

MANY VOICES, ONE COMMUNITY...

TEMPLE CITY *Voice*

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AUGUST 21, 2009

A Closer Look at the 2009 Miss Temple City and Honor Court

By Christine Keung

Miss Temple City Caroline Truong and her Honor Court Shine Fu and Sharon Lai are always seen around the community. From volunteering at the Concerts in the Park every Wednesday to attending various Chamber of Commerce mixers, the young ladies put a lot of time and effort into serving Temple City.

Being selected to be Miss Temple City and Honor Court is a great honor because the girls have to go through a five-month long training process and a pageant before being selected.

Now crowned, **"Miss Temple City" on Page 3**



STUDENT REGISTRATION: Temple City High School students have begun the annual registration process. Seniors and Juniors registered this week, while Sophomores and Freshman will do so next week.

Opinion: Kyoto Protocol 2: The Copenhagen Conference

By Jessica Liu

When global warming and polar bears first became the poster children of the environmental movement, they elicited a term that was ubiquitously known, if not always completely understood—the Kyoto Protocol.

But with the treaty to reduce greenhouse gas concentration set to expire in 2012, considerable hype has been raised for the Climate Conference in Copenhagen set between December 7 and 18 of this year.

Hosted by the government of Denmark, the Climate Conference will be attended by an expected 170 countries, a total of 8000 people, and will be the last held before the new Copenhagen Protocol is decided upon. All very good news, but the agenda set by the previous conference was disconcertingly ambiguous.

News Brief: Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said he would not approve a deal to resolve California's water crisis unless it includes a multibillion-dollar bond to pay for dams and other projects. He is seeking a bond of about 10 billion dollars.

Sacramento Bee

As of March, the representatives have agreed that climate change problems are rising, and that action must be taken immediately; however, these actions have yet to be defined. Key messages included "there is no excuse for inaction" and "the influence of vested interests that increase emissions' must be reduced" (BBC).

2,000 researchers, brought together to analyze the climate change crisis--perhaps it is presumptuous, but it seems somewhat disappointing that such knowledge would be condensed into 6 so very vague statements.

What changes do they propose? Which countries will have to instigate them? To what degree? Hopefully, to degrees of sufficient change that they can offset those of global warming.

Temperatures are projected to rise 4 to 7 degrees Fahrenheit in the next century and melt half the Arctic ice as a consequence. For us specifically, this also means uncontrollable insect populations, new rampant **"Copenhagen" on Page 2**

Council Boots Martin, Appoints Burroughs as Interim City Manager

By Randy Shun

The City Council of Temple City removed Charles R. Martin from the positions of City Manager and City Attorney, while appointing Parks and Recreation director Cathy Burroughs as the interim city manager on Tuesday, May 5, 2009.

Martin, 85, became an employee of the city in April 1965. In the last seven years, Martin has served as both the city manager and city attorney.

According to the *Temple City Life* monthly publication, Martin is a graduate of South Pasadena High School, Washington and Lee College and University of Southern California law school.

Councilwoman Judy Wong announced on May 5 that Martin would be dismissed effective immediately; however, he will be allowed to remain as the interim city attorney until May 31.

Temple City and regional elected officials, like state Assemblymember Anthony Portantino, state Senator Carol Liu and Los Angeles county supervisor Michael Antonovich, recognized Martin at retirement ceremony on May 28. The City Council had recognized Martin at its meeting on May 19.

The position of city manager is being advertised. The deadline to apply is Thursday, June 18.

A change in city manager and city attorney is one of many changes made since the March city council elections.

Previously, the city

council had contemplated hiring a deputy city manager to succeed Martin after months of training.

These actions occurred under the past council majority that included Cathé Wilson, Ken Gillanders and councilman Dave Capra.

But in January 2009, councilman Capra along with the previous council majority voted to remove the position of deputy city manager from consideration. Councilmembers Fernando Vizcarra and Judy Wong cast the dissenting votes.

Besides removing Martin as city manager, the City Council also decided to wait until a new city manager is appointed before hiring a new public services manager.

Chuck Erickson, the previous occupant, had retired. A vacancy became effective on May 1.

The position of public services manager is being advertised. The deadline for this position is Thursday, June 4.

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Slow Progress at Copenhagen

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diseases, crop death, and land swamping. Overpopulation will have a ball with occupying half the former dry land mass.

Worst case scenario, the resulting protocol fails, the countries will refuse to reach a consensus, or the conference won't address all the possible venues for positive change (carbon taxes, geo-engineering?) and will shove them up for future agendas.

In any case, that we are having this conference at all is cause for optimism. And in four months, the Obama administration will finally have its first real opportunity to hold up to its green goals.

Interview with Miss Temple City and her Honor Court

Continued from Page 1

they share their thoughts on the try-out process and their Miss Temple City experience.

What inspired you to try out for Miss Temple City?

Caroline: Being able to help change the community for the better is something I want to be part of. My seniors in high school actually inspired me: [they] always attended community events, made people laugh, and inspired others who were younger than them—that was something I want[ed] to be part of and [be] able to do.

Shine: The ad on the door.

Sharon: I just wanted the experience and a lot of previous contestants said it was a good experience and it was fun; they encouraged me to try out.

What do you think was the most important thing you learned trying out?

Caroline: A contestant should always be herself. I kind of had a self-discovery moment from this program. I realized that I needed to impress the judges and everyone else with my own personality. I needed to show them why I really wanted to be Miss Temple City. Whether I won or not, I knew I would gain something without hiding behind a mask.

Shine: To have confidence.

Sharon: I think the most important thing that I learned is to get along with other girls in a competitive envi-

ronment. Also, I learned about who I am as a person.

How has it been being Miss Temple City and what do you like the most about it?

Caroline: I feel very honored being Miss Temple City. The Honor Court members and I have had a couple of events so far. The thing I like about being Miss Temple City is that you meet so many people and it's really neat to know that children look

up to you. I hope I can inspire them to do well in the future. I also love attending the Concerts in the Park; besides the fact that there are so many people to socialize with, the activities, and the music is brilliant.

Shine: It's been a great experience so far. [I enjoy] concerts in the park.

Sharon: So far, being on court has been quite an experience. Every week we get to go to the park to play with the kids, and it just brings a smile on my face when the kids come to look for us and give us a big hug when they see us.

If you could give any advice to girls trying out next year, what would it be?

Caroline: No matter what, always



Miss Temple City Caroline Truong (Middle) and her Honor Court Shine Fu (Right) and Sharon Lai (Left) featured above.

Photo courtesy of Caroline Truong

believe in yourself. Don't let people discourage or degrade you.

Shine: Even if you're unsure of whether or not you really want to participate in the pageant, just go for it because the experience and the things you learn from it are once in a lifetime things. It was way out of my comfort zone, but I still went for it.

Sharon: I think the most important advice really is to be who you are. You want to win because you are being yourself, not because you are trying to be someone you are not. By being yourself, you can get along with other people much better, and you won't be ashamed of being fake. Also, learn to get along with everyone, because we are all in this together.

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SENIOR EDITOR'S COLUMN: GENERATION "USELESS"

Progress comes from struggle. The Civil War sparked the civil rights movement; the Industrial Revolution spurred technological advances; by Vietnam's end, art, music, and literature flourished. A breath of relief was blown, and the 80's and 90's were marked by general peace. The economy was happy.

Buoyed by a sense of happiness and peace, people purchased with credit, and more often than not were profligate with said spending. Technology continued to boom since the advent of the computer while the material luxuries (cars, plasma television screens) saw slashed prices and increased affordability. It was a happy time.

Happy enough to feed off of electronics. My generation was raised by technology. Whereas children gambled in fields and played basketball, the television exists as the ultimate form of entertainment. During the interim where the T.V. wasn't blaring, computers, or radios, or telephones, flashed green-on, ready for service.

Life has become a great commodity. As inventions continue to make living easier, basic exercise and mental exertion begin to fade. Why turn the dial of the television when the remote can?

Mental math- we have computers for that. Technology removed the need for a personnel-industry base. The autonomous factory system devised by Ford is ran by machines. The only human presence is the mechanic, who often only replaces semi-conductors and fried bits.

So Generation X has grown up with life handed on a mechanical platter. Ask a suburbanite to fix a car, and a baffled shrug may be the best reception. Question the functions of a cell phone, and a entire manual could be published.

What will this generation contribute? Each century needs a little sweeping after; the 1900s, while producing massive strides in medicine, technology and industrialization, drips pollution and overpopulation here, deadlier weapons and political war there.

The world's facing a s--tload of problems. Unless we begin to extirpate our endless reliance on electronics and inclination towards convenience, the world will burn as we sit on our couches, sipping away at orange juice. From a blender.

Randy

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Letters to the Editor...

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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|--------|----|---|
| August | 21 | Junior Registration Day
<i>TCHS 7:30 A.M.—3:30 P.M.</i> |
| | 24 | Sophomore Registration Day
<i>TCHS 7:30 A.M.—3:30 P.M.</i> |
| | 25 | Freshman Registration Day
<i>TCHS 7:30 A.M.—3:30 P.M.</i> |
| | | Planning Commission MTG
<i>Council Chambers @ 7:30 P.M.</i> |
| | 26 | Concert in the Park
Ft. The Wiseguys
<i>Temple City Park @ 7 P.M.</i> |



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