

# Volunteers help build a better Jiading

## Staff Reporters

In recent years, a great number of volunteers in Jiading District have implemented a spirit of "devotion, friendship, mutual aid and progress" through their benevolent actions.

### 'Living maps' at bus station

It is freezing outside at this time of the year, but nothing can stop the traffic volunteers Yao Fengjin and Li Liping from Jiangqiao Town from doing their duties. They always show up at the bus station of Cao'an Road and Jinyuan No. 5 Road in red jackets and volunteer hats, maintaining the order of the station and showing the ways for the passengers. They are called the "living maps" by many regular com-

muters at the station.

Both Yao and Li have already passed 50. It's not an easy job, although they only serve four hours a day, especially as there is no shelter at the station to hide from the rain and the sun. On the first day of last summer, Li got heat-stroke, but she still returned to her position after simple treatment.

### Hospital volunteer workers

In Jiading Central Hospital there is also such a team — they wear blue jackets with smiley faces. They help the patients to fill records, guide their ways, help them finish body examinations and take medicine. Although they are at different ages with different jobs, they share one common name — volunteer workers.

In August 2010, the Jiading Central Hospital established the volunteer work station, and for the past one year there were over 600 people joining the team. They serve the patients in their spare time, which is highly praised by the patients and their family members.

Zhu Jie, a student of Shanghai Institute of Health Service majoring clinical medicine, was one of the hospital's first volunteer workers and has served in the hospital for more than 160 hours. He is often seen pushing patients in wheelchairs to receive diagnosis and chatting patiently with the patients when they get annoyed from waiting in the long queues.

One day, Zhu found an old lady was all of a tremble with pale face.

He rushed her to a doctor to get help. Since the woman was alone, he also assisted her during the examination, paying the bill and collecting her medicine.

### Warm-hearted 'meddlers'

Many people call Lu Yueqin and her husband living in Huating Town "meddlers," but it is not a taunt. Instead it is an honor given to the warm-hearted retired couple. "We just do some little things that we should do," they said.

One day at nightfall, Lu suddenly saw smoke coming from her neighbor's kitchen. She called the firefighters immediately and the fire was put out soon. "A far relative is not as helpful as a near neighbor," her neighbor said with emotion.

## Migrant workers take an active role in kids' schooling

### Guan Wenfei and Qian Tong

ALL schools for the children of migrant workers in Jiading District have set up "Parent Committees" since last year. The committee members show great enthusiasm in the management of schools.

The new parent committees of Qingning Primary School in Jiangqiao Town joined the management of the school actively. They asked to raise the quality of food and expand the greenery, and the school authority accepted the proposals accordingly.

To take better care of the kids, the committees have set up online discussion groups to deal with various problems the kids tend to meet. They have also organized a team to escort little children to and from school.

Communication changes the attitude of parents.

Not long ago, two students from Yuhong Primary School of Xuhang Town skipped school to play video games in an Internet bar, while their parents were too busy to take care of them. Fan Yanchun, a parents' committee member, succeeded in persuading them to spend more time on their kids, and thus helped the kids get back to their studies.

"Some parents pay little attention to their children's studies, so we have to make efforts to raise their awareness," Fan said. Every Friday, the parents' committee members would meet to exchange their kids' progress at school. In addition, the school set up a parents' hotline to bridge the communication between parents and teachers.

Parents need to improve their education level.

"Currently most parents of our school cannot have good communications with teachers due to their low education levels," said Yin Jianfeng, headmaster of Yuhong Primary.



## Berry delicious

A farmer packages organic Zhangji strawberries in Nanxiang Town. The daily output of Zhangji strawberries, which hit the market in mid January, is about 200 kilograms. People can also go to Nanxiang to pick strawberries.  
— Li Huacheng

## Building a community of helping angels

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CHARITY activities under the "Greatest Love under the Blue Sky" banner were organized throughout the city from November 21 last year to January 7, and Jiading residents took part in the campaign actively.

Ninety-year-old retired official Li Shengdou donated 1,000 yuan (US\$159) at Xinyu Community to aid children living in poor mountainous areas. "It's getting cold and kids in mountainous areas need clothes and quilts to keep warm," Li said.

Li's wife also donated 200 yuan. Li's son, who used to take care of them, has fallen ill badly recently, and the family is in need of money. Neighbors advised Li to hire an *ayi* to help them, but they insisted on doing their own domestic chores. "Every penny we saved can be used for those who need it more," Li said.

The donations given by Li and his wife have moved a lot of residents.

New immigrants in Jiading also gave a hand to assist those who need help. In Jiading Industrial Zone, more than 3,000 yuan in donations were collected within

an hour. Chen Guiqiu from southeastern Fujian Province is an Internet cafe owner in Zhuqiao area. He was the first to donate, giving 500 yuan. "As a newcomer in Jiading, I got support from the local people, and now I have a chance to help others," Chen said.

Neighborly love warms people's hearts. In Jiabin Community of Juyuan New Area, many residents came to the neighborhood community to make donations, but left no personal information. Some only said: "I simply do good, please don't ask my name."

## News in Briefs

### Highway tolls abolished

TOLLS on the Shanghai-Jiading Expressway, the first fee-based roadway on the Chinese mainland, were abolished at the start of January. Since then traffic on the S5 Expressway has increased nearly 20 percent. No major traffic jams have been reported.

### Budget houses in Yunxiang

CONSTRUCTION of budget houses in Yunxiang Residential Area kicked off recently. The project is expected to be completed in the first half of 2014. A total of 869,000 square meters of budget houses will start construction in Jiading this year, mainly in the Yunxiang

Residential Area and north of downtown Jiading.

### Women's social work office

JIADING District will set up a women's social work office this year to provide better assistance to women and children. Caring for menopausal women and premarital examinations are two main programs of the office. The service networks at the district, township and village levels will also be formed to make sure the rights of women and children are well protected.

### Scientific hall opens at a school

A scientific and creative hall has opened

to the public at Waigang Middle School. It is the first popular science and technology hall in Jiading District. The hall features six areas where the students can learn about science and make models as well as get information about traditional Chinese medicine.

### Record welfare lottery sales

WELFARE lottery sales in Jiading District hit a record high of 180 million yuan (US\$28.44 million) last year, up 30 percent from the previous year. The increased sales helped collect 11.09 million yuan in public welfare funds last year, which was 2.75 million yuan more than 2010.