

Uygur restaurateur's kind heart serves up platter of generosity

Han Rui and Li Xinran

ON a late autumn night, a tall, thin Uygur man was busy roasting fragrant lamb skewers on a charcoal fire in Jiangqiao Town.

Since it was opened in 2017, the "Xinjiang lamb skewers" restaurant has gained fame among customers, some of whom even travel a long way for a skewer.

Salamu Muhammad, 37, is the owner of the restaurant. He comes from Aksu Prefecture, in southwest Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which borders the Kyrgyz Republic.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19, Muhammad has donated food worth 50,000 yuan (US\$7,843) to the local communities and vaccination sites.

Last month, he received a banner from Jiangqiao Town with gratitude for his donations to the medical staff fighting in the front line of pandemic control and prevention.

He has also air-freighted fruit from his hometown and gives them to the elderly people in a nearby nursing home every year since 2017.

When Henan suffered torrential rain and inundation, Muhammad took the initiative to donate 30,000 yuan to the affected people.

"My success in Shanghai is inseparable from the help of kind people and local government since I arrived in Shanghai in 2011," he said.

Muhammad left Xinjiang with his uncle to look for

opportunities in Shanghai. He came to Jiading and set up a stall in the food street in 2011.

However, he received the bad news that his father had a brain tumor. During his father's hospitalization in Urumqi, experts from Shanghai went to Xinjiang to treat him, and many unknown people also helped his family.

All these made Muhammad feel the warmth of society.

Therefore, when his business gets better, he wants to give back to the society.

Also, Muhammad supports Jiao Shaoyan, a student in Guizhou Province, to continue schooling last year. The child studied well, but his father died and his mother

was seriously ill. He has an old grandmother at home who lives on the government's subsistence allowance.

Jiao wrote to Muhammad that he would study hard and hoped to join Muhammad's chivalrous deed to help more people in the future.

Muhammad has donated more than 70,000 yuan to 15 orphans in his hometown that is 5,000 kilometers away.

Muhammad regularly donates to soldiers defending the border in his hometown, police keeping the peace, medical staff in the front line, families with difficulties and the elderly.

"I came from a poor background. I want to do my career well first and try my best to help others," said him.

Seal-cutting wins culture accolade for students

Yu Chao and Yuan Luhang

FANGTAI Primary School in Anting Town was recently honored a traditional Chinese culture model school for its seal-cutting education.

It is one of 55 Shanghai schools bestowed with the award.

The primary school has been promoting seal-cutting among teachers and students since 2005. It schedules at least one seal-cutting class for each grade, and new teachers also have to learn the craft for at least six months.

Each grade's class is tailored according to students' characteristics. Every student and teacher is guided to finish the seal-cutting work on their own.

"I hope students can feel the profound traditional Chinese culture while learning seal-cutting skills," said school principal Yao Zhong.

"Before the students start, I inform them about the history and meaning of the Chinese character they are going to cut, and this is key to designing the layout," said Jiang Shanshan, a seal-cutting teacher.

Students at the school like the special class.

"Learning seal-cutting can not only help us gain knowledge about Chinese characters but also improve our patience," said Lei Jiexin, a fourth grader.

So far, the school has two special classrooms for seal-cutting and one office for seal-cutting teachers. Also, the school sets aside one exhibition room to showcase the works of famous seal-cutting masters and good works from teachers and students.

In 2019, Jiading Alliance of Calligraphy and Seal Cutting was established in the school, incorporating Fangtai Kindergarten and Fangtai Secondary School to promote the traditional Chinese culture.

Hospital ticked to handle atrial fibrillation

Sun Guanyin and Tom Qian

NANXIANG Hospital has been included in the fourth batch of grassroots hospitals approved by China Atrial Fibrillation Center.

It's the first grassroots atrial fibrillation center to be set up in Jiading District.

Atrial fibrillation is a disease characterized by an abnormal heartbeat which affects about 10 million Chinese.

An invisible killer, atrial fibrillation increases the risk of stroke by a multiple of five times, and nearly 20 percent of strokes are related to it. It leads to a high rate of disability, mortality and recurrence of cerebral infarction.

The establishment of a primary atrial fibrillation center in Nanxiang Hospital is conducive to early detection and treatment of patients. At the same time, relying on the hierarchical diagnosis and treatment system, patients with high-risk atrial fibrillation factors can be promptly transferred to a higher-level hospital once they are diagnosed.

The atrial fibrillation center can receive patients from the outpatient and emergency of the hospital and from five community health service centers in Nanxiang, Malu, Jiangqiao and Jiading Industrial Zone.

Also, an outpatient clinic for atrial fibrillation will be opened so that patients with the disease can get more professional answers and treatment.



• Running for gold despite the cold

Despite the cold weather, children from Baiyin Road Kindergarten enjoy playing football during the launch of the Football Culture Festival on December 17. Other activities include long-scroll paintings about sports and a football carnival. — Ye Danlei

Local residents embrace greenery

Yu Chao and Li Xinran

ELEVEN beautiful balconies and 12 most beautiful neighborhoods have been chosen in the 7th citizen greenery festival of Jiading District.

"Tropical plants are difficult to cultivate in Shanghai, so we should invest more efforts and time," said Cheng Yu, winner of the Beautiful Balcony Design and Layout Competition in Nanxiang Town, earlier this month.

On her balcony of about 18 square meters, more than two-thirds of the area was surrounded by green. Nearly 100 different varieties of tropical and subtropical plants form a micro "tropical rain forest."

Cheng noted that she spent more than

two years taking care of the balcony.

At first, she just bought a few pots of plants to decorate it. Unexpectedly, later, she was involved deeper and deeper.

She not only bought a temperature and humidity meter, but also a spotlight and humidifier to ensure that the illumination of the balcony is between 5,000 and 10,000 luminances, the humidity is 70 to 90 percent and the temperature is above 20 degrees Celsius all year round.

"The greening environment is very beautiful, so I am willing to invest more strength," she said.

The Jiading greenery and sanitation bureau hopes that through such activities, residents will have more green space.

Now many neighborhoods in Jiading have made use of previously abandoned space to make the neighborhood look new.

Xiaonanqiao neighborhood in Jiading Town was rated as one of the "most beautiful neighborhoods."

It is a typical old neighborhood with low greenery coverage. This summer, an abandoned area received a facelift.

It is now decorated with more than 200 pots of flowers and plants, such as hydrangea, flamingo flowers and aloe, and with a bonsai placement rack set up for the convenience of residents.

A new footpath was also paved, which was highly praised by residents.