

News and Notes

No 832

A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

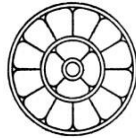
22nd August 2020



Grass & Flowers

watercolor by Marlenka

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



“What then is this knowledge that will have to be admitted by the understanding, supported by the soul’s faith and made real and living to the mind, heart and life? It is the knowledge of the supreme Soul and Spirit in its oneness and its wholeness. It is the knowledge of One who is for ever, beyond Time and Space and name and form and world, high beyond his own personal and impersonal levels and yet from whom all this proceeds, One whom all manifests in manifold Nature and her multitude of figures. It is the knowledge of him as an impersonal eternal immutable Spirit, the calm and limitless thing we call Self, infinite, equal and always the same, unaffected and unmodified and unchanged amid all this constant changing and all this multitude of individual personalities and soul powers and Nature powers and the forms and forces and eventualities of this transitory and apparent existence. It is the knowledge of him at the same time as the Spirit and Power who seems ever mutable in Nature, the Inhabitant who shapes himself to every form and modifies himself to every grade and degree and activity of his power, the Spirit who, becoming all that is even while he is for ever infinitely more than all that is, dwells in man and animal and thing, subject and object, soul and mind and life and matter, every existence and every force and every creature.

“It is not by insisting on this or that side only of the truth that you can practise this Yoga. The Divine whom you have to seek, the Self whom you have to discover, the supreme Soul of whom your soul is an eternal portion, is simultaneously all these things; you have to know them simultaneously in a supreme oneness, enter into all of them at once and in all states and all things see Him alone. If he were solely the Spirit mutable in Nature, there would be only an eternal and universal becoming. If you limit your faith and knowledge to that one aspect, you will never go beyond your personality and its constant changeable figures; on such a foundation you would be bound altogether in the revolutions of Nature. But you are not merely a succession of soul moments in Time. There is an impersonal self in you which supports the stream of your personality and is one with God’s vast and impersonal spirit. And incalculable beyond this impersonality and personality, dominating these two constant poles of what you are here, you are eternal and transcendent in the Eternal Transcendence.

“If, again, there were only the truth of an eternal impersonal self that neither acts nor creates, then the world and your soul would be illusions without any real basis. If you limit your faith and knowledge to this one lonely aspect, the renunciation of life and action is your only resource. But God in the world and you in the world are realities; the world and you are true and actual powers and manifestations of the Supreme. Therefore accept life and action and do not reject them. One with God in your impersonal self and essence, an eternal portion of the Godhead turned to him by the love and adoration of your spiritual personality for its own Infinite, make of your natural being what it is intended to be, an instrument of works, a channel, a power of the Divine. That it always is in its truth, but now unconsciously and imperfectly, through the lower nature, doomed to a disfigurement of the Godhead by your ego. Make it consciously and perfectly and without any distortion by ego a power of the Divine in his supreme spiritual nature and a vehicle of his will and his works. In this way you will live in the integral truth of your own being and you will possess the integral God-union, the whole and flawless Yoga.

“The Supreme is the Purushottama, eternal beyond all manifestation, infinite beyond all limitation by Time or Space or Causality or any of his numberless qualities and features. But this does not mean that in his supreme eternity he is unconnected with all that happens here, cut off from world and Nature, aloof from all these beings. He is the supreme ineffable Brahman, he is impersonal self, he is all personal existences. Spirit here and life and matter, soul and Nature and the works of Nature are aspects and movements of his infinite and eternal existence. He is the supreme transcendent Spirit and all comes into manifestation from him and are his forms and his self-powers. As the one self he is here all-pervasive and equal and impersonal in man and animal and thing and object and every force of Nature. He is the supreme Soul and all souls are tireless flames of this one Soul. All living beings are in their spiritual personality deathless portions of the one Person or Purusha. He is the eternal Master of all manifested existence, Lord of the worlds and their creatures.

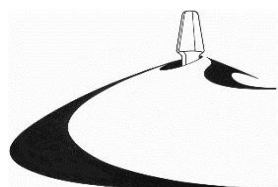
Sri Aurobindo. Essays on the Gita. Chapter XXIV. The Message of the Gita

P.S. There’s a HOMA page on the Auroville website: <https://www.auroville.org/contents/1085>



“We are at an exceptional hour, a unique time, that we have this immense good fortune, this invaluable privilege of being present at the birth of a new world, we could easily get rid of everything that impedes and hinders our progress.”

- The Mother
Questions and Answers



AMPHITHEATRE - MATRIMANDIR
Meditation at sunset with Savitri - read by Mother to Sunil's music
Every **THURSDAY, 6 - 6.30 PM** (weather permitting)

For the time being, access is limited to Aurovilians, Newcomers and Pass holders. Enjoy the beautiful open space, the immense sunset and heavenly music in the very center of Auroville!

Reminder to all: The Park of Unity is a place for silence, meditation and inner work and is to be used only as such. We request everyone not to bring/use cameras, i-pads, cell phones, etc. Please carry your pass with you. Thank you.

- The Amphitheatre Team

COVID 19 UPDATE

As you know, we have been trying for some time to identify and set up a place in Auroville where residents (including registered guests and volunteers) who test positive for Covid 19 and are asymptomatic or with very mild symptoms can be in full isolation with medical supervision, as an alternative to sending our community members to government run Covid Care Centers. (Patients with severe symptoms will still have to go to a hospital as recommended by doctors.) We are pleased to inform you that we have received official permission from the Villupuram District authorities to use **Sharanam in the Bharat Nivas campus** as this facility, with the Tibetan Pavilion as a secondary site if needed. All arrangements have been made and Sharanam is ready in case we have more positive cases here, although of course we hope it will not be needed. Thank you to all for your support and continuing efforts to keep Auroville and its surroundings safe and well.

From the WC/CTF: The homeopathic prophylaxis (Arsenicum Album) for immunity boosting towards Covid19 is available at Integral Health for free distribution. It can be collected from the remedy box in the waiting area, located at the Auroville Integral Health clinic, first floor, central building, Prayatna, and this is accessible 24 x 7. A short instruction paper will also be available at the same location for the instruction for dosage. For any queries please contact Integral Health at 04132623669 or send an email to integralhealth@auroville.org.in. The first round of distribution will be for the vulnerable Aurovilians/ Newcomers (children below 10 yrs old, adults above 60 yrs, those with comorbidities) and then the distribution will be extended to other Aurovilians/ Newcomers.

Current GOI immigration/travel restrictions: <https://boi.gov.in/content/advisory-travel-and-visa-restrictions-related-covid-19-1>



WORKING GROUP REPORTS



Auroville Township Planning and Development Research Organization

Project/Building Application Process - Proposed change to enable early community feedback

Our application process aims to:

- Provide fair and transparent decision making
- Enable and encourage responsible development which meets the community's needs and aspirations.

We review the process on a regular basis to see if there is potential to improve the process.

What is the current process?

The application process was last updated in 2017 when the Project Approval and Preliminary Design Approval steps were introduced. These were intended to enable assessment of the project proposals and designs at an early stage.

The project approval stage was introduced to enable assessment of the current need of the project, its relevance to the overall vision of building Auroville, project financing, and the team's ability to bring the project to fruition, etc., before a site is allocated. The preliminary design approval stage allows feedback to be given before expensive, time-consuming detailed work is undertaken. The benefit is that applicants can have the opportunity to incorporate the key design suggestions before undertaking detailed work on the final designs.

What is the proposed change?

While the current process enables TDC to review applications at an early stage and provide feedback, we feel that an important element is missing, as currently the community is only made aware of the proposal & design once our decision has been made. This means we may miss key perspectives, critical information and creative ideas for improving proposals and designs. We are therefore proposing to provide the community at large with an additional opportunity to provide early feedback on project applications and preliminary design applications (or building applications where preliminary design is not required). All input received will be considered as part of the decision-making process, and the proposal may be asked to respond to the issues raised before allocating a site or issuing an approval. We hope this change will provide the community with greater ability to shape the type of development approved in our city, enable more informed decision-making, and help ensure that all development supports Auroville's unique needs and aspirations.

What does this look like in practice?

The application is received by TDC and checked by the Application Team to ensure all documentation has been provided.

1. Once the documentation is complete, a notice for community feedback on the proposal will be posted (on AuroNet and in News & Notes). Feedback from working groups will be requested during this period too. The period for feedback will be 2 weeks.
2. Once the timeline for feedback is closed, the Application Team will review the inputs received from the community and working groups. As part of this process they may request further information from the applicant or working groups, and undertake site visits if required. They will then consider the information provided against guidelines and pass on their observations and recommendation to the Interface Team.
3. Once the Interface Team reaches their final decision, this will be posted (on AuroNet and News & Notes) for final community feedback (as per the current process). At this stage community members and working groups can still provide feedback if they feel there are critical issues that need to be addressed before the NOC can be issued.

What are your thoughts? - We plan to implement the process outlined above for all applications processed from the beginning of September. **If you have any feedback on the proposal please send it to application-avenir@auroville.org.in by Wed. 26th August.** Note that **diagrams outlining of the current application process and the current and proposed sequences for processing feedback** can be found at <https://auroville.org.in/article/81034>

We want to hear your housing needs and aspirations

L'avenir d'Auroville (TDC) and the Housing Board invite you to share your housing needs and aspirations in this survey, which has been developed as part of a study for Auroville's planning and development. From your responses we hope to gain a better understanding of what the current housing needs and aspirations are in Auroville. We can then plan new residential developments to support these needs and aspirations.

We would like to hear from all households - whether you are looking to move, looking to renovate your home or are happy where you live. We want to understand how many people are in each category, what people need from their homes, how we can support each other, and what needs to be considered when planning new residential developments. Please note that the survey outcomes will be used to inform planning and policy development. **Housing will not be following up individual responses or utilising them to determine housing allocations.** Please use the existing processes to apply for a change in housing allocation. The survey can be found at:

English - <https://forms.gle/J8Xg2wucUSJen6oy59>

Tamil - <https://forms.gle/txvCdyGJbQ6UVQ3k6>

French - <https://forms.gle/VvUzmaquX9exdUxPA>

Please submit your response by 31 August.

**Expression of Interest for Contractor:
Udavi Middle School Project**

This is a call out to Auroville registered Building and Construction Units/Activities to express their interest as a General/ Civil and Allied Works Contractor for the Udavi Middle School Project. The Auroville Contractors applying must have successfully completed a) One single project with value of Rs. 1 crore or above; OR b) Completed various projects with a combined total of Rs. 3 crore over the last 5 years, either in Auroville or outside. Expression of Interest shall be sent via email to emc-avenir@auroville.org.in with subject line: *Expression of Interest - Udavi Middle School Project* by 26th August 2020, Wednesday, 4 PM.

- EMC (Evaluation and Monitoring Cell) for TDC



**RESIDENTS' ASSEMBLY
DECISION-MAKING PROCESS (RAD)
FUTURE OF POUR TOUS
PURCHASING SERVICE (PTPS)**

Dear Residents,

We would like to thank everyone who attended the FAMC General Meeting of 7th March and participated in the discussions regarding the future of Pour Tous Purchasing Service (PTPS). We have reflected upon the feedback we have received further to (and during) that GM. We realise that a few points of clarification are required. We have appended them to the below choices that we are asking you to decide upon:

- 1. SERVICE** - PTPS shall remain a Service unit and be managed by a Management Board and new Executives. (Clarification A - All Aurovilians may apply).
- 2. COMMERCIAL**- PTPS shall become an income generating unit and be managed by the Current Executive(s) under the following conditions:
 - It will contribute to City Services 33% of net profit adjusted for inflation for surpluses generated from 2007-08 to the present.
 - It will contribute the book value of the current fixed assets.
 - It must change its name and not use either "Pour Tous" or "Service" or "PT" or "For All" in its new name.

(Clarification B - If the current executive does not accept the conditions in choice 2, then PTPS remains as per Choice 1).

(Clarification C - conditions 1 and 2 listed in choice 2 are as per current policies).

(Clarification D - condition 3 is placed by the FAMC to retain the name Pour Tous for a service as per its original intention). You can also opt to decline the above options, or to give your voice to support the majority.

- Regards, the Funds and Assets Management Committee (FAMC)

HOW TO VOTE:

ONLINE - On **Saturday, August 22**, the Residents' Assembly Service (RAS) will disseminate an email containing your personalized link to the voting form. **The online voting will run for two weeks and will end on SATURDAY, September 5.** An offline voting form will also be available from the RAS sounding board in Town Hall (opposite Financial Service) and can be handed over to the RAS members/resource persons (at the RAS desk) every Tuesday and Thursday between 10am to 12pm.

IN PERSON (the Meeting of the Residents' Assembly (RA)): You can participate in the RAD in person. On the last day, **SATURDAY, September 5, the polling station will be set up at Solar Kitchen from 11 am to 2 pm.** Kindly be reminded that the current situation with the lockdown imposes certain restrictions to the in-person voting. Please follow all cautionary measures to avoid the risk of spread of the virus (wear masks in public places, use of hand sanitizer, physical distancing, etc.)

- Warmly, Residents' Assembly Service (RAS)



**RESIDENTS' ASSEMBLY DECISION
ENTRY POLICY 2017
Proposed Improvements**

You may recall that on 26th July, 2019, the Working Committee along with the Auroville Council, held a General Meeting (GM) on the review and improvement process conducted for the Entry Policy 2017. In this GM the feedback that was received from the community was shared, a summary of improvements proposed was given, recurring challenges that couldn't be addressed during the improvements process (without further community involvement) were also shared, and a proposed improved Entry Policy 2020 was also presented. A report of this GM can be found on Auronet <https://auroville.org.in/article/75466> (GM dt. 26.07.19 - Report).

In this GM one of the next steps proposed was to have a Residents' Assembly Decision-Making process (RAD) to approve the improvements proposed in the Entry Policy 2020. This is a call to inform you of the start of the RAD process, and to encourage you to participate in the RAD.

Please note that the improvements proposed in this RAD are all minor in nature. The current challenges that couldn't be addressed as yet, will be addressed holding a separate community process at a later stage. These are not part of the RAD. Refer to the links <https://bit.ly/3ayjyWd> and <https://bit.ly/3aEdIT5> (presentation and report of the GM) to know more about these challenges.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- Summary of the changes proposed for the Auroville Entry Policy 2020 - <https://bit.ly/3g7RZEB>
- Full Texts of the changes proposed for the Auroville Entry Policy 2020 - <https://bit.ly/3kWGJyg>
- Compiled feedback received from the community - <https://bit.ly/3g9DG21>
- Entry Policy 2017 - as approved by the RA in 2017 - <https://bit.ly/2YdpQFD>
- Entry Policy 2020 - draft improved version - <https://bit.ly/3kYd07V>
- Regulations 2019 - "Auroville Foundation (Admission and Termination of Persons in the Register of Residents) Regulations, 2019" as approved by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), Department of Higher Education, on 01.03.19. - <https://bit.ly/3kV50Vn>

- Regards, the Working Committee and the Auroville Council

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- Warmly, Residents' Assembly Service (RAS)



**Acres for Auroville -
Special Quarterly Report - August 2020**

The A4A team takes August 15th as a moment for renewing our efforts and pledge to secure and consolidate the City of Dawn's designated but still-missing land. As we step into A4A's 7th year of collective unity and dynamism, we are pleased to share good news, acts of solidarity, and words of inspiration. And we recall the words The



Mother gave for the Success of Auroville flower: « Power of Success - the power of those who know how to continue their efforts»



1. **A4A Launches its 7th Year** - our August 15th 2020 flier. We were much younger when the momentous 1968 event of the Inauguration of Auroville took place. Those of us who were there were deeply marked by the event and over the past 52 years, so many have helped Auroville grow, supporting The Mother's great vision of the City of Dawn and the goal of implanting "the consciousness of the One" in the soil of the Earth. Our English [flier](#), and [here](#) (in French), [here](#) (in Tamil).

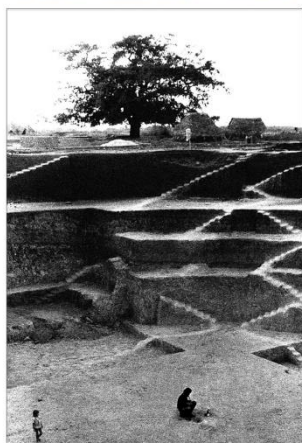
2. **Auroville, India and the World - Our Letter for August 2020** The founding of Auroville took place with the endorsement of UNESCO and numerous countries in the world, thanks in part to the reach of Indian spirituality. Auroville has been welcomed and nourished in India and, in turn, Auroville nourishes the Indian Renaissance. For A4A, completing Auroville's physical base supports both the human advance and the Indian Renaissance. Read our LFAU letter [here](#) (in English), [here](#) (in French), [here](#) (in Tamil)

3. Thanks to your solidarity, **five new plots** purchased since June! Very good news - five new consolidating plots (near the Visitors Centre and in the Greenbelt) have been added to Auroville in the past two months, bringing the total to 63 plots (58 acres) purchased since A4A started!! We thank all the donors to A4A (3 plots), LFAU (1 plot), and GreenAcres (1 plot) who TOGETHER have made these 5 vital new purchases possible and we congratulate Auroville's Land Board for their persistence! Click [here](#).

4. **"Art is Life" film clip** - Art for Land's interview with Dr. Kiran Bedi. Art for Land 2020 was another great success! The new clip "Art is Life" is an upbeat visit to the special exhibition held at Puducherry's Raj Nivas and Art for Land's privileged interview with Lt. Governor Dr. Kiran Bedi. Warm thanks to Dr. Bedi and staff, all the artists, Piero of AV Arts for this clip and to Swaram for the featured music. View the clip [here](#) and the full article [here](#).

5. **"50 More Poems from Auroville"** - and the proceeds go to A4A! The just-released "50 More Poems from Auroville" - and the earlier "50 Poems from Auroville" released for the 50th - have the goals of celebrating Auroville and raising funds for the land. Created by Vikas Vickers with the support of AVI-UK, both compilations showcase Aurovilian's and its friends' talents and the gift for poetry which the practice of yoga enhances. At Visitors Centre and the AV online store, with the proceeds for A4A! For a glimpse, click [here](#).

50 MORE POEMS FROM AUROVILLE



Vikas Vickers

6. **Aurovilian Thiru S. Mahalingam turns a Glorious 100!** - Mahalingam turned 100 on July 1st, a new milestone in his rich life as an Indian Independence fighter, spiritual seeker, teacher, translator, Ashramite, and Aurovilian. In 2014, it was Mahalingam with Sindhuja who inaugurated the A4A campaign, representing the elder and youth generations respectively. We honor Mahalingam with a bouquet of articles, films, photos, and the AV Radio interview about his life, and we sincerely thank all of the contributors. Click [here](#).

7. Linda & Mike Lee - idealistic newcomers with a lifetime of skills. When people with varied skills, life experience and national origins decide to join Auroville, they strengthen its emergence as a unique universal township, and are today's "new pioneers" for tomorrow's Auroville. Linda and Mike Lee from South Africa are Newcomers bringing with them enthusiasm, maturity, and decades of valuable professional skills - both seeking to contribute to Auroville's growing future. Click [here](#).

8. Resilience - Inspiring quotes from the flowers. This compilation of quotes is based on The Mother's flower messages on resilience, perseverance, hope, and realization, appropriate for the times we are living through. They also summarize our determination as A4A launches its 7th year of action for Auroville's still-missing land. With Sven's very beautiful photographs of flowers that blossom in the City of Dawn. Click [here](#).

ACRES FOR AUROVILLE - a collaboration of Lands for Auroville Unified & Auroville International - fundraises for the complete Master Plan area: lfau@auroville.org.in Visit our news pages at <https://land.auroville.org/news/>, and to donate <https://land.auroville.org/a4adonations/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PTDC is closed SAT. AUG 22nd & WED. AUG 26th.

Auroville Bakery & Café will be closed on Saturday (22.08.2020) for Ganesh Pooja. Please pick up your Saturday (22.8.2020) order on Friday (21.08.2020).
HAPPY GANESH CHATURTHI!!!

AV Library is closed Saturday, 22nd Aug for Ganesh Puja.



Taxi share, both ways, Tuesday, 25th Aug., Chennai to Auroville, **7PM.** Kasia 948 924 4823.

Housing Asset for Transfer

One more home is currently available for transfer:

- Sanjana Community - Couple or Family



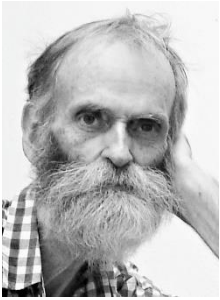
To apply, please click on the new **"Houses Available"** button in the very right column of the AuroNet main page. You will be directed to our new Housing Transfer App at <https://housing.auroville.org.in>. All you need to do is:

- click on the transfer you are interested in,
- view all the details and pictures of the asset for transfer. If you wish to apply,
- click on the **"Apply"** button and fill in the online application form.

Once the indicated deadline for applying has passed, you will receive an email from Housing Transfer with the date for the group site visit. For any questions, please feel free to come and meet Svenja at Housing Service Office **upon appointment on Monday or Friday mornings during Lockdown.** Thank you. - The Housing Service

From Nandini - We hope to find you well! Due to the current situation, the Nandini team wishes to offer our senior citizens, besides our current members, the possibility to give individual orders for garments and household items to be purchased from Pondicherry. Kindly send us your request to nandini@auroville.org.in. You can also contact us at 2622033 or pass by Nandini Distribution during our opening times. We look forward to hearing from you. Love, Angela, Chandra, Devi & Elizabeth

OBITUARY



Hervé

At around noontime on Friday, 14 August, our dear friend and brother, long-term Aurovilian Hervé Millet left his body, quietly and faithfully, at Marika Home at the age of 75, due to complications of cancer which he had been battling for several years.

Hervé was one of the French pioneers, a Breton, who joined the caravan that left Paris in 1974 for the over-land travel to Auroville. From the moment of arrival at the end of that year, he wholeheartedly plunged into a long range of work activities and services which characterised him throughout his life in Auroville. It started with construction work with Pierre Elouard, building the houses in Auromodèle, during which time he was also active at the then emerging Pour Tous service in Aspiration. During Auroville's survival struggles of those years, Hervé was jailed twice, along with others, both in Tindivanam and Villupuram.

When things got quieter, Hervé turned to planting trees in Révélation, looked after SAIER's transport and worked at Maroma. He spent several years active at Mira Aditi's in Karnataka, and later on with Satprem in the Nilgiris. After an intensive time in the mountains, he returned to Auroville in the mid-nineties where he was welcomed by the Auroville Press team and, soon after that, participated in the creation of Auroville Papers, of which he later became executive. It was here that he found his true element, doing all kinds of experimentations for different kinds of new-look and new-feel papers, with a great variety of leaves, flowers and colors, and became skilled in giving animated paper-making workshops, showing the audience the art and techniques of producing paper. Hervé was never happier than when showing a child how to make paper or help in the unit. He lived in Citadines.

During an interview with the auroville.com team, Hervé said: *"Living in Auroville means everything to me, and the Mother takes care of me, she really takes care of me. I feel like I am walking the wire with no net under to catch me, but Mother will not let me fall. When I arrived here, I had no money, and she gave me everything. Everything that I have has been given to me... I give my work to the Mother, and I can't be disappointed, because she knows what I need."*

In full faith that Hervé is now on the way home, we let go of this energetic, at times tenacious and often passionate man, who was our friend and comrade all these years, steadily working for the Mother, for Auroville, for us all. Thank you, Hervé.
~ Jay MA!~

APPEALS

Help to secure healthy housing - I, Ivana, have applied for a permanent place as my current residence has proved to be unhealthy for me. I wish for a new home that I will also use as a studio. I hope that you could support my journey. Due to coronavirus restrictions, I have been unable to host proper fundraising events. I know times are hard but any financial support will be greatly appreciated.

I have had many solo exhibitions in Auroville (Kala Kendra, European house and Pitanga) and participated in group shows. The last my solo exhibition at Savitri Bhavan was unfortunately cancelled due to the current circumstances. For now, my work is displayed in the Auroville library. My painting is permanently also a part of the childrens section. Currently, I do free drawings of babies for parents from their photographs. I have created a Facebook page to encourage people to draw.

There is an account (256190) at the Financial Service which is created for a housing deposit in Auroville. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

ivana@auroville.org.in; +91 709 434 4154



WELCOME

FROM THE ENTRY SERVICE - ES # 046- 08-22-2020

Our team is happy to recommend the following individuals as Aurovilians, Newcomers and Friends of Auroville. Prior to "status confirmation", there is a community feedback period. For Newcomers, Associates and Friends of Auroville, this period is two weeks, and for Aurovilians and Returning Aurovilians, one month. Kindly forward your support or grievances to entryservice@auroville.org.in.

NEWCOMER ANNOUNCED:

Sudhir Rao MUDIGANTI (Indian) staying in Aspiration Guest House and working at Progress Landscape.



Sudhir

NEWCOMERS CONFIRMED:

- Avinash RAVI RAGHAVAN (Indian)
- Divya Bharathi ARUNACHALAM (Indian)
- Donald MacPherson ROBERTS (USA)
- Induja GANDHI PRASAD (Indian)
- Malar SAGADEVAN (Indian)
- Monique GAUTHIER (Canadian)
- Rupam Mishra (Indian)

CHILD OF NEWCOMER:

Pema GREENBERG (Canadian) Born on 04/07/2004 (daughter of Monique Gauthier & Daniel Greenberg)



Santosh

AUROVILIAN ANNOUNCED:

- Santosh SHANMUGAM (Indian) staying in Terrasoul and working at Svaram

AUROVILIAN CONFIRMED:

- Brigitte BASTIEN-SEPTFONDS (French)
- Jayasutha DHAYALAN (Indian)
- Pedro GUEDES (Portuguese)

NOTE:

- The Newcomer probation year becomes effective only after the NC kit has been completed and returned. Be aware that the duration of the process cannot exceed 18 months from the date of confirmation.
- An Aurovilian is a resident of Auroville, aged 18 and above, whose name has been entered in the Register of Residence (RoR) as maintained by the Auroville Foundation Office.
- The change of status from Newcomer to Aurovilian is the B-Form. An Aurovilian's name is entered into the RoR after he/she has met with the Secretary of the AVF with an appointment arranged by the Entry Secretariat. These appointments are fixed by the Entry Secretariat according to the availability of the Secretary, but not at any personal request of an individual.
- The Auroville Foundation processes issuing of ID cards only to the Aurovilians who are registered in the RoR.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Calling the Future survey analysis

Part 1: how people experienced the lockdown.

281 people participated in the 'Calling the Future' survey (245 in the first phase, 36 in the second). The survey team has now embarked on the next steps, talking to those who expressed an interest in taking the findings forward. We are planning an initial discussion on the topic, "How does change happen?", to be followed by focus groups to materialize new initiatives in areas like the economy, food, energy, housing, governance, education and health. Meanwhile, here is more detailed information on people's responses to the lockdown. In subsequent postings we will focus upon participants' suggestions about what needs to change and how those changes can take place.

On the personal level, an astonishing 85% said they had positively changed habits due to the lockdown. 21% became more aware about the food they were eating and where it comes from, and how they could make choices that would support local food production. As their lives became radically simplified,

people devoted more time to working on themselves - reading Sri Aurobindo and The Mother, meditating, exercising, caring for the environment, living in the present etc. -- and to relationships. They also realized that what they had viewed before as a 'necessity' (office work, frequent meetings etc.) was no such thing and now they had time to explore more interesting pursuits. They also appreciated the quiet that descended upon an Auroville without tourists and traffic.

Asked to summarize their experience in a few words, respondents mentioned "learning to live with what I have", "gluing more together", "going from 'mine' to 'ours' and 'Hers'", and "reconnecting with the spirit of Auroville". A quarter of the respondents didn't experience any negative changes personally, but those who did spoke of feeling isolated, separated from others, and of experiencing or witnessing panic/fear.

In answer to the question, "What do you think of Auroville's response to the crisis?" the vast majority (87%) felt there was much to be celebrated. Many praised the mature, disciplined response to the crisis, and the spirit of service displayed in the volunteering, in the way that the essential services kept running, and in the dedicated work of groups like the COVID Task Force, the Working Committee and the Auroville Safety and Security Team. There was a feeling of fraternity and cooperation, reflected in the way that food delivery services were provided for those who needed assistance, as well as in the financial assistance offered by individuals and the Village Action group to the neighbouring villages.

However, 62% felt that certain things could have been improved. It was noted that there had been instances of irresponsible behavior, like people hoarding basic supplies, and rebelliousness as in those refusing to observe social distancing. It was pointed out that some essential working groups, like Entry and Housing, failed to provide a minimum service during this time, and that communication of essential information, particularly regarding health matters, was both inadequate and too functional, conformist, and lacking in the Auroville spirit.

30% noted that the crisis has highlighted many of our existing collective weaknesses. These include inequalities regarding maintenances and income; insufficient support for our farmers; the over-dependency of our economy on tourism; insufficient support for our productive units; and poor internal communication.

Asked what surprised them positively during the lockdown, respondents mentioned the resilience and the solidarity of the community as people took responsibility for caring for each other, the adaptability of Aurovilians, and the realization of how much of the essential work can be done by the residents.

19% reported negative surprises. These included the level of fear and paranoia in the community, and the realization of how much we are dependent upon outside funding, labor and tourism to sustain our present lifestyle and development. There was a growing realization that we need to become much more self-reliant, particularly in terms of food production.

to be continued...

Calling the Future survey team
(Dan, Amy, Fred, Laurence, Dom, Alan)

Seeing Our Bias

The psychology of (political) decision making

Here is a link to Bjorn Goldstein from Bielefeld University speaking on the above topic. It was part of the Citizens Assembly presentation series.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ya8k3PdQJMo>



CREEVA'S Open Studio in Creativity is open to anyone who calls one day ahead to use the studio and its materials. We can accommodate 4 people at a time. Please be aware of what a good time this is to explore your own creativity! Audrey for CREEVA. 262 2641/ 9876411419

American citizens wishing to vote in the upcoming election can request an absentee ballot at this website: [FVAP.gov](https://www.fvap.gov).



**Friday Food Market at
Terrasoul (near spirulina farm),
from 9:30 AM**

Eat Local. Stay Healthy. Help the world.

TERRASOUL will offer their FRUITS and VEGETABLES, JAMS, KIMCHI, MANGO PICKLES and VADAĪS.

AUROSOYA will propose TOFU in bulk (white and smoked) VEGAN CAKE, SOYA MILK (bring your container)

TASTE OF NATURE will offer DRY FRUITS, HEMP MILK (bring your container) and CAKE.

HEMPLANET will offer HEMP seed in bulk

Please BRING your BAGS and also EMPTY JARS if any.

You are most welcome to share this information with your friends. As usual, the rules will be respected.

See you there! TerraSoul Team +91 948 85 12 678 for info



Trio Kitchen Restaurant at Aurovelo

We are open for dining in and takeaway,
Mon-Sat, 9:30 A.M. - 3:30 P.M. (Sunday-Closed),
keeping all the guidelines of the current situation.

All are invited to enjoy our veg, non-veg dishes and desserts!

All of the **Rangoli creations** from the Visitors Center and a new collection, including one-of-kind adult & kids face masks, are available at the atelier. Please make an appointment to visit by contacting me on WA/phone +91 94433 62528. Prema

WHAT'S NEXT? CONTINUING EDUCATION/ GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

[As there were 3 different postings on Auronet in the last days all addressing the same issue, it is clearly a topic that is "up" for the community, so we are publishing them here under their own banner. - Eds.]

News for the youth of Auroville

We hope you are all doing well in these rather weird times :)

The Disha Info Desk and Events Service is back in action, and we are filled with excitement, possibilities and new energy to share with all of you. The intention of our project is to help you (youth aged 17+) connect with learning opportunities, both in and out of Auroville. We are here to support, guide, and mentor you (depending on your need) through the next step of your education or the beginning of your professional life.

Have you finished school (or dropped out) and don't know what to do next? Do you have a dream but you don't really know where to begin? Want to travel and learn something new? Are you struggling with adulting in general? Do you want to start working but making a CV or a portfolio feels scary and overwhelming? Would you like to start an apprenticeship in Auroville but you don't know how it works or all the possibilities that are there? Or do you have a solid plan but you just need some feedback and support?

If you recognize yourself in any of these situations, do reach out to us! We'd love to meet you, hear you out, and see how we can help you best.

We are also going to be offering online sessions, starting from next week. These sessions are going to be created and organised for the youth of Auroville and the bioregion (although everyone is welcome), so we hope to see you connected!

We would love to have your suggestions on topics you want to see addressed in these sessions; you can anonymously submit ideas, topics, questions, or needs, to the following link: <https://app.suggestionox.com/r/Disha>

Our services are available on demand, for any information or appointment please contact Valentine on Whatsapp: +919943139911 or by email val@auroville.org.in

Much Love, Valentine & Shradha

AFTER SCHOOL

Introduction: Facilities for high school level education have been created in Auroville - there is a choice between the Free progress program offered at Last School, an IGCSE & IAL based program offered at Future School and a CBSE program at NESS. No formal structures of education after graduating from either of these three programs exist at present in Auroville. Many students join existing university programs either in India or abroad. A few stay and work with resource persons as mentors, or join apprenticeships in an area of work where this is offered. Some others join a work and become part of the working life in Auroville.

There is felt a need to create and offer to Auroville youth a formal program of studies after high school. Auroville includes all aspects of life, many of which are open to receiving students, so is able to offer a unique program of learning which can include a diversity of a student's interests. It is believed that there are enough resources in Auroville, in terms of teachers with expertise in different subjects, to guide students who have a strong desire to learn and are motivated to work hard to that end. SAIER, Last School and Future School have had discussions about this, and have agreed to create such a program and offer the available infrastructure to house such a program.

The Program: The program will be named AFTER SCHOOL, which is one of the names given by The Mother to schools of Auroville. As this program is offered to students who graduate from Last School, Future School and NESS, this name feels appropriate for this program.

The program will evolve according to needs expressed by students who apply to join this program. In the initial stages, an individual program may need to be designed for each student. It may include academic subjects of study, apprenticeships in areas of expertise available in Auroville, and skills acquisition in the arts like painting, music, film-making etc. The courses offered would include studies about the vision of The Mother and Sri Aurobindo underlying the Auroville project, as well as some regular sports and PE. The teachers available for different subjects are not being identified at this stage, though for some subjects, teachers have already offered to be available. As the program develops and matures we hope to have a more clearly identified inventory of offerings from available teachers in Auroville. It is proposed to assign a mentor to each student, who will meet the student regularly to keep an overview of the student's progress.

The curriculum for each subject will be designed by mutual consultation between the student and the teacher. In the initial stages and depending on the maturity of the student, the guidance of the teacher may play a greater role in defining what has to be studied. For all academic subjects a graduate level course of studies would be the norm. For other areas of learning, the curriculum will be made keeping in mind the specific needs of that student.

For academic work, meetings between the teacher and the student will be scheduled at least two or three times a week, during which lessons will be offered by the teachers, submitted assignments discussed, or any other questions raised by students addressed. Full day engagement will be ensured, including both meetings with the teacher and individual work.

There will be a six month assessment of students' work based on the completed assignments submitted. The grasp of the student of the subject matter, as well as a creative dealing with the subject matter will be considered during the assessment.

The program is offered for a period of one, two, or three years, depending on the courses chosen by the student. There will be a review of courses chosen by the student after the first three months of study.

A certificate will be issued by SAIER at the end of the successful completion of the course of studies decided at the beginning of the course, which will give details of what has been learned by the student.

Administration: The Program will be administered by a team of one member each from SAIER, Last School and Future School. Its office will be based at SAIER. Applicants may contact any of the team members who are Sanjeev at SAIER, Deepti at Last School & Rolf at Future School.

Gap Year Summit



What good is independence if I don't have freedom to design my own education and choose my own teachers? Take a moment and reflect on the meaning of freedom - where do we have freedom in our lives, where would we want to create more freedom and what kinds of responsibility are we committed to taking on for this freedom. To more deeply explore the theme of freedom in education, we are excited to announce the upcoming **Gap Year Summit, September 5-10, 2020** being hosted by the [Indian Multiversities Alliance](http://www.multiversities.net).

This will be a week-long event to help you to plan how to Unlock Your Year and open up the door to many amazing and valuable life experiences. The events of covid-19 have created a powerful opportunity to have a very different year of learning. **It's not a year off, it is a YEAR ON.** The summit is open to youth and families. Website: www.multiversities.net; registration details: <https://forms.gle/6hE4Ut1uYT4mGE8p7>; For more info: Aneeta at aneeta@auroville.org.in/9445100465.

MATRIMANDIR

Opening of Inner Chamber

Aurovilians and Newcomers only, 6 - 8 AM, Mon - Sat. To comply with Regulations, strict protocols must be followed. [For full details: https://auroville.org.in/article/80848](https://auroville.org.in/article/80848) - Matrimandir executives and Access team

LOOKING FOR

Someone going to Paris-Centre d'Art Citadines is looking for someone who could take a parcel to Paris between now and the 1st September. The parcel contains catalogues for Dominique Darr's exhibition in Paris. The weight will be 3 kg maximum. In Paris someone will collect it. Thanks! 262-2699; centredart@auroville.org.in

Projector - To borrow for 2-3 months, for children (& grown-ups) of Aspiration. I would like to organize movie nights. Preferably with USB cable connection, but anything is welcome. Thank you for sharing joy - contact [+31634562467](tel:+31634562467) (WhatsApp) or anouke_jansen@hotmail.com

Housesitting - I'm Meera Vinolia, a pre-Newcomer working w/ the Yucca program. I'm looking for house to stay temporarily (3 mo). If you need someone to look after your house for a short period, contact 8270403560 or muthukumar749@gmail.com

Stones for our gardens - Work is currently underway at Unity Pavilion on developing our garden area. We will be very happy to receive any leftover stone slabs of any color/size available, for the pathways. If you have any, please contact us: 0413 262376 or unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

French teacher - You are a French native speaker and enjoy teaching kids, we are looking for you. Kindly contact Ulrike Urvasi ulrikrishna@gmail.com or 9442069249 (SMS & call only)

Piano - to use or borrow for our child's exploration of the wonderful instrument. If you have one that you hardly use, or are happy to lend it to us (contribution possible), Ulrike Urvasi, ulrikrishna@gmail.com or 9442069249 (SMS or call only)

Sewing machine - Having a bit of time these days, my mind collects images, designs, ideas, and dreams; I would really like to test and manifest some of these ideas. If there is a sewing machine that is gathering dust somewhere, I would gladly put it to loving good use - chandrag108@gmail.com

Blankets, sheets & towels - If you have anything you don't use anymore, +91 915-056-7003 or sarah@the-taiji-family.com

Household work for Poorani - she is currently working at Unity Pavilion. Due to budget cuts, we need to reduce our staff and their work hours. She is a good presence and efficient with her work, available halftime in the mornings. If you are looking for household help, contact Unity Pavilion 0413 262376 or unitypavilion@auroville.org.in

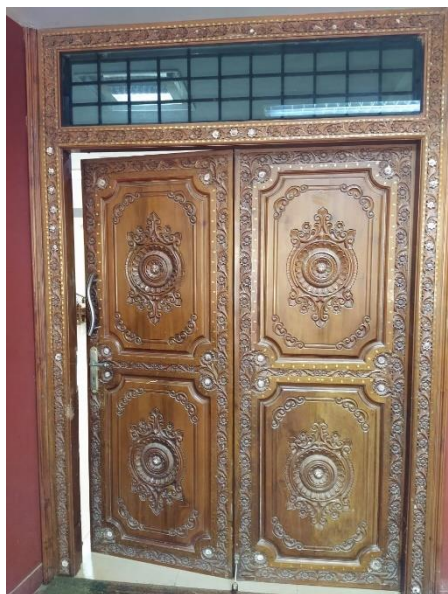
AVAILABLE

Electric scooter - Older BSA classic "Roamer", made in Bangalore, good condition. New battery & tire. Small but it can carry 2 people. Not speedy but balanced and easy to ride. Parts and maintenance all available in Auroville from Govindaraj at the Qutee Electric Vehicle Service (next to Puncture Service) - Contact B: 9943532829 or bgr8ful@auroville.org.in.

TVS Apache 160 RTR - blue, Sept 2017, TN registration, very good condition, single owner, 12 200 Kms used - Raju: 2623302, 9443074825 or avvehicle@auroville.org.in

Royal Enfield Classic 500 - black, TN registration, very good condition, 20,500 kms used, new battery, company serviced - Raju: 2623302, 9443074825 or avvehicle@auroville.org.in

TVS XL SUPER - green, 2008, (PY 01 - AR3061), available on an "as is where is" basis, by bid. Send your bid by 31-08-2020. FMI, Angshuman Basu, Asst. Accounts Officer, Phone: 0413-2622414, 2622930; 2622222 or avfoundation@auroville.org.in



OPEN TENDER

We have decided to replace the main wooden door of Auroville Foundation Bhavan for an aesthetically appropriate glass door. The present wooden door (see photo) is perfectly crafted on Burma Teak with Brass engravings in the traditional south Indian style costing Rs.1,50,000/- (Rupees one lakh fifty thousand). The entire unit measures 8ft, 10 in in height and 6 ft, 6 in in width. Anyone interested may send

sealed quotation to Auroville Foundation Office by **31st August 2020 latest**. AUROVILLE FOUNDATION Autonomous body under the Dept of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Auroville -605101. Tamil Nadu Ph. 0413-262-2414; 262-2222; 262-2930; avfoundation@auroville.org.in; Fax: 0413-2623496.

Office Space - 13 sqm, closed office space located on the first floor inside Aurelec premises, with superb infrastructure, including generator, UPS System, air-conditioner, high speed fiber internet access (BSNL and Aurinoco), 24 hours security, parking and canteen facilities. If interested contact Mr. Siva at Aurelec in person or 262-2293/294 or adps@auroville.org.in

German classes - German native speaker offers classes for kids of all ages. Please contact Ulrike Urvasi 9442069249 (SMS and call only) or ulrikrishna@gmail.com

GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Shorten your shower time or take bucket showers. Install a low-flow showerhead.

With love from the Water Group - helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city.

watergroup@auroville.org.in / www.aurovillewater.in

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Response to L'avenir's article on "poo" from last week

Fertile would like to repeat our 5 years long observation that the predominant smell from the sludge is not poo but **shampoo!** A properly designed and used septic tank, we would maintain, only requires desludging once every 10 years. It is essentially an architectural problem, increasingly and critically as our water-recycling imperatives increase, because in many places in AV the grey water, which can more easily be recycled (shower, sink, washing machine) also goes into the septic tanks along with menstrual pads, condoms and medical waste.

- Johnny, Fertile



Hello Auroville, your favorite radio keeps on growing! The stream channel can be heard here: <http://aurovilleradio.org:8000/av-radio-128.mp3>. It broadcasts mixed music and LIVE events 24/7 from our Town Hall studio.

New Entry LIVE episodes:

- The readings by Marlenka (Marlenka is back!!) Wed @ 11 AM

Next LIVE episodes:

- [A Cup of Joy](#) (wellness) w/ Vega & Francesco, Mon, 2:30pm

- [Nutritional Cultural Redemption](#) (food and farming) with Krishna McKenzie every Tuesday at 10:30am

- [Capriole \(music\) with Luca, Tuesdays at 2pm](#)

- [The Best of What's Still Around](#) (music) with Dhani Muniz Wednesdays at 2:30pm

- [The readings by Gangalakshmi](#) (en francais) Wed, 10:30am

- [The Neo Urban Chronik](#) (opinion) with Froggy de Frenchy every Friday at 10:30am

- [Tamil Literary Forum](#) (Tamil culture and literature - In Tamil) with R. Meenakshi every Friday at 11am

- [Audible Weed Walk](#) (local food) w/ Nina, Fridays at 2:30pm

- [Happiness, Love and Laughter](#) (wellness and well-being) Fif/MediClown Academy every Mon/Wed/Fri around 12 noon

- [Soul Tracks](#) (music) with Jules and Matthew, Sat at 3pm

Other podcasts:

- [Sri Aurobindo's Birthday special](#)

Who is Sri Aurobindo? Is he a freedom fighter, a philosopher poet, a spiritual teacher and yogi, a Maharishi? The program explores these questions through his own words.

All the programs are also available as podcasts (just click the title). All the recordings can be downloaded on the AurovilleRadio website www.aurovilleradio.org.

Write us if you need more information radio@auroville.org.in

STAY TUNED! Please write us for your suggestions :)

Auroville Economy: The Aura Update



As the pandemic increases, the world economy will soon crash. This is the consensus of those in the know. So, what about us? "Dire Straits" is how our beloved *Auroville Today* headlined the Auroville economy in 2016. The landmark study of the Auroville economy: *Economics for People and Earth: The Auroville Case 1968-2008* was revisited by its authors and Aurovilians in 2015 (see AVT #321 April 2016). Harini from Auroville's Social Research Centre had now added the data from 2008-2015. The conclusions were not optimistic. The authors of the original study (Manuel Thomas, chartered accountant from Chennai, and Henk Thomas, professor of economics from Holland) had finished their book with some hope that things would improve but now one of them concluded: "this hope was in vain."

Now in 2020, we have our Exploring Prosperity Teams, Deep Adaption discussions, Circle Gardens, Edible Weed Walks, and much more. However, "collapsology" intensifies under the weight of our world pandemic, forcing imminent economic chaos globally. Our collective consciousness cannot ignore anymore the unsustainability we have not faced. We talked of course. The whole of Auroville did a full scale "retreat" at the beginning of 2015 initiated by the International Advisory Council with two months of detailed planning involving more than 300 Aurovilians. There were 35 thematic sessions with organized teams and goals to be met. What happened? Another disappointment. Too many of us have carved out a comfort zone that blocks the progress needed to become a "self-supporting township." That's what the Mother asked us to build.

In 2011, Auroville Press printed legal "currency" called the Aura available for all to use, but the experiment "failed", so to speak. Miraculously, the Aura is being re-incarnated as virtual credit in September 2020. This will not solve all our economic problems, of course; but it is a small step for a change in consciousness to share "the value we create together." This is "cashless" and is furthermore not linked to any world (fiat) currency. It uses the latest technology of a mobile app to share a virtual reality of abundance and prosperity with all its users. Each user freely receives a Universal Basic Income (UBI) each day to have equal access to a range of offerings from other users in the network. What is given and taken comes from what is being shared in a circulating economy built by the users to meet their relative needs. Auras are intended to continuously circulate and therefore have a depreciating nature which leads to a use-it-or-lose-it outcome.

This new virtual Aura Platform has quite a history, but very briefly, the National Research Fund of Korea supported a visionary professor at the Science Walden Center to develop an alternative complementary currency to benefit all of humanity. The team at Science Walden first developed a toilet that would give users credit on their phone for daily poop. The toilet transformed participants' "waste" into value: compost fertilizer and methane gas. This "currency" is called Faeces Standard Money (Google it, it is real!). Because this toilet will take years to reach all of humanity, the concept is modified into a circular UBI that is specifically designed for and catered to Auroville. Through an initiative of the Korean Pavilion in Auroville, a collaboration was setup in early 2019 with Science Walden to experiment in Auroville with this digital platform. Auroville has the progressive, multicultural, spiritually-based Community needed for organized research to get the needed field data to advance this economy eventually into ordinary society. This research has gone on for the last two years. Teams of software engineers in Korea and Auroville have worked intensely to make the Aura Network App suitable for Auroville and user-friendly. Within Auroville, workshops have been held and an Aura Fair last year simulated how the phone app would work, <https://youtu.be/Nf-rgvPTvQw>. You can find on the Internet and YouTube more information where the whole idea is discussed among Aurovilians and others in a series of Aura Talks, <https://youtu.be/qNoXZ5-kGhY>. If you would like to keep up with recent efforts, follow Aura on Instagram (@aura.auroville).

As it is much clearer now that the "old world is dying", let's embrace the "new world being born."

~ B, for the Aura Project team
auranetwork.app, Coming to you soon...

Reverence for the Matrimandir Gardens

Hours spent on Matrimandir Gardens duty gives one the conviction that the Auroville community must, under no circumstances, let it happen that the gardens are downgraded to a public Hyde (& seek) Park for the entertainment of our children, nor as a rendezvous platform for socializing. The expected general agreement on this implies that everyone, from the rather individualistic westerner to the more group-minded easterner, accepts to regulate her/his behaviour accordingly, without necessarily being reminded to do so. If no consensus is found there is a great danger that the architectural jewel, in the midst of its refined setting in the center of Auroville, will be seen only as one more tourist attraction.

Instead, future Aurovilians will find out what the soul, gifted to Auroville by The Mother - the Marie Curie of contemporary spirituality - truly is: a research center, a tool comparable to what the CERN is in the sphere of sciences. Envisioned and materialised by the Shakti of the first scientifically-minded yogi of Eternal India. A unique blend of East and West.

We must learn how to handle and defend this great mystery, that unfolded before our eyes in the middle of the 20th century. And as in the CERN, visitors are welcome as long as they don't disturb the researchers. ~ Submitted by Amar

Hervé ...

That wordless determination of the founding years
is leaving us: Serge, Gérard, Juanita, Paulo and now you.
It's getting lonely.

You were the silent one.

At one time in early Aspiration it was decided that you had to do some more collective chores. You were given the job to welcome the visitors who came from Pondy to look at 'the new specie'. You chaperoned the Gujarati ladies through Aspiration. As we didn't want them to troop through the huts, you wandered around, opened faucets, waited for water to come and explained: "A tap, water.... Very interesting".

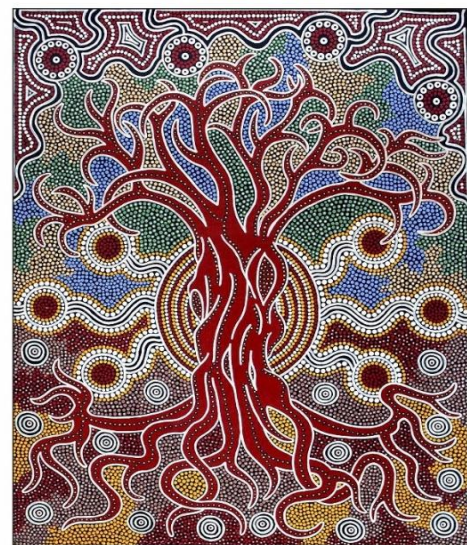
Soon after you were assigned a different duty.

Lately we would meet on the stairs in Citadines:

How, is it? Well and you? A few words, but a lot of heart.
We miss you and your Breton directness. Love and safe travel.
-Frederick

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Songlines and Dreaming Tracks of Australia



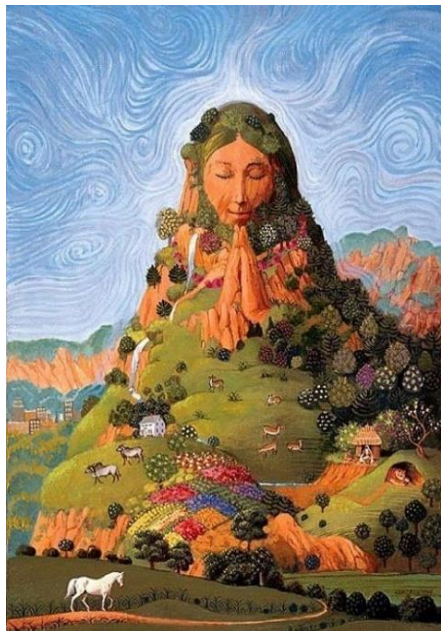
aurelec
Cafeteria & Art Gallery
Open from 8 am to 5 pm

17th August to 17th September

Songlines, or Dreaming Tracks, are routes that crisscross Australia, some running thousands of miles from coast to coast. Within the animist belief system of Indigenous Australian peoples, a songline is a path which follows the route taken by

ancestral creation spirits during the Alcheringa (or Dreamtime), a “time out of time” when ancestral animal beings lived on the land. Along the paths are places which mark the actions of the ancestors: a rocky outcrop may represent an ancestor lying down, and a depression may symbolise a footprint. The paths of the songlines are recorded in traditional songs and also in stories, dance, and painting; the words, melodies and rhythms of the songs describe natural landmarks and thus enable the singer to navigate across the land.

Travel is thus at the core of the belief system of Indigenous Australian peoples: it was the journeys and songs of the ancestors that brought the world into being. The songs of that belief system enable those who know them to travel across great distances without visual, written maps. Shared knowledge of various songlines also acts as a means of communication and bonding between tribes with different territories and different languages. In older times, walking the songline of your ancestors was considered by many tribes to be an essential rite of passage to maturity, necessary to become a keeper of the sacred knowledge of the tribe. It is the act of travelling through the land, and singing as you go, that actually brings the land into existence, recreating the original creation of the ancestors. As Bruce Chatwin explained in his classic travel narrative *The Songlines*: “Aboriginals could not believe the country existed until they could see and sing it.”



Pachamama Celebration

Every August in Auroville, we celebrate with The South Andes of America, the Ceremony of the Pachamama, the Mother Earth. We give food to Her and thanks for everything she gave to us, and ask for food for next year for everybody in the world.

We’ve done this in different parts of Auroville, especially at the America One Site. This year, just a few of

us are going to do it together and we ask others who feel to thank Her, to just to do it at home. You only need a tiny plot of soil or a small pot. We make a circle, offer to Her the food and drinks we usually take daily. After the puja, we put flowers and incense and we express deep thanks and a prayer for the well-being of Everybody for the year to come.

Thanks for being together in this special moment of the Planet. We plan to do it on the **27th of August, any time**. Please let us know if you have been with us.

Together with Mother Earth, ~ Anandi-a, with B and Lara



AUROVILLE ART SERVICE - ‘basket’ for the week

1.. INKO CENTRE ONLINE PRESENTATION OF KOREAN ARTISTS - This e-compendium, comprising two volumes, showcases the work of close to 500 exceptional senior and emerging contemporary Korean artists, presented across four editions of the Chennai Biennale from 2013 to 2019.

http://www.inkocentre.org/Chennai_Biennale_Volume1.html
http://www.inkocentre.org/Chennai_Biennale_Volume2.html

2. AUROVILLE FILM INSTITUTE OFFERS A NEW WORKSHOP ONLINE - A collaborative online filmmaking workshop with Kamal Swaroop, *I SEE GHOSTS* will be offered from 5 to 27 September. The last date for registrations is 25 August. For

details call 9969879319. To register: <https://filminstitute.auroville.org/2020/08/15/ghosts/>

3.SILENT LANDSCAPES - A PHOTO ESSAY - In this photo essay, Gabriela Torres Ruiz explores silence through a juxtaposition of abandoned interior spaces and natural landscapes.
<https://emergencemagazine.org/story/silent-landscapes/>

4. AND PEACE SHALL RETURN - A SHORT STORY BY BEN OKRI Ben Okri is a Nigerian poet, novelist and playwright. This short story is set twenty thousand years into the future, when an exploration of the Earth uncovers the final notes and unfinished stories left behind by the last sentient human beings in the twilight of their history. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5y1XC8ByE7la6XfmOOyaDb>

5. AV ART SERVICE - AN AUDIO INTERVIEW WITH GIORGIO MOLINARI PART 1 - Valentina Garozzo interviewed Giorgio Molinari on art in Auroville. Part 1 of a two part series. <https://youtu.be/QXbwjmAeEQX>

6. A DANCE TO WATCH ONLINE - Audrey shares this video of a dance performance & an interview with the dancers - a pair of twins. <https://www.mollyrosewilliams.com/side-by-side>
<https://dancersgroup.org/2019/05/in-practice-performing-twinship-molly-aviva-rose-williams/>

7. A GRANT FOR VISUAL ARTISTS (shared by Sigrid) - For contemporary visual arts, architecture, photography, media art and design, the Artists’ Contact program offered by Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen offers support to artists from developing and emerging countries to do a project in Germany, or an artist from Germany to come here on a project. <https://www.ifa.de/en/fundings/artists-contacts/>

8. DANCE CLASSES ONLINE - Three American organizations - Martha Graham Dance Company, Merce Cunningham Trust and José Limón Dance Foundations - have been providing free classes on Instagram Live since early in the pandemic, taught by current and former company members. The modern dance techniques created by their legendary namesakes each develop different sets of strengths. www.marthagraham.org;
www.mercecunningham.org; www.limon.nyc

9. DALE POPOVICH - Dale is a watercolour landscape artist doing live videos via Facebook.
<https://www.facebook.com/DaleLPopovich>

When the adventure begins
Exhibition from 4th to 26th September
Opening Friday 4th September from 7 pm




Le Fonds de Dotation “Art et Recherche” & Centre d’Art Citadines - Invite you to Dominique Darr’s photographic exhibition about the beginnings of Auroville at Galerie/librairie IMPRESSION 17 rue Meslay 75003 Paris. Open on Wednesday from 6 to 9 PM & Saturday from 2 to 8 PM.

From Vidhya’s Blog on Auronet

Science, in its true spirit, doesn’t disregard Imagination or Beauty. Art, Music, Poetry, Philosophy, Math and Science are different ways of seeing, experiencing and enjoying the Existence. Is this Science or Dance?

<https://youtu.be/JaNeyJadFra> - Treat yourself - watch it!



Cinema Paradiso
Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
PRESENTS
A FACILITY FOR AUDIO RECORDING

Dear Friends: Responding to the need of the time, Multimedia Center is offering the facility for audio recording needs that many of you have for your online programs/workshops. Currently we will have only two types of slots open for booking:

1. Programs 0-60mins
2. Programs >1hr to 2.5hrs

(with adequate time to set up and pack up)
Keeping with the safety regulations, our technicians will usher in maximum 3 people at the venue for each booking.

For details about the booking conditions/booking write to mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in

Take care, be safe
MMC-CP Team



Auroville Film Institute is thrilled to announce a collaborative film-making workshop 'I SEE GHOSTS' with Kamal Swaroop! Participants will be encouraged to confront the silent starring void, the deep darkness, beyond comprehension, beyond the human touch, beyond the warmth of love or light.... the flip side. The shadow, In our lonely, distorted, disgruntled dungeon-world, the fabulous terrifying phantoms rise... Experiments with the dark will enlighten us!

Kamal Swaroop is a cult filmmaker. With his bold, preposterous and rather disruptive film language, Kamal will be able to devise a rather unusual view of 'the new normal'. Kamal has also been an influential teacher to generations of filmmakers from mainstream to alternative. He has produced an iconic film Tracing Phalke in a workshop modality of his own. Kamal's mentorship will inspire participants to re-imagine 'the ghost'.

Dates: 5 to 27 September 2020.

Last date of application : 25 August 2020.

For more details and registration, please visit -

<https://filminstitute.auroville.org/2020/08/15/ghosts/>

or call +919969879319

⇒⇒⇒ **PLEASE GO PAPERLESS!**

RECEIVE THE NEWS&NOTES by EMAIL weekly!

It comes 2 days sooner and is in color! Subscribe at

newsandnoteslist+subscribe@auroville.org.in

or click directly on this [link](#)

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Somatic Movement w/ Maggie
Online live intensive for every body!
Saturday & Sunday, 22nd and 23rd August
Timings: 2.00 - 5.30 PM each day

Neuromuscular re-education (mind-body training) Workshop in the tradition of Thomas Hanna. Somatic education is a system of slow, mindful movement. It improves the function of the nervous system, creating more ease and freedom within ourselves. Somatics teaches up to recognise and release holding patterns, resulting from pain, injury, stress or habituated posture. This work enhances any kind of exercise such as a yoga, dance sport or just moving through life.

Over 2 afternoon sessions you will learn how to release tension in the body and learn a daily practice in order to maintain better flexibility, coordination, balance and wellness, resulting in a decrease of aches and pains commonly attributed to stress, injury and ageing.

Open to anyone whether you are completely new to this work or want to rediscover the basics, however a good understanding of English language is essential as is a commitment to attend both sessions. Please sign up by emailing maggie@auroville.org.in and I will send you full details. Feel free to contact me by email or call +9486623465 w/ any questions. *Maggie presents on behalf of SoMagic, consultancy activity under LEAD, a Unit under the Auroville Foundation.*

YOU ARE INVITED FOR A 4 WEEK LONG
"WOMEN OF THE NOW" JOURNEY. WHERE
WE WILL CONNECT DEEPLY WITH OUR
MENSTRUAL CYCLE AND EXPLORE THESE
ENERGIES THROUGH SACRED PRACTICES,
DISCOVERING THE POWER OF SELF
CONNECTION AND SISTERHOOD.
BY ANNE TERLOUW

EVERY TUESDAY 5-7PM
25/8 TILL 15/9
ISAI AMBALAM GUESTHOUSE

4 WEEKS, 4 GATHERINGS AND
WEEKLY EXERCISES

FOR REGISTRATION +91 9159824277

AUROVILLIANS, NEWCOMERS
AND VOLUNTEERS ON DONATION

Important information about News & Notes
Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm
FOR THE ISSUE to be published that SATURDAY (though the digital version generally goes out on Thursday)

The contents of News & Notes are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy. **How to submit material:** Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.

Please do **NOT** send submissions and inquiries as a "Reply" to the digital subscription mail. There is NO guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way!

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted News items must be sent to the editors before Tuesday 5pm. Please do your best to submit copy that is ready for printing (i.e. Word shows you typos, extra spaces, punctuation errors, etc - don't make us do all the work!).

We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.

Visiting hours: Hit or Miss. Call first or email for appointment.

Disclaimer: The views expressed on these pages are those of their respective authors or work groups and do not represent the position of the editors or of the community as a whole. The News & Notes serves as a channel for the publication of material coming from trusted sources within Auroville. The editors cannot be held accountable for any alleged misinformation given or offence caused. In case of any dispute, the Auroville Council may be consulted and publishing of disputed material suspended.

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall. Phone: 0413-2622133, email: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in