Temple City festivals celebrate the good life

Cultural traditions, joys of childhood prevail over entire month

It was a celebration of traditions as Temple City opened and closed the month of February with two family friendly street festivals, both free and filled with freedom. Good weather fostered joyful participation.

Thousands converged on the downtown Las Tunas corridor to celebrate the 2014 Chinese New Year Street Festival, Feb. 1. The Temple City Chamber of Commerce joined the City of Temple City and Sing Tao Daily newspaper to celebrate the Year of the Horse with entertainment, carnival rides, food trucks, and a wide variety of booths.

Sing Tao Daily C.E.O. S.K. Cheung joined TC Mayor Cynthia Sternquist and Chamber Board Chair Rita Padilla to welcome special guests, including U.S. Rep. Judy Chu, elected state officials, regional dignitaries and community leaders to a day-opening ceremony at the City’s Performing Arts Pavilion.

Three weeks later the City celebrated the 70th Annual Camellia Festival & Parade Feb. 21-23 with the traditional parade down Las Tunas Drive on Saturday, Feb. 22.

This year, however, festival goers were pleasantly surprised to discover new rides and attractions during the three-day festival from Friday night through Sunday.

As the sun set and the bright carnival lights sparkled across City Park, laughter and screams could be heard as folks of all ages tested their skills at games and their bravery on hair-raising rides.

The highlight of the day focused on the children, especially the prize-winning floats and the exuberant marching bands.

A picture, however, is worth a thousand words, so readers are invited to look within this special 24-page commemorative issue of Temple City Life and enjoy a photo-packed review of this super sized special month in the history of our city. — Peter Choi.

Mayor Sternquist to present State of the City on March 4

Mayor Cynthia Sternquist will deliver the annual State of the City address to update residents on the City’s accomplishments and future plans at 7 p.m., Tuesday, March 4, in Council Chambers (5938 Kauffman Ave.).

Mayor Sternquist will cover a wide range of topics, from updates on the Strategic and General Plans, the soon-to-be-completed Rosemead Boulevard Project and the City’s newly adopted Priority-Based Budgeting system to discussions on citizen engagement, Las Tunas Drive revitalization and technological enhancements to improve public communications.

“Over the past year we’ve asked residents at various public meetings for their input on how we can bring Temple City to the next level,” said Mayor Sternquist. “Twelve months later we can proudly say we put their dreams into action and built a sustainable infrastructure on which we can continue to support new business and investment. You’ll be surprised at just how much we accomplished.”

Following the State of the City will be the regularly scheduled City Council meeting. Both events will stream live at www.templecity.kgem.tv.

Mayor Cynthia Sternquist with TC High Pep Squad at 2014 Camellia Festival.

For more information, phone the Temple City Communications Office at 626-285-2171, ext. 2324.

www.templecitychamber.com

info@templecitychamber.com ©2014 • Published by the Temple City Chamber of Commerce • 9050 Las Tunas Drive • Temple City, CA 91780

626-286-3101

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Felisa Real-Macerias, Baldwin Gardens resident, celebrates a century of life

As musician Marthann Mulleavy performed the “Blue Danube,” Felisa Real-Macerias celebrated her 100th birthday by dancing with her son Enrique Gineres in front of friends at the Baldwin Gardens Community on Feb. 4.

Music has always been a big part of her life. As a young woman, Ms. Real-Macerias sang on radio and in amphitheaters as a dramatic soprano, coloratura opera singer, winning accolades and awards.

She was invited to join the Metropolitan Opera Theater in New York, but her father, an old fashioned sort, insisted marriage would be her only career and so, at the age of 32, she married Manuel Gineres.

They raised a beautiful family and built a life together. She also flourished as a professional seamstress, working for Los Angeles fashion designer Louis Estevez in the 60s and 70s. Transferring her passion and skills from singing to fine quality sewing, she was invited to “dress” fashionistas from Hollywood and New York.

“My mother spent much of her life doing everything in her power to make others happy and to give her family love and support,” said son Mr. Gineres.

“When she was 77, she once again took some time to do things that she loves and took lessons for ballet, singing, and sewing.”

Her birthday continued into the night as Enrique took her to her favorite Russian restaurant and a night of dancing in Hollywood. “We shared the meal because she has always eaten small portions,” laughed Enrique, “which is ironic because she has such a big heart and has done so many big things in her lifetime.”

In her wedding photo, Felisa Real-Macerias is 32.

Sunny Slope Water Co. schedules 119th annual shareholder meeting, March 17

Sunny Slope Water Company will have its annual shareholders meeting at 10 a.m., March 17, at company offices, 1040 El Campo Drive, Pasadena, Calif. Directors will be elected and other business, including matters postponed from previous meetings, will be addressed.

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Looking Back

By Joe Walker

TO BE CONTINUED

Next month: Bernal is warned to stay quiet about what he saw, and another handyman says he was offered $10,000 by one Nicholson brother to murder the other.

Do you have questions or comments? E-mail me at Joe_Walker_2000@yahoo.com.

First Lutheran Church seeks community service input

Community is a noun defined as “a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.”

The members of First Lutheran Church have a strong interest in serving the community and are actively seeking information on any special needs that aren’t being met in the city. If you are aware of any ways the Church can serve the community – Senior Day Care, food banks etc. – please phone Lynne Burkhardt at 626-230-2269.
The event is free for Chamber members and $10 for non-members.

Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day at the Chamber’s March 17 Mixer

The Temple City Chamber of Commerce invites all members to network and socialize at the next Quarterly Mixer from 6:30-8 p.m., Monday, March 17, hosted by Temple City Animal Hospital, 5406 Rosemead Blvd., San Gabriel. Food and drinks will be provided. The event is free for Chamber members and $10 for non-members. For more information, phone the Chamber at 626-286-3101.

Hosted by Temple City Animal Hospital

Temple City Life

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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.

Chamber News

For Pete’s Sake—

Temple City Chamber joins 5th Annual China US Business Summit

Located in the heart of the San Gabriel Valley, home to the largest growing Chinese American community in the USA, the Temple City Chamber of Commerce has taken a leadership role in promoting increased business, trade, and investment between China and the United States. Whether it is traveling to Shanghai to address potential investors interested in the Gateway project or working with the unique challenges, styles and strategies that distinguish wealthy investors, I will work with you to help you preserve and grow your wealth, relying on the insights of seasoned investment professionals, a premier trading and execution platform, and a full spectrum of investment choices,” said Mr. Lynn.

Financial expert Gabriel Lynn to host free Cantonese Chinese language seminar on Women and Wealth

Morgan Stanley Financial Adviser Gabriel Lynn will present a free Cantonese Chinese language informational seminar for women, from 10:30 a.m.-12 noon, Saturday, March 8, in the Chamber Boardroom.

“Morgan Stanley serves many of the world’s most sophisticated investors, and our firm is one of the nation’s leading managers of personal wealth. As your Financial Advisor, I have experience with the unique challenges, styles and strategies that distinguish wealthy investors. I will work with you to help you preserve and grow your wealth, relying on the insights of seasoned investment professionals, a premier trading and execution platform, and a full spectrum of investment choices,” said Mr. Lynn.

A graduate of UC Berkeley, Mr. Lynn is a member of the CFA Society of Los Angeles and is an expert on services ranging from retirement planning, portfolio management, wealth management, education planning, estate planning, lending services, and fixed income.

For more information and advice on these and any area of financial planning, phone Gabriel Lynn at 626-683-4611 or send him an e-mail at Gabriel.Lynn@morganstanley.com.

Chamber Calendar

March 7, Free Tax Seminar, 1-3 p.m., Chamber Boardroom
March 8, Women and Wealth Seminar, in Chinese Cantonese, presented by Gabriel Lynn, 10:30 a.m.-12 noon, in Chamber Boardroom.
March 10, Board of Directors Meeting, 7 p.m., in Chamber Boardroom.
March 17, St. Patrick’s Day Mixer, 6:30-8 p.m., hosted by Temple City Animal Hospital, 5406 Rosemead Blvd., San Gabriel.

The Chamber Welcomes New Members and Renewals

NEW MEMBERS

TRS Roofing, The Roofing Specialist
Los Angeles and Amanda Sanchez
5812 Temple City Blvd., Ste. 304
Temple City, CA 91780
TEL: 626-444-7555
FAX: 626-810-8012
trsroofing@live.com

Morgan Stanley
Gabriel Lynn, Financial Advisor
301 N Lake Ave., Penthouse Suite
Pasadena, CA 91101
TEL: 626-683-4611
FAX: 626-449-7121
gabriel.lynn@morganstanley.com

RENEWING MEMBERS

Businesses
H&R Block
RPM Printing, LLC
El Ruizenor
Coiffures North Corp.
Wells Fargo
Manhattan Development Co.
Temple City Animal Hospital

For more information about the benefits of membership, please phone 626-286-3101.
Sellers optimistic about future housing market

Home prices in the California Housing market have been showing double-digit year-over-year gains for the past year and a half as of the end of 2013. According to the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.), the statewide median price of existing single-family homes has increased by more than 10% on a year-to-year basis for 18 consecutive months and the annual median price for 2013 jumped 27.5% from 2012.

While the growth rate in home prices appears to be slowing down as the annual price gain dipped below 20% for the first time since September 2012, California home sellers remain confident about repurchasing as general economic conditions improve.

Results from the C.A.R. 2013 Survey of Home Sellers show that more than two-thirds (69%) of home sellers in 2013 planned to buy another home after selling their previous residence. That’s a significant jump from 2012, when less than half of all sellers (47%) repurchased another home, and it was more than five times higher than the share of sellers who repurchased in 2011.

Many sellers decided to buy another home instead of renting partly because they were more confident about future home prices. Two out of five sellers (43%) thought home prices would go up in one year, while only 9% believed so in 2012.

For those sellers who chose to rent instead of buy in 2013, 70% planned to buy another home, a jump from 22% who planned to buy another home in 2012. Reasons for not buying were credit problems (25%), insufficient down payment (25%) and more affordable to rent (24%).

Sellers still have reasons to be optimistic about the housing market, despite a slowdown in sales at the end of 2013.

The general economic growth may not be robust but should remain solid in 2014. While interest rates are expected to climb, the average fixed rate should hover around 5% for most of 2014 and is still considered low by historical standards.

According to C.A.R., the California median price is not expected to record another double-digit annual gain in 2014, but projects prices to increase a solid 6% for the year.
TRS Roofing will get your roof done

The TRS family’s vision began back in 1996 when doing business was about building relationships. Spanning over one and a half decades, they have remained steadfast in their core values of building and enriching those relationships.

Today, with more than 2,600 satisfied customers throughout the San Gabriel Valley, TRS Roofing continues the same quality, value and service.

The TRS father-daughter team of owner Louie Rios and manager Amanda Sanchez believe their customers’ satisfaction has led TRS to be one of the most highly recommended roofing contractors in the valley and it is for their customer’s satisfaction that they continue to strive; insuring their longevity that will ultimately benefit their customers by remaining true to their philosophy that their growth is the outcome of their customer’s satisfaction.

Initially named Tilly’s Roofing Service, TRS has been family-owned and operated since 1996. Throughout their many years of service, they have had the opportunity of partnering with many families, businesses, nonprofit organizations and cities. In June 2013, TRS had the honor of being selected by the city of Temple City in replacing its City Hall roof.

Driving through Temple City and its surrounding cities, you may have spotted their work from time to time. Here are some of their many satisfied customers that you may recognize: Temple City City Hall (2013); the President Thai restaurant, Pasadena (2005); the Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles (2005) and Rosemead High School, Rosemead (2011).

We Dare You

Are you hungry enough for the first Big Daddy Burrito Challenge at El Ruizenor Grill?

El Ruizenor Grill will host its first Big Daddy Burrito Challenge, Friday, April 4, in recognition of National Burrito Day.

Fifteen lucky contestants will be selected to participate for a $15 entry fee. The contestants who finish will walk away with an El Ruizenor gift certificate and be honored on their Facebook and Yelp page.

All participants will earn a Big Daddy Burrito shirt. For more information or to sign up, phone El Ruizenor Grill at 626-286-8763 or visit them at 5818 Temple City Boulevard, Temple City.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of 119th Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Sunny Slope Water Company

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of Sunny Slope Water Company, a California corporation, will be held at the office of the Company, located at 1040 E1 Campo Drive, Pasadena, California 91107 in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, on Monday, the 17th day of March, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is for the election of Directors, and the transaction of such other business as may come before said meeting and the determination of any matters postponed for hearing at said meeting from previous meetings of the shareholders.

Sunny Slope Water Company
Peter C. Jeong, Secretary
CASA DEL REY: Thanks for the Memories

Temple City resident shares happy memories of Casa del Rey

NOTE: Joe Walker’s article on the closing of Casa del Rey (“Casa del Rey to say goodbye after 41 years,” Temple City Life, February 2014) moved reader James A. Ponnet, a Temple City resident for 60 years, to submit this column on why it is so important to shop local and support your favorite Temple City businesses.

By James A. Ponnet

My mom and dad used to ride the red electric cars to Temple City from Lincoln Heights in Los Angeles to see a movie at the Art Deco Temple Theater movie house.

The red electric cars came to the Library Park and City Hall, then turned around and headed back to Los Angeles.

I arrived here as a two-year-old and loved everything that the city had, and still has, to offer: a safe environment, good schools and a small town atmosphere reminiscent of The Andy Griffith Show’s Mayberry R.F.D.

But we especially enjoyed dining at Casa del Rey whose owners Ed and Dana Rey were always very friendly and very glad to see our family on the many occasions we enjoyed the Mexican food dishes and very good drinks.

What was nice about Casa del Rey was the atmosphere of being in the Mission in San Gabriel or perhaps somewhere along the California coast.

The Spanish tile roof capped lovely art in the restaurant: decorative tiles, cactus, stained glass windows of a Mission with a fountain, and a man resting under his sombrero.

The overstuffed booths and tables made it very comfortable. It had charm and personality because everyone that worked there was very friendly, happy and helpful.

To me it’s a sad day to see it leave and we will miss your presence in our beautiful town of Temple City. Vaya con Dios, Casa del Rey.
Tutor Doctor debuts new wrapped Nissan Cube

Tutor Doctor, a personalized one-on-one in-home tutoring service, has recently wrapped its company car, a Nissan Cube, in the Tutor Doctor colors of purple and green.

The Tutor Doctor Arcadia office uses the car to travel to the homes of prospective customers where we can provide free educational consultations to these families. The educational consultant can also assess the student on academic needs for the most common academic subjects. This car is also used to attend local business networking events and other business needs.

“When its fun to be getting a call from a new prospective customer who sees the car and gives us a call,” said Joseph Smith, owner and educational consultant at Tutor Doctor Arcadia. “Our phone number is right on the car. And since this model of car comes with a factory hands-free feature, I can safely answer the phone while still driving. However, I will need to pull over when I need to take notes about the call.”

For more information, phone Mr. Smith at 626-254-0200 or e-mail him at jsmith@tutordoctor.com.

Tutor Doctor to assist TCHS Band with donations for 2015 Rose Parade

Tutor Doctor, a personalized one-on-one in-home tutoring service, is offering to provide donations toward the Temple City High School Marching Band and Pageantry Corp, “The Pride of Temple City,” in its efforts to raise funds to support its appearance in the January 1, 2015 Rose Parade in Pasadena.

The Tutor Doctor Arcadia office will donate $50 to the band’s Rose Parade fund for every new enrollment in the Temple City zip code of 91780 between Feb. 24 and Dec. 1 this year. This donation will be for any new enrollment of 48 hours or more that is signed between these dates. Tutor Doctor Arcadia will also donate $25 for enrollments to a package of less than 48 hours.

Furthermore, Tutor Doctor Arcadia will make this donation for those who live outside of the 91780 zip code, if they request the donation and they have an affiliation with the TCHS Marching Band and Pageantry Corps.

Tutor Doctor Arcadia will also make this donation for those who live outside of the 91780 zip code, if they request the donation and they have an affiliation with the TCHS Marching Band and Pageantry Corps.

Both of our children were members of the TCHS Marching Band during all four years they spent at TCHS. My wife and I spent many fun hours in support of the band as members and officers in the Band Boosters,” said Joseph Smith, owner and educational consultant at Tutor Doctor Arcadia.

Tutor Doctor was founded in 2000 as an alternative to the “one-to-many” teaching model most extra-curricular learning center offer by providing a personalized one-on-one, in-home tutoring service to students. For more information about Tutor Doctor, visit the Web site at www.tutordoctor.com.

“Both of our children were members of the TCHS Marching Band during all four years they spent at TCHS. My wife and I spent many fun hours in support of the band as members and officers in the Band Boosters,” said Joseph Smith, owner and educational consultant at Tutor Doctor Arcadia.

For more information on Tutor Doctor Arcadia visit www.tutordoctorarcadia.com. Tutor Doctor was founded in 2000 as an alternative to the "one-to-many" teaching model most extra-curricular learning center offer by providing a personalized one-on-one, in-home tutoring service to students. For more information about Tutor Doctor, visit the Web site at www.tutordoctor.com.
Friends of Library holding member drive

By Monica Bhatty, President
Friends of the TC Library

The most prominent hidden organization of Temple City is the Friends of the Temple City Library, a non-profit group that raises money to support events, programs, and acquisitions for the library.

Last year the group funded the Summer Reading Program in its entirety for the children, youth, and adults. This included the prizes, performers, and activities. This year, the group is funding 12 months of events at the library for the public to enjoy. Friends of Temple City Library is responsible for events such as cooking demonstrations, art or craft activities, magic shows and author readings.

Beyond raising funds, the group promotes literacy, thinking, and understanding.

Friends of Temple City Library is a social group of people who like to exchange ideas in a positive environment and contribute to the community life of Temple City.

The group’s 2014 member drive is under way. Memberships begin at $2 for children, $10 for individuals, and $15 for patrons and organizations.

Donations are tax deductible and are used to fund activities at the library. Donations of high-quality books including children’s books, hard-cover, and collectible coffee table books are also accepted.

Volunteering time is also an appreciated donation. Volunteers may help the book sale committee manage the ongoing, semi-annual, and on-line book sales as well as the hospitality committee in charge of planning fun events for members and the community. Board positions are open for those who’d like some extra responsibility.

Learn more by visiting the library’s Web site at librarytc.wordpress.com or stop by the ongoing, in-the-library book sale just inside the main entrance. Member forms are available at the reference desk.

City’s master gardener invites public to be victorious in growing your own vegetables

Temple City’s master gardener Helen Redmond will once again offer beginning gardening classes in April. Participants can become a Certified UC Victory Gardener through the Grow LA Victory Garden Initiative.

Classes will take place in the lunch shelter at Longden Elementary School on four consecutive Saturdays: April 5, 12, 19 and 26 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Temple City Animal Hospital to begin hosting monthly vaccine clinics in March

Temple City Animal Hospital hosts a vaccine clinic every second Tuesday of the month from 4–6 p.m., at 5406 Rosemead Blvd., San Gabriel.

In addition to rabies vaccines, dog-specific vaccines offered are DHPP, corona, bordetella, lepto and lyme. Cat-specific vaccines offered are FVRCP and FeLV.

Topics include plant selection, seed starting, soil, saving and accepting, and California climate offers us the luxury of growing vegetables year round.

We will be planting a summer garden in April. Once the garden is planted, the Longden students will tend and harvest from the garden.

Classes cost $50 for the series or $15 per class. To register, phone Helen Redmond at 818-371-1766 or e-mail at iamfly@aol.com.

For more information on keeping your pet healthy, phone Temple City Animal Hospital at 626-287-1173.

Doctors and a full staff are on hand for two hours after the end of the clinic in case your pet has a reaction to a vaccination.

If a medical question or condition comes up during the course of the vaccination visit, you can schedule an appointment with a doctor that evening.

Doctors at TC Animal Hospital use the best vaccines produced by pharmacological company Merial Limited.

For more information on keeping your pet healthy, phone Temple City Animal Hospital at 626-287-1173.

Pet of the Month

Arthur’s personality is as big as his ears

Arthur is a very social, can Chihuahua boy who has been friendly with people and other dogs from the day we met him. Approxi- mately 2 to 2 ½ years old and weighing 7.9 pounds, Arthur has a fun-loving spirit and an irresistible personality that will put a smile on your face. Always eager and happy to go out for a walk, he is a very good little walker, always enjoying every moment. He is up to date with all routine shots and ready to move in with a forever family.

If you’d like to make Arthur (aka SGI/04D) part of your family, stop by the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society from 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., at 851 E. Grand Avenue, San Gabriel, Tuesday through Sunday. His adoption fee is $120 which includes his neuter surgery, a microchip, first vaccinations and a free wellness check-up at a participating veterinarian, phone 626-286-1159 for more information on Arthur.

The San Gabriel Valley Humane Society has been serving the San Gabriel Valley since 1924 when founder Fannie Kess- ler began taking stray cats and dogs into her home. For the past 90 years the shelter has provided compassionate care for animals while working to find permanent, loving homes for them. Popular programs include the reduced fee “Senior for Senior” and the “Buddy System”.

Temple City residents can take advantage of the shelter’s low cost spay/neuter services, microchipping and affordable vaccination clinics twice weekly as well as our new TNR program for community cats. For more information about these programs please visit our Web site at www.sgvhumane.org.
Temple City Kiwanis Club recognizes outstanding students

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

Kiwanis thanks 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 their receiving the award. Their photo is also published in 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 City honored Sara Amin, Wesley Jia, and Mark Erstad, Jr., three outstanding students from Longden 10A and to always have fun. Everyone, always get straight A’s, visit her family and friends in Egypt, to do, and they have a program for everything. “The best thing that ever happened to me was Emperor teacher Miss Mary Ann Parrille, shown in the photo above. Sara, 12 years, has an older sister. She enjoys music, eating cookies, Girls on the Run, and meeting new people. Sara said the best things about Longden are “the nice teachers, the fun things to do, and they have a program for everything.” The best thing that ever happened to Sara was when her friend came from Egypt and surprised her. Her goals are to read more books, respect everyone, always get straight A’s, visit her family and friends in Egypt, and to always have fun.

Wesley, 11, has an older sister. He enjoys reading and using his laptop. Wesley said the best things about Longden are “the friendly teachers, supportive staff, and friendly student.” Wesley said the best thing that ever happened to him was coming to California from Indiana. Goals are to change the way people look at life, build a teleportation device, travel the world, learn many different languages, and to become a scientist.

Mark, 11, has two sisters. He enjoys playing baseball, video games, and hanging out with his friends. Mark said the best things about Longden are “my friends, the great teachers, fun events and projects.” The best thing that ever happened to Mark was when he was told he was cancer free when he was nine years old. His goals are to go to college, be a better computer to fix mistakes, graduate high school, get into a good college like USC, and to become a major league baseball player.

Emperor Elementary School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Casey Chen, Isaac Haynes, and Tiffany Heise, three outstanding students from Emperor Elementary School, Feb. 11. Attending with the students was Emperor teacher Miss Mary Ann Parrille, shown in the photo above.

Casey, 11, is in Miss Parrille’s class. She has a younger brother and enjoys playing golf and cooking cakes. Casey said the best things about Emperor are “my friends, the playground, and awesome teachers.” The best thing that ever happened to Casey was having a photo taken with swimmer Michael Phelps. Her goals are to build a mind-reading machine, get good grades, to hug President Obama, and go to a women’s golf championship.

Isaac, 11, is in Mrs. Scanlan’s class. He has a younger sister and enjoys playing soccer, camping, learning about astronomy and the cosmos, and visiting Yellowstone National Park. Isaac said the best things about Emperor are “my loyal classmates, awesome computer lab, and the Principal!” If Isaac could build one thing it would be a shoe that could change shape and shift into any boot, cleat, sandal, or sneaker. His goals are to attend Cal Tech, have his first job at Starbucks or a car wash, and to read as much as he can.

Tiffany, 12, is in Mr. Giangregorio’s class. She has a younger brother and enjoys dancing. Tiffany said the best things about Emperor are “my awesome homeroom teacher Mr. G, my friends, and my teachers Miss Parrille, and Mrs. Scanlan.” Her goals are to have world peace, build a school for disabled kids in Africa, get straight A’s, go to college, and have great health for her family and friends.

Cloverly Elementary School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Amaya Salas and Noah Granger, two outstanding students from Clovery Elementary School, Feb. 4. Attending with the students were Clovery teacher Ms. Krista Carlson and Principal Stephen Martin Edo.

Amaya, 11, is in Ms. Tenney’s class. She has a younger sister and enjoys playing the flute and guitar, ice skating, soccer, gymnastics, and reading. Amaya said the best things about Cloverly are “the sixth grade electives, fun activities, PTA and student council, the kind and friendly students that welcomed me as a new student from Upland.” The best thing that ever happened to Amaya was being on the Honor Roll after her former school. Amaya’s goals are to stop animal and child abuse, build a shelter for children, get straight A’s, to have better reading comprehension, and to get into Stanford or Yale for the study of medicine.

Noah, 11, is in Mrs. Carlson’s class. He has an older brother and enjoys playing baseball, Minecraft, fantasy baseball, and going on roller coasters. Noah said the best things about Cloverly are the helpful and nice teachers, clubs, activities, student council, spirit rallies, and lunch on the lawn.” Noah said the best thing that ever happened to him was having the time of his life on the Heritage Trip. Noah’s goals are to make cities safer, build an amusement park with lots of roller coasters, get all A’s, and win the Temple City Little League Championship.
By Monique Weiland

The Blue Star Banner Program recognizes two new members to our roster of military personnel connected to Temple City: Justin Chavez joined the US Marine Corp and Kelvin Li joined the Navy.

Another officer with ties to Temple City, Major Nathan Alfano, grandson of Phyllis Alfano, received one of the Blue Star Christmas boxes and called Sharon Johnson to let her know how much the children enjoyed its contents, especially the handmade cards from Cloverly and Emperor Elementary schools.

He asked Mrs. Johnson to call the schools to thank them for their creative cards and notes and to let them know how much he enjoyed them and their talents. Major Alfano presented the Blue Star Banner Program with a special American flag that had been flown aboard an MC 130 Combat Talon II during a mission originating from a base in Afghanistan; all returned home safely that day. The flag came to Temple City with a certificate of appreciation for the Blue Star Banner program which is on display during the semi-annual recognition dinners.

It becomes a family affair when a son, daughter, or grandchild joins a branch of the military; it finds them in patriotic piety, or worse for their pride, with an outpouring of love and respect for their commitment to our freedom. It can be a family tradition as in the case of Derek Goodwin who chose to join the Marines because his step-father, Jim Lallercob, had been a Marine. If you are interested in supporting the Blue Star Banner program, upcoming events include the annual rummage sale in May and program in June. For more information, contact Ms. Johnson at 626-285-5852.

 ook about an MC 130 Combat Talon II during a mission originating from a base in Afghanistan; all returned home safely that day. The flag came to Temple City with a certificate of appreciation for the Blue Star Banner program which is on display during the semi-annual recognition dinners.

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Blue Star group salutes Justin Chavez, Kelvin Li

Smiles for Life

By Jack Von Bulow

When teeth-whitening debuted back around 1990, we tried it out on friends, family, and team members (Shucks, most of my familia had already survived my early clinical forays in dental school.) And yeah, at first, I thought teeth-whitening was pretty superficial stuff. But before long, I changed my mind. Teeth-whitening was a slam-dunk; it worked and it was safe.

I had no idea where whiter, brighter smiles would lead, but because of teeth-whitening, we detected oral pre-cancers, diagnosed periodontal disease, and screened for oral cancers.

Patients connected with oral health; we even saved a few lives. But we were clueless about how many lives we could touch.

March begins our sixteenth year with Smiles for Life (SFL). With the help of the Crown Council and Ultradent Products, through June, we’ll be providing teeth-whitening for patients at reduced fees with all the proceeds going to charity and helping sick, disabled, and disadvantaged children.

Since 1998, Crown Council practices have raised more than $30 million. Today, half of the funds are distributed through the Crown Council to charitable organizations like St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Kids Cancer Care Foundation. And the other half of the proceeds go to local organization chosen by the participating dental practice.

This year, we’ll be looking to create whiter, brighter, flashier smiles while we raise funds for our local national/global treasure, City of Hope. In 2013, our practice lost the laughter, spirit, and love of some amazing friends and family. We do hold a grudge.

And what better ally exists than the City of Hope when holding cancer accountable? Please give yourself the OralLoyalty you deserve. And why not give yourself something fulfilling to smile about?

To connect with a participating dental practice, please phone us at 626-285-3161 or Crown Council at 707-9929 East Las Tunas Drive, Temple City, CA 91780. For more information, contact www.templecitydental.com.

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Cory Gerlach, a 2005 Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center graduate, is headed to Harvard.

Temple City Dental Care is located at 9929 East Las Tunas Drive, Temple City, CA 91780. For more information, contact phone 626-285-3161 or go to www.templecitydental.com.
Learn how to protect elders from fraud and abuse at free seminar

The Central San Gabriel Mission Area of the United Methodist Church invites you to a presentation on Elder Fraud and Elder Abuse from 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Saturday, March 15, at the First United Methodist Church of Temple City, 5957 Golden West Ave., Temple City.

Protect yourself and your loved ones from those who would hurt them and/or steal from them. Be aware of the current scams and “deals” that are too good to be true. Know what signs to look for that mean a person is being abused. It is important to be aware of the dangers that are out there and how best to avoid them. The Temple City Sheriff’s Department will share their knowledge and answer your questions at this informative meeting.

Knights of Columbus to host 26th annual fish dinner for lenten season

The Knights of Columbus Council No. 9128 of St. Luke’s Catholic Church will host their 26th annual fish dinner during the coming lenten season. The dinners will consist of choices of baked salmon, baked potato, medley vegetables, coleslaw salad, freshly baked dinner roll, cake or pudding for dessert, with coffee or punch.

The Knights of Columbus will host an expanded boutique and craft fair on all three days of the popular community event. Craft vendor space is now available for purchase, along with space in the general exhibitor area and at the car show.

The fiesta features a food court, court (Saturday), boutique and craft fair, plant booth, carnival games and rides, live entertainment, a beer garden, and an expo area.

The boutique and craft fair will feature the many handcrafted and boutique style items that are created and donated by parishioners, in addition to showcasing the talents of craft and boutique vendors in the area. Vendors can purchase space for one or three days or just Saturday and Sunday ($115 for Friday-Saturday/$125 for Saturday and Sunday).

Exhibitor/vendor space is also available on Saturday and Sunday in the expo area ($125 for Saturday and Sunday) and at the car show on Saturday ($30-560) for companies that want to showcase their products and services.

The car show is limited in all areas and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Additionally, sponsorship packages range from $25 to $1,000 and in-kind donation sponsorships are welcomed.

Registration for the car show is now open. Fee is $20 per entry; includes t-shirt and dash plaque. Prizes will be awarded. Unlimited ride wristbands will be available soon in the Parish Office, along with pre-sale priced ride tickets.

As host to more than 10,000 Greater San Gabriel Valley residents, the event is the parish’s main fundraiser with proceeds directed toward parish and elementary school maintenance needs.

The parish is also sponsoring a grand prize raffle (first prize: $7,500 cash) and a mega 50/50 cash raffle (winner could receive up to $5,000, $2,500 guaranteed). Raffle tickets can be purchased at the St. Luke Parish Office, located at 5605 Cloverly Ave., Temple City, or at the fiesta (held at the parish) until sold out. Admission is free.

For more information, please phone the Parish Office at 626-291-5900 or visit www.firstlutherantc.org. Like “St.LukeParishFiestaTC” on Facebook.
**An Important Message from The Gas Company**

**BENEFITS OF ADVANCED METERS**

- **Manage Energy Use Better:** You will have access to more detailed information and analysis tools online through My Account at socalgas.com, where you can also view and pay your bill, schedule service and sign up for energy-saving tips. We will notify you when your meter reads are available.

- **New “Ways to Save” Interactive tool on socalgas.com** (search "WAYS TO SAVE") You can currently create your own customized energy plan by answering a few questions. Track and update your progress and learn how your actions can help you save energy and money. In addition, you can view your hourly, daily and monthly gas usage online once we complete meter installations in your area.

- **Location Privacy and Security:** Customers who, in the past, had to provide SoCalGas with a key to their gas valves, leave valves unsecured or confine their dogs to allow meter reading will only need to provide entry for periodic maintenance. To increase privacy and security, only encrypted gas usage information will be transmitted to third parties.

- **Greater Accuracy:** Advanced meters can also improve billing accuracy, reducing the potential for errors.

- **Help the Environment:** Advanced meters will take 1,000 SoCalGas vehicles off the road every day, reduce 6.3 million vehicle miles and approximately 140,000 tons of greenhouse gases per year.

- **New Bill Tracker Alert:** Later this year, advanced meter customers will be able to sign-up for weekly alerts, providing up-to-date information on your energy usage, Bill-to-date and Projected Next Bill via text or email.

- **Operational Efficiencies:** The advanced meter project will enable operational savings over the life of the project, estimated to be more than double the value of our investment. Operational savings will be passed along to customers in overall rates.

- **Where Can I Find More Information?**

  - Visit socalgas.com (search “ADVANCED") or call:  
  - **Residential Customers:**  
    - English: 1-800-427-2200  
    - Spanish: 1-800-247-1429  
    - French: 1-800-427-0471  
    - Vietnamese: 1-800-427-0478

  - For other languages, Hearing Impaired (TDD): 1-800-252-0259

  - **Business Customers:**  
    - English: 1-800-427-2200

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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. **What are Advanced Meters?**
   Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) is upgrading its meter system by adding an advanced meter communication device to all residential and most business and commercial natural gas meters. The advanced meter device will read and transmit your natural gas usage information back to SoCalGas. However, until our comprehensive network is fully operational in your area we will need access to manually read the meter for a few more months.

2. **What if I don’t want an Advanced Meter?**
   If you do not want an advanced meter installed, you should immediately contact your local Customer Contact Center at 1-800-427-2200 and request to be added to the “advanced meter deferral list.” If you defer installation now, SoCalGas will contact you once the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has ruled on our advanced meter opt-out program. You can decide at that time, based on the rate approved by the CPUC, whether you want to formally opt out and pay the applicable fees or allow the installation of an advanced meter at no additional cost.

3. **What is the benefit of Advanced Meters?**
   - Save Money & Energy: You will have access to more detailed information and analysis tools to help you better understand how you’re using gas and where you could potentially save.

4. **Who is getting an Advanced Meter and when?**
   Approaches the minute one million gas meters will be upgraded, the communication device installations will be conducted from 10AM and completed by 8PM. The installation schedule will be available at socalgas.com. For questions, please call 1-800-427-2200 or email info@templecitychamber.com.

5. **How to contact SoCalGas if you need a new meter?**
   Call 1-800-427-2200, or email info@templecitychamber.com. SoCalGas will contact you only if the meter currently on your property is not able to meet required performance standards.

6. **What type of information will be available and can customers access it?**
   In its simplest form, you’ll have access to your home’s energy usage along with historical, chart, and graph line-ups on a next-day basis. You can also identify where you’re using gas, when your usage has been rising versus falling, and how your usage compares over time, with similar forms in your area.

7. **How will it be free to view my gas usage information?**
   Once your advanced meter is installed and we have validated the meter reading, you will be able to view your gas usage in multiple ways, including online at socalgas.com (search “MY ACCOUNT”) or through our mobile app, Smart Phone application or other methods.

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**info@templecitychamber.com**

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**www.templecitychamber.com**

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**An Important Message from The Gas Company**

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**info@templecitychamber.com**

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**www.templecitychamber.com**
The 70th Annual Temple City Camellia Festival crowned Austin Bateman as King and Ella Clinton as Queen at a special Coronation Ceremony on Friday, Jan. 31.

The Ceremony took place in the Community Center at Live Oak Park where General Chairperson Dawn Tarin made the announcement.

Passing on their crowns and capes at the Coronation Ceremony were last year’s Camellia Festival King Christopher Koyamatsu and Queen Gabriella Pedraza.

The Royal Court and Banner Carriers, all first graders, were chosen from contestants who participated in our annual Play Day.

The Royal Court reigned over the 2014 Camellia Festival that took place the weekend of February 21-23, and greeted watchers along Las Tunas Drive at the parade Saturday morning.

The Royal Court rode on a special float built just for them by the Temple City High School Associated Student Body.

The Royal Court includes: King Austin Bateman, Queen Ella Clinton, Princess Emily Shivley, Princess Isabella Realzola, Prince Grant Brown and Prince Jaden Joe.

The Banner Carriers, who carry their Majesties Royal Banner in the parade were Megha Arun, Nichole Shih, Jeremy Kim and Judah Douglas.

At the Coronation, Theme Winner Aiden Garner, a First Grader at Emperor Elementary, was assisted by the Banner Carriers in announcing this year’s festival theme: Oh, The Books I Can Read!

Grader at Emperor Elementary, was assisted by the Banner Carriers in announcing this year’s festival theme: Oh, The Books I Can Read!

Ms. Tarin announced the Grand Marshal as LeUyen Pham, a graduate of Temple City High School. Ms. Pham has authored and illustrated more than 60 books and garnered many awards. Her illustrations for books include God’s Dream, written by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the New York Times Bestselling series Freckleface Strawberry, written by Julianne Moore. Ms. Pham prepared a short video for the event showcasing her artistic talent.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2B
--- Oh, the Books I Can Read ---

Scenes from the 70th Annual Camellia Festival Parade, Feb. 22

Photos by Peter Choi

General Chairperson Dawn Tarin accompanied by Joe Walker.

Mayor Cynthia Sternquist and husband Greg greet the crowd on a sunny morning. Red convertibles were quite the fashion.

Honorary Parade Grand Marshals were Matt and Janet Smith, who were honored for their involvement and community service in various educational endeavors in the Temple City community for more than 30 years.

Kristi Ferntheil coordinated the entertainment for the evening with The Temple City High School Small Dance Team tapping to “Strut Miss Lizzie,” the Oak Avenue Trio performing a Salute to Our Military and Temple City High School students Morgan Howlett and Mackenzie Byers singing “Me” from the upcoming Temple City Musical “Beauty and the Beast.”

Guests for the evening included parents, family and friends of the Royal Court and Banner Carriers, past royalty members, city, school and chamber of commerce officials, community leaders and Camellia Festival committee members.

Clark Macy once again announced the Parade’s floats and marching bands with professional flair and personal charm.

Photos by Peter Choi
Scenes from the 70th Annual Camellia Festival Midway

Three generations of Temple Citians celebrate 70th Anniversary Camellia Parade

A neck injury could not prevent proud grandparents Sherrie and Rodger Shlam from attending the 70th Anniversary Camellia Parade as young Brooklynn Shlam, riding with her friend Mia Gutierrez, continued a family tradition of participation in the City's signature event. Ms. Shlam participated in the parade as a child and beamed as Brooklynn experienced the march down Las Tunas Drive. Photo by Peter Choi.

For a weekend
Temple City becomes
Coney Island

It really was a lively affair

Photos by Peter Choi
Congratulations to the Float Participants in the 70th Annual Camellia Festival Parade

Photos by Peter Choi

Sweepstakes Winner: *Adventure is Out There*, St Lukes 8th Grade Class

Theme: *Seussical Celebration*, Longden Student Council

Best Use of Camellias: *One World, Infinite Stories*, La Rosa Rascals/ Cloverly Cubs

Mayor’s Award: *Cub Scout Handbook*, Cub Scout Pack 156

Walter Temple Award: *One For The History Books*, Temple City American Little League

Josette Temple Award: *Classic Children Books*, STARS Club/ Teen Zone

Animation: *The Story of Our Fight*, TCHS American Cancer Society Youth Club

Thanks to the TCHS ASB for building the Royal Court’s float.
Lunar New Year Celebration – Feb. 1

Scenes from the Lunar New Year Street Festival, Feb. 1

It was a winner!

Photos by Donna & Peter Choi

Peter Choi and Chester Chong, Presidents of the Temple City and Chinese Chambers of Commerce.

Bang a gong! After some rehearsal, City Councilmember Vincent Yu shows how to do it right.

Southern California Gas educated the community about the new Advanced Meters. For more information, see ad on Page 16A.

Present for ceremonial blessings were Mayor Cynthia Sternaquist, Mayor Pro Tem Carl Blum, City Councilmembers Fernando Viscarra and Vincent Yu.
Lunar New Year Celebration – Feb. 1

This drum team was just one of the many performing acts on the entertainment stage.

President Peter Choi, State Sen. Dr. Ed Hernandez and a trio of Miss Taiwans.

Re/Max Realtor Jackson Wong takes a break to pose by his busy booth.

Rep. Judy Chu, Sing Tao Daily Publisher, Board Chair Rita Padilla, President Peter Choi and Vice Chair Legislative Ed Chen.

Scenes from the Lunar New Year Street Festival, Feb. 1

Where East meets West and both thrive with commerce
Lunar New Year Celebration – Feb. 1

You don't have to be a Panda bear to enjoy these bamboo plants.

A couple check out a BMW, one of many vehicles on display.

The busy City staff took a break at local favorite Boba Express.

Wells Fargo welcomed visitors.

Cynthia Vance and Chamber Board Chair Rita Padilla welcomed visitors to the Relay for Life booth.

Shopping? You bet —

Denizens of the lily pads.

Photos by Peter Choi
Public asked to support new band uniforms for Pride of Temple City

By Helen Marston

When the familiar voices of Bob Eubanks and Stephanie Edwards announce the stunning floats and musical bands next year, get ready to hear “Temple City” because the Pride of Temple City, the TCHS Marching Band and Pageantry Corps will be one of 24 bands to march in the 2015 Rose Parade. While travel costs will be low for the band members and support staff due to the close proximity of our City and Pasadena, the band is seeking donations to wear uniforms ready for a worldwide audience and other costs associated with performing.

The Pride of Temple City, the Temple City High School Marching Band and Pageantry Corps, serves the community in many ways, including marching in the Camellia Festival Parade on Feb. 22, the annual Christmas Parade, and many other public performances as well as being ambassadors for the city in parades and public concerts in the city and throughout the San Gabriel Valley. It is a great honor and privilege for the band to march on a global stage and represent our great city. Help us give them everything they need to do Temple City proud.

Helen Chen Marston is vice president of the Emperor PTA and band booster of Temple City High School. When she is not raising funds for the band, Ms. Chen Marston serves as director of West San Gabriel Valley Association of Realtors and was recently accepted as the director of the California Association of Realtors and as the vice chair of Legislative Committee in WSGVAR. She serves as their liaison to the City of Temple City.

Applications for the band will be available from March 1-14 at the TCHS. Visit the Web site or activities Office, room 311 at TCHS.

Letter from a band parent

As one of the many moms who have labored to fit the current 12-year-old uniforms to students each summer for the past few years, I know firsthand the terrible condition they are in (most are literally held together with safety pins). It has become necessary to bring extra uniforms to events because the material has gotten so thin that they rip while a student is performing, but now there are no more extra uniforms. New modest uniforms run $300 each, so the cost for 265 band and pageantry members is a whopping $79,500.

The problem is compounded by the fact that the band needs more than just uniforms. They need to re-pair and purchase new parts for instruments loaned out to hundreds of students who did not have their own. In some cases, a few new instruments need to be purchased too. Other costs include bus transportation to practice locations as well as the big day itself and, of course, food and hydration for the students during practice and the 5.5 mile parade march in hot uniforms and carrying instruments.

My husband and I have donated $5,000 and are budgeting another $5,000 donation. I am also donating 10% of net commissions earned from my real estate business. Learn more about how you can donate or help out at www.TCHSMusic.com. The band’s site is under construction and will be updated frequently, so you can also contact me directly at Helen@HelensReaEstate.com or phone 626 353-9665.

It is a great honor and privilege for the band to march on a global stage and represent our great city. Help us give them everything they need to do Temple City proud.

Helen Chen Marston is vice president of the Emperor PTA and band booster of Temple City High School. When she is not raising funds for the band, Ms. Chen Marston serves as director of West San Gabriel Valley Association of Realtors and was recently accepted as the director of the California Association of Realtors and as the vice chair of Legislative Committee in WSGVAR. She serves as their liaison to the City of Temple City.

Tickets on sale for TCHS’s Beauty and the Beast

Temple City High School’s department of the performing arts will present its annual Broadway musical, a new production of Disney’s Beauty and the Beast, March 14-16, fully staged at the historic San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, 320 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel.

Beauty and the Beast premiered on Broadway in 1994 and ran for 5,461 performances. The story of an enchantress turning a prince into a beast who can only be re-turned to his princely state by learning to love and be loved, has been with us since the eighteenth century. Beauty and the Beast features wonderful songs such as If I Can’t Love Her, Belle, Beauty and the Beast, the show-stopping Be Our Guest, and much more. Performances are at 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, March 14-15 and at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 16.

Tickets are $20 and $18 for reserved seating and $15 for un-reserved seating and can be obtained online at www.tcsud.net or in person at the TCHS Activities Office, room 311 at TCHS. Visit the Web site or phone 626-548-5160 for more information.

Tickets will also be available at the playhouse box office one hour before each performance. Tickets are on sale now — good seats are available.

For production information, pictures or interviews, please phone Matt Byers, producer and director, at 626-548-5053.

Cast members marched in the Camellia Festival, Feb. 22 with a float promoting the play.

TCHS students prepare tasty treats in sixth annual Iron Chef final exam

Temple City High School staged its sixth annual Iron Chef Culinary Cook-off on Jan. 30. Nearly 100 students in Kim Allen’s Small Business Management with Food ROP classes planned, prepared, and served culinary creations for their final exam. Each of the 18 groups had a little more than a week to select and prepare recipes that they could execute well enough to win. Some groups found “copy cat” recipes that were restaurant imitations; others used family recipes that had to be written down for the first time. Students have a 1.5-hour time limit to prepare three dishes for four judges. The judges are TCHS principals, teachers, former students and community members. Guest judges sampled delicious appetizers, salads, entrees, desserts, and beverages and rated the culinary fare on creativity, taste, presentation and clean up.

Cloverly students battle in National Geographic Bee

Isabel Li, a sixth grader, won first place in Cloverly Elementary School’s National Geographic Bee, Tuesday, Jan. 14. She was among 12 Cloverly students who competed in this year’s National Geographic Bee. After seven grueling rounds, the top three contestants emerged ready to battle it out for first place. The exciting tie-breaking rounds were bombardied with many difficult questions. Fifth grade student Jeffrey Van won second place and fourth grade student Eric Khaw won third place. The winners were recognized at January’s Spirit Rally and all contestants were invited to an “In and Out” cheeseburger luncheon with the school’s principal, Stephen Martin Edo. The National Geographic bee was organized, emceed and hosted by teacher Denise Galvan.