



2 HOBBY CORNER
Artist turns old bottles into colourful decorations

3 AT THE MOVIES
Kickstart your summer with *Kung Fu Panda*



8 TO THE OLYMPICS
Top young athletes win award, tickets

Thursday, July 3, 2008

youngpost

Capturing a community

The 'Through Our Eyes' programme gives students the chance to portray the characteristics of different districts - and *Young Post* will be publishing their photos. We start in Tuen Mun, writes **Elaine Yau**

Having lived in Tuen Mun since she was born, 15-year-old Katherine Chau Sau-kuen loves the tranquility and simplicity of the place.

"Old and new structures coexist together in Tuen Mun. It is a place with strong contrasts. Being a new town, it is clean and quiet compared to overcrowded places like Mong Kok and Causeway Bay," said the Form Three student from Ho Ngai College (Sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen).

Last Sunday, together with three other budding photographers from different parts of Hong Kong, Katherine took pictures of her beloved hometown under the guidance of a visual artist, as part of a community project organised by the Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation.

Held annually since 2005, the "Through Our Eyes" programme consists of photography workshops and visits to different areas of Hong Kong to learn more about the local community. This year, some 20 students will visit nine different districts of Hong Kong where they will record the residents and landmarks that reflect each area's unique characteristics.

Young Post and the foundation are running the District Focus series, with the photographs published every Thursday throughout the summer.

Zhou Ru-Jün, the "Through Our Eyes" programme director, said the scheme would give students a deeper understanding of local communities.

"The nine districts have their own unique



characteristics and functions. Their history, culture, pace of life and facilities are all different. The scheme gives the students the chance to gain a better understanding of the place they grew up in [and of other neighbourhoods]," said Ms Zhou.

Tuen Mun is the first district to be featured and the pictures by the four students of fish markets, beaches and temples vividly capture the down-to-earth charm of the semi-rural town.

As the only member of the team who was born in the district, Katherine's photographic journey was a trip down memory lane.

"When I was younger, I often went to the riding school in Tuen Mun to feed the horses with my friends. The trip to the school to take pictures of the horses stirred up childhood memories," Katherine said.

The residents in this close-knit community have a strong sense of belonging.

Lau Ka-man, 20, has lived in Shan King Estate near the Tuen Mun Town Centre since she was born. In spite of the cramped living space, the Japanese Studies student enjoys the close-knit feeling among neighbours in public housing estates.

"You know everyone on the same wing. When I was a child, I often visited the playgrounds nearby with kids from other households," said Ms Lau.

Tuen Mun's remote location has made it unattractive in the eyes of estate developers and home buyers. But maybe this perceived flaw has helped the district retain its charm.

See pages 4 and 5

IVAN WONG CHUN-YUEN'S PORTRAIT OF A FISH SELLER IN TUEN MUN. IVAN IS A STUDENT AT PO LEUNG KUK NGAN PO LING COLLEGE.



