AL-SAYER PARTICIPATES IN MOVE TO IMPROVE THIRD YOUTH FORUM

KUWAIT: As part of the ongoing efforts by Al-Sayer Medical Company and CSR to enhance the healthcare of the Kuwait community, Al-Sayer Group Holding sponsored and participated in the 3rd Move to Improve Youth Forum under the patronage of Sheikha Zain Al-Sabah the Undersecretary to the Minister of State for Youth Affairs.

The event brought to spotlight the talents of disabled individuals and displays their achievements in a creative way through special challenges on stage against their peers of non-disabilities with same talent. Al-Sayer Group Holding participated in the event with a "Life Care" booth, exhibiting latest products and services available for the community with special needs, which attracted of many visitors.

The event was attended by Sheikha Sheikha Al Abdullah Al Sabah Honorary Chairman of Kuwait Sports Club for Handicapped, Sheikha Intisar Al Sabah, Sharifa Al-Ghanem the Chairperson of The National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim's Committee for the Disabled along with disabled sports Champions.

Sheikha Sheikha Al Abdullah Al Sabah interacted with the disabled sports Champions and also visited Al-Sayer Medical's booth in the presence of Bader Musaed Al-Sayer Business Director Al-Sayer Group Holding, Dr. Hossam Afify General Manager Al-Sayer Medical Company, Bedour Faisal Al-Sayer Deputy Marketing Manager.

The objective of the event was to raise the awareness of the public with the talents of the disabled and to strengthen the integration of the disabled with the community. The Forum included seminars and training courses in addition to an exhibition for small projects of disabled & non-disabled people.

According to Bader Musaed Al-Sayer "Al-Sayer has always encouraged to take part in the social well-being of our region.The initiative underlines Group's firm belief in the role of the private sector as a key partner ofgovernment towards the implementation of the various aspects of the comprehensive development plan".

Commenting on Al-Sayer's market leading services, Dr. Hossam Afify said "Al-Sayer is known in the GCC region as a leader in its commitment to best-in-class customer service as well as continuous efforts towards enhancing customer satisfaction. Life Care, our premium healthcare outlet provides world class solutions that focus on innovation, functionality and value to incorporate a healthy life style, improve the quality of life and to promote independency for a productive community."

Premium Healthcare Provider in Kuwait

At the LifeCare showroom customers will find effective solutions to meet the medical needs through products that taking care of the person since birth and to make sure growing healthy through several products from globally renowned brands.

Through LifeCare, Al-Sayer Medical Company will renew its commitmentand support towards customers to meet their medical needs to ensure improved self-sufficiency and healthy life style to maintain an independent lifestyle for productive community. "After our first Life Care outlet at Dajeej Farwaniya, the opening of our second outlet at KDSC brings us closer to the community of people with special needs, to enhance their convenience as well as to safeguard their interests" added Dr. Hossam.

FOR PALESTINIAN FAMILY, AN UDDER-LY UNIQUE POWER SOURCE: COW DUNG

COW DUNG CAN BE USED TO PRODUCE ELECTRICITY

DAHRIYA, Palestinian Territories: Power comes in many forms, but Kamal al-Jebrini's family looked to where others may fear to tread for a new source of it: Cow dung. The family has begun recycling waste from its cows to produce electricity for one of the largest Palestinian dairy plants and even to provide power to some houses. They discovered the idea during trips abroad and decided cow dung that would otherwise mainly rot in the sun-apart from some used as fertilizer by neighboring farmers-could be put to better use. "It was a shame to allow all of that manure to be lost and impact the environment when we can produce electricity with it," said Jebrini, who owns a large farm of about 1,000 cows with his brothers. He spoke after inspecting the milking room, where workers looked after lumbering cows. The project in the occupied West Bank is the first of its kind in the Palestinian territories, where renewable energy usually means solar panels.

The family turned to Maher Magalsay, who specializes in renewable energy at the Polytechnic University of Hebron, the major city located nearby in the south of the West Bank, which has been occupied by Israel for 50 years. Magalsay brought engineers and a large generator from Germany to develop the project that involves using heat to produce methane and biogas from the cow dung, eventually leading to electricity.

He involved his students, including some ex-students who had done apprenticeships abroad. Now, he proudly shows off two large silos where manure and biogas are stocked to be later cooled and transformed. It allows the 30 tons of dung produced daily by Jebrini's cows to generate 380 kilowatt hours.

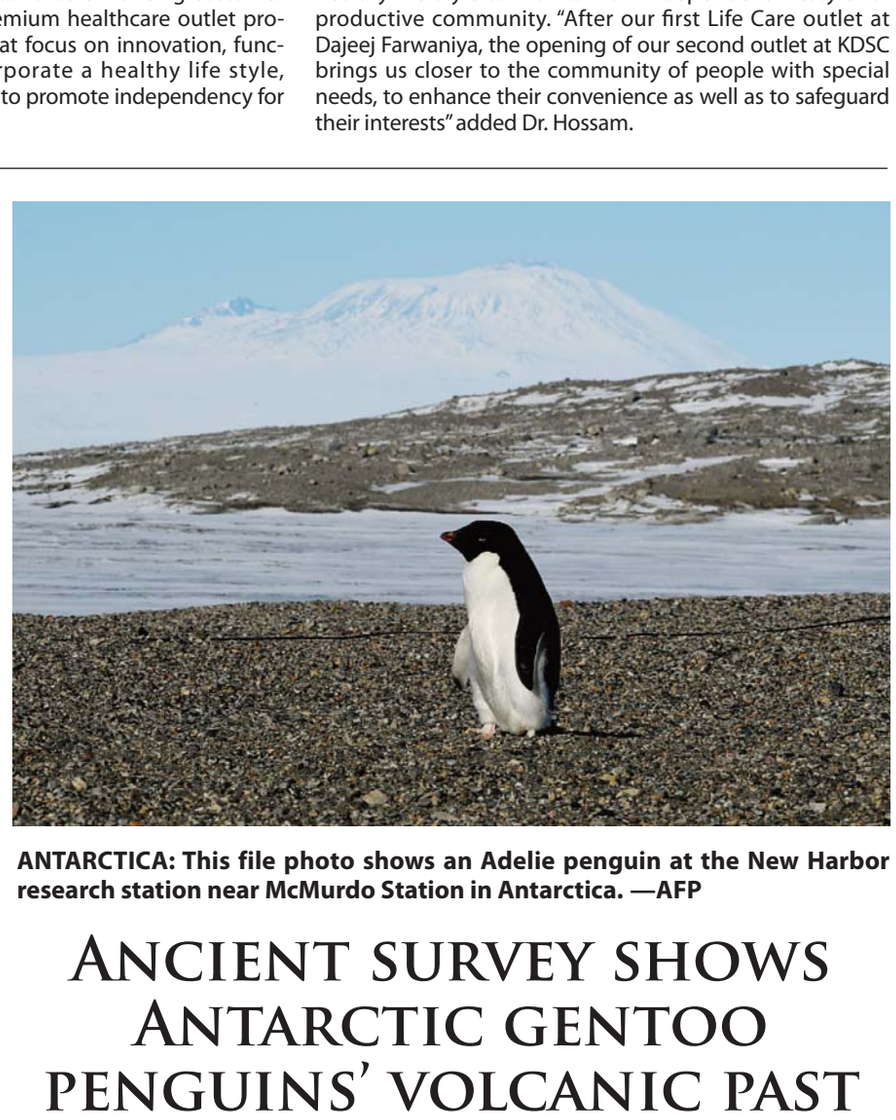
Let there be light

That's enough to no longer have to pay electricity bills for his company, which sells milk, yoghurt and other dairy products throughout the West Bank and Jerusalem, said Jebrini. He can even route part of the energy produced to the local electricity company. There is no power plant in the West Bank, and nearly 90 percent of the 5.3 gigawatts of energy consumed are bought from Israel. For certain regions, the bills are taken care of by local authorities or the Palestinian Authority.

When unpaid bills have stacked up, Israel has cut power to cities. Israeli authorities have long called for the payment of debt for electricity provided to the West Bank and east Jerusalem that they estimate to be some $475 million (450 million euros). At the same time, around four percent of Palestinian villages are not connected to the electricity grid, according to official data. Most of the villages are in the Hebron area-making Jebrini's project even more relevant and an example to be shared.

It certainly doesn't seem to trouble the cows and calves who munch straw under sheet metal roofs. Their owners hope to do even more. "In the next phase, we are going to use another generator to produce 650 kilowatt hours, and over the long-term we will reach one megawatt hour," said Magalsay. With that amount, "we could supply between 200 and 300 houses," he said.—AFP

HEBRON: Cows lie down at the Jebrini dairy farm in the West Bank town of Hebron, where cow dung is used to produce electricity as an alternative power source, on April 10, 2017. Power comes in many forms, but Palestinian cattle farmer Kamal al-Jebrini's family looked to where others may fear to tread for a new source of it: Cow dung. The family has begun recycling waste from its cows to produce electricity for one of the largest Palestinian dairy plants and even to provide power to some houses. —AFP



ANTARCTICA: This file photo shows an Adelie penguin at the New Harbor research station near McMurdo Station in Antarctica. —AFP

ANCIENT SURVEY SHOWS ANTARCTIC GENTOO PENGUINS' VOLCANIC PAST

WELLINGTON: Analysis of ancient penguin guano has revealed that volcanic eruptions, not climate change, almost wiped out an Antarctic sea bird colony three times, researchers have found. There has long been speculation linking fluctuations in penguin populations over recent decades to climate change, but scientists studying a colony of gentoo penguins in Antarctica wanted to look back much further.

The team, led by the British Antarctic Survey, hit upon the idea of drilling core samples from ancient guano deposits, giving them a record going back 7,000 years. The results, published in Nature this week, showed the penguins of the Ardley Island colony had been dramatically impacted by a nearby volcano at Deception Island. Lead researcher Steve Roberts said the millennia-old droppings, collected from the bed of a lake on the island, still had an intense smell.

But more importantly, the sediment cores also contained clear layers of volcanic ash, while biogeochemical analysis of the droppings provided insights into the colony's population over time. "On at least three occasions during the past 7,000 years, the penguin population... was almost completely wiped out locally after each of three large volcanic eruptions," Roberts said. "It took, on average, between 400 and 800 years for it to re-establish itself sustainably."

The guano analysis found "no consistent relationships" between climate conditions and the penguin population in the Ardley Island colony, which currently has about 5,000 of the birds. British Antarctic Survey penguin ecologist Claire Waluda said the innovative technique could be used to examine how volcanoes had affected other colonies. "Changes in penguin populations on the Antarctic peninsula have been linked to climate variability and sea-ice changes, but the potentially devastating long-term impact of volcanic activity has not previously been considered," she said.—AFP

BETTER DETECTION MAY EXPLAIN HIGHER CHILD CANCER NUMBERS

PARIS: Global childhood cancer rates jumped 13 percent in the decade to 2010 compared to the 1980s, according to a UN-backed study released yesterday that says the increase may be due in part to improved detection. For children under 15, the incidence rate of cancer was 140 per million during the first decade of this century, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) reported in The Lancet Oncology. Part of the increase compared to the 1980-1990 period "may be due to better, or earlier, detection or these cancers," the agency said in a statement. Data collected on 300,000 cancer cases diagnosed in 2001-2010 showed that leukemia accounted for nearly a third of childhood cancers, followed by tumors of the central nervous system (20 percent) and lymphomas (12 percent). In children under five, a third of cases were embryonal tumors, such as neuroblastoma.

Incidence among adolescents 15 to 19 years old over the same decade was 185 per million. "Cancer is a significant cause of death in children and adolescents, in spite of its relatively rare occurrence," compared to adult cancer rates, said IARC Director Christopher Wild. Cancers in children are more likely to be triggered by genetic factors. The report makes no attempt to determine what portion of the reported increase in incidence is due to better diagnoses, or other factors such as infections and pollution.

Data for the study came from 153 cancer registries in 62 countries, departments and territories representing about 10 percent of the world's children. But coverage was very uneven: nearly 100 percent of the child population in the North America and Europe was included, but only five percent or less for children in Africa and Asia. In low-income countries, data collection is difficult due to under-funded health systems and statistical services. "Often focusing on the small proportion of cancers occurring in children is not seen as a priority," the IARC said in a statement.—AFP