

MANY VOICES, ONE COMMUNITY...

TEMPLE CITY *Voice*

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JULY 31, 2009

Opinion: Recession Affects Teachers

By Wayne Ho

Every year, it seems our class sizes just seem to get larger. Now, students may not particularly mind, as it simply results in a larger chance of having a friend in the same class.

This optimism, however, is not shared by those who are actually in charge of the classes—the teachers. For instance, if three teachers presided over one subject, cutting one results in the remaining assuming the extra load.

The consequences? Limited time schedules, increased workloads, and reduced individual attention become the offspring of wanton budget cuts.

California holds no monop- **“Recession” on Page 3**



TCV'S THIRD ANNIVERSARY: On Friday, July 24, the Temple City Voice (TCV) staff celebrated the third anniversary at California Pizza Kitchen.

T.C. Meetings Now on Cable TV and Online

By Randy Shun

The Temple City public can now view past City Council meetings on cable television and on the internet.

In an attempt to create a more transparent government, the City Council unanimously voted to proceed with Community Media at the Foothills to film city council meetings on Tuesday, April 21, 2009.

The item was placed on the agenda upon the request of newly elected city councilmembers Tom Chavez and Vincent Yu.

According to city staff reports, three companies/organizations had expressed interest in signing a service agreement with the City of Temple City. Besides Community Media at the Foothills, Studio Spectrum, Inc. of Burbank and GP Wedding Shop and Photo Studio, Inc. of Temple City had submitted quotes to the City.

At Tuesday's council meeting, Assistant to the City Manager Gary Flod recommended contracting with

Community Media of the Foothills.

“The reliability you'll be getting from our non-profit is far superior to other profit based production companies because we exist entirely to do the types of service you need,” wrote Lance Mungia, the Executive Director of Community Media at the Foothills, in a letter dated March 23, 2009.

The non-profit organization had offered the lowest rate, \$600 a meeting. GP Wedding Shop and Photo Studio, Inc. had wanted \$1200 per meeting, while Studio Spectrum, Inc. wanted \$3000 a meeting or \$2500 per meeting if there were four or more video recorded in a month.

Under a proposed agreement with Community Media of the Foothills, the city of Temple City will be billed

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News Brief: Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed more than \$600 million in state welfare programs in order to help rebuild California's reserve fund. The cuts will not include a fourth furlough day.

Sacramento Bee

Two City Commissioner Vacancies Filled

By Sophia Chang

Former Temple City councilman Dan Arrighi and Parks and Recreation commissioner Cynthia Sternquist were appointed to fill two vacancies by the City Council.

On Monday, May 4, 2009, the City Council selected Arrighi to serve on the Parks and Recreation commission, while they chose to place Sternquist on the Planning commission.

Vacancies on both of the city's volunteer commissions were formed after the March 2009 city council elections. Temple City voters had elected then-Parks and Recreation commissioner Tom Chavez and then-Planning commissioner Vincent Yu to the City Council.

Arrighi is a former city councilman and mayor of Temple City. He served on the City Council from 2003 to 2007 and lost a re-election bid to current councilman Fernando Vizcarra.

Despite losing in a historic coin toss in early 2007, Arrighi entered the School Board election race in late summer. He failed to win a position on the Temple City School Board.

Arrighi has lived in Temple City for more than twenty years.

Sternquist was the Vice-Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission. She had served on the Parks and Recreation commission for

about two decades.

In 2007, Sternquist ran with councilman Vizcarra for a position on the City Council. She failed to win a seat.

Like Arrighi, Sternquist is a long-time resident of Temple City.

Both Arrighi and Sternquist were sworn into office on Tuesday, May 5.

As a result of Sternquist's appointment to the Planning commission, a new vacancy on the Parks and Recreation has been created.

**City Council Meetings
on TV and online**
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on a quarterly basis.

Travis Grey, Operations Manager of Community Media of the Foothills, was also in attendance to answer questions.

Based in Monrovia, the Community Media at the Foothills has experience with recording city council meetings. The non-profit organization has worked with the cities of Monrovia, San Marino and Sierra Madre.

Without any opposition, the City Council moved to work with Community Media at the Foothills to televise and stream regular and special city council meetings only. The vote was 5-0.

"People need to know what we are doing and what we are discussing," stated councilwoman Judy Wong in an interview with the *Pasadena Star News*.

City Council meetings can be viewed on Charter Cable Television Channel 55 at 7:30 a.m., 12 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. They can also be seen online at www.kgem.tv/category/temple-city.

Also on Tuesday night, the City Council voted to unanimously adopt Urgency Ordinance 09-925U adopting a moratorium on the establishment of medical marijuana dispensaries and on the distribution of medical marijuana at existing businesses.

Deadline to Run for School Board Aug. 7

By Sophia Chang

Elections for the local School Board will be held in November 2009.

The School Board, which consists of five boardmembers and one appointed student member, makes policies and critical decisions for the Temple City Unified School District (TCUSD).

Each boardmember serves a four-year term.

Three candidates, including the two incumbents, have pulled papers to run.

Individuals interested in running for the school board have until August 7, 2009 to file to run. More information can be found with the Los Angeles County Clerk's website, www.lavote.net.

Incumbents Matt W. Smith and Joe Walker, both elected in 2005, have expressed interest in serving another term.

Smith is a former school board vice-president and is currently the board clerk. He has served on the school board for many years.

Walker, a crime analyst, was first elected to the school board in 2005. He was previously the school board president and is now seeking a second four-year term.

Another candidate, Kenneth Knollenberg, has filed to run.

The election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009.

Teachers Gain Extra Workload

Continued from Page 1

only on this crisis. A survey conducted by the American Association of School Administrators states, "44 percent of all school districts expect to increase their average class size" as a direct consequence of the America's current economic. And despite economic assistance from the stimulus plan, the education budget remains insufficient to prevent layoffs around the nation.

However, opponents assert that the quality of the teacher's instruction, not class sizes, remains the major factor in student educa-

tion.

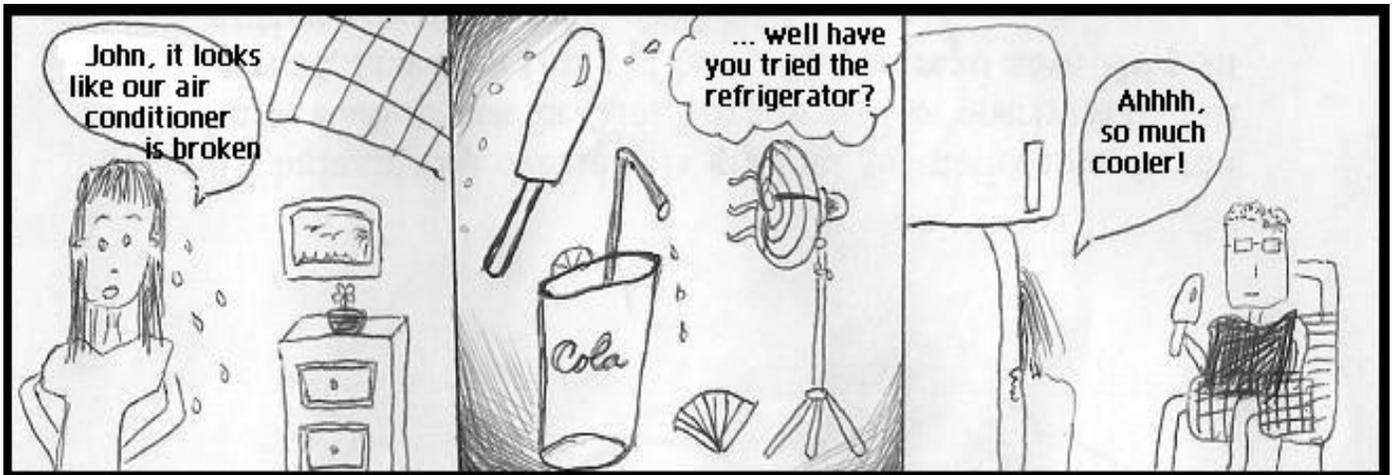
"All the research suggests the number of kids is much less important than who is teaching the class," says Stanford Researcher Eric Hanushek, who believes an increase in class sizes is understandable during economic hardships.

But the financial morass is not limited to grade school education. The University of California (UC) institution plans to decrease available openings to up to 30% in some schools. The state budget cut

may dissuade students from accessing higher public education.

Charged with possibly the most important role of society, teachers are the ones that mold the minds of children.

However, it is a result of our country's economic recession that we are actually forced to relieve many teachers of their jobs. One can only hope that despite everything the educational system is going through, the future will hold a brighter prospect for teachers.



This week's comic strip was drawn by Ivy Vuong.

EDITOR'S COLUMN: QUALITY OF MUSIC

Music. There are so many different genres involved in the music business, among those include: classical, jazz, hip hop, R&B, rap, rock, country, techno, and many more. It surrounds us wherever we are, whether there are iPod headphones dug deep into our ears or whether it's blaring out from a car with the windows rolled down.

People all over the world listen to music. Some call it their "stress reliever;" others use it merely for entertainment. Music is a good source of stress relief. It helps us open ourselves emotionally, and in a way, it helps examine ourselves, our lives, and our relationships.

Music has slowly developed and evolved for many, many years. Scientists believe that the first music was invented in Africa. Starting with the early history of music, the oldest known song was written in cuneiform—one of the earliest known forms of written expression. Since then, it has slowly evolved to become a fundamental constituent of human life.

Following the oldest known song was traditional and folk songs from places such as Asia, India, Roman, and many more. Then came the baroque and classical eras, which featured Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven—three of the most well-known piano composers of these two time periods.

Romantic and 20th century music soon followed, featuring composers such as Mendelssohn and Chopin. Out of all the piano pieces that I've ever played, the pieces by Chopin are by far my favorite. Piano solos and chamber music are so relaxing and soothing. Classical music is my "stress reliever."

In the 1900s, many more forms of music emerged. First came jazz in 1910, followed by country in the 40s. Rock emerged in the 50s, rap in the 60s, hip hop in the 70s, and techno in the late 80s.

Music has certainly developed now that it's been several hundred years since it was first invented. But what happened to the quality of music? It seems like the music quality is getting worse and worse. The junk, such as the rap songs they play on KIISFM and Power106, they play on mainstream radio isn't music anymore. It's simply "artists" rambling about love and sex. What happened to music? It seems all the same now.

Jessilyn



The *Temple City Voice* encourages the concept of recycling. When you have finished reading this weekly news publication, please recycle the paper. Let's save the Earth together!

TEMPLE CITY *Voice*

Volume 4, Issue 2

Letters to the Editor...

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|--------|----|---|
| July | 31 | Movies in the Park
<i>Live Oak Park @ 8 P.M. (Free)</i> |
| August | 4 | National Night Out
<i>TC Park @ 6-9 P.M.</i> |
| | | City Council Meeting
<i>Council Chambers @ 7:30 P.M.</i> |
| | 5 | Concert in the Park
<i>TC Park @ 7 P.M.</i> |
| | 7 | Movies in the Park
<i>Live Oak Park @ 8 P.M. (Free)</i> |