Jail.

Donnie Isbell, 50, of Shafter, was arrested on an outside agency warrant.

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

Mariana Ortega, 19, of Shafter, was ar-

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WASCOTRIB.COM

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TIM POWELL, EA, CFP tim@brannen-powell.com

Food Bank helps fight hunger problem

families served

WASCO

TONI DEROSA Wasco Tribune

Community Action Partnership of Kern was busy at Barker Park Monday morn-

CPAK gave away 300 boxes of food to the first 300 families in a long line of vehicles that snaked around the block where the park is located. Some of the vehicles had more than one family inside, which meant some cars went home with two or more boxes.

Cars began circling the park before 10 a.m. and entered the park via Poso and Poplar. The food didn't necessarily go to the first 300 vehicles, but instead to the first 300 families. A few vehicles were turned away after the boxes ran

CAPK volunteers David Ramirez and Martha Figueroa were busy getting information from each person in a vehicle. They required the name of the individual driving the car, their address and how many



members were in their family. If a different family was also in the car, that person's name and address were also taken and the number in the household. The two had a quick and

efficient system going. Each box contained nonperishables, such as beans,

rice and canned foods. Both volunteers were

wearing protective masks and long-sleeve shirts.



for each vehicle as cars line up in Shafter.



Families in need during 'trying time'

JAMIE STEWART The Shafter Press

The line of cars zigzagged through the streets surrounding The Truth Church parking lot on last Thursday for the Community Action Partnership of Kern food giveaway to help the residents of Shafter cope during this COVID-19 crisis. Families drove into the

parking lot and gave their information, then a box of food and produce was placed in the trunk of their vehicles. The boxes contained po-

tatoes, milk, break, fruit and vegetables, along with other staples. The CAPK runs a regular food giveaway each month in Shafter, doling out supplies and staples for families who need it. With the coronavirus pandemic, though, the organization decided to keep the assistance going, making sure the residents of Shafter have food to take care of their families.

According to Jaime Orona, program manager for the CAPK Food Bank, keeping Kern County residents fed is the top priority. "When this thing first broke, a few of the food banks and organizations got scared and stopped holding

SHAFTER

food pantry distributions. But, I have been hungry in my life and know what it is like to go without. I didn't want any kids or families to be without during this trying time." Orona said that they are

still receiving commodities from the federal government, including beans, cheese and rice, but with some of the produce, it was a little slower. "At first, it was challenging to get produce, milk and especially bread. But, we got responses from local suppliers who have been great and have supplied us with what we need."

Food Bank CAPK brought enough boxes for 300 families on Thursday, with another distribution planned for the end of the month. A day and time will be posted later in the month.

Angie Nelson, director of the Shafter Youth Center, said, "We couldn't do our regular distribution when they implemented the limit on gatherings because we held the distribution indoors. But, Jaime and the organization worked a way for us to keep the people of Shafter fed.'

Students connected thanks to Chromebook checkout

JAMIE STEWART

Wasco Tribune

Palm Avenue Middle School lent out over 300 Chromebooks on Tuesday as part of their effort to keep their students engaged and connected while the schools are closed during the pandemic. Students had already received packets complete with work assignments that will be good for credit once school is back in session.

A line started forming well before the 10:30 a.m. start time, but the school handled the line with an organized system that got the vehicles in and out.

This program will benefit the students who may not have any resources to get connected with the internet and the distance learning programs that are being offered.

Rafael Munoz, who has two children in the Wasco Union Elementary School system, said that it is also a lot easier having one of the Chromebooks.

"We have a computer at the house, but with these Chromebooks, they come with the material loaded on them and have the

WASCO

links already in there. It saves a lot of headache and time trying to get set up for the different sites."

Also on Tuesday afternoon, Maple School held a Chromebook distribution of its own. Students were able to check out a Chromebook, loaded with learning materials and links to distance learning sites that enable them to take different classes online. This trying time and subsequent closure also interfered with the highly anticipated ribbon cutting for Maple School. The event has been postponed and will take place when the all-clear is sounded for the schools.

Maple has undergone a major renovation that saw the school get new administration buildings, classrooms, a cafeteria and a playground. The project began nearly three years ago and was done in phases, with the final phase just being completed.

Noami Gomez, of the Wasco Union Elementary School District, said, "We have



Noami Gomez helps hand out Chromebooks and packets for students.

had a line of people ever since we started today. It is hard not having the kids in class, but it is great to help them stay engaged and

learning." A variety of classes are available online

through the Zoom app, including math, English, Music and social science. There are even classes on there that take the students through a physical fitness routine to help keep them moving and fit.

Middle schools pass out Chromebooks



Thomas Jefferson Principal Danny Arellano distributes workbooks.

TONI DE ROSA

Wasco Tribune

The announcements that Thomas Jefferson and Palm Avenue Middle Schools were giving out Chromebooks to their students Tuesday April 14 through Thursday April 16 were found in the Tribune, on Facebook and Wasco Is.

This was good news to parents because students began the second phase of distance learning on Monday.

Cars began lining up outside of TJ around 9:30 a.m. for the beginning of the 10 a.m. distribution. In many vehicles, students were seated next to their parent, which gave them an opportunity to say hi to staff working at the distribution site.

Thomas Jefferson Principal Danny Arellano estimated that about 300 Chromebooks would be given out at TJ. "We have over 600 students, and about half have wifi at home," Arellano said. "The students are

WASCO

also able to pick up a packet of homework material, which includes the same information available on the Chromebook. The only difference between those with or without a Chromebook is that those with the Chromebook will be able to submit assignments through their device, while students who don't have a Chromebook will turn in their

completed packet of work. "Overall today we handed out approximately 290 Chromebooks with school work. We will continue the distribution for the next couple of days (I anticipate we will hand out at least another 100 by the end of the week)." Arellano said. "We will also be open next week in case students didn't get the information this week."

Arellano also said that he thinks some students will be able to get a "hot spot" off

See STUDENTS Page 4



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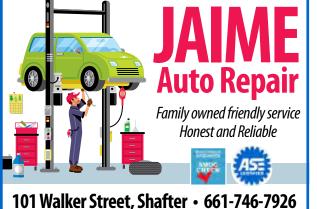


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"Because life is worth seeing"

Superstore keeps moving

TONI DEROSA

Wasco Tribune

With the onset of the coronavirus quarantine, stores are completely running out of items that used to be available in large quantities.

Wasco Superstore is one of the businesses that has been able to stay open during the lockdown of nonessential businesses. They are essential because the store usually has a large quantity of much-needed items to sell during a regular year. But this is not any regu-

lar year. The virus has affected this small business like so many others.

Upon entering the store, the customer is greeted personally by a clerk, who asks if there is anything you are looking for specifically because the newest guidelines indicate customers in stores should go in and out as quickly as possible without loitering or browsing. So, when Johanna Reyes asked if she could help find something specific, she explained it was because customers are not able to browse and walk around. A customer needs to get what he/she needs and leave.

Reyes is a Wasco resident currently attending the University of California, Davis. When classes closed, she returned to Wasco to be with family and began working at the Superstore. "I've worked here during summers," she said. "When I came home, I knew I would need to be doing something more than homework."



WASCO

"I'm grateful to have a job."

The store, which is known for its enormous toilet paper pyramid in the center of the store, was completely out of it, as well as many other items usually in stock. "Hopefully, we will get a shipment either this afternoon or tomorrow," she said.

She mentioned that during the first week of quarantine, shoppers came in and board quantities of items such as toilet paper, water and disinfecting products. During the second week of the quarantine, customers still were coming in to grab as much as they could;



In 2018, the owner's son, John Kim, posed in front of a toilet paper pyramid usually found in the middle of the store. They had none on Tuesday.

however, "by the third week of the quarantine, we were limiting purchases to one package of these items per customer."

Wasco Superstore is located at 817 7th St., and they can be reached at 758-1856. The store hours are now 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Students getting Chromebooks

From Page 3

their phone for internet access while others will continue doing their work on paper and workbooks.

Arellano recognized staff who helped with the distribution: Vice Principal Patrick Acosta, counselor Jose Solis, Academic Dean Hiram Lopez, Librarian Anna Flores, secretary Stacy Cash, office clerk Denise Leal, outreach liaison Cassandra Sanchez and campus monitor Margarita Ruiz.

Over at Palm Avenue, parents were also lined up waiting to reach the front of the line to pick up a Chromebook and homework packets.

Upon arriving at PA, Principal Oscar Luna was spotted assisting a parent with a jump start.

About halfway through the distribution time, Superintendent Kelly Richers was observing the operation in action. He also said that the distribution went smoothly and quickly.

Helpers with the distribution at Palm Avenue were secretary Elsa Gutierrez, clerk Melissa Melgoza, liaison Kim Rodarte, librar-





Principal Danny Arellano directs walking students to wait for a few minutes while he gets their packet and Chromebook.

Coronavirus strikes Lerdo Jail

It was confirmed last week that five officers at Lerdo Jail have tested positive for the coronavirus.

Kern County Detentions Officers Union Representative Dustin Alkire said in a statement on April 7 that the officers had tested positive for COVID-19 and are resting at home. He went on to say that they are doing well.

Earlier, Sheriff Donny Youngblood announced that there were 10 sheriff's office employees with the virus. Youngblood said, "All of the employees are being

SHAFTER

isolated and are receiving treatment."

To date, none of the employees have been hospitalized. The news comes on the heels of public questions about the amount of information the public is receiving from the Kern County Public Health Department. Several concerned citi-

zens have voiced that one

of the worst parts of the pandemic is not knowing everything that is going on. When Kern County first had residents test positive for COVID-19, the Health Department devised a map that grouped the county into regions, much like the geographical information given annually regarding Valley Fever.

According to Public Health Department Epidemiologist Kimberly Hernandez, "We have an obligation to protect the privacy of individuals affected by COVID-19 due to HIPPA laws. The more information we provide, other than the region in which the case is, the easier it becomes to identify one or more of the fected."

people who have been af-There have been 24 reported cases in the valley region, which includes Shafter, Wasco and other surrounding county cities.



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A special meal from Don Pepe's

JAMIE STEWART

The Shafer Press

Don Pepe's Restaurant and owner Jose Martinez not only cooked up good food this past week, but also cooked up some good old community spirit.

Martinez had decided to close its doors amid the coronavirus situation to redo the floors of the restaurant. Looking at what they had, Martinez decided that they would cook the food and give it away to the com-Residents started lin-

ing up at 10 a.m., and they served plates of food, including chile verde and enchiladas until 3 p.m. Martinez said that on Wednesday they served around 300 meals.

Don Pepe's has been a mainstay in Shafter for several years, with the restaurant having a rebirth in 2017 when Martinez took

SHAFTER it over, rebuilding an eat-

ery that had become stagnant under the old ownership.
"We love this communi-

ty, and we do everything we can to help them," Martinez On Thursday, there was

another line of people waiting for the to-go plates offered. With Chef Miguel Alcaraz and Manager Pedro Flores, the restaurant has been serving people all week. Originally the idea was to use up the food that they would have lost with their doors closed for the revamping. But the response was overwhelming, and the plan changed. "At first we were just going to cook up the food we had on hand, giving back to the community. But the response was so big that we ended up going out and buying more



worked last week to give back to the community.

looking forward to having

their doors open as soon

as possible and will always

food so we could finish off

Martinez said that he is

ed to have eaten a meal at

least three hours prior to

donating. Donors are also

encouraged to drink plenty

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Se Habla Español Walk-in welcome

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Sheriff's aide arrested at Lerdo

A sheriff's aide at the Lerdo Pre-Trial Facility was arrested following an investigation of suspected contraband distribution. Thirteen inmates also face charges, the Kern County Sheriff's Office reported.

Sheriff's aide Erik Belmontes was arrested on suspicion of unauthorized communication with an inmate, bringing a controlled drug into a jail, bringing a cell phone into a jail, possession of a controlled drug for the purpose of sales, conspiracy to commit a felony and participation in a criminal street

TONI DEROSA

Wasco Tribune

bus will be holding a blood

donation drive in Wasco on

Friday, April 17, in part-

nership with the Houchin

Community Blood Bank.

The goal is to help allevi-

ate shortages that have been

suffered due to the corona-

During this pandemic,

pressure has been put on

the local and national blood

supply. Donors are especial-

ly needed during this time,

so Houchin Blood Bank is

encouraging healthy donors

to please come forward to

They will be limiting the

number of donors on each

bus and implementing addi-

participate.

The Knights of Colum-

SHAFTER

Area blood drive Friday

WASCO

tional safety measures so it

will be a safe way to donate

and help our community at

aged to fill out a question-

naire before arriving at the

location by going to the

Houchin Blood Bank website or by scanning the QR

code located on the flyer

advertising the drive. You

can also visit HCBB.com to

from cold, flu and all signs

of infection; weigh at least

110 pounds. and have a

signed consent form if un-

der 16. All donors over the

age of 16 must bring a pic-

ture ID and are recommend-

Donors must be free

schedule an appointment.

Donors are encour-

this time of need.

Belmontes was booked into the KCSO's Central Receiving Facility with a bail of \$110,000 and placed on administrative leave, pending disciplinary proceedings, the KCSO re-

Lerdo Pre-Trial Facility inmates Gary Pierson, 39, and Deshaun Nicholson, 30, are suspected to be co-conspirators and face the same charges. Both inmates were also found to be

participants in a criminal street gang. Eleven other inmates were arrested

and charged with additional crimes committed in custody relating to suspicion of cell phones, illegal drugs and jail-made weapons, according to

The investigation began March 9 after detention deputies found illegal contraband. Additional contraband was then discovered by narcotics units.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is urged to contact the KCSO at 661-861-3110.



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'Tiger Trek' gives Wasco a lift

The blood drive will run

from 2 to 6 p.m. at 810 8th

St. For more information,

call HCBB at 661-323-

From Page 1

keep kids and families involved with each other during the Stay At Home order.

Since Wasco is a tiger town, she thought stuffed tigers would be more fitting than teddy bears. Sharp then contacted Tonia Cordova, who created a flyer to promote the event.

Sharp said Hailey Coyle of Wasco High Schoolgave her valuable feedback. Coyle told Sharp that they had already been planning a weeklong event called We Are Wasco and that the "Tiger Trek" would be a great addition. She then contacted the Orange Heart Foundation, Toys for Tigers and the Wasco High Associated Student Body, and the project came to fruition.

Each day of the week has a different theme. Beginning on Monday, residents were encouraged to create chalk drawings on their sidewalks and driveways.

To view the tigers that have been captured, search for the hashtag #WeAreWascoTigerTrek2020 on Instagram. Residents and others are encouraged to still take pictures of tigers that are on display and post the pictures online.



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Shafter Press and Wasco Iribune



SUN CLOSED

GARCIASAUTOREPAIRS



Video message: Follow the rules

JAMIE STEWART

The Shafter Press

The City of Shafter put out a promotional video message Monday, urging the residents to abide by the state and local mandates to stay at home except to go out for essentials and observing social distancing recommendations.

"We cannot underestimate the destruction that this virus can cause and the need to do whatever we can to stop this disease in its tracks," Mayor Gilbert Alvarado says



Mayor Gilbert Alvarado and the rest of the Shafter City Council put out a promotional safety message.

SHAFTER

in the video.

Councilmember Cathy Prout went on to say that the most important thing we can do as a city is to stay at home when all possible. "If we do need to go out for essentials, you need to keep at least six feet apart and wash your hands frequently. Also, use hand sanitizer on a regular basis."

Each of the councilmembers made statements that reemphasize that the city still is working for the city, with Michael James and the Public Works Department on the job and the Shafter Police Department out in full force.

The 3-minute video can be seen on the city's web site, shafter.com, and its Facebook page. City Project Manager Brittney Neal-Soberanis was responsible for the video.

Evidence that the city has started taking heed of the recommendations came on Easter Sunday when the city's parks, usually full of families celebrating the holiday, were empty. The parks throughout the city were closed to large gatherings, As the sun rose over the trees, the gazebo at Mannel Park, filled with worshipers and song in



The Gazebo at Mannel Park, usually full of worshipers on Easter Sunday, was empty for the first time in years as residents were discouraged from gathering in the city parks.

years past, was empty and still.

Those who have traveled in Shafter in the area of town by Apple Market and Richland Junior High have encountered a detour that is in place while the city is repaving Tulare Avenue, a job that is continuing during the pandemic. Beginning on April 12, Ryan Drive and Enns Road are closed at Tulare Avenue. Residences fronting Tulare Av-

enue have access to their homes via a oneway closure. Residents in the area north of Tulare should exit their neighborhood at Santa Maria Avenue. The closure on Tulare is from Reiker Avenue to 3/8 mile west of Reiker. There is no specific end date for the project, but the James said city workers are making the road repairs as quickly and efficiently as possible..

Another way to hunt for eggs — at home

From Page 1

names were drawn for three prizes. Stacy Munoz won a \$25 Subway gift card and Ruben Jimenez won a certificate for \$40 from the Generals Headquarters. They then drew Mary Echirebel's name as the winner

"There were so many kids disappointed that we were not able to hold our annual Egg Hunt at the Recreation Department. So, we decided to make sure to give them a different way to celebrate," Jimenez said.

"The children are already bummed being away from their friends with school being out for a couple of weeks already, and them not being able to go play with them or even visit. So, I thought that this would give them a chance have a little fun and do

Cars started lining up before noon for the event, which was scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. With the large number of vehicles

already in place, Jimenez and crew started handing the eggs out and were out of eggs in less than an hour.

Jimenez and staff followed all of the safety protocols put in place by the county, with the crew wearing masks and gloves when handing the eggs out.

Families had fun hunting the eggs at home, and several of the participants posted their hunts on the Recreation's Instagram and Facebook.

"I think this was such a great idea, and our kids had a blast. They were afraid this was going to be a boring Easter, but it turned out great," said Laura Montez, whose two children, Andre and

Jimenez said that he got the idea from the North of the River Recreation Department, which held a similar egg hunt in two locations. He said the Shafter event turned out so well that they might think about holding another virtual hunt next year.



Phillip Jimenez gives out eggs to families to hunt at home.



Hannah Ramirez and the Easter Bunny go over the instructions for the Quarantine Egg Quest.



Ingrid Huerta said that her kids had a very peaceful Easter with awesome weather.

Virus continues its attack on towns

From Page 1

center, which is the recommendation of public health experts," Anderson said.

Shafter has seen the majority of its stores and restaurants close or drastically reduce hours and services. A number of restaurants still are open for take-out orders only, or delivery for those who normally offer that service.

Keeping shelves stocked has been a challenge, but one that some locations have good supplies, such as Apple Market

By: /s/R Edmiaston

2, 9, 16, 2020

1409 Dover St

County: KERN

1409 Dover St

Delano, CA 93215

Publish Wasco Tribune March 26 April

PUBLIC NOTICE

Statement of Abandonment Of

Use of Fictitious Business Name

Air King

in Shafter. The store has worked to keep the store stocked with essential items that have become scarce in many parts of the county.

The number of arrests and stops by the Police Department have remained steady, or slightly even increased. The Kern Coun-

ty Sheriff's Office is limiting responses to non-life-threatening emergencies in the areas they cover, including Wasco and But-

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement **Towne & Country Liquor**

2020-B1690

1209 Hwy 46 Wasco, CA 93280 County: Kern Mailing address of business: PO Box 812 Wasco, CA 93280 Chahla Chahlah

15857 Cafaro Ct Bakersfield, CA 93314 Rami Shahla 608 Terrace Di Ramouna Chahlah 503 Shasta St

Taft, CA 93268 The business is conducted by: General Partnership Date the business commenced:

03/01/1993 A new Fictitious Business Name

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/Chahla Chahlah

Mary B. Bedard, CPA

Statement must be filed before the

Date Statement Filed: 03/04/2020 Date Statement Expires: 03/04/2025

Auditor-Controller-County Clerk By: /s/R Roberts-Martin Publish Wasco Tribune March 26 April 2, 9, 16, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE **Fictitious Business Name Statement** Air King 2020-B1692 622 High St

Delano, CA 93215 County: Kern Mailing address of business: PO Box 696 Delano, CA 93216 Luis Gilberto Reyes 1409 Dover St Delano, CA 93215 The business is conducted by: Indi-

Date the business commenced: 06/01/2019 A new Fictitious Business Name

Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of

another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions code.) /s/Luis Gilberto Reyes Date Statement Filed: 03/05/2020 Date Statement Expires: 03/05/2025 Mary B. Bedard, CPA,

Auditor-Controller-County Clerk

Delano, CA 93215 Luis Gilberto Reyes 1409 Dover St Delano, CA 93215 I declare that all the information in this Statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she

Mailing address of business:

knows to be false, is guilty of a Business was conducted by: Indi-/s/Luis Gilberto Reyes, Owner Original FBN Statement File Number:

2019-B3553 Original FBN Statement Filed on: 05/24/2019

This statement of Abandonment filed on: 03/05/2020 MARY B. BEDARD, CPA Auditor-Controller-County Clerk By: /s/R Edmiaston, Deputy Publish Wasco Tribune March 26

Fictitious Business Name Statement Wasco Chevron 2020-B1685 2033 Hwy 46 Wasco, CA 93280

PUBLIC NOTICE

County: Kern Mailing address of business: 2033 Hwy 46 Wasco, CA 93280 Wasco Food and Gas 103 N 10th St Taft, CA 93268 State of Incorporation or Organization: CA The business is conducted by: Corporation

Date the business commenced: 03/01/2012 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 com-

mon law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions code.) /s/Chahla Chahlah, President Date Statement Filed: 03/04/2020

Date Statement Expires: 03/04/2025 Mary B. Bedard, CPA,

Publish Wasco Tribune March 26 April

Mary B. Bedard, CPA Auditor-Controller-County Clerk Auditor-Controller-County Clerk By: /s/R Roberts-Martin By: /s/R Roberts-Martin Publish Wasco Tribune March 26 April

2, 9, 16, 2020

01/01/1990 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

The business is conducted by: Indi-

Date the business commenced:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Fictitious Business

Name Statement

Jug N Rose Liquor

2020-B1691

Mailing address of business:

103 N 10th St

Taft, CA 93268

County: Kern

103 N 10th St

Taft, CA 93268

Chahla Chahlah

15857Cafaro Ct

Bakersfield, CA 93314

rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions

/s/Chahla Chahlah Date Statement Filed: 03/04/2020 Date Statement Expires: 03/04/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement **Quiktrip Food and Gas** 2020-B1689

830 Center St Taft, CA 93268 County: Kern Mailing address of business: 830 Center St Taft, CA 93268 Quiktrip Food and Gas Corporation 830 Center St Taft, CA 93268

State of Incorporation or Organiza-The business is conducted by: Cor-

poration Date the business commenced:

12/01/2014 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/Chahla Chahlah, President Date Statement Filed: 03/04/2020 Date Statement Expires: 03/04/2025 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk By: /s/R Roberts-Martin Publish Wasco Tribune March 26 April 2. 9. 16. 2020

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Will's Trucking 2020- B1669

615 Kern St Apt 10 Shafter, CA 93263 County: Kern Mailing address of business: 615 Kern St Apt 10 Wilfredo Cordova 615 Kern St Apt 10 Shafter, CA 93263 The business is conducted by: Individual Date the business commenced: N/A

A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state or common law (see Section 14411 et seq., business and professions code.) /s/Wilfredo Cordova

Date Statement Filed: 03/04/2020 Date Statement Expires: 03/04/2025

Auditor-Controller-County Clerk

By: /s/R Edmiaston Publish Shafter Press March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 2020

> **PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business** Name Statement The Chef's Knife 2020-B1868

620 Hofman Dr. Shafter, CA 93263 County: Kern Mailing address of business: 620 Hofman Dr. Shafter, CA 93263 Jonathan Marklane Rhodes

620 Hofman Dr. Shafter, CA 93263 The business is conducted by: Indi-

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.)

Date the business commenced: N/A

/s/Jonathan Marklane Rhodes Date Statement Filed: 03/11/2020 Date Statement Expires: 03/11/2025 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk By: /s/M Hernandez Publish Shafter Press April 9, 16, 23,

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Paul's Typesetting & Graphic Design 2020-B2059

742 Pine Cone Street Shafter, CA 93263 County: Kern Mailing address of business: 620 Hofman Dr.

742 Pine Cone Street Shafter, CA 93263 Phillip Paul Arenas 742 Pine Cone Street Shafter, CA 93263

Date the business commenced: 01-A new Fictitious Business Name

The business is conducted by: Individual

Statement must be filed before the expiration. The filing of this state-

ment 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/Phillip Paul Arenas

Date Statement Filed: 03/25/2020 Date Statement Expires: 03/25/2025 Mary B. Bedard, CPA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk

By: /s/R Edmiaston Publish Shafter Press April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF SHAFTER

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE SUMMARY NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 7, 2020, the Shafter City Council adopted Ordinance No. 716. The following is the official summary of the adopted ordinance:

Summary of Ordinance No. 716: An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Shafter Adopting the Addendum to the Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted for General Plan Amendment No. 16-28 and Zone Change No. 16-63 and adopting the Amended and Restated Development Agreement No. 18-16 as set forth in Exhibit "1" of this Ordinance.

A printed certified copy of Ordinance No. 716 is available for inspection by any person at the office of the Shafter City Clerk, City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California. The ordinance was passed by the City Council on April 7, 2020, with the following vote: AYES: Alvarado, Givens, and Prout.

ABSENT: None ABSTAINING: Garcia and Lopez. Dated: April 9, 2020 Yazmina Pallares, City Clerk Publish Shafter Press April 16, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE SHAFTER CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 21, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of Shafter City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California, the Shafter City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider adopting a proposed resolution revising the user and regulatory fees and rates for various City services. Said hearing is open to the public and all persons interested are invited to attend and be heard. Project documents are on file and available for public review in the office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter California. Any person wishing to be heard, or wishing to present evidence either for or against the approval of said fees, is hereby notified and directed to either appear at the time and place aforesaid or send written comments to the City Council via Sylvia Granillo, Finance Accounting Manager ((661) 746-5001) at City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California 93263 or by e-mail at sgranillo@shafter.com. Should anyone challenge any proposed action which is the subject of a public hearing listed in this notice or otherwise, that person may be limited to raising those issues addressed at the public hearing, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at or prior to this public hearing. Dated: April 13, 2020 Yazmina Pallares Publish Shafter Press April 16, 2020

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PRESS

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- **3 FACE** Don't touch it
- 4 FEET Stay more than 3ft apart 5 FEEL sick? Stay home

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SHAFTER

Food banks help to fight hunger

The united effort between the community and county officials to bend the curve and combat COVID-19 continues to make substantial progress. The Board of Supervisors, public health officials, and key county agencies are working around the clock to ensure the Kern County's Emergency Operations Center functions at full capacity and that key stakeholders are updated on the county's emergency preparedness.

The EOC is tasked with ensuring local hospitals are preparing for possible surges in patients. Due to the resilience and community engagement displayed by the people of the county to overcome this hurdle, I am confident we will persevere through this pandemic.

To fight this invisible enemy, we must stay home, practice social distancing, and assist our most vulnerable residents in following the guidelines implemented by the California Public Health Department and Center for Disease Control. Please stay at home unless you are going to the store for essential items, remain 6 feet apart from people while in public to promote social distancing, and consistently wash your hands. The Kern County Public Health Department enforces these guidelines at a local level

and ensures nonessential businesses are closed and abiding by Gov. Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20.

Last week,

I discussed actions nonprofit organizations

and churches are taking to ensure the community receives food and other necessary supplies to assist during this time. Community Action Partnership of Kern Food Bank supplies over 150 food pantries and distribution sites, including many in District 4,

such as the Wasco Griffith Baptist Church, the McFarland Resource Center and Delano Memorial Park.

In addition, First Assembly Church of God in Delano and the Arvin Hispanic

To fight this invisible

enemy, we must

stay home, practice

social distancing,

and assist our most

vulnerable residents

Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Arvin City Council Member Olivia Trujillo, are organizing food banks to assist the community avoid food insecurity. Call 2-1-1 or check

the website (211kerncounty.org) for a list of food pantries and food distribution events in various communities throughout the district

Food banks continue to update information regarding hours of operation. The fol-

lowing is a list of CAPK food pantries in District 4:

- Buttonwillow Parks and Recreation District, 131 1st St., third Friday of the month 12.2 p.m.
- month, 12-2 p.m.
 Lost Hills Park and Recreation Building, Highway 46 at Los Hills Boulevard,
- third Friday the month, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

 Shafter CAPK, Shafter Youth Center, 455 Euclid Ave., fourth Thursday of the month, 11 a.m.-noon.
- Wasco Recreation and Parks District, 1280 Poplar Ave., fourth Thursday of the month, 10 a.m.-noon

If you have any questions, our office is working through this crisis, and we can help you get your business with the county moving forward. Just call us at 661-868-3680 or email us at district4@kerncounty. com. By working together, we will beat this

David Couch is a county supervisor in District 4, representing the Shafter-Wasco

virus and resume our lives. Be safe.

OBITUARIES

Marjorie Ann Smith Oct 4, 1925 – April 2, 2020

Marjorie Ann Smith, 94, was born on Oct. 4, 1925 and was called home by Our Heavenly Father on April 2, 2020. She is survived by her sons Don of Las Vegas

and Wayne (Kathie) of Shafter. grandchildren Brent (Debbie), Erik (Kate), Brandie (Damien),

Christopher (Joy), and Johnathon; also nine great grandchildren and sister Joy Logan. Her family and friends

were the joy of her life. They, in turn, felt blessed to have shared this love. Marge was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, Nathan Vern; and siblings Helen, Ruby, Paul and Tom.

Marjorie's early years was spent in the Maricopa/Casa Grande, Arizona, area.

Her father as an Arizona pioneer -- he owned the motel, grocery store and lumber yard in Maricopa after 1898. Graduating from North High School in 1942, she joined her older brother, Paul, in Washington D.C. where he was working as a Senate page for Sen. Earnest McFarland. After passing security and service exams, Marge worked for U.S. Attorney General Francis Biddle. Marge returned to the

Phoenix area in 1943 and enrolled in Phoenix College as a business major. Marge met Vern in the summer of 1943 while working at Luke Field. Vern and his squadron were training Chinese cadets to fly AT-6 and P40s. At that time, she worked closely with future Arizona Gov. Rose Perica, later Mofford, for the Arizona Tax Commission and Arizona Highways.

Marge and Vern were married on May 27,1945. In 1952, studies were resumed and was graduated from Arizona State University in 1955 with a degree in education. In 1956 Marge, Vern and the family moved to Shafter for Vern's work. Marge taught 4th grade at Richland Elementary School from 1956 to 1964.



David Couch

Upon returning to the Phoenix area, she took a job with the Madison School District. She first taught for a number of years, then became principal. Retiring in 1987, Marge continued within the Madison District as a consultant for another 13 years, serving as interim superintendent and administrator of federal programs.

Also serving five years with ASU-West supervising student teachers, she was appointed by Gov. Rose Mofford to a term on the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission. Marge was a member of the Tempe Women's Club.

A Celebration of Life will be planned for a future date.

Maudie Handel June 16, 1935 – March 5, 2020

On March 5, 2020, Maudie (Crabb) Handel passed away peacefully at the age of 84. She was surrounded by her children when she passed in her home in Cambria.

Born June 16, 1935, in Hollis, Okla., to Clifford and Vi Crabb. Maudie and her family moved to California in 1940. They ultimately settled in Shafter, where she became an integral part of the community and raised her loving family.

After raising her family, Maudie explored her interest in politics and began working for the Republican Party, where she was a part of campaigns for a California senator and a California assemblyman. After working in politics, Maudie began to explore here passion for healthcare by working for Kaiser Permanente as a Senior Advantage adviser, working to provide health-

care options for senior citizens.

Maudie was an ardent supporter of her family and friends, and enjoyed spending as much time as she could with them. She frequented all of her grand-children's sporting events, traveled extensively with her daughters and enjoyed hosting holiday gatherings with all of her family.

She was equally passionate about spending time with her friends. She loved to host and socialize at parties and could always be found engaging in a lighthearted and fun conversation with her friends. Her other passions included wine tasting, reading and suiting up to cheer on her beloved UCLA Bruins in all their sporting events. Family and friends can recall that her Bruin cheers could be heard by all her neighbors and all can recall how unfair the referees

Maudie was preceded in death by her parents and

her three brothers, James Crabb, Carroll Crabb and

Crabb, Carroll Crabb and W.R. Crabb.

She is survived by

her children, Kim Cooper (Rick), Bruce Handel (Joan) and Amy Handel; grandchildren Garrett Cooper, Kyle Cooper (Lana), Christopher Handel and Lindsee Handel; and one great grandchild, Madelynn Cooper.

Maudie was treasured and beloved by all, and we will always carry her in our hearts. A graveside service in memory of Maudie will be held on June 20 at 10 a.m. at Shafter Memorial

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Roy Densel Scroggins, Jr. Sept. 30, 1939 --

April 07, 2020
Roy Scroggins was born
Sept. 30, 1939, in Casa, Ark.
to Roy and Letha (McCourt)
Scroggins. He passed away
peacefuly on April 7, 2020,
in Bakersfield.

He is survived by his

*Terms & Conditions Apply

sister, Rachael Reynolds, of Wasco, and his cousin and caregiver, Ruby Hickman on Buttonwillow. Roy is also survived by many loving cousins. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Lois.

The family would like to thank The Rose Garden

Care Center tor the loving and compassionate care they gave Roy, and a special thank you to his hospice nurse, Josephine Granat.

Visitation was held April 1 at Peters Funeral Home, Shafter; a graveside service followed at Shafter Memorial Park.



DEATH NOTICES

Martin Roque Jr., 87, of Shafter, passed away April 11 in Shafter. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Thomas Wayne Brown, 68, of Bakersfield, passed away April 11 in Bakersfield. Peters Funeral Home,

Eliodora Espinoza, 85, of Shafter, passed away April 10 in Shafter. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

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