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Cedar Center alive again

9 months' restoration unveiled

By JULIE DRAKE
Valley Press Staff Writer

LANCASTER — After a nine-month restoration project the nearly 100-year-old Cedar Center for the Arts complex teemed with life Tuesday morning as city officials celebrated the historic center's grand opening.

"It truly is one of the best accomplishments that we have," Mayor R. Rex Parris said as he stood before a crowd of city officials, dignitaries and artists in Memorial Hall.

The approximately \$750,000 restoration project retains much of the building's original architecture, features, fixtures and style.

Light streamed in from Memorial Hall's vertical windows, which had been covered up, and light from six new chandeliers reflected off of the polished original wood floors, giving a welcoming warmth to the room.

"The purpose of it is to teach the arts to neighborhood kids and to do it in a way that's affordable, professional, and we expect to see incredible results from it," Parris said of the project.

Parris called the center's renovation a "labor of love."

He said Lancaster Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization Director Elizabeth Brubaker did some of the work herself, including restoration of the center's bathrooms.

"The purpose of the preservation was to restore the original character of the Cedar Center for the Arts, embracing the changes that occurred to the

See CENTER on A6



ARTIST AT WORK — Artist Tesla Gold talks about her artwork Tuesday morning inside the Cedar Center in Lancaster. The center has just completed a nine-month restoration project.

CHRISTINA RAMOS/Valley Press

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By Valley Press
and wire service

LOS ANGELES — A group of conservative supervisors is pushing for leadership changes in the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Steve Nishioka, who has served five terms, is expected to be replaced by a new supervisor. Nishioka's term expires in 2015.

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Mojave group