

**\$1.50**

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

### KVHD election results as of 3 p.m. Monday:

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Katheryn Elconin:</b> | <b>2,664</b>              |
| <b>Fred Clark:</b>       | <b>2,618</b>              |
| <b>John Blythe:</b>      | <b>2,212</b>              |
| <b>Gene Parks, Jr.:</b>  | <b>2,184</b>              |
| <b>Albert Landry:</b>    | <b>1,708</b>              |
| <b>Note:</b>             | <b>3 elected to board</b> |

### Chairman resigns Kernville Chamber

Longtime President of the Kernville Chamber of Commerce, Orion Sanders, told the Kern Valley Sun on Wednesday, November 13 that he announced to the chamber board his decision to resign Tuesday, November 12.

### The Bridge holds first fundraiser

The Kern River Valley Bridge Connection, which just attained non-profit status, held its first official fund raiser, Saturday November 16.

### Cemetery trustees request stipend raise on agenda

Under the New Business section of the November 12 agenda for the meeting for the Kern River Valley Public Cemetery District was the section Consider Bylaw Amendment, Provision D; Section 6.

### The Westerner in Kernville celebrates grand opening and ribbon cutting

Carol and Rodrigo Cervera, celebrated the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting, for their new business The Westerner, located in an old building Saturday, November 16.

### Youth beat expectations at 5K color run

The organization, Kern Youth For Christ held a 5K Color Run, Saturday, November 16. The starting line was behind the Kernville Randall Baseball Field where the participating youths were sprayed with chalk colors before starting.

### Veterans tell war stories at a Veterans Honor Lunch

US military veterans from various branches were honored at the Veterans Honor Lunch,

### Exchange donates to Sarge's fundraiser

Orion Sanders wore one of his many hats, as founder of Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets, at the Kern Valley Exchange Club on Thursday, November 14, at Paradise Cove Lodge.

### Kern Valley runs as individuals at HDL Finals

The HDL finals were a chance for the Kern Valley runners to see where they stack up in the upcoming CIF Meets.

### Fall sports comes to an end with Awards Night at Kern Valley

The new school year might be at the beginning, but in the world of Kern Valley sports, it has and ending in the fall.

# Ananian assumes leadership of Kernville Chamber of Commerce

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Vice president of the Kernville Chamber of Commerce, Gary Ananian, has now officially become the new chamber president.

The Kern Valley Sun caught up with him at the Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce meeting, Wednesday November 13, to discuss this sudden turn of events. "I didn't really have time to prepare and process the whole thing," Ananian said.

According to Ananian the Kernville Chamber announced the resignation of former president Orion Sanders on the chamber Facebook page.

(Please see the Kern Valley Sun article titled, Chairman resigns Kernville Chamber for our personal interview with Orion Sanders explaining his reasons for resigning.)

The chamber Facebook page stated, "We'd like to thank Orion Sanders for his service at the Kernville Chamber of Commerce. The organization accepted his resignation yesterday evening and wishes him the best of luck in his endeavors at the Kern River Valley Cemetery District. Gary Ananian the Vice President of the board will be stepping in to fill the President position in the interim."

Ananian did not know how long the board would decide his interim presi-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

dency would last. "I have a lot of time. I love the challenge. And I love giving my community something. They deserve more and that's more opportunities. It's been less than 24 hours. I haven't really settled into it. But I'm ready to move forward, and take on the challenge, and give the community what they need."

Ananian told the Kern Valley Sun about what his vision for the chamber would be. "Right now I think my focus is probably going to be on economic development and try to have more

involvement from county resources to bring jobs to the valley. I know we have housing shortages. And there's an issue with the economy. But really it's about creating jobs. I want to kind of focus my interim presidency, as economic development, trying to get something figured out, how we can get more investment in our community."

As for Sanders, he had every confidence the chamber could go on about its business without him as president. Sanders said regarding Ananian, "He is the head of several other organizations. He's the head of the (Kern River) Conservancy. So he knows how to run meetings. He knows how things work. He's been on the board for a long time. And so I believe he's very capable of managing the chamber."

Sanders explained that all executive board positions of the Kernville Chamber of Commerce are renewed every year in June. Therefore Sanders would presume that the board's plan is to keep Gary Ananian in place as Interim Board President until June when the board always votes for the executive position. Sanders also said that the executive positions are all determined each year after the board is set in place. "They've got their challenges as well. There's a lot of projects that haven't been completed and I'm confident that they'll get those things done. They have all the ability to do it."

# The Bridge attains 501c3, distributes MOUs, opens doors

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

The Kern River Valley Bridge Connection met with network organizations to distribute Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) and lease agreements to all organizations interested in utilizing the KRVBC facility to provide services in Lake Isabella to the entire Kern Valley community.

Wednesday, November 13, founder Karen Zuber said, "If you guys want to start offering services, we can start doing a soft opening as soon as tomorrow. And that way you can come up, take a look, set up your offices, kind of take a good look around as to which ones are going to work out, for you, and which days."

The organizations considering net-

working, at the Bridge, were planning to use Unite Us as connectivity for their referrals. The description and addendum of the MOU would become more uniform with input from the networking service providers.

The KRVBC was still seeking new volunteers to help the organization, which just officially became a non-profit. Zuber told the Kern Valley Sun, "We're 501c3, it's done. We've been working on it for a few months. And we completed the (Form) 1023. And within like a week we got it back. So it was a very quick process. We can accept tax-deductible donations. We're very excited, when you look at the potential that's in this building, and the ways we can use this building here."

Organizations considering the MOU and Lease Agreement included,

America's Job Center, Be Finally Free, Behavioral Health, Cap-K, Flood Ministries, Kern Community Foundation, Open Door Network, and Cerro Coso Community College, Garden Pathways among others. KRVBC expects services to the facility as a one-stop shop to fill the needs of residents. The KRVBC plans to have some services to assist others in attaining job training, counseling, and other assistance. However services for the underserved of the valley will not include a homeless shelter.

Zuber hoped the facility would eventually include kitchen facilities, a computer lab, and offices for mental health services, among other options.

She was grateful for everyone who helped get the building ready and contractors who did beautiful work.

# Cemetery chair resigns from board

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

During a meeting of the cemetery board, Tuesday November 12, a number of things occurred including the announcement of the chair of the board of trustees resigning.

During directors comments period on the agenda, Harry Schutz, who has been the board's Chairperson/President for the Kern River Valley Cemetery District, resigned his position as trustee. Schutz has been a board trustee since November 2019, and was voted into the position of Board Chairperson/President in 2020.

Schutz stated, "This is my official last board meeting with you as a board. This is my fifth year. I decided that my term ends November 24th and I'll be resigning at that point. But from today until the 24th I am available, for your support and the district's support, whatever I can do to help. And then of course after that I'll be a member of the public but I'll be more than happy to help wherever I can. I do feel connected and committed still."

Buffering the unexpectedness of his announcement Schutz said, "It's been an honor and a privilege to have served with each one of you. Your dedication, and your perspective, and your insight has really moved the district forward especially in the hard times. And I want to thank you all, each one of you, for that. And I wish this board success moving forward. I know in January, that you will all make the best decisions, that moves this district forward. So I just want to thank you all."

Mike Ryan chimed in and said, "I am amazed where this board, I started on this board a year ago, from where it started, and where it is today, and under your direction. And the tough times that this board went through with harassment and etc. The way the board supported one another, and especially your support, was overwhelming. We kind of didn't know much about one another, and everything, and then all of the sudden had come together, and put up a united front, and stick with it. And I think it's truly amazing."

Schutz said in response to Ryan's comment, "I agree with that."

Trustee Esteban Olivares said,

"I feel like you've been quite the juggernaut of direction and logic. And not just that, but being able to calculate what we could do, to better this district. And I guarantee that, without you, none of this would have been possible. So thank you."

Schutz responded, saying, "Thank you for saying that"

Trustee Kathy Agapiou said, "It's been an honor to serve along side you as well. And it's amazing what we've all gone through in the last year. Like Michael, I've only been here, August was a year. And it was nothing that I expected. I didn't think we were going to have such rocky roads. But with everybody joining forces, and under your guidance, I think we persevered rather well. And thank you for keeping us sane."

Schutz said, "You're all very welcome."

Teresa Barnum, who only recently signed on as trustee said, "You guys know how new I am to the board. And so I'm just appreciating this experience

continued on page A5

blood drive

AB  
O+

when you give, people live

HOUCHIN  
COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK

**MONDAY, DEC. 9TH • 8:00 AM -1:00 PM**

**KERN VALLEY HOSPITAL**

6412 LAUREL AVE, MOUNTAIN MESA, CA 93240

TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, SCAN THE CODE TO THE RIGHT WITH YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA

*All successful donations will receive 2 Bakersfield Christmas Town tickets (while supplies last)*

Where Healthcare and Community Connect

Dedicated To A Healthy Community

Wofford Liquor

Sun. - Thur. 7am-10pm • Fri. & Sat. 7am-11pm | 760-376-3606 • 5981 Wofford Blvd. W.H.

**FAST RIP**

Beer & Wine | Camping Supplies | Bait & Tackle

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS  
Holiday Nog  
750 ml  
**\$10.99**  
EACH + Tax

RYAN'S  
IRISH CREAM  
LIQUEUR  
750 ml  
**\$13.99**  
EACH + Tax

BENCHMARK  
WHISKEY  
750 ml  
**\$11.99**  
EACH + Tax

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PRINTING ERRORS

# COMMUNITY

## Chairman resigns Kernville Chamber

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Longtime President of the Kernville Chamber of Commerce, Orion Sanders, told the Kern Valley Sun on Wednesday, November 13 that he announced to the chamber board his decision to resign Tuesday, November 12.

While everyone on the chamber knew he had his plate overloaded with his new job, as District Manager for the Kern River Valley Cemetery District, and his own concert production business, Notorious Entertainment, as well as running a nonprofit, Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets, his email resignation letter still came suddenly and unexpectedly.

Nevertheless Sanders did not make his decision, to resign the chamber board, over night. He said, "I had been thinking about it (resigning) for awhile. Primarily when I took the cemetery job. My time is very thin. And I was unable to put in the time and effort that it takes to run the chamber office, and maintain the rodeo grounds, as well. Both things were my responsibility. But I have so many irons in the fire. And I have so many different things that I'm involved in, between the cemetery, and my business, and my non profit, that it was time that something had to give. And so I just didn't have enough time to do everything that I was involved in. I had been thinking about it for a while. The timing just became right. So I made the decision."

Sanders sent a resignation letter to the Kernville Chamber of Commerce



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

board, via email, effective immediately. He resigned the board, all together, as well as the presidency. He said, "The board is very capable of going on without me. There's a lot of good people there. They have a lot of good ideas. And they're totally in good hands. I have no doubt about that. They will be perfectly fine."

Sanders said some of events he put on with Notorious Entertainment, to bring in tourism through the chamber, had not been necessarily 100 percent successful. However he's considering continuing the Blues Fest because it

is a successful event and has a good following, mainly because it has been around for 13 years. Other events he's done in Kernville may not continue as before. "The Kernville Chamber of Commerce deserves more effort that I'm able to put into it," he said.

Sanders served as president for over 4 years and had served on the board for close to 7 years.

Because Sanders had been care taking the rodeo grounds for years, he's hoping the chamber will find the right

continued on page A3



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Wallace Elementary and Middle School host a Veterans' Day Program and breakfast to honor and recognize the service and sacrifices of military veterans. This event provides an opportunity for students, staff, and the community to come together and show gratitude for the dedication of those who have served in the armed forces. This day also helps students understand the significance of Veterans' Day, fostering a sense of respect and patriotism. It also allows veterans to be celebrated and acknowledged for their contributions to the country. The Wallace Elementary Student Leadership and Wallace Middle CJSF students facilitate and serve the breakfast and program. The program aims to instill in students the importance of service, sacrifice, and national pride.

### KERN VALLEY SUN OUTDOOR COLUMNIST

## Camp Erwin Owen— The Beauty of the Kern River Valley

ning recipe," states Jeremy Roberts.

Part of Owen's success is attributed to the beauty of the Kern River Valley, which is why the local community supports its Camp Outdoor Education Project (C.O.E.P). C.O.E.P, a project-based learning program, incorporates the Universal Design for Learning so that each child can glean lessons from the program and incorporate them into their personal lives.

C.O.E.P engages Camp Owen's mindset of "stewardship, servitude, and education," allowing for an educational transfer by creating a healthy mindset of caring about one's life, neighborhood, and community.

Camp Owen's mindset encourages youth to become community-focused and asks them to leave their community better than they found it. The staff and youth at Owen are responsible for local trail conservation, ecosystem restoration, and trash removal from trails, riverbanks, and forests. Camp Owen actively participates in other Kern River Valley events like the Whiskey Flat Days and food distributions.

Jason Hillis mentioned that Owen's goal is to take at-risk youth, introduce them to healthy habits and hard work, and foster a sense of accountability. The staff at Owen incorporates

the role of model and mentor for the youth, leading the youth to do well. Hillis states, "Over four to six months, you put 20 pounds on them, show them the value of a hard day's work, the value and importance of respecting others, and they get caught up on credits in school".



John Merkle, C.O.E.P

instructor, provides a mentor role, educating the kids about their role in the environment and how Leave No Trace transcends beyond the classroom and the forest. Leave No Trace states that we are to leave an area better than we found it or how to be stewards for the community, showing that

continued on page A7



SPENCER SHEPARD

I recently visited Camp Erwin Owen, a 65-bed forestry camp for youth aged 14-18. At Camp Owen, young men who have committed delinquent crimes can reclaim their youthful identity while learning accountable course correction.

Jeremy Roberts, Camp Owen Division Director; Jason Hillis, Assistant Division Director; Ryan Merkle, Camp Owen educator and 2024 Whiskey Flat Mayor (River Rat Ryan); and Jim Gordon, a longtime Kern Valley business owner of the Kernville Saloon and resident, participated in this experience, demonstrating their love for the outdoors and why they are helping guide the next generation.

Camp Owen is a special place, where working hard and playing hard are part of the formula for guiding the youth so they can become active participants in society, no longer defined by their past.

"The work hard embodies working on oneself, growing as a leader, always learning in life and school, and giving back to the community through servitude. We think this is the win-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Elks Halloween- Kern River Valley Elks (L to R) ER Chris Christensen Kellee Scott, Coleen Holmes, and Tina Baer handing out candy and drug awareness information to the Wallace Elementary School at their annual Halloween Trick or Treat event.

## COLOR CLASSIFIEDS

520 APARTMENT FOR RENT

550 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

LARGE 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH UPSTAIRS APT, IN KERNVILLE, CALL FOR DETAILS 760-549-3885

MOBILE HOME FOR RENT 1 bdrm, in MHP, \$675 per month 818.404.4470 or 818.216.2263

## KERN VALLEY SUN

6047 Lake Isabella Blvd. • P.O. Box 3074 • Lake Isabella, CA 93240

760-379-3667

General Information ext. 1000

Subscriber Services ext. 1002 • circulation@kvsun.com

Editorial Department •

classified@kvsun.com, michelel@kvsun.com, circulation@kvsun.com

Classifieds, Obituaries

& Legals ext. 1000 • classified@kvsun.com

Advertising Representative

Michele Lynn ext. 1001 • michelel@kvsun.com

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Local Mail Delivery - Kern River Valley

\$20.50/3 months • \$32.50/6 months • \$58.50/1 year

Out of Valley Mail Delivery

\$25/3 months • \$43.50/6 months • \$83/1 year

The Kern Valley Sun (USPS 293-740) is published weekly on Wednesday by the Kern Valley Sun, 6047 Lake Isabella Blvd. #C, Lake Isabella, CA 93240. Periodicals postage paid at Lake Isabella, CA.

Entire contents copyright 2024 by the Kern Valley Sun. No material may be reproduced in any manner without express written permission by the management.

The Kern Valley Sun is a member of the National Newspaper Association, the Kernville Chamber of Commerce and the Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3074, Lake Isabella, CA 93240. Phone: (760) 379-3667.

Fax: (760) 379-4343. Email Address: Assignments@kvsun.com.

Website: www.kernvalleysun.com.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Kern Valley Sun, P.O. Box 3074, Lake Isabella, CA, 93240. Adjudged and declared a newspaper of general circulation pursuant to the laws of California Dec. 28, 1959.

## KERN VALLEY WEATHER

EIGHT-DAY VALLEY FORECAST

| TODAY                      | THURSDAY                   | FRIDAY                     | SATURDAY                   |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| HIGH 69°   LOW 41°         | HIGH 73°   LOW 46°         | HIGH 72°   LOW 50°         | HIGH 59°   LOW 46°         |
| SUNRISE 6:35   SUNSET 4:43 | SUNRISE 6:36   SUNSET 4:42 | SUNRISE 6:37   SUNSET 4:42 | SUNRISE 6:38   SUNSET 4:41 |

| SUNDAY                     | MONDAY                     | TUESDAY                    | WEDNESDAY                  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| HIGH 56°   LOW 38°         | HIGH 55°   LOW 38°         | HIGH 56°   LOW 34°         | HIGH 57°   LOW 46°         |
| SUNRISE 6:39   SUNSET 4:41 | SUNRISE 6:40   SUNSET 4:41 | SUNRISE 6:41   SUNSET 4:40 | SUNRISE 6:41   SUNSET 4:40 |

## KERN VALLEY WATER WATCH

Kern River Basin Data as of Sunday, November 17, 2024

| Lake & River Information | This Week | Last Week | Last Year |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Lake Elevation           | 2,556.58  | 2,556.86  | 2,570.71  |
| Lake Storage             | 148,013   | 149,550   | 238,610   |
| Inflow Into Lake         | 305       | 250       | 1,379     |
| Outflow From Lake        | 244       | 282       | 2,263     |

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. All data is preliminary. Final figures may change. Elevation feed above sea level. Storage expressed in acre-feet. Inflow and outflow expressed in cubic feet per second. Inflow shown is at Kernville.

**VALLEY Worship Directory**

**Christ Fellowship**

Pastor Nick Cassady

For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them. *Matthew 18:20*

80 Evans Rd.

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM across from Kern River Health Center



**Kern River United Methodist Church**

Welcomes you to worship with us Sunday service: 11:00am (Followed by fellowship time)

251 Big Blue Road, Kernville, CA 93238 (760) 376-2751

Pastor Shawn Collins

# The Bridge holds first fundraiser

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

The Kern River Valley Bridge Connection, which just attained non-profit status, held its first official fund raiser, Saturday November 16.

There was a fall chill in the air outside, that day, when local Veteran Jim Wyly grilled many burgers made with meat Rankin Ranch donated.

The event included a silent auction and dessert cupcakes, corn hole games and specialty coffee drinks.

The KRVBC hopes to eventually provide transportation to those needing services at its new facility, in Lake Isabella, though the goal may take time to attain.



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Silent Auction items included household items.



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Veteran Jim Wyly (left) cooked burgers for the event. Jacklynn Wallace (right) has helped with the KRVBC since the inception.



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Folks sure enjoyed Wyly's cooked burgers that day.



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

The Nelsons were helping welcome donors.

# Cemetery trustees request stipend raise on agenda

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Under the New Business section of the November 12 agenda for the meeting for the Kern River Valley Public Cemetery District was the section Consider Bylaw Amendment, Provision D; Section 6.

This was the start of the board of trustees consideration to opt for a raise on the monthly stipend amount trustees are paid.

That day administrator John Blythe announced, "A couple of the trustees wanted to consider talking about amending the \$50 stipend (they are paid) to \$100. So it's up to you guys to discuss. If you want to do action, next month, I can put it back on (the upcoming agenda.) But it's up to you guys. The county ordinance is \$100 maximum for districts."

Trustee Mike Ryan said, "We're too low. Right. We're too low."

Trustee Esteban Olivares said, "The only thing that I could figure is that I sometimes feel guilty just accepting money for this. But in the future if we want to get viable candidates for the



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

positions, it's kind of important to be competitive, as strange as that sounds. I mean the stress of the last several months is definitely..."

Chairman trustee Harry Schustz said, "I'm looking at the flip side of it for myself. I think we contribute a lot: our time, our effort (and) driving here, back n forth. We make important decisions. And I don't think that should be taken lightly. And it's just a support that you're doing your job. That's how I look at it."

Ryan said, "Well just as the prices of everything else. Well that's why I asked that this be put on the agenda."

Blythe explained that if any trustee didn't want their stipend they could donate it back to the district.

Ryan wanted to vote on the issue, for January 1, and everyone agreed for the topic to go on the upcoming agenda.

The next meeting of the board is December 10, at 1pm, 8441 Burlando Road, Wofford Heights.



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Brian Block, Forest Service interim district ranger.

# Interim forest ranger fields questions at chamber

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Three officers from Forest Service visited Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce at their general meeting, Wednesday, November 13. The three, Eric Lundgren and Billy Brown, who are both recreation staff officers and Brian Block who is acting district Ranger, all sat together during lunch, before Block spoke to the chamber.

Block, who is only acting as Ranger for the interim, said, "I am the acting district Ranger right now. Al Watson was the Ranger prior. He was here for about 11 or 12 years. And has now moved on to Dillon, Montana as forest Supervisor up there, on to bigger and

better things. I am stepping in his place momentarily for about 4 months, to fill in the gap, until we can get a permanent district Ranger in place."

Block has already filled two of the four months. Therefore he really only has two months more to serve in the valley. His goal is to keep projects moving forward and making sure special events get signed. The Forest Service is also attempting to get more firefighter staff, in place, according to Block.

After introductions Block fielded questions from the chamber. In answer to questions about the fish hatchery Block explained that the Kern River Fish Hatchery is going through analysis, to get paperwork in place, so that SCE can complete an SCE repair project. The goal is to provide water to the Kern River Fish Hatchery. The project is under control of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. If the option to re-open the hatchery did not look favorable, they would not be attempting to get water, to the fish hatchery.

Answering questions about the Visitor Center, Block said, the project is a US Army Corps of Engineers project. The USACE has a plan for the building. According to Ranger Block there is no scheduled ground breaking date for the building. Ranger Block said that the Isabella Dam is a higher priority to USACE. However the plan is still scheduled to be at the old Bank of America site at the corner of Lake Isabella Boulevard at Nugget Avenue. Ranger Block thinks that either the KRV Chamber of Commerce, the Bureau of Land Management, or the Forest Service were under consideration to be located at the Visitor Center for visitor information.

The Nuui Cunni Native American Intertribal Cultural Center was next in conversation. Block said, "the center is still under permit right now, and is struggling to keep it going, and the Forest Service is attempting to figure out how to manage the permit, so it can continue to be a Native American Cultural Center."

People asked about the Kern Valley Golf Course property and building, which has been out of operation. Ranger Block said that part of the golf course building, and the entire golf course patio, is located on Forest Service property. However the clubhouse itself is private property. The part of the property, which belongs to the Forest Service, is under a special use permit and has to be re-permitted. Block said that if he is still here, when the permit expires, at the end of 2024, he plans to push the permit forward faster.

## CHAMBER

continued from page A2

person, to take over that task to continue progress at the grounds. He also hopes the chamber would continue to reach out to new and exciting rodeo associations to come use the property. Sanders explained that

he was caretaker for the rodeo grounds before he was ever on the board. The chamber had some vandalism take place at the rodeo grounds property. Therefore a need for a caretaker, living at the grounds, became evident. The chamber requested Sanders come live on the property and become a caretaker. There was only one event,

back at that time, which was Whiskey Flat Days.

The chamber ended up getting other organizations to use the grounds, including concerts, a Beer Festival, and started looking for ways to bring people to create commerce for the valley.

"Right now tourism and recreation is our industry. So with tourism and recre-

ation as being our industry, that requires businesses, that opens up jobs, that opens up new businesses. And hopefully we can, as a community, advocate for tourism and recreation so that businesses will thrive, even through the slow seasons. That's the key to economy in Kernville," Sanders said.

**MESA CLINICAL PHARMACY**

**THANKSGIVING BUSINESS HOURS**

We at the pharmacy want to connect with our valued customers to help you plan your schedules, as your health and safety are our top priorities

**We Are Closed** Thursday, November 28th

**We Are Closed** Friday, November 29th

Call Us (760)379-6106

Visit Our Website www.kvhd.org

Our Location 12608 Mt. Mesa Rd., Lake Isabella, CA 93240

**The Appliance Center**

PARTS AVAILABLE

Mon.-Sat. • 5131 Lake Isabella Blvd. Lake Isabella / 760-379-8000

GE Whirlpool AMANA MAYTAG KitchenAid

Serving the Kern Valley for over 25 years...

**SPECIAL FINANCING & LAYAWAY**

# The Westerner in Kernville celebrates grand opening and ribbon cutting

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Carol and Rodrigo Cervera, celebrated the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting, for their new business The Westerner, located in an old building Saturday, November 16.

Their opening drew in a pretty big crowd and lots of foot traffic, that day, along with a ton of enthusiasm from onlookers and the chamber board. Even historical documentary producer, Chuck Barbee, attended the event.

Owner Rodrigo Cervera said, "This is one of the original Quonset huts, which was one of the first buildings from new Kernville."

Kernville Chamber board director Valerie Stone said, "We are here this morning to celebrate the Grand Opening of The Westerner. Carol and Rod have just done such an amazing job of bringing this building back to life. It sat dormant here, for years, right in the town square. Now we've got this local event center. You've got a shop with all these local artists featured. And the fact that you guys really brought the local community together to do this. You used local contractors for all this. We are just so impressed with you guys, and just so happy to have you



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

guys as part of this community," she said.

Rod Cervera told the crowd that the building was one of the oldest of the new Kernville community from 1953. "We just found it to be a really wonderful blank slate, from which to create more interesting things," he said.

Kernville Chamber board director Monica O'Brien gave Carol and Ro-



drigo Cervera a chamber plaque welcoming The Westerner to the chamber.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Wallace Science Fair 2024

On November 13th Wallace Elementary and Wallace Middle school hosted their annual science night. During this event teachers pick a science activity, experiment, project or display and share it with students and families. This year we had staff representation from Kindergarten through 8th grade. The science activities they shared with 90 students and their families ranged from making slime and bath bombs to exploring science fair projects and dissecting owl pellets. Hands-on science activities in elementary and middle school offer numerous benefits for students' learning and personal development. These include:

1. Enhanced Understanding and Retention
    - Concrete Learning: Hands-on experiments help students grasp abstract scientific concepts by directly engaging with materials and observing phenomena.
    - Improved Retention: Learning by doing enables students to retain information longer than through passive methods like lectures or reading.
  2. Development of Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills
    - Hands-on science encourages students to hypothesize, test, analyze, and draw conclusions. This process sharpens their analytical and critical thinking skills.
    - Students learn to troubleshoot and adapt when experiments don't go as planned, fostering resilience and adaptability.
  3. Engagement and Motivation
    - Interactive and practical activities make science more engaging and enjoyable, sparking curiosity and a love for learning.
    - Students are more likely to feel a sense of accomplishment when they actively participate in their learning.
  4. Collaboration and Communication Skills
    - Many hands-on activities require group work, promoting teamwork and collaboration.
    - Students practice communicating their ideas and findings, an essential skill in both science and life.
  5. Real-World Application
    - Hands-on experiments often mirror real-world scientific inquiry, helping students see the relevance of science in everyday life.
    - This connection fosters a deeper appreciation for science and its role in society.
  6. Skill Development
    - Students gain practical skills such as measuring, observing, recording data, and using scientific tools, which are foundational for higher-level science learning.
    - They also learn to follow procedures and develop fine motor skills through precise actions in experiments.
  7. Building Confidence
    - Successfully conducting experiments boosts students' confidence in their abilities to explore and understand the world around them.
    - It fosters a "can-do" attitude, encouraging them to take on challenges in science and other subjects.
  8. Preparing Students for Future Careers
    - Workforce Demand: Many of the fastest-growing careers, such as in technology, engineering, and health sciences, require strong STEM skills.
    - Innovation and Competitiveness: STEM education helps prepare students to contribute to innovation, keeping nations competitive in a global economy.
- By integrating hands-on science into elementary and middle school curriculum, educators can lay a strong foundation for lifelong scientific literacy and curiosity*

# Youth beat expectations at 5K color run

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

The organization, Kern Youth For Christ held a 5K Color Run, Saturday, November 16. The starting line was behind the Kernville Randall Baseball Field where the participating youths were sprayed with chalk colors before starting.

"This is our first Youth For Christ 5K Color Run. Our plan is to do this every year. We're raising money for local events," said organizer of the event, Michael Henson.

Henson who works for Youth For Christ and works with the youth at Camp Erwin Owen said, "We also are raising some money to go on missions to Africa, Uganda, Italy and Ireland. So we're just trying to make a local event so people can come out, have some fun and support the youth; because the youth definitely need our love and our help."

The organization Youth For Christ goes to the schools and to juvenile centers and tries to give back to the community by guiding youth in a positive direction.

Supervised boys from Camp Erwin Owen also participated in the Color Run along with other groups of kids and teens.

The route was expected to take about 30 to 45 minutes that day.

The first place winner of the group ages 1-10 was Ryker Lanza who timed out at 25 minutes, 39 seconds. Coming in second in the same category was Lexi Henson. Placing third in the same age level was Bash Henson.

For the ages 11-18 category Noel



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK



Guarneros placed first at 24 minutes, 50 seconds. Cassandra Guarneros placed second. And coming in third was Eden Lanza.

In the category for ages 19+ Jamo Mechem won first place, coming in at 20 minutes, 10 seconds. Logan Samp-

son came in second place. Landin came in third place.

Organizers expected the run to take anywhere from 30 to 45 minutes. Most runners winning in the event came in earlier than 30 minutes.

## Write to Santa! It's FREE!



Letters to Santa will be published in a special edition of Kern Valley Sun, along with additional Christmas photos. After all letters are received and retyped, they will be mailed to the North Pole, Attn: Santa Claus. All submissions must be received by December 6th, 2024 in our offices at P.O. Box 3074 Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Hand-drawn holly leaves and berries in the corners. Below the Santa illustration is a large area with horizontal lines for writing a letter to Santa.

**CERRO COSO  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Spring Semester  
Enrollment is OPEN!**

**Don't Wait, Plan Your  
Path to Success Today!**

Find the Class Schedule Here!

SCAN ME

760-384-6219
cerrocoso.edu



KERN VALLEY SUN LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED

org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, pueda perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa

de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es) SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN; 1415 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: Rutger R. Parris, Esq. (El nombre, la dirección y el número de telefonon del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es) Bruce B. Paller, Esq., (SBN:189108) 1000 Town Center Drive #300, Oxnard, CA 93036 TELEPHONE No.: 805-253-0448 FAX No.: 805-654-9090 Date (Fecha): 09/06/2024 Clerk (Actuario) by: Berenice Portes Gil, Deputy (PUB SUN 11/06, 11/13, 11/20, 11/27/2024) ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFOR-

NIA COUNTY OF KERN CASE NUMBER BCV-24103309 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner, GABRIELLE ELIZABETH SALMON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: GABRIELLE ELIZABETH SALMON Proposed Name: MAE RYDER LARSEN 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall 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. NOTICE OF HEARING DATE: 12/10/2024 TIME: 8:30 A.M. ADDRESS:1215 TRUXTUN AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301, METRO JUSTICE DEPT: L 3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county (specify newspaper): KERN VALLEY SUN. Dated: 10/03/2024 By: GINA M. CERVANTES, Court Commissioner (PUB SUN 11/13, 11/20, 11/27, 12/04/2024)

NOTICE OF LIEN SALES BARNETT'S TOWING LIEN SALE: 16-CHEV LICENSE: 99720L3 / CA VIN: 1GCGSDE33G1395847 TO BE SOLD AT 10:00 AM ON 12/3/2024 @ 2217 COY AVE BAKERSFIELD, CA RANDY'S TOWING LLC LIEN SALE: 13-HYUN LICENSE: 8TNE928 / CA VIN: 5NPDH4AE4DH172956 TO BE SOLD AT 10:00 AM ON 12/3/2024 @ 1000 MT VERNON AVE BAKERSFIELD, CA (PUB SUN 11/20/2024) FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 2024-B6682 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as DBA #1: SUGARS BAKERY, 6005 MULBERRY AVE, LAKE ISABELLA, CA 93240 Kern County. Mailing Address: 6005 MULBERRY AVE, LAKE ISABELLA, CA 93240 This business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL: ANGELINA MARIA BUSCHBACHER; 6005 MULBERRY AVE, LAKE ISABELLA, CA 93240 The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 10/28/2024 This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the County Clerk's Office. A new fictitious business name

statement must be filed before that time: (11/06/2029). 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.). Signed: ANGELINA MARIA BUSCHBACHER This statement filed on: 11/06/2024 AIMEE X. ESPINOZA, Auditor-Controller-County Clerk By: M. TORRALBA, Deputy Clerk (Pub SUN 11/20, 11/27, 12/04, 12/11/2024) NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Kern County Planning Commission will meet and will hear the following request on Thursday, December 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Supervisors Chambers, First Floor, Kern County Administrative Center, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 1. A Conditional Use Permit requesting the new construction of an arsenic removal water treatment system with a metal building, replacement and rehabilitation of storage tanks, and 800 feet of additional water line (19.16.030.J) all on four (4) non-consecutive parcels of record in the E (1/2) MH (Estate - 1/2 acre - Mobilehome Combining) District; Along Hungry Gluch Road immediately north of Racoon Ridge Road, Wofford Heights area (APNs: 062-291-04, 062-292-25, 062-302-17 & 062-302-19) ; Categorically Exempt, Section 15301(b), 15301(d) & 15302(c) ; Hungry Gulch Mutual Water Co. by Alfonso Manrique of AM

Consulting Engineers (PP25133), applicant; Staff Planner Kathy Barker, Supervising Planner, (661) 862-5044 or BarkerK@kerncounty.com The application(s), environmental document(s), and complete legal description(s) for the request(s) are on file in the office of the Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department and are available for public review. Anyone wishing to give testimony on this request will be heard. If you challenge the action taken on this request in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning and Natural Resources Department at, or prior to, the public hearing. If you cannot be present and you have questions regarding this project, you may telephone the Planning and Natural Resources Department and speak to the Staff planner (listed above) assigned to this case. We encourage the submittal of written comments by November 26, 2024, so that those comments may be considered when Staff formulates its recommendation; however, written comments may be submitted anytime prior to, or at, the public hearing. Correspondence should be sent to the Planning and Natural Resources Department, 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301 KERN COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION 2700 "M" Street, Suite 100 Bakersfield, CA 93301 (PUB SUN 11/20/2024)

CHANGE A LIFE. ADOPT TODAY!!! at the Lake Isabella Animal Shelter PAWS & CLAWS 14891 Highway 178, Southlake • 760-378-1131 The Shelter is Open M-Sat • 10am-4pm for adoptions 8am-5pm for dog licensing. Closed on Sunday For an Animal Emergency, call 661 868 7100 ext 2, 24 hours a day

FREE ADOPTION for animals that have been at the shelter for over 30 days. Includes Lic/chip/ spay and neuter. Sponsored by: Emery Family, Dabrushman Family, Trish & Mark Hamm, Sally Villars, Rocky, Izzy, & Bonnie Baird, Jim & Sheila Rosenberg, Southern Sierra Properties. Images of cats and dogs with adoption details.

CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

100 SERVICES SCRAP METAL REMOVAL Tree Trimming, Pinewood for sale, Trash Hauling, Chimney Sweeping. Call Chris 760-417-1824

CLASSIFIEDS RATES & INFORMATION Liners: Minimum of \$12.50 for 3 lines, \$1.00 for each additional line. Deadline for liners is Friday at 3pm. Classified Display Ads: \$14.50 per column inch, per issue. Deadline for classified display ads is Friday at 3pm. Color is an additional charge. Please email ad to: classified@kvsun.com Terms: All ads are prepaid unless credit has been approved. 760-379-3667 ext 1000. Notice: Read your ad and report any errors immediately. The Sun is not responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Additionally, the Kern Valley Sun reserves the right to revise or reject ads, and classify them properly.

MIKE AND SUE'S FIREBREAK/YARD/TREE Trimming & House Clean-Up & Hauling. 760-223-6888 Or 223-2580

Business Services Home Services Home Services Miscellaneous Services THOMAS Refuse Service Septic Pumping • Grease Traps Commercial • Residential Locate & Dig Escrow Certifications Portable Toilets Gro-Tech Landscaping Best Buy For ARTIFICIAL GRASS SPRINKLER SYSTEMS & REPAIR ROCK & DESERT LANDSCAPES ASG DOORS All Services Garage Doors Your local garage door specialist 760-472-2754 Call Justin Caudill Asgdoors@gmail.com FREE estimate on new doors SAME DAY SERVICE Rush 2 Learning LLC Child Care & Preschool Center Open Mon.-Fri. CCCC Approved • Age 0-12 Meals & Snacks Included CPR First Aid Certified Qualified Teachers & Aides Lic.# 153808472, 473, & 474 760-379-4800 4200 Hatton Ave. • Lake Isabella

550 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT LAKE ISABELLA 2BR. 2BA. M/H, REFURBISHED, PATIOS, Deck, 2 Carport, In Nice 55 Plus Park. \$627. To \$927/ Monthly. Rent Or Buy Starting At \$20K. Good Credit. 760-379-2092

560 MOBILE HOME & RV SPACE FOR RENT SHADED KNOLL MHP/RV Mobile Home Spaces. \$305/Mo. Plus Utilities. 818-216-2263

2BR. 1BA. IN REEDER TRACT \$950/MO. & \$950.00 DEPT. NO PETS 760-417-9695

Kern Asphalt Paving and Sealing Co, Inc. Serving The Kern Valley Since 1970 PAVING • SEALING STRIPING • CRF Reclamite for Asphalt Rejuvenation Lic#812686 661-391-8000

Licensed Contractors NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor and materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at www.cslb.gov or 1-800-321-CSLB. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board. Electric VAZZANA ELECTRIC Commercial • Residential • Industrial Bryan (Bubba) Vazzana Cell: 951-545-6526 • Lic. C10# 860586 Heating/Cooling TLC MECHANICAL, LLC HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING Service • Repair • New Construction Serving the Kern River Valley Phone (760) 417-1574 Paving Kern Asphalt Paving and Sealing Co, Inc. Serving The Kern Valley Since 1970 PAVING • SEALING • STRIPING • CRF Reclamite for Asphalt Rejuvenation 661-391-8000 Lic. # 812686

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUPS

**Adult and Adolescent Substance Abuse Classes:** (Medi-Cal not accepted). Please call to schedule an appointment or for further information. 760-379-9194. 5121 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella.

**Al-Anon Meeting:** Wednesday, 80 Evans Rd., Wofford Heights, 7:00 p.m. Contact 760-379-7312 or 760-378-0041. These meetings are for friends and family of alcoholics.

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Faced with a drinking problem? Perhaps Alcoholics Anonymous can help. Weekly meetings, call AA Hotline, 661-322-4025.

**Alzheimer's:** The Alzheimer's Disease Association of Kern County provides up to six hours of respite to caregivers who have a loved one with Alzheimer's or other related dementias. Currently, we hold these adult day services at the Veterans/Senior Center in Lake Isabella on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 9:00 - 1:30 (if weather permits). An application packet should be completed by the caregiver on your first visit. Call Otilia for more information at KDAKC (661) 665-8871.

**Celebrate Recovery at The Ark:** Come celebrate recovery every Friday at the Ark located at 5301 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella, CA 93240. The program starts at 7:00 p.m. Celebration Place - ages 5 to 14. The Landing - ages 14 to 18. Celebrate Recovery ages 18 & up. The Landing 13-18 and Celebration Place 0-13. For more information, call 661-862-9420 or info@knuckelupministries.org.

**Grief Share:** 1st Baptist Church Lake Isabella has resumed GriefShare Sunday school class at 9:15 am in The Fellowship Hall. Non Denominational course dealing with loss. All are welcome. 3701 Suhre St., Lake Isabella. Phone: 760-379-5615

**God's Closet Clothing Ministry:** Free gently used clothing for newborns through adults. Located at First Baptist Church Lake Isabella. Must make appointment by calling 760-379-5615 or e-mailing godscloset@fbcli.org

**God's Storehouse of the KRIV:** Feeding those in need in the Valley. Monetary donations are always welcome and may be mailed to P.O. Box # 2977 Lake Isabella, Ca. 93240. All donations are tax deductible. Call 760-223-0750 for more information. Located at 3810 Golden Spur, Lake Isabella. Hours of operation: 2nd Tuesday of each month 9am - 11pm and 4th Sunday of each month 1pm - 3pm.

**The Bristol Hospice (formerly Optimal Hospice) Grief Support Services:** Child and Teen Support. All child and teen services are uniquely tailored on a case-by-case basis. One-on-one counseling is available. Grief Support Group Information (BAKERSFIELD) In-person & Virtual. Bristol Hospice - 1675 Chester Avenue, Suite 401, Bakersfield, CA 93301. (Park in the parking garage located on Eye St. Enter through the black gate and up to the 4th floor.) Tuesday's 11:30am-1:00pm Thursday's 6:00pm-7:30pm. (TAF) In-person Only. First Baptist Church - 220 North St., Taft, CA 93268 (Located next to the Church office on North St.) Third Wednesday of Each Month 1:30pm-3:00pm. Please E-mail or call our bereavement coordinator for more information: Jessica Mosley, MSW. Call: (661) 716-4000 E-mail: bereavement-bakersfieldhospice@bristolhospice.com

**NAMI Connection Recovery:** Connection Recovery Support Group, for individuals living with mental health challenges, meet every Monday, from 1-2pm. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call Lisa Wylie @760-417-1932.

**Passionate Hearts Support Group:** A Christ-centered, curriculum-based, 10-month support group for women wounded by childhood sexual abuse that provides a safe place for women to come together and work on the damage incurred through their abuse. Registration is required and space is limited. Call Alex at 760-298-0341.

**Pregnancy Resource Center:** Tuesday and Thursday each week, 1 to 5 p.m., 6040-D Lake Isabella Blvd. Lake Isabella. Free Pregnancy Testing, Peer Counseling, materials assistance, referrals. Mailing: PO Box 3015 Lake Isabella, CA 93240. Call 760-379-8893 for more information.

**The Salvation Army** is looking for donations for winter items of any type like coats, blankets, shoes, boots, and tents and much more. 5109A Lake Isabella Blvd. Lake Isabella Ca. 93240 Call Yolanda for more information at 760-379-0112 Monday and Friday only from 9am to 11am

**TOPS #436:** (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) meets Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m., at the Senior Center in Lake Isabella. Open to the public. Call 760-379-3366 for more information.

**Women's Domestic Violence Support Group:** A place for education, healing, growth, and empowerment. Female survivors and family members are welcome. Every other Thursday, 5:30-7 pm. Call 760-223-2777 for location and information.

**Editor's Note:** Please call groups listed above to assure that information is correct prior to attending a meeting.

# CAMP OWEN

continued from page A2

we are part of something larger than ourselves.

As a working farm, Camp Owen grows and raises its food. With hogs, chickens, eggs, and an impressive garden, the youth can be immersed in the outdoors while learning new life lessons that farm work offers discipline, commitment, and stewardship.

C.O.E.P. is an incentive-based program that fosters youth to do well and experience the play-hard part of life.

Merkle states that some of Camp Owen's success is "letting kids rediscover what it is to be a kid."

The youth in C.O.E.P. earn the privilege of participating in fly fishing, hiking, and camping to experience the beauty of the Kern and feel the power of something larger than themselves—the Kern's magic has many

secrets for good living.

For me and the Owen staff, the Kern offers a chance to slow down and reflect on what it means to be an active participant in our lives and allows us to find new ways for personal growth. So, it makes sense to share this with the next generation by fostering a sense of stewardship, "the careful and responsible management of something."

Camp Owen's C.O.E.P., the outdoors, restorative living, and personal growth are creating community-minded individuals who are learning to manage their own lives responsibly so they can positively affect their surroundings.

Chris Brown, co-owner of Whitewater Voyages, a Kernville-based whitewater rafting company, says he "loves to support Camp Owen because they're doing their important work. The outdoors can help someone figure out their lives. And if I can do anything to help

someone figure out their life, I want to help".

Whitewater Voyages supported River Rat Ryan's 2024 mayoral campaign for Whiskey Flat Mayor, with donations going to Camp Owen. Whitewater Voyages donated rafting trips for the Whiskey Flat's Mayoral Raffle, where community members participated in a chance to go rafting and support Camp Owen's mission.

Community donations fund the activities Owen's Camp Outdoor Education Project participates in, such as fishing, camping, hiking, and whitewater rafting.

Probation Auxiliary of the County of Kern (P.A.C.K) is a non-profit that provides youth with materials and services not included in the tax-supported budget for Juvenile Services. These include recreational necessities for juveniles.

Roberts states, "Our non-profit, P.A.C.K, one

hundred percent goes to the youth. If donors specify Camp Owen Account, this goes straight to Camp and funds the play hard part of C.O.E.P."

Jim Gordon, a massive supporter of Owen's mission, believes that "kids can make a difference if they're shown compassion."

Jeremy Roberts says that Camp Owen is welcome to volunteers, who want to help the next generation. So, if you have skills that you feel the next generation should know or want to speak to the youth and share your testimony, you can contact the Camp Owen office, at 760-376-8500, so you can begin helping the next generation succeed.

I have been invited to join Camp Owen on their next hiking adventure and am looking forward to reporting back about my experience.

Remember my friends to Leave No Trace.

# EVENTS CALENDAR

## MONTHLY EVERY 2ND TUESDAY

Lake Isabella and Bodfish property owner association  
**Time:** 5:00 P.M.  
**Where:** Kern Valley Senior Center, 6409 Lake Isabella Blvd. in Lake Isabella

## Wednesday, November 20

FREE Morning Music Jams with Dan  
**Time:** 8:30 - 11:00 AM  
**Where:** KRVA's The Station: Espresso & Books 6701 Wofford Heights Blvd. Wofford Heights, CA Krvaa.org

## FREE Creative Crafters Group

**Time:** 10 AM - 2:00 PM  
**Where:** KRVA's Art & Community Center 6709 Wofford Blvd Wofford Heights, CA 93285 Krvaa.org

## Stained Glass Class (Walk-In for Info)

**Time:** 10:00 - 1:00 PM  
**Where:** KRVA's Art & Community Center

6709 Wofford Blvd Wofford Heights, CA 93285 Krvaa.org

## Thursday, December 14

The the KRV Woman's Club is having our annual Christmas Spectacular  
**Where:** Elk's Lodge in Wofford Heights. Dinner tickets are now on sale to the public. Ticket price is \$40.00 each. To get your tickets call Laura Oreskovich at 310-569-0405.

## Food Distribution

The Ark Soup Kitchen 5301 Lake Isabela Bl. Free meals Mon- Fri, noon-2:00pm

## Senior Food boxes:

1st Friday of every month 10:00 Senior Center, 6507 Lake Isabella Bl  
 The Tuesday after the 1st Friday of every month 9:30-10:30 Grace Chapel, 12312 Mt. Mesa Rd, Mt Mesa

## 2nd Monday of every month

9:30 - 10:30am Grace Chapel 12312 Mt. Mesa Rd., Mt Mesa  
 All ages-4th Monday of every month

## Friday, November 22

Friday Night Movies (Donation)  
**Time:** 6:00 - 9:00 PM  
**Where:** KRVA's Art & Community Center 6709 Wofford Blvd Wofford Heights, CA 93285 Krvaa.org

## Sunday, November 24

Beginning Oil Painting (with Daisy Torres)  
**Time:** 1:00 - 4:30 PM  
**Where:** KRVA's Art & Community Center 6709 Wofford Blvd Wofford Heights, CA 93285 Krvaa.org

## Kern Valley Senior Dance

Live Music every Wednesday. No admission fee., weekly 50/50 drawing, and snacks.  
**Time:** 6:00 to 8:00 PM  
**Where:** Kern Valley Senior Center 6409 Lake Isabella Blvd. in Lake Isabella

8:30 Senior Center, 6507 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella.

10:00 Grace Chapel, 12312 Mt. Mesa Rd, Mt Mesa

10:00 Canyon Hills Church 25 Arden Ave, Wofford Heights

God's Storehouse 3810 Golden Spur, Lake Isabella. 2nd Tuesday of the month 9:00-11:00am and 4th Sunday 1:00-3:00pm

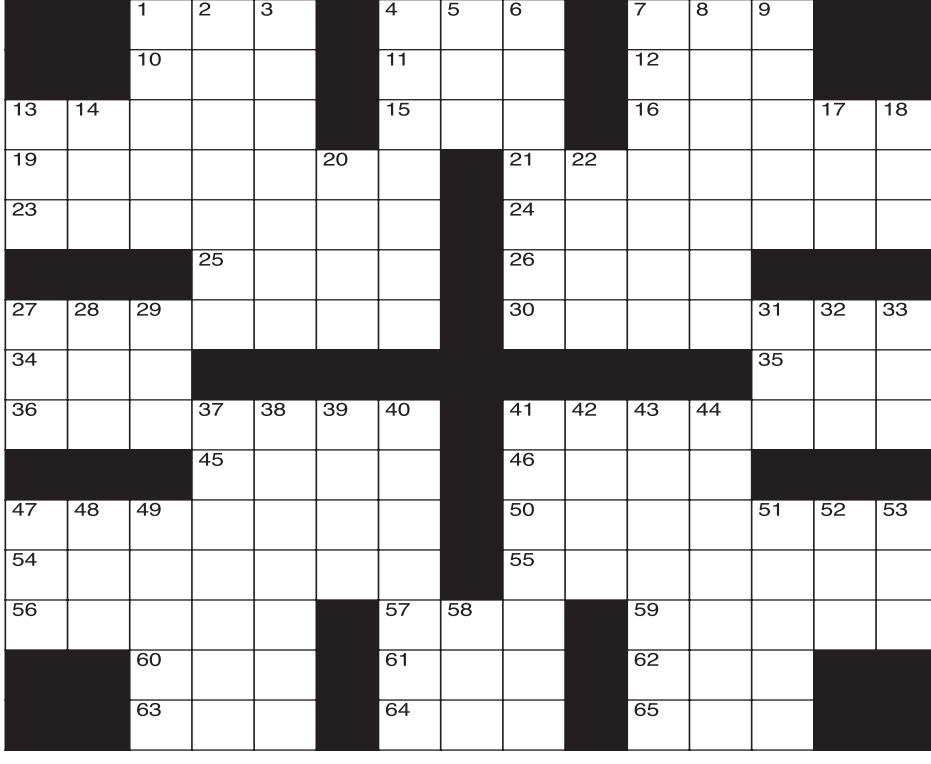
Kern Calvary Church 14900 Hwy 178, Southlake, 2nd & 4th Thursdays 9:00-10:00

Bld. Blessings 5205 Lake Isabella Blvd. Every Weds, Thurs, Fri 11:00-3:00  
 Salvation Army 5109A Lake Isabella Bl Mon & Fri 9:00-11:00

1st Baptist Church 3701 Suhre St. Free dinner every Weds 5:00-5:45 Sept- April.  
 God's Closet-Free clothing available by appointment 760-379-5615 or 760-549-3212

Lunch at the Senior Center Mon-Fri. 12:00-12:30 RSVP 24 hours in advance.  
 Suggested donation under age 60 is \$6.00, age 60+ \$3.00.

# PUZZLES & GAMES



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Defunct airline
  - Beverage container
  - A team's best pitcher
  - Unit of liquid capacity
  - It comes before two
  - Male child
  - Type of wheat
  - One's mother
  - Upper side of an organism
  - United is one
  - Extraction process
  - A being with lesser divine status
  - People living together in a community
  - Luxury automaker
  - This (Spanish)
  - Semitic language
  - Period for a defined purpose
  - Wander aimlessly in search of pleasure
  - Up in the air (abbr.)
  - American marsupial
  - Decadent dessert
  - Aquatic plant
  - About aviation
  - Summer footwear
  - Rugged mountain ranges
  - With tin
  - Cut on the surface of a hard object
  - Wrapped in cloth
  - Defensive nuclear weapon
  - "American Idol" contestant Clay
  - Midway between east and southeast
  - Court decision "\_\_\_ v. Wade"
  - Born of
  - Soviet Socialist Republic
  - Actress \_\_\_Margaret
  - Not even

- CLUES DOWN**
- Heat unit
  - \_\_\_ Faulkner, American writer
  - Guatemalan town
  - Of funny things
  - Actress \_\_\_ de Armas
  - Agents of one's downfall
  - Takes forcibly
  - Body lice
  - Large nest of a bird of prey
  - Unhappy
  - Popular holiday dessert
  - Habitual drunkard
  - Used of a number or amount not specified
  - Complications
  - Fail to win
  - Before the present
  - Musical genre
  - Flurry
  - 007's creator
  - Indiana Pacer Toppin
  - Midway between north and northeast
  - Feeling
  - Damage another's reputation
  - Mottled citrus fruit
  - Beauty product
  - They man first, second and third
  - Harness
  - Herb
  - Expressed concern
  - Mississippi scientific area (abbr.)
  - Consumed
  - Nostrils
  - Gathered fallen leaves
  - Express good wishes
  - Monetary unit of Brunei
  - Japanese Buddhist festival

# GET COOKING WORD SEARCH

G Y G A T A M E R A W K O O C H E A H R  
 O D I F Z A Y P G G L U E P B R O T Z G T  
 Z C K U L A E P G G N D Z T F C O S P J N  
 W R O F I P I B C P I N H H R F A C L R  
 Z E T B O O C Y D C P N E S O Y B F F I  
 U A E R R H J K U O H H I L B Y I J M W  
 C M Z A B C B F J J H T D R B W K N B C  
 G A C S I M I R P Y E H D O B G S J G Y  
 S I F T Y Y T C A O A K Z F W E K O A E  
 Z D E G L A Z E D I A O U I H Z Y F N K  
 B O D T H C S M D L S C B A K E G N F B  
 F G B B D A U W I R H E H N O G E K N T  
 B B F N T R H I B A E A L O Y I T K S C  
 L N C M E A R M R L W D H J L O H A R A  
 A N O T K M N N O U L N G U F T O B F S  
 N M S A F E L B W I K I J E Y R K J B S  
 C Y S O G L O K N G Y D R O L U D B P G  
 H I E D P I B U G C J H I G R W W M Y L  
 G D J P L Z N Z D K I U D C U G Y J H B  
 W L E L S E A O U T E T K G E A C D N J

- |                |                   |                 |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>BAKE</b>    | <b>BROIL</b>      | <b>DREDGE</b>   |
| <b>BASTE</b>   | <b>BROWN</b>      | <b>FOLD</b>     |
| <b>BEAT</b>    | <b>CARAMELIZE</b> | <b>FRYING</b>   |
| <b>BLANCH</b>  | <b>CHOP</b>       | <b>GRILL</b>    |
| <b>BLEND</b>   | <b>COOKWARE</b>   | <b>JULIENNE</b> |
| <b>BOIL</b>    | <b>CREAM</b>      | <b>POACH</b>    |
| <b>BRAISE</b>  | <b>DEGLAZE</b>    | <b>ROAST</b>    |
| <b>BRINING</b> | <b>DICE</b>       | <b>SIFT</b>     |



# KRVAA holds parking lot sale fundraiser

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

The Kern River Valley Art Association (KRVAA) held a Parking Lot Sale for a fundraiser, this past Friday November 15, and Saturday, November 16.

Lead docent for the KRVAA, Kimberly Salazar, told the Kern Valley Sun that the event was to fundraise for more programs, and more events, and opportunities for the community, and to keep the lights on. She said, "We basically run on donations and grants, and our volunteers, which we're grateful for."

Salazar said the group was selling a myriad of items. "We have a lot of furniture, tools, art equipment, supplies, drums."

The KRVAA also has all kinds of books for sale at the Station Espresso and Books store.

Salazar said that funds from coffee and pastries are used as donations.

She said, "If people are interested in any of the items they see in the pictures they can always call us and see if we still have them. I'm sure we're going to have a lot of things." The number to call is (760) 478-0077



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KRVAA

# Exchange donates to Sarge's fundraiser

CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

Orion Sanders wore one of his many hats, as founder of Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets, at the Kern Valley Exchange Club on Thursday, November 14, at Paradise Cove Lodge.

He spoke on the topic of Wreaths Across America Day when he visited during the Veterans Appreciation Lunch.

Sanders said, "Since we're celebrating veterans, and veterans month, and Veterans Day, I just wanted to remind everybody that December 14th we have National Wreaths Across America Day."

Sanders said Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets was probably a little over 300 wreaths short of his goal of the close to 900 wreaths he needs to attain to cover all the grave-stones of veterans buried at Kern River Valley Cemetery. Sanders said that there are 885 veterans buried in the cemetery if you include the six veterans buried at Cottage Grove Cemetery

He said, "If you want to come out and help us place out wreaths, or you have an organization that would like to donate towards the wreaths, I have fliers here that you can grab with all kinds of ways you can do that."

The president of the Kern Valley Exchange Club, Fred Roach, handed a donation to Sanders for Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets on behalf of the club.

Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets has taken up the mantle fundraising for National Wreaths Across America Day, on December 14. Sanders told the Kern Valley Sun, that the cut off date for donating is November 29, which is why he's currently pushing hard for donations.

He said, "National Wreaths Across America day is a celebration to remember and honor our veterans in our cemeter-



CATHERINE STACHOWIAK

ies. There are over 4200 locations around the world that participate in National Wreaths Across America day."

Sanders said that Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets raises money and then purchases the wreaths. The wreaths are transported the day before the National Wreaths Across America Day. Sanders said, "We have a very short ceremony at the cemetery. And then we place wreaths on all of our veteran headstones."

In the past American Legion Riders have given an escort, to the delivery truck, when it delivers the wreaths. Sanders said, "We have had a lot of different organizations that donate and a lot of organizations that come out to help put out wreaths. It's a full community involvement to remember all of our deceased veterans."

People can donate to Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets at this link, which can be found at Sarge's Wreaths 4 Vets Facebook page. <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/142961/Over->

view/?relatedId=0&mod-Sw=donate

"What we really work hard to do is to ensure that every headstone gets a wreath. When we don't raise enough funds, and we can't purchase enough wreaths, some of those veterans don't get remembered and honored. So the difficulty for us is, if we don't have enough; which one do you walk past?" Sanders said, "Last year was the first year that we were able to generate enough funds to cover all the headstones on our own locally. Several years ago we did get some help from another cemetery that had some extras to help us cover. But that was someone else helping us out."

"Sarge's is just a way for us to remember our local heroes that are buried here. National wreaths across Day is done in every veteran cemetery across the nation and every participating public cemetery which is what we are," he said.

# Senior Lunch Special

At the Senior Center • 6409 Lake Isabella Blvd. • 760-379-5831

Lunch Served at 11:30 a.m & 12 p.m.  
Please call 760-379-5831 for reservations 24 hours in advance.

**November 20**

**Chicken Jambalaya**

- Brussel Sprouts\*\*
- Garden Salad
- Mandarin Oranges
- Wheat Roll
- Milk

**November 21**

**Cheese Ravioli**

- Spinach\*\*
- Peaches
- Garlic Bread
- Juice
- Milk

**November 22**

**Turkey & Gravy**

- Glazed Carrots\*\*
- Mashed Potatoes
- Cornbread Stuffing
- Cranberry Apple Delight
- Pumpkin Pie
- Roll/Milk

**November 25**

**Pasta Fagioli**

- Green Beans\*\*
- Bread Stick
- Banana
- Juice
- Milk

**November 26**

**Casino Crusted Cod**

- Zucchini & Tomatoes\*\*
- Brown Rice
- Tropical Fruit
- Milk

**November 27**

**Meat Spaghetti**

- Italian Veggies\*\*
- Green Salad
- Orange
- Garlic Bread
- Milk

\*\* Items are a rich source of Vitamin A

**Seniors \$3 • Non-Seniors \$6**

Stay in tune with local news every hour on the hour at the top of the hour.

**103.7 OUTLAW COUNTRY RADIO**

Catch the local news from the Kern Valley Sun exclusively on Outlaw Radio 103.7 FM at the top of every hour daily.

**LOCAL NEWS**  
Brought to you by your community partners, Outlaw Radio and the Kern Valley Sun, doing more for you.

**KERN VALLEY SUN**

SERVING KERN VALLEY

**MAKEN LOCKERS CARPET CLEANING**

Cleans Deeper, Dries Faster • Carpet Repairs & Re-Stretches • Area Rugs • RV's

**PROFESSIONAL WORK GUARANTEED CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**

Pet Deodorizing • Teflon Carpet Protection  
45 Years Experience • Family Operated

24 Hour Emergency Flood Service | **760-379-1101** | FREE ESTIMATES

# GAME SOLUTIONS

**SOLUTIONS ACROSS**

1. TWA
4. CAN
7. ACE
10. HIN
11. ONE
12. BOY
13. SPELT
15. MAM
16. DORSA
19. AIRLINE
21. ELUTION
23. DEMIGOD

**24. SOCIETY**

25. AUDI
26. ESTE
27. ARAMAIC
30. SESSION
34. GAD
35. ABN
36. OPOSSUM
41. BROWNIE
45. ALGA
46. AERO
47. SANDALS
50. SIERRAS

**54. STANNIC**

55. ENGRAVE
56. CERED
57. ABM
59. AIKEN
60. ESE
61. ROE
62. NEE
63. SSR
64. ANN
65. ODD

**SOLUTIONS DOWN**

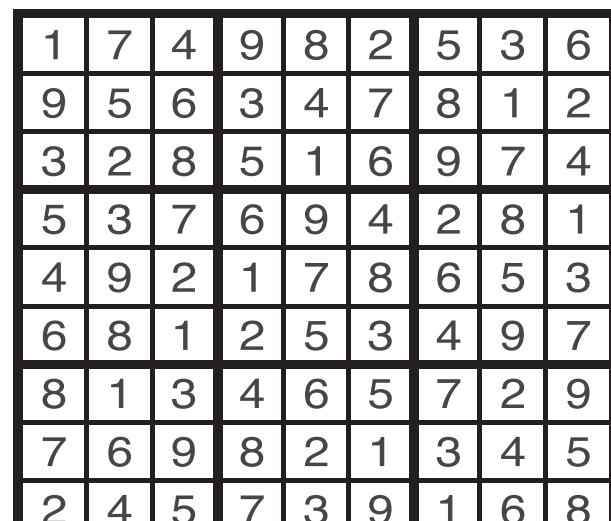
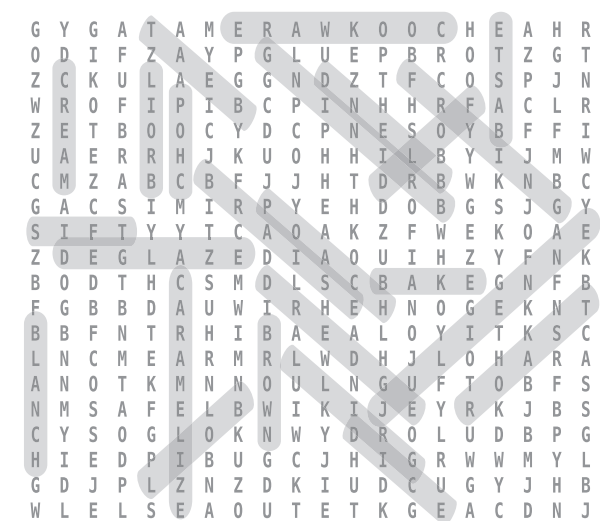
1. THERM
2. WILLIAM
3. ANTIGUA
4. COMEDIC
5. ANA
6. NEMESSES
7. ABDUCTS
8. COOTIES
9. EYRIE
13. SAD
14. PIE
17. SOT

**18. ANY**

20. NODI
22. LOSE
27. AGO
28. RAP
29. ADO
31. IAN
32. OBI
33. NNE
37. SADNESS
38. SLANDER
39. UGLI
40. MASCARA

**41. BASEMEN**

42. REIN
43. OREGANO
44. WORRIED
47. SSC
48. ATE
49. NARES
51. RAKED
52. AVE
53. SEN
58. BON







**CROSS COUNTRY,  
AWARDS  
& BASKETBALL**

**POWERED BY:**

**DAM KORNER RESTAURANT**

6303 Lake Isabella Blvd. 760-379-8770

# Kern Valley runs as individuals at HDL Finals

RAY CONNER

The HDL finals were a chance for the Kern Valley runners to see where they stack up in the upcoming CIF Meets.

Teams were running as individuals for both qualification and placement in the CIF. In the girls' race, Aspen Hacker dominated from start to finish as she took the tape in a time of 21.04 to capture first place. A. Hacker has dominated the HDL this season and it continued in this race. Kyla Hacker came across the line in fourth place in a time of 24.14. Faith Kirby was the next Lady Broncos runner to place as she came in seventh. Her time was a respectable 26.32. Tabitha Cazares was right behind in eighth with a time of 26.49. Kassandra Guarneros finished off the squad of Lady Broncos runners with a 16th place. She crossed the timing line in 30.08. Greta Boettcher did not run in this race as she was experiencing the Nation's Capital with her International Exchange Organization.

On the Broncos side of the race, the top finisher for Kern Valley was Logan Sampson. He crossed



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Broncos are included in the start of the race at the HDL Finals.

the line in a time of 21.48 to take the eighth place. Ethan Mauer was the next Broncos runner to come in. He was 12th in a time of 23.20. Angel Oliveras was the 20th place finisher in a time of 25.31,

while Dario Jones was 24th with a time of 26.30. Rounding out the times for Kern Valley runner was Matthew Leonez who crossed the line in 28th with a time of 26.747 which was .001 in front of the 29th

place runner.

Up next for the Kern Valley runners will be the CIF Team qualification race on Thursday to see who will run in the State cross country Meet on Nov. 30. The top

two teams will qualify for the state meet. Along with that the top 20 individual runners, excluding the top two teams runners who automatically qualify, is at stake.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

These student-athletes were the top performers in the classroom for the Kern Valley athletic teams.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

These athletes shown here were selected as MVP's from their respective Kern Valley teams for fall sports.

# Fall sports comes to an end with Awards Night at Kern Valley

RAY CONNER

The new school year might be at the beginning, but in the world of Kern Valley sports, it has and ending in the fall.

The annual Awards Night at Kern Valley was recently held with all the teams gathering to honor the student athletes and the outstanding players of the season. The collection of the athletes that

performed well in the classroom and on the field was extensive. This takes a commitment from the athletes as they look to keep their priorities in tackling both the classroom and being a teammate on the Broncos and Lady Broncos teams.

The focus then turned to the outstanding athletes from each Kern Valley team. There were 10 teams that selected the Most Valuable Player on the season. This

included the newest team to have a voice at Awards Night. This year the frosh/soph volleyball team also chose an MVP. Three teams had co-MVP's which included the JV volleyball squad, and both Broncos football teams.

Leading the way was the frosh/soph volleyball team. Gabby Eastes was selected as the MVP for the newest Kern Valley squad. The JV Lady Broncos had co-MVPs in Brynneigh McCarthy and Ashley

Plante. The CIF semi-finalist Lady Broncos selected Ruby Hawkins as the MVP. The two cross country teams chose Sebastian Stallone as the boys squad MVP. HDL champion Aspen Hacker was the choice from the girls runners. The Lady Broncos tennis team picked Marissa Tate as their MVP, while the JV cheerleaders chose Preslie Hurley as the MVP. The varsity squad selected Ava Elliott as the MVP.

The last two Kern Valley teams

to select MVP's were the Broncos football teams. These were both shared by two athletes from the teams. At the JV level, Tye Humphers and Jackson Price were declared MVP for this season. Turning to the varsity team, Zane Carver and Daniel Hinkey were the Co-MVPs for the Broncos. Hinkey also picked up an additional award as he was selected as the HDL Defensive Player of the Year.

# JV Lady Broncos basketball ready to jump into the season

## *Young Kern Valley squad has no returners*

RAY CONNER

The season is at hand for the JV Lady Broncos basketball team. The go into the year as a young team that has no returners.

To some, this might be considered a growing experience. But this is what the JV program is all about. Getting players ready to compete at the varsity level. Kenny Bushling returns to coach the Lady Broncos after a 25-year absence. When he first started teaching at Kern Valley he coached the JV teams for two years. During his time at Kern Valley, Bushling has had plenty of coaching experience. He has assisted or coached several teams over his 27-year career.

He will go into the year with the varsity coach, Bill Gallis working as a team in guiding his young charges. With no returners on the team, Bushling will have to get the Lady Broncos moving together in the right direction. The current make-up of the team will be three sophomores and nine freshmen. The three sophomores on the squad are Mille Bustamante, Hazel Kiosef, and Samantha Ruiz.

Rounding out the rest of the squad are, Piper Connolly, Kaylle Ellis, Brooke Gibson, Taylor Kristy, Amber McAhren, Peyton Mental, Zoe Perfect, Bobbie Pruitt, and Alissa Webster.

As the coach, Bushling has a goal set in mind. He wants his players to get prepared to play at the varsity level. With this young squad with no high school experience, fundamentals and learning how to play at the high school level will be the focus. Bushling said, "The goal this season is to help the team prepare for the varsity level. Coach Gallis and I will really be focusing on the fundamentals for this group. Along with learning the fundamentals we want the team to learn how to win. We will be seeking an HDL JV title while we build a culture of hard work, teamwork and winning."

Attaining this goal is the challenge as they get ready to begin their season. Bushling has a plan and will implement this in getting his players to come together and form a team. Working along side of the varsity players, he hopes to allow the more experience players

to teach the younger team. Bushling said, "We will seek to obtain these goals with demonstration, practice, repetition. Coach Gallis and I will be working together and creating a "program", not two separate teams, but a system where the girls can progress to higher levels of basketball."

As they begin to play games, the courts will be filled with the chance to learn the game through competition. In the non-league it will have to be a quick learning curve as they get one game and one tournament before HDL action comes into play. Bushling will have to adjust on the fly and find which players will form the Lady Broncos starters and the rotations during games. He would say, "In the non-league portion of the schedule, we will be looking to improve rapidly as we have one game and one tournament before league play. I'll be using these opportunities to find the most compatible positions for the players."

Other HDL schools struggle to have JV teams and that will also be a challenge for this Lady Broncos team. Needing the game

experience to compete for a league title. Bushling said, "Unfortunately, several league schools will not be having JV girls' teams, however, Bishop and Rosamond, as usual I'm sure will be strong contenders."

After just a short time of practices before this Kern Valley squad will take to the court, finding what will bring this team together. When asked what he sees as the strength of the team, Bushling stated, "The strengths of our team are that we are solid at each position and I feel like we will have good depth. We have a good mix of quickness, power, height, and athleticism. We have several girls that will be able to play multiple positions."

Of course, with the lack of experience on the Lady Broncos team. The areas that need work could be extensive, Bushling when posed this question responded, "Having such a young team we will need to work on learning the game, and emphasizing the fundamentals of dribbling and passing. I want to run an up tempo game, with pressure to create turnovers and

convert those turnovers into points for us. I also want to teach man defense, where we apply relentless pressure and help each other when there is a breakdown. We will be putting in maximum effort when on the court, basically not allowing any opponent to out hustle us."

Asked to share his closing thoughts as his team gets ready to play their first game of the year, Bushling said, "I'm excited to be coaching the girls after a long absence of coaching at this level. After the first week of practice, I like what I see, with the coachable, hustle and excitement of the team."

With the way the coach sees his team, one can be positive that despite the lack of experience, the Lady Broncos JV squad will be competitive and effective in doing what they need to do to be successful. Kern Valley will get their first chance to see what it's like to play at the high school level comes Thursday when they defend their home court against Mira Monte. The game is scheduled to top off at 5 p.m.



## VOLLEYBALL & BASKETBALL

POWERED BY:

Isabella *True Value*.

6050 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella • 760-379-4250



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Wallace seventh grade Lady Colts proudly show off their championship plaque they won at the Cerro Coso College volleyball tournament.

# Lady Colts volleyball team takes tournament championship

RAY CONNER

The Wallace Middle School seventh-grade volleyball team competed in the Cerro Coso College volleyball tournament this past Saturday. They would be crowned the champion with a dominating performance.

The tournament final was a rematch with the team from Monroe. It was the serving accuracy that provided the fuel to victory. The Lady Colts only missed 10 of the 48 serves made in the match. They would also record 10 aces in the two-set championship match. Wallace took control of the match with a decisive 25-15 win in the initial set. The second set was battle, that the Lady Colts would complete the sweep to the championship. The second set score was 25-22.

Charlet Eastes led the charge as she delivered three service aces in the match. Three Lady Colts finished with a pair of aces. Maddoxx Armes, Ashley Martinez, and Emma Alfred each recorded two aces. Wrapping up the service aces

was Savannah Olague with one. At the net, Wallace was credited with seven kills. Skylar Olloa and Alfred shared the team lead with a pair of kills. Chloe Smoot, Olague and Eastes had one kill apiece.

Wallace began the championship drive by taking on Murray. The match was never in doubt as they took the first set 25-5. They finished off the match with a 25-11 win to advance in the tournament. Once more it came down to minimum service errors that propelled the Lady Colts. With only five errors and 41 serves put in play led to the easy transition of the defense. Martinez was the ace leader as she was credited with five in the match. Armes followed with four, while Smoot finished with three aces. Ulloa wrapped up the service game as she delivered one ace.

Smoot led her Lady Colts teammates at the net with three kills. Alfred connected on a pair of kills, while Dani Brooks and Ulloa each had one kill. With this victory the Wallace squad advanced and would go up against the Monroe team for a chance to advance to

the finals of the tournament.

It was another dominating performance by the Lady Colts as they swept the match in two sets. The opening set was a 25-10 win, while the second set score was 25-15. As was they theme of this tournament, serving played a huge part in claiming the tournament. Of the 46 serves in the match only seven were missed. Within that they collected 11 aces as a team. Leading the way was Olague with eight aces. She was followed by Brooks who delivered five aces. Eastes had four, while Armes and Martinez each had one ace. Only one kill was recorded in the match by the Lady Colts. Eastes was credited with the lone kill in the match.

Wallace now had to play the waiting game as who they would face in the championship match. It would end up being a familiar opponent as they would once again face the team from Monroe. They drifted into the finals and would have the favorable outcome, bringing home the championship plaque.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A member of the Wallace seventh grade volleyball team tries to deliver a kill at the recent tournament.

# Season long success is the hope of the varsity Lady Broncs

RAY CONNER

The Kern Valley varsity basketball team will begin a season in which they hang their hopes on the coaches, the returners and the athleticism of all the players.

They are looking for success in making the opportunities work for them instead of against them. Bill Gallis in his 12th year at the helm leads the Lady Broncs. In the past 12 years, Gallis has coached a plethora of Kern Valley teams. He will be assisted by the JV girls coach, Kenny Bushling.

Gallis commented on his time at Kern Valley and his assistant said, "This will be my 12th year coaching this team. It's hard to believe how fast time has flown by, but each season has brought its own set of memories, challenges, and growth opportunities. I've been coaching at Kern Valley High School for 12 years, and in that time, I've had the privilege of coaching a range of sports including football, volleyball, baseball, and tennis. This season, Kenny

Bushling will be my right-hand man, assisting me with the team and taking on the role of JV team coach. Additionally, I'll be leaning on Jamie Duran as a consultant for the team, whose insights and experience add valuable perspectives to our strategy."

This season Kern Valley has 11 players on the team. Of those 11, five are returners for the Lady Broncs. Three seniors, three juniors, one sophomore, and four freshmen make up the Kern Valley squad. Two of the seniors that return are Ava Elliott and Jesie Bunting. Joining them are juniors Jayda Bushling and Elli Jeans. The lone sophomore on the squad, Leenah Troller also returns to the Lady Broncs. Filling out the rest of the squad are Senior McKayla Bachman and junior Scarlett Russell. The four freshmen to complete the Lady Broncs are Jade Montes, Emmalynn Bechtel, Ashley Plante, and Naomi Tapia.

There are specific goals that coach Gallis has in mind for his team. Keeping things competitive

and working on improvement throughout the season are on the top of the list. He said, "As a coach, my primary goal for the upcoming basketball season is to foster a competitive yet supportive environment where every player improves both individually and as a cohesive team. This goal encompasses developing fundamental skills, enhancing game intelligence, and promoting a culture of resilience and sportsmanship."

His plan to get there will take both the players and the coaches building a connection into making the Lady Broncs believe in themselves and move that to the court. Gallis said, "Implement focused training regimens by creating practice plans that emphasize fundamentals, position-specific skills, and situational gameplay to build players' confidence and versatility. Strengthen team chemistry by encouraging team-building exercises and open communication to develop trust among players. Prioritize player development by identifying each player's strengths and

areas for improvement, providing tailored feedback and specialized training to ensure continuous growth. Strategic game planning using our tools to study opponents and refine game strategies that play to the team's strengths, ensuring players understand their roles and responsibilities during games. Foster a growth mindset to promote a culture where mistakes are seen as learning opportunities and every player is motivated to push beyond their limits."

With a very short non-league season, the Kern Valley team will have to come together quickly in making the goal of the coach become a reality. Two tournaments and one individual game will be the non-league for the Lady Broncs. When asked what he was looking for in the non-league, Gallis responded, "In the non-league portion of the schedule, I would be looking for opportunities that allow the team to grow and prepare effectively for league play. Use non-league games to build trust and improve on-court communica-

tion among teammates. This helps players understand each other's strengths, weaknesses, and tendencies. Experiment with different offensive and defensive schemes to see how well the team adapts and what strategies are most effective in various situations. Evaluate both team and individual performances to pinpoint what works well and what needs more focus in practice. Create a balance of challenging matchups and winnable games to boost the team's morale while still providing a test to sharpen their skills. Prepare the team to face adversity by scheduling strong non-league opponents. This will teach the team how to handle pressure and improve their problem-solving during tight or difficult games. Assess each player's performance under different conditions to fine-tune rotations and identify who thrives in various roles or game situations. Overall, the non-league games serve as a foundation for growth, giving a preview of what

continued on page A11



## BASKETBALL

POWERED BY:

# DICK WEED'S BREW & GRUB

6303 Lake Isabella Blvd. 760-379-8770

# First year head coach takes the reins of the varsity Broncs

## Kern Valley returns seven players as season begins

RAY CONNER

There will be plenty of challenges ahead as the Broncs varsity basketball team prepares to start the season.

With a new coach, the Broncs do have a great deal of experience as they return seven of the 12 players on the team. First-year head coach Corey Mixon will be in charge of the Kern Valley squad as he looks forward to a successful basketball campaign. C. Mixon started at Kern Valley as an assistant on both the JV football team in 2023 and the varsity football team this past season. His assistants are a family affair as Kelsey Mixon and Brent Mixon will be underlings to the head coach.

The 12 players that will form the Broncs varsity team consist of four seniors, seven juniors, and one sophomore. Returning players for the Kern Valley team are seniors Zane Carver, Bryce Smoot, and Joey Galvan. Coming back as juniors are Daniel Hinkey, Maddox Beaury, and Brandon Cox. Rounding out the returning players for the Broncs is sophomore, Shiloh Galvan. Filling up the varsity squad are juniors, Jaden Arellanes, Aiden Madded, Carson Parks, Jeffrey Clark, and Jacob Redenius.

Every coach whether they are first timers or have experience has a goal in mind as they begin the season.

Mixon is no exception. It's and old philosophy, but still relevant for today. Having a competitive team that wants to win and continue that winning atmosphere in the future. Commenting on his goal Mixon said, "My goal is to be competitive in every game and build a winning culture."

To make this goal a reality, Mixon plans on committing his team to working hard, flowing the rules, and being accountable in all things. When posed the question on how he was going to attain this goal, he said, "Through hard work, discipline, consistency, and integrity."

With a short non-league and a quick push into league play, the Broncs will have to garner the game experience from the returners, the coach, and their own athletic talent. A pair of tournaments and one non-league contest is all the team has to before jumping into the HDL. Asked what he was looking for in the non-league Mixon said, "In non-league, I'm just looking for continuous improvement and understanding for what we are trying to achieve and how we are trying to achieve it."

Which leads to league play and the wanting to do well. The coach is realistic in his approach to HDL action. Last season the Broncs finished in sixth place. If they plan to be a force to be reckoned with, they will



Bryce Smoot of the varsity Broncs returns to help lead the team as the season is about to start.

have to prove they have the mettle to compete for the higher echelon spot. Mixon commenting on league play said, "Last year the team finished sixth in league. I think it's safe to say everyone will be a contender until we prove we can beat them."

With so many returners and a wanting to succeed there are strengths of his team. He sees the strengths as the returners with plenty of game experience. He said, "We have a good core of returners that already

understand the game. Now we just have to fine tune certain skills."

On the flip side the weaknesses he sees is the lack of height. Which in turn means how to win the rebounding game. He also has a plan to turn that into a strength. Mixon said, "We aren't very tall as a team, so working hard and being aggressive

on rebounding will be a focal point. We aren't very tall as a team, so working hard and being aggressive on rebounding will be a focal point."

With the season at hand, the new head coach of the Broncs hopes to put the right foot forward when the actual games begin. He wants to begin the building

of a winning culture at the varsity basketball level that continues well in to the future. Kern Valley will open the season in tournament play. They will compete in the tournament at Mira Monte starting on Thursday. Tournament play continues through Saturday.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

continued from page A10

to expect during league competition and building a strong, adaptable team."

From a realistic point of view, Gallis knows that the HDL will be a tough go. There are teams that have built a winning culture and Kern Valley hopes to become one of those teams. Along with that they must learn how to compete with teams that are trying to do the same. Gallis said, "Rosamond is the reigning Division V champions and are historically strong. They are always a formidable opponent in the league. Bishop is another competitive team, consistently challenging for top positions in the league. Boron, known for their resilience and competitive spirit, often poses a significant challenge and Desert has one of the top players in the area and are very athletic. These teams are expected to be the main competitors for Kern Valley in the upcoming girls' basketball season."

With plenty of experience to lean on, Gallis sees the strength of his team playing solid defense and the athleticism of his players. He commented, "The Kern Valley basketball team is poised for a strong 2024-2025 season, building on past successes. The team showcases formidable defensive capabilities, a trait that was evident during their impressive 2023-2024 run where they consistently held opponents to low scores. With a roster that includes five returning players who are well-versed in the team's dynamics and strategies, Kern Valley benefits from exceptional team chemistry and depth. Athleticism stands out as another defining strength, allowing the team to maintain a fast-paced style of play, excel in transition, and sustain a high level of endurance throughout games."

Looking to areas where the team needs work, Gallis said, "While the Kern Valley girls' basketball team boasts strong attributes, there are always areas for growth



Leading the way for the Lady Broncs is one of the returners this year. Jessie Bunting comes back for her senior year.

to ensure the team reaches its full potential. While the team can create opportunities, improving field goal and free throw percentages will help capitalize on scoring chances and maintain momentum in tight games. Reducing unforced errors and maintaining control under pressure is essential. Enhancing ball-handling skills and decision-making can help limit turnovers during critical moments."

Offering his closing thoughts Gallis said, "As I step into my 12th year coaching this team, the sense of pride and commitment is as strong as ever. This season promises to be a journey marked by both the familiar and the fresh. With the support of my dedicated assistant, Kenny Bushling, we're well-equipped for the challenges and opportunities ahead. The season brings a blend of experience and athleticism with five returning players who embody resilience, chemistry, and a deep understanding of our game plan. Our goals extend beyond just winning; they encompass nurturing individual growth, fostering

a strong team culture, and ensuring that every game is a learning opportunity. In essence, this season is about more than just the game; it's about fostering leadership, resilience, and a love for competition. With the groundwork set and a committed group ready to elevate their game, I am excited and optimistic about what lies ahead for the Kern Valley girls' basketball team. The road will be demanding, but together, we are prepared to face every challenge and make the most of every moment."

With the year of basketball upcoming, the high hopes for success are built into the coaching staff, the players, and their willingness to become the best version of a basketball squad. The time is at hand for them to put this effort in the works. They will battle on their home court the first time when they play Mira Monte on Thursday. The game will start just after the conclusion of the JV game that will take to the court earlier.

**AltaOne**  
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

**YOUR HOME. YOUR FUTURE.  
YOUR FAMILY.**

### HOME IS MORE THAN A PLACE,

it's a foundation for family and long-term financial security. At AltaOne, we're committed to helping you achieve your dream of homeownership with a range of loans, including:

**FIRST MORTGAGES • REFINANCE  
HOME EQUITY LOAN • ITIN HOME LOANS  
ZERO DOWN PURCHASE PROGRAM**

### GET STARTED TODAY!

- Call (800) 433-9727
- Click [AltaOne.org/home-loans](https://www.altaone.org/home-loans)
- Visit your nearby AltaOne Branch

**¡HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL!**



# KERN RIVER VALLEY BUSINESS CORRAL



Month to Month  
**Memberships**  
6400 Wofford Boulevard • Wofford Heights



Group Training 5am - 10am Monday-Friday  
Personal Trainers 7am - 3pm Saturday & Sunday  
Climate Controlled Clean, Fully Staffed, Safe

760-478-8206

**JAMES SIERRA GATEWAY**  
MARKET - SPORTING GOODS - FUEL  
GROCERIES • LIQUOR BEER CELLAR • PRODUCE • FULL SERVICE MEAT COUNTER  
HOT & COLD DELI • FISHING • CAMPING • HUNTING SUPPLIES • CLOTHING & MORE!

13432 SIERRA WAY • KERNVILLE  
760-376-2424

**GIFTS GALORE**

"BOLD FLAVORS... THAT NEVER DISAPPOINT!"

OPEN 7 DAYS • 5am-7pm  
Credit Cards • ATM

OPEN 7 DAYS Mon. - Fri. 6am - 6pm  
13426 Sierra Way (On the River) • Kernville

**TUTTLE'S**  
Local Family Since 1919

**EMPORIUM**  
A wide Variety of Goods & Gifts  
Toys • Decor • Sundries • UPS

**Dress Your Soul**  
Fashion for All Figures  
Healing Crystals • Elixirs • Pendleton

**CIRCLE PARK**  
Your One Stop Shopping locations  
for everyone on your list!  
10am to 7pm 7 days a week

Visit Santa every Saturday in December from 5-7pm

Watch for details about our Krampus Run

GROUP FITNESS CLASSES  
DANCE • CHILD CARE & MORE

**\$25 A MONTH** | **\$35 A MONTH**  
W/ 1 YR. CONTRACT | W/ 6 MON. CONTRACT

**VALLEY FITNESS**  
WHERE CHAMPIONS TRAIN  
Lake Isabella EST. 2002

6200 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella  
**OPEN 24 HOURS** | 760-417-2206

**KERN RIVER VALLEY SENIOR CITIZENS, INC.**

A nonprofit organization connecting older adults to resources, activities, and support

**(760) 379-1428**  
6405 Lake Isabella Blvd.  
(in the Kern River Valley Senior Center)

P.O. Box 2664  
Lake Isabella, CA 93240-2664  
info@krvseniors.org

**L & M LUMBER INC.**

Beginning Sunday December 1st,  
Come in and fill out an entry form to  
**win a...**

**6 Foot Christmas Stocking Full of Great Gifts!**

Entry form must be filled out by Dec. 22  
Drawing will be held on Dec. 23  
No purchase necessary

Mon - Fri 7-6 • Sat & Sun 8-5 • 4700 Lake Isabella Blvd  
(760) 379-4631 • Toll Free (833)-459-6237

**OLD ISABELLA**  
- coffee company -  
Coffee - Pastries

Tues.- Fri. 7am-1pm  
Sat. & Sun. 8am-1pm

5104 Lake Isabella Blvd., Suite D