School Board Candidate Profile: Robert Ridley

Opinion: “The Help” Causes Controversy

The writer believes that “The Help” does not accurately represent reality.

By Terrence Sun

The film, The Help, which was released on August 10, elicited a negative reaction over the inaccurate racial depictions, especially with African American women.

Based on a 2009 novel by Kathryn Stockett, the movie, The Help was a commercial success, generating $5.5 million.

However, many audience members were shocked by the movie, as the film continued inaccuracies already shown in the book.

The dispute was centered on the movie’s distorted facts.

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City Council Passes New Protocols

City leaders approve new governing rules by 4-1 vote.

By Vincent Wei

The City Council on Tuesday approved new protocols governing the behavior of city officials. The vote was 4-1, with Mayor Fernando Vizcarra casting the dissenting vote.

An amended version of the rules was revealed during the November 16, 2010 city council meeting.

The final draft loosened the restriction placed on city officials that prohibited city council members from meeting with project applicants once paperwork had been.
New rules for city officials published  Continued from Front Page

filed. In addition, it strengthened a provision barring city council members from voting if they receive $101 campaign contribution from any contractor, vendor, and developer.

The changes came after Councilman Vincent Yu expressed disapproval with the revised draft in September.

“I’m happy with what’s been proposed,” he said during the city council meeting.

In September, Yu sought to weaken the rule prohibiting city officials from meeting with project applicants, while strengthening the rule related to campaign contributions.

The last time the City Council considered the protocols, the rules stated that council members would be prohibited from voting on items if they received a contribution of $250 or more within 24 months. According to the new draft, the threshold was lowered, while council members would be barred for 48 months, or the full council term, if they received a contribution of $101 or more.

Vizcarra, who opposed the revised restriction on campaign contributions, disagreed with Yu’s view.

“It takes money to run a campaign,” he said. “It’s not an ongoing process. It happens every four years. $250 is nothing.”

In response, City Attorney Eric Vail said, “I think that’s a fair point. Local campaign finances have escalated over the past 10 years.”

Vail stated that when the ad hoc committee began drafting the governing rules, a figure of $1000 was used to determine when a council member could not vote on an item. That figure was eventually reduced to $250 and again to $101.

“Nothing that we put in the protocols is written in stone,” the city attorney said. “You are free to add, to amend.”

The new protocols will apply to the City Council, as well as city commissioners. The new rules come as City Hall attempts to regain the confidence of the community in light of negative publicity over the Piazza scandal.

The standards cover the following topics: openness, fairness of process, ethical decision-making, efficiency and accountability, and enforcement.

An ad hoc committee composed of Councilman Carl Blum, Mayor Pro Tempore Tom Chavez, and City Attorney Eric Vail drafted the protocols.

This week’s comic was designed by Michelle Cao.
Ridley seeks re-election to the School Board

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Robert Ridley

Bond, defined as a formal contract to repay borrowed money at fixed intervals, is a very viable solution for the limited funding. As well as his policies, Ridley plans to bring his perspective of how the school board should be conducted.

“Having worked in government for 17 years, the right ways to do it things is good practices,” said Ridley. “I am very committed to our kids, schools and the community, and some of our facilities really need attention.”

However, a major issue that Ridley focuses on is the current budget crisis.

“Cut, Cut, Cut,” said Ridley, “we have cut about everything we can.”

While preferring to cut back on other funds, Ridley also wants to focus on limited resources and old facilities. He calls attention to the lockers at Temple City High School, the failed air conditioning units, and other similar areas that need to be updated and renewed.

With the constraints of the current level of funding and the recession, Ridley admits that the school board is limited to what they can do.

“Given the constraints, of the level of funding, we are quite limited,” said Ridley, “However, we need to challenge ourselves to find better solutions.”

Opinion: Film “The Help” is inaccurate

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and incorrect historical background. There was no focus on the sexual harassment and civil rights activism that was present during the 1960’s.

Many of the experiences that the African American workers had to go through were largely ignored despite the movie’s purpose of a triumph over racial injustice.

The actors in the movie are respected and the criticism is not against their ability to act. Rather, it is a statement against the facts in the movie that are not representative of the South.

Movies are powerful tools that can spread ideas and words very quickly. The fact that this movie is based on a historical novel should make the movie all the more reliable.

Moviegoers tend to trust what they watch when it comes to a historical narrative. It is an awful idea to distort the aspect of African American lives to fit the mold of a standard movie.

A large portion of the public now has an inaccurate view on history because the movie industry wants to make a few extra bucks. The recognition that rightfully belongs to the civil rights activists was disregarded. The historical information needs to be correct in order for a movie to be appropriate for release.
EDITOR’S COLUMN:  
INTERNET TROLLS

They’re everywhere, and there’s so many of them nowadays that that I feel like we could fill an entire virtual continent with them.

Internet trolls.

I’ve seen them, you’ve seen them, politicians, celebrities, and regular citizens have seen them.

I scratch my head and wonder, “When did the internet become such a terrifying place?” Nowadays I can’t express my feelings on the internet without being attacked by one or more sides.

“My Asian parents are too strict,” I write, simply stating my opinion. I check on the post a day later and the trolls have already bludgeoned it.

Troll A: “OMG why you so racist to Asians, I hate you and your family, I bet you only think they’re strict because they’re Asian!”

Troll B: [insert racist comment about Asians.]

Usually, I choose not to respond and only shake my head at the commentators.

However, there are some people on the internet who will choose to fight back, either trolling a troll, or unleashing a wave of paragraphs explaining how politically incorrect the first replier was.

It’s usually fun to go on social networking sites to read those long-winded conversations, which end in one person threatening to block the other.

I feel like there’s a sort of personal detachment one has to create once they step onto the infinite bounds of the internet. Despite its vastness, the internet’s a pretty shallow place. It’s easy to spit out cruel words to a computer screen rather than the faces of people.

And the scariest thing about trolls is that they make up the population of the people around us.

They’re usually not fifty-year pedophiles that live with their mothers, nor are they neo-Nazis or KKK members.

They aren’t even always “jealous people who hate on others because they have no lives.” The person that trolled you the day before could have been a friend expressing secret annoyances.

There’s an ugly side to everyone, and anyone can be a troll.

So when things get really ugly there, I just retreat to the safest place on the internet:

Disconnection.  
Amy

TEMPLE CITY Voice

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Letters to the Editor...

Can be sent to our  
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UPCOMING EVENTS

September 24  
Hands on History  
@Arcadia Historical Museum, 12:30 P.M.

28  
School Board Meeting  
@District Office, 7 P.M.

October 1  
SAT Practice Test  
@Temple City Library, 10 A.M.

4  
City Council Meeting  
@Council Chambers, 7:30 P.M.

11  
Planning Commission MTG  
@Council Chambers, 7:30 P.M.