As construction on Temple City’s Rosemead Boulevard approaches completion four months ahead of schedule, the public is invited to celebrate at the Grand Opening (GO) Festival from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, May 10.

The event takes place on the southbound lanes of Rosemead Boulevard between Las Tunas Drive and Broadway. Festivities begin at 9 a.m. with a formal ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by a community festival from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Planned activities include a scavenger hunt, public art walking tours, raffle prizes, kid-friendly crafts and games, and interactive exhibits by various transportation businesses.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
Across the front (left to right) are Camellia Court members Nicole Shih, Judah Azariah Douglas, Megha Shyama Arun, King Austin Bateman, Queen Ella Rose Clinton, Prince Jayden Joe, Princess Isabella Realzola, Prince Grant Morrison Brown. Adults are (l-r) Kien Tiet, school board; Vinson Bell, school board; Kathy Perrini, acting superintendent; Stephen Eda, principal of Cloverly School; Lawton Gray, principal of Oak Avenue School; Michael Lin, principal of La Rosa School; Bob Ridley, school board; Dawn Tarin, Camellia Festival general chairman; Chris Sewell, principal of Dr. Doug Sears Learning Center; Mary Jo Fosselman-King, principal of TCHS; John Pomeroy, school board.

Camellia Festival donates profits to worthy organizations

The expansion of the Camellia Festival carnival onto Las Tunas, entertainment throughout the weekend in the Temple City pavilion, and ideal weather resulted in record-breaking profits for the 70th Annual Camellia Festival Feb. 21-23.

With the success of this year’s event the Camellia Festival Committee was able to make several donations to the Gerald M. Fitzgerald Camellia Trust Fund which benefits low-income youth, Temple City High School Band which will be marching in the 2015 Tournament of Roses; Temple City High School Grad Nite, a nonprofit organization celebrating the senior class; the Temple City First Baptist Church which allows the Camellia Festival to use its facility for the luncheon following the parade hosting city, county, state and other dignitaries, committee volunteers as well as the Camellia Festival Royal Court.

With the theme of “Oh The Books I Can Read” in their thoughts, the committee donated funds to each of the Temple City Unified School District Schools to be used to purchase books for their individual libraries.

The Camellia Festival Committee thanks the City of Temple City for its on-going support of this annual tradition including the expansion of this year’s event celebrating 70 years that allowed the increased revenues.
Thanks to sponsors, TC Concerts in the Park series will resume this summer

The City of Temple City's Concerts in the Park series, enabled by generous sponsors, resumes June 18 and runs Wednesdays through August 27. Concerts begin at 7 p.m. with a gathering time starting about 6 p.m. Refreshments, food and snacks will be offered by various community organizations.

The 2014 Summer Concert Series is sponsored by Amida Society, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP; California American Water, Foothill Transit, Longo, Tutor Doctor, Healthcare Partners, and Temple City Tennis Club.

The concert schedule includes The Wise Guys (June 18); Tom Nolan Band (June 25); Independence Day Celebration & Patriotic Picnic Contest (6-9 p.m., July 2); Phat Cat Swinger (July 9); Tommy Tassi & The Authentics (July 16); Captain Cardiac & The Coronaries (July 23); Brian Lynn Jones & The Misfit Cowboys (July 30); The Answer, (Aug. 6); The Catillacs; (Aug. 13); Raymond Michael (Aug. 20); and Fortunate Son (Aug. 27).

Music ranges from big band to country with tributes to Elvis and Creedence Clearwater Revival.

An Independence Day Celebration with Wartime Radio Revue and a WWII USO Show will get everyone in the appropriate patriotic spirit.

Please leave dogs, alcohol, umbrellas and pop-up shade structures at home.

All performances subject to change without advance notice. For more information, phone 626-285-2171, ext. 2360 or visit www.templecity.us.

Saturday Tea will honor Mother’s Day, May 10; feature tea, crumpets and fun activities at special

The Temple City Parks and Recreation Dept. invites the public to treat mothers, grandmothers or special motherly persons to a Mother’s Day Tea from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 10 at Live Oak Park Annex.

For only $5, a special person can enjoy tea, sandwiches and crumpets. There will also be a Mother’s Day hat craft, trivia games, and photo booth.

All mothers will receive a special gift.

Community’s annual blood drive by appointment is May 20

The Temple City Community Blood Drive will be noon to 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 20, at the TCUSD District Office, 9700 Las Tunas Drive, Temple City. Co-sponsored by the Temple City Unified School District, the City of Temple City, and the Temple City Chamber of Commerce, the drive asks donors to make an appointment to donate blood by visiting the blood drive Web site at www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code TCUSD or phone Lynne Burkardt of the TCUSD 626-548-5120. Donors must have a photo identification.

Friends and family serving friends and family
Chamber announces Board elections

May is a bittersweet month for the Temple City Chamber of Commerce because it signals a period of transition for the Board of Directors. As familiar faces are termed out, new faces bring new ideas and energy to the biz monthly meetings.

If you are interested in joining the Chamber’s Board of Directors, our election process is starting now, so for more information, please contact the Chamber office and President Peter Choi will be happy to break down the essential responsibilities like time commitment, activities, duties and membership. Meanwhile, here are the top three reasons to join the Chamber’s Board of Directors:

1. Professional development

Service on the Chamber’s Board of Directors can fine-tune invaluable skills like public speaking, networking and leadership experience. Regardless of your professional career, serving will give you invaluable perspective for your climb up the work ladder as the governance, financial oversight, and ethics issues with which nonprofit boards deal are directly analogous to those of corporate boards. Indeed, nonprofit board experience can be transformative as you ascend into board leadership positions. Engaging with people from diverse backgrounds and the opportunity to negotiate and compromise will help you learn how to build consensus through process. You will develop skills that you may not have the opportunity to develop at your job.

2. Build your network

Our chamber and its Board of Directors, Information is published to inform the public and stimulate discussion.

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. To submit information for publication, please submit your article to the Chamber office and President Peter Choi will be happy to break down the essential responsibilities like time commitment, activities, duties and membership.

3. Good karma

Chamber's Board is a diverse cross section of the local business community and presents an opportunity to meet new people. The Chamber is first and foremost a business organization, but we hold a special role of leadership in the community and have greatly expanded our activity and influence across the San Gabriel Valley. Your active participation will reward you with an ever-growing network of contacts, information and professional opportunities. Meaningful participation in Board meetings allows you to demonstrate professional value which can lead to new business leads and/or networking opportunities that will help further your current career.

Chamber Calendar

May 2 – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free Dental Care Day, Hosted by Dr. Tai K. Mao, 9925 Las Tunas Drive, Temple City.
May 7 – 7 p.m. 46th Annual Miss Temple City Ambassador Pageant, St. Luke’s Parish Hall, 5605 Cloverly Ave., Temple City.
May 12 – 7 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting, Chamber Boardroom
May 21 – 5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. San Gabriel Business Expo, Hilton Hotel, 225 W. Valley Blvd., San Gabriel.

For Pete’s Sake –

Peter Choi’s column is taking this month off. Look for For Pete’s Sake next month in Temple City Life.

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What are Advanced Meters?
Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) is upgrading its system by adding an advanced metering communication device to all residential and business natural gas meters. The advanced meter device will read and transmit natural gas usage information back to SoCalGas. However, until our communications network is fully operational in your area, we will need access to manually read the meter for a few more months. The advanced meter device, which will be installed on the existing analog meter, is battery-powered and turns on for only a fraction of a second, for a total of less than two minutes a year. Advanced meters cannot turn on or turn off your gas service. With this upgrade, you will receive more frequent and detailed information about your gas consumption at socalgas.com, enabling you to better control your energy usage and potentially save money. SoCalGas is scheduled to install the advanced meter device on approximately 6 million natural gas meters through 2017.

If I don’t want an Advanced Meter?
SoCalGas supports customer choice and recognizes that some residential customers may prefer not to have an advanced meter installed and would rather have the meter manually read each month. *If you do not want an advanced meter installed, you should immediately call our 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 noticed 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 incremental cost.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are Advanced Meters?
A Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) is upgrading their metering system to add a wireless communication device to all residential and small business natural gas meters. This advanced metering technology will automatically read and transmit your gas usage information to our customer service and billing center.

Why are you getting an Advanced Meter and why?
Approximately six million gas meters in Los Angeles and the surrounding areas will be upgraded to advanced meters over the next several years. The advanced meter installation schedule will be available later this year at socalgas.com. We estimate it will take us several months to complete your area, which can be extended to provide more conserve efforts and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

What type of information will be available and when?
A. The bill you receive, once it has been fully processed by SoCalGas, will provide detailed information on energy usage.
B. We will provide you with energy usage up to three months prior to the date of your bill.
C. Usage data will be available at socalgas.com for all customers who have signed up for this service.

How will I be able to view my gas usage information?
A. Your advanced meter is installed and we have validated the meter readings, you will be able to view your gas usage in your online account, including online at socalgas.com (search “MY ACCOUNT”) and potentially via photo, email, text, smart human applications or other methods.

What if I don’t want an Advanced Meter?
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When and Where Can I Find More Information?
Visit socalgas.com (search “ADVANCED”) or call Residential Customers:
- English: 1-800-427-2200
- Spanish: 1-800-427-4129
- TTY: 1-800-427-4429
- Hearing Impaired (TDD): 1-800-427-4071
- Hearing Impaired (TDD): 1-800-427-4429
- For other languages: 1-800-427-1345

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

What If I Don’t Want an Advanced Meter?
SoCalGas supports customer choice and recognizes that some residential customers may prefer not to have an advanced meter installed and would rather have the meter manually read each month. *If you do not want an advanced meter installed, you should immediately call our 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 noticed 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 incremental cost.

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 to help you better understand how you’re using gas and where you could potentially save.
- More Privacy and Security: Customers will, in the past, need to provide SoCalGas with keys to their homes, access unrestricted, or contact their dogs away to give us access to the meter, which is not necessary. New advanced meters will not need the presence of a human being for operational maintenance.
- Help the environment: The new advanced meters will help reduce air pollution by reducing the amount of CO2 emissions each year.
- Flexible installation options: The new advanced meters will provide more flexible installation options, including access to your home or business during advanced meter installation.

How much is this costing and who’s paying for the installation?
- The cost for advanced meters, as well as repairs or replacement of the same, is billed to your account. For a period of time, the advanced meter will cost additional efficiency in reduced costs. At all peak, $1 and 5 cents per month, it is expected that your total cost will be offset through energy conservation.
- There is no charge to you for the advanced meter.

What if I don’t want an advanced meter?
- Prior to installation, the advanced meter devices will undergo rigorous testing to ensure the meter’s accuracy as verified by the California Public Utilities Commission and a third-party laboratory to ensure compliance with all state and national standards. Once installed, variations in the meter’s communications system will be monitored to ensure that there are no working problems.

Is the advanced meter network secure?
- Yes, the advanced meter network is secure and fully compliant with all industry and federal privacy and security standards, as well as the latest technologies that are designed to keep your data secure.

What if I still have questions or concerns?
- Learn more at socalgas.com (search “ADVANCED”) or call 1-800-427-2200.
Learn more at Golden Future Expo May 10 —
Maximize golden years with post-retirement distribution plan for various pensions, funds

Retirement can be a significant line of demarcation for financial planning. During employment, you’re probably contributing money to various retirement savings accounts. When you retire, that accumulation will most likely end. Now you’ll have a finite pot of money for future needs. The income distribution plan you implement can make or break those golden years ahead.

You’ll hopefully have several buckets of money to draw from: employer pensions, personal retirement accounts and social security benefits. Deciding how to take your pension, what retirement accounts to withdraw from first and when to begin Social Security requires careful planning and will have lifetime consequences.

Questions that need answering: Does your employer pension have survivorship options? If not, a lump sum payout may be a preferable option to monthly installments that don’t support your loved ones after you pass on.

After retirement, do you foresee a point when your tax bracket will be significantly lower? If so, holding funds in a tax deferred savings account for as long as possible may be better than cashing out sooner and paying a higher income tax. If not, there may be some benefit in letting your funds grow outside of your retirement account and allow the growth to be taxed at a possibly lower capital gains rate.

Thoughtful planning can maximize your income and offer significant tax savings. I will address this topic in greater detail as a guest speaker at the Pasadena Rose Bowl on Saturday, May 10. Come join me at the Golden Future Expo, California’s premiere Baby Boomer lifestyle event held in the Horizon Club at the Rose Bowl. Learn more at www.goldenfutureexpo.com.

Securities and advisory services offered through NATIONAL PLANNING CORP (NPC) member FINRA, SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. EH Financial Group, Inc. and NPC are separate entities and unrelated companies.

Easter Bunny brings happiness to Planet Preschool
The Easter Bunny surprised the students of Planet Preschool on Friday, April 18, during their Easter egg hunt. Afterwards, both the Preschool class (with bunny ears) and the PreK/Kindergarten class gathered for a photo with the Easter Bunny.
Factor commuting into home-buying plans

If you are entering into the real estate market for the first time, you will hear the saying "location, location, location." Many buyers feel that location is important because of the surrounding areas. So, if the neighborhood has a nice park, good schools, retail stores and a freeway nearby, it is a good location.

But what also makes a good location is how close it is to your place of work.

These days people are telecommuting, which allows them to work from home, saving hours of gas costs that add up to hundreds of dollars each month. If that is the case, a 45-minute or hour plus drive one way to the office might not be too intimidating because you are not going to have to do it everyday. But your long commute could still be a key factor when it comes to getting a mortgage.

Some lenders may factor in your long commute as part of your overall debt-to-income ratio (DTI), which will directly impact how much money you can qualify for. Regardless of whether the lender takes this into consideration, buyers should. With rising gas prices and increasing traffic, an extra long work commute might not be too intimidating because you are not going to have to do it everyday. But your long commute could still be a key factor when it comes to getting a mortgage.

One American an hour dies of oral cancer … and an oral cancer exam takes about four minutes.

Oral cancer is the lone cancer with an increased incidence over the last 50 years. The disease has a higher mortality rate than breast cancer, colorectal cancer and prostate cancer. While early detection means a cure and survival rates greater than 90 percent, the overall survival rate is less than 50 percent. Twenty-seven percent of oral cancer patients actually have no smoking or spit tobacco history.

The key is early detection … and an exam that’s easy, doesn’t hurt, and is totally non-invasive. The challenge is only about 50 percent of the U.S. sees a dentist on a regular basis.

The Oral CDx brush biopsy is an innovation that’s saved thousands of lives. We’ve used ‘em since day one. We actually implemented Oral CDx 12 years ago working with the Angles and Milwaukee Brewers during Major League Spring Training in Arizona.

A brush biopsy is used to rule out oral cancer following discovery of oral lesions during an oral cancer exam. A soft brush is gently used to retrieve a sample of cells. Imaging technology can then identify even a few atypical cells out of hundreds of thousands.

Oral cancer exams should be performed during each and every check-up. For fanatics like me, four minutes of Trojan football might seem like life and death … but a four-minute oral cancer exam could be the real deal. Please share this column with friends and family; your next dental visit could be a life-saver.

For information regarding early oral cancer detection please visit www.ibrushtest.com. Jack Von Below, D.D.S., was named Top Dentist by Pasadena Magazine (2011-2013). Temple City Dental Care is located at 9209 E. Las Tunas Drive, Temple City, CA 91780. The main phone number is 626-285-3161 or go to www.templecitydental.com.

BRIGHTEN YOUR LIFE WITH FLOWERS

A full-service florist specializing in brightening your life!
TC Rams youth football, cheer season for plan

Temple City Rams Youth Football and Cheer, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and member of the San Gabriel Valley Junior All American Football Conference, has kicked off its 2014 season with numerous events. A summer youth program for flag and tackle football players as well as cheerleaders ages 6-14, the league teaches fundamentals of the game while stressing the importance of sportsmanship and fair play. Academics are a part of this program with all participants required to maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA. All board members and coaches that run the league are volunteers.

After a great 2013 season with active participation in the Temple City Camellia Festival and Lights on Temple City Parade, the league is kicking off its 2014 season by with training camps from 6-8 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday at Live Oak Park.

A great opportunity for both returning and potential players to come out and build their speed and agility while getting to know their teammates and coaches, the camp is open to football players of all divisions (ages 6-14) at a cost of $5 per player per session. Registrations will be accepted for football and cheer at each training camp.

First place cheer team

Cheerleaders from First Lutheran School competed in the American Cheer Industry Competition, May 4 at Arcadia High School and earned first place in their division. From left to right, top to bottom are: Alyaari Kaung, Faith Asadijua, Emily Garnett, Christy Lee, Kai ton Kim, Jynne Cheng, Ella Clinton, and Chryssa Adidjaja.

TCUSD parent forum workshops to feature Common Core

The Temple City Unified School District and the Temple City Schools Foundation are partnering to host a Building Upon Success Parent Forum at 7 p.m., Tuesday, May 6. The forum will be at Memoli Hall on the north side of the Longden Elementary School campus, 8501 Wenden St., Temple City. Child care will be provided.

The evening will include workshops on School Facilities, Local Control and Accountability Plan, Assessment Testing, and Common Core Standards.

Nine workshops will be offered: STEM – Measuring the Magnitude of an Earthquake (grades 7-12); Next Generation Science Standards: How Will They Impact Science Instruction? (all grades); Informational Text Through the Common Lens (English Language Arts and History/Social Science, grades 4-11); Keys to Success – The 4 Cs of Common Core (grades TK-6); Questioning Techniques While Reading With Your Child (grades TK-3); Questioning Strategies for Deeper Reading Comprehension for Primary Grades (first session only/grades 1-3); A Look at Common Core Math for Primary Grades (second session only/grades 1-3); Elementary Math and the Common Core (grades 3-6); and Smarter Balanced Assessments – What’s New and Different? (grades 8-11).

Register for workshops online at www.123contactform.com/form-942475/TCUSD-Parent-Information-Forum. Workshop spaces are limited. Temple City High School seniors gain career skills, receive ROP awards

Temple City High School seniors Samantha Walker, Sophia Valderrama, and Jake Ferntheil received bronze medals at the Los Angeles County Regional Occupational Program’s Outstanding Student competition and gold medals from the Temple City Unified School District.

Samantha was recognized for the exceptional photographs she learned took in her digital photography class. “This ROP class really sparked my interest in photography,” said Samantha.

Sophia received accolades for her outstanding work in her sports medicine class. Sophia is also enrolled in an ROP Culinary Arts class at Temple City High School.

Jake was recognized for his success in the advanced woods class. “The best thing about my ROP class is that it gave me the ability to create something useful with my own two hands,” said Jake.

Jake’s other interests at Temple City High School include being on the football and track teams and playing in the TCHS Pride of Temple City Band.

Jake also recently received a prestigious 2014 Scholar Athlete Award from the Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation, March 25.

Jake maintains a 3.8 grade point average, is one of the captains on the TCHS varsity football team, and plays as both an offensive and defensive lineman. He is a trumpet player for the TCHS Pride of Temple City Marching Band.

TCHS instructor receives Dartmouth scholarship

Temple City High School social science instructor Stacy Rudzik has received a full scholarship to attend a Native American history seminar at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, Aug. 3-9. Ms. Rudzik teaches world history, U.S. history, and speech and debate at Temple City High School.
Meet the Candidates for Miss Temple City

Tania Yap
A 16-year-old junior at Temple City High School, Tania Yap has participated on the high school volleyball team for two years. She has been a member of Dragon flushing since her freshman year when she was given the opportunity to help with the backetage work of the school's assemblies, concerts, and musicals. Tania is grateful for this class because it helped her develop better confidence and leadership skills. Tania is also the vice president of Red Cross where she helps the lives of many not only through blood but by increasing awareness of the Red Cross Mission to her peers and the community.

As a peer listener she is learning how to enhance her skills in listening to others who are in need. She attempts to help others digitfully by gathering used clothing every few months with her family and handing them out to local homeless citizens.

Tania also is the secretary of Temple City High School's Model United Nations club and attended two conferences at UCLA representing the counties Belgium and Estonia. She credits that experience of resolving worldwide problems as advancing her understanding of different cultures.

After high school, Tania hopes to continue her education at Occasional College, majoring in diplomacy and world affairs and would like to participate in actual United Nations conferences. During her leisure time, Tania enjoys designing clothing and redecorating used items from thrift stores into wearable modern fashion wear. Her dream is to create a worldwide clothing company named “Narci” where anyone anywhere can have access to her clothing.

Christine Chen
Christine Chen is a 17-year-old junior at Temple City High School. She is the captain of the junior varsity girls basketball team after receiving the most improved player award. She recently joined the peer listening program and is now an official peer listener.

Christine’s prime goal is to give back to her mother and grandmother for all they have given her throughout her childhood. Indeed, she strives to be as loving as her mother, a brave, strong, and courageous woman.

Christine is an active member of Class Council and this year’s activities commissioner. Christine is the current president of the Three Hopes Club, a club that reaches out to homeless people where she loves being involved in school activities and planning.

Christine has participated on the high school volleyball team for two years. She has been a member of Dragon flushing since her freshman year when she was given the opportunity to help with the backetage work of the school's assemblies, concerts, and musicals. Christine hopes to apply her hard-working skills in listening to others who are in need. She attempts to help others digitfully by gathering used clothing every few months with her family and handing them out to local homeless citizens.

In her spare time, Christine enjoys driving, baking, developing her small business plan, and spending time with her family and friends. Ever since she was little, Christine has enjoyed painting and working on art projects. In the fifth grade, Christine painted two murals at Closely Elementary School.

Christine’s educational plan for the future is to attend college to study finance and marketing. One day, she wants to go out and explore the world.

Christine plans to become a registered nurse or a physician therapist at UCLA representing the countries Belgium and Estonia. She credits that experience of resolving worldwide problems as advancing her understanding of different cultures.

After high school, Christine hopes to continue her education at Occasional College, majoring in diplomacy and world affairs and would like to participate in actual United Nations conferences. During her leisure time, Christine enjoys designing clothing and redecorating used items from thrift stores into wearable modern fashion wear. Her dream is to create a worldwide clothing company named “Narci” where anyone anywhere can have access to her clothing.

Tiffanie Jie
Tiffanie Jie is a 16-year-old junior attending Temple City High School. Her favorite subjects are English, science, and Spanish. Tiffanie enjoys dancing and was on the auxiliaries team at Oak Avenue and at the high school for four consecutive years.

She is an active member in two clubs: the Future Business Leaders of America Club and the Three Hopes Club that helps people in need.

Monea Alvarez
Monea is a 16-year-old junior at Temple City High School. She is the captain of the junior varsity girls basketball team after receiving the most improved player award. Monea has a job as a model at Hollister Co. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, hiking, reading books and listening to her favorite boy band, One Direction.

In the future, Tiffanie wants to attend a 4-year college or an east coast university and major in the medical field with plans to become a registered nurse or a physician therapist because she loves helping others and making them smile, something she has learned through her volunteer work.

Tiffanie’s prime goal is to give back to her mother and grandmother for all they have given her throughout her childhood. Indeed, she strives to be as loving as her mother, a brave, strong, and courageous woman.

Monea Alvarez is a 17-year-old junior at Temple City High School where she is the captain of the junior varsity girls basketball team after receiving the most improved player award. Monea has a job as a model at Hollister Co. In her spare time, she likes being with her family, friends, and pets, often baking something delicious.

She recently joined the peer listening program and is now an official peer listener.

Because she loves to write, she is the current entertainment editor for the TCHS Rampage newspaper and will be next year’s photo editor. Rebecca also enjoys playing tennis and was co-captain on the junior varsity girls tennis team.

When she isn’t balancing schoolwork and extracurricular activities, Rebecca loves to create short stories and finds happiness in writing poetry about a variety of subjects. She collects stories and believes that everyone has their own.

When she isn’t writing, she’s singing or spending her time playing the ukulele. She hopes to obtain a Ph.D. in psychology and become an author on the side.
Dr. Sears Learning Center

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Ilene Sun from the Dr. Sears Learning Center, April 15. Attending with Ilene was CLC teacher Mr. Reggie Rios, as shown in photo above.

Ilene, 17, is in Mr. Rios’ class. Mr. Jahan, Mr. Patterson, Ms. KcKinnis, Mr. Azedro, and Mrs. Roberts’ class. She has two younger sisters and enjoys painting, baking, hairstyling, ice skating, and acting. Ilene said the best things about the learning center are “the warm, loving environment where friends are like family, liberty to express oneself through music and art, and the open-minded teachers who are also supportive.”

The best thing that ever happened to Ilene was being chosen “Youth of the Year” for the Los Angeles Boys and Girls Club. If she could change one thing it would be to stop adults from forcing children and teens to suppress dreaming and imagination. Her goals are to be happy with herself and who she is, live comfortably and happily with her family, bring the “American Dream” back to life, and create a wonderland where everyone is free to imagine, believe, dream, and be a child again.

Oak Avenue Intermediate School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City recognized Jakob McDonald, Kristian Gutierrez, and Tyler Tran, three outstanding students from Oak Avenue Intermediate School, April 1. Attending with the students, as shown in photo above, were Oak teachers Mr. Aaron Loomis and Mrs. Winnie Joe.

Jakob, 12, has a younger sister. He likes to cook and play hockey. Jakob said the best things about Oak Avenue are “the nice teachers, the great opportunities for students to succeed, and the safe school.” The best thing that ever happened to him was going to Paris and London last summer with People in People. His goals are to be helpful to people, become a better hockey player, cook more complex food, and become better at math.

Kristian, 11, has an older sister. He enjoys riding his ATV with his family. Kristian said the best things about Oak Avenue are “the seeker team teachers, the variety of electives, and the 3D printer students.” The best thing that ever happened to him was zip-lining in Alaska and seeing wild animals. His goals are to stop wars, build a flying car, get a 4.0 GPA for the seventh grade, exercise more, and visit his dad more often.

Stephanie, 12, has a younger brother. She enjoys playing the piano, alto sax, and ukulele, along with art, reading, dancing, and traveling. Stephanie said the best things about Oak Avenue are “the teachers, music program, and the snacks in the food shelter!”

The best thing that ever happened to her was being in “The King and I” and marching in the Disneyland Parade. Her goals are to lower taxes on the middle class, build an amusement park, get straight As, go to USC, and become a lawyer or judge.

Charlotte, 13, has a younger sister. She enjoys reading, writing fiction, and spending time with her family. Charlotte said the best things about Oak Avenue are “the teachers are always willing to help struggling students, the library, and the extra programs that bring out the artistic side of students.”

The best thing that ever happened to her was going to the Grand Canyon and being close to nature. Charlotte’s goals are to do away with poverty and hunger, solve the greatest mysteries, and explore the world, realize her mistakes and fix them, and take responsibility for caring for her younger sister.

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Temple City Kiwanians Club recognizes outstanding students

Cloverly Elementary School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Kody Luu and Shawn Fan, two outstanding students from Cloverly Elementary School, April 1. Attending with the students, as shown in photo above, were Principal Stephen Martin Edo and teacher Ms. Andrea Saldana.

Kody, 12, is in Ms. Saldana’s class. He has an older sister and likes to play basketball and video games, and listen to music. Kody said the best things about Cloverly are “the great assemblies, teachers, and the Instructional Resource Center.” The best thing that ever happened to him was being born. Kody’s goals are to stop violence in the world, construct a building in space, go to college, become a professional basketball player, and read 1,000 books.

Shawn, 11, is in Ms. Carlson’s class. He has an older sister and enjoys playing the violin and basketball, and studying science and astronomy. Shawn said the best things about Cloverly are “the friendly, helpful atmosphere and the diversity of Cloverly by sharing new ideas.” The best thing that ever happened to him was when his parents signed him up for pre-algebra in the fifth grade. His goals are to help homeless people, build a peace monument, become a better violin player, get on the honor roll, and focus on the subjects with which he struggles.

Oak Avenue Intermediate School

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The best thing that ever happened to her was going to the Grand Canyon and being close to nature. Charlotte’s goals are to do away with poverty and hunger, solve the greatest mysteries, and explore the world, realize her mistakes and fix them, and take responsibility for caring for her younger sister.

Longden Elementary School

The Kiwanis Club of Temple City honored Nilo Zumiga, Jason Gutierrez, and Tyler Tran, three outstanding students from Longden Elementary School, April 22. Attending with the students, as shown in photo above, were Longden teachers, as shown in photo above, was teacher Mr. Bruce Bremer. Nilo, 11, has a younger brother. He enjoys playing soccer, football, and basketball. Nilo said the best things about Longden are “my math and science classes. The teachers have helped me during my years at Longden have been great and supportive.” The best thing that ever happened to him was having his family together again. His goals are to stop hunger in the world, build a school for poor kids in the world to have an education like him, get into a good college, get better at math, and help his community.

Jason, 11, has four brothers and sisters. He enjoys playing soccer, basketball, bike riding, and repairing old cars. Jason said the best things about Longden are “my teachers Mr. Bremer and Mr. Shaloun, and all my friends.” The best thing that ever happened to Jason was progressing and getting better grades. His goals are to stop cancer, build a house, play football in college, and be a better person.

Tyler, 11, enjoys running and playing LEGOS®. Tyler said the best things about Longden are “my classes, friends, and Ms. Chang’s class.” If he could change one thing it would be to have more patience. His goals are to build a truck, get a cool car, make new friends, and go to Oak Avenue in the fall.

T.C. School Foundation summer school program includes art, cooking, music

Registration is open for Temple City School’s Foundation summer school programs to keep children active and ready to return to school in the fall. Courses for students in kindergarten through eighth grade include: art, cooking, language arts, math, music (band and orchestra), science, and a class for transitional kindergarten-garters. Summer school will be at Longden Elementary. Summer school sessions will be Monday-Thursday June 23-July 17. The costs to enroll in summer school are: $310 for one class/one student enrolled in band or orchestra; $265 for one class/one student enrolled in art, English, math, or science; $400 for one class/one student enrolled in two classes.

For registration forms, visit www.tcsf4students.org or for more information, phone 626-548-5029.
Spring cleaning cues residents for annual Blue Star Banner yard sale May 10

By Monique Weiland

Anyone bitten by the spring cleaning bug? The Temple City Blue Star Banner Program Yard Sale will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, May 10, at the Alta Dena Dairy on the corner of Encinitas and Las Tunas.

If you have any questions, phone Sharon Johnson at 626-285-5852. The TC Blue Star Banner Program is proud to have hosted three Troop 161 Eagle projects over the last five years.

The first was Eric Weiland who cleaned the Las Tunas Drive banners in time for the Vietnam War Memorial Moving Wall hosted by the city in Temple City Park.

Ryan Watkins’ project was also cleaning the banners. It is amazing how quickly they accumulate dirt and grime.

Recently, Ian O’Connor raised funds for 16 care packages of goodies sent out this week. American Greetings and See’s Easter candy were donated Girl Scout cookies for gift packages to our military personnel and gift certificates from Peppers, Islands, and the Stone Fire Grill for the two annual dinners.

We wish the blessings of safety and protection over our military personnel who fight for our liberties and freedoms. Let us remember their sacrifices and not take our lifestyle for granted.

JOIN US AT OUR
FOURTH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE
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Pet of the Month

Jersey girl seeking affectionate family

Jersey is a beautiful black and white domestic short hair cat with a cute pink nose. She is friendly and likes attention. She gets along with the other cats but she is really people oriented. Jersey loves to be a lap cat and is very affectionate. One of the most important things in her life is to be held and to play. Stop by the shelter to meet Jersey. She is house trained and ready to move in.

She currently resides at the San Gabriel Humane Society, 851 E. Grand Ave., San Gabriel. The shelter is located off San Gabriel Blvd., north of Mission and south of Las Tunas.

To meet Jersey (also ... $148), stop by any time from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday.

Her adoption fee is $99 and includes her spay surgery, a microchip, first vaccinations and a free wellness check-up at a participating veterinarian. For more information, phone the shelter at 626-286-1159.

The shelter provides animal control and licensing services to Temple City, but they are also an affordable choice for vaccinations, micro-chipping and spay/neuter services. Learn more about shelter services and see photos of all available pets, including bunnies and dogs, at www.sagphs.org.

Heartworm prevention now could save lives, money

Temple City Animal Hospital recently diagnosed a canine heartworm infection in a dog. This has led to reassessment of the risk of heartworm infection.

A warning issued by the San Gabriel Mosquito and Vector Control in 2010 noted an increase in two important mosquito vectors of canine heartworm: the Western Tree Hole Mosquito Aedes sierrensis and the Asian Tiger Mosquito Aedes albopictus.

Since then, these mosquito vectors have become a larger concern in the area and may pose a greater risk for dogs living in the San Gabriel Valley.

In the past, the only mosquito capable of transmitting of heartworm in our area had been Culiseta incidens, a mosquito which has luckily been a very inefficient carrier or vector for transmitting heartworm. Aedes sierrensis is a very effective vector and was responsible for the conversion of Salt Lake City into a heartworm endemic area.

Aedes mosquitoes are very aggressive day feeders. The Asian Tiger Mosquito appears to prefer feeding on dogs and has been a major factor in the sharp increase in heartworm in the South. In addition, there has been an increase in the urban coyote population, which is the natural reservoir of heartworm in the area.

These factors may mean the dogs in the SVG are at higher risk of contracting heartworm. Due to a shortage of the only licensed treatment for heartworm, the average cost of treating a heartworm infected dog is more than $8,000.

The treatment itself can also be difficult on the patient, requiring repeated medication and hospitalization over at least a six-month period.

On the other hand, the cost of testing and medication to prevent heartworm is small fraction of the cost of treatment. Consider heartworm prevention for your dog.

If you have any questions, phone 626-287-1173. Temple City Animal Hospital is located at 5406 Rosemead Blvd., San Gabriel, CA 91775.
First Lutheran Church honors 68 years of education at May 15 Celebration of Schools

The congregation of First Lutheran Church will host a catered dinner at 6 p.m., May 15, honoring past and present staff and students of its Sonshine House Preschool and First Lutheran Elementary School.

The festive Celebration of Schools recognizing 68 years of providing Christian education to thousands of children from Temple City and the surrounding areas will be held in the Parish Hall located at 912 E. Broadway.

Everyone who has had ties with these schools is invited and encouraged to phone Chairperson Jo Tschopp at 626-355-9433 for reservations.

Folk musician announced for May 25 at Bridge Christian Fellowship's Friend Sunday

Daniel Dama, ethnomusicologist from Benin, will be the featured musician at the Bridge Christian Fellowship's Friend Sunday, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Sunday, May 25, at 225 E. Live Oak Ave., Arcadia, Calif. Mr. Dama's skill is in the Fulani/Fulbe musical tradition, an expert in intercultural studies, African studies, and holistic development.

His presentation will be in French and English.

The next event will be June 29. For more information, phone 626-791-7565 or 626-482-6621.
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