#### JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER

#### **184th EDITION**

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#### **NEWSLETTER TEAM :**

Ankur Sharma Bishnu Phuyal Sarana Parajuli Binod Dhungel

For birthday announcements, articles, success stories, quotations, poems, write to us at info@nepaliamericancenter .org



Chicago Chautari Times

VOLUME 16, ISSUE 4

#### JULY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to Chicago Chautari Times - 184th Edition



## A Short Note on Hindu Traits

Socially and culturally, followers of Hinduism vary in their views on practicing religion and the ultimate meaning of God. The tenets of Hindu belief encompass a broad range of thoughts to realize God. First, unlike many other monotheistic religions, there is no single doctrine that everyone must follow. As a result, the common view among Hindus is not a single exclusive path on how they should worship God. Secondly, a common principle in their character on how to live a life lies in the premise that conduct is superior to belief, as put forth by S. Radha-krishnan. Thirdly, a universal acceptance common to all Hindus is that the attributes of one's creator are solely a personal matter based on one's own experience. It is deeply ingrained in them that there is no need for a common single route to realize or reach God. In this regard, their view is very eclectic and democratic, allowing individuals to decide for themselves. This liberal view allows for continuous progress in arriving at a better understanding closer to the ultimate Truth through their own efforts and by observing how others conduct themselves, not through the imposition of certain ideas by others.

Hindu beliefs range from pantheism to agnosticism (non-theistic Buddhism) to atheism (Jainism). This variety in personal belief (including equality between men and women) provides Hindus with personal freedom and fosters strength in them to tolerate and accept others' views. This flexibility allows them to amend or improve their own opinions regarding the Ultimate Truth. According to S. Radhakrishnan, Shashi Tharoor, Mahatma Gandhi,

Rabindranath Tagore, Swami Vivekananda, and others, interpretations of tolerance and acceptance that allow for differing views foster a respectful and loving character. This potent fact has often become a matter of ridicule for many followers of monotheism, even to the present day.

History shows us that Hindus have sustained many serious assaults over time. Nonetheless, Hindus have survived all kinds of assaults and continue to thrive in the hearts of their followers, regardless of the many different deities they believe in, follow, and worship. Their expression of respect for others, whether consciously or unconsciously, demonstrates that they have never undermined others' opinions, allowing individuals to follow any kind of belief they are drawn to. - **Dr. Bishnu Phuyal (Continued on page 7)** 

# NAC Temple Fund— June '24 Summary

Thank you for attending June 2024 Monthly Puja, and for your generous contribution. Thanks to our sponsors, and our devotees, your presence, devotion and your contributions make it possible for us to give continuity to our regular Monthly Puja and Gathering. Here is the summary of our collection from June puja.

Total Collection (Cash and Zelle) -\$810 Total Expense : \$300 Temple - \$225 | Priest - \$75



### A Goal to Remember

The soccer game had started. I was the one of the not-so-good players on the team. Our best player already had scored a goal. Anyway, I'm Rocky the Monkey. "Rocky!" shouted the coach. "Off the bench, you're up!" I had to stop a guy on the other team, who was wearing a bandana. He was running across the field. I had to stop him, but I tripped and fell. I heard laughter and voices saying "Broken ankles, Broken ankles!". My coach took me out, and I was

benched for rest of the game.

I practiced and practiced and practiced on Monday by myself, and with my soccer team on Tuesday. I practiced more with my brother and dad on Wednesday. Thursday was my resting day, and Friday I practiced myself. On Saturday, I got ready and my dad drove to the game and said, "You will do great".

Most of the time, I was on the bench and watched. Then my coach said I was up, and it was the last 5 minutes of the game. I saw the best player on our team was benched with all the good players. It was me as midfield and five other really not good players. When I saw the best player of the opponent team, something lit up inside me. I stole the ball and ran with it and dodged each and every player on the opposing team and shot it at the goal. It was quiet, my eyes were closed, and finally people were cheering and clapping. When I opened my eyes, I had done it. I scored a goal. By that time, referee blew the whistle and we won. <u>WE WON.</u>

So, we lined up and gave everyone high fives. When I told my dad I scored a goal, He got SUPER EXCITED and took me out for ice cream on Sunday and even bought me the new Banana 5 gaming set! So, I guess that goal was a goal to remember! - Namin Pant



## Importance of Education in our Life

Education is super important in our lives for many reasons. First, it helps us learn about the world around us. When we go to school, we get to learn about different subjects like math, science, history, and language arts. This knowledge helps us understand how things work, why they happen, and how people have lived in the past. Knowing these things makes us smarter and more aware of the world we live in.

Another reason education is important is that it helps us develop and improve our skills we need for the future. Reading and writing in language arts help us communicate better and improves our writing skills. These skills are not only useful for school but also for when we grow up and have jobs.

Speaking of jobs, education is important for getting a good job. Without Education, we won't get a job. When we grow up, we need to work hard to earn money to buy things we need like food, clothes, and a house. Most good jobs require us to have a good education.

Education also helps us become better people. When we go to school, we meet lots of different people and learn how to get along with them. We learn about other cultures and perspectives, which makes us more understanding and respectful of others. Education teaches us about right and wrong, and how to be responsible and kind.

Lastly, education is important because it helps us achieve our dreams. Everyone has something they want to do or be when they grow up. It gives you the knowledge and skills you need to succeed in life.

In conclusion, education is important because it helps us learn about the world, develop important skills, get good jobs, become better people, and achieve our dreams. That's why we go to school and study hard, even if it's sometimes challenging. Education is the foundation for a bright and successful future. - **Sanvi Yadav** 

# Best Wishes to our Birthday Stars



July 3rd -Nisha Pant



July 13th -Rajnish Yadav



July 22nd -Syon Gautam



July 23rd -Deeya Phuyal



July 28th -Anjali Das

July 13th - Prayaan Acharya

Submit your birthday Information with the pictures by via email to info@nepaliamericancenter.org by 20<sup>th</sup> of the month, to be included in our next edition.



## DOGS

Namaste my name is Riya Phuyal. Have you ever owned a pet before? If you haven't then I know the perfect pet to get! A dog! Dogs are playful pets, so they will keep you active and not get bored. If you don't like playful pets, then you can get a dog that is not playful. Some dogs are helpful because they help people that are

blind. Dogs can tell people if there is danger. Now let me tell you that dogs are not that hard to take care of. All you need to do is walk them outside, so they get fresh air, use the bathroom, and just give them food! Dogs are like people because they use the bathroom like us, eat like us, and play like us!

If you get a dog at a young age, you will be more responsible and know how to take care of yourself and a baby. A lot of dogs don't have homes and some dogs live in the wild. Sense some dogs live in the wild they might not have any food to eat even though some dogs live in a shelter home to get taken care of they still are sad because no one wants them. Also, dogs that live in the wild can die because of hunger and some dogs live on the road, so they might get run over by a car. As you can see you should adopt a dog! - **Riya Phuyal** 

## Mirror - Art by Aawahni KC





# The laughter silenced

In the heart of a small town, where traditions held sway, there lived a girl whose laughter rang out with boundless glee, a testament to the joy that filled her soul, her laughter echoed through the halls,

a joyful symphony that dared to challenge the constraints of societal expectations, Yet, the whispers grew,

"Hush, dear child, your laughter is too loud, for a girl's voice should be soft and demure, lest you draw unwanted attention and scorn." The girl's eyes widened, her heart sinking, as she realized that her exuberance, her very essence, was deemed unsuitable, a transgression against the unwritten rules, Her mother's gaze, though filled with pride, held a subtle warning, a silent plea to conform, for the world was not yet ready to embrace a girl who dared to laugh without restraint.

- Krisha Pandey

#### Fire

passion-filled flames tinker atop a bed of unwavering timber

how could it be walked upon if this security burns one, even if this fire is weak and wan? for it could not be outrun, even from the most desperate cry or con



and every time it is washed out growing, divinity furthermore prevailing through the deadliest of drought stronger than ever, and before

- Aishani KC



## **All about Purdue University**

Hello, My name is Deeya Phuyal, and my dream is to go to Purdue University. Since I was 5, I've been wanting to become an Interior Designer, but also a Software Engineer, just like my dad. My dream is to one day go to Purdue for Software Engineering as my major and have Interior Design as my minor. Purdue University would definitely be the

place for that, so please, enjoy my article about Purdue University. Purdue University is located in West Lafayette, Indiana. It started way back in 1869, so it's pretty old! Purdue is known for its engineering and technology programs; it's one of the most competitive colleges for it. The campus has big fields and lots of buildings where students study and live. People at Purdue like sports, especially volleyball, basketball and football, that's what they're best at, and there are games that students can go to cheer for the Boilermakers. Overall, Purdue University is a cool place where students can learn a lot and have fun too!



**Newa Picnic** 

I went to the Newa Picnic. We had so much fun. We had pizza and hotdogs and many more food. There was water and coke and juices. We played at the park and also at splash pad . Because the park was so big we played a lot. We also played bingo and raffles. We did a jumping race. There was a beach and a lake. The lake was very beautiful. Overall, I had my best day at the picnic!!!

- Avah Shrestha

Purdue University is known for its strong focus on science, tech-

nology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. For kids who love experimenting and discovering how things work, Purdue is like a huge field, but of ideas. They have top of the line labs and facilities where students and professors work together to solve real-world problems. Whether it's building robots or studying outer space, Purdue encourages the chance of curiosity and hands-on learning.

Besides STEM, Purdue also has an interesting history and traditions that make it special. Did you know that Purdue has a famous rivalry with Indiana University? It's called the Old Oaken Bucket game, and it's a big deal! The Old Oaken Bucket is a traveling trophy that dates back to 1891, and Purdue and IU play college football to see who gets the trophy. Currently, Purdue is winning with 77-42-6, and I hope we keep it that way.

One thing I think is inspiring about Purdue is its commitment to research and innovation. They have amazing programs where students can work with professors on extremely impressive, groundbreaking projects. Imagine being a kid and helping invent something that could change the world! Purdue gives those kinds of opportunities to all of their students, which is pretty amazing.

Another cool thing about Purdue is its diverse community. People from all over the world come to study and teach here, so you get to meet all kinds of interesting people. And, they have tons of available resources to help students succeed, like tutoring and advising. It's like having a big support system cheering you on every step of the way, it really seems to be what keeps you going.

In conclusion, Purdue University isn't just a school—it's a place where dreams come true. Whether you're interested in Engineering, Football, or just making new friends, Purdue has something for everyone. It's a place where learning is exciting, and possibilities are completely endless; you always have another exciting adventure that awaits you. Hopefully, one day I'll be a Boilermaker too, helping to shape the future at Purdue University, I sure would be a lucky one.

Deeya Phuyal



#### A new family in Cleveland

All the folks of Cleveland started to meet with each other although there were hardships with the community, they put back their hardships for the new coming Vyktor from Ukraine. The Russian president had recently staged war in Ukraine making global economies poor, which made his family poor. This forced many Ukrainians to come to America. This time all the folks had set for Toledo which was almost a two-hour drive to the west. Although their car had broken down many

times, they still reached Toledo with Vyktor standing outside of the Toledo airport they had been traveling to. The folks had been expecting Vyktor to be a young teenager, but Vyktor was actually a nine-year-old with bruises and blood on him. Same with his parents. It had turned out that the Russian government had strictly put a curfew in Ukraine. Vyktor and his family had been found outside way beyond their curfew and were beaten and tormented. Vyktor had shared his story of how the Russian special ops were on the brink to track down and assassinate his family. This had forced Vyktor and his family to come to the U.S. That night when Vyktor was invited to stay at Kim's apartment, he thought about why the Russian government wanted Ukraine.

"Why would Russia do this to us? This feels like paradise, but I still miss home." The next morning, the folks in Cleveland gave a tour of the community garden. Vyktor remembered his old garden in Ukraine. "Did the Russians burn it? Did they save it for their own good?" As a million was the exact kind of experience Vyktor had experienced, but a lot of ideas were making the pondered Vyktor, a sudden "BANG" had been enough to get Vyktor out of his mental world. The bang was from a person. And it looked like he had shot a person to the point of no return. This is worse than that. The police sirens started wailing like an air raid siren being sounded. "This is a lot like Ukraine. The gun-

shots, the sirens wailing, the world is violent!" pondered Vyktor who now had started crying. All of this violence had affected Vyktor. That night he felt depressed as a person mourning for the loss of their family. "Nothing can be done to stop the world." Kim came into his room and saw him. Kim went in to assure him. "You know, this was the exact same feeling I had when my father passed away." Vyktor was affected by the news. He had never looked out for other people. The next day his parents had a surprise. His parents had gotten a loan and an apartment, along with a new car. "Maybe America isn't this bad," Vyktor pondered.

#### NOTES

Birthday Stars July 1st -Binita Adhikari

**Best Wishes to our** 



July 29th -Aawahni KC



## Best Wishes to our Birthday Stars

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This story is based on a true person who was forced out of the country of Ukraine. His name is also Vyktor whom I'm friends with. If you all know about the Russian-Ukrainian war that had recently happened, it's because of some political disagreements and arguments. The political disagreements is really the topic I was focusing on because, really, the political disagreements caused war to start without any notice. This goes to show that violence really doesn't matter. My friend Vyktor overcame this violence. I wouldn't even be bothered to leave Ukraine, but the bravery and act really showed how determined he was at the time. He came to the U.S on the second day of the Russian Ukrainian war. This really inspired me to write about the hardships and tough times people need to overcome. This story is a bit of fiction like Vyktor really never got bruises or any blood on him. **- Rasik Panta** 

#### PAGE 6



# THE GAME (Continued from June)



#### CHARACTERS OF THE GAME

"What do you mean after her?" Annabelle asked.

"He wants me dead," Prisha said.

"No, he doesn't," Annabelle said.

"What do you mean he doesn't? I defied his every word and more" Prisha asked.

"Just think about it, Karalis is evil, not dumb. If you and Lexi were the closest, he had gotten to reaching another world, what good would it do if you were dead?" Naman clarified.

"None. So, what does he want?" Prisha asked.

"Have you ever thought of power abuse? He is the king of a whole world after all. If he has the power, why would he not?" Annabelle asked.

Prisha and Lexi had betrayed a king, one that was renowned for his smart strategies. If he did something bad everyone on the planet would turn on him but if somebody did something bad to him, they would turn on the other person. Everyone thought that the king was like a gift. When he started a monarchy, the Marine World had advanced a lot. Due to these advancements some people had started a rumor that he was a land animal. Naman had learned about these rumors soon after he was given a task to imprison his current friends. He was told that he just had to bring her to them, and he would get anything he wanted, and they meant *anything*. Sadly, for the king, 9-year-olds aren't very good at searching different worlds for two criminals from a different world. After this conversation they had decided to meet Lexi the next day and discuss what the king might want and to what extent he'll go to get it. Little did they know Micheal and Zoe had heard their conversation and learned that there was another person stuck there.

"Why would they hide that?" Zoe asked.

"They probably don't trust us," Micheal said.

"And why would they trust Annabelle?" Zoe asked.

"Remember when Annabelle and Prisha were exploring together, that's probably when they found that other person," Micheal said.

"Lexi"

"Whatever her name was, Prisha and Naman already knew this person," Micheal said.

"Your power is being smart and you're the least smart here" Zoe stated.

"Our 'powers' aren't powers at all there just enhancements of things we could already do other than Prisha and Annabelle." "Annabelle's is because she is good at swimming, she was in the swim team. But why can Prisha talk to animals?" Zoe asked.

## Prisha Parajuli ( To be Continued...)

## **Editorial Continued**

Despite this, history also shows the intolerance waged against people of other beliefs by followers of almost all monotheistic religions. Wars and genocides have occurred many times in attempts to wipe out weaker groups based on strength or economy. Unfortunately, this intolerance still persists in modern times, and tensions flare every now and then. Historically, weaker or stronger groups have taken turns fighting back against the atrocities born of ignorance.

There have hardly been any mass assaults or attacks by followers of Hinduism against their own sects or followers of monotheistic religions, except for certain self-protection efforts to defend themselves from others' assaults. Instead, they have welcomed and listened with compassion and curiosity to others' explanations of their realization of the Ultimate Truth. Thus, the core belief of Hindus is Truth Realization, and the path to it is a very personal journey. Any path based on inner experience from penance and practice will lead toward the same Truth. Therefore, adhering to a single opinion is contrary to the acceptance of divinity, which cannot be confined to one particular experience, interpretation, or following.

This broad range of experiences and practices is the reason why there are numerous scriptures and holy books in the pan-Hindu belief system. These texts are attempts to describe the Unknown and Infinite based on the experiences of sages from the distant past to the present. As per Shashi Tharoor, "the eternal wisdom of the ages and of divinity cannot be confined to a single sacred book." In the Tao Te Ching, Lao Tzu often employs paradoxical language and seemingly contradictory statements to convey deeper truths about the nature of the world and human existence. These paradoxes are designed to challenge conventional thinking and encourage readers to look beyond dualistic modes of understanding. Similarly, the Kena Upanishad, written much earlier, attempts to define divinity with the phrase, "It is not understood by those who understand it; it is understood by those who do not understand it."

The lack of a single sacred book, like the Bible for Christianity or the Quran for Islam, can make it difficult for novice followers to navigate the numerous Hindu scriptures, some of which may even appear contradictory. This view arises mainly in non-Hindus who interpret the texts literally, becoming perplexed by the many and sometimes very different ideas expressed in Hindu scriptures. Ordinary people need proper guidance to see a clear path for practicing their religion. Their interpretation is often limited to understanding what one thing a person should do to live well. Therefore, it is harder for a person to regulate their religious life amidst the confusion arising from the multitude of interpretations. Because of this emphasis on guidance, the Hindu tradition emphasizes finding a capable "guru" who has experienced such a path and can provide proper guidance to the new seeker.

On the surface, these are very convincing arguments. But all these arguments need very careful observation, critical thinking and deeper understanding. Such arguments have **led** to very wrong effects on human minds and given rise to rule **of** might rather than compassion. Correct and truthful understanding demands any so-called intellectual to go beyond the plane of logic first to the plane of intuition why a particular way only is right and not any other? Then an individual must find the fact on his own experience of the inner Truth guided by inner observation and explanation. Such a wide view will prevent confining the Infinite and Unknown into a finite and discreet.

These profound assertions stem from the single narrative of 'Him who is the One Real, sages name variously - एक

सद् विप्रा बहुधा वदन्ति', understood by those capable of discerning the nuances in expressions from the long history of seers. The conclusion drawn is that Truth cannot be encapsulated by words, which are only designed to describe known and objectified facts. Absolute Truth, being unknown, eludes any attempt to be described with words. All discussions and explanations thus remain mere conjectures—an attempt by seers, through their purified minds and glimpses of reality attained through penance, to describe the experience of Truth beyond the veil of manifestations surrounding us. Their preachings were tailored to suit the conditions of their time and the recipients of their wisdom. Hence, Hindu scriptures exhibit a variety, sometimes appearing contradictory superficially, yet fundamentally coherent. (Continued on next page) - Dr. Bishnu Phuyal

## **Editorial Continued**

The complex ideas within these scriptures trace back to a single concept: the one true reality. However, this truth cannot be articulated by words, which are crafted solely to describe known facts. The absolute Truth remains unknown, leaving us without words to describe anything that is Unknown. All discussions and explanations attempt to convey the experiences of seers who, through meditation, glimpsed reality beyond the veil of the everyday world. Their teachings were tailored to suit the conditions of their time and the needs of their audience. Thus, Hindus possess a variety of scriptures that may occasionally appear contradictory, but in essence, they are not. It must therefore be understood that all these writings/teachings are mere attempts to describe the Unknown to all of us. Therefore, we must continue to strive to reach closer to that Truth however we can or whichever path we choose with the sole mind that it is only possible to go towards the Perfection, but human cannot ever reach or achieve It no matter what others try to say or preach. We must therefore continue to communicate this simple reality to everyone with love and compassion to make everyone including the followers of the Hindu belief system. Peace and Progress are inherent humans' rights and tolreance and acceptance of other views is the right path to let everyone experience and refine their own ideas.—**Dr. Bishnu Phuyal** 

S. Radhakrishnan – The Hindu View of Life Sadguru and Arundhati Subramaniam – Adiyogi Gandhi – All Men are Brothers. Shashi Tharoor – Why I am a Hindu Rabindranath Tagore – Sadhana Swami Vivekananda – Raja Yoga Henry Wei - The Guiding Light of Lao Tzu



## **Importance of a High School Job**

There are many reasons to why a high school job is important, which are mentioned below.

Firstly, getting a high school job is important because you make money. Making money in high school is important because it teaches you the value of money, and it can foster a good work ethic. The way making money in high school teaches you the value of money is because they will be more aware of spending and saving, and they will learn responsibility, and financial independence. The way making

money in high school can foster good work ethics is because they can learn that the harder they work and the better they do, the better reward they will get.

Secondly, getting a high school job is important is because it helps with career exploration. Career exploration in high school is important because the career you pick is gonna be a part of your life forever and because it will be a part of your life forever you have to make sure that you enjoy it and you are able to do it. So in high school when you are looking for jobs, it is a very great opportunity to find out which occupations are fairly suited for you.

Another reason on why getting a job in high school is important is because you learn valuable life skills. Learning valuable life skills in high school is important because you are about to be an adult so you need to be more mature and knowledgeable. The way how a high school job will teach you valuable life skills is because you might have to do new things you have never done and you can learn from that. It is also the most responsibility you will ever have so you will learn from that as well.

My last reason on why getting a job in high school is important is because you can meet new people. Meeting new people in high school is important because you could meet new friends that you could have for the rest of your life. Also meeting friends at work is good because then the work might get a little bit more fun. If there was no one you knew at work then all day you would just be by yourself.

In conclusion you should get a high school job because you make money, it helps with career exploration, you learn life skills, and you meet new people. - Suvav Bhusal

#### **VOLUME 16, ISSUE 4**



#### The Siren's Song

Nothing ever happened in the small town of Longville. Everyone seemed to overlook its people, as if they weren't doing anything but existing. As if maybe they never existed at all, as if they didn't want the people of this city to exist.

There were very little to none tourists visiting, and if they were, it was most likely for a pit stop on their way to a flashy place, like Peru or New York. The people of Longville ached for something to happen, something to give their life some sort of spontaneity.

Most places have one thing that defines them; something that they were known for. In Nepal, it is the unconquerable Mount. Everest. In Egypt, it is the massive pyramids. In Longville, it was an ancient tale involving their

The lake was thick and muddy, the trees' shadows looming over it. At

night, it was so black it was as if someone had spilled ink. Rumor had it that a sorceress had ruled over it for thousands of years, each day declaring how powerful she was. After boasting day after day, a brave hero slayed her. Her last words uttered a curse, and a baby appeared in the water. The evil witch, satisfied with her curse, closed her eyes and disappeared under the blackening water.

The town had never been the same since the baby was born, thirteen long years dragging by.

Everyone steered clear of Amber Montfort, for they weren't sure as to whether the fable was reliable or not. She was taken in by the sweet old Mrs. Nell, who was lovable in every way.

Mrs. Nell had another daughter named Elizabeth, who she had adopted. Elizabeth was ten and disliked Amber heavily. But when Amber turned six, Elizabeth got lost on a walk and never returned. It would be terrible to say aloud, but all the citizens were thinking, *It should have been you, Amber. It should have been you.* 

Amber was also what you would call very manipulative. She convinced the local children to do things-horrible thingsthen pin it on them without

hesitation. As she grew, the population of Longville decreased. People died without any signs. She whispered into ears, her words melodious, promising them their greatest dreams would come true.

"I know what it feels like," Amber said to an anxious young lady on a particularly dreary afternoon.

"I doubt it." Ms. Walker said softly. "You can't do anything to help me anyways, Amber."

"You're misunderstood, Ms. Walker. Nobody wants you anywhere. Put this into Lady Walkin's drink and everything will change for you, for the better."

Amber touched Ms. Walker's hand and slid a small bottle in it.

"Thank you," Ms. Walker whispered. "Amber, I...I don't know what to say. If this works...if this works, I seriously don't know how I would ever thank you."

She scurried away and Amber grinned, imagining her biological mother smiling down at her. Amber didn't know how to feel about the rumors of her being a living curse, but if that very slim chance happened to be true, she might as well embrace it. Everyone in this town seemed to hate her from the bottom of their black hearts, and Amber had accepted that nothing she did or said could change that. If some immature adults disliked her because of a silly fairytale, so be it. Amber had no say in what they thought, but she could be happy with it.

People began giving more interest in Longville. Reporters crowded the entrance with ginormous cameras, notepads, and flashy microphones. Hundreds of tourists visited, as if there were something appealing about visiting a place where too many people have died. Mostly, they caked Mrs. Nell's front door, waiting to spring their questions onto Amber. *How do you feel about Elizabeth's disappearance? Are you planning to look for her? What do you think about the tale of the witch, where she uttered a curse and you appeared?* 

The week before Amber turned sixteen was filled with death. *I didn't do anything* was enough for the police. One man suspected Amber. His name was Kareem and he had been collecting evidence ever since the death of his wife, Lady Walkins. He knew that she had some sort of connection to everything, starting that very first night where the heinous witch apparently summoned her.

Amber didn't know how to react to things like this. All she could do was whisper into a very special person's ear. That night, screams echoed across Longville coming from Kareem's home.

If you, reader, have been wondering, Amber is a very special type of siren. She was brought down to Earth in a desperate act of keeping a legacy alive. Rumor is that she still walks the roads with her beautiful smile, trying to find her next victim.

All I can possibly say is to listen closely, but not too closely... - Suvana Gautam

## Raising Fund for underprivileged Kids in Nepal by volunteering to teach Computer Programming classes to NAC Children

**Mine:** High school youth Avirag Hosakote taught Python programming to raise funds to help unprivillaged children in Nepal **Yours:** Raising Funds for underprivileged children in Nepal by volunteering to teach Computer Programming classes to NAC Children in Illinois

Avirag Hosakote, a rising 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Fremd High School, volunteered to teach a "Basic Python Programming Class" to elementary school children to raise funds for underprivileged kids in Nepal. Six young school children participated and learned Python for beginners. He used 15 classes spanning the month of June, which were offered in a Library and via zoom setting. Avirag developed the entire curriculum and lessons himself.

In return he has requested the parents of each kid in his class to donate to Nepali American Center (NAC) so that the funds can be collected for this noble cause of helping needy underprivillaged children.

The classes took place for 15 days over 5 weeks. Avirag is hoping to raise at least \$300 through his volunteer work this summer.

It is a praiseworthy two-pronged mission from Avirag: the benevolent thoughts of sharing his knowledge and skills to make other learn and directly help needy underprivilaged children in Nepal. NAC is very proud to have such a young man in the community and set great example for other children and adults as well. We would like to thank him for his work. Also, we would like to express our gratitudes to his parents Smritee and Arjun Hosakote and his grandparents raising him with character of high moral.

Avirag Hosakote with some of his students below (left to right – Vedanth S, Aadi S, Anya S, Anjali D)





