

TEMPLE CITY *Voice*

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Local News Politics Science/Environment Sports Entertainment Life Opinion

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JANUARY 22, 2010

City to Celebrate Lunar New Year on January 30

Asian American Expo Boosts the Hype for Chinese New Year

The Asian American Expo promotes the upcoming Chinese New Year with its own celebrations.

BY KAREN TANG

The Asian American Expo blasts off the Chinese New Year with its 29th anniversary, giving Asian food an exciting look and businesses a chance to promote their products and activities.

The event was held at the Pomona Fairplex Grounds on January 16 and 17. The location was large enough to host eight hundred exhibitors and over a hundred thousand attendees, spanning through five large

“Expo” on Page 2



DANCE CONCERT: The Advanced Dance class performed their own rendition of the school dance scene from the popular movie, *West Side Story*.

Photo by Jason Alvin Wu

Temple City High School Induces the Jitterbug with Dance Concert

The Dance Concert led by the Choreo team at the high school is met with great reception.

BY JASON ALVIN WU

With the eerily spectacular “Dreams and Nightmares” theme, Temple City High School’s annual Dance Concert brought much applause.

Held at Rosemead High School on January 15, students from both Oak Avenue Intermediate and TCHS’s classes performed a series of dance routines.

The concert featured several unique acts that were influenced by movies such as

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UNPUBLISHED, HISTORICAL NEWS ARTICLE

Temple City Moves toward Partnership with Habitat for Humanity

City to negotiate a partnership with non-profit organization

BY RANDY SHUN

Temple City councilwoman Cynthia Sternquist’s pet project, a community partnership with Habitat for Humanity, is set to take off.

On Tuesday, Sep- *“Habitat” on Page 3*

Expo attracts crowds in Pomona Continued From Front Page

exhibition halls and seven stages. Every year, more than 100,000 Asian people are expected to attend this event, becoming the largest Asian trade show with different performances each hour on each stage.

This year, the Asian American Expo featured live performances from more than ten groups of entertainers and performers including live concerts from the hottest Asian singers. Guests can experience cooking demonstrations, Japanese Taiko drumming, Native Malaysian dances, Thai traditional dances, Flamingo dancing, Sambala Samba (Brazilian) dancing and ballroom dancing.

The Lakers girls also performed their cheer; other groups such as Chinese Kung Fu Institute performed Chinese martial arts, Hi-Tao Entertainment group demonstrated Chinese acrobatics, Hipo Wang sang Chinese opera, Mrs. Yu Dance Group demon-

strated traditional Korean dances and The Palm Springs Jazz Group entertained the audience with their mesmerizing music. Lion and dragon dances are also performed for the Lunar New Year celebrations to kick off the New Year.

The Harvest Youth Ministry group located in our own Temple City also participated in this spectacular event by performing some dances and splendid activities. Their brilliant performance brings joy to the crowd.

"It was an amazing experience," Temple City High School junior Vivian Chow states, "[It was both] fun and enjoyable, all the while spreading my belief in Christianity."

Overall the Asian American Expo 2010 was a kick off event to celebrate the Lunar New Year coming up in February. Remember to mark your calendars next year to attend this fabulous event! 🗨

High School dancers and singers take the stage Continued From Front Page

West Side Story, Dreamgirls, and the Matrix. Although a step away from the theme, several groups chose to hail a more modern feel to it, using songs such as "Down", "Solo Dolo", "Imma Be" and "Tie Me Down". During the Advanced Dance's West Side Story performance, there was even a scene where Juniors Dustin

Lee and Aaron Chen showcased their break dancing skills.

Brighter Side, the singing group at the high school, had a key part at the concert. They performed "Transylvania and promoted the upcoming musical, the "Wizard of Oz". Fellow Brighter Side member and the Master of Ceremonies Samuel Thorne also led the Choro team for the "I Can't Be Bothered Now" routine.

As the concert's main focus was on the Choro team, the captains and co-captain of the group each had a solo act. Senior Katie Nguyen performed a piece titled "Gravity", Senior Cassy Yang with "Almost Lover", and Senior Joanna Amores with "Chills".

The event was the highlight performance for most of the dancers at the high school, who only get to display their talents to a general audience once, making the ticket very worth its cost. 🗨

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City to explore partnership with non-profit organization

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tember 21, 2009, the City Council directed staff to return with a list of available project sites. Staff was also asked to meet with representatives of the San Gabriel Valley affiliate to discuss concepts of a potential project.

“It was a wonderful opportunity to see what can be done to provide affordable housing for residents in your city and to tie it to your housing element,” said Sternquist before a short video was shown to the City Council and audience.

A project with Habitat for Humanity could help Temple City with its low income, affordable housing requirement stated community development manager Joe Lambert.

The Southern California Association of Governments has mandated that the City provide for the construction of 978 housing units. Of the number allocated to Temple City, 566 units must be deemed “affordable.”

Lambert noted that Habitat for Humanity typically owns the land and builds on the parcel it designates as a project site.

A partnership could involve the City purchasing property and then selling it to Habitat. Another

option would have the City buy a piece of land and sell the land to the Temple City Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). The CRA could then sell or donate the property to Habitat, using redevelopment funds instead of general funds.

Damien Allen, director of corporate and community sponsorships, was present Tuesday evening to respond to questions.

The Habitat representative stated families were chosen by a Family Selection Committee, based on members of the community. Application sessions would then be held. Finally, Habitat would consider an applicant’s current living condition, financial stability, and willingness to partner with the organization.

Selected families will sign two mortgages with Habitat, and must commit to 500 hours of “sweat equity.”

In addition, Habitat for Humanity will provide homeownership and financial workshops.

“They don’t need perfect credit, but they need good credit. And they need to be employed,” Allen commented.

Of the 39 projects the San Gabriel Valley affiliate has worked on, none of the homeowners have fallen behind on their mortgages.

When inquired about the average cost of a housing unit, Allen noted that it could vary from \$60,000 to \$150,000. Costs are based on the community and the type of density.

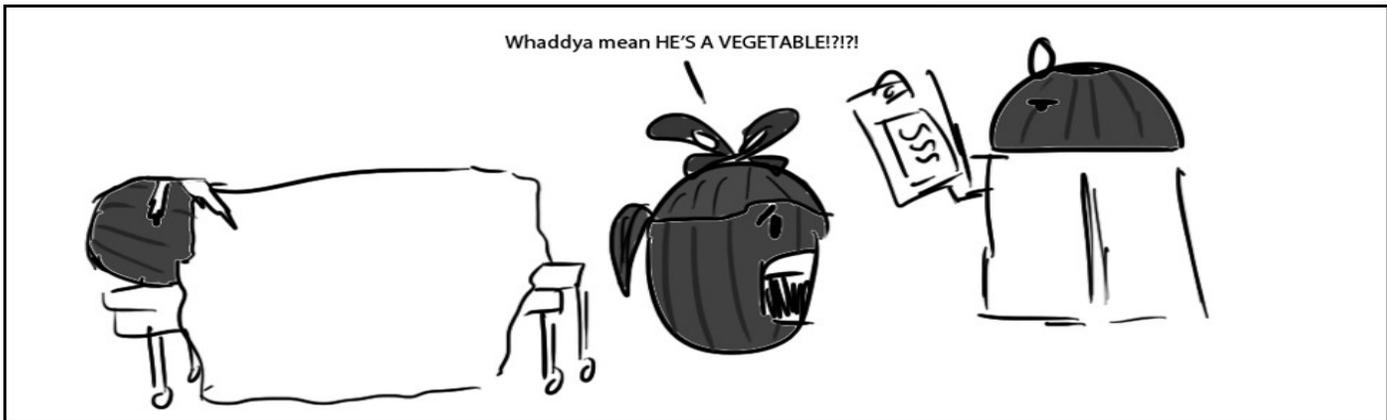
“You need to look at the investment in your community, the long-term investment,” stated councilwoman Sternquist.

Sternquist added, “I think it is an investment in our community and our residents. It’s something that’s going to be a lasting investment.”

Wrapping up discussions, Temple City mayor Fernando Vizcarra said, “There’s a level of interest.”

Habitat for Humanity International was founded in 1976. A little more than two decades later, in 1990, the San Gabriel Valley affiliate was formed.

Note To Readers:
To read an online only news article, “Consultant Submits Economic Development Plan,” please visit our blog.



This comic strip was designed by Peterson Cheng.

SR. EDITOR'S COLUMN: "SUPPORTING HAITI"

Most people should know that the country of Haiti had suffered incredible damage from an earthquake on January 12.

Like the Hurricane Katrina disaster or the earthquake in China before it, the country has to stomach a death toll of over 70,000, and make a heavy deal of repairs.

The capital city, Port-au-Prince, where the earthquake epicenter was located, is left in complete shambles. Even with the United Nations coming to their rescue, the country still has to rebuild itself from the mere rubble of its current state.

Pictures and videos are littered throughout the Internet. We all would take a look, feel a sadness in our hearts, and then go on with our daily lives as if it did not mean anything at all. Of course, we should be fortunate that it did not happen to us, but what if it did? Would we appreciate it and find it helpful if the common citizens of other countries looked at us in our despaired states and then turned away to continue a game of Call of Duty or go on with their dinner?

All around Facebook, an average person would receive quite a few notifications requesting them to join a group that supports and sends money to the people of Haiti.

If you're getting the idea, you could find a relief program and send them donations (don't just hope that those Facebook groups are legitimate because chances are, they're not). It's not that hard. You can even send donations via a text message or on smart phone applications. So why don't you help out and give the people of Haiti a better chance at recovering their losses?

Jason

Jason Alvin Wu is the Senior Editor of the Temple City Voice. Wu succeeded Randy Shun on January 1, 2010. He has previously served as a staff artist and will continue to serve as Art Manager until a successor is named.



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Letters to the Editor...

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UPCOMING EVENTS

January	22	Cloverly Science Fun Facts Fundraiser
	26	Oak PTA Board Mtg. @ Media Center, 7 P.M.
	27	School Board Meeting @District Office, 7 P.M.
	29	TCHS Musical Marathon @ Band Room, 1-9 P.M.
February	2	City Council Meeting @Council Chambers, 7:30 P.M.
	9	Planning Commission Meeting