

Musings On The Making
Of A Professional ... Pg.2

From The Net
Bringing Up A Child... Pg.3

Gandhian Way To Peace
Activity At THEO... Pg.4

Dear friends,

Greetings!

While we, grown-ups, always feel the right to get angry and frustrated, we seldom realise children too do so. While we justify our angry behaviour as a natural outlet of frustration or stress, when we witness such behaviour from a child, we quickly judge him or her as "ill bred" or "brat" or "spoilt". After all, children too, like us, have emotions and feelings which we many a times fail to validate. Mr. Anand's column on how to manage a child's anger was an eye opener, in this regard, as per our readers' feedback.

Great news this month is that THEO is opening a lending library for kids in June 2012. Ms.Raghini Badhrinarayanan has donated easy-to-read children's books worth Rs.5000/- A big thanks to her kind and generous heart for helping THEO open the library 'THEO Reads'.

A special thanks to Mr. S. Ganesh for helping with the layout for this issue.

- K.Monica Arogyamary
Managing Trustee

Happy Reading Happy Living

"What makes the desert beautiful", said the little prince, "is that somewhere it hides a well..."- The Little Prince

PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

This section is an attempt to familiarise personalities in the welfare field. The personality of this month is Mrs.G.Renganayaki Louis. She is the Founder & Chairperson, Muscular Dystrophy Foundation India, Madurai. A mother who lost her dearest son Adhiban to Muscular Dystrophy, she is determined to give meaning to the lives of children affected by MD.

Ms.Renganayaki, in conversation with Monica....

Madam, please tell us about yourself.....

I am Renganayaki. I did my schooling from St. Joseph's Convent, Dindigul. I graduated in Mathematics from Meenakshi College, Madurai and did my Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Applications from MK University and stood first in it. I have won numerous medals and awards in sports & NCC during school & college and did secure a 'Presidential Award' for Scouts & Guides service.

When my son was diagnosed for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), I resigned my well paid Railway job just to give him the fullest care. It took nearly 2 years to come out of the trauma and look at the positive side of life to make our child the happiest person in the world. We did so till his last breath.

What is Muscular Dystrophy?

'Muscular Dystrophy' is a muscle destroying neuromuscular disorder that is progressive and caused by defective gene/s. There are 9 major types of MD. Only one type called, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) is boy specific and terminal while the rest are common for both the sexes and severely debilitating, making a patient dependent even to drink a glass of water. This incurable genetic disorder does not affect the intellectual and sensory functions of a patient.

Tell us about Muscular Dystrophy Foundation India. What was the inspiration behind....?

In the course of searching for a cure for my son, I was running from pillar to post and had been turning every other stone possible. During one such visit to a hospital, I happened to meet two poor and illiterate families from a rural area. My interactions with them revealed their miserable condition, while making me realize that my son and my family were blessed. At least, we had the resources to cope with, people to help, but they were completely helpless. They were exploited to such an extreme that the families could not survive even beyond the life of their children. I realized that 'muscular dystrophy' was not all the more same in India. I realized that MD could also discriminate by gender, class,

