

GONPA GAZETTE

“Ani, why do you care so much for the monks?”

Out of the mouths of (older teenage) babes, as he matched his stride to mine stride and we walked the verandah together. I was surprised a monk noticed, let alone said anything; but not surprised as the words rolled off my tongue, “Because they are like my children and grandchildren (mostly the ages of grandchildren). In America, no husband, no children”.

Finally putting words to why I care so much for their health and well-being, hold them accountable (some say ‘strict’), and want them to want to get and stay healthy. Do I care more than they do? Oh yes!



That clean, silly, post-shower time.



Happy monks, happy Ani.

‘Mother to all the monks’, as a senior monk described me years ago; and person to all the dogs!

“Ani” begins to sound a lot like “Mommy, Ammi, Nanni, Amma...”, and I find myself automatically answering, “What?” without looking up or stopping what I am doing. Sometimes there is a request; often not. Sound familiar to all you other mothers?

A family with five young children similar ages is one thing, but 100 at daily showers is another!

A family with five teen agers is one thing, but 30 who already know *everything* and don’t want to be told *anything*, is another! Patience, humor, ignore...repeat!

JUNE 2020 IN PHOTOS

