

Self-made charity drive to help Bahrain community

Call out for people to donate 'anything and everything' to help those in need

● **Throwing away any item of clothing also leads to landfill waste**

Zahra Ayaz

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Self-made charitable organisations across the Kingdom are urging the people to donate their unwanted goods to help the needy and capture the spirit of Ramadan.

A growing number of groups are appealing for anything and everything from clothes, toys, furniture, shoes, electrical goods and books.

According to The Daily Tribune compiled report, there are many families who are in need, not only during the financial crisis but also during the COVID epidemic. Many have lost their jobs, some have large families and low income, others are struggling to make ends meet, and some want their daughter to get married.

"I was in Dubai and saw a

group of 25 people doing charity work, where they were donating all kinds of used clothing, shoes, furniture, and food but they weren't taking any such funds, there was no money involved. I got inspired and I wanted to open this in Bahrain," said Lina Stahl, volunteer and owner of 'A Box Forward'.

"I wanted to do something for this nation and its citizens, whether they were Bahrainis, Africans, Pakistanis, Indians, or Bangladeshis.

"I got in touch with another charity organisation called 'Box of Goodness' a few months ago, and together we gave a lot of clothes and other little items like shoes, cutlery, diapers, and many more to Turkey and Syria.

"In order to maintain balance, a charitable organisation needs at least 5,000 volunteers to work alongside. Currently, we have 550 volunteers and I hope more people come to help. After all, for every needy person, there should be an equal number of givers."

She pointed out, apart from the fact that Ramadan is on its

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LINA STAHL, VOLUNTEER AND OWNER OF 'A BOX FORWARD'



way and our main emphasis is that, "because there are people who would need food after being the entire day without eating, 12 families reached out to me last week asking for food items. Most of them were Bahrainis, and they didn't have electricity either."

Throwing away any item of clothing increases landfill waste. If each household in the Kingdom donates only one extra bag of unwanted clothing, we could save a quarter million bags from ending up in landfill each year.

She added: "There are people here who will accept anything that satisfies their fundamental requirements, therefore I advise everyone to donate whatever they can, even stained clothing or used shoes would help.

"I just want everyone to deserve to have what a regular person should have, thus we don't accept any money or give out bank information to anyone. Reach out to us or anyone in need before dumping old items in the trash; it might just brighten their day."

Bahrain and Kuwait to bolster research, studies cooperation



Dr Al Nuaimi with Dr Al Ghunaim

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Bahrain and Kuwait have affirmed their commitment to bolstering cooperation in the field of research and studies.

This came as National Archives Centre Chairman Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi met with the Kuwait Center for Research and Studies President Dr Abdullah Yousef Al Ghunaim.

The meeting discussed cooperation between the centers, especially in preserving and

restoring documents, specialised tools required, training specialists, and the latest local and international developments.

Dr Al Nuaimi praised the Bahrain-Kuwait historical relations.

The Kuwaiti research was established in 1992 to prepare research and studies in Arabic and other foreign languages, producing important cultural and documentary materials, collecting and preserving manuscripts and documents related to the history and heritage of Kuwait.

UoB students' projects aim to protect artifacts

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The Bahrain National Museum inaugurated recently the presentations of the technological projects of the University of Bahrain (UoB) students, related to the protection of artifacts in the Kingdom.

President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA), Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Chief Executive Officer of the Labour Fund (Tamkeen), Maha Abdulhameed Mufeez, and Dean of the College of Information Technology, Dr Hessa Al Junaid, attended the event.

Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed stressed that the cultural sector must keep pace with technological developments in order to continue providing a distinctive experience to its audience, affirming that

BACA and the museums of the Kingdom are always striving to develop their facilities and update their programmes with modern technologies in order to create a unique and distinctive museum experience for the citizens, residents and visitors of Bahrain.

He also praised the ongoing cooperation between BACA, Tamkeen and the UoB, which resulted in the UoB's technological projects aimed at providing more protection for the kingdom's civilisational heritage.

Tamkeen chief commended the students' presentations, including the application of innovative concepts and the latest technologies such as Augmented Reality and artificial intelligence, through the Cloud Innovation Center (CIC) of Amazon Web Services (AWS).

Filipino beach clean-up campaign successful



Filipino Badminton League Bahrain members and officials with Philippine Embassy officers and participants at the event

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Around 30 bags were collected during a Beach Clean-Up Drive organised by the Filipino Badminton League (FBL) Bahrain at Al Najma in Juffair on 10

February. The event was attended by Consul Jess Bryan Baguio and Vice Consul Blitz Sumagaysay of the Philippine Embassy and Mr Yusuf Lori, the Director of Information and Follow-up of the Capital Governorate.

According to Christian Martizano, FBL President, the clean-up activity is under the patronage of the Capital Governorate and part of the City Healthy Program, in cooperation with the Good Cause Bahrain and the Philip-

pine Embassy.

It was attended by 40 volunteers in conjunction with FBL's third year anniversary and contribution to the Healthy City Program of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

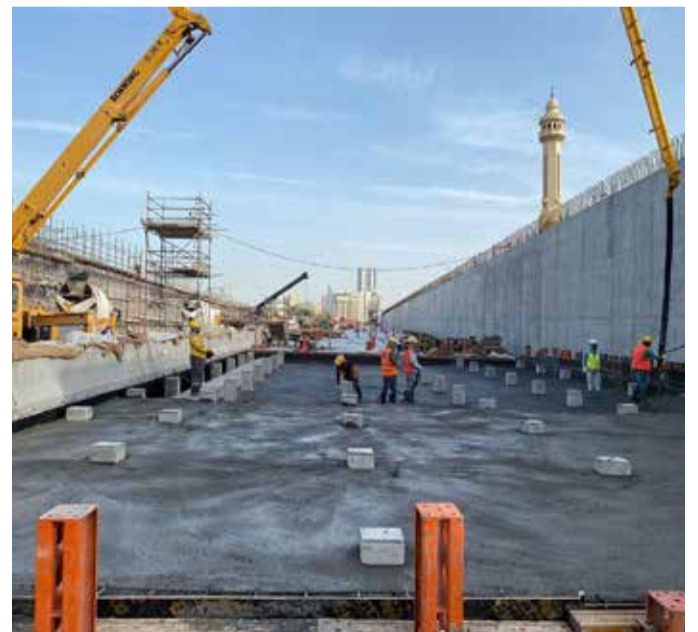
Fil-Am group new officers take oath



Philippine Embassy Charge d' Affaires, a.i. Anne Jalando-on, has administered the oath of office for the new set of officers of the Filipino American (Fil-Am) Association of Bahrain for 2023. The event was held during the group's Bahrain Valentine Ball and Induction of Officers 2023, which was held at the Crown Plaza Hotel on February 10. The new officers are the following: President, Orlando "Fonti" Fontanilla; Vice President Internal, Joselito Sarmiento; Vice President External, Ricardo Advincula; Secretary, Reigna Gumiran; Treasurer, Romeo Antonio Tagulao; Operations Director (Events & Planning), Rey Giron and Public Affairs Officer, Lorenzo Samson.



Road project in full swing



The Al Fateh Street development project has reached 56% completion rate. Works Minister Eng. Ibrahim bin Hassan Al Hawaj said that it is one of the government's important strategic projects that would provide an infrastructure of high standards and quality compatible with the Kingdom's sustainable economic growth. The street connects the intersection of Mina Salman and the northern Manama bridge that connects to the Gulf of Bahrain. The Ministry is currently carrying out the main works of the tunnel.