



President

Aruna Rathi
arurathi@gmail.com

Secretary

Shikha Mitra
shikha1326Yahoo.com

Editor

Vidya Naik
realtorsvidya@gmail.com

Volume :38

Issue: 21

Date: April 21st 2024

ROTARY MISSION.....

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create a lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

As a global network that strives to build a world where people unite and take action to create a lasting change, Rotary values this diversity and celebrates the contributions of people of all backgrounds, regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, colour, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.



APRIL IS THE ENVIRONMENT MONTH

Protecting the Environment

We are committed to supporting activities that strengthen the conservation and protection of natural resources, advance ecological sustainability, and foster harmony between communities and the environment.



LOW VISION SCREENING CAMP

A low vision screening camp was conducted at NSD industrial home for blind on Thursday 28th March at Mumbai. The low vision team Dr. Supriya Phadke and Apporva Shitole screened 43 patients. Out of these 5 have been referred for further investigations, 4 have been advised smart vision glasses and 7 have been advised for low vision aids.



CECF's vision centre brings new hope to people suffering from low vision

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, MARCH 21

DIAGNOSED WITH low vision since birth, Kalyani Mane from Miraj struggled to read small fonts in textbooks and had difficulty seeing anything beyond 3 metres. For Pune-based Rakesh (name changed) low vision was a challenge especially as he aspired to pursue higher studies in medicine. It was only after they started using smart vision aids and related devices from Pune-based Community Eye Care Foundation's Vision-Aid Centre, that they found new hope.

Sixteen-year-old Kalyani scored 83.66 per cent in Std X last year and is now keen on pursuing law while 19-year-old Rakesh is a second-year MBBS student at Kolhapur.

Low vision is a condition characterised by significant vi-

sion loss that persists even with corrective measures like glasses or surgery.

Dr Parikshit Gogate set up the Community Eye Care Foundation (CECF) in 2010 and now has four vision centres and a mobile clinic, adding that his focus is to provide comprehensive quality eye care apart from free eye checkups and spectacles.

Dr Gogate partnered with Vision AID, Boston, USA a few years ago. Along with CSR grants from the Rotary Club of Poona Downtown the team at CECF - Vision-Aid Centre led by Dr. Gogate and Dr. Supriya Phadke has screened over 2000 patients in the last three years. A total of 804 low-vision aids were distributed for free - and among them 9 smart vision glasses, 457 non-optical aids, 250 optical aids, 56 portable video magnifiers and 23 smart-phones.

Dr. Bageshree Gogate.



Autism – also referred to as autism spectrum disorder—constitutes a diverse group of conditions related to development of the brain.

About 1 child in 100 children has autism.

Characteristics may be detected in early childhood, but autism is often not diagnosed until much later.

The abilities and needs of autistic people vary and can evolve over time. While some people with autism can live independently, others have severe disabilities and require life-long care and support.

Care for people with autism needs to be accompanied by actions at community and social levels for greater accessibility, inclusivity and support.

Sunderji's Global Academia In collaboration with The Rotary Club of Poona Downtown celebrated

“WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH”

*Funfair and Autism Awareness Program was a meticulously planned, and beautifully presented event .

Activities like drum circle, obstacle pathway, sensory games, Zumba dancing kept the children happily engaged.

Added attractions were a street play and story-telling session by the Jain Yuva Sena group.

Stalls displayed attractive bags and gift items made by the children. Food stalls of home made chat, cookies sandwiches and cold drinks catered by students' and their mothers were irresistible.

Sundarji's staff led by Rtn. Masarrat Tavawalla, have the quality of handling and educating autistic children with love, care and tremendous patience, compassion and commitment.

Funfair and Autism Awareness Program



President Aruna Rathi



The chief guest

Different stalls



Drums circle



**Sunderji's Global Academia
In collaboration with
The Rotary Club of Poona
Downtown**

THE CARNIVAL HELD ON 6TH OF APRIL WAS ORGANIZED TO CREATE AWARENESS OF AUTISM

लोकमत

ऑटिझम जनजागृतीसाठी 'कार्निव्हल फन फेअर'

लोकमत न्यूज नेटवर्क
पुणे : भीमज्योत नगर गणेशखिंड येथील भाऊपाटील रोडवरील शिवाजी गार्डन पुणे येथे शनिवारी (दि. ६) कार्निव्हल फन फेअरचे आयोजन केले आहे. सुंदरजीज ग्लोबल अकॅडेमिया आणि रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पूना डाऊनटाऊन यांच्या आयोजन

केले असून, यात खेळ, झुंबा सत्र, नृत्य, ड्रम सर्कल, फूड स्टॉल आणि सर्व वयोगटातील मुलं आणि प्रौढांसाठी उपयुक्त शारीरिक खेळांचा समावेश आहे. यावेळी परशुराम वाडेकर, सुनीती वाडेकर, सीमा तन्वर आदी उपस्थित राहणार आहेत.

ऑटिझम जनजागृती के कार्निव्हल फन फेअर 6

भास्कर न्यूज | पुणे. सुंदरजी ग्लोबल एकेडमी और रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पूना डाउनटाऊन के सहयोग से ऑटिझम से पीड़ित व्यक्तियों को मुख्यधारा में लाने और उनके माता-पिता का समर्थन करने के उद्देश्य से 6 अप्रैल को सुबह 9.30 बजे शिवाजी गार्डन, भाऊ पाटील रोड, भीमज्योत नगर गणेशखिंड, पुणे में कार्निव्हल फन फेअर आयोजित किया गया है। इसमें खेल, जुम्बा, डांस, ड्रम सर्कल, फूड स्टॉल और बच्चों और वयस्कों के लिए उपयुक्त शारीरिक गतिविधियां शामिल हैं।

सकाळ

कार्निव्हल फन फेअरमध्ये झुंबा अन् खेळ

पुणे, ता. ८ : ऑटिझम असलेल्या मुलांबाबत समाजात जागरूकता निर्माण करणे, त्यांचा समाजात सक्रियपणे सहभाग वाढविणे, यासाठी ग्लोबल अकॅडेमिया आणि रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पूना डाऊनटाऊनतर्फे 'कार्निव्हल फन फेअर'चे आयोजन केले होते.

या वेळी माजी उपमहापौर सुनीता वाडेकर, अकॅडेमियाच्या संचालिका मसरत तवावाला, सुंदरजी इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ स्पेशल स्कूलच्या मुख्याध्यापिका रश्मी शहा, रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पूना डाऊनटाऊनच्या अध्यक्ष अरुणा राठी, सुजाता मलकानी, अनिल पाटील,

अतुल कोटकर उपस्थित होते. 'कार्निव्हल फन फेअर'मध्ये विविध खेळ, झुंबा सत्र, नृत्य, ड्रम सर्कल, फूड स्टॉल आणि सर्व वयोगटातील मुलांसाठी आणि प्रौढांसाठी उपयुक्त असलेल्या शारीरिक खेळांचा समावेश होता.

जैन सोशल ग्रुप युवा फोरम पुणे डाऊनटाऊनचे अध्यक्ष कार्तिक मेहता यांनी 'जागरूकता से स्वीकृती तक' हे पथनाट्य सादर केले. सुंदरजीज ग्लोबल अकॅडेमियाच्या शिक्षकांनी कथाकथन केले. निकिता गांधी आणि उश्मा मर्चंट यांनी कार्यक्रमाचे सूत्रसंचालन केले.



ऑटिझम जनजागृतीसाठी शनिवारी कार्निव्हल फन फेअर!

पुणे : सुंदरजीज ग्लोबल अकॅडेमिया आणि रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पूना डाऊनटाऊन यांच्या सहकार्याने ऑटिझम असलेल्या व्यक्तींना मुख्य समाज प्रवाहात आणणे आणि त्यांच्या पालकांना आधार देणे या उद्देशाने शनिवार दिनांक ६ एप्रिल २०२४ रोजी सकाळी ९.३० वाजता शिवाजी गार्डन, भाऊपाटील रोड, भीमज्योत नगर गणेशखिंड, पुणे येथे जागतिक ऑटिझम जागरूकता महिन्या निमित्त कार्निव्हल फन फेअरचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे. यामध्ये खेळ, झुंबा सत्र, नृत्य, ड्रम सर्कल, फूड स्टॉल आणि सर्व वयोगटातील मुलांसाठी आणि प्रौढांसाठी उपयुक्त असलेल्या इतर शारीरिक खेळांचा समावेश आहे. हा कार्यक्रम ऑटिझम असलेल्या व्यक्ती आणि त्यांच्या कुटुंबियांना मदत करेल. कार्यक्रम सर्वांसाठी खुला आहे.

दैनिक

नियक्ष समीक्षणचे...निर्मांड दैनिक

संध्या

बुधवार, दि. ०३ एप्रिल २०२४

ऑटिझम जनजागृतीसाठी शनिवारी कार्निव्हल फन फेअरचे आयोजन

पुणे (दैनिक संध्या) : सुंदरजीज ग्लोबल अकॅडेमिया आणि रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पूना डाऊनटाऊन यांच्या सहकार्याने ऑटिझम असलेल्या व्यक्तींना मुख्य समाज प्रवाहात आणणे आणि त्यांच्या पालकांना आधार देणे या उद्देशाने शनिवार दि. ६ एप्रिल २०२४ रोजी सकाळी ९.३० वाजता शिवाजी गार्डन, भाऊपाटील रोड, भीमज्योत नगर गणेशखिंड, पुणे येथे जागतिक ऑटिझम जागरूकता महिन्यानिमित्त कार्निव्हल फन फेअरचे आयोजन करण्यात आले आहे. या मध्ये खेळ, झुंबा सत्र, नृत्य, ड्रम सर्कल, फूड स्टॉल आणि सर्व वयोगटातील मुलांसाठी आणि प्रौढांसाठी उपयुक्त असलेल्या इतर शारीरिक खेळांचा समावेश आहे. हा कार्यक्रम ऑटिझम असलेल्या व्यक्ती आणि त्यांच्या कुटुंबियांना मदत करेल. कार्यक्रम सर्वांसाठी खुला आहे. परशुराम साहेब वाडेकर, सुनीती वाडेकर, सीमा तन्वर (अध्यक्ष, भाजपा एज्युकेशन सेल), रेडिओ वनचे आर जे तरुण, रोटरी क्लब ऑफ पूना डाऊनटाऊनचे सदस्य आणि इतर अनेक मान्यवर या कार्यक्रमाला उपस्थित राहणार आहेत.

Siachen 1987---- Battle for the Frozen Frontier

The speaker for the evening, Lt. Gen. Ramesh Kulkarni transported the members of RCPD to the highest battlefield in the world and gave a rare insight into the life of the Indian soldier guarding the northern most frontiers of the country. He brought alive his command of an Infantry division and gave a view of the two of the combat operations through the eyes, not just of a committed army commander, but a human being leading his troops from the front. The narrative has been captured by his daughter Ms. Anjali Karpe, who has co-authored the book 'Siachen, 1987: Battle for the Frozen Frontier' which gives a blow-by-blow account of the important combat operations in the region. The passion of Lt. Gen. Kulkarni was palpable in the hall as he described the conditions in which the troops live in inhospitable conditions, battling not just the enemy, but the weather and tough terrains. A beautiful presentation and maps of the area highlighted what he spoke about. The conversational style between the father and daughter brought to the forefront the involvement and sacrifices made by the family as well.

Drawing a parallel to leaders in the corporate world, Lt. Gen. Kulkarni spoke not just of achieving a target (or in this case capturing a post), but being responsible for lives (often very young) and living with the decision he has made. This sentiment has been eloquently expressed in Preface of the book, "It is also about the courage to take a call knowing that every decision can spell life or death for the men who trust you and are ready to follow your directions."

Recipient of many gallantry awards including the Param Vishisht Seva Medal, the Uttam Yudh Seva Medal and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal, Lt. Gen. Kulkarni did not speak of his achievements and awards but those conferred on his officers and men. His pride was evident! He spoke of comradery between officers and their troops and between the services (the Indian Army and the Indian Airforce) and he also spoke of respect for the enemy soldier. A true patriot indeed!

R'ann Shereen Masters



From Boardrooms to Brushstrokes: A Journey of Transformation

On Thursday, 4th April, Mr. Vijay Kiyawat, an alumnus of IIT Kharagpur and retired Managing Director of Duraline India Pvt Ltd, graced us as our guest speaker. Following his corporate career, Mr. Kiyawat embarked on a new journey into the realm of painting at the age of 62, marking the beginning of his emergence in the scene of Contemporary Art.

As a self-taught artist, Mr. Kiyawat's works reflect stories, philosophies and thoughts through strong imaginary compositions, often imbued with elements of surrealism. Drawing inspiration from literature, nature studies, religion, and his global travels, his paintings exude a soft, serene and vibrant quality, earning them the endearing title of "Happy Paintings"; among admirers.

Mr. Kiyawat's paintings explore various themes such as Meditation, My Dream Garden, Jain Philosophy, Kalidasa's Ritu Sanhara and memories of Bhutan. Beyond his artistic endeavours, he demonstrates a commitment to social responsibility by donating a portion of his proceeds to both IIT Kharagpur and the Seema Foundation, aimed at uplifting underprivileged girls in villages around Kharagpur.

During his discourse, Mr. Kiyawat provided invaluable insights into the vision and thought behind each of his paintings and the profound role of art in our lives. He emphasized how creativity transcends boundaries and enriches human experiences, serving as a source of joy and fulfilment. His personal journey from the corporate world to painting exemplifies the pursuit of passion and purpose, highlighting the importance of embracing change and following one's true calling.

The evening offered a profound exploration of creativity, art and personal fulfilment. His journey from CEO to self-taught artist serves as an inspiration to all, while his contributions to both... the art world and social causes reflect his commitment to making a positive impact.



An Inspirational Evening

The weekly meeting on Thursday, 11th April, 2024 was truly an inspirational one.

The evening started with Pres. Aruna presenting a District 3131 Vocational Award Trophy to Ms. Zainab Chinikamwala. Visually impaired from birth, Ms. Zainab has never let her impairment stand in the way of her dreams. As she said, every time she heard “You can't,” she was even more determined to change that into “I can.” Working for others with a similar disability, Zainab has developed programmes and works closely in the field of Digital Literacy for the Print Disabled.

RCPD has supported her cause on various occasions and is proud of her achievements!



Zainab receiving the Award



Zainab sharing her achievements

DISTRIBUTION OF TRICYCLE SHOPS IN SHOLAPUR

This was followed by an announcement by Rtn. Gautam Idnani about the distribution of 9 Tricycle shops for the physically disabled in Sholapur by the RCPD LN4 Team. This project continues to provide an opportunity to earn a dignified living.



GIFT OF MOBILITY - INALI PROSTHETIC HANDS CAMP HELD IN MANIPAL FOR 3 DAYS.

“The gauge of a civilization lies in its treatment of its most vulnerable members.” - Mahatma Gandhi

While the entire nation was busy celebrating Holi or busy with religious rites of holy month of Ramzan, the dedicated and hardworking volunteers from Rotary Club of Manipal in association with those of Rotary Club of Poona Downtown, Inali Foundation, Nurses from Sri Vidhya College of Nursing and officers from District Rehabilitation Board, were CREATING HOPE in the hands & minds of 217 differently abled beneficiaries.

Under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Girija, the core team excelled in planning and execution. Commencing in late January, the team, comprising Rtn. Rathnaker, Rtn Ravi Karanth, Ann Pushpa Krishnan, Rtn. Farida Uppin, Rtn. Shashikala, Rtn. Subash Baugera, Rtn. Renu Jayaram, along with Dr. Girija, tirelessly worked to garner a significant response. After thorough scrutiny and pre-qualification, the 3-day camp commenced on March 24th, expecting around 280 beneficiaries. Excellent hospitality arrangements were made for the Pune team comprising of Rtn. Pradeep Munot, Rtn. Gautam, Hassan Bhai and Rtn. Rukmani (Rotary Club of Chennai Towers) and the 9 member Inali team.

As per our custom, the three-day camp began every morning with singing of the National Anthem by all volunteers & beneficiaries. The 19 volunteers from Vidya College of Nursing worked with dedication & utmost compassion. They trained (under the guidance of Hassan bhai), advised exercises & counselled the beneficiaries with patience and enthusiasm



Mallapa Rajjanar has
new feet & hands.



Grooming Independence

“The happiest people I know are those who lose themselves in the service of others.” - Gordon B. Hinckley

It's no wonder that every member of the organizing committee was truly happy and contented with this project. The spirit of camaraderie and dedication permeated every aspect of the camp, fostering an atmosphere of unity and purpose.

It was gratifying to witness the beneficiaries exuding confidence and positivity. Uthappa, age 38, joyfully declared, "I won't trouble my mom anymore to feed me. I will handle myself independently."

Mallappa Sajjanar, a beneficiary who endured the edy of losing his legs, hands and vision due to COVID, expressed gratitude to his family for their support. Despite losing many vital faculties, he remains resilient. "With these hands, I will definitely try to do a lot," he said. Mallappa, you inspire us.



Mother admires son's new hands



Daughter joyfully shakes mother's new hand

Noticing Mallappa's multiple handicaps, Rtn Pradeep contacted Dr Parikshit Gogate of Community Eye Care Foundation, Pune, and shared with him Mallappa's video and asked whether he is eligible to get 'Smart Vision Glasses' provided by Low Vision Centre of CECF. Dr Parikshit Gogate suggested to get Mallappa's eyes examined and submit the report. Dr Girija contacted her daughter Dr Neetha who is a leading ophthalmologist, arranged to send Mallappa to Manipal University Hospital and got his eye examination report in an hour or so. Dr Neetha discussed with Dr Parikshit over phone.

We hope, through Dr Parikshit's efforts, Mallappa will soon get SVG Pro. Smart Vision Glasses which convert visual input into audio output which is audible to the beneficiary through his mobile.

Another beneficiary, Guru.S.Chalavadi expressed his joy with song and dance. The camp was filled with positive energy, leaving a lasting impact on all involved.

The host team generously provided juices, snacks, and delicious meals for everyone. It was really nice to see both the beneficiaries and the young nursing students enjoying the tasty treats so much.

The project was a success with 197 fitments (including 9 bilaterals) of battery-operated Inali prosthetic hands along with 30 castings done. The diligent efforts of 2600 man-hours (approx) invested have yielded satisfactory results. I am sure all members of RCPD will feel immensely pleased. **Indeed, "We rise by lifting others!"**

Rtn. Rukmani (Rotary Club of Chennai Towers). tary Club of Chennai Towers).

**Note: We thank Rtn. Rukmani for her enthusiastic volunteering & consistent commitment as part of our team at various camps.
Rtn. Gautam & Pradeep.**

Date of Project: 24-25-26 March 2024

**Manpower: RCPD 5
Inali Foundation 9
RC Manipal 30 Approx**

No. of Beneficiaries: 188+29 castings

Cost of project: RCPD: Rs 27,070/-

Partner Club/Organization:

RC Manipal: Rs 376,000 (Approx Rs 2000 per beneficiary)

Inali Foundation: Rs 49,25,000 (Approx Rs 25000 per hand)

Sponsors : RCPD Charitable Trust.

Rtn. Gautam Idnani

Greetings On Your Special Day !



R' ann Jayshree Metha	April 8th
R'ann Mahrukh Irani	April 10th
R'ann Supriya Mitra	April 13th



Rtn Sayan & R' ann Nayna Banerjee	April 17th
-----------------------------------	------------

Programs for the Fortnight

25th April	Club Assembly By PE Rtn. Nanu and his BOD
------------	--

