Girls Varsity Volleyball team are early season winners

On Saturday, Sept. 9, the Temple City High School Varsity Girls Volleyball team competed in eight games over 10 hours against 14 other teams in an elimination format to win first place in the El Monte High School Varsity Volleyball Classic. Player Serena Gray was named the MVP and teammate Amy Kubo received an Honorary Mention Award. Coach Lyle Takehita and his championship team are, from left, (front row, sitting) Amy Kubo, Darcee Young, Riley Rose, Ashley My Grinstead; (middle row) Coach Takehita, Isabella Pollock, Kimberly Tjantra, Kristen Chen, Michelle Vuong, Hailey Fawk, Olivia Tran; (back row) Julia Corral, Shirley Li, Desiree Tran, Bay Hollinger, and Serena Gray. See Page 10 for more photos.

Temple City Accountability Act on Nov. 8 ballot

On Nov. 8, 2016, ballot Measure AA will give voters the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed Temple City Government Accountability Act. A “yes” vote will:

• Eliminate gift and campaign contributions from developers and city contractors.

• Limit eligibility for City commissions.

• Establish definitive term limits for City Council.

• Make some technical changes. The Council began work on the project in February and took action in July to pass the measure.

The Act will incorporate these new provisions into the City Charter, which defines how local government operates, making them legally enforceable. For details, contact the City Clerk’s office.

TCUSD academic assessment scores remain strong

The Temple City Unified School District recently released results for three major academic assessment exams including the ACT, AP and CAASPP.

District exam scores remain strong and steady as participation rates continue to climb.

Pending the release of SAT scores, the District shared results of its ACT exam. TCUSD students continue to outperform state averages among all categories, according to District Supt. Kathy Perini.

The exam has become increasingly popular with District students over the past five years, a signal that students are better preparing themselves for the college admissions process.

AP courses are a prominent facet of the academic curriculum at Temple City High School. Results for Advanced Placement (AP) exams had a strong showing with more than 84% of AP students receiving a passing score or higher.

One course receiving special attention is AP computer science, which had a 72% pass rate in only its first year. District officials attribute the success to the high-achieving learning environment fostered from kindergarten to 12th grade. Although satisfied with the results of these exams, District officials are reluctant to employ a singular exam to measure student success, particularly when considering results of the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP).

Still in its infancy, score trends for the exam won’t be established until the third year. Nevertheless, TCUSD students met the standard for all grade levels in English language arts/literacy and mathematics, and exceeded the State’s 95% participation requirement.

TCUSD officials emphasize that the CAASPP is only one measure in a larger scope, stating that the exam is indicative of the accrual of knowledge and successful habits, both functions of college and career readiness. The CAASPP is expected to raise more questions than provide answers, but the District remains optimistic that the results will lead to more honest and collaborative conversations.

TCUSD owes much of the success in student performance to the outstanding support it receives from families and the community, Supt. Perini said.

City Planning Commission approves Terraces

On Tuesday, Sept. 13, the Temple City Planning Commission approved a proposed mixed-use project at 5835 Temple City Blvd. (the former site of the Alpha Beta grocery store). That project is next scheduled for City Council consideration on Oct. 18.

According to City Manager Bryan Cook, the applicant worked with staff to reduce the project’s size, thereby eliminating significant environmental impacts and improving the project’s neighborhood compatibility. The revised project proposes 61 residential dwelling units and 7,250 square feet of commercial space in a four-story building.
Join us to learn more about Medicare Advantage health plans that may be available to you.

A health plan representative will:

✓ Talk about your options to find a health plan that meets your needs
✓ Answer questions about changes to Medicare or Medi-Cal
✓ Figure out what benefits might be available to you

To RSVP or for accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call 888.715.4922

TTY: 711 Monday – Sunday, 8 am – 8 pm

HealthCare Partners Temple City Medical Office and AGA Present Medicare 101

by Nyvette Gann, Health Plan Specialist (CA License #0G33607)

Tuesday, October 4 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesday, October 11 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesday, October 18 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesday, October 25 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Thursday, October 6 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Thursday, October 13 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Thursday, October 20 10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Thursday, October 27 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Presentations at HealthCare Partners Medical Office • 9810 Las Tunas Dr., Temple City, CA 91780

Questions – Call Liz at 626.656.7540 (TTY Users: 711)

There is no obligation to enroll. A licensed sales representative will be present with information and applications. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has neither reviewed nor endorsed this information.

For a listing of our contracted health plans, please visit healthcarepartners.com

HealthCare Partners
Medical Group and Affiliated Physicians

The Right Doctors Make All The Difference
The West San Gabriel Valley Association of REALTORS® will host a free Home Buyer and Seller Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 15, at its headquarters in San Gabriel at 1039 E. Valley Blvd., #205B. (See ad, Page 5)

The fair is designed to provide a one-stop-shop for anyone interested in obtaining information and essential tools needed to proceed with the home buying and selling process in Southern California. The Home Buyer and Seller Fair will feature several workshops conducted by industry experts on how to successfully navigate through the home buying and selling process.

Topics include an economic housing forecast, building your credit, the lending, title and escrow processes, home warranty, insurance, inspection, and the latest property tax information. On hand will be REALTORS, lenders, representatives of insurance, title, escrow, home warranty, inspection companies, and Los Angeles Tax Assessor’s Office to answer questions.

Families are welcome as there will be food and prizes. For more details, please phone the Association 626-288-6212 or info@wsgvar.com.
THANKS TO THESE MEMBERS FOR JOINING & RENEWING IN RECENT MONTHS

NEW MEMBER
Cheng Du Jing Li
5700 Rosemead Blvd
Temple City, CA 91780

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS
Pacific Ackworth Friends
School
Valvoline Instant Oil Change

IMMEDIATE FAMILY
Immanuel Church of the Nazarene
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Industrial and Commercial Bank of China
San Gabriel Valley Humane Society
Donald Abraham

Thank You
Reserve space for
Oct. 8 free seminar on retirement planning

A limited number of spaces remain for a free seminar by Chamber Board Secretary Joe Chia that addresses two of the greatest fears people have about retirement: not having enough saved and running out of money.

The public is invited to attend Chia’s “Don’t Worry, Retire Happy: Retirement Strategies for Life” presentation at 2 p.m., Oct. 8, in the Chamber Boardroom.

In this engaging and interactive presentation, you will learn:

• How to guarantee your retirement income for the rest of your life (no matter what the stock, bond or real estate markets do)
• How to maximize your social security benefits
• The major risks to a successful retirement and how to mitigate them

Come learn how to design your ideal retirement without stress and pressure so that you can work and retire on your own terms.

New York Life and the Temple City Chamber of Commerce present this informational seminar because 3 out of 4 people are not prepared for retirement. Fewer than 10 spaces are available, so please RSVP ASAP.

To reserve a space or for more information, phone the Chamber at 626-286-3101 or email info@templecitychamber.com.

If unable to attend, one may request a one-on-one consultation with Joe Chia via his contact information: Joe Chia, jchia@ft.newyorklife.com, 562-445-2018, New York Life Insurance Company, CA Ins Lic#: 0K05214.

Chamber Calendar

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2 p.m., New York Life Retirement Seminar (free), Chamber Boardroom, 9050 Las Tunas Drive, Temple City.

Monday, Oct. 10, Columbus Day. Chamber Office Closed.

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 12 noon to 1 p.m., Board Meeting, Chamber Boardroom.

Sunday, Oct. 16, International Food Festival Networking Mixer, (Chamber members only), TC Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Thursday, Oct. 20, Submission deadline, Temple City Life.
So it isn’t every day I get to serve an Olympic gold medalist; there just aren’t that many of ‘em passing through Temple City these days.

Inger Miller was a member of the U.S. Women’s 4x100-meter Olympic relay team that took the gold in Atlanta in 1996.

And Inger’s dad, Lennox, was my dental school classmate. And, oh, by the way, Lennox won the Silver in the Men’s Olympic 100-meters in Mexico City in 1968 and the Bronze in Munich in 1972.

Back in the day, my dad and brother and I were big track and field fans, and a great day for us was going to any USC dual meet. Lennox was a legendary sprinter, on scholarship from Jamaica, and USC was a track and field powerhouse.

So I couldn’t believe it when I saw Lennox and I were USC dental school classmates.

During the four years of dental school, I really didn’t get to know Lennox very well, aside from the always welcoming smile and the friendly small talk that helped this dental student retain some semblance of his sanity.

After graduating, Dr. Miller stayed close by in Pasadena; that’s when I got the chance to know Lennox a little better. The phone calls always included a dose of laughter and, of course, the sort of dialogue you’d expect from two USC football experts.

As a super talented specialist, Lennox gallantly served our mutual patients, actually giving life to seniors, literally starving from tooth loss.

Against all odds, a feeble elderly lady would typically shuffle off to Dr. Miller, only to return looking years younger, smiling, with a spring in her step and a new ensemble to go with it.

And I can’t believe it’s been 12 years since a class guy, an elite athlete, and gifted colleague who’d never taken a puff, passed from lung cancer.

First time I met Inger was at a Pasadena Chamber breakfast; almost tripped over my own feet introducing myself.

I shared the message I delivered to Inger’s dad back in 1996, “Finally a gold medal in the family.”

Truth is Doc Miller was a gold medal winner for all of his way too brief 58 years. And when it comes to being a class act, the apple doesn’t fall anywhere but right next to the tree.
Does the government have an appetite for your money?

“I don’t want the government to take my money when I die.”

This is something I hear almost weekly in my office. Most clients are surprised to hear that the general answer is “the government will not take your money.”

Estates will usually pay little-to-no money to the government through taxes unless there are debts owed to governmental agencies such as Medi-Cal.

There are two types of taxes to consider: estate tax and income tax.

1. Estate Tax

The State of California does not impose an estate tax, also known as an inheritance tax. However, the federal government does impose an estate tax on residents of California. Estate tax is a value-based tax, unlike our individual tax returns that are based on income. In 2016, a single individual may have $5.45 million in gross assets, and a married couple may have $10.9 million in assets before paying estate tax. This means that the entire value of your gross estate must exceed these figures, also known as the estate tax exclusion, before your estate will pay estate tax at roughly 40%. If your estate exceed these figures, you will only be taxed on the amount that you exceed the figure.

Most of my clients are worth less than the estate tax exclusion figures, so this is not a tax most clients need to fear. If you are worth close to or above these exclusion figures, you should contact an attorney or tax professional to properly plan for the future.

2. Income Tax

Estates and trusts pay income tax like you do as an individual or married couple. However, most of my estate and trust clients do not pay income tax due to the concept of “step-up in basis.”

This concept means that the survivor(s) of a decedent’s estate or trust may change the cost (or basis) of an appreciated asset to the current market value. For instance, if you purchased your house for $100,000, but it is now worth $900,000, your survivor(s) get to step-up (or change) the cost from $100,000 to $900,000 (the current market value). If the cost is now $900,000 and the sales price is $900,000, there would be no capital gains tax due on the sale of the house ($900,000 sales price - $900,000 cost basis = $0 taxable gain).

In summary, although most of my clients’ estates or trusts do not pay tax, you should consult an attorney or tax advisor to discuss your particular estate or trust. You should also discuss the advantages of having a trust drafted to prevent your estate from paying very expensive probate court costs and attorneys’ fees.

IRS Has a Reminder for Extension Filers:

By Franklin J. Ruedel, EA

The IRS reminds all taxpayers that they should keep a copy of their tax returns and supporting documents for a minimum of three years. Going forward, keeping copies of tax returns is even more important as the IRS makes changes to protect taxpayers and authenticate their identities with filing jointly, both taxpayers must enter their Social Security number (SSN) and their date of birth. If married and filing separately, each spouse will now also need to enter either of two identification numbers (PIN).

The IRS reserves the right to audit your return to determine whether the waiver was appropriate. A later refusal could reopen liability for the distribution’s tax. If a distribution was appropriate, the IRS will accept the waiver. If a distribution was not appropriate, the IRS will not accept the waiver.

To protect taxpayers and authenticate their identities with filing jointly, both taxpayers must enter their Social Security number (SSN) and their date of birth. If married and filing separately, each spouse will now also need to enter either of two identification numbers (PIN). The IRS reserves the right to audit your return to determine whether the waiver was appropriate. A later refusal could reopen liability for the distribution’s tax. If a distribution was appropriate, the IRS will accept the waiver. If a distribution was not appropriate, the IRS will not accept the waiver.

Memes at Work

Emmy Hernandez is an attorney and a financial advisor helping clients in the San Gabriel Valley grow and protect their wealth.

Questions for Emmy can be submitted to emmy@ehfinancial.com. She can also be reached at 626-943-8833. Visit her Web site at www.ehfinancial.com.

IRS changes IRA rollover rules

I’d like to address an important IRS rule change for IRA rollovers. Traditionally, tax-deferred retirement plan or IRA distributions could only be rolled over to another qualified plan tax-free if done within 60 days. Otherwise, the distribution is taxed as ordinary income on top of a possible 10% penalty for people under 59 1/2. Usually, rollover funds are directly transferred from one institution to another to avoid error. But if a check is cut to an individual, then that person is responsible for getting that money to the right place by the right time.

People make mistakes. Checks get lost; calamity or illness shifts one’s focus. However, to undo this blunder, one had to petition the IRS and pay a $10,000 fee to obtain a Private Letter Ruling. Without this, few financial institutions would accept that delayed deposit and you’re stuck holding the bag.

Last month the IRS released Revenue Procedure 2016-47, which allows anyone to self-certify that the missed 60-day rollover deadline was inadvertent and not by design. Three conditions must be met for tax relief:

• The IRS hasn’t denied a previous waiver request.
• The money must be deposited in an IRA account within 30 days after the reason for the delay is no longer a factor.

In summary, although most of my clients’ estates or trusts do not pay tax, you should consult an attorney or tax advisor to discuss your particular estate or trust. You should also discuss the advantages of having a trust drafted to prevent your estate from paying very expensive probate court costs and attorneys’ fees.

Taxpayers who prepare their own electronic tax returns are required to electronically sign their return with a five-digit, self-selected personal identification number (PIN).

In order to authenticate their identities, taxpayers will now also need to enter either of two items: their prior-year AGI or their prior year self-select PIN and their date of birth. If married filing jointly, both taxpayers must authenticate their identities with this information.

Generally, tax-preparation software automatically generates CONTINUED ON PAGE 11
A steady stream of visitors attended the free family-friendly event on Saturday, Sept. 10 celebrating the Temple Station’s 90th anniversary.

Temple City resident Fred snaps a shot of his grandson John in front of one of the many exhibits.

Volunteer Ernie Alvarado answers questions during one of the many tours held throughout the day.

Is that a bomb in your pocket? A K-9 special drug and munitions detecting dog gives a demonstration.

Hurt Locker. A crime fighting robotic bomb disposal device proved to be an interesting exhibit.

A young Temple City resident poses by a vintage police car, one of many exhibits.
Since opening its doors Sept. 10, 2011, Wushu Action Star Academy has trained a wide variety of ages and skill levels, from absolute beginners to seasoned students well on their way working through the ranks. In appreciation to the many students, family and friends who have supported the Temple City based martial arts school, Wushu Action Star Academy is celebrating its five-year anniversary milestone with a party and performance, 12 noon, Saturday, Oct. 22.

The public is invited to join the celebration and enjoy food, fun, and a great martial arts showcase performed by the students.

Wushu Action Star Academy is located at 9657 Las Tunas Dr., Temple City, CA 91780. For more information, phone 626-287-3100 or e-mail wushuactionstar@gmail.com. The Web site is http://www.wushuactionstar.com.
Temple City alternative school earns accreditation

Temple City Unified School District announces that Temple City Alternative School (TCAS) has received accreditation from the Accrediting Commission for Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACS WASC). After extensive review, the school earned recognition for its educational achievements and commitment to learning.

The ACS WASC accreditation certificate serves to further validate the integrity of TCAS’s educational program. “It was very gratifying to have an outside committee validate the progress that our program has made,” said Principal Christopher Sewell. “We are especially grateful for the support we receive from students, parents, community members and the District office. Their support allows us to successfully meet student needs and implement an effective action plan for future growth.”

The support Mr. Sewell describes was not lost on the ACS WASC visiting committee. It had a major role in confirming the school’s sustainability. A report issued by the committee also noted “future-wise classrooms” as a major component of the successful student learning environment at TCAS, and recognized school staff for their efforts to incorporate more technology and learning opportunities.

Accreditation is a multi-year process. To achieve ACS WASC accreditation, schools must meet rigorous standards set by the Commission and the California Department of Education. TCAS Supervising Teacher Shannon Findley and Counselor Raul Acevedo were instrumental throughout the process, which included creating a thorough report with specific action steps based on where the school is and where it plans to go in the future.

Mr. Sewell emphasized that accreditation was not a final step in school improvement, but a motivating force to make TCAS even better.

MVP Serena Gray goes for the spike.

MVP Serena Gray leads Temple City HS Varsity Girls Volleyball Team to 1st Place victory

Player Serena Gray was named the MVP and teammate Amy Kubo received an Honorary Mention Award when the Temple City High School Varsity Girls Volleyball team competed in eight games over 10 hours against 14 other teams in an elimination format Saturday, Sept. 9, to win first place in the El Monte High School Varsity Volleyball Classic.

Amy Kubo, left, was given honorable mention and Serena Gray was selected as the Most Valuable Player.

How to Sell High: Avoid these Three Mistakes When Selling Your Home

When you decide to sell your home, setting your asking price is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Depending on how a buyer is made aware of your home, price is often the first thing he or she sees, and many homes are discarded by prospective buyers as not being in the appropriate price range before they’re even given a chance of showing.

Your asking price is often your home’s “first impression,” and if you want to realize the most money you can for your home, it’s imperative that you make a good first impression. Depending on how a buyer is made aware of your home, price is often the first thing he or she sees, and many homes are discarded by prospective buyers as not being in the appropriate price range before they’re even given a chance of showing.

This is not as easy as it sounds, and pricing strategy should not be taken lightly. Pricing too high can be as costly to a home seller as pricing too low. Taking a look at what homes in your neighborhood have sold for is only a small part of the process, and on its own is not nearly enough to help you make the best decision. A recently study, which compiles 10 years of industry research, has resulted in a new special report entitled “Home sellers: How to Get What You Want (and Need).” This report will help you understand pricing strategy from three different angles. When taken together, this information will help you price your home to not only sell, but sell for the price you want. To order a FREE Special Report, call toll-free 1-888-300-4632 and enter 3016. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW to learn how to price your home to your maximum financial advantage.
Public invited to learn about history of Temple City First United Methodist Church

The history and story of Temple City First United Methodist Church is long and rich, from its beginnings in 1908 as a gathering of 30 people to 1910 to their centennial celebration as an organized church in 2010. It was the first and only church in the new town of Temple in 1923-24, a community founded by Walter F. Temple for small farms and chicken ranches. Carol Daugherty, president of the Historical Society of Temple City and member of the church, will present a program about this story after light refreshments at 2:30 p.m. and a brief business meeting at 3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 16, in the Museum Hall (entrance at 9704 Woodhurst Ave., Temple City).

For more information about the Historical society, phone 626-455-8833 and leave a message or visit their Web site at www.tshistoricalsociety.org.

Eagle Scout Steven Goold honored for community project

Congratulations was given to Steven Westgate Goold, a member of Boy Scout Troop 161 Temple City, during a Court of Honor, Sept. 17, at the Temple City United Methodist Church in recognition of having earned the rank of Eagle Scout. An aspiring Eagle Scout must complete a service project and Steven chose to help Emporium Elementary School in Temple City with a new brick patio at their entrance to conserve water.

After planning and fundraising, Steven organized and directed seven Troop members and volunteers over four days to complete the project which will benefit the school for years to come.

A junior at Temple City High School, Steven started scouting at age six in Cub Scout Pack 156 at Longden School.

He earned his Arrow of Light award and joined Boy Scout Troop 161 where he has held a number of leadership positions including Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Guide.

His favorite position was Den Chief to Cub Scout Pack 156 where he mentored a new group of young scouts working toward becoming Boy Scouts.
$10 gets you a wide variety of cuisines.

Chamber members invited to Adventists' International Food Festival, Oct. 16

The Temple City Chamber of Commerce is delighted to invite its members to taste food from different countries at the International Food Festival, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 16, at Chamber member Temple City Seventh Day Adventist Church, 9664 Broadway, Temple City.

The invitation to this family-friendly event is for Chamber members only who are invited to bring their own family and friends. Entry is $10 per person, $40 for a family of five and $8 for each additional family member. Admission for children four years and under is free. For more information, phone the Chamber office at 626-286-3101 or e-mail info@templecitychamber.com.

SDA Pastor Ben Guerrero and Chamber President Peter Choi.
Temple City
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE

Cordially Invites You To Our
92nd Annual Awards Gala
&
Installation of Incoming Board of Directors
A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Temple City Library

Saturday, November 5th
6 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Camellia Square, 5077 Rosemead Blvd, Temple City
(Enter via Elm Ave. for complimentary underground parking)

Hosted Reception & Silent Auction at 6 p.m.  Dinner & Program at 7 p.m.

Silent Auction reception hosted by

Tickets: $50./person ($90./couple) before Oct. 20th
$60. at the door (subject to availability)

Dress: Cocktail Formal

Outstanding Restaurant: Ahipoki Bowl
Outstanding Business: So Cal Termite Solutions
Outstanding Professional: Tony J. Tyre, Attorney at Law
Outstanding Business Beautiful: Camellia Square
Outstanding Community Service: Cynthia Vance

This event made possible by the generous donation of our sponsors

Music provided by

To purchase tickets, contact the Chamber at
(626) 286-3101 or info@templecitychamber.com
Order today as event will sell out due to space limitations