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Vol. 2, No. 42 **SERVING THE READERS OF THE REEDLEY EXPONENT, DINUBA SENTINEL AND SANGER HERALD**

Reedley votes to contract out trash services

By Jon Earnest
Mid Valley Times

In a decision that city leaders admitted was one of the toughest they had to make, the Reedley City Council on April 13 unanimously approved the start negotiations to outsource and franchise the city's solid waste services with a private company.

The action means that Reedley ratepayers will see a decrease of about \$100 in annual trash collection fees, and also prevent the city from having to hike monthly fees by anywhere from 25 to 40 percent. But the downside is that the city would have to lay off the 10 city employees who work on solid waste collection.

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Reedley Chamber salutes its top citizens at Gala

The Greater Reedley Chamber of Commerce honored 10 individual and business recipients at its MASKerade business and community awards gala on April 17 at The Wakehouse Restaurant.

A photo of Junior Citizen of the Year Emily Medina Delgado can be found in Lifestyle on Page A7. More photos from the event can be found on the back page, Page A18.

'Pod' Rave in Sanger



Hobb's Grove east of Sanger hosted Central California's first-ever socially distanced "pod rave" on April 17. The event was a near sell-out, with attendees following guidelines by staying within 8 feet by 10 feet pods holding up to five people each. Attendees were able to dance under the stars and listen to colorful dance music. The festival was compliant with CDC, state and Fresno County health guidelines for COVID-19. The event was hosted by Eclectic Events and EDM Maniac.

ABOVE: Artist GAWM leads the near-sellout crowd during his performance.

RIGHT: Attendees in individual pods watched from near the front of the stage.

Matt Clausen / Photos Contributed



Man is fatally shot in Reedley

By Juanita Adame
Mid Valley Times

What started as an ordinary Tuesday for employees at the Bravante Produce Plant in east Reedley on April 13 soon turned into a late afternoon of violence, lockdowns, and hours of police questioning.



Elizandro Diaz

The developments came after one of the plant's employees, 27-year-old Elizandro Diaz, was shot and killed in the parking lot of the company at 1356 S. Buttonwillow Ave.

It was shortly after 6 p.m. that Reedley police received the shots fired call in the 1300 block of Buttonwillow Avenue.

Upon arrival, police found the victim suffering from a

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Fresno County advances to Orange tier

By Jon Earnest
Mid Valley Times

The Central Valley faded to a brighter hue of orange this week, as Fresno and Kings counties joined Tulare County in the orange tier (moderate) category regarding new coronavirus cases.

There were a few select instances of increases when it came to the virus, the Central Valley region along with California in general continued to see declines

Coronavirus Update

in active cases and no signs of new outbreaks.

The April 20 statistical update by the Fresno County Department of Public Health showed that the rate of new infections per 100,000 in population had dropped to 4.8, under the level of 5.9 for a second consecutive week. Because of that statistic and a low positivity rate of

just more than 2 percent, the county is able to move up to the orange tier level and the looser restrictions that go with the designation.

In the orange tier, indoor businesses and organizations are allowed to increase capacity from previous state guidelines. The most common number of interest to people is restaurants,

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