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THE SHAFTER PRESS

Wasco Tribune

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1921

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Mayor Garcia's lawyer: He was 'tricked'

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

Mayor Alex Garcia may have been lured into a meeting with individuals at a location in Bakersfield, perhaps with the intent to attack him based on his sexual orientation, his lawyer said in a statement Monday. Meanwhile, a fellow councilmember called for him to explain himself, "or resign."

"I advised him [Alex Garcia] not to make any statements because there are



Mayor Alex Garcia.

WASCO

a few investigations that appear to be ongoing. Based on the information we have available right now, it appears to be a situation where two individuals tricked Alex

and lured him to a location in Bakersfield and then attacked him," Jared Thompson, of the Bakersfield law firm of Humphrey & Thompson, said in a statement sent to the Wasco Tribune.

"The video that is circulating shows

felony conduct on the part of the individuals, not Alex. Based on Alex's sexual orientation, it appears that this could have been some kind of hate crime or homophobic attack. Essentially, we

See **MAYOR** Page 6

Why – and how – 'the brothers' met with Garcia

Devonn Bradley responded early Tuesday morning to a request for comment on the meeting between him, his brother and Wasco Mayor Alex Garcia last Wednesday night in Bakersfield. He described the altercation this way:

"We didn't meet up with him to fight;

we even told him we didn't want to hurt him. His claims are nonsense. He kept reaching into his bag as if he had a weapon. Naturally, anyone would defend themselves in that situation. Plus, this is a man who came to meet a 15-year-old. He also brought weed, a pipe, a full bottle

of alcohol, sex paraphernalia, and a bottle we looked up called 'poppers' with four to five pills floating at the bottom, which was very suspicious. Our theory is that he wanted to drug this kid and do things like he said in that audio recording."

See **WHY** Page 6



The Rising Stars were up to their name at the performance.

Children's Theater casts a spell at Ford

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

The Shafter Summer Children's Theater cast a spell on audiences this past weekend, performing "Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella" at Shafter's Ford Theater. The group spent two months preparing for the challenging production, filled with songs, dancing and acting.

The production featured the character of Cinderella, played by Rori Acres. Acres was at times shy and reserved, as well as always kind and gracious. For comic relief, look no further than the hilarious Evil Stepmother and her quirky daughters. The Stepmother was played by Izabella Rodriguez and her daughters were played by Emma Gonzalez and McKenna Castillo.

The show began with a performance by the Rising Stars, a group of younger kids who are cutting their teeth in theater, working to be sea-



The Prince and Cinderella.

soned performers before they enter into the Children's Summer Theater. The show was adorable with the cast playing mice who helped Cinderella find her way to the Ball to meet the Prince. They were led by the Head Mouse, who told them that they would have to turn into horses to get Cinderella to the dance.

In the main production, the Prince was played by Caleb Toews. His parents, the King and Queen, were played by Santiago Ramirez and Zoe Busby. Ramirez was a fraz-

zled father, trying to keep the event from costing a fortune, and keep the Queen happy at the same time.

Cinderella's Fairy Godmother was played by Ruby Rossetto, who was a mix of guardian, friend and mentor. Of course, the slipper eventually fits Cinderella, making her the bride of the tale to the Handsome Prince.

The company was led by long-time Children's Summer Theater leader Cris Starrh, who founded the group over 20 years ago.



Chad Givens and his wife, Venessa, was installed on Sunday morning as the new pastor for the Canyon Hills Shafter Church.

Chad Givens installed as new pastor

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

On Sunday morning, Shafter Mayor Chad Givens, along with his wife, Vanessa, were installed as the new pastors of the Canyon Hills Shafter Church.

Formerly the First Assembly of God Church of Shafter, the church was taken over by Canyon Hills a couple of years ago. Canyon Hills has campuses throughout Kern County.

Givens said that he has been certified by both the Pentecostal Church of God and Assembly of God Church for a few years. Givens was part of the Jesus Saves International Church and had been very active in the Youth Department, as well as the community involvement programs of the church.

When asked how long he had been thinking about the move, Givens said that it really wasn't his idea at first.

See **GIVENS** Page 4

Belton Banks retires from Cemetery Board

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

Belton Banks, who has spent over 30 years serving the community of Shafter, has announced that he will be retiring from the District 1 Cemetery Board at the end of his current term. Banks has served on the board for the last eight years.

In addition to the cemetery board, Banks has served on numerous boards and committees, as well as being involved in several clubs and organizations.

Belton Banks was raised in Shafter. He had a 32-year career in elementary and secondary education in Shafter teaching math and history, and as an administra-

SHAFTER

tor. Belton has spent years as a football, basketball, golf and diving coach. He has continued to in public service years after his retirement with his wife, Brenda.

Banks recently received proclamations from local politicians, including from Assemblymember Jasmeet Bains, who presented him with a State Assembly Certificate for his service.

Cemetery Director Eliza Caudillo highlighted his contributions. "Belton was an exceptional trustee, and his forte was his mathematical mind, love of his community and his desire to serve the Shafter-Wasco residents by always keeping in mind his stewardship as a trustee."



Belton Banks received awards for his service.

Community Calendar

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

ONGOING

Wasco cooling center – A cooling center is now open at the Old Court House, 810 8th St., 1-7 p.m. when temperatures hit 105 and above. Residents who are registered to the city system will be notified a minimum of two days in advance by text and a phone call when the center will be open. Call the city clerk's office at 661-758-7215 for information on how to register.

Shafter cooling center – A cooling center will be open 1-8 p.m. at the Walker Senior Center in Shafter when temperatures reach 105 and approved by the county. For more information, call Shafter Parks and Recreation, 661-746-3303.

Kids summer program – Free registration at Shafter Youth Center. Full or half days available Monday, June 3-Friday, Aug. 2, ages 6 and older. For more information, call 661-746-8235 or register online at capk.org.

Downtown Shafter Summer Fun Series – First Fridays Aug. 2, Sept. 6 and Oct. 4. 5-9 p.m. Live music, vendors and more.

Farmers Market – Downtown Shafter Square, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., every Saturday, until Aug. 31.

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

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

MONDAY

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

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

TUESDAY

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

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

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

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

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

for the lunch meetings.

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

WEDNESDAY

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

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

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

THURSDAY

Wasco High School board – Meetings the second Thursday of the month at 1900 7th St. in Room 202, or alternatively in Library Room 1101. Visit wuhs.wascouhsd.org for agenda information.

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

SATURDAY

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

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

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

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

Mystery history

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Here's this week's challenge, courtesy of the Shafter Historical Society. If you know the location, circumstances, exact or rough date and/or people in the photo, send your educated (or semieducated) guess to *The Press*, 455 Kern St., Suite E, Shafter, CA 93263, or e-mail it to mysteryphoto@TheShafterPress.com. Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** Handell's potato shed off Lerdo Highway in 1965



WASCO



Here's this week's challenge, courtesy of the Wasco Historical Society. If you know the location, circumstances, exact or rough date and/or people in the photo, send your educated (or semieducated) guess to *the Tribune*, 455 Kern St., Suite E, Shafter, CA 93263, or e-mail it to mysteryphoto@WascoTrib.com. Winners will be revealed here next week. **LAST WEEK:** Fannin's Standard Oil Service Station workers Joe Brown and Bob Campbell in 1949. They pumped gas and worked on cars.



CORRECTION

Due to a production error, pictures and captions for two stories on last week's print page 1 and continuations of the stories inside the paper were swapped. A corrected version is posted on TheShafterPress.com and WascoTrib.com. The Press and Tribune regret the error.

ARREST REPORT

SHAFTER

As reported by the Shafter Police Department

JULY 22

Juan Antonio Penarolas, 43, of Shafter, was arrested at Stone Avenue and South Shafter for possession of unlawful paraphernalia and a controlled substance, and on a bench warrant/failure to appear on a misdemeanor charge.

JULY 25

Daniel Morales, 30, of Shafter, was arrested at West Lerdo Highway and South Reiker Street for showing a false ID and proof of financial responsibility.

Emanuel Garcia, 29, of Shafter, was arrested in the 700 block of South Shafter Avenue on an outside agency warrant.

JULY 26

Miguel Angel Zamora Medina, 39, of Shafter, was arrested in the 700 block of South Shafter Avenue for bench warrant/failure to appear on misdemeanor charge.

BUTTONWILLOW

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

JULY 22

Jaime Zoma Hernandez, 26, of Lost Hills, was arrested in the 21100 block of Badger Street in Lost Hills for attempted murder, assault with a firearm on a person and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was booked into the Kern

County Jail.

Daniel Alejandro Martinez, 31, was arrested in the 700 block of F Street on a felony bench warrant. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Felix Martinez Santiago, 24, was arrested at the intersection of Parkside and Woodside for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

JULY 23

Noel Mesa Rosas, 29, was arrested at the intersection of Beckes Street and Jo Ellen for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Noah Lee Jackson-Harris, 22, was arrested in the 700 block of F Street on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He was cited and released at the scene.

Roman Manuel Olvera 35 was arrested at the intersection of 7th and D streets on a misdemeanor bench warrant.

JULY 24

Mercedes Marquez, 47, was arrested in the 500 block of E Street for assault with a deadly weapon and on a felony bench warrant. She was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Antonio Vasquez Rios, 50, was arrested in the 700 block of Griffith Avenue on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He was cited and released at the scene.

JULY 25

Benjamin Vera Raya, 36, was arrested in the 900 block of D Street for carrying a concealed dirk or dagger. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

JULY 26

Aurelio Martinez Montoya, 58, was arrested at the intersection of Central and Margalo streets on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He was cited and re-

leased at the scene.

Dario Saldana Sandoval, 41, was arrested at the intersection of Central Avenue and Margalo Street on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He was cited and released at the scene.

Daniel Alejandro Martinez, 31, was arrested in the 2600 block of Spruce Avenue for possession of unlawful paraphernalia and mail theft. He was

booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

JULY 27

Francisco Gonzalez Avalos, 47, was arrested at the intersection of North Palm Avenue and McCombs for evading a peace officer and possession of a controlled substance. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Davian Rosas, 20, was arrested at the intersec-

tion of Broadway and 9th streets on a misdemeanor bench warrant. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

JULY 28

Terrance Eugene Grinner, 28, was arrested at the intersection of Snapdragon and Poplar Avenue for driving under the influence. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

See ARREST Page 3

Wasco Tribune

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Teresa Burke welcomes new principal

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

For Jan Hummel, the newly hired principal of Teresa Burke Elementary School, the most rewarding part of her career in education has always been the deep connection she shares with her students.

"I tell people it's not important if you don't remember all your students' names throughout all those past years. What is impressive is when the students from all those years remember you; then you know you've really made a difference," she said. "When they come back and see you, it's the best thing. That's the best part ever."

Hummel enjoys working with elementary-age students immensely. "I love the hugs. They're always so happy to see you, and it's the excitement in their eyes when they are learning something."

Over the years, many special memories have stood out for her, particularly seeing her past students bring their own children to the school and come back to share their college and career successes. "I love to hear when they are going back to school to be teachers; that is my favorite."

Every day at work is a new adventure for Hummel, filled with passion and enthusiasm. "It's never boring. You never know exactly what the day holds for you. The only thing you can count on is that the students are there, and they are excited to see you and need you. All of the things you thought were important that day are not quite as important as helping those students through their day."

Born in Wasco and raised in McFarland, Hummel always aspired to become a teacher but doubted her intelligence to achieve this dream. Her journey began in a preschool, where she later became the director. Balancing full-time work and raising a family, Hummel pursued college classes, determined to reach her goal. At 42, she landed her first teaching position as a kindergarten teacher at John L. Prueitt Elementary School. "My dream had come true, and I was never happier," she recalls. For her service, she was honored as Teacher of the Year at JLP and recognized as the Leading Lady of Wasco by Assem-



Jan Hummel celebrating Principal Award recipients.

WASCO

blymember Nicole Parra in 2006.

Hummel transitioned into administration with encouragement from her principal, Joe Capilla, and her superintendent, Gary Bray. Her contributions to the school district include developing programs such as the ASES program, RTI process, KROP, Ready to Start and the King and Queen of the Rings Kindergarten High-Frequency Word Program. Her 15 years of administrative experience encompass 10 years as vice principal at Karl F. Clemens Elementary and Teresa Burke Elementary, three years as principal at Palm Avenue Elementary and two years as a district administrator.

Hummel's educational philosophy centers on the importance of people and

relationships. "Education is really about people and relationships, and every person in our district—whether parent, employee, or student—all have an important part to play," she emphasizes. These experiences have led her to her current role as Principal of Teresa Burke Elementary School, where she has served as vice principal for the past two years. During her tenure, the school staff has become a united team dedicated to academic excellence. "Our students are excited to come to school, and they are learning. Our test scores, school culture and attendance are all moving in a positive direction."

As principal, Hummel aims to continue building strong relationships with staff, students, parents and the community. Her dedication and care are evident in her commitment to her students' suc-

cess. "These relationships and a positive school culture are critical in developing a community of lifelong learners that can achieve their goals. I don't want a student to ever think that they are not smart enough to achieve their goals and dreams. If they work hard enough and we support them, they can do anything their heart desires. We all have a part to play in the lives and future of our students. They deserve the best, and it is my mission to ensure that they get our best."

Hummel is honored to be a part of the school's growth and development. "I know that we are ready to make monumental leaps and bounds to close achievement gaps that will ensure success for all students. I am excited to see the future for Teresa Burke Elementary, and I am proud to be a part of the journey."

Shafter holding low cost shot clinic



Newbie is still up for adoption.

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

The Shafter Animal Control will be holding a Low Cost Vaccine Clinic for Shafter dogs and cats on Saturday, Aug. 3, from 7 to 10 a.m.

Shafter residents are eligible to participate in the clinic, but an appointment is recommended for the event.

The cost is \$15 and includes FVRCP vaccine for cats, rabies vaccines for dogs and cats, and DHPP vaccine for dogs.

Free licensing also will be available for pets for one year with the special. There are dogs and cats in town who need to

SHAFTER

get up to date on their vaccines, and Animal Control Officer Nick Riddick and his staff have been working to get every pet in town up to date.

He said it is important to keep animals up to date and healthy, which helps the entire community. Sign ups are being taken at the Animal Shelter at 18849 S. Shafter Ave., or call 661-746-2140. The shelter has a number of cats up for adoption, and can be observed during regular hours, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesday from 1 to 7 p.m.,

Man sentenced in fatal Shafter crash

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

Edwin Sanchez, who was involved in a fiery crash in Shafter in August 2023, pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of vehicular manslaughter in connection with a deadly crash last year in Shafter and has been sentenced to probation and community service.

On the afternoon of Aug. 14, Sanchez drove a Ford Excursion west on West Lerdo Highway approaching Driver Road, according to a court filing. The Ford collided with an Infiniti Q50 in the intersection. Both vehicles caught fire.

The Infiniti's driver, Luis Andree Gallegos Prieto, 21, was pinned in the car and

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died at the scene, the filing says.

Police found a gray backpack near the crash scene containing Sanchez's cell phone, an empty 50-milliliter bottle of whiskey, two full whiskey bottles, an empty Modelo beer can and two medication bottles, according to the filing.

Even though alcohol was found at the scene and upon testing there was a detectable amount of alcohol in Sanchez's system, it was below .08, which is the legal limit in California.

Before pleading no contest to the lesser charge, Sanchez was facing a charge of felony vehicular manslaughter, which could have meant a lengthy prison sentence.



The 2023 crash resulted in the death of Luis Andree Gallegos Prieto.

ARREST REPORT

From Page 2

Arturo Romero, 23, was arrested at the intersection of 16th Street and Highway 43 for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Gerardo Romero Jr., 19, was arrested at the intersection Broadway Avenue and 8th Place for conspiracy to commit a crime, participating in a criminal street gang and possession of a firearm. He was booked into the Le-

erdo Justice Facility.

Luis Ramirez Ojeda, 27, was arrested at the intersection Broadway Avenue and 8th Place for conspiracy to commit a crime, participating in a criminal street gang and possession of a firearm.

He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Antonio Ocampo, 25, was arrested at the intersection Broadway Avenue and 8th Place for conspiracy to commit a crime, participating in a criminal street gang

and possession of a firearm. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Elijah Gonzalez, 33, was arrested at the intersection of Griffith Avenue and Cisco for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked

into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

Daniel Quintero-Sanchez, 49, was arrested in the 1500 block of 4th Street for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was booked into the Lerdo Justice Facility.

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Mayor Given's installed as new pastor

From Page 1

"I was approached by the Canyon Hills Church, who said that they were looking for someone from Shafter, who had a heart for the community and knew that they would be staying in Shafter and could build the church up.

"Venessa and I prayed long and hard about it, and came to the decision to take the position and challenge. We are very excited about the opportunity to serve the community of Shafter and help build this church into a strong and positive [influence] on the community and its youth."

Given's said that family has to be the focus of the effort, with the growing families in the community being a target for the growth of Shafter.

"With more families going to church together, it grows the community stronger and helps the city become one of the safest in Kern County, together with the other churches in town, law enforcement and the positive influence that our children enjoy in town."

The installation was attended by one of the largest crowds that they have had in 35 years, Given's said parishioner told him.

Diane Given's, the new pastor's mother, said that they are excited about the future. "Their love for Jesus Christ, family and the Shafter community is evident in the way they live and work to help others. They have a vision to see families grow in God's kingdom and be strong and blessed. We look forward to seeing what good things are in store."

Given's has a full time job, as well as serving as mayor. He also works with a new faith-based theater company, Shafter Com-



Pastor Chad Given's and his family.

munity Theater, that he helps direct.

"With Given's' drive and desire to help the community of Shafter grow in a positive way, the future seems to be bright

as they work to building a strong church that will reflect the light of the community," said Diane Weston, a church member.

Pedro T. Gutierrez

September 19, 1922 – July 15, 2024



All the family of Pedro T. Gutierrez would like to thank everyone who helped make our fathers passing more memorable during this difficult time. Pedro T. Gutierrez, passed away on July 15, 2024. Born on September 19, 1922, in Mercedes Texas. He missed his 102 birthday by 67 days. He was the last of all his siblings, by the grace of God he lived a long life. He will be greatly missed. We are sure he is happy to be home now.

Our family would like to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude for all the care the staff from Hoffman Hospice rendered to our father during his time at home on hospice care. All the nurses made dad's last days at home much brighter and comfortable up until his passing. For that we are very grateful.

Special thank you to Peters Funeral Home for all your support that helped us through this difficult time. Special thanks to Dad's Nephew David (Sonny) Benavidez, a servant of the Lord, gave the words of comfort at the service. Pictures of Pedro Trevino Gutierrez can be seen on the Peters funeral website.

We would like to also thank everyone who helped the family with the pot-luck food that was brought to help feed around 250 people that attended the reception after the funeral. Very special thank you to the helpers that helped serve everyone. Thanks to all the family members that were not able to attend for all your prayers and condolences.



Over 100 attended the installation of Chad Given's at Canyon Hills Shafter Church.

JAMES GARNER'S TRIBUTE TO

JOHNNY CASH

Live in Concert




1101 E Lerdo Hwy, Shafter, CA 93263

Returning to Shafter with 3 Shows!

Saturday, August 17 | 2 p.m.
Saturday, August 17 | 7 p.m.
Sunday, August 18 | 3 p.m.

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Get tickets at ShafterFordTheater.com | 661-630-4059

'Grab and go' drives big growth in meals

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

WASCO

The Seamless Summer Option program at James A. Forrest Elementary School served an average of 500 to 540 children each Wednesday in July. Using a "grab and go" system, parents could drive through to pick up four bags containing seven days of breakfasts and lunches for their child. The program ensures that any child between the ages of 2 and 18 receives nutritious meals even when school is out.

The Wasco Union Elementary School District food service director, Randy Jenkins, explained, "This summer, Wasco had a new opportunity.

They allowed us to do noncongregate feeding. Normally, students eat on campus, but because we are in a rural area, we got a 'grab and go' system."

Jenkins emphasized the program's benefits to the community. "We know inflation is high and making ends meet is hard. Now kids can get the meals they receive during the school year over the summer, which helps offset food costs for families."

He noted the district's longstanding commitment to serving students. "There has always been a need for this program, and not every school district opts into it. We have always had the mindset to open our doors to the students. It's been decades."

With the change away from noncongregate feeding, there was a surge in participation. "This was our first year of the 'grab and go', and it grew significantly from last year's traditional service in the cafeteria, from about 50 students a day to about 500. The convenience of staying in the car to pick up food for a whole week made a huge difference."

He measured the program's success by the weekly return of participants. "We set a goal of 500 and were unsure if we would reach it, but we met that need each week they came out."



Staff busy organizing healthy fruits and veggies for distribution.

Jenkins also highlighted the positive feedback from parents in the drive-through. "Especially for the staff because it's hot out there. We're working from 10:30 to 12:30 pm in triple-digit weather. They appreciate that we're out there in the heat passing out these meals. The kids are thrilled to receive the food. You can see it in their faces."

When asked how running the program makes him feel, Jenkins said, "It's great. It's something very dear to my heart to be able to feed kids in our community. You never know the personal stories of each child, but you do know that some kids go without food, and to be able to provide this service, hopefully, you can reach those students in need."

He said the most rewarding aspect is "feeding the most vulnerable among us. They can't make money for themselves, so being able to serve them with food is a joy."



Packed bags of food for fueling fun and learning all summer long.

Red Wagon Café

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NOW ACCEPTING DOOR DASH!

Haircuts and backpacks for kids at barbershop

VERONICA JACUINDE
Wasco Tribune

As the school year approaches, House of Fadez is hosting its annual back-to-school event on Sunday, Aug. 4, providing free haircuts and backpacks to low-income students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

House of Fadez opened its doors a few years ago and quickly became a local favorite. Owner Luis Contreras shared his connection to the event. "I remember how hard things were for my family when I was growing up, and I know how much small acts of support can mean. Now that I can help, a new haircut and backpack in time for school is important."

A friend he met in barber school inspired the event. "He put on a similar event that was very successful for almost 10 years. I saw that he was just one person and thought if he could do it, why not us?"

Contreras emphasized the significance of a fresh start for students. "Going back to school with a new haircut can boost confidence. It's the first day back, and first impressions mean everything. We want every student to start the school year feeling their best."

Last year, they provided 70 haircuts; this year, they aim for 100. With the growing demand this time, Contreras hopes every kid receives a backpack with their haircut. "The House of Fadez team welcomes donations from the community to help reach our goal," he said. "Every contribution makes a difference."

Those interested in contributing can drop off donations at the bar-



A young boy gets a fresh start with a free haircut at last year's back-to-school event.

WASCO

bershop. Contreras said any support, whether financial or in the form of school supplies, is greatly appreciated. He also noted that the barbershop will accept donations on the event day.

In addition to the event, Contreras is already considering other ways they can contribute. "In the future, I would like to organize a toy drive during Christmas so it's not just one time a year. We want to continue

finding ways to support our community year-round."

House of Fadez's commitment to the community is evident through its actions and plans. By hosting events like the Back-to-School haircut and backpack giveaway, it is making a significant impact on the lives of local students.

The event will take place at the House of Fadez barbershop, 1028 7th St., from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call Luis Contreras at 661-240-8224.

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2001574

KERN COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

SHAFTER-WASCO

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024
17621 SCOFIELD AVENUE
9 AM - 1 PM

Accepted Materials
Batteries | Motor Oil | Paints | Light Bulbs | Sharps | Pool Chemicals | Automotive Products | Cleaning Products & More!

Rules to Follow
• Label All Containers
• No Leaking Containers
• Do Not Mix Wastes
• Transport no more than 15 gallons or 125 lbs of waste per trip

TOO TOXIC TO TRASH!

Drive Up & Drop Off
• Drive up to the collection area, put your vehicle in park and turn off the engine
• Remain seated in your vehicle
• Attendant(s) will remove the household hazardous waste from your trunk or back seat
• Drive off

Business Waste **NOT** Accepted
Collection event may be cancelled due to weather conditions
THIS IS A FREE EVENT

"SCAN ME"
For more information about Residential Hazardous Waste KCPW's Programs & Services

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Mayor Garcia's lawyer says he was 'tricked'

From Page 1
hope that any criminal investigation would focus on that."

All major social media accounts for Wasco City Mayor Alex Garcia -- including on Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn -- were taken down Saturday, a day after a Facebook post emerged alleging that Garcia came to an arranged location to meet an adult posing as a 15-year-old boy "to do horrific things to the kid."

Bakersfield police confirmed they knew of the alleged incident, but little else.

"We have been made aware of the social media posts about Alex Garcia," Public Information Office Eric Celedon said in an email. "We have reached out to the person who posted the material to gain more information; however, we have not heard back. With that being said, we have no more information than the information posted. We also have no reports regarding the assault."

The original post, originating from a Facebook page called Bakersfield Crime Watch and written by "Davonn Bradley," claims that Garcia arrived with "poppers for him to try, he brought condoms, marijuana," and other sex paraphernalia. "Bradley" states in the post that he and his brother "have been setting up and playing as a 15-year-old boy and a 15-year-old girl."

A video accompanying the post clearly shows Garcia apparently arriving for the alleged meeting, where he is assaulted by

a man who seemingly arranged it. Parts of the audio are difficult to understand, but the dialogue reveals a heated exchange:

The voice of the unknown person says, "Come on, come on. No, no, no. Stop, come here. Come here. No, come here. Come over here.... Hey, Davonn, bring him over here..... Get your - over here. I won't hurt you if you listen, bro; I won't hurt you.... You better - listen, bro. I just want you to - talk ... get your - over here ... You want the police to come? ... Bring your - over here. I just want to - talk ... Stop. Just stand right here then ... take that bag off bro ... so what did you want to do (muffled) ... did you want to (muffled) ... hurt little kids (muffled) ... yeah, you did ... don't - lie to me ... that's what you doing to little kids and - come on, let's go ... don't you touch no - little boys no more, - no, come on ...let's go ... I still want to ask you one more question ... If you run, I swear to God, I'm going to hurt you, I got something on me that could really hurt your life right now."

"I'm sorry. Please no. I never will," Garcia responds when confronted in the video. He continues, "No. I won't." It is unclear why Garcia made these statements.

Questions remain about why Garcia showed up for the meeting, how "Bradley" arranged it, and why he and "his brother" posed as a 15-year-old boy instead of reporting any alleged crimes to the police. The nature of the threat in the video also raises concerns: "I got something on me that could really hurt your life right now."

As of Monday night, "Bradley" had not responded to attempts to reach him for comment.

Wasco City Manager Scott Hurlbert's office distributed a press release on Monday.

"The City of Wasco is aware of the social media posts involving Mayor Alex Garcia. The locations referenced in the posts are believed to be in the City of Bakersfield.

The Wasco Police Department has been in communication with the City of Bakersfield, and the Bakersfield Police Department has attempted to contact the parties responsible for the social media posts.

"The Bakersfield Police Department will handle all media inquiries and accept information provided by the public on this matter. The City of Wasco is very concerned about these allegations and will continue to cooperate with the Bakersfield Police Department and any other agencies to ensure all the facts in this matter are brought to light quickly."

When contacted on Monday, members of the council would not comment, referring to the statement from the city manager's office. But Councilmember Vincent Martinez chastised Garcia in an email statement to the Tribune on Tuesday afternoon:

"I am aware of the disgusting and disturbing allegations against our mayor," he said. "I have sat here and remained quiet

the last several days awaiting a response or resignation from you."

"You are the reason people don't trust their government. You hide behind an attorney and play the victim without any explanation. You want to hide behind procedure to save your seat on the council. Just like in the past, you are using an attorney to avoid making a public statement. Since when does a victim of a crime hire an attorney before going to law enforcement to report the crime? You are not behaving like a victim and you are destroying the credibility of past and future victims with your mockery of the system."

"You continue to embarrass the city you are elected to serve with your silence."

He concluded with a call for him to step down. "Explain this situation so it makes sense or resign. It is that simple," he said.

Garcia has had at least one behavioral issue before. In May 2021, the then-mayor was arrested for driving under the influence and subsequently pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of alcohol-related reckless driving. The City Council voted to remove Garcia as mayor, not as an elected councilmember, but he was re-appointed unanimously in December for a second term as mayor.

A recently married realtor, Garcia made history as the first openly LGBTQ+ official elected in Kern County. He was one of four candidates for Kern County Supervisor in District 4 earlier this year.

Why – and how – 'brothers' met with Garcia

From Page 1

He went on, "We just catch predators, ask them why and what they're doing here, and release the videos to the public so people know who they are and can report them. We've done this many times before, but it's the mayor this time, so it's much bigger."

Devonn Bradley and a lifelong friend who he calls his "brother," who goes by "Wess," connected with Garcia on the gay dating app Sniffies. Bradley says he communicated with Garcia for two days before meeting in Bakersfield. Both Bradley and Wess say they are 26.

Wess tried to explain why they were

doing these setups.

"I grew up rough, surrounded by a lot of negativity, but I'm a changed man now. I have kids of my own whom I love deeply with my whole soul. We saw these videos circulating on Twitter, Instagram and YouTube and decided to try them in different cities. We just happened to catch one in Bakersfield, and discovering it was the mayor is still so insane — it blows my mind."

Bradley provided the Tribune with a screenshot of a \$25 Cash App payment he claims to have received from Garcia while posing as the 15-year-old boy. This payment was allegedly intended to silence him.

"We were texting in the morning the day we were going to meet, and because I didn't respond for a couple of hours, I think he got nervous. Then I texted back, and he said, 'I thought you were going to tell on me, but you weren't, so I have a surprise for you.' Then he asked me if I had a Cash App account; if I didn't, he could help me make one. But I told him I had one, so he asked for my Cash App name. I gave it to him, and he sent \$25, putting 'sorry' in the description, apologizing for thinking I was reporting him to someone."

Additionally, Bradley shared with the Tribune a Snapchat audio clip containing profanities that he claims features Garcia's

voice – confirmed by several individuals who know the mayor – making explicit comments and sounds directed toward the minor.

He also provided screenshots of what he alleges are text exchanges between the minor and Garcia on the Sniffies app.

In the exchange, Bradley maintains that Garcia says, "Looking for younger," while he, posing as the minor, says, "I'm super young, though. Is that OK?" Garcia responds, "Hellaaa. Daddy loves it," and Bradley responds, "I'm under 18."

Bradley asserts that even after Garcia realized he was engaging with a minor, he still agreed to meet.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF DATE FIXED
FOR SUBMISSION OF
ARGUMENTS
ON THE WASCO UNION HIGH
SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED
AT THE GENERAL ELECTION
TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 5, 2024
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the Wasco Union High School District of Kern County, California, that on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 there will be a measure submitted to be voted upon:

To attract quality teachers and prepare students for careers / college by upgrading school safety, active shooter preparedness, fire systems, vocational job training / gym facilities; provide safe drinking water; acquire, construct, repair facilities, sites, equipment shall Wasco Union High School District's measure authorizing \$35,400,000 in bonds at legal rates, levying 3¢ per \$100 assessed valuation, raising \$2,700,000 annually while bonds are outstanding, be adopted, requiring oversight / spending disclosures, all funds for Wasco Union High School? Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 9163 and 9316 of the Elections Code of the State of California, that August 12, 2024, is hereby fixed as the final date on which direct arguments, not to exceed 300 words, for or against any local measures may be submitted to the Elections Division, Administrative Building, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California 93301, for printing and distribution to the voters as provided by law, for the November 5, 2024, Election.

Aimee X. Espinoza,
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
Una copia de este aviso en español está disponible de la División de Elecciones, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Publish Wasco Tribune August 1, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business
Name Statement
Kern Geeks Electronics
Repair Service
2024-B4500
906 Main St
Delano, CA 93215
County: Kern
2035 Lupine St
Delano, CA 93215
Carmen Herrera
2035 Lupine St
Delano, CA 93215
The business is conducted by:
Individual
Date the business commenced:
07/01/2024

/s/Carmen Herrera
Date Statement Filed: 07/19/2024
Date Statement Expires:
07/19/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Torralba
Publish Wasco Tribune July 25,
August 1, 8, 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fictitious Business
Name Statement
Un Cafecito
2024-B4326
2224 Via Calibria
Delano, CA 93215
County: Kern
2224 Via Calibria
Delano, CA 93215
Tomas Ayon
2224 Via Calibria
Delano, CA 93215
The business is conducted by:
Individual
Date the business commenced: N/A
/s/Tomas Ayon
Date Statement Filed: 07/11/2024
Date Statement Expires: 07/11/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Torralba
Publish Wasco Tribune July 18, 25,
August 1, 8, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
SUMMONS (Family Law)
CITACION (Derecho familiar)
NOTICE TO RESPONDENT
(Name):
AVISO AL DEMANDADO
(Nombre):
Angel Emilio Ponce
You have been sued. Read the information below and on the next page.
Lo han demandado. Lea la información a continuación y en la página siguiente.
Petitioner's name is:
Nombre del demandante:
Karen Clara Ponce Dominguez
CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DE CASO) SFL-24-000134
You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you.
If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs.
For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at

the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local bar association.
NOTICE--Restraining orders are on page 2: These restraining orders are effective against both spouses or domestic partners until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. They are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them.
FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.
Tiene 30 días de calendario después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-120) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo.
Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte también le puede ordenar que pague manutención, y honorarios y costos legales.
Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org), o poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.
AVISO--Las órdenes de restricción se encuentran en la página 2: Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos cónyuges o miembros de la pareja de hecho hasta que se despidan la petición, se emita un fallo o la corte dé otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de estas órdenes puede hacerlas acatar en cualquier lugar de California.
EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.
The name and address of the court are: (El nombre y dirección de la corte son):
Superior Court of California, County

of Kern
325 Central Valley Hwy
Shafter, CA 93263 North Division
The name, address, and telephone number of petitioner's attorney, or petitioner without an attorney, are: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son):
Karen Clara Ponce Dominguez
1943 2nd St
Wasco, CA 93280
661-370-5556
Date (Fecha): 6/12/2024 3:22PM
Clerk, by (Secretario, por) Tara Leal
Deputy (Asistente) Erica Bravo
Publish Wasco Tribune July 18, 25,
August 1, 8, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE
T.S. No.: 200-019688 Title Order No. 91229981 APN: 488-172-12-00
Property Address: 2433 JO ELLEN COURT, WASCO, CA 93280
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 7/27/2023. 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 of the Trustor's interest will be made to the highest bidder for lawful money of the United States, payable at the time of sale in cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, cashier's check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or 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, 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: ALFREDO PADILLA, A MARRIED MAN, AS HIS SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY

Duly Appointed Trustee: PLM LOAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. Recorded 8/3/2023, as Instrument No. 223092293, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Kern County, California, Date of Sale: 8/7/2024 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: At the front entrance to the City Hall located at 1501 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$111,777.98 (estimated as of the first publication date)
Street Address or other common designation of real property: 2433 JO ELLEN COURT WASCO, CA 93280 A.P.N.: 488-172-12-00
The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". 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. 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. The following statements; NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS and NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER are statutory notices for all one to four single family residences and a courtesy notice for all other types of properties. 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 (844)477-7869 or visit this Internet Website www.stoxposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 200-019688. 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 an "eligible tenant buyer," you can 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 (844)477-7869, or visit this internet website www.stoxposting.com, using the file number assigned to this case 200-019688 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, 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 an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Date: 7/9/2024 PLM LOAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., as Trustee Phone: 408-370-4030 5446 Thornwood Drive, Second Floor San Jose, California 95123 Elizabeth Godbey, Vice President
Publish Wasco Tribune July 18, 25,
August 1, 2024

PETS OF THE WEEK

Your new best friend awaits

Meet Luke, a lovable 1-2-year-old male husky mix with piercing blue eyes and soft, shiny fur. He's friendly, great with staff and other dogs, and ready to find his forever family. At the time, it is unknown if Luke is house/crate trained, and his behavior towards children is also unknown. Luke will be available for adoption on Thursday, Aug. 1, and fees will be waived. Adopt Luke today and bring home a loyal, furry friend!

Everyone is welcome to adopt from our facility, and we like to give everyone the same opportunity to adopt. Adopters can be from out of town and/or local. We do not place holds for adoptions. Adopters are responsible for transportation.

Adoptions are on a first-come, first-serve basis, beginning at 8 am on the date they are available. You are welcome to call us the day before their availability to ensure the pet is still for adoption.

More information is available by emailing rifigueroa@cityofwasco.org.

-Wasco Animal Shelter



PASTOR'S CORNER

Finish strong

PASTOR JIM GLASCO

Seventh Standard Pentecostal Church

In 2nd Timothy 4:7, Paul said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Paul had faced many troubles and trials, and now the time of his departure had come. It was time to lift anchor and set sail to be with the Lord. He had fought a good fight and he finished his course strong. He had given his all in the word of the Lord.

Don't quit, finish strong. The Bible says there will be a departure from the faith in the last days. We are on the final lap, finish strong. Galatians 5:7 says, "you did run well, who hindered you that you should not obey the truth? Who or what is slowing you down? Finish strong!

The Christian race is not a sprint, it's a marathon. Ecclesiastes 9:11 says, "the race is not to the swift." It's easy to start, but it's another thing to finish strong. For Paul, to finish strong meant not allowing the past to destroy his future. Paul forgot those things that were behind him, and he pressed forward. Forgetting is not amnesia; it's trusting in God's forgiveness. Olympic champion Jesse Owens once said, "There's something that happens to all of us, the instinct to slack off to give into the pain. He said, you have to go to the limit and past your limit."

Finish strong! You must persevere



as you run this Christian race. The race is filled with many obstacles but we must determine that we will finish our race strong. Winston Churchill said "Never give up, never give up, never, never, never." Finish strong and run your race with patience.

If you can't see Heaven's finish line then you are too occupied with this world. The closer you get to God, the smaller everything else appears. Finish strong and run this race in faith. In 1972, at the Olympics in Munich, Dave Wottle started slow in the 800 meters but he finished strong as he crossed the finish line in first place. Galatians 6:9 reminds us, "Let us not be weary in well doing for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Don't quit, finish your race strong and one day God will say well done My faithful servant."

Finish strong!

DENTAL Insurance

It doesn't matter what dentist you see, we can help pay the bill. Get **dental insurance** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company.



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Product not available in all states. Contact us to see the coverage and offer available in your state. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation including costs and limitations. This specific offer is not available in CO. Call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for a similar offer. In WV: To find a provider in the network visit us at <https://www.physiciansmutual.com/web/dental/find-dentist>. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E); Insurance Policy P150; Rider Kinds B438/B439. In CA, CO, ID, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MO, NV, NJ, NC, ND, VA: Includes Participating Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Certificate C254/B465 (PA: C254PA); Insurance Policy P154/B469 (GA: P154GA; OK: P154OK; TN: P154TN). 6323

DEATH NOTICES

Theodore Ayala, 60, of Shafter, passed away July 17. Peters Funeral Home, Shafter.

Jesus Cristobal Aragon, 60, of Wasco, passed away June 26, in Wasco. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Juana Perez Mendoza, 85, of Wasco, passed away July 10, in Wasco. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Beverly Cavasos, 61, of Bakersfield/Buttontwillow, passed away July 11, in Bakersfield. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Geraldine Richert, 95, of Bakersfield, passed away July 13, in Bakers-

field. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Manuela Lerma, 84, of McFarland, passed away July 15, in McFarland. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Febe Escobar, 55, of Shafter, passed away July 23, in Los Angeles. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Gilberto Valencia Heredia, 69, of Wasco, passed away July 19, Wasco. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

Rodolfo Castillo Guzman, 87, of Wasco, passed away July 4, Wasco. Basham & Lara Funeral Care, Shafter.

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CLASSIFIEDS

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1 SHAFTER YARD SALE

FAMILY YARD SALE

Saturday, Aug 3rd. 7am-12noon. Furniture, Clothing, Antiques & much more. 217 E Marengo, Shafter

2 AUTO/MOTORCYCLES

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5 MISC. FOR SALE

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited

time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-888-989-5749 (Cal-SCAN)

MISC FOR SALE

Saturday, August 3rd 10am-1pm. In alley behind 588 E Lerdo Hwy, Shafter. (i.e. 4 Diamond Office Serv) Large Dayton Bench Grinder, new 2 stage MasterCool Cooler, new 50 gal. gas water heater, Heinemann plywood saw & much more.

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-877-252-9868 (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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6 MISC WANTED

BE WARY OF out of area companies. Check with the local Better Business Bureau before you send any money for fees or services. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

9 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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BIG JOE'S POOL SERVICE
Shafter/Wasco Bakersfield
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Jesus 661-203-4297
Se Habla Español
Lic#1043948

WATER DAMAGE RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our

trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-248-0815. Have zip code of service location ready when you call! (Cal-SCAN)

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SMALL Shafter 2 bed, 1 bath house, fenced yard, washer/dryer hookup, \$1200 month. No pets, no smoking. 661-340-7339. 1512

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Loan Officer, DRE#01174802 • NMLS#242213
(661)758-3003
Cell: (661)303-9556
Fax: (661)758-3670
1136 7th Street • Wasco, CA 93280
E-mail: knapp_she@yahoo.com

17 REAL ESTATE

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17 REAL ESTATE

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1617 1st - 3/1 • \$304,000
PENDING - 1109 Griffith Ave - 3/2 • \$324,000
624 Poplar Ave • \$309,000

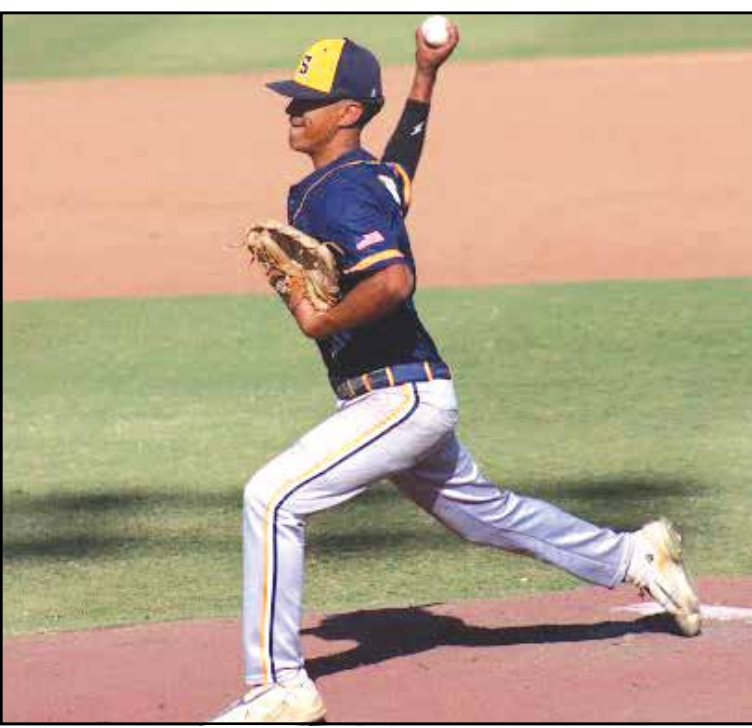
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SHAFTER	WASCO	DELANO
4/2 • \$2350	3/1 House • \$1800	4/2 • \$2000
	2/1 Apt • \$1050	
	1 bd Apt • \$900	

Anna Mellon
Wingate Real Estate Services • Wingateres.com
PO Box 802 - 1701 Hwy 46, Wasco CA, 93280
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Classified Advertising

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS.



Matteo Martinez is on the First Team All Area baseball team. RIGHT: Sara Jane Osborne was part of the medal-winning Lady Generals.

Accolades keep coming for SHS sports

JAMIE STEWART
The Shafter Press

The Shafter High Spring Sports programs continued to receive honors, with several of their athletes being named to the BVarsity All Area Spring Sports teams.

On the track, sophomore Jocelyn Pierucci received a First Team award for the All Area Track team, recognizing her outstanding sophomore season in the throwing ring. Pierucci won the South Sequoia League titles in both the discus and the shot put this year, dominating her competition, winning some events by several feet.

Pierucci then got first place in the Central Section meet, qualifying her for the Central Section Masters meet at Buchanan High School. This meet determines who qualifies for the State Track meet. Pierucci just missed qualifying for a State bid, coming in fourth in the event at the Section meet.

Shafter High also had the most historic baseball team in school history, as the Generals won the Central Section title for the first time in history. The team came in seeded fourth, beating a team from Mirantes in the first round. In the second



Jocelyn Pierucci was named to the First Team All Area team in track.

SHAFTER

round, they beat a team from Firebaugh, setting up a game with rival Wasco. The Generals beat Wasco, getting them to the championship game against Madera Matilda Torres. Shafter blanked the Toros 8-0 for the Section championship. This qualified them for the school's first trip to the State tournament. Shafter beat Ea-

gle Rock, setting up a game with SSL foe Chavez High, who beat the Generals in extra innings. The Generals ended with one of their stars, pitcher Matteo Martinez being named to the All Area First Team. The Generals also had two other athletes make the All Area teams for their respective sports. Zale Mantas made the First Team All Area team for golf, as he became the first Shafter golfer to qualify

for the Regional golf tournament in its history. Sara Jane Osborne became the first swimmer from Shafter High School to qualify for the State Swimming meet. Osborn was named to the All Area First Team for Swimming, along with teammate Josephine Martin, who was named to the All Area Second Team. Osborn won SSL titles in two events, as well as winning a Section title in the Freestyle event.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Shafter True Value 2024-B4530

113 Central Valley Hwy
Shafter, CA 93263
County: Kern
113 Central Valley Hwy
Shafter, CA 93263
Shafter Hardware Store Inc.
113 Central Valley Hwy
Shafter, CA 93263
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by:
Corporation
Date the business commenced:
10/22/2018
/s/Saleh Ali, CEO
Date Statement Filed: 07/22/2024
Date Statement Expires:
07/22/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Torralba
Publish Shafter Press August 1, 8, 15,
22, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement La Carne Meat Market 2024-B4316

327 State Ave
Shafter, CA 93263
County: Kern
422 James St Suite #11
Shafter, CA 93263
La Carne Meat Market
422 James St Suite #11
Shafter, CA 93263
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by:
Corporation
Date the business commenced:
08/19/2021
/s/Hugo Garcia, C.E.O.
Date Statement Filed: 07/11/2024
Date Statement Expires: 07/11/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Cedenro
Publish Shafter Press August 1, 8, 15,
22, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice of Petition to Administer Estate of: Della Louise Diamond Case Number: BPB-24-002893

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Della Louise Diamond
2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Linda Victory in the Superior Court of California, County of: Kern
3. The Petition for Probate requests that: Linda Victory be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
4. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration

authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

6. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

a. Date: 08/30/2024 Time: 8:30a.m. Dept.: J-1
b. Address of court: Superior Court of California, County of Kern, 2100 College Avenue, Bakersfield, 93305.
7. If you object to the granting of the petition you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

8. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

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

10. Attorney for petitioner: Robert H. Brumfield, III
1810 Westwind Drive, Suite 100
Bakersfield, CA 93301
661-316-3010
Publish Shafter Press August 1, 8, 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF SHAFTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on August 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of Shafter City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California, the Shafter Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider the following: Tentative Tract 6704: A request for a two-year extension of time for this map proposing to subdivide 39.86 acres into 102 single-family residential lots ranging in size from 10,817 square feet to 15,524 square feet and a sump lot. The project site is located on the northeast corner of North Beech Avenue and East Fresno Avenue. The City of Shafter adopted a Negative Declaration for Tentative Tract No. 6704 on March 07, 2006 (Resolution No. 06-1823). The two-year extension of time, in accordance with the Shafter Subdivision Ordinance and Subdivision Map Act, would move the map expiration date to March 07, 2027.

Said hearing is open to the public and all persons interested are invited to attend and be heard. Copies of the above documents are on file in the office of the Planning Department at City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California, and are available for public review. Any person wishing to be heard or wishing to present evidence either for or against the approval of said project, is hereby notified and directed to either appear at the time and place aforesaid or send written comments at or prior to the meeting to Alan Cazares, Senior Planner in Training, at City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California 93263. Comments can also be provided by calling 661-746-5002 Extension 5020 or by e-mail at acazares@shafter.com. Should anyone challenge any proposed action which is the subject of the meeting listed on this notice, that person may be limited to raising those issues addressed at the meeting, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk at or prior to the meeting.

You are encouraged to observe the Planning Commission meeting live via YouTube https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofShafter/. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item or public comment, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, to the City Clerk at CityClerk@shafter.com. If you wish to make a written comment please submit your comment to the City Clerk, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, CA 93263. If you wish to make a comment during the live meeting by joining the conference via Zoom (include making live comments during the public comment period), callers must first register with the City Clerk at CityClerk@shafter.com before the meeting begins to receive instructions and the call-in number and code. All public comments are provided to the Planning Commission and applicable Staff, for review and consideration by the Commission prior to taking action on any matters listed on the agenda and are incorporated into the official record of the Planning Commission meeting.

Yazmina Pallares, City Clerk
Dated: July 08, 2024
Publish Shafter Press August 1, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE SHAFTER PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on August 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of Shafter City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, California, the Shafter Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider the following: Land Conservation Contract No. 24-32: Timothy W. Leslie, as Trustee of the William F. Leslie and Mary Jean Leslie Revocable Trust Dated July 24, 2013, is requesting to enter a land conservation contract pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 (also known as the Williamson Act), California

Government Code Section 51200, et seq., for an approximately 33.87-acre parcel (APN 090-020-14). The Williamson Act is a California law that provides relief of property tax to owners of farmland and open-space land in exchange for a 10-year agreement that the land will not be developed or otherwise converted to another use.

Said meeting is open to the public and all persons interested are invited to attend and be heard. Any person wishing to be heard or wishing to present evidence either for or against the approval of the project, is hereby notified and directed to either appear at the time and place aforesaid or send written comments at or prior to the meeting to the City Clerk at City Hall, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, CA 93263. Should anyone challenge any proposed action which is the subject of the meeting listed on this notice, that person may be limited to raising those issues addressed at the meeting, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Clerk at or prior to the meeting. You are encouraged to observe the Planning Commission meeting live via YouTube https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofShafter/. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item or public comment, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, to the City Clerk at CityClerk@shafter.com. If you wish to make a written comment please submit your comment to the City Clerk, 336 Pacific Avenue, Shafter, CA 93263. If you wish to make a comment during the live meeting by joining the conference via Zoom (include making live comments during the public comment period), callers must first register with the City Clerk at CityClerk@shafter.com before the meeting begins to receive instructions and the call-in number and code. All public comments are provided to the Planning Commission and applicable Staff, for review and consideration by the Commission prior to acting on any matters listed on the agenda and are incorporated into the official record of the Planning Commission meeting.

Dated: July 23, 2024
Yazmina Pallares, City Clerk
Publish Shafter Press August 1, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF DATE FIXED FOR SUBMISSION OF ARGUMENTS ON THE BUTTONWILLOW UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 5, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the Buttonwillow Union School District of Kern County, California, that on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 there will be a measure submitted to be voted upon:
To update school facilities with modern technology, repair roofs, make path of travel and play surface improvements, and renovate classrooms and other school facilities, shall the Buttonwillow Union School District measure

authorizing \$4,000,000 in bonds, at legal interest rates, and levying approximately \$10.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation (raising \$331,000 annually) while bonds are outstanding, be adopted, with a board appointed citizens' oversight committee and annual independent audits to assure proper expenditure of funds?

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 9163 and 9316 of the Elections Code of the State of California, that August 12, 2024, is hereby fixed as the final date on which direct arguments, not to exceed 300 words, for or against any local measures may be submitted to the Elections Division, Administrative Building, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, California 93301, for printing and distribution to the voters as provided by law, for the November 5, 2024, Election.
Aimee X. Espinoza,
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
Una copia de este aviso en español está disponible de la División de Elecciones, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Publish Shafter Press August 1, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Bumble Tea and Cafe 2024-B4193

5601 California Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93309
County: Kern
5601 California Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93309
Bumble Tea and Company LLC
11407 Hyde Park Dr
Bakersfield, CA 93314
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by:
Limited Liability Company
Date the business commenced: N/A
/s/Apolinario Mendoza, Managing Partner
Date Statement Filed: 07/05/2024
Date Statement Expires: 07/05/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Torralba
Publish Shafter Press July 25,
August 1, 8, 15, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Ridgeview Agronomics 2024-B4272 Ridgeview Agricultural Resources 2024-B4273

4600 Ashe Road, Ste 316
Bakersfield, CA 93313
County: Kern
4600 Ashe Road, Ste 316
Bakersfield, CA 93313
Pine Mountain Brokerage LLC
4600 Ashe Road, Ste 316
Bakersfield, CA 93313
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by:
Limited Liability Company
Date the business commenced:
12/26/2014
/s/Steven Rodriguez, Authorized Agent
Date Statement Filed: 07/10/2024
Date Statement Expires:
07/10/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza

Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: M Torralba
Publish Shafter Press July 18, 25,
August 1, 8, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE Fictitious Business Name Statement Phoenix Construction & Engineering 2024-B4167

3427 Shauna Marie St
Bakersfield, CA 93314
County: Kern
6077 Coffee Rd Ste4 PMB101
Bakersfield, CA 93308
Phoenix Construction & Engineering
3427 Shauna Marie St
Bakersfield, CA 93314
State of incorp. or org.: CA
The business is conducted by:
Limited Liability Company
Date the business commenced:
07/03/2024
/s/Mark A. Doty, Managing Member
Date Statement Filed: 07/03/2024
Date Statement Expires:
07/03/2029
Aimee X. Espinoza
Auditor-Controller-County Clerk
By: Z Arellano
Publish Shafter Press July 11, 18, 25,
August 1, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE-CHANGE OF NAME CASE NUMBER: SCV-24-000017

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
1. Petitioner: Maria Virilnia Zazueta Ontiveros filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name
Maria Virilnia Zazueta Ontiveros
Proposed Name
Maria Virilnia MIRELES
2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.
NOTICE OF HEARING
a. Date: 08/30/2024 Time: 8:30 AM
Dept: B
b. The address of the court is: SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN, 325 Central Valley Highway, Shafter, CA 93263 Shafter Branch
3. a. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks before the date set for hearing on the petition in a newspaper of general circulation: (for resident of this county) printed in this county: The Shafter Press
Date: 06/25/24
/s/Marcos R. Camacho
Judge of the Superior Court
Publish Shafter Press July 11, 18, 25,
August 1, 2024