Author seeks information on Temple City war hero

Sixty-three years ago Korean War hero and Temple City resident Robert Stewart Gray, his left arm still healing from machine gun bullet wounds suffered in combat, stepped in for General Dwight D. Eisenhower as Grand Marshal of Pasadena’s Tournament of Roses.

The 21-year-old Marine Corporal was featured in the January 15, 1951, issue of LIFE magazine for standing in for Ike. Gen. Eisenhower had agreed to be grand marshal of Pasadena’s Tournament of Roses this year, but preparations for his Right to Rupe as the World’s Supreme Commander kept him up at New Year’s, and he suggested that some soldier from back East take his place. The former went to a 21-year-old Marine in a situation almost superannuated for a post—wound-detailed to the remaining in the retreat from the Daughters of the Union in California. When the order came for him to report to his commanding officer about the grand marshal’s job, there was such a flurry that he would up with his head stuck in a thing, but in a deep groove of the messenger. At grand marshal, Corporal Gray led a life far from that of the Korean front. He was again for the first time in his life, he gave interviews, kissed the Rose Queen and her sirs of princes, led the Rose Parade through Pasadena, winning and waving his right arm—he left arm was still healing from machine gun wounds. When it was over, he complained that his arm hurt some from waving it. “Tomorrow,” he said as he rested in his parents’ home at Temple City, “I am going to be Joe White, again.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2
70th anniversary Camellia Festival promises more fun and rides

To celebrate the 70th Annual Camellia Festival the last weekend in February, there will be more carnival rides and new entertainment for all ages, including live band performances on Saturday and Sunday and food trucks on Friday. Additional events are being planned and information regarding this landmark celebration will be announced in the near future. The theme this year is “Oh, the Books I Can Read!” suggested by our theme winner, Aidan Garner, a first grader at Emperor Elementary. The Festival Committee invites youth groups and organizations to build a float, march in the parade, or operate a game or novelty booth. Applications must be returned as soon as possible. The applications are available at the Camellia Festival Office or online at www.templecity.us. For more information, phone Nanette Fish at 626-285-2171 ext. 2350 or nfish@templecity.us. Temple City’s Camellia Festival is steeped in history and traditions, providing lasting memories for young and old alike. The Temple City community is encouraged to become a part of these traditions. The Camellia Festival is a unique event that transcends generations and cultures. It draws thousands to Temple City from surrounding communities in the San Gabriel Valley. The Camellia Festival will take place on the last weekend in February. Join us for this quintessential hometown weekend celebration.

Dates to Remember
Royal Court Application Deadline: Dec. 27
Carnival Booths, Float & Walking Unit Application Deadline: Jan. 6
Build a Float Workshops: Jan. 7 & 14
Royal Court Play Day: Jan. 11
Camellia Festival: Feb. 21-23
Camellia Festival Parade: Feb. 21

One of the safe streets in Temple City is Tunas Drive, the location of many businesses, including Jambhala Antique and Jewelry, 9611 Las Tunas Drive.

Community events, recreation, small-town appeal highlighted in rave about being 5th safest city

Continued from Page 1
A free citizen’s academy, strong Neighborhood Watch program and the comprehensive “Connect-ed” community magazine help the government and citizens work in tandem to keep Temple City’s streets safe. We weren’t surprised to learn that even though Temple City is located in populous Los Angeles County, it earned a respectable fifth place ranking on the SafeWise safest cities in California. In addition to a safe environment, newcomers to Temple City can also expect to enjoy an assortment of community-wide events and programs. The ever-popular Camellia Festival, sport clinics for youth, educational programs geared toward seniors, and activities specifically for little ones, fill the list of things your family will love about Temple City. If you’re looking for boundless recreation and a city with small-town appeal, you may have just found your new home.

Congratulations, Temple City.
Council unveils renovated Chambers

After weeks of work by City staff, the City of Temple City unveiled its newly renovated City Council chambers and offices to an excited crowd on Nov. 5.

The 50-year old Council chambers underwent a face lift to assist the City as it takes on new projects and continues its forward momentum.

The updated facilities include a new front waiting area, TV control center, private conference room and emergency operations center. The public is invited to see it during City Council meetings the first and third Tuesday of each month.

City News

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This Ad Worth $5 Off for 1st-time Customers

City of Temple City unveiled its newly renovated City Council chambers and offices to an excited crowd on Nov. 5.
Chamber Calendar

By Peter Choi

Three jewels among the many gems

The holidays are a special time of year when we show our appreciation for family and friends. As we look back at the year that has gone by so quickly, the Chamber also wishes to show appreciation to our own special friends who have been such a big part of the Chamber’s mission and by extension the Temple City business community.

A Chamber member recently had occasion to interact with the City or business concerns and so I asked him how it went. They highlighted the assistance given them by Jennifer Venters who has the title of Planning Secretary, but does so much more. I was not surprised at this small business owner’s praise, having had the pleasure of interacting with her myself. Jennifer is often the first point of contact for folks interested in opening a business here in the city and so her professionalism, pleasant personality, and ability to understand and assist all types of business owners has made her both an asset to the City and true friend of the Chamber.

Another gentleman with whom I am always delighted to cross paths is the City’s Public Safety Manager Robert Sahagun. When I walk into a meeting with City staff and see him sitting there, I mentally high five myself because I know the next hour will be productive and deliver results. Certainly, his intelligence, focus, and humor are a big reason why.

Finally, there is an unassuming yet essential individual at City Hall without whom Planet Temple City would stop spinning. That understated force of nature is City Clerk Peggy Kuo. It gives me special pleasure to shine a spotlight on her as she is that rare organ, prepared and hardworking person who simply does her job brilliantly and efficiently.

Ms. Venters, Mr. Sahagun and Ms. Kuo are just the tip of the iceberg of why Temple City is a great place to do business. As we head into the New Year, the Chamber salutes them and their fellow city staff for being the best of friends to the business community and we wish them Season’s Greetings and a Very Happy New Year.

Temple City Life

Temple City Life is a monthly publication produced by the Temple City Chamber of Commerce and distributed to homes and businesses in Temple City and vicinity. Articles submitted and printed in the Temple City Life do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Temple City Chamber of Commerce or its Board of Directors. Information is published to inform the public and stimulate discussion.

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Jane Chavez ...........................................Vice Chair Membership
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Chee-Sum Tam ......................................Board Member
Jim Walden ..........................................Board Member

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS
Mayor Pro Tem Carl Blum .......................Liaison for City of TC

Temple City Chamber of Commerce
An organization working to build the community through its businesses and residents

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CHAMBER NEWS

For Pete’s Sake—

Three jewels among the many gems

By Peter Choi

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THE CHAMBER WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS

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Kiwanis Club of Temple City
San Gabriel Valley Humane Society

SCHOOLS
San Gabriel Christian School

CHURCHES
San Gabriel Community Church

RESIDENTS
Anthony Eureidjan, DDS
Kenneth Knollenberg
Jackie Millham

For information about the benefits of membership, please phone 626-286-3101
New Member Spotlight

This photo booth by new chamber member Best Photo Booths can be an ice-breaker at your next event.

Put your best photo forward with a Best Photo Booth

Best Photo Booths is a family-owned and operated company specializing in creating memories for all who participate in its magic. No matter what type of party, the photo booth can be set up in a timely manner and keep guests busy and happy throughout the event. Best Photo Booths provides more than just clear, sharp, worth-keeping pictures.

With Best Photo Booths, people can put on various hats that create laughter and memories to last a lifetime. Best Photo Booths offers all inclusive packages including an old school style photo booth, props to help create magic, a personalized banner message on each photo, a scrapbook decorated by the guests, and a flash drive with all the photos of the event given to the host.

“What’s a party without a photo booth?” seems to be the words coming from many people nowadays. Our photo booth can turn an average party into the party of the year with party goers talking about how much fun they had for weeks to come.

Best Photo Booths is focused on providing high-quality service and customer satisfaction. Photo booths naturally get any party started and set the mood for a memorable interactive guest event. Visit Web site www.photoboothyourparty.com for all the available packages.

New Chamber member Best Photo Booths will be at the Chamber’s Annual Holiday Party on Dec. 16 at UR SPACE restaurant. See advertisement this page.

Christmas in our hearts and minds

Temple City will turn on its holiday lights and Santa will make his way to Temple City Park, 9701 Las Tunas Drive, Friday, Dec. 6, when Lights On Temple City opens the annual Christmas season. The festival begins at 5 p.m. and ends at 9.

Santa’s annual parade along Las Tunas steps off at 7 p.m. at Cloverly and ends at Kauffman at the park. The parade to the park where Santa will pull the switch to light up a 100-foot redwood tree is the central event of the night. See advertisement, Page 16.

The children’s activities will include sled runs (sleds provided), a snow play area, visits with Saint Nick at the Santa House, balloon art by Santa’s elves, and free take-home holiday crafts. There will be opportunities to take a photo with Frosty the Snowman.

There will be holiday performances by the Temple City High School (TCHS) Brighter Side Singers and The Pride of Temple, the TCHS marching band. Food will be available for purchase throughout the evening.
First in a series of columns highlighting Temple City’s history

50 Years Ago This Month – December, 1963

Zoning issues have always been an issue in Temple City. On Dec. 14, 1963, the Temple City Council heard an application for the Joly Coachman Tavern which was asking for a dance and entertainment license.

The bar, located at 9151 Las Tunas, attracted a considerable amount of complaints from local residents due to late night noise. The previous year, owner Hal Brodhead, said that he hired “security men” to check customers’ IDs and to urge them not to loiter in nearby streets.

Residents of Loma and Hermosa Avenue spoke out about loud crowds and noise. Brodhead took his licensing issues seriously, hiring former Los Angeles County District Attorney and California State Attorney General Fred Hower to represent the establishment. There is no word of a quiet tailors shop there, with no hint at all of the past raucous activities there.

On Dec. 18, 1963, Temple City High School principal Ernest Camfield announced that a whopping 8% of the students at TCHS had earned a place on the Principals Honor List for the first quarter of the school year. Forty seniors, 25 juniors, 17 sophomores, and 25 freshman earned all “B’s” or higher to capture a spot on the list.

Hello Emmy. I’ve decided to make a sizable gift to my Alma Mater this year. Is my cancelled check good enough for tax reporting?

Welcome to the giving season. It may be difficult to give to just one charity, your former university for example, but it can be more rewarding than giving a little money to every group that asks for a donation.

If you’re looking for a tax deduction, you must donate to a qualified charitable organization. You must also itemize your deductions on Schedule A of your 1040 form.

If your total non-cash gifts for the year are more than $500, you must also file Form 8283 for the year.

Did you receive some sort of benefit from your donation? You may want to be sure to keep your records. If so, your Alma Mater gives you a free sweatshirt for your $5,000 gift, you should deduct its value on your tax return.

Have a very merry Christmas and be sure to keep your records.

Dual language workshops offered to educate public about Obamacare

Chamber member LA First Tax & Financial Services will host workshops on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act commonly called the Affordable Care Act (ACA) or “Obamacare,” Saturday, Dec. 7 and 14 at the Temple City Chamber of Commerce conference room, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Tax professional and IRS-Enrolled Agent Natalie Lee will review how the healthcare related tax provisions will affect both businesses and individuals.

The workshop will be offered in English and Mandarin Chinese, as appropriate.

Together with the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act, the Affordable Care Act represents the most significant regulatory overhaul of the country’s healthcare system since the passage of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965.

The ACA ostensibly aims to improve the quality and affordability of health insurance, lower the uninsured rate by expanding public and private insurance coverage, and reduce the costs of healthcare for individuals and the government.

It provides a number of mechanisms, including mandates, subsidies, and insurance exchanges, to increase coverage and affordability.

The law also requires insurance companies to cover all applicants within new minimum standards and offer the same rates regardless of pre-existing conditions or sex.

Additional reforms aim to reduce costs and improve healthcare outcomes by shifting the burden towards quality over quantity through increased competition, regulation, and incentives to streamline the delivery of healthcare.

The Congressional Budget Office projected that the ACA will lower both future deficits and Medicare spending.

Depending on the composition of the audience, workshops will be provided in both English and Mandarin Chinese, as appropriate. RSVP is strongly suggested by phoning 626-285-1221.
Charitable giving may reduce tax burden

By Joseph Barnes, Enrolled Agent

“It is better to give than to receive.” Originally spoken in a language other than English, this phrase is reported to be about 2000 years old, and the word “better” may be replaced by “more blessed,” “happier,” or “richer.”

The end of this year is rapidly approaching; the holiday season is upon us and lots of people will be buying gifts for family and friends in order to show love and appreciation toward them without using words.

Thoughtful gifts improve the quality of life for both the giver and receiver. This is true even if the gift is given anonymously, as in charitable giving to qualified organizations.

There is much unmet need throughout the world, even in the homes of some of our closest neighborhoods. Not only material needs, but also physical and spiritual needs as well.

There are thousands of organizations dedicated to helping those who are lacking in various aspects of life. And donors may even derive a tax benefit from making gifts, subject to limitations as described in the Internal Revenue Code.

This was a “stimulus,” getting funds to organizations that provide services otherwise provided by the federal government. This lasted only until 1946.

So, even if you have given to good causes already this year, you may be able to help others by giving a little more by the end of the year, and at the same time reduce your 2013 tax burden.

Joseph Barnes, Enrolled Agent, is an Associate of Franklin J. Ruedel, EA, Corp., specializing in taxation of estates and trusts. Franklin J. Ruedel is a member of the Temple City Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, phone 626-286-9662 or contact Frank Ruedel at taxprofrank@charter.net or Joe Barnes at jdb1ea@gmail.com. You may also learn more at www.frankruedel.com.
Cloverly, La Rosa schools urge residents to donate blood, see if they match for bone marrow

Cloverly Elementary School and La Rosa Elementary Schools’ PTAs are hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive and a “Be The Match” National Marrow Donor Drive from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2013, at La Rosa located at 9301 La Rosa Drive, Temple City.

To make an appointment to donate blood, visit the blood drive Web site at www.givelife.org or phone Tiffany Brodbeck at 949-331-7275.

Longden Robotics Team garners first place

Congratulations to Longden Elementary School’s Robotics Team for taking the first place Research Trophy in a recent practice tournament in La Canada.

Longden’s team researched this year’s topic, natural disasters. Students visited an experimental desalination facility in Hermosa Beach, researched current filtration technologies, and met with scientists who work in the field of water supply and waste resource management. The students’ unique solution was a mobile desalination unit that can be located at the coast, driven to an affected area, and can filter water while on the move. Judges were impressed with Longden’s desalination research project.

Longden’s team is comprised of students in grades 4 through 7. For more information, phone Kelly Klimer, team teacher/advisor at 626-548-5068.

TC Schools Foundation seeks public support to continue benefiting TCUSD student programs

Temple City Schools Foundation (TCSF) is a non-profit community-based organization located in the Greater San Gabriel Valley.

As a foundation the mission for the organization is to support and promote enrichment programs for the benefit of our students in the Temple City Unified School District (TCUSD).

Board Members and committee members share the same belief: the strength of the community is built upon the academic success of every student.

TCSF’s Board of Trustees is comprised of local business owners, community advocates, principals and local elected officials. Over the years and during difficult economic times, the Foundation Board has continued to grant and fund more than $100,000 each year to TCUSD for enrichment programs.

Most recently in 2013, TCSF provided matching funds of $37,500 to Temple City High School to improve campus technology and donated an additional $5,000 for football team helmets and safety equipment.

The foundation also donated $61,390.84 to fund the K-8 student Accelerated Reader program in all elementary schools and Oak Intermediate for two additional years.

An additional $5,000 donation was made to each school to promote supplemental programs. TCSF has also funded more than 30 teacher grants totaling $50,000.

The Foundation’s 2013 annual community fundraising campaign, “Invest In Our Success,” has made it possible to continue funding the responsive grant and Accelerated Reader programs, as well as provide funding for other important core educational programs.

The public is asked to please continue to help support students in the community by making a donation. A check in any amount may be mailed to TCSE F, P.O. Box 1002, Temple City, California 91780, non-profit EID. #941-212668.

Those interested in volunteering or learning more about TCSF should phone the office at 626-548-5029 and leave a message or check the Web site for more information at www.tcsf4students.org.
Westminster Presbyterian Church and Sunrise Community Church will share annual Christmas worship services this December.

Westminster's annual Chrismons Sunday service lead by Pastor Heather Williams, will be observed at 10 a.m. Dec. 8. Chrismons Sunday is where the monograms of Christ are placed on the Christmas tree in the sanctuary during the worship service. The salvation story of what God has done in His Son is told in the hanging of the monograms on the tree.

At 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24, Westminster Presbyterian Church and Sunrise Community Church present their annual Christmas Eve Candle Light service. The service is open to all who wish to experience the mystery and the joy of the coming of the Messiah into human history.

Pastor Andrew Kikkert of Sunrise Community Church will deliver the Christmas Eve message on the birth of the Son of God in the manger. The two churches will worship jointly at 10 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 29. The combined service will highlight the impact of what the advent of Jesus Christ means to the world today and includes a message from Pastor Frank Pak of Sunrise.

Westminster Presbyterian Church is located at 9642 Live Oak Ave. in Temple City, where its has been serving the community for more than 60 years.

Sunrise Community Church is an independent, non-denominational church holding its Sunday worship service at 9:45 a.m. at the same location with adult and youth Sunday school following the service.

For more information on the Christmas Eve worship, please phone Westminster Presbyterian’s church office worship at 626-287-1957 or e-mail Pastor Kikkert at PastorAndy@SunriseTC.org.
WWII Airmans book, It only Takes One, shares tale of survival, camaraderie

The Temple City Blue Star Banner Program hosted its Fall Recognition Dinner featuring Larry Stevens as the key note speaker, Nov. 1. Mr. Stevens is a “fly boy” from World War II. He joined the Army Air Corps right out of high school having asked his teachers to help him graduate early so he could sign up with the Army Air Corps right out of high school. He joined the Army Air Corps right out of high school. He joined the Army Air Corps right out of high school.

Mr. Stevens is a WW II Airman’s book, It only Takes One, that shares his personal experiences in the air and on the ground from boot camp to release with pictures and maps. Mr. Stevens’ story is an amazing tale of survival, lucky breaks, reality, and camaraderie.

Larry Stevens and Bob Oakley

Photograph by TEMPLE CITY PHOTOS.COM

Members of the 2013 TC American League All Star Team are, front row (l-r), Felix Avitia, Ethan Reyes, Tad Gardea, Noah Cranger, Erice Cordero, Ruben Patino, Jacob Schrier; middle row (l-r), Jack Van Cleve, Justin Wu, Jackson Kelley, Joey Flores, Ian Sutliff, Chas Smith and back row (l-r), Jeff Schrier and Jorge Cordero.

Temple City American Little League to play its 60th season; registration opens Dec. 14

Baseball is a great opportunity to learn the value of teamwork, develop practice skills, and have fun while creating life-long friendships.

Since 1954, Temple City American Little League has been providing opportunities for boys and girls to play America’s pastime. The 2014 season will be the 60th for TCALL, and the league is looking forward to a grand celebration. Registrations for boys and girls ages 4-12 will take place from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., December 14 at Shakey’s Pizza Parlor on Las Tunas Drive.

Other registrations will take place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., January 11 at Live Oak Park, and from 6:30-8:30 p.m., January 14. The last day to register will be January 18 at player evaluations.

Little League is not just a fun experience for children. It is also a great way for parents to spend quality time with their children and make lasting memories.

There are many opportunities to volunteer as managers, coaches and other positions in the league. Opening Ceremonies will be held at 10 a.m. March 1 at Live Oak Park. All former players, coaches, volunteers and the entire community are invited to attend. There will be other special guests as well.

For more information look for the TCALL booth at “Lights on Temple City” or go to the league Web site at leagueand.com.

First Lutheran offering special children’s presentations during Advent

First Lutheran Church and Schools are practicing their parts for presenting the Christmas story to congregation members, families and friends. The first advent service will be at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 4. The costumed preschool children will be joyfully singing while you sleep.

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Big trouble in little mouths

Historically, I’ve always enjoyed doing school screenings and presentations and spending quality time with tomorrow’s leaders. And it’s always fun absorbing the incredible energy grade school students can generate.

First and second graders, especially, seem to have an endless curiosity about things and the ability to be freely expressive. Where the concept is, the students are learning from me, the reality is I’m probably benefiting the most from the experience.

During the screenings, I’ve noticed a really alarming trend that makes me feel sort of like a front man for local orthodontists. Seems like two out of three second graders have malocclusions showing up as noticeably distorted profiles and narrowed upper and lower arches.

Often, the first clue “Why?” might be some major night sounds. When youngsters make industrial grinding noises while sleeping, it’s not because their boss is a jerk; they’re really just trying to breathe.

The teeth grinding opens up the ear canals, relieving pressure built up in the airway.

The airflow congestion is usually the result of enlarged tonsils and adenoids and the immune system’s response to allergies.

A trip to the pediatrician can make a major difference.

Growth happens during sleep and untreated allergies in children can have an adverse impact on physical and cognitive growth and development.

Twenty million adult Americans suffer from Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA); untreated OSA victims lose an average eight years of life.

Untreated allergies leading to airway congestion in little kids is the youth equivalent of adult sleep apnea. Audible night sounds and oral skeletal discrepancies are signs and symptoms of something way more significant than crooked teeth.

Early detection of childhood allergies can make a major difference in the quality of young lives and precious growing futures.

Playfactory Festival included costume parade, booth games

Playfactory Preschool entertained children, families, staff and volunteers at its annual Fall Festival October 30. The festival included performances by the preschool classes, a costume parade to the Temple City Library and then back to the preschool, Trunk & Treating, and fun carnival games set up all around the playground. The children collected fun toys and healthy treats from the decorated car trunks and as prizes for playing the carnival games. The children, their families, the staff, and volunteers all had a blast.

Get tickets now for Playfactory’s Breakfast with Santa, Dec. 7

Event is open to community

Every month Playfactory Preschool hosts fun and memorable activities and events (along with the everyday curriculum).

December brings more exciting events. Music classes will begin. The annual Breakfast with Santa is 9 a.m. to 12 noon, Dec. 7. It is open to the community.

It will include breakfast, pictures with Santa, raffles, crafts, and a bake sale. Phone Playfactory Preschool at 626-285-9223 for tickets. Tickets are $5 each pre-sale or $7 at the door.

The first part of the school year at Playfactory Preschool – A Serendipity School has been fun, exciting, and eventful for the children, families, staff, and community. As the preschool celebrated its 40th anniversary, Lana Shifflet came aboard as the director.

Ms. Shifflet has been with Serendipity Schools for more than 33 years (29 of those years as a director). She has made many positive enhancements and changes at Playfactory and at the same time continued implementing many of the traditions/events that have been treasured by many for several years.

Ms. Shifflet and her team (Ms. Tammy, Mrs. Linda, Mrs. Michelle, and Chef Emma) work together to provide a positive environment for the Playfactory Preschool family.

Some of the special events so far this school year included: welcoming their new director, the 40th Anniversary, implementing a daily yoga/fitness program, a visit from the Temple City sheriff, Back to School Night, a field trip to the Temple City Library, a pumpkin patch/pumpkin decorating event, a Family Fall Festival, a fundraiser to build a children’s garden, picture day, a Thanksgiving feast, and a canned food drive to be donated to People for People.
Temple City Kiwanis Club recognizes outstanding students

Text and Photos by Jerry Jambazian

Each week, the Temple City Kiwanis Club recognizes outstanding students and their teachers from Cloverly, Emperor, Longden, and the Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center.

Kiwani treats students and their teacher to lunch. Students receive a certificate, a letter for their parents, a bumper sticker, a gift certificate from The Hat restaurant and a photograph of them receiving their award. Their photo is also published in the Temple City Life and displayed in the Temple City Unified School District lobby. The Temple City Kiwanis has been serving the community since 1939. Members are dedicated men and women who desire to make a difference in the quality of life for the youth of Temple City. Kiwanis meets at 12 noon each Tuesday at Denny's restaurant on Rosemead Boulevard. To find out more about Kiwanis, please phone Jerry Jambazian at (626) 286-2444. Visit the Kiwanis Web site at www.templecitykiwanis.org

Longden Elementary School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple honored Jonathan Foo, Linya Wu, and Katherine Lien, from Longden Elementary School, Oct. 22. Attending with the students shown in the photo above, was Longden Principal Adin Budu and singer-songwriter, musician, teacher Mr. Dan Ferguson.

Jonathan, 11, has two sisters. He enjoys playing sports, reading, and playing video games. Jonathan said the best things about Longden are “the great teachers, the education we receive, and all the respectful people.” Jonathan’s goals are to make everyone happy, build a house for the poor, get good grades, and have a good life.

Linya, 11, has two sisters. She enjoys drawing, swimming, badminton, and reading. The best thing that ever happened in Linya was when her baby sister was born. Her goals are to build a park for animals with beautiful plants, get good grades, get better at sports, and have a good life.

Katherine, 11, has a younger brother. She enjoys swimming, reading, electronics, and playing with her friends. Katherine said the best things about Longden are her friends, the school library, her classmates, and Mr. Ferguson. She wants to stop pollution, invent contact lenses that never hurt your eyes, attend USC, and get over her fear of playing sports.

Cloverly Elementary School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Tiffany Fong and Leann Wei, two outstanding students from Cloverly Elementary School, Oct. 29. Attending with the students, shown in the photo above, were Cloverly Principal Stephen Martin Edo and teacher Mrs. Pat Wenzel.

Tiffany, 11, is in Mrs. Wenzel’s class. She has an older brother and sister and enjoys cooking and science because she likes to do activities with her hands to see what it is really like to be a chef or scientist. The best thing that ever happened to Tiffany was becoming friends with Leeann, Katie, Ashley, Javaa, Shirley, and Kelle. Her goals are to build a spaceship, get good grades, and prove the impossible.

Leeann, 11, is in Mrs. Tenney’s class. She has an older brother and sister and enjoys dancing, singing, drawing, and hiking. Leann said the best things about Cloverly are the “amazing events, the staff and students are very kind, and the awesome PTA that fund all our events.” The best thing that ever happened was being elected vice president. She wants to stop animal abuse, earn good grades, make new friends, and go to Stanford or Caltech.

Planet Preschool prepares students for earthquake

Chamber member Planet Preschool held a “Great California Shakeout” earthquake preparedness exercise on Oct. 17. The staff, along with special guests from El Monte Fire Station 169, taught the children how to react during an earthquake or emergency.

Offering a variety of programs designed for the different stages of a child’s early education, Planet Preschool opens your child to a universe of wonder and education. From early education through pre-kindergarten to kindergarten, the private school encourages learning and growth through play in an environment designed to strengthen muscles, build coordination, stretch imaginations, and have fun in a clean, safe, and nurturing environment.

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Miss Vanessa and Miss Kelly have almost all their children safely under their tables. Planet Preschool is located at 4977 Santa Anita Ave., Temple City. For more information phone 626-279-5482 or visit www.myplanetpreschool.com.

Temple City Kiwanis Club honors Sydney Taylor

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Sydney Taylor, Mercy Deng and Andrew Ari, three outstanding students from Emperor Elementary School, Nov. 12. Attending with the students, shown in the photo above, was Emperor teacher Mary Anne Parrille.

Sydney, 11, is in Mrs. Parrille’s class. She has a younger brother and enjoys dancing, violin, sleepowers, reading Percy Jackson books, kittens, writing, and pandas. Sydney said the best thing that ever happened to her was getting her cat Percy. She wants to build a treehouse, be a good dancer, read lots of books, and always be a good friend.

Mercy, 11, is in Mrs. Scanlan’s class. She has a brother and sister and enjoys swimming, reading, learning new things, minecraft, piano and violin, legos, knitting, sewing, and running. Mercy said the best thing that ever happened was being baptized at her church. Her goals are to build a LEGO® factory, do her best in school even if she does not get straight A grades, improve her reading comprehension skills, and become a better writer.

Andrew, 12, is in Mr. Giangregorio’s class. He enjoys drawing, building and painting models, football and baseball, scouting, and music. Andrew said the best thing that ever happened to him was winning third place in the Coastal America Ocean Art Contest. He also met President George Bush, Sylvia Earle, and Jim Toomey in Washington, DC. His goals are to build an eco-friendly park for Temple City that contains an aquarium, a nature center, and a pond.

Oak Ave. Intermediate School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Madison Barnes and Taylor Mack, two outstanding students from Oak Avenue Intermediate School, Oct. 29, shown in the photo above. Attending with the students were Oak teachers Marliise Reina and Emma Zamora.

Madison, 13, is in Mrs. Jessica Good’s class. She has four brothers and enjoys anything musical. Madison said the best thing that ever happened to her was starting to play soccer because it involves running and hard work. Her goals are to build a soccer stadium, attend a music college and become a professional musician.

Taylor, 13, is also in Mrs. Good’s class. She has four brothers and enjoys reading, computer programming, and playing strategic board games. Taylor said the best things about Oak Avenue is “there is very little bullying, and if there is any it is dealt with quickly.” His goals are to construct a video arcade with a mixture of classic and modern gaming, repeat his 4.0 GPA from the sixth grade, learn Java programming, and attend Stanford University.

Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Adrian Rivera, an outstanding student from the Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center, Nov. 19, shown in the photo above. Attending with Adrian was his teacher Mr. Reggie Reis.

Adrian, 17, attends classes taught by Mr. Jahan and Mr. Riss. He has a brother and sister and enjoys working on art, playing football, and going to the golf driving range. Adrian said the best thing about The Learning Center are “the great staff and students; it helps me achieve my goals, and school helps me grow as a young adult.” The best thing that ever happened to Adrian was catching his first fish. If he could change one thing it would be to pay attention to high school from his first day. His goals are to join the Navy to have a 4.0 GPA throughout this year, and to start driving this month.

Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center
TCHS Performing Arts to present
A Holiday to Remember, Dec. 17
at San Gabriel Mission Playhouse

Temple City High School’s Performing Arts Department’s annual holiday extravaganza will showcase performances by Brighter Side Singers, concert choir, women’s chorus, honors orchestra, pit orchestra, auxiliaries, a special number by the faculty, and maybe even a visit from Santa Claus, at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 17.

The performance will be at the Historic San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, 220 S. Mission Drive, San Gabriel.

The grand finale to the concert will be the traditional singing of Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus with full choir and orchestra, including vocal arts alumni.

To purchase tickets, phone the Temple City High School Activities Office at 626-548-5160 or purchase tickets online at website www.templecitybrighterside.org.

Tickets will be e-mailed to customers for them to print, and then scanned at the door.

Reserved seating tickets are $12 and $15. General admission tickets are $10; children $7.

For more information, interviews, or photos, please phone Matt Byers at Temple City High School, 626-548-5053 or mbyers@tcusd.net.

Merry Christmas!
San Gabriel Community Church & Christian School
117 N. Pine St., San Gabriel, CA 91775

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!