March 2015

Temple City Life

Royal Court

Members of the Royal Court for the 71st Annual Camellia Festival are (l-r) front row, Banner Carrier Mya Beserra, Princess Kate Kohn, Queen Zoey Kallianiotis, Princess Jasmine Zee, and Banner Carrier Samantha Lopez. In the back row (l-r) are Banner Carrier Cobin Motta, Prince Landon Pure, King Gianni Valenzuela, Prince Blake Skaggs, Banner Carrier Gianni Camera. These youngsters reigned over the festivities of the Camellia Festival and Parade Feb. 20-21.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHUCK HAMMOND

A Community Celebration

City fetes today’s youth with special thanks to Greatest Generation of World War II veterans

By Peter Choi

Under sunny skies the City of Temple welcomed residents and visitors from across the Southland to the 71st Annual Camellia Festival & Parade. A celebration of youth, families and community, this year’s theme “Festival, Family, and Fun,” suggested by Cloverly Elementary fourth grader Giordano Camera, reflected the energy and family-friendly entertainment Feb. 20, 21 and 22.

As always, the highlight was the annual parade which began at the Chamber office at Sultana with TCHS alumnus and actor David Kirk Grant as Parade Grand Marshal. But the true highlight was the World War II veterans living in Temple City who rode in a vintage trolley car as the Honorary Grand Marshals.

Members of the Temple City and Arcadia American Foreign Legion posts escorted veterans Bob DuFresne, Dan Snell, Ernie Roper, Harley Hart, John Sparling, Joe Milazzo, Larry Stevens, Lyle Umenhoffer, Shirley Mitchem, Curtis Ladd, Robert Bock, and Art Del Rey to loud cheers along Las Tunas drive.

Adding a special sparkle was the appearance of Rose Parade Princesses Mackenzie Byers and Emily Stoker from Temple City.

Among the royalty waving to the common people lining the route were King Gianni Valenzuela, Queen Zoey Kallianiotis, and the 2015 Royal Court including Prince Landon Pure, Princess Kate Kohn, Prince Blake Skaggs and Princess Jasmine Zee.

They were joined in the parade by the current Miss Temple City Monea Alvarez, her Honor Court Tiffany Jie and Christine Chen, and Princesses Tania Yap and Rebecca Chen. 

PHOTO BY JERRY JAMBAZIAN, WWW.TEMPLECITYPHOTOS.COM

Dawn Tarin proves to be Golden for TCUSD

Temple City Unified School District administrators are proud to announce Dawn Tarin as the recipient of TCUSD’s 2015 Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Golden Apple Award.

Mrs. Tarin believes there are few things as rewarding as volunteering.

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PHOTO BY JERRY JAMBAZIAN, WWW.TEMPLECITYPHOTOS.COM

Dawn Tarin receives warm congratulations from TCUSD Superintendent Kathy Perini
Camellia Festival Parade Grand Marshal was actor David Kirk Grant

The Grand Marshal of the 71st Camellia Festival was professional actor and singer David Kirk Grant of Temple City. David was born and raised in beautiful Temple City where he attended Longden Elementary, Oak Avenue, and Temple City High schools.

He is proud to still live in Temple City which his family has called home for more than 50 years. David has been an actor for more than 20 years. His career started in Memoli Hall at Longden Elementary where he played the title role in the 5th grade production of Macbeth. Since then David has co-starred on NBC's The Office and Journeyman. On the big screen he has starred in Spud and the soon-to-be released The Thin Line.

David's career has mainly been on the stage. He has been playing Jafar in Aladdin: A Musical Spectacular at Disney's California Adventure for four years now. David's national touring credits include 42nd Street (Julian Marsh) and The Music Man (Charlie Cowell/Harold Hill), H.M.S. Pinafore (Dick Dead-Eye), The Pirates of Penzance (The Pirate King), and a New Zealand production of The Secret Garden (Dr. Graven). Regional credits include Safe Show at La Jolla Playhouse, Parade (Hugh Dorsey) and Most Of Ma Mau Mau (Governor/Innkeeper) at the Cygnet Theatre, for which he was a Critic's Circle Award nominee, The Great American Trailer Park Musical (Norbert), AIDA (Zolar), Smoke On The Mountain (Burl Sanders), Pump Boys and Dinettes (Jim), I Do! I Do! (Michael), Oklahoma! (Al Hakeim), Annie Get Your Gun (Buffalo Bill), Chees (Walter Anderson), Evita (Juan Peron), Footloose (Rev. Shaw Moore), The Spitfire Grill (Caleb Thore) and Company (Peter). David is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association and the Screen Actors Guild.

Longden team excels in Robotics Super Bowl

On Saturday, Jan. 24, Longden Elementary School hosted the Robotics Super Bowl for Los Angeles County. The competition consisted of research projects related to improving educational, robot games of solving mission models, NFL-themed Alliance Challenge of robot teams working together, and Football-themed Touchdown Challenge to have specialized robots attempt to score field goals and touchdowns. Longden's all-girls team, the Technics coached by Dominique Bhatti and Charis Chang, won the Project Research Award for their innovative research and design of an automated, robot-teaching assistant to help improve the teacher-to-student ratio in classrooms.

Finalists included: The Tumblers (The Pirate King), and a New Zealand production of The Secret Garden (Dr. Graven). Regional credits include Safe Show at La Jolla Playhouse, Parade (Hugh Dorsey) and Most Of Ma Mau Mau (Governor/Innkeeper) at the Cygnet Theatre, for which he was a Critic's Circle Award nominee, The Great American Trailer Park Musical (Norbert), AIDA (Zolar), Smoke On The Mountain (Burl Sanders), Pump Boys and Dinettes (Jim), I Do! I Do! (Michael), Oklahoma! (Al Hakeim), Annie Get Your Gun (Buffalo Bill), Chees (Walter Anderson), Evita (Juan Peron), Footloose (Rev. Shaw Moore), The Spitfire Grill (Caleb Thore) and Company (Peter). David is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association and the Screen Actors Guild.

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Official results may be viewed at the Web site for FIRST Lego League for LA Region (LA-FLL) at the following address: www.la-fll.org/2015-robot-super-bowl.html.
Dawn Tarin honored for school volunteer hours with Golden Apple Award

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

When her now 23-year-old daughter entered kindergarten at Longden Elementary School, there was no question that Mrs. Tarin would volunteer to act as PTA Room Representative, a position she held at Longden Elementary for the next nine years, ending with her being co-chairman of her son’s sixth grade promotion committee.

Mrs. Tarin rarely turned down a request to volunteer or contribute when asked, whether it was acting as team mom, Girl Scout leader, or donating baked goods.

Mrs. Tarin is involved with PTA at Temple City High School, taking on Executive Board and Chairman positions. She also served as Grad Nite Entertainment Chairman from 2009 to 2012 and was Grad Nite Chairman when her son graduated from Temple City High School in 2013.

When asked to become part of Council PTA, she agreed and is currently serving as First Vice President for Programs.

With her son active in the Pride of Temple City Marching Band and Pageantry Corps, Mrs. Tarin joined the Band Boosters as Secretary and Poinsettia Fundraiser Chair.

When it was announced that the Pride of Temple City Marching Band and Pageantry Corps would be appearing in the 2015 Rose Parade, she volunteered to be Fundraising Committee Chairman.

Mrs. Tarin is always willing to support TCUSD schools and was a member of the “Yes on S for Temple City Schools” Committee which successfully passed a $128 million bond measure and has served on the District’s Strategic Planning Committee.

Mrs. Tarin was humbled to receive an Honorary Service Award from the Temple City High School PTA in 2013.

In addition to volunteering within TCUSD, Mrs. Tarin has served on the Temple City American Cancer Society Relay for Life Committee for three years, a cause she feels touches everyone’s life.

Most recently Dawn began committing time to the Temple City Camellia Festival and served as the 70th Anniversary General Chairman in 2014.

“I grew up in a tradition of service and being part of the Temple City community of volunteers who contribute untold hours and dedication to ensure that our schools and community are the best possible for our children. This is something I am very proud of and something I intend to continue for a long time,” said Mrs. Tarin.


Temple City Chamber of Commerce

An organization working to build the community through its businesses and residents

Our Mission Statement

The Temple City Chamber of Commerce sets the standard for excellence in member services, community collaboration, business growth, networking, and achieving a high quality of life in Temple City. We exist to be a clear and persuasive voice in providing advocacy, promotional and benefit solutions for our members.

Officers and Board of Directors

2014 – 2015

EXECUTIVE BOARD
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Temple City Life

A publication of the Temple City Chamber of Commerce.
Temple City Life is published at 9050 Las Tunas Drive, Temple City, CA 91780. 626-286-3101

By Peter Choi

Yes, I know the famous weather saying goes the other way, but since we just started the Lunar New Year of the Sheep, let’s use this month to really rev up our mojo for the coming year. Here are three ways to end the month feeling like a king of the business jungle.

The March 3 election is over, but our own election has just begun. The Chamber is looking for a few good men and women to join our Board of Directors.

Board meetings are every other month from 12 noon to 1 p.m. on the second Monday. Anyone interested in stepping up to serve the business community and engage with the city of Temple City, please contact us at 626-286-3101 for more information.

Our information seminar this month is “Getting Started with Constant Contact.” Join us to learn how this beats the heck out of blasting your e-mails randomly out into the ether. The free seminar is 12 noon to 1 p.m., March 11 in the Chamber Board room.

Our debut “Eat & Meet” networking mixer in February was a rousing success with over two dozen members and friends joining us at Phoenix Kitchen for lunch. This month we are going south of the border to El Ruizenor Grill, honored last year as the Outstanding Restaurant in Temple City, for a delicious Oaxacan cuisine. Join us from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m., March 18.

In William Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar the Roman general Mark Antony is well aware of the Ides of March. I suggest you instead be aware of the ideas for March we have presented and let the Chamber help you build your own empire.

Chamber News

For Pete’s Sake –

March is the time to spring into action

By Peter Choi

Congratulations to volunteers

Congratulations to this year’s Camellia Festival General Chairman Donna Georgino and the many volunteers and city staff whose hard work made the 2015 edition of the city’s signature event, the 71st Annual Camellia Festival and Parade, a rousing success. See Pages 1, 2, 8 and 9.

Congratulations also to Dawn Tarin, Temple City Unified School District’s winner of the 2015 Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Golden Apple Award. Mrs. Tarin is a true citizen in the fullest meaning of the word. One of her major accomplishments was leading the effort to raise more than $125,000 for funding new uniforms for the Pride of Temple City Marching Band and Pageantry Corps. But she has many other accomplishments. See the news story on Pages 1 and 3. — Peter Choi

Eat & Meet

Past Board Chair Rita Padilla greets the lunch bunch. Nothing sheepish about this crowd. The Chamber celebrated the Lunar New Year of the Sheep with the debut of their “Eat & Meet” Lunch Mixer at Phoenix Restaurant, Feb. 18. Over two dozen attended and enjoyed a delicious lunch at one of the city’s newest dining destinations. The Chamber’s next “Eat & Meet” Lunch Mixer will be 12 noon to 1:30 p.m., March 18, at El Ruizenor Grill.

TC Chamber presents donation to Temple City Sheriff’s Station

Temple Station Captain Corinne L. Jacob accepts a check from the Temple City Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors at their February meeting. The donation was raised at the Chamber’s 90th Annual Gala to support improvements to the workout room of the Temple City Sheriff’s station. In photo, from left, are Board member Gabriel Lynn, City Council Liaison Cynthia Sernaquist, Vice Chair Ed Chen, Captain Jacob, Event Chair Judy Huie Mena, Board Empower Brian Barreto, Past Board Chair Rita Padilla, Board member Jim Walden, and President Peter Choi.

In photo (left) are Chamber members Nevin Kamath (CIAM), Board member Jim Walden (First Baptist Church), Mitchell Salem (EH Financial), and tax expert Frank Gabel. Caption: Past Board Chair Rita Padilla greets the lunch bunch.
Temple City Crime Report:
Sheriff’s Department activity

Niborhood Crime Inso, Page 7  
Provided by the Temple City Public Safety Division, Prepued by the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department, Temple Station. This includes significant crimes and is not inclusive of all crimes in Temple City.

Feb. 1: A vehicle burglary occurred between 2 p.m. Jan. 31 and 12:30 a.m. Feb. 1, in the 5500 block of Pal Mal Avenue. Someone entered the victim’s locked vehicle and stole her personal property.

Feb. 2: A vandalism occurred between 10 p.m. Feb. 1 and 8:30 a.m. Feb. 2, in the 9400 block of Las Tunas Drive. Someone shattered the front window of a business.

Feb. 3: A robbery occurred at 1 a.m., in the 5600 block of El Monte Avenue. The victim was riding his bicycle when two males in a pick-up truck approached him from behind, knocked him down, and stole his property.

Feb. 4: A petty theft occurred at 12 noon in the 5300 block of Rosemead Boulevard. The victim was working and placed her purse under a desk. When she returned, she discovered the content were stolen from the floor and some of her property was missing.

Feb. 4: A commercial burglary occurred between 11 p.m. Feb. 3 and 9 a.m. Feb. 4, in the 5800 block of Rosemead Boulevard. Someone shattered the glass door of the business, but the victim was unsure if anything was taken.

Feb. 4: A grand theft occurred on 12/16/15 11:20 a.m. and 12/18/15 4:08 p.m., in the 6000 block of Rowland Avenue. Someone broke into the victim’s vehicle one week earlier and stole his personal property. Someone then used his personal information to obtain funds from his personal bank accounts.

Feb. 4: A petty theft occurred at 3:58 p.m., in the 5600 block of Rosemead Boulevard. The suspect entered the business, selected several items and exited without paying.

Feb. 6: A vandalism occurred between 10 p.m. Feb. 5 and 11 a.m. Feb. 6, in the 5700 block of Primrose Avenue. Someone wrote (illegible) in purple marker on the east wall of the victim’s property.

Feb. 6: A petty theft occurred between 5 p.m. Feb. 4 and 6 a.m. Feb. 5, in the 5800 block of Encinta Avenue. The victim said someone entered his backyard and stole his bicycle.

Feb. 8: A driving under the influence of alcohol arrest of a 23-year-old Asian male was made at 3:16 a.m., in the 9000 block of Broadway. The suspect was contacted for talking on a cell phone while driving and displayed the signs/symptoms of being under the influence of alcohol.

Feb. 8: A vandalism occurred between 4:30 p.m. Feb. 7 and 8 a.m. Feb. 8, in the 10010 block of Bogue Street. Someone drove a vehicle on the grass at a local park and caused serious damage.

Feb. 8: A vehicle burglary occurred between 5-5:30 p.m., in the 9600 block of Las Tunas Drive. Someone entered the victim’s locked vehicle and stole her personal property.

Feb. 9: A grand theft occurred between 10 p.m. Feb. 8 and 9 a.m. Feb. 9, in the 4800 block of Agnes Avenue. Someone removed the catalytic converter from the victim’s vehicle.

Feb. 9: A warrant arrest of a 44-year-old Hispanic male was made at 9:35 a.m., in the 10700 block of Fairview Avenue. While seated in the backseat of a police vehicle, the suspect intentionally kicked out the rear passenger window.

Feb. 11: A commercial burglary occurred between 6:30 p.m. Feb. 10 and 6:30 a.m. Feb. 11, in the 6000 block of Rosemead Boulevard. Someone forcibly entered the location through a window, but nothing appeared to be missing.

Feb. 12: A residential burglary occurred between 9:30 a.m. and 12:35 p.m., in the 5400 block of Directors Avenue. The victim said someone entered the residence through an unlocked open window and stole her personal property.

Feb. 12: A public intoxication arrest of a 54-year-old Hispanic female was made at 7 p.m., in the 9600 block of Las Tunas Drive. The business owner told deputies the suspect was trespassing and refused to leave. The suspect displayed the signs/symptoms alcohol intoxication and was unable to care for himself. In addition, the suspect violated his probation by consuming alcohol. The suspect is a resident of Glendora.

Feb. 13: A petty theft shoplifting arrest of a 43-year-old Hispanic female was made at 11:45 a.m., in the 5500 block of Rosemead Boulevard. The informant said the suspect entered the location, removed several items from the shelves and exited without paying.

Feb. 14: A petty theft occurred at 6:10 p.m., in the 5400 block of Rosemead Boulevard. The victim’s vehicle was at a local vehicle repair shop when someone took her personal property.

Feb. 14: An assault and elder abuse occurred at 7 p.m., at Las Tunas Drive and Primrose Avenue. The elderly victim said he was at a local ATM machine. He was approached by a suspect, and the victim began yelling at him incoherently, for no reason. The suspect attacked the victim, causing the victim to fall and lose consciousness. The suspect was identified by detectives and arrested for assault.
New laws could have catastrophic tax implications

In addition to practicing in estate and trust law, I also practice in tax law. Since the tax season is upon us, here are two of the most important tax law changes:

Affordable Care Act (ACA)

Although the Affordable Care Act was signed in 2010, most of the provisions that affect us came into effect in 2014. As most of us know, in 2014, all individual are required to have health care coverage or a valid waiver (i.e., religious reasons, federally recognized Native American tribes, etc.).

In the media we are told that the penalty for not having coverage is “small this year”—either $95 or 1% of household income in excess of the filing threshold.

However, if you are married and together make $80,000, your penalty would be $800 if you and your spouse do not have health insurance. This hardly seems small. The penalties will continue to increase in the years to come. In 2016, the minimum penalty will be $695 or 2.5% of household income. That same family who is making $80,000 would now owe a $2,000 penalty.

Additionally, if you are receiving premium assistance through California’s insurance exchange, Covered California, you must file a tax return. Make sure to bring Form 1095-A to your tax professional to ensure that your subsidy is properly reported to the IRS.

The Principal Residence Exclusion: Tax on Foreclosures or Short-Sales

The Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014 extended to include principal residence cancellation of debt for tax year 2014. This means that if you short sell your home or if you are foreclosed upon, you can exclude up to $2 million in cancellation of debt income.

This has not been extended into 2014 for the State of California. However, California did not extend this to 2015 federally. As a result, as of now, if your house or property were foreclosed or you were short sold, you would pay cancellation of debt income on the sale of the house. You would pay ordinary income tax on the amount of debt that was discharged.

For instance, if $250,000 was discharged on a short sale, that $250,000 will be added as ordinary income on your tax return (for California in 2014 and Federally in 2015). This could have catastrophic tax consequences.

Please note, there is a chance that Congress or the State of California may extend the exclusion retroactively.

Tony Tyre specializes in trusts, estates, probate, and tax deeds. He does not charge for initial consultations. For more information, Mr. Tyre can be reached at 5703 Temple City Blvd., 626-285-7033, or email him at tyre@tyrelawgroup.com.

Metro areas poised for uptick in baby boomer home sales

Metro areas with a lower cost of living and warmer weather are poised to see an increase of baby boomers moving in and buying a home as many delay retirement and remain in the labor market, according to new research by the National Association of Realtors.

NAR analyzed current population trends, housing affordability and local economic conditions in metropolitan statistical areas across the US to determine housing markets most likely to see a boost in sales from leading edge baby boomers.

Boise, Idaho and Raleigh, North Carolina were the top picks for baby boomers for their solid job growth, share of self-employed workers and affordable home prices.

The share of men and women working after their 65th birthday has increased, setting the stage for elevated baby boomer buying activity in metro areas with a dynamic local economy, adequate housing supply and a lower cost of living.

An improving economy and rebounding home prices are giving baby boomers the opportunity to sell and move to support their retirement lifestyle.

Also, the research study identified cities movers are gravitating to while still remaining in the workforce as a business owner. NAR’s research reviewed 100 metro areas that have lower state taxes, solid job market conditions and strong migration patterns (on a percentage basis) of baby boomers moving to that particular area to determine which housing markets are likely to see a boost from this generation.

Cost of living, housing affordability and inventory availability were also considered.

The top markets to see an influx of baby boomer homebuyers are:


Other markets with strong potential for attracting baby boomer buyers include: Chattanooga, Tenn., and Myrtle Beach, S.C. Also, brothers, Arizona, Riverside, Calif., and Tampa, Fla.

According to a recent NAR generational study of homebuyers and sellers last year, baby boomers represented 30 percent of all buyers, had a median household income of $92,400 an bought a home that cost $210,000.

Temple City Schools Foundation’s worthy causes depend on community support

Temple City Schools Foundation (TCSF) is an independent, non-profit organization comprised of dedicated community volunteers and civic leaders.

The organization’s mission is to support the educational success of all students enrolled in Temple City Unified School District (TCUSD). TCSF provides ongoing funding and support for enrichment programs, classroom grants, student-led projects, visual and performing arts, athletic teams and so much more.

TCSF’s annual fundraising campaign, “Invest in Our Success,” is now underway. Tax-deductible donations in any amount may be sent to PO. Box 1002, Temple City, CA 91780, non-profit I.D. 491-2120688.

Grants support essential programs such as the Accelerated Reader program for grades K-8, student and teacher-led classroom grants, performing arts and music programs, including Temple City High School’s annual musical production and Civil War Day at Oak Avenue Intermediate.

To volunteer or learn more about TCSF, please phone the office at 626-548-5029, visit Web site www.tcstfschools.org or check TCSF Facebook page.
Neighborhood Watch Program is in its other awareness/preventive tips.

Meeting is the only Wednesday meeting residents of all 10 areas. The March 18 Thursday of the month and are open to from 5:30-7:30 p.m., usually on the third Church, 5957 Golden West Ave.

Area 3 Neighborhood Watch meets March 18, in Area 3, at First United Methodist Church, 5957 Golden West Ave. Fresh-made soft tacos and beverages are provided for everyone. Meetings are from 5:30-7:30 p.m., usually on the third Thursday of the month and are open to residents of all 10 areas. The March 18 meeting is the only Wednesday meeting for the year.

This year’s Neighborhood Watch topics include community involvement/burglaries, theft and scam identification, traffic safety, disaster shelter options, and other awareness/preventive tips.

The current format of Temple City’s Neighborhood Watch Program is in its fourth year, and has gained much attention throughout surrounding regions.

Deputies from the Temple City Special Assignment Team discuss crime trends and prevention while the City’s Public Safety personnel talk about disaster awareness and preparedness.

These meetings are open for residents to learn about good preventative measures and/or to voice concerns. For more information, please visit the City’s Web site, http://www.templecity.org/204/Neighborhood-Watch, or phone the City’s Public Safety Division, 626-285-2171, and/or the Temple City Special Assignment Team at Temple Sheriff’s Station, 626-285-7171.

Somewhere to smile about – Dr. Mao offers free dental care for April 11

Building on the phenomenal success of last year’s Free Dental Care Day, Chamber member Dr. Tai K. Mao Dental will host its Second Annual Dentistry From The Heart event from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., April 11, in Temple City.

During the free event, Dr. Mao and his wife will close the doors to their regular patients and open the doors for the less fortunate.

Anybody 18 years and older qualifies to be seen and will be provided free regular cleanings, fillings and extractions only.

Each patient is limited to one service so that the clinic is able to see as many patients as possible. They expect to serve 60 patients on this day, but their goal is to serve 100 patients.

The clinic is also looking for volunteers. Anyone with a kind heart is welcome to help with crowd control, serve drinks and snack, help fill out forms, set up the event, and, of course, assist with clean-up. There is a special need for a Spanish translator.

For more information, please phone Dennis Cardona, office manager/marketing director, 626-286-3033, fax 626-283-3661, 9925 Las Tunas Drive, Temple City, CA 91780, or visit www.drmaodental.com.

Temples City Library has many programs for March

Teen Advisory Board, 3-4 p.m., Saturday, March 7
Lanyard Craft Lace Keychain Workshop, 7-9 p.m., Sunday, March 22
Teen Game Day, 4-5 p.m., Tuesday, March 24
Teen Book Club, 4-5 p.m., Tuesday, March 31
ADULT PROGRAMS
Citizenship Class, every Wednesday & Friday, 3-4 p.m.
Book a Librarian: Basic Computer Skills, 10-11 a.m., Monday, March 2

Lending Law Clinic, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Friday, March 20
Traditional Chinese Music Appreciation, 7-9 p.m., Sunday, March 21
Bingo Game, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Friday, March 31
Grace Yoga, Teen/Adult Services Librarian, County of Los Angeles Public Library, Temple City Library, 5939 Golden West Ave., Temple City, CA 91780, 626-283-2136. gangty@library.lacounty.gov

Your Community Christian Churches Welcome You
Camellia Festival Announces 2015 Float Winners

The Sweepstakes Award was presented to the Longden Student Council for their float “Tilt-A-Whirl.” General Chairwoman, Donna Georgino, chose St. Luke’s 8th Grade Class “Ride of Our Lives” as her Theme winner. In their first effort, Emperor Elementary School won the Best Use of Camellias trophy for “Emperor Eagles Together Are A Festive Family.” In a joint effort, Cloverly and La Rosa Schools won the Animation Award for their “Life Is Happiness ...” Float. Mayor Carl Blum chose Cub Scout Pack 156 as his Mayor’s Award winner for their “Cub Scout Carnival, Festival, Family and Fun.” Another first time float participant, the Temple City Pathfinders, won the Grand Marshal’s Award for “Family Fun.” The Honorary Grand Marshals Award winner was the TCHS American Cancer Society Club for “Celebrating More Birthdays.” Josette Temple, the granddaughter of Temple City founder Walter Temple, was on hand to help award the Walter Temple Award to the Mission Camellia Girl Scouts for “Girl Scout Sisters” and the Josette Temple Award to TC Parks and Recreation STARS for “Concerts in the Park.” The Arcadia American Legion Juniors earned the City Council Special Award for their first effort “Honoring All Veterans.” Float chairman, Mary Sneed, and the entire Camellia Festival committee want to thank all the float builders for creating such wonderful floats, and being such a special part of the Camellia Parade.
Festival Days
Feb. 20-22
A Community Celebration
71st Annual Camellia Festival & Parade
Festival Parade
Feb. 21

Rose Court Princesses Mackenzie Byers and Emily Stoker wave to their hometown crowd.

Members of the Pageantry Corps announce the Pride of Temple City Marching Band.

Fresh off their successful appearance at the 2015 Rose Parade, the Pride of Temple City Marching Band wowed in their new uniforms.

Resident Allen Soong and daughters Avery and Pepper joined the crowds lining Las Tunas.

Festival General Chairperson Donna Giorgino enjoys the fruits of her labors.

Vice Commander Scott Sinclair (American Legion Post 247), Chamber member Franklin Ruedel, and Commander Fred Fluker (American Legion Post 279).

Photos by Peter Choi

These pint size cheerleaders had tons of energy.

Mayor Carl Blum and First Lady Jeanette.
Rummage sale on May 2 will help raise funds for Blue Star group

By Sharon Johnson

The Blue Star Banner program’s annual rummage sale will start at 8 a.m., May 2, at the Alhendia Dairy store, 9201 Las Tunas Drive. Donations can be made by phoning me (Sharon Johnson, 626-285-5852) or by coming early at 7 a.m.

Please support our sale with donations and purchases. Proceeds go toward purchase and maintenance of our Blue Star Banners to honor our U.S. military personnel from Temple City or personnel related to residents. We love our troops. Relatives of military personnel who want to honor them with a banner should also phone me.

We also say thanks to those serving the nation by sending gift boxes to those serving in the various military theaters of action around the world.

Perhaps you would like to donate Girl Scout cookies to place in the boxes.

Buy cookies from any Girl Scout or troop selling them outside local supermarkets.

Then attach a note of thanks and endorsement to the box and phone me at 626-285-5852. I’ll arrange a pick-up.

We are regularly receiving thank you letters from USAF and Marines and pictures of their units.

Plan on seeing and reading these items at our next big gathering, which is the semi-annual Blue Star Appreciation Dinner and celebration June 5, in the First Baptist Church gym.

More about that program will be announced in the next issue of Temple City Life.

God bless our military and God bless our nation.

St. Luke Parish Fiesta boutique open to vendors; general exhibitor space available

The St. Luke Parish 28th Annual Fiesta April 24-26 will feature 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.

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

Unlimited ride wristbands will be available soon in the Parish Office, along with pre-sale priced ride tickets.

The boutique and craft fair features 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 all three days or just Saturday and Sunday ($135 for Friday-Sunday/$125 for Saturday and Sunday). Exhibitor/vendor space is also available on Saturday and Sunday in the exhibitor area ($125 for Saturday and Sunday/$100 for Saturday or Sunday) for companies and organizations that want to showcase their products and services.

Additionally, sponsorship packages range from $25 to $1,000 and in-kind donation sponsorships are welcome.

The event, host to more than 10,000 Greater San Gabriel Valley residents, 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; $2,000 guaranteed). Raffle tickets can be purchased at the St. Luke Parish Office, 5605 Cloverly Ave., Temple City, or at the fiesta (held at the Parish) until sold out.

Admission is free. Lead event sponsors include Pierce Brothers Mortuary, Super A Foods, The Temple City Tribune, Mercury Mailing and Printing, Dolores Chili, Chozza Mama Peruvian Restaurant, Carmine’s Italian Restaurant, ValuMart, and Buy Low Market.

For more information, phone the Parish Office at 626-291-5900 or visit the Web site www.stluketemplecity.org.

TCHS competing in March Madness event, March 6

The Temple City High School Comedy Sportz Improv Team will compete in an event combining sports and theatre at 7 p.m., Friday, March 6, in the TCHS theatre 601, 9501 Lemon Ave. General admission is $5.

The ComedySportz High School League(r) is the largest, most successful team improv theatre program in the United States.

Improvisation is played as a team sport, with two teams “competing” for audience laughs.

The ComedySportz High School League is the students’ game. They create, direct and perform their own material off the top of their heads, without the time to stop and question or deny their abilities.

For more information, phone TCHS ComedySportz Advisor Michele Gaffney at 626-548-5000, ext. 5213 or email her at mzovak@tcusd.net

Rummage sale on May 2 will help raise funds for Blue Star group

Honoring those who protect us 24/7/365

The Blue Star Banner program’s annual rummage sale will start at 8 a.m., May 2, at the Alhendia Dairy store, 9201 Las Tunas Drive. Donations can be made by phoning me (Sharon Johnson, 626-285-5852) or by coming early at 7 a.m.

Please support our sale with donations and purchases. Proceeds go toward purchase and maintenance of our Blue Star Banners to honor our U.S. military personnel from Temple City or personnel related to residents. We love our troops. Relatives of military personnel who want to honor them with a banner should also phone me.

We also say thanks to those serving the nation by sending gift boxes to those serving in the various military theaters of action around the world.

Perhaps you would like to donate Girl Scout cookies to place in the boxes.

Buy cookies from any Girl Scout or troop selling them outside local supermarkets.

Then attach a note of thanks and endorsement to the box and phone me at 626-285-5852. I’ll arrange a pick-up.

We are regularly receiving thank you letters from USAF and Marines and pictures of their units.

Plan on seeing and reading these items at our next big gathering, which is the semi-annual Blue Star Appreciation Dinner and celebration June 5, in the First Baptist Church gym.

More about that program will be announced in the next issue of Temple City Life.

God bless our military and God bless our nation.

St. Luke Parish Fiesta boutique open to vendors; general exhibitor space available

The St. Luke Parish 28th Annual Fiesta April 24-26 will feature 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.

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

Unlimited ride wristbands will be available soon in the Parish Office, along with pre-sale priced ride tickets.

The boutique and craft fair features 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 all three days or just Saturday and Sunday ($135 for Friday-Sunday/$125 for Saturday and Sunday). Exhibitor/vendor space is also available on Saturday and Sunday in the exhibitor area ($125 for Saturday and Sunday/$100 for Saturday or Sunday) for companies and organizations that want to showcase their products and services.

Additionally, sponsorship packages range from $25 to $1,000 and in-kind donation sponsorships are welcome.

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

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Jackson Wong, Your Friendly Neighborhood Realtor

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Ask me for a free evaluation of your home

Temples City, Arcadia, San Marino and nearby cities

Part of the commission will be donated to Children’s Hospital or charity of your choice

I take great pride in my Professionalism,
Ethics and Customer Service

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I continually support our community by
earning 10% of my commission
earned by this ad to TCHS Marching Band
& Pageantry or any school booster groups,
charities or charities of your choice.

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5 BEDROOMS, 4.5 BATHS, LIVING AREA: 3,001 SQ. FT.,
LOT SIZE: 7,888 SQ. FT., BUILT: 2015

PRICE: $1,698,000

Thinking Of Selling? Call Kathy (626)297-0632

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Ask me for a free evaluation of your home

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Fax: 626-284-1032
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Facebook.com/YourAmazingHome
Temple City Kiwanis Club honors outstanding students

Text and Photos by Jerry Jambazian

Each week, the Temple City Kiwanis Club recognizes outstanding students and their teachers from Cloverly Elementary School, Emperor Elementary School, and Oak Avenue Intermediate School, two outstanding students from Oak Avenue Intermediate School, Feb. 3. Attending the students was their teacher, Mrs. Eileen Pontrelli, as shown in photo above.

Ian, 12, enjoys performing arts, likes Broadway musicals, abstract visual arts, and collecting Disney Vinylmations. Ian said the best things about Oak Avenue are “the teachers and staff, the great experiences and good education Oak provides, and the good friends that are friendly and supportive.” The best thing that ever happened to him was discovering the world of arts through the kindness of others. His goals are to build a less expensive Disneyland in his backyard, to get admitted into the Los Angeles County School of Arts, become an Eagle Scout before he graduates high school, and become a world famous fashion designer like Karl Lagerfeld and Zac Posen.

Bay, 11, has an older brother. She enjoys playing the saxophone, listening and dancing to music, and shooting some hoops. Bay said the best things about Oak Avenue are “the clubs and activities, the sports, and all the awesome teachers.” The best thing that ever happened to her was going to the grocery store and smiling at a lady because they kept passing each other and later she told Bay that she made her day. She could change one thing that would be to have better public transport in the world and make the world a better place.

Anoop, 12, is in Mr. Giangregorio’s class. He has four brothers and sisters and enjoys reading, writing, video games, and playing soccer. Anoop said the best things about Oak Avenue are “the library, Social Studies, Junior Statesman of America, and the Teen Advisory Board.” The best thing that ever happened to him was on the last day of elementary school he received a signed book by Lemony Snicket. It was given to him by Longden Librarian Mrs. Wilson for helping during lunch. If he could change one thing, it would be to build a house for homeless people and orphans, not procrastinate, help others, and get better grades.

Emperor Elementary School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Caren Chua, Ethan Keelin, and Karen Chua, three outstanding students from Emperor Elementary School, Feb. 17. Attending the students was Emperor teacher Mrs. Shelly Scannell, as shown in photo (right).

Caren, 12, is in Mr. Giangregorio’s class. She has an older brother and enjoys dancing, listening to music, laughing with friends, and exploring her imagination. Caren said the best things about Emperor are “the funny things to do, they always have people helping kids with disabilities, and they have special classes to help kids with certain subjects.” The best thing that ever happened to her was going to the grocery store and smiling at a lady because they kept passing each other and later she told Caren that she made her day. If she could change one thing, it would be to have better public transport in the world and make the world a better place.

Ethan, 11, is in Mrs. Geis’s class. He has four brothers and sisters and enjoys reading, writing, video games, and playing soccer. Ethan said the best things about Emperor are “the helpful teachers, the fun programs and activities such as Student Council, float building, Kid Techs, helping in class, and Friends of the Library.” The best thing that ever happened to him was winning the City Championships for Temple City in baseball. If he could change one thing, it would be to make smoking illegal. If he could build one thing, it would be a car that runs on carbon dioxide. His goals are to get good grades through college, get into a good college, and get a good job.

Oak Avenue Intermediate School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Len Chong Gonzales and Bay Lee Hollinger, two outstanding students from Oak Avenue Intermediate School, Feb. 17. Attending the students was their teacher, Mrs. Eileen Pontrelli, as shown in photo above.

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TEMPLE CITY ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Fifth Annual OPEN HOUSE
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, April 25

Behind-the-Scenes Hospital Tours
Herpetology Petting Zoo
Police Dog
Agility Course
Obedience Club (pending)
Therapy Dogs
Free Gifts
San Gabriel Humane Society and other Pet Rescue and Adoption Groups
Presentations and information from Pet Food Vendors
Presentations and Information from Pharmaceutical Companies
Guide Dogs for the Blind
Catered by El Ruizenor Grill, Temple City

5406 Rosemead Blvd. • San Gabriel • www.templecityanimalhospital.com

PET OF THE MONTH

Make it your lucky day and make Peso a lucky dog
Adopt Peso - he qualifies for Senior Adoption rate
Peso is an adorable Chihuahua boy about 8 years old and 8 pounds. He is a sweet boy who enjoys his walks to the park. He is good-natured and willing to please as he patiently posed for his St. Patrick’s Day photo.

Peso is happy to be pampered and enjoy some quality/play time after an outing. He has a short coat that doesn’t require much grooming other than bathing and brushing on occasion. Although he is well cared for by our staff and volunteers, he would be grateful for a warm bed at night in a quiet, loving home with pet parents. He is not demanding and would give much love in return.

In honor of St. Patrick, who lived 74 years, we recognize our senior members this month for their wisdom, experience, adaptability, willingness to learn new tricks and for easily loving and boding with us. To cadence, all senior pets will be available for the Senior Adoption rate of $39.

If you have a soft spot in your heart for senior dogs, please consider adopting Peso. He would be eternally thankful and loyal to you. He has earned a comfortable “retirement home” for his senior years.

Please visit us (8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday for a Meet and Greet with Peso. He resides at the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society, 851 E. Grand Ave., San Gabriel, located off San Gabriel Boulevard, north of Mission and south of Las Tunas.

He adopted fee of $39 includes his neuter surgery, a microchip, vaccinations and a free wellness check-up at a participating veterinarian. He has earned a comfortable “retirement home” for his senior years.

To celebrate, all senior pets will be available for the Senior Adoption rate of $39.

If you have a soft spot in your heart for pet parents, please consider adopting Peso. He would be eternally thankful and loyal to you. He has earned a comfortable “retirement home” for his senior years.

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Chinese culture, modern management make Chuan’s successful

Established in 1996, the Chengdu Baguobuyi Catering Co., Ltd. is guided by a management philosophy of “Culture + Nature + Folk + Modern,” essentially combining local Chinese culture and modern management philosophy into pioneering a new wave of modern Sichuan cuisine. Chuan’s Temple City officially opened on September 26, 2014 exactly 18 years after the first Baguobuyi opened in the city of Chengdu.

Under the management of partner Carol Chen, who brought in a team of Chengdu chefs and paired them with an American FOH, the Temple City Chuan’s is the first non-franchised outpost of the highly glamorous “Baguobuyi” Chinese restaurant empire in the U.S.

A leader in the renaissance of Sichuan Cuisine for more than 15 years, Baguobuyi is now a huge Chinese food catering chain based in Chengdu, with separate Area Centers serving Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hangzhou, and Sanya, plus more than 30 regular chain shops and franchises.

Named repeatedly to the Top 100 Chinese Catering Enterprises List

Since 2000, Baguobuyi has been entitled as “Famous Trademark of Sichuan Province” and “Famous Trademark of Chengdu.”

In December, 2005, Baguobuyi was recognized as “The Best Known Chinese Business of the People's Republic of China.” In 2010, Baguobuyi exhibited at the Shanghai EXPO as the only representative for Sichuan Cuisine.

But whether it is for a business meal, a family dinner, or a romantic date, what Chuan’s offers is an elegant, modern take on Sichuan cuisine, one of the eight regional cuisines of China, and the Temple City Chamber of Commerce is delighted to welcome the latest branch of the Baguobuyi empire to America and the San Gabriel Valley.