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Vol. 20, No. 32

1020th Issue : January 3 - 9, 2015

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வல்லப கணபதி கோயில் அருகில், சீனிவாச ஐயர் தெரு, ஆரிய கவுடா ரோடு, (அயோத்யா மண்டபம் சமீபம்) மேற்கு மாம்பலம்.
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மதுரை மணியும் மதுரை மல்லியும்

முக்கூடி அணிந்த ஒரு மர்ம நபர் பட்டாக்கி கத்தியைக் காட்டி 'மரியாதையாக உங்க கிட்டே இருக்கிற மதுரை மணி பிளேட், காலெட், சிடி, பென் ட்ரைவர்கள் அத்தனையும் சப்ஜாடா தரீங்களா, இல்லாட்டி உயிரைத் தரீங்களா?' என்று கரகர குரலில் இரண்டு சாய்ஸ் கொடுத்துக் கேட்டால் பத்ரி நாராயணன் 'உயிரை வேணா தாராளமா எடுத்துக்கோ, ஆனா என்னோட மதுரை மணி பொக்கிஷத்தைத் தொடாதே'ன்னு சட்னு சொல்லிடுவார். மதுரை மணி மேலே அத்தகைய அன்யோன்யம், ஈர்ப்பு, ஈடுபாடு.

விஸ்தாரமான அவரது இருப்பிடத்தில் எந்த மூலையிலிருந்து தாவது மதுரை மணி பாடிய கீர்த்தனை, விருத்தம், துக்கடா என்று ஏதாவது ஒன்று அந்தக் கால ஃபின்னல் வைத்த கிராமஃபோனிலிருந்தோ லேடெஸ்ட் போஸ் சிஸ்டத்திலிருந்தோ சதா ஒலித்துக் கொண்டே இருக்கும். சூப்பர் சீனியர் சிடிஸனாக இருந்தாலும் அவர் வணங்கும் ஆதிசேஷன் மேல் பள்ளி கொண்டு இருக்கும் ஸ்ரீமத் நாராயணனின் அருளினால் பாம்புச் செவிகளைப் பெற்றிருக்கும் பத்ரி தொடர்ந்து அந்தப் பாடலை ஒரு ஜூனியர் வயலின் வித்வான் வி ஐ பி பாடகருக்கு பக்க வாத்தியம் வாசிக்கும் போது காட்டும் அளப்பரிய மரியாதையுடன் கூடவே ஹம் பண்ணிக் கொண்டு இருப்பார். ஆனால் குளிக்கும் அறையில் மாத்திரம் அதை செய்ய மாட்டார். அது மணியின் பக்திக்கும் பாவத்துக்கும் செய்யும் அவமரியாதை என்பது அவரது கருத்து.

விசாலமான பத்ரியின் மைலாப்பூர் வீட்டுச் சுவற்றில் வெள்ளி ஃப்ரேம் போட்ட இரண்டு ஃபோட்டோக்கள் மாட்டப்பட்டு இருக்கும் ஒன்று கானகலாதர மதுரை மணி அய்யரின் க்ளோஸ் அப், பிரிதொன்று பத்ரியின் மனைவி பூமணியுடையது.

பூமணியை அவர் பெண் பார்க்கப் போனபோது அவரது தாய் மாமா பட்டாபி உடன் வந்திருந்தார். பூமணி என்ற பெயரைக் கேட்டவுடன் அந்தப் பெயரிலேயே மணி ஒளிந்து இருப்பதைக் கண்டு கொண்ட பத்ரி இரண்டாவது டிக்கைப் பரவசத்துடன் அடித்தார். முதல் டிக்கை அந்த வீட்டில் தென்றலாகத் தவழ்ந்து வந்த



மதுரை மல்லியின் சுகந்தம் அடிக்க வைத்தது. பெண் பார்க்கும் படலங்களில் பழம் தின்று கொட்டை போட்ட பட்டாபி பயங்கர குஷியுடன் இருந்தார். சொஜ்ஜி, பஜ்ஜி, காபி என்கிற திருமுர்த்திகளின் தாராள உபசரிப்பு முடிந்தவுடன் 'ஒரு பாட்டு பாடும்மா' என்று பெண்ணை குரல் ஆடிஷனுக்கு அழைப்பு விடுத்தார். சம்பிரதாயப்படி நாணிக் கோணாமல், 'தொண்டை கட்டிண்டு இருக்கு, ரெண்டு நாளா ஜலதோஷம்' போன்ற நோஞ்சானான சாக்குபோக்குகளை சொல்லாமல், ஸ்ருதிப் பெட்டியை வரவழைத்த பூமணி, மகாகவி பாரதியின் 'வெள்ளைத் தாமரைப் பூவில் இருப்பார்' என்ற பீம்பளாஸ் ராக மதுரை மணி ஸ்பெஷலில் ஒன்றை சபா கச்சேரி விதூஷியின் தரத்தில் சுருதி, லயம் குறையாமல் பாடி அசத்தினார். பத்ரியும், பட்டாபியும் பரவசமாகி மற்றொரு பாட்டையும் பாட நேயர் விருப்பமாகக் கேட்ட போது, இதோ கேட்டுக் கொங்கோ என்று கேட்பதற்கு இனிமையான, ஆனால் பாடு வதற்கு கடினமான, மதுரை மணியின் இங்கிலீஷ் நோட்டை அட்டகாசமாகப் பாடி முடித்தவுடன் பத்ரி சபாவில் தட்டுவது போலக் கையைத் தட்டினார். பூமணியின் அழகு, மதுரை மல்லியின் வாசனை, முதல் தரமான சொஜ்ஜி, பஜ்ஜி, காபி, இங்கிலீஷ் நோட் ஆகியவைகளின் சங்கமம் உருவாக்கிய லாகிரியில் நெடு நேரம் திளைத்து மயங்கி இருந்த பத்ரி, பட்டாபி மாமா விலாவில் லேசாக இடித்தவுடன் நிகழ் காலத்துக்கு வந்து ஓ.கே என்கிற கடைசி டிக்கை அழுத்தமாக அடித்தார். குமாரி பூமணி திருமதி பூமணி பத்ரி நாராயணனாக மெட்ராஸ் வந்தடைந்தார்.

இருபது வருடங்கள் பத்ரியுடன் பூரிப்புடன் வாழ்ந்த பூமணி, உடம்பை ஏதோ செய்யறது என்று ஒரு வைகுண்ட ஏகாதசி அன்று சொன்னவள் விரைந்து வந்த பத்ரி மேல் சாய்ந்து கொண்ட சில நொடிகளில் வைகுண்டத்துக்கே இரண்டாவது இடியாகக் கிளம்பி விட்டார். முதல் இடியாக அன்று காலையில் தான் மதுரை மணியும் காலமாகி இருந்தார்.

மணி மறைந்தாலும் அவர் இல்லை என்பதை பத்ரி ஒத்துக் கொள்வதில்லை. கண்களை மூடிக்கொண்டு அவரது பாடலைக் கேட்கும் போது மதுரை மணி அடக்கமே உருவாகக் கச்சேரி மேடையில் உட்கார்ந்து கொண்டு லால்குடியோ, கோ விந்த சாமி நாயக்கரோ வயலின் வாசிக்க, பாலக்காடு மணியோ, பழனி சுப்புடுவோ மிருதங்கம் கொட்ட, நடு நடுவே 'ஹா, ஹா' என்கிற டிரேட் மார்க் உற்சாக சப்த ஜாலங்களை எழுப்பிப் கொண்டு இருக்கும் காட்சி மனக் கண் முன்னால் விரியும்.

மதுரையில் சேல்ஸ் மேனேஜராகப் பணி புரியும் பத்ரியின் அக்கா பேரன் ஸ்ரீஹரி சென்னைக்கு வரும் போது மணக்கும் மதுரை மல்லிச் சரங்களை வாங்கி வந்து கொடுக்க அதை படங்களுக்குப் போட்டு பத்ரி அழகு பார்ப்பது வழக்கமாகி விட்டது. வீடு பூராவும் மல்லிகை மணம் நிறைந்து பத்ரியின் மனதைக் குளிர வைக்கும்.

பாட்டும் வாசனையும் கடல் அலைகளாகத் தவழ்ந்து வந்து 'இதோ, நாங்கள் உங்கள் கூடத்தான் இன்றும் இருக்கிறோம்' என்று வயதான பத்ரிக்கு உணர்த்தி உற்சாகப்படுத்துபவர்கள் அவர் மறக்க முடியாத மணியும், பூமணியும்தான்.

jsraghavan@yahoo.com

T. NAGAR BAZAAR

This column is intended to help small businesses in & around T.Nagar and West Mambalam to have a cost-effective advertisement medium. Advertisement in this section will be in standard panel sizes of 4 cm. x 1 column (costing only Rs. 500) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1000)

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New Year celebrations in Chennai pass peacefully barring minor accidents

By Our Staff Reporter

The celebrations in the city including the neighbourhood to usher in the New Year were relatively peaceful barring a few incidents. At least 300 people were reported injured in minor accidents, mostly on interior roads, in Chennai and its suburbs, while three persons were killed.

There were huge crowds in the popular neighbourhood temples which remained open for New Year.

More than 18,000 police personnel, including senior officers, were deployed in the city to ensure there were no untoward incidents.

Some laxity was shown towards drunken driving unlike the other days. As in previous years, the city's beaches were the most popular haunts. It was estimated that more than 7 lakh partied into the wee hours at the city beaches. 4.5 tonnes of garbage was generated and Marina Beach and 2.5 tonnes at Elliot's Beach in a single night.

A constable stationed at Pothy's junction said that while families were enjoying New Year together, he and many others like him in the force were ensuring their safety. "We exchanged New Year wishes with one another and with our families over cell phones," he added.

Youth clubs put up banners to wish 'New Year'

By Our Staff Reporter

Local groups including fan clubs of movie actors and political outfits put up vinyl banners in their localities to wish 'Happy New Year'.

One such vinyl banner made by a group of young boys who are fans of actors Ajith and Vijay was on display at a street corner in West Mambalam.

An old lady who was looking at the photo proudly told the reporter that one of the boys in the group photo printed on the banner was her grandson.



Seminar on adulteration of chilli powder and ghee

By Our Staff Reporter

Consumers Association of India (CAI) and Concert Trust (a Mambalam-based public charitable trust) will jointly conduct a free seminar on 'Adulteration in Chilli Powder and Ghee' on Saturday, Jan. 3, from 10 a.m to 1 p.m in Youth Hostel (Indira Nagar, Adyar).

The participants will be briefed on the techniques used in adulteration of ghee and chilli powder and on simple methods of identifying them before buying. All are welcome.

For registration, please call Somasundaram at 94442 53739.

Retired teacher conducts free spoken English classes in govt. schools



By Our Staff Reporter

L. Lekshmi Ganthan (resident of Muthalamman Street, West Mambalam) conducts free spoken English classes in several government schools, including Government Girls High School (Usman Road, T. Nagar), during holidays.

He retired as Chief Education Officer (Govt. of Tamilnadu).

He said that in nearly 95% of the govt. schools in Tamilnadu, the medium of education is Tamil in the primary and secondary level. These students struggle when they go for higher education as the medium of education in colleges is mainly English, he said.

He said that when he was in service he had written and distributed a handbook 'Learn and Teach Grammar' to a number of schools in Theni and

Talk on 'Thiru Arutpa' on Tuesday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspicious of Vallalar Sanmargasangam (V.O.C Street, MGR Nagar, Ph: 94453 43706), M.P. Sathyavel Muruganar will give a discourse on 'Thiru Arutpa - 'Anubava Maalai' on Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 6 p.m in Sakthi Vinayagar Temple (P.T. Rajan Salai, K.K. Nagar).

All are welcome.

Residents' Association appeals for widening roads in T. Nagar

Further to the announcement by Chennai Corporation that it will give priority to widen roads instead of constructing flyovers, T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association has appealed to start the exercise from T. Nagar as it is the most congested and encroached upon commercial/residential hub in Chennai.

In a letter addressed to the Mayor, V.S. Jayaraman (Secretary) has written that even though the service lanes of Usman Road are open to vehicular traffic, due to encroachment, even walking has become tedious. The service lane on the western side of Usman Road is heavily congested forcing residents on the side streets like Ramana-than Street, Rangan Lane, Rangan Street and Rameswaram Road to take circuitous routes. In case of an emergency,

ambulances and fire tenders find it difficult to approach/enter these streets.

He has further written that the margins of Ranganathan Street, Railway Border Road and streets abutting Usman Road have also been encroached upon. Because of its proximity to the railway station and bus stand, Ranganathan Street is always crowded even on normal days. To make matters worse, not only the vendors/hawkers but even the commercial establishments have usurped the public place.

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he got a special assignment for a short while to teach English to government school teachers in Tamilnadu.

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புதிய எண்: 31, பழைய எண்: 15, பசல்லா ரோடு, தி. நகர், (கிராண்ட் ஸ்வீட்ச் அருகில் செல்வ விநாயகர் கோவில் எதிரில் ஸ்டார் சீட்டி வேறாட்டல்), சென்னை 17.

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8 இவ்வாய்ப்பு தினங்கள் மட்டுமே! **03.01.2015** முதல் **10.01.2015** வரை

செம்பு புடவைகள் கிலோ ரூ. 80 மற்றும் சாதா புடவைகள் கிலோ ரூ. 30 வரை வாங்கப்படும்.

ஞாயிறு கடை உண்டு. வேலை நேரம்: 10 மணி முதல் இரவு 8 மணி வரை

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protruding iron bolts pose danger to motorists



Sir, Thick bolts are protruding dangerously from the surface of the road close to the existing median at the entrance of Aranganathan Subway (Govindan Road) on Saidapet side. The bolts which are invisible, especially during dark hours pose a danger to motorists. The bolts have been installed to extend the median. The entrance to the subway is already narrow and is used by both 2-wheelers and 4-wheelers. Extending the median would further narrow the width causing traffic congestion. Additionally, the nearby shopkeepers park their vehicles near the entrance further narrowing the already congested road or blocking it. I appeal to the authorities to remove the bolts immediately and give up the idea of widening/lengthening the median any further. —**Krishvanth, T. Nagar.**

Enforce stricter measures to prevent re-encroachment

Sir, This refers to the eviction drive by Chennai Corporation on Dec. 26 to remove about 120 roadside encroachments from Usman Road. While this action needs to be lauded, their responsibility does not cease here. It has often happened in the past that within a few weeks of such an action, the encroachments often resurface. It should be ensured that it does not happen again by enforcing stricter measures. The Corporation should continue such operations on a war footing and rid all the roads and the pavements in the city of encroachments. The judiciary too should not blindly give stay orders based on petitions filed by the encroachers. Such is the case with 131 shops on Usman Road which continue to be a headache for the Corporation. I hope the Corporation officials are taking up the matter actively to vacate the stay. Some of the streets where encroachments continue are Usman Road, Ranganathan Street, Railway Border Road and Arya Gowda Road, to name a few. — **T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association, 30, Rangan Street**

Widening roads is a better solution than constructing narrow flyovers

Sir, During the Chennai Corporation Council meet held recently, Mayor Saidai S. Duraisamy had announced that henceforth, the civic body will give priority to widening roads rather than building flyovers to decongest the roads. It is indeed an epoch-making resolution! Most of the major roads in Chennai are too narrow and the existing flyovers have not eased traffic congestion in anyway. The classic example is Usman Road flyover. One hopes that the Corporation does not sway from the decision and takes the logical step to first rid pavements and road margins of encroachments. The 'Encroachment Nagar', as T. Nagar is popularly referred to by its residents, will benefit immensely from this decision. —**V.S. Jayaraman, 31, Motilal Street, T. Nagar**

Appeal to relocate Lake View Road ration shop

Sir, The Ration shop HC009 which is in a dilapidated condition was to be shifted to a new location on Lake View Road. However, the decision was rescinded at the last minute and cards were allotted to a nearby ration shop. This has burdened the consumers as the shop is not able to handle the additional quota and they are forced to stand in long queues. I appeal to the authorities to find a new location for the shop HC009 instead of merging it with an existing shop. — **T. G. Badrinarayanan, 4, Duraisamy Road, T. Nagar**

OBITUARY

K.S. VASUDEVAN

K.S. Vasudevan (resident of 152/125, Lake View Road, Podhigai Kudil, West Mambalam, Ph: 2489 9439) passed away on Dec. 22.

He was 67 and had been a long time resident of West Mambalam. He had retired from Dina Thanthi group and was involved in the production of its magazine Rani Weekly.

He is survived by his wife.



150 attend free eye screening program

By Our Staff Reporter

About 150 persons attended the free eye screening and hepatitis B check-up program conducted by Daasya at MCN Higher Secondary School, (T. Nagar) on Dec. 27.

A team of doctors from Sankara Nethralaya examined the patients.

Free spectacles were donated to persons with eye defects.



58-year-old woman teaches yoga in temple



By Our Staff Reporter

58-year-old S. Kalai Chelvi has been conducting free yoga classes in Ashok Nagar Anjaneyar Temple and 20 other centers in the city for the past several years. She also teaches yoga to visually-impaired and mentally challenged persons.

She said that even though she is nearing 60, regular practice of yoga has kept her mentally and physically fit. She said that she has half a dozen grandchildren.

Chelvi said that she was always interested in physical activities and had excelled in athletics and throwball during her school days.

She had learnt yoga from Asana Andiappan and was later influenced by the teachings of spiritual guru Vethathiri Maharishi. Her yoga classes are based on Maharishi's methodologies.

She has taught yoga to a number of persons ranging from the age group of 5 to 85 and continues to do so.

She also holds a Ph.D degree in yoga.

Her contact number is 99404 97147.

Program in Ramana Bhaktha Samajam on Sundays

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Ramana Bhaktha Samajam, West Mambalam (BVSN Moorthy School, Thambiah Road, West Mambalam) conducts the following program on Sundays:

5 p.m: Veda paarayanam

5.30 p.m: Ramana Maharishi's Aksharamanamalai.

6 p.m: Discourse.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in phone 94441 72623.

Dilapidated Aavin booth on Arya Gowda Road misused



By Our Staff Reporter

An unused and dilapidated Aavin milk booth at the junction of Arya Gowda Road and Krupasankari Street (West Mambalam) has been in a dilapidated condition for the past several months.

According to nearby

residents, the booth is misused for nefarious activities at night and its surrounding is used for urinating. He said that garbage is often dumped inside the booth and a private builder has also been utilizing the booth and the space in front of it to keep his construction materials.

Lec-dem program on 'Navagraha kritis' launched

By Our Staff Reporter

M. Vijayalakshmi will launch a program on Saturday, Jan. 3, at 11/5, Nu-Tech Vijaya Apartments, Raju Naicken Street, West Mambalam, to perform lec-dems on Dikshitar's 'Navagraha kritis' with her students in the month of April.

Anyone wishing to join the program may contact Vijayalakshmi at 98844 84860.

She teaches Carnatic music in Jai Gopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya (Postal Colony, West Mambalam) and also at her residence.

She has been performing lec-dems with her students for a number of years. She said that they give an opportunity for them to prepare themselves to give stage concerts.

Plastic charpoy serves as an umbrella



By Our Staff Reporter

A pillion rider was seen holding a foldable plastic charpoy with a metal frame over his head to protect himself and the driver from getting drenched during the heavy showers on Dec. 30. The photo was taken at around 2 p.m on Srinivasa Street (West Mambalam).

Bright LED lights pose problems to drivers

By Our Staff Reporter

Traffic police installed extremely bright LED lights at busy junctions in the neighbourhood on the night of Dec. 31 to deter riders from over speeding.

One such light was placed on a plastic chair in front of a barricade near Kasi Theater junction. Motorists complained that the lights were so bright that it almost blinded them. The glare was so piercing that it took a while for their vision to become clear.

Akshaya's dance recital tomorrow



By Our Staff Reporter

M. Akshaya Srilalithaa (resident of 61/5, Brindavan Street, West Mambalam) will present a Bharatanatyam dance recital on Sunday, Jan. 7, at 7.45 p.m in TTD Center (Venkatnarayana Road, T. Nagar).

She is a student of Surya Narayanan.

Free dental check from 9.30 a.m today

By Our Staff Reporter

Rotary Club of Chennai K. K. Nagar has organized a free dental check-up on Saturday, Jan. 3, from 9 a.m to 12.30 p.m at Anjali Mahal, Pachaiappan Street, Choolaipalam, MGR Nagar.

A team doctors from Sri Ramachandra Hosiptal will examine the patients.

All are welcome. More details can be had by calling 94443 62244.

TAMIL CINEMA 75 - A LOOK BACK

By RANDOR GUY
G. RAMANATHAN - 21

'Rajulu Marayee' was a major hit in Telugu, released in 1955. It was directed by Thapi Chanakya, a noted Telugu filmmaker and was produced by C.V.R. Prasad, a contemporary of the Indian movie icon, L.V. Prasad.

A newcomer to movies named Waheeda Rehman virtually stole the film doing a dance number about farmers rising against vested interests and fighting for rural prosperity. This song, 'Eruvaaka Saagaloy' was adapted from a familiar folk song composed by Valluri Jagannatham who was popular as a gramophone disc musician in Telugu and his discs were best sellers. The film was shot by the camera maestro Kamal Ghosh whose work added lustre to her dance sequence.

(Waheeda Rehman, who had faced a movie camera for the first time, hit the headlines. However, more interesting headlines appeared in Madras and Tamil-speaking areas of the old Madras Presidency when the producers of the Telugu film sent a legal notice to the noted Tamil film producers Krishna Pictures (Lena Chettiar was the moving force behind the company) and the music composer G. Ramanathan, who had composed a similar song in 'Madurai Veeran' starting with 'Summa iruntha soathukku nashtam'. The tune and the orchestration were all the same, and even some of the shots were similar. Shocked by the legal notice, Lena Chettiar and G. Ramanathan rushed to meet their advocate at his home-office in Lady Desikachari Road in Mylapore. He was the noted Madras High Court Original Side lawyer with many interests in arts, music, film and more by name V. C. Gopalratnam (this writer's guru-in-law, as he was then an apprentice-at-law in VCG's chambers).

This was VCG's first meeting with G. Ramanathan and they met quite often later, mostly at the Rajakumari cinema in T. Nagar (sadly no longer in existence) which Ramanathan visited frequently to watch English movies mainly for the music. Very often, he and this writer sat in adjoining seats and talked about film music, Western film tunes and such matters of common interest to both.)

Gopalratnam sent a reply in his usual high-flown English to the Telugu film producers asserting that there was no copyright for that tune which was based on old rural Telugu folk music, and nobody could claim any rights exclusively. The matter ended there but the producers ran an advertisement in Tamil newspapers with the headline 'Poligalai kandu emaaratheergal!' (Do not be carried away by fakes!).

The same Telugu tune found its way to Hindi Cinema during 1960s with two iconic Hindi film music composing legends, S. D. Burman who took the tune for the lyric 'Dekhne me bhola hai mera salona' rendered by Lata Mangeshkar in 'Bombai Ka Babu,' and Chitragupta for 'Pathang' (a remake of Vauhini Pictures' 'Peddamanushulu') for the song 'Rangrekha Dhadhkhandi lathi tho hogi' (Lata Mangeshkar).

The song list in 'Madurai Veeran' continues:

5. 'Avarukkum enakkum': A sentimental song sung by the heroine P. Bhanumathi in the Raga 'Desh'. This is from Classical Hindustani music and was used in the National song 'Vande Matharam' and also used in many movies in Tamil, Kannada, Telugu, Hindi and other languages.

6. 'Senthamizhkkku' is in Raga Kambodhi, a traditional raga of Classical Carnatic Music and was sung by the inimitable M. L. Vasanthakumari

7. 'Vaanga a machhan vanga', a hit tune in Raga Senjuritti sung by Jikki and P. Leelaina a dance sequence with E.V. Saroja and G. Sakunthala and also M.G. Ramachandran. He danced excellently with agile movements.

8. 'Mutthupol pallazhagi' in Raga Jonpuri, filmed on MGR with T.M. Soundararajan singing for him was a hit song.

With his hit music in 'Madurai Veeran', the reputation of G. Ramanathan, the Tamil Movie Music Charmer, soared still higher. Of course, his best was yet to come!

(To be continued)

The T. Nagar - Mambalam edition of **Mambalam Times** can be accessed in www.mambalamtimes.in

Excels in Taekwondo tourney

By Our Staff Reporter
V. K. A. N. A. N. D. (resident of West Mambalam)



won one silver and two bronze medals in the 11th National Taekwondo Championship meet conducted by Tamil Nadu ITF Association on Dec. 31 in Chennai.

He is a Std. 6 student of Narayana Mission School (Mambalam).

Thousands visit TTD for Vaikunta Ekadesi

By Our Staff Reporter

Thousands of devotees had darshan of Lord Venkateshwara Perumal and Thayaar Padmavathi in Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam (Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar) on Jan. 1 on the occasion of Vaikunta Ekadesi and New Year's Day.



Devotees stood patiently in long queues that extended into nearby streets as well. Hundreds of policemen were deployed to regulate traffic and prevent any untoward incidents.

Overhead crossbars erected on Duraisamy Subway



By Our Staff Reporter

Overhead crossbars at a height of 15 feet have been installed at both ends of Duraisamy Subway, T. Nagar, to prevent overloaded vehicles from passing through.

'Sports Day' held for children with special needs

By Our Staff Reporter

Arvind Foundation (387, 27th Street, 6th Sector, K.K. Nagar) conducted its first 'Sports Day' for children with special needs in YMCA (Nandanam) recently.

Over 109 of its mentally challenged students participated in 16 different events.

Sudha Athmaraj (founder member) said that it takes a lot of time and effort to train such children to compete in sports. The benefit includes improving their skills in areas like motor skills, breathing, coordination, balance and cognitive skills including sequencing, memory, understanding commands and patience. Children with autism are the most difficult to train, she said.

Arvind Foundation is a charitable organization that takes care and trains mentally challenged children. It has 6 centers wherein about 120 children undergo need-based education and vocational training.

Its contact numbers are 98410 34234, 98416 15333 and 72999 11022. For more details, visit the website www.arvindfoundation.org.

Vishnu Sahasranaamam contest for school students

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Vishnu Sahasranaama Nidhi Trust, Karur (Chennai Centre), will conduct its preliminary round of 'Vishnu Sahasranaamam' recitation competition for school students on Feb. 1.

The contests will be held in junior (under-11) and senior (under-16) categories.

The last date for registration is Jan. 10.

Interested participants will have to register through their schools.

For venue and other details, please call 99416 60456.

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WANTED social worker / parttime, retired teachers can also apply, salary Rs. 5000 permonth (negotiable). Apply: Sri Viveka Institute of Dental Health, No. 54, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar.

WANTED 1) Smart, young lady assistants and teachers for a play school in T. Nagar, 10th / +2 / graduates, fluent in English. 2) Teachers for vocal, keyboard, veena, Western dance, chess, drawing, painting & tailoring. 3) Ayahs. Ph: 2434 7669, 98846 86933.

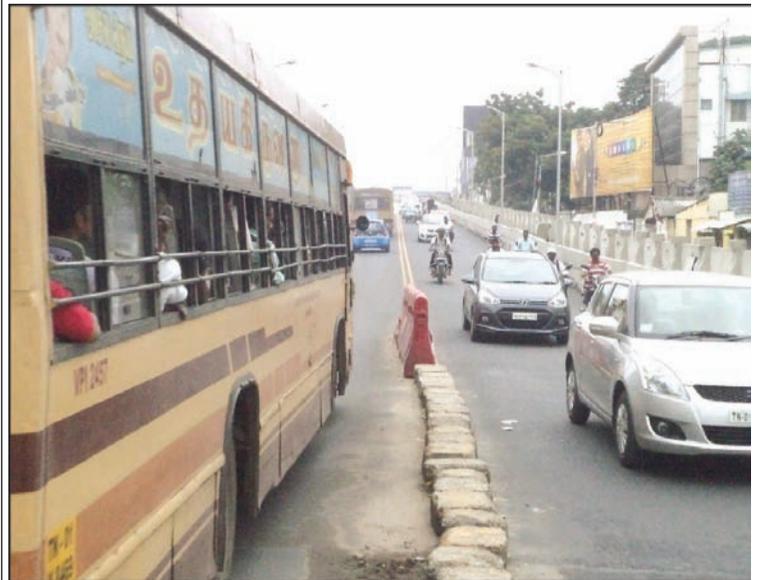
WANTED male office boy / assistant, aged below 25 years, minimum 10th pass, salary Rs. 6500 per month for a Construction Company, No. 24/11, Radhakrishnan Street, T. Nagar. Ph: 98412 29007.

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ANY old type of sofas, cushions repairing & reconditioning at very moderate charges. Contact: K.N.S. Rajan, New No. 58, Peters Road, Royapettah. Ph: 93818 03956, 76671 33233.

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1) KASI Yathra - Triveni Sangam, chitrakoot, Naimisaryam, Ayodhya, Kasi, Gaya for 12 days from 30th March. 2) Mukthinath Yathra - Kasi, Mukthinath, Man Kamna, Katmandu for 13 days from 6th April. 3) Himachal Sakthi Peet and Sakthi Temples for 13 days from 19th February. Contact: Sujana Tours. Ph: 2489 5144, 94449 45003.

Two-way traffic restored on Kodambakkam flyover



By Our Staff Reporter

Two-way traffic for heavy vehicles was resumed on Kodambakkam Bridge on Jan. 1. The bridge was already made 2-way for light vehicles on Jan. 28, with Chennai Corporation completing the renovation work.

The bridge, which serves as a critical link to several areas including Ashok Nagar, KKNagar and Vadapalani, was closed to heavy vehicles for four years, while light vehicles were allowed intermittently.

Earlier, vehicles were diverted from Kodambakkam and Vallurkottam via the Y-shape Bazullah Road flyover.

A Corporation official said that the construction of the wall on both the sides is in progress and will not disturb the traffic flow.

Two-way traffic was also resumed on North Usman Road and Bazullah Road which has brought relief to motorists.

Protruding rubber tubes in middle of road hinders motorists



There are some half buried thick rubber tubes protruding by about 2 feet from the middle of Thiruvalluvar 1st Street, Nesapakkam for the past several days. They give the appearance of metal rods from a distance and motorists try to avoid them by driving on the road margin, thereby posing a risk to pedestrians. The road is also in a bad condition.

Calling volunteers for free service in Tirumala

By Our Staff Reporter

Sevas (50, Dharga Road, Rajaji Nagar, Pallavaram) sends volunteers for a week-long service to pilgrims in Tirumala starting on Mondays and ending on Sundays.

Men and women who are physically fit and are willing to stay in Tirumala for a week are welcome to offer their services for 6 hours everyday. The work will be of supervisory nature. Accommodation, lunch and dinner will be provided free of cost.

They can have special darshan of Lord Venkateswara.

Traveling expense and the cost of breakfast must be borne by the volunteers.

Those interested can call 78455 58334 or 94449 01138.

Smart Skills offers discount on course fee till Jan. 10

Smart Skills Sewing School offers several vocational courses for women. For New Year it is offering a rebate of Rs. 500 on fees for any 1/3/6 months course and 25% off on beautician course.

The offer closes on Jan. 10. The courses are approved by the Govt. of India and certified by USHA Ltd.

For more details, contact its centers in K.K. Nagar (Ph: 74011 27223), Ashok Nagar (Ph: 72999 04686) or West Mambalam (Ph: 72998 12034).

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MAMBALAM TIMES

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Classified Advertisements under the heads Accommodation Required, Old Age Home, Marriage hall, Mini Hall, Real Estate (Buying & Selling) and Rental will be published on this page. The charges are Rs. 500 (upto 30 words); Bold Rs. 750. Ashok Nagar - K.K. Nagar & Mambalam - T.Nagar Editions. Display: Rs. 240 per col. centimeter. Each advertisement of Real Estate and Rental must relate to only one house / flat. Full Address with Door Number is must for Rental advertisement.

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T. NAGAR, Pandian Complex, Motilal Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 500 sq.ft, ground floor, maintained, 20 years old. Ph: 96001 38307.

WEST K. K. NAGAR, East Vanniar Street, behind Pondicherry Guest House, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, 1st floor, 4 years old, tiles, fully furnished, price Rs. 65 lakhs. Ph: 89390 89480.

WEST MAMBALAM, Ramaya Street, Vadivelupuram, near Mambalam Railway Station, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 900 sq.ft, new 2nd floor apartment, 4-in-1 flat, covered car park, rate Rs. 7000 per sq.ft (negotiable). Contact: A.C. Sarathy. Ph: 90427 2352, 81489 59362.

T. NAGAR, South West Boag Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 920 sq.ft, UDS 400 sq.ft, 3rd floor, lift, 16 years old, open car park, balcony, A/cs, geyser, woodwork, under CMDA, commercial, price Rs. 67 lakhs, cash parties. Ph: 99405 55276, 99400 80093.

T. NAGAR, No. 17/53, South Boag Road, 580 sq.ft, 1st floor, cash parties only, call before visit. Ph: 98403 13891.

T. NAGAR, No. 20/2, Sakthi Devi Flat, Mannar Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 800 sq.ft, UDS 520 sq.ft, service area, car park. Ph: 99520 47436.

WEST MAMBALAM Satyapuri Street, prime location, 2 BHK, no car park, outright sale.
T. NAGAR Thyagaraya Street, prime location, 1 BHK, outright sale.
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KODAMBAKKAM, No. 14/2, Thiruvalluvar Street, North end of Rangarajapuram Main Road, near Arcot Road, 813 sq.ft, UDS 558 sq.ft, ground floor. Ph: 93821 56977.

WEST MAMBALAM, Bharathi Street, behind Ayodhya Mandapam, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 550 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking, 24 years old, price Rs. 38 lakhs (negotiable), no brokers. Ph: 99403 15101, 4266 8646.

RENTAL

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 33/2, Thambiah Road Extension, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, dining, 810 sq.ft, independent ground floor house, bath attached, 2-wheeler, parking, small Brahmin family only, no brokers. Ph: 99629 82929.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 70, 12th Avenue, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 bath attached, 1400 sq.ft, 1st floor, separate entrance & car park, 24 hours water. Ph: 2489 1300.

WEST MAMBALAM, no. 1-3, Flat No. K, Vijayshanthi Apartment, Eswaran Koil Street, near Mambalam Railway Station, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 711 sq.ft, ground floor, 2-wheeler parking, small Brahmin family. Ph: 94445 83463.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 11/6, 9th Avenue, near GRT School, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1200 sq.ft, 2 attached bathrooms, 1 common bathroom, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 25000, advance 10 months, Brahmins / vegetarians only. Ph: 98846 35680.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 17, Balakrishna (N) Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor. Ph: 94442 19724.

T. NAGAR, No. 2, Sivasailam Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 900 sq.ft, 1st floor, semi furnished, 24 hours water, tiled floors, open car park, family / MNC working preferred. Ph: 98844 53455.

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WEST MAMBALAM, No. 175/80, Lake View Road, opposite Public Health Centre, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, pooja room, service area, 1300 sq.ft, 1st floor flat, covered car park, rent Rs. 25000, Brahmins only. Ph: 98401 50998, 098199 62846.

WEST MAMBALAM, Old No. 1/1, New No. 9, Devanarum Colony, adjacent to Srinivasa Theatre, 2 bedrooms, big hall, kitchen, pooja room, 1100 sq.ft, attached toilet, semi furnished, 2-wheeler parking, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 15000 including maintenance. Ph: 2474 6664, 99622 73222.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 31, Raju Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3rd floor, lift, open car park, rent Rs. 13000, maintenance Rs. 800, no brokers. Ph: 94444 72112.

T. NAGAR, No. 25, Gopal Street, 4 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2000 sq.ft, individual ground floor house. Contact: Kamal. Ph: 99401 03809.

KODAMBAKKAM No. 53/46, Palayakaran Street, near Arcot Road & Ashok Nagar Main Road (40ft Road) 8000 sq.ft, individual building, stilt + 4 floors, latest super deluxe amenities, automatic lift, 4800 sqft CCP / Two wheeler park. Suitable for Banks / MNC / Corporates, Company Guest house etc., Ph: 87545 78694 93813 55544

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WEST MAMBALAM, No. 20/4, Rams Subasri, Postal Colony 4th Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 840 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 attached Western bathrooms, geysers, fully furnished, 3 phase, vegetarians, short term rental only for 10 months. Ph: 90031 54385, 99620 15447.

ASHOK NAGAR, No. 6, 9th Avenue, near 10th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor apartment, balcony, bath attached, woodwork, car park, tiles flooring, rent Rs. 12000, advance 6 months. Ph: 2433 3477, 98411 93685.

KODAMBAKKAM, No. 4B, Flat No. G-6, Krithika Apartment, Janakiammal Street, Rangarajapuram, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 610 sq.ft, ground floor, rent Rs. 12000, Brahmins/vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 91765 77833, 2814 0052.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 17, Postal Colony 1st Street, 2 bedrooms (A/c fitted), hall, kitchen, furnished apartment, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 18000. Ph: 74013 83316.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 42, Chakrapani Street, near Five Light, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, balcony, service area, 3rd floor, no lift, open car park, vegetarians only. Contact: Sridhar G. (10 a.m & 1 p.m). Ph: 98846 96090.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 36, Lake View Road, near Station Road, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, semi furnished flat, 3 phase EB, closed almirahs, fridge, TV, washing machine etc., strictly for vegetarians. Ph: 90032 64146.

T. NAGAR, No. 78, South Boag Road, near Nandanam Signal, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1200 sq.ft, 2nd floor, lift, mosaic, woodwork, A/c, geyser, open car park, vegetarian family only, rent Rs. 25000, Contact: Balaji. Ph: 084529 22393, 099873 11316.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 16/1, Murthy Street, near Ayodhya Mandapam, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins / vegetarians only, nobrokers. Ph: 97907 64332.

WEST MAMBALAM, New No. 19, Old No. 7, near Five Lights, opposite Corporation office, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen. Ph: 78120 34222.

KODAMBAKKAM, No. 14/2, Thiruvalluvar Street, Norethend of Rangarajapuram Main Road, near Arcot Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 940 sq.ft, ground floor, rent Rs. 17000. Ph: 93821 56977.

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ASHOK NAGAR, No. 17, Raghava Reddy Colony 4th Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 320 sq.ft, 1st floor, attached bathroom, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 5500. Ph: 99624 30669.

WEST MAMBALAM, No. 7, Brindavan Street Extension, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 1080 sq.ft, 3rd floor, no lift, fully woodwork, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 15000 (negotiable). A.C. Sarathy. Ph: 90427 72352, 81489 59362.

T. NAGAR, No. 63, Bazullah Road, behind Vivek & Co., single bedroom, 610 sq.ft, 2nd floor flat, no lift, 24 hours water, semi furnished, recently whitewash done. Ph: 094804 91743.

Wooden garbage bin on Boag Road to collect used plastic bottles

Chennai Corporation has installed an attractive wooden garbage bin on South Boag Road (West Mambalam) for disposing plastic bottles.

The bin has two openings and the letter 'G' of the words 'Go Green' written on it encompassing one of the openings. The bin is painted in yellow.

A notice board has been placed on top of the bin with a message in Tamil requesting public to dispose of water and aerated drink bottles in the bin after use.

An official said that it is part of Corporation's ongoing 'Go Green' campaign. More such bins will be installed in the neighbourhood, he said.



Traffic jams on Anna Main Road due to pipe laying work

By Our Staff Reporter

A major pipeline laying work (under the Chennai City River Conservation Project) has been started at the junction of Anna Main Road with K.K. Salai and R. K. Shanmugam Salai (K. K. Nagar) due to which there is heavy traffic congestion daily during peak hours.

A long stretch of the Anna Main Road in its center has been barricaded with tin sheets and only a narrow stretch on both sides is open for vehicles to ply.

Vehicles coming from the adjacent roads have to take a long detour to cross Anna Main Road.

Wins medals in international skating tourney



By Our Staff Reporter

C. K. Sai Naren (resident of AP 289, New No. 14, 8th Sector, 41st Street, K. K. Nagar) won the gold medal in the 500 m race and silver medal in the 300 m race in the international roller skating tournament held on Dec. 27 and 28 in Bangkok.

He was the first under-6 quad skater from Tamilnadu to compete in an international tourney. Sai Naren is a student of Spunk Roller Skating Club, K. K. Nagar.

His father N. Karthik is a daily wage cook.

Tiles of walkers' path in Panagal Park damaged



By Our Staff Reporter

The tiles of the walker's path in Panagal Park are in a deteriorating condition. Most of the tiles have either got loose or broken as the foundation has

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Ramkamathpuram playground misused for drying clothes

The play area in the Corporation playground, Ramkamathpuram, T. Nagar, is being misused by nearby residents for drying clothes. A group of boys complained to the reporter that they were not able to play any games as someone or the other keeps drying clothes in their playing space. "It is school holiday time for us and we cannot use the ground to play," they said. "We have no other option but to go to other nearby playgrounds which are already crowded," they added.



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MTC union calls off strike

By Our Staff Reporter

The calling off of the ongoing strike by the MTC labour union on Dec. 31 after discussions with the concerned authorities brought much needed relief to commuters.

With schools and especially colleges slated to open from Monday, Dec. 5, it would have become very difficult and expensive for the students to commute without buses.



A number of commuters at T. Nagar Bus terminus said that with truncated services from Dec. 28, they were put to lots of hardship in terms of waiting and boarding overcrowded buses.

Many who switched over to the suburban trains said that they had to pay astronomical auto fares to reach the nearest station.

Even share autos were

fleeing them, they said.

A driver who did not participate in the strike said that when the bus he was driving broke down at Thyagaraya Road junction, he could not arrange an alternate bus for the commuters as none were plying on that route.

The bus could be repaired and removed from the spot only the next day, he added.

3-day discourse on 'Divya Desa Vaibhavam'

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Sri Suprabhata Sabha, Anand Dayanidhi will give a 3-day discourse on 'Divya Desa Vaibhavam' on Jan. 8, 9 and 10, from 6.30 p.m to 8.30 p.m in the Sabha's premises at 10/6, Baroda 2nd Street, West Mambalam, Ph: 2480 0440.

All are welcome.

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CB-CID to probe youth's alleged torture in police custody

By Our Staff Reporter

Ashok Kumar (DIG of Police) in T. Nagar Police Station. The youth who was arrested on Dec. 31 ordered a CB-CID probe into the alleged sexual torture of a 19-year-old youth

with three other inmates in the custody.

He was admitted to a government hospital for treatment and later released on bail.

Doctors who examined him found evidence of his claims. The youth was nabbed on Dec. 10 for snatching valuables from a woman in Mambalam, but his arrest was recorded only on December 11. Police also nabbed three minors for committing similar offences. It is alleged that the three were made to sexually molest the youth. His mother alleged that the torture continued even after he started to bleed.

After an inter-departmental enquiry, the case was handed over to CB-CID. M.V. Jaya Gowri is in charge of the investigation.

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ஆன்னை தெரசா மகளிர் வளாகம் (வள்ளுவர் கோட்டம் அருகில்)