



## 太陽能發電系統完工

萬佛聖城為開發能源，減少對地球的污染與破壞，於二〇一〇年經法總董事會同意，在五觀齋堂南面向陽的屋頂上架設太陽能板。此項工程取得政府核准執照後，預計在去年底動工，但因正逢雨季，故順延至今年（二〇一一）二月底全部完工，待檢驗核可後，即可正式發電使用。

太陽能發電系統將可生產五萬瓦的電力，為萬佛城用電量的七分之一。目前此項工程的材料及施工費用尚屬高檔，但聖城係以保護地球及長期投資為著眼點。由於世界能源有限並逐漸短缺，太陽能的開發已成為潮流並逐漸普及，將可降低投資成本。未來聖城當會再選擇適當地點，開發太陽能，儘量達到自給自足。

傳統的水力及火力發電已不能滿足人類的需求，而不斷增加的核電廠雖然提供更多的能源，但也為人類帶來更大的危機和災害。如最近日本大地震、海嘯之後，核電廠遭到破壞因而輻射外洩，造成實質的污染及傷亡，導致人心惶惶。由此觀之，開發無污染、無危險的太陽能已成目前最好的解決途徑。

## 中華民國建國百年歷史常識比賽

四月二日星期六，為慶祝中華民國建國一百年，中華民國僑委會假金山灣區華僑文教中心，舉辦「建國百年歷史常識比賽」。希望藉此活動，讓海外的華僑子弟對中華民國的近代史有更深一層的認識和了解。

比賽在所有的參賽者、家長、老師和工作人員齊聲歡呼：「中華民國·精采一百·生日快樂」聲中揭開序幕。

首先所有的參賽者分初、高中組進行二十題筆試，各選出六名優勝者進行決賽。決賽採搶答方式進行，賽程緊湊卻不失祥和，男女校同學表現沉穩，終場初中組女校郭林必獲得第一名；高中組男校陳冠宇榮獲冠軍，女校蔡幸臻亞軍。



## The Installation of the Solar Power Generating System Is Now Completed

The board of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association decided in 2010 that if solar panels were set up on the roof facing the sun above the Five Contemplation Hall, it would reduce pollution in its alternative energy developing function. The project was expected to start by the end of last year after the construction permit was acquired from the government. However, as rainy season started, the completion of this project was delayed until February 2011. The system can formally generate power after it passes inspection.

The solar power generating system can output power up to fifty thousand watts, which is one-seventh of the electricity consumption in CTTB. By far the material used and costs of this project is high, but because CTTB aims to protect the earth and thus is making an investment. As the energy in our world is limited and is being gradually depleted, developing solar energy has become a trend and will be popularized; as a result, the cost of development shall decrease. In the near future CTTB will choose another suitable location for developing solar energy in an attempt to be self-sufficient.

Traditional hydraulic and fire power generation can no longer satisfy the needs of human beings, though the ever-increasing number of nuclear power plants have supplied more and more energy, bringing great dangers and disasters. One recent example is the radioactive substance leakage from Japan's nuclear power plants after severe earthquakes and tsunamis, which has already resulted in substantial pollution and casualty. It also has created panic among people. Therefore to develop solar energy, which is pollution-free and risk-free, has become the best solution to the current crisis.

## A Competition of Common Knowledge of a Hundred-Year History since the Founding of the Republic of China

To celebrate the formation of the Republic of China (R.O.C.) one hundred years ago, the R.O.C. Overseas Center of Culture and Education in San Francisco Bay District held a competition on the history of the R.O.C., on Saturday, April 2, 2011. The purpose of this event was to give Chinese-American children a deeper understanding of the modern history of the R.O.C. At the ceremony, participants including the competitors, parents, teachers, and staff members applauded and cheered: "We Wish the Republic of China a Splendid One-Hundred-Year Happy Birthday!"

Competitors were divided into two groups: basic and advanced. Each group was given twenty written questions. After the first round, the top six from each group were entered into the final competition. For the final competition, questions were verbal, and whoever answered first and correctly received the score. Though the competition was fierce and intense, the students from both the girls and boys schools were quite calm and steady. Ms. Guo Lin-mi won the Gold in the basic group. Mr. Chen Guan-yu won the Gold, and Ms. Tsai Shing-chen won the Silver in the advanced group.