

# TEMPLE CITY *Voice*

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Local News

Politics

Science/Environment

Sports

Entertainment

Life

Opinion

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MARCH 12, 2010

## *Temple City High School's Wizard of Oz Premieres*

### *Vizcarra Continues to Serve as Temple City's Mayor*

*The current mayor is unanimously confirmed by his colleagues.*

BY TAYLOR EVANKO

On March 2, 2010 Fernando Vizcarra was elected by Temple City City Council to continue serving as the city's mayor.

Vizcarra was nominated at the city council meeting last Tuesday, and he was unanimously elected mayor just moments afterward.

Shortly thereafter, he spoke briefly about the first six months of his experience as mayor. Vizcarra expressed his sincere hopes for Temple City's future as a community and commented on a few of the positive changes he has seen recently.

*"Mayor" on Page 2*



**MAYOR:** *Fernando Vizcarra will continue to serve as mayor for another term.* Photo Courtesy

### *Opinion: To Accept or Not to Accept Digital Art*

*Recently, some artists have criticized a new art medium for its validity.*

BY NELSON LUU

Today's art world boasts a wide range of mediums that artists may choose, from the tempera egg paints that dominated the ancient world, to the oil paints of the Ren-

*"Art" on Page 3*

UNPUBLISHED, HISTORICAL  
NEWS ARTICLE

### *Temple City Looking for a Permanent City Attorney*

*City officials hired a new city manager last month.*

BY RANDY SHUN

Now that a permanent city manager has been hired, the City Council is directing its focus towards filling the vacant city attorney post.

City Manager Jose Pulido announced on Thursday, November 5, 2009 that final interviews for three attorney firms will take place on November 23.

"We're not going to identify any firms," Pulido previously stated.

Temple City officials last discussed the vacant position at the most recent city council meeting. Officials had met in closed session for nearly an hour before Pulido

*"City Attorney" on Page 2*

## Vizcarra to serve a complete term as mayor continued from front page

Among other things, he noted in front of a full audience in the council chambers that just a few years ago, very few people attended the council meetings regularly.

Once the mayor was finished speaking, the council moved on to select a mayor pro-tempore.

Councilmember Tom Chavez was nominated by Councilmember Cynthia Sternquist, and the sitting mayor pro-tempore, Vincent Yu, was nominated by then Councilmember Judy Wong. Chavez was elected to the position with a vote of 4-1, including the support of Yu.

The mayor was elected to the City Council in 2007. His term as mayor and councilman expires next March. ■

## Search turns to city attorney position continued from front page

publicized that the search for a new city attorney had been narrowed down.

In a recent interview with a local newspaper, Mayor Fernando Vizcarra stated city officials were looking for an individual with a development and redevelopment experience or background.

“The focus is going to be development and redevelopment,” Vizcarra said, “and somebody that has experience with a city our size or bigger.”

The City Council, excluding Councilwoman Cynthia Sternquist who was not on the City Council at the time, fired long-time city employee Charles R. Martin in May. Martin had served in dual roles, as Temple City’s city manager and city attorney.

Eric Vail of Burke, Williams, and Sorensen LLC has served as the interim city attorney since June. According to a Pasadena Star News report, Vail and his firm has always sought for a permanent role in Temple City.

Vail stated, “We accepted the interim position knowing that they were going to need to go through an RFP (request for proposal) process and interview process.”

The interim city attorney also mentioned to the local newspaper that he was a finalist among the candidates

the City Council was thinking about.

Final interviews will be conducted in closed session at 6:30 p.m. ■

**Note To Readers:**  
To read an online only news article, “*Councilmembers Still Meeting with Trash Hauler*”, please visit our blog, <http://templecityvoice.wordpress.com>.

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## SUSIE’S KITCHEN

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Mondays-Saturdays: 11 AM to 7 PM  
Sundays: **CLOSED**

*Artist discusses the trend of a digital-based art medium* continued from front page

aissance to the acrylics from the recent past.

With the invention of the computer, the art world has discovered a new frontier: digital painting, and it has never been easier or more affordable for artists to create artwork.

However, with the advent of digital painting comes much controversy amongst the traditional media artists and the new age “digital artists” over whether or not the computer is a legitimate medium for artists to use.

I myself have experimented with digital painting and I do believe that digital painting is a new revolution for the art world even though it has been around for the past decade or two. Digital painting has many advantages over traditional mediums.

They, in theory, require very few materials. One needs only a computer, a graphics tablet (a pen-based input device which allows you to draw on the computer), and painting program.

Many would argue that those few materials may become extremely expensive, but the long term benefits outweigh the cost and a frugal mind goes a long way.

Although a tablet may range anywhere from \$60 to \$1000, many tablets come equipped with a painting program to get started with. Most people are equipped with a standard computer in today’s world, but for those who have yet to own one, they would price in the \$900 range for a desktop with adequate performance.

Also, a basic graphics tablet, such as Wacom’s Bamboo Pen model, costs about \$75 and also comes with Corel Painter Essentials to allow a digital artist to learn the basics without having to spend \$400 for the professional Adobe Photoshop.

By working directly on the computer, artists need not worry about gel mediums, paint thinners or other essentials for painting, and they would not need to buy more supplies which helps offset the cost of the programs and tablet once he or she begins selling pieces or commissions on websites such as Deviantart.com.

Furthermore, mistakes would not be a problem any longer for an artist because it can simply be undone by the single click of a mouse button or the severely handy “ctrl” and “z” buttons.

However, despite its benefits, many critics have viewed that digital art cannot be considered a

true art medium.

With the computer, several new art effects can be achieved without any effort at all. With a program such as Photoshop, digital artists can manipulate aspects such as tone and color on the fly, something that traditional art forms are incapable of doing. Even with the “undo” button, these conveniences are seen as “laziness” and “cheating”.

In fact, amateur artists with very little experience can emulate the art of a professional who has undertaken several years of hard work. Although it is true that many traditional artists approve of the effectiveness of a computer, the majority of the art world is at a standoff.

Digital art is now considered one of the most economical and practical forms of art out in the commercial art world today and is used by a wide range of professionals ranging from comic book artists and illustrators to 3D animators and game designers.

In fact, many, if not most, of the artwork seen in commercials, advertisements, and in the media are now done with the use of a digital medium. Chances are that the next Mona Lisa might soon be painted from a computer out there in the world. ■



*This comic strip was designed by Jason Alvin Wu.*

## SR. EDITOR'S COLUMN: ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Recently, I saw the new Disney movie, "Alice in Wonderland".

For those familiar with the original "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" and the sequel, "Through the Looking Glass and what Alice found there", the plot takes place several years after, where Alice, now a nineteen year old girl living in Victorian society, does not fit in. Although she has no recollection of her time in Wonderland, she exhibits peculiarity that makes those around her wary of her sanity.

Ever since I had heard that the movie went into production over the summer, I became ecstatic. Fueled by childhood nostalgia of watching the Disney cartoon and reading the books, I walked into the movie theaters hoping not to be disappointed.

I wasn't.

The visuals, mostly done in CGI (computer-generated images), re-imagined the Alice in Wonderland world into a lush environment filled with the weirdest things. It looks like something you would experience if you happened to take a lot of cold medicine while frolicking in the woods.

The storytelling is wonderful and Tim Burton's stylized concepts for each character is spectacular. The portrayal of each character seems much more realistic than the books. For example, the Mad Hatter, played by Johnny Depp, looks the part of a deranged hatter who has suffered from too much mercury poisoning. His actions in the movie are genuinely crazy and not quirky as the books portray him, or any other character, to be.

However, the dialogue and actions in the movie are a large departure from what you would expect from the books, being more original. The few times that you catch something reminiscent of the original story, it seems to be as an afterthought.

If you plan to watch any movie in the next few weeks or if you are interested in a fantasy epic that rivals Avatar, then Alice in Wonderland is your movie.

Jason



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## TEMPLE CITY *Voice*

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Letters to the Editor...

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 11-14 "Wizard of Oz" Musical  
@ *San Gabriel Mission Playhouse, 7:30 P.M.*
- 14 Daylight Savings Time Begins  
*SPRING FORWARD 1 Hour*
- 15 Staff Development Day
- 16 TC Chamber Mixer  
@ *Beto's Grill, 5:30 P.M. - 7 P.M.*
- City Council Meeting  
@ *Council Chambers, 7:30 P.M.*
- 17 Board of Education Meeting  
@ *District Office, 7 P.M.*