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Date: 7th Jan'18 Day: Sunday
Timing: 10.30am to 12.30pm
Venue: Bharathiya Vidhya Bhavan (BVB)
#18, East Mada Street, Mylapore
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FREE

The Editor and Staff of
Mambalam Times
Wish You A Happy New Year!

Luggage atop bus gets stuck in bridge over subway



By Our Staff Reporter

Traffic was affected for more than 2 hours after luggage piled atop a bus got stuck under the bridge over Duraiswamy Subway, T. Nagar on Dec. 28.

According to traffic police, the empty bus belonging to a travel agency was on its way to pick up passengers from its office on Usman Road.

They said that luggage was piled on top of the bus, thereby increasing its height. When the bus entered the subway, its roof loaded with the luggage scraped the concrete bridge above. When the driver tried to reverse the bus, a portion of the luggage got stuck under the bridge.

The tyres of the bus were deflated to reduce the height of the bus and free it from the bridge and wheel it out.

During the 2-hour period, traffic from Ashok Nagar was diverted towards Dr. Ambedkar Road and North Usman Road.

Man held for peddling opium

By Our Staff Reporter

Officers of the Narcotics Intelligence Bureau (NIB)-CID arrested a man with 35 gm. of opium valued at Rs. 3.5 lakhs in T. Nagar on Dec. 27.

He told the police that he was on his way to deliver the drug to a group of persons planning a New Year party. The man was identified as S. Balasubramanian (32), a resident of Hanumanthan Street, T. Nagar.

The police had received a tipoff and accosted him near his house.

When they searched him, they found the drug hidden in a container in his bag. Further investigation is on.

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தமாஷா வரிகள்

ஜே. எஸ். ராகவன்

'உனக்காக எல்லாம் உனக்காக!'

குர்த்தா, குர்த்தி, சார்செளபீஸ், ஜர்தா வரிசைகளோடு சேர்த்துப் பேச வேண்டிய வட இந்திய இறக்குமதிகளில் சமீபத்திய சங்கீத, மெகந்தி இடைச் செருகல்கள் இல்லாது நடந்து முடிந்த அந்தக் காலத் திருமணங்களில் கட்டாயம் இடம்பெறும் மாலை நலங்கை ஆவலுடன் எதிர்பார்த்திருந்தவர்களில் முதன்மையானவர் அத்தையன்.

அத்தையன் வயசு என்பதுக்கு ஒரு நாள் கூடக் குறையாது. சுங்குடிப் புடவை, மஞ்சள் முகம், பளிச் சூங்கும், டாலடிக்கும் முக்குத்திகள், பொன்னே நரைத்த முடி, அதில் ஒரு நறுக்கு மல்லிகைப் பூ. நாக்கில் நைடிக் ஆசிட் ஊறும் கிழவரோடு எழுபது வருஷங்களுக்கு மேல் மக்காத குப்பை கொட்டிக் கொண்டிருக்கும் பழைய வார்ப்பு.

திருமணம் முடிந்த ஹாலில் நீளமும், அகலமுமாகப் பத்தமடைபட்டுப் பாய் விரிக்கப்பட்டு விம்பிள்டன் டென்னிஸ் கோர்ட் மாதிரி எதிரும் புதிருமாக இருக்கிற தம்பதிக்கு நடுவில் Chair அம்பயராக இருக்கும் அத்தையன். முகத்தில் ககன குதூகலம். முன் வரிசையில் நண்டும் சின்னமாக வார் வைத்த டிராயர், பாடி பாவாடை அரை டிக்கெட்டுகள்.

'டீ, சரஸ்வதி? என்னடி பண்ணப் போறா?'

'தெர்லேடா.'

நார், குடுமி நீக்கப்பட்டு மஞ்சள் தடவிய இரண்டு தேங்காய்களை அத்தையன் நீலிஸ் செய்கிறார். மாப்பிள்ளையும், பெண்ணும் அதைத் தலா ஒன்றாக எடுத்துக் கொண்டு எதிரும் புதிருமாக உருட்டி நலங்கை ஆரம்பிக்கிறார்கள். அத்தையன் மியக்கத்தின் படி உருட்டலை நிறுத்திவிட்டு நடுமத்திசென்டரில் மாப்பிள்ளை தேங்காயை அழுத்திப் பிடித்துக் கொள்கிறான். பெண் அதை நீலிஸ் செய்ய வேண்டும். எழுதப்படாத ரூல்ஸ்படி கையைக் கிள்ளக்கூடாது. நகத்தால் கீறக் கூடாது. விட்டுக் கொடுக்கவும் கூடாது. மாப்பிள்ளைக்கு ஒரு கைதான் அனுமதி. பெண்ணுக்கு இரண்டு கைகளும். பெண்ணால் முடியவில்லை என்றாகிவிட்டால் பார்வையாளர்களின் கைத்தட்டலுக்கு இடையே மாப்பிள்ளை முதல் செட்டில் வெற்றி பெற்றதாகி விடுவார்.

அடுத்த செட்டில் தேங்காயைப் பெண் இரண்டு கைகளால் அழுத்திப் பிடிக்க மாப்பிள்ளை மருதாணி ஹோலிக்கும் விரல்களை நீக்கித் தேங்காயை அபகரிக்க வேண்டும். மாப்பிள்ளை வெற்றி பெறுவாரா மாட்டாரா? பெண்ணின் கை



ஓங்கி இருக்குமா? என்கிற சஸ்பென்ஸ் குழுமி இருக்கும் பார்வையாளர்களை உசுப்பிவிடும். 'ஆரம்பிட்டு' என்கிற அத்தையன் குரல் கேட்டு மாப்பிள்ளை சடக்கென்று வலது கையால் தேங்காயை நீலிஸ் செய்ய முடியும் என்றாலும், பின்னர் தொடர் இருக்கும் மண வாழ்க்கை சிதம்பரமாக அமையுமா அல்லது மதுரையாக அமையுமா என்கிற கேள்விக்கு இது ஒரு முன் னோடியாக இருக்கும். மாப்பிள்ளை முன் யோசனையுடன் விட்டுக் கொடுத்து விடக்கூடும். அத்தையன் 'அடப் போடா!' என்கிற போலியான சலிப்பை சிரித்து மழுப்பித் தள்ளிவிடக்கூடும்.

பாட்டு இல்லாத நலங்கா? நேர வே! யார் முதலில் பாடி ஆரம்பிப்பது என்பது ஒரு சிக்கலான விஷயம். 'பாரு, நீ பாடேண்டி. என்ன மாட்டியா? அன்னலட்சுமி, நீ? நீ பாடேண்டி. என்ன? தொண்டை கட்டிண்டு இருக்கா? சசீலா நீ? இதென்ன கூத்துடி. ட்யூஷன் வெச்சுண்டு பாடக் கத் துண்டது எல்லாம் எதுக்கு? இப்படி ஆளாளுக்கு பிகு பண்ணிண்டா எப்படி? சரி நானே ஆரம்பிக்கிறேன்'னு அத்தை, 'சிம்ம வாசன சேவை தருவாய், சொர்ணமணி...ங்கிற பல்லவியுடன் ஆரம்பித்து வழியில் அசம்பாவிதம் இல்லாமல் தேரை நிலைக்குக் கொண்டு வந்து விடுவார். பின்னர் பல பாடகிகள் போட்டி போட்டுக் கொண்டு தொடர்வார்கள். சிலரின் பாட்டு 'கால் காசு கொடுத்துப் பாடச் சொன்னால் அரைக் காசு கொடுத்து நிறுத்தச் சொல்லணும்' வகையில் காதைக் கவ்வினாலும் அத்தை முடியும் வரை காத்திருப்பார்.

'நீ பாடா'ன்னு அத்தை மாப்பிள்ளைப் பையனை முடுக்கி விடுவார். நடிகர் சந்திராபாபுவின் சிறிய பனை ஓலை விசிறி மாதிரி அல்லாமல் பெருத்த சாமரமான மாப்பிள்ளை 'உனக்காக எல்லாம் உனக்காக, என் உடலும் உயிரும் ஒட்டி இருப்பது உனக்காக'ன்னு கோஸ்ட் வாசிசில் பாட ஆரம்பித்தவுடன் கைத்தட்டல்களும், விசில்களும் தடுமனாகக் கிளம்பிப் பெண்ணை மேலும் நாணம் அடைய வைக்கும். 'இலங்கை நகரத்திலே இன்பவல்லி நீ இருந்தால் இந்து மகா சமுத்திரத்தை இங்கே யிருந்தே தாண்டிடுவேன்'னு சக்கைப் போடு போட்டு லாங் பிளேயிங் ரெகார்டாகத் தொடருவான்.

'சொல்லும்மா, உனக்கு எந்தப் பாட்டு வேணும்? வெக்கப் படாம கேளு. உனக்காகப் பாடுவான்' இது அத்தை.

பெண்ணின் முகத்தில் குறும்பு கொப்பளிக்கும். 'உன்னை மாட்டி வெக்கட்டுமா'ங்கிற முனைப்புடன், 'நான் ஒரு முட்டாளுங்க'ங்கிற பாட்டைப் பாட முடியுமா'ன்னு கேட்டு, 'சந்திராபாபுவை' க்ளீன் போட்டு ஆக்கிவிடுவார்.

சமையல்காரர் கொண்டு வந்து வைத்த கட்ட அப்பங்களைக் கைக்கு ஒன்றாக எடுத்துக் கொண்டு பெண்ணும், மாப்பிள்ளையும் முன்று முறைகள் தலைக்கு மேல் சுற்றி 'சடக்' என்று தட்டி உடைத்துத் தூள் தூளாக்க வேண்டும். செய்தார்கள்.

'இது எதுக்கு? யாருக்காவது தெரியுமா? தெரியாதுதானே? எனக்கும் தெரியாது. டேய் ராகவா! நீதான் எழுத்தாளனாச்சே! ஏதானும் கதை விடேன்' என்கிறான் அத்தையன்.

எனக்கும் தெரியாது. இருந்தாலும் சபையின் நடுவில் கேட்டு விட்டதால் ஏதாவது சொல்லியாக வேண்டும்! லாயத்தில் நின்று கொண்டிருந்த கற்பனைக் குதிரையின் மேல் அந்தக் கால ரஞ்சன், எம்.ஜி.ஆர் மாதிரித் தாவி உட்கார்ந்து குளம்பு ஒலியுடன் ஒரு ரௌண்டு வந்தேன். சொல்றேன் என்று தொண்டையைக் களைத்துக் கொண்டு சொன்னேன்.

'கல்யாணம்கிறது ஆயிரம் காலத்துப் பயிர். தென்றலாகவே எப்பவும் வீசிக் கொண்டிருக்காது. புயலும் வீசும். கணவன் மனைவிக்கு அவ்வப்போது கோபம் வந்தால் காரமான வார்த்தைகளை கட்ட அப்பளம் மாதிரித் தலையிலே சுள்ளு போட்டு உடைக்காமல் மேட்டரை ஆறப் போடணும். ஆறின் அப்பளத்தை உடைக்க முடியுமா? இதிலே இருக்கிற குட்சமம் இது தான். ஏமண்டி, அத்தையா! இளக்கம் பாகம் உன்னா?'

சம்பட்டத்திலே இருந்த ஒரு லட்டை எடுத்து என் வாயில் திணித்தான். கற்பனைக் குதிரை வாலைச் சுழற்றிக் களைத்தது. writerjsr@gmail.com

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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. 600) and 4 cm. x 2 column (costing Rs. 1200)

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Rail Museum revamped, open for extended hours

By Our Staff Reporter

The Chennai Rail Museum (CRM) in Villivakkam has been revamped with a new amphitheater, museum shop, attractive art, rail heritage depiction, diamond jubilee gallery and a sculpture park.

The museum opens for the public at 10 a.m on Saturdays and Sundays. Owing to public demand, the closure time has been extended from 6 p.m to 10 p.m. Under the theme of 'Weekend Rail Night', the museum will be decoratively illuminated to make it look vibrant and colourful at night.

According to curator Arun Devraj, depending on the response, the museum may be kept open on all days.

He said that the special initiative to spruce up the museum and make it more attractive and popular was taken up by S. Mani (General Manager, ICF).

At the new museum shop on the 1st floor, visitors can buy souvenirs and accessories themed around Indian Railways. They include fridge magnets, stamp magnets, tiepin sets, nickel key chains and locomotive toys.

The new 2,500 sq.ft amphitheater, constructed at a cost of Rs. 17 lakhs, is open to accomplished and upcoming artistes to practise and conduct plays on weekends. It includes a stage for performers, two changing rooms and can seat around 150 persons.

Arun told *Mambalam Times* that work on developing a themed restaurant in an old railway coach is also underway.

The museum currently hosts heritage exhibits dating from the 1800s, a toy train that takes visitors around the premises, and a playground. The museum's collection includes both indoor and outdoor exhibits.

The indoor galleries include various photographs detailing the early years of Integral Coach Factory and the Indian Railways. The museum also houses a working scale model of trains and rare artifacts from the colonial days.

For more details, contact V. Venkataraman (official guide) in 98418 68402.

Talk on Thiru Arutpa on Tuesday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Vallalar Sanmarga Sangam (V.O.C Street, MGR Nagar, Ph: 94453 43706), Dr. M. A. Hussain will give a discourse on 'Thiru Arutpa - மெய்ஞ்ஞானமும் விஞ்ஞானமும்' on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 6 p.m, in Sakthi Vinayagar Temple (P. T. Rajan Salai, K. K. Nagar).

All are welcome.

IAF veteran gets pension after 55 years

By Our Staff Reporter

More than 55 years after V. Sundaram (a resident of West Mambalam), a war veteran of Indian Air Force, was discharged from service the regional bench of Armed Forces Tribunal, Chennai, directed the Defence Ministry and IAF to provide him pension.

His representation for pension was rejected at various levels as he had not completed the required 15 years of service. In his petition, Sundaram had submitted that he was enrolled in IAF in 1949. After completion of nine years of regular service, he was transferred to the regular Air Force Reserve as Corporal in 1958. He was recalled for active service during the Chinese aggression in 1962 and served in Assam during the war period. He was discharged from service on termination of the war on Dec. 8, 1962 stating that his service was no longer required. He served a total of 13 years and 112 days in the Air Force.

His application for reservist pension was rejected by the Directorate of Air Veterans, the Regional Bench of AFT, Chennai and Ministry of Defence and IAF citing that he had only 13 years and 112 days of total qualifying service against 15 years of the minimum prescribed. The bench, comprising Justice Babu Mathew, P. Joseph and Administrative Member Lt. Gen. K. Surendra Nath, said that the discharge of the applicant on Dec. 8, 1962 under "Service no longer required" will not affect the right of the applicant to claim reservist pension on the principle of 'Promissory Estoppel' against the government for not keeping the applicant in reserve service for his full term of service. It directed the authorities to grant him pension with effect from April 2012 and pay him arrears in four months.

Metro stations on Anna Salai can be used as subways

Chennai Metro Rail Ltd. is building the entry points of its underground stations close to MTC bus stands for the benefit of commuters. As the ticketing section is beyond the concourse, they will also serve as subways and help pedestrians cross traffic-ridden Anna Salai.

During the recent heavy rains, the concourses in metro stations had also served as a shelter to many.

TTD manages 'Vaikunda Ekadesi' rush Nithyasree's concert in Hindu Vidyalaya today evening

By Our Staff Reporter

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) (Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar) made special arrangements for devotees visiting the temple on Dec. 29 (Vaikunta Ekadesi Day).

It installed three rows of temporary barricades with poles close to the entrance to regulate the crowd.

Though some took objection to digging of holes in the road for erecting the barricades, devotees and nearby vendors



selling poojas items welcomed the arrangement. The 'Sorga Vaasal' was opened early in the morning after performing special poojas.

New outlet offers 60 varieties of veg. sandwiches

By Our Staff Reporter

Royal Sandwich has joined hands with Lingesh Foods to open its 4th outlet in Shankar Business Center (5, Nana Street, near Pandy Bazaar Post Office, T. Nagar).

It offers 60 varieties of vegetarian sandwiches.

As an inaugural offer, there is a discount of Rs. 10 for students and Rs. 5 for others on all sandwiches priced above Rs. 45.

Lingesh (an engineer and business entrepreneur) told *Mambalam Times* that high quality ingredients are used in preparation.

He said that the outlet is air-conditioned.

Royal Sandwich was started in 1999 by Sheik Dawood in a small way before expanding. According to Dawood, he was the first to introduce a number of varieties of sandwiches like chocolate, pannee, mushroom, gobi vadakaari, spinach, olive, brownie and others. "I did a fusion of Indo-Western sandwiches," he said. He now offers 143 varieties in his stores.

For home delivery, call Lingesh in 89392 27336.

Daasya enters 6th year

By Our Staff Reporter

Daasya, a NGO which is entering its 6th year, has conducted 102 social programs in 2016.

It was founded by 66-year-old P. Raman.

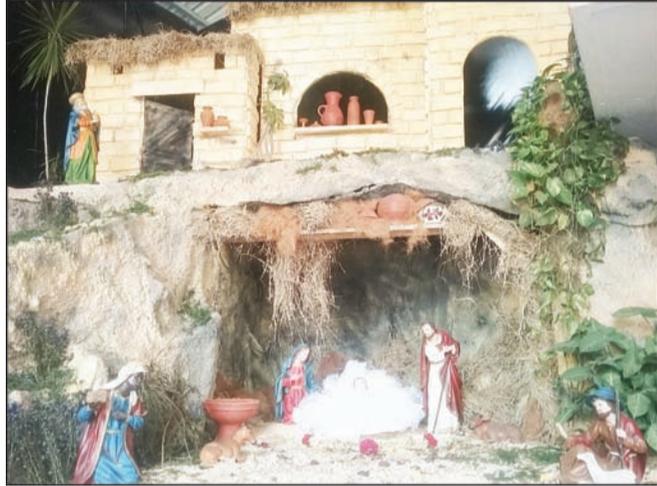
He has been rendering social service for the more than 40 years.

He told *Mambalam Times* that the Trust's activities include aid to leprosy patients, helping old age homes and orphanages, organising free medical camps in schools, colleges and slum areas, and conducting annadaanam in temples.

He added that the Trust's activities are conducted with donations from friends and philanthropists.

Those interested in supporting the Trust's activities may contact him in 99406 38972.

Christmas crib installed in two neighbourhood churches



By Our Staff Reporter

A large Christmas crib has been installed in the Holy Cross Church (76, South Boag Road, T. Nagar) and will be on display till Jan. 1.

A similar crib is also on display in St. Mathias Church, Kamarajar Salai, Ashok Nagar.

There are special exhibits of art objects in the cribs representing the birth of Jesus.

Krishnamachari sponsors new classrooms in school for disabled

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the sponsorship of R. P. Krishnamachari (Managing Director, Tex Biosciences Pvt. Ltd., Textan House, 75, 4th Avenue, Ashok Nagar) three new disabled friendly classrooms for Std. 12 students have been constructed at a cost of Rs. 35 lakhs in Amar Seva Sangam School (Ayikudi, Thenkasi).

More than 600 disabled students from underprivileged families study in the school.



'Kungamu archanai' on Jan. 7

By Our Staff Reporter

Jaimaa Charitable Trust (Flat 1A, Vengesh Apartments, 16, Karuneeagar Street, Vadapalani) has organized 'Kungamu archanai' to Bhagawan Sri Ramakrishna Parmeshwar and Jaimaa Sri Sarda Devi at 10.30 a.m on Sunday, Jan. 7 in its premises as part of the 166th birth anniversary celebrations of Swami Vivekananda.

The Trust members will donate provisions to needy organizations on the occasion. All are welcome.

Those who wish to donate provisions may contact the Trust in 99400 30939.

Free TNPSC exam coaching from Jan. 1

By Our Staff Reporter

The Indian Youth Association (Rameswaram Road, T. Nagar), an NGO, has organised free coaching for ex-serviceman, differently-abled persons, and destitute widows appearing for the TNPSC exam to be held on Feb. 11.

The classes start on Jan. 1 and will be held in three batches from 7 a.m to 9 a.m, 10 a.m to 12 noon and 6 p.m to 8 p.m.

Candidates can choose any batch.

For registration and other details, call 2435 8560 or 93848 44405.

By Our Staff Reporter

The 14th annual music festival of Rasika Fine Arts (83, Lake View Road, West Mambalam) began in Jaigopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya (Postal Colony, 4th Street, West Mambalam) on Dec. 23.

Leading Carnatic musicians have been presenting concerts daily at 7 p.m.

At 7 p.m on Saturday, Dec. 30, Nithyasree Mahadevan will present a vocal concert. She will be accompanied by Parur M. A. Krishnaswamy on

Dentist held on murder charge

Senthil Raj (42), a resident of T. Nagar and working as a dentist in a private clinic, was arrested for stabbing his friend Sanjeev Raj to death in a hotel in Mamallapuram on the night of Dec. 23 after an argument turned ugly.

Sanjeev Raj (32) (a native of Udumalpet) was working in a call center in Guindy.

According to the police, Senthil, a divorcee living with his son, was not happy with Sanjeev's friendship with his former wife Surekha. Sanjeev was a colleague of Surekha.

On Dec. 23, Sanjeev, Senthil, Surekha and 18 other friends were at a Christmas party in a hotel in Mamallapuram. After a couple of drinks, Senthil confronted Sanjeev over his relationship with Surekha. It soon turned into a scuffle and before the other friends could intervene, Senthil took out a pen knife and stabbed Sanjeev and fled from the hotel. The victim was rushed to a nearby private hospital where doctors declared him brought dead.

The Mamallapuram police registered a case and launched a hunt for Senthil and arrested him in Kovalam the next day.

He has been remanded to judicial custody and further investigation is on.

the violin, I. Shivakumar on the mridangam and H. Shivaramakrishnan on the ghatam. It will be preceded by a music concert by students of Jaigopal Garodia and G. K. Shetty Hindu Vidyalaya at 4.30 p.m.

At 7 p.m on Sunday, Dec. 31, Tiruvarur S. Girish will present a vocal concert. He will be accompanied by Vittal Ramamurthy on the violin and Delhi Sairam on the mridangam. It will be preceded by a vocal concert at 4.30 p.m by Raghuveer Rangan and Narayan Rangan. They will be accompanied by Swetha Anandasivan on the violin and Venkat Ramakrishnan on the mridangam. All are welcome.

More details can be had in 2489 1713.

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50% discount on beautician courses

By Our Staff Reporter

Friends Beauty Care Bridal Studio & Academy (37/B, Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam) is offering 50% discount for New Year and Pongal on several courses including bridal, traditional, reception and party make-up courses, hair styling and saree draping.

It accepts debit and credit cards. For more details on the courses and beauty treatment offered contact 99623 49966, 93823 08100 or 2471 4864.

New meditation center in Madley Road

By Our Staff Reporter

Sarvajana Raksha Samithi opened 'Shirdi Sai Meditation Centre' in its premises in 9A, Madley Road, T. Nagar on Dec. 14. The meditation centre is open to all from 7 a.m. to noon and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

There is Annadaanam in the center on Thursdays. Aarti is performed daily at 6.30 p.m.

It seeks donations in cash or kind for Annadaanam.

Devotees are welcome to contribute for Annadaanam on important days like birthdays and wedding anniversaries.

For more details, contact the Samithi in 91760 76065.

Two ration shops under construction in Mambalam High Road

By Our Staff Reporter

Two ration shops are under construction in Mambalam High Road adjoining the railway wall.

One shop is close to its junction with Bazullah Road and the other close to the junction with Maharajapuram Santhanam Salai.

The shops come under Corporation Division 136 and nearby residents are now buying rations from the shop in Rameswaram Road, T. Nagar.



Thousands throng temples for 'Sorga Vaasal' darshan

By Our Staff Reporter

On the occasion of Vaikunda Ekadesi, thousands of devotees visited neighbourhood temples for 'Sorga Vaasal' darshan on Dec. 29.

The darshan started at 5 a.m. in most temples and devotees started to pour in from the early hours.

In a few temples, devotees were seen standing in queue hours before the darshan started.



Open pit partly closed after report in Mambalam Times



Before



Now

By Our Staff Reporter

After the report 'Pit filled with putrid water in Habibullah Road' was published in *Mambalam Times* (issue dated Dec. 16-23), the stinking water was removed from the pit, and it was partially closed with slabs.

A barricade has also been placed in front of the pit to caution road users.

2-way traffic in Anna Salai delayed by 6 months

By Our Staff Reporter

Due to delay in ongoing metro rail work, 2-way traffic in Anna Salai is likely to be restored only by mid-2018.

The 3.3-km. stretch between AG-DMS and Saidapet metro station will be made 2-way by the end of January against the previous deadline of Dec. 31.

2-way traffic in the rest of the stretch will be restored in stages within the next 6 months, said an official.

Shopowners said that their business has suffered badly in the past 5 years because of metro rail work and Anna Salai being made one way.

Visibility, traffic diversions and parking woes were the primary reasons for business to suffer, they added.

'Maadhu' Balaji honoured

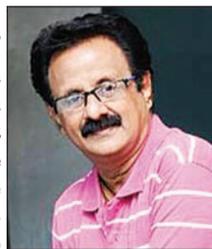
By Our Staff Reporter

Renowned theater artist 'Maadhu' Balaji of Crazy Creations was honoured by Chennai Cultural Academy in Rama Rau Kalyana Mandapam, T. Nagar last week. During his 50-year acting period, he has so far given more than 6,500 stage performances. His first stage appearance was in the play 'Allaiddinum 100 watts bulbam' in 1972 in which he played the role of 'Maadhu' and the name stuck. He owes his success to his brother 'Crazy' Mohan who is the founder of Crazy Creations.

"I juggled acting and my bank job till 1998, before resigning and switching over to being a fulltime actor," he said.

He has given performances all over India and abroad.

His contact number is 98410 49386.



World Reiki Day in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya on Jan. 6

By Our Staff Reporter

Reiki Centre of India (Thiruvannamiyur) has organised special programs to commemorate 19th World Reiki Day from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 6 in Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya (Vinobha Hall, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar).

All are welcome.

For more details, call 93805 71682 or 79047 27198.

Seminar on Vedic astrology tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

The Vedic Astrology Association for Social Awakening and Change (Subba Reddy Street, West Mambalam) will conduct a free seminar/interactive session on 'The importance of Navamsa chart in astrological predictions' and other subjects from 5 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 31 in Auditorium Hall (Koviloor Madalayam, Kuppaiah Street, West Mambalam).

All are welcome.

More details can be had from VKSM Sharmaji in 91763 59580 / 88381 58072.

If anything interesting is happening in your neighbourhood please inform Mambalam Times.

Jaimaa Trust conducts beautician course



By Our Staff Reporter

Jaimaa Charitable Trust (1st Floor, Flat 1A, Vengesh Apartments, 16, Karuneeagar Street, Vadapalani) recently conducted the 2nd batch of 7-day basic beautician course for women.

It presented certificates to the successful candidates on Dec. 27. It is going to start its 3rd batch soon.

A nominal fee is charged for

the Trust's activities.

Participants are trained in threading, waxing, pedicure, manicure, facial, head massage, hot oil massage, dandruff treatment and neck treatment.

The Trust offers help in getting employment in beauty parlours.

Those who interested in joining the course may contact 99400 30939.

Music for world peace by leading musicians tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Carnatica, in association with Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha, will celebrate New Year Eve with traditional music and bhajans from 10 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 31 in Vani Mahal, T. Nagar. They have dedicated the program to the victims of Cyclone Ockhi and will offer prayers for world peace and prosperity and a disaster-free 2018.

Veteran Carnatic musicians like Sudha Ragunathan, Chitravina Ravikiran, Vikku Vinayakaram, Umayalpuram Sivaraman and A. Kanyakumari will take part in the program. It will open with a special song composed by Neyveli Santhanagopalan.

This will be followed by meditation through music, followed by sloka chanting and group singing of prayers.

The program will be web streamed by kalakendra.com and can be viewed in www.carnaticworld.com.

For details contact 94440 18269.

Bharatanatyam themed on Annamacharya compositions on Jan. 1

By Our Staff Reporter

Disciples of Annamacharya Temple of Fine Arts with their guru T. V. Meenalochani (12th descendant of Annamacharya) will present a group bhharatanatyam performance on the theme 'Annamacharya Sangeetha Mallika' from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 1 in Kothandaramar Temple (K. R. Koil Street, West Mambalam)

All are welcome.

For more details, contact Savitha Shivakumar (Secretary) in 93847 31651 or 94451 50870.

Farm fresh sale of organic rice, provisions today

Organic Farmers Market has organized an exhibition-cum-sale of produce by farmers from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 30 in 26/1, Mangesh Street, T. Nagar.

The products on show include varieties of organically grown traditional rice like Kichili Samba, Thooyamalli, Seeraga Samba and Kavuni, pulses, jaggery and more.

Anand (Program Organizer) told *Mambalam Times* that they have aggregated a number of small and marginal farmers who cultivate only food crops.

He said that no middle men are involved and the sale proceeds go directly to the farmers to help them get the maximum benefit.

He added that most of farmers participating in the sale own less than 2 acres of cultivable land and, in spite of failing monsoon, inadequate support from family members and lack of welfare schemes, are still passionate and rooted to the traditional method of farming. For more details, call Anand in 98405 25516 or 99622 25225.

Special poojas, discourses for Std. 10 and 12 students

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Hayagrivar Trust has organized special programs from Jan. 2 to 6 in Ayodhya Mandapam (Arya Gowda Road, West Mambalam) for the benefit of Std. 10 and 12 students appearing for board exams in March.

There will be discourses by Ue.Ve. Embar. R. Kasthuri at 7 p.m from Jan. 2 to 4 and cultural programs by children at 7 p.m on Jan. 5 and 6.

The following are the other programs:

Jan. 2: 8 a.m: Gho-pooja, arachanai and deeparaathanai.

Jan. 3 to 5: 8 a.m: Maha sankalapam, Moola manthira japam.

Jan. 6: 8 a.m onwards: Homam, Thirumanjanam, poornahuti, Thirupavadai utsavam and annadaanam.

All are welcome.

More details can be had in 8410 18879/65559.

Gayathri homam in Sankara Mutt tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

The monthly Samashti Gayathri homam will be performed from 6 a.m on Sunday, Dec. 31 in Sankara Mutt (West Mambalam).

For more details, contact R. Sridharan Iyer in 98410 97300. All are welcome.

Mridangam exponent Thanjavur R. Ramadas honoured

Rasika Fine Arts (83, Lake View Road, West Mambalam) honoured mridangam vidwan Thanjavur R. Ramadas with 'Rasika Kala Bharathi' title, which carries a cash component of Rs. 1 lakh, during its inaugural program on Dec. 23 in Jaigopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya (Postal Colony, 4th Street, West Mambalam).

The award was presented by K. Pandiarajan (Minister for Tamil Official Language and Tamil Culture) in the presence of S. Vedatamji (President, Visva Hindu Vidya Kendra), Girija Seshadri (Secretary, Rasika Fine Arts) and musicologist B. M. Sundaram.

Ramadas learnt mridangam from his father Ramamurthy Iyer and later under the leg-



endary Palghat Mani Iyer.

He has accompanied a number of leading musicians including Semangudi Srinivasa Iyer, D. K. Pattammal, M. L. Vasantakumari, M. Balamura-likrishna and D. K. Jayaraman.

He has given thousands of performances spanning over

four decades in India and abroad. He has received innumerable awards and titles from leading sabhas and organisations, both in India and abroad. He was also Asthana Vidwan of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. He is the first recipi-

ent of 'Pazhani Subramanya Pillai' award from The Music Academy. His contact number is 91768 22469.

Free classes on Bhagavatham on Thursdays

By Our Staff Reporter

Rangarajan (disciple of Swami Brahmayogananda, Founder of Yoga Shanthi Gurukulam, West Mambalam) will conduct free classes on Bhagavatham from 7 a.m to 8 p.m on Thursdays in Vinobha Hall (Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya, Sadullah Street, T. Nagar).

All are welcome.

More details can be had in 97910 19514 and 99401 32623.

Grill gate replaces wall over canal in CIT Nagar

By Our Staff Reporter

The damaged concrete wall over the water channel on North Road, CIT Nagar was demolished and replaced with a grill gate recently.

The parapet wall was damaged during the desilting work undertaken a couple of months back using an excavator.

A Corporation official told Mambalam Times that, as the compound wall gets damaged frequently during desilting work, they have instead installed a grill gate which can be opened and closed when the canal is cleaned.



K. சுப்ரமணியம் & கோ

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Govt. should drop amnesty scheme for unauthorized buildings

Sir, This letter refers to the report 'Amnesty scheme for unauthorized buildings extended by 3 months' published in *Mambalam Times* last week.

It may be recalled that the State government came up with the regularization scheme on June 22 this year with a view to bail out owners of those buildings which had been constructed with violations on or before July 1, 2007 as the government had felt that demolishing the structures was not practically possible.

Because of the poor response, which the violators had adduced to the levy of hefty penalty to regularize such buildings, the Government has extended the scheme by three months. The regularization scheme, per se, amounts to providing approval to unauthorised buildings. More than blaming the owners, it is the authorities who should be blamed for the lapse. Had they supervised the constructions act various stages, the violations could have been curbed to a large extent?

Having allowed the owners to put up buildings beyond the approval plans, floating an amnesty scheme is not the answer. How can the authorities say that demolition is

not possible? Only when they start demolishing the portions of the buildings which were constructed in violation of rules, would the owners realize the seriousness of the issue. Now the government has extended the scheme by 3 months. If again there is no response, will it again extend the time? The authorities often state that lack of manpower is the root cause of the problem. This is unacceptable as officials are hand in glove with the owners and indirectly encourage constructions in violations of the rules. Even today, buildings are being constructed with violations.

In a recent ruling, the Madras High Court, while disposing of the PIL which sought demolition of the portions which occupied the premises of the petitioner, had unequivocally stated that "At no point of time, mercy shall be shown to those persons who have knowingly constructed buildings in violation of the plan, and no one, much less this court, will show any sympathy for the violators".

Even if the owners go to court seeking relief, the authorities must act fast to get the stay vacated. One must remember that the essence of the rule is in its implementation and enforcement. **K. Harihar, T. Nagar**

An emotional evening with Yesudas

Sir, During a recent concert in Vani Mahal, T. Nagar, the voice of renowned singer K. J. Yesudas got choked while singing a composition written on Lord Krishna. Yesudas told the audience that he could not go to Guruvayoor temple despite his intense desire to do so and the emotions had poured out during his rendering of the song in praise of the Lord.

After a few moments he came back to his original self and continued the concert. Many in the audience were moved by the incident.

Yesudas has probably been yearning to visit the temple for several years and hence one can very well understand

his feelings. Notwithstanding his wish, does he need to really visit the temple? One can say that the Lord lives in him.

Through his mellifluous rendition of songs in praise of Lord Krishna, when he can keep the audience spell-bound and take them to a different world, I am sure he definitely feels the presence of the Lord in him. It could be the will of the Lord that time is still not ripe for him to visit the temple. All said and done, it needs a Divine call for one to visit any temple. And, at that time, all fetters will get removed by the divine grace. **V. S. Jayaraman, 31, Motilal Street, T. Nagar**

New parking lots

Sir, This refers to the news item 'Residential buildings demolished to make way for parking lots' published last week in *Mambalam Times*.

It is true that many residential complexes are being bought by commercial establishments and converted into parking lots in many streets abutting Usman Road, T. Nagar. This is to offset the anomaly of having constructed commercial complexes without providing sufficient parking space within their premises, which is in violation of the rules. Because of this trend of buying residential complexes

and converting them into parking lots, vehicular traffic has gone up, giving rise to the threat to the lives of the residents as vehicles whizz past the streets.

Further, this has also led to increase in noise and air pollution in the surrounding areas which is affecting the residents.

Instead of punishing the establishments which have come up in violations, allowing them to put up parking lots near residential colonies amounts to punishing the residents, for no fault of theirs. **K. Harihar, T. Nagar**

Smart ration card nightmare

Sir, Processing and issue of smart ration card has been mired in difficulties due to improper planning from day 1.

In the first batch there were a lot of errors and many had a harrowing experience getting the corrections done as the govt. kept on announcing deadlines without a proper system in place for making corrections and issuing new cards. Later, prompted by the denial of regular supplies, consumers lined up for linking their Aadhaar numbers with the ration cards. I complied with all the requirements and

when I later followed up on the issue of the card, I was casually told by the ration shop owner that irrespective of possession of the smart card, they would supply the commodities. Now that the Civil Supplies Dept. claims that 99% of the work has been completed, they should expedite the issue of the smart ration cards as the consumers have been made to run from pillar to post to fulfill all the formalities. **N. Vijayaraghavan, 18th Avenue, Ashok Nagar, Ph: 99626 64766**

Appeal to resume mini bus service S30

Sir, MTC has without any announcement withdrawn the mini bus service on route number S30.

It was useful for residents of 7th Avenue, Balakrishnan Street, Station Road and Lake View Road. It provided connectivity for the residents to Ashok Pillar on one side

and to Ayappan Temple on the other. There is no other bus service on this stretch and commuters are now put to hardship. I earnestly request the MTC authorities to resume the mini bus service on route number S30. **R. Swaminathan, West Mambalam**

No malls planned in phase-2 metro stations

By Our Staff Reporter

No malls have been planned in Phase-2 of metro rail due to space crunch.

In phase-1, apart from space inside stations for generating non-ticketing revenue, CMRL has also planned two mini malls, a 9-storey mall near Ekattuthangal and a 4-storey mall adjacent to Arumbakkam metro station to generate additional revenue and increase footfalls. Similar commercial complexes have also been planned near the underground stations in Nehru Park, Shenoy Nagar and Thirumangalam.

According to officials, underground stations will be nearly 25% smaller in size than those built in phase-1. So there will be no space to accommodate eateries or other non-ticketing revenue based facilities.

As nearly 80% of the 107.55-km. phase-2 project will be underground, there is little scope for having space on the road, said the officials.

MAMBALAM TIMES

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KODAMBAKKAM, 6, Rangarajapuram 1st Street, near Five Lights, 2-wheeler parking, no brokers. Ph:9940371565, 9677239253.

ASHOK NAGAR, 3, 51st Street, 7th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1000 sq.ft, independent ground floor house, covered car park, rent Rs. 25000, no brokers. Ph: 2371 2229.

WEST MAMBALAM, 13/23, Vasudevapuram Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor house, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph:9445862886, 24817447.

C.I.T. NAGAR (West), 36, West Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, rent Rs. 17000, vegetarians only. Ph:9789849804.

ASHOKNAGAR, O/72, Flat No. 6, Karikalan Apartment, Karikalan Street, Pari Nagar, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, fully furnished, open car park, family, rent Rs. 15000. 9380242607, 9381055753.

WEST MAMBALAM, 2A/5, Raghava Reddy Colony, near mettupalayam, Periyar Ramasamy Street, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, rent Rs. 7000, Brahmins only, no brokers. 9840513200.

KODAMBAKKAM, 5/3, Jain Colony, Pappathiammal Street, near Samiar Madam, single room, 300 sq.ft, attached bathroom, rent Rs. 4500, Brahmin bachelor only. Ph: 9094193412.

WEST MAMBALAM, 22, Balaji Apartment, Subramani Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, semi furnished, rent Rs. 14000, advance Rs. 60000, inspection on Sunday (Dec. 31) from 10 am to 5 p.m. 9445991219, 9445641219.

KODAMBAKKAM, 161/1, Rangarajapuram Main Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 820 sq.ft, 1st floor, semi furnished, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph:9500028212, 09849646411.

T. NAGAR (North), 7, Saradambal Street, near PSBB, Vidyodhaya, Holy Angels Schools, 2 bedrooms, hall, modular kitchen, 1050 sq.ft, 1st floor, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 25000, vegetarian family only. Ph:9003022316, 28343040.

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, Vijaya Shanthi Apartment, Eswaran Koil Street, nr Madley Subway, single bedroom, vegetarians only. 9176851146.

ASHOK NAGAR, 51, 10th Avenue, near Jeevan Super Market, 2 bedrooms, 5th floor, lift, semi furnished, open car park, rent Rs. 18000 + maintenance, vegetarians, inspection on Sunday from 9 a.m. Ph: 98841 59688.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 11, Postal Colony, near Bus Stop, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, attached bathroom, rent Rs. 7000. Ph: 9952006859, 9841193685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 31/8, Sreenath Flat, Postal Colony 2nd Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 697 sq.ft, 1st floor, lift, furnished house, vegetarians only, no brokers, ready for occupation. Ph: 9444005322, 23623481.

WEST MAMBALAM, 19, Kamakshipuram 2nd street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 8000, advance 5 months, Brahmins only. Sriram. Ph: 9283140700.

ASHOK NAGAR, 2/27, Bank of India Colony, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor flat, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 15000. 9600192285.

WEST MAMBALAM, 16/14, Sathyapuri Street, near Duraisamy Subway, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1100 sq.ft, 1st floor, car park. Asokan. Ph: 9444916819.

T. NAGAR, 6/27, Vyasar Street, 1 room, 150 sq.ft, attached bathroom, rent Rs. 8000 (including maintenance) for young male bachelors. Ph: 9840439634.

WEST MAMBALAM, 38-D, Station Road, near Bagya Hotel, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor flat, no lift, North facing, 2-wheeler parking, Western & Indian toilets, rent Rs. 15000, Brahmins only. Ph: 9962093988, 7358620534.

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T. NAGAR, 39, Motilal Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2-wheeler parking, small genuine vegetarian family only, no brokers, previous applicants not needed. Ph: 9840853418.

ASHOK NAGAR, 3, 15th Avenue, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 950 sq.ft, 1st floor, semi furnished, open car park, 24 hours water / security (CCTV), rent Rs. 16000, family/bachelors/office. Ph: 7305344555.

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, Flat No. G3, Ganapathy Apartment, Satyapuri Street, near Duraisamy Subway, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, study room, 575 sq.ft, ground floor, semi furnished, rent Rs. 14000. Ph: 9566924651.

Religious discourses in Suprabhata Sabha from Tuesday

By Our Staff Reporter

As part of Margazhi celebrations, Sri Suprabhata Sabha has arranged religious discourses in Tamil from 6.30 p.m to 8.30 p.m daily, on Jan. 2, 3 and 4 in its premises in 10/6, Baroda 2nd Street, West Mambalam.

On Jan. 2 and 3, Anand Dayanadhi will present discourses on 'Godhavum Geetavum - Thiruppavai through Bhagavad Gita'.

On Jan. 4, Chakravarthi Iyengar Swami will present a discourse on 'Thiruppavai Andal Thirukalyanam'. All are welcome.

Free talk on 'Governing Business and Relationship' next Saturday

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Vedanta Institute (Madras), R. Aravindan will give a free talk on 'Governing Business and Relationship' on Saturday, Jan. 6, from 10 a.m to 11.15 a.m in Hotel Pratap Plaza, 168, Kodambakkam High Road, Mahalingapuram. All are welcome.

For registration, contact Chithra Sundarajan in 98404 93904.

Man arrested for stealing bicycles

Ashok Nagar police on Dec. 19 arrested a 45-year-old man for stealing expensive bicycles. 30 bicycles and 3.5 sovereigns of jewels were seized from Raja alias Sridhar, a resident of Mambakkam in Kancheepuram district.

Following complaints of several cycle thefts in Ashok Nagar, police checked the CCTV footage in and around the locations and found that the same person was involved in all of them.

On Dec. 19, a patrol team arrested Sridhar when he tried to escape with a bicycle from 4th Avenue. Further investigation is on.

Corporation School wall painted with social messages

By Our Staff Reporter

The compound wall of Corporation Middle School (South West Boag Road, T. Nagar) has been painted with artwork and awareness messages on environment and social issues like child labour.

According to a senior staff member of the school, it has been done to prevent the misuse of the wall for pasting posters and also to create awareness about social responsibility among the students and general public.



Drain pipe damaged



The pipe used for pumping out water from the pedestrian/2-wheeler subway in Railway Border Road was found damaged by vehicles running over it.

The pipe was not removed from the spot after it was used to pump out rain water during the heavy spell of rains in November and early December.

Talk on 'Brahma Sutras' in English tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Swamini Satyavra-tananda Saraswati will give a talk on 'Brahma Sutras' in English from 5.30 p.m to 6.30 p.m on Sunday, Dec. 31 in Kesari High School (Pondy Bazaar Extension, next to GRT Grand Days, T. Nagar). All are welcome. For more details, call Vani (Akshara Vidya Trust) in 2432 8087.

Class on 'Shortcuts in Mathematics' in Circle Library tomorrow

G. Manoharan will conduct a session on 'Shortcuts in Mathematics' for students in the age group of 5 to 15 years, from 10 a.m to 12 noon on Sunday, Dec. 31 in Circle Library, 11th Avenue, Ashok Nagar.

More details can be had in 2371 9319 or 98418 82138.

Pre-merger cheque books of SBI subsidiaries invalid from Dec. 31

Cheque books issued by erstwhile State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Raipur, State Bank of Travancore, State Bank of Hyderabad and Bhartiya Mahila Bank before they were merged with State Bank of India (SBI) will be invalid after Dec. 31 due to change in IFS code.

SBI will issue new cheque books with the correct IFC code to account holders of its subsidiary banks.

Account holders can procure the new cheque books via internet, mobile banking, ATM or by visiting the home branch.

3 held for throwing stones at Deepa's house

Mambalam Police arrested three persons in connection with the stone throwing incident at the house of J. Deepa (niece of former Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa) in 9/13, Sivagnanam Street, T. Nagar on the night of Dec. 25. Police identified the arrested as S. Manimaran (23), N. Vijayakumar (27) and A. Ganaprakasam (44). They were employed in Deepa's office. The miscreants, who came in an autorickshaw, hurled stones at Deepa's house damaging window panes. Deepa lodged a complaint in Mambalam Police Station. Police identified the culprits from footage of CCTV installed at the entrance. Further investigation is on.

Mass chanting of sahasranaamam next Saturday

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Group of Sri Vishnu Sahasranamam Mandalis (F 2, 5, Cart Track Road, T. Nagar) has organized mass chanting of two avartis of Sri Vishnu Sahasranaamam and one avarti of Lalitha Sahasranaamam from 10 a.m to 11.30 a.m on Saturday, Jan. 6 in Ponmani Maligai, Trustpuram, opposite Ambedkar Statue, Kodambakkam. All are welcome.

More details can be had in 95001 77505.

Concerts by upcoming musicians on Jan. 7

By Our Staff Reporter

Nalaiya Sigarungal (2/41, 11th Cross Street, Mahalakshmi Nagar, Adambakkam) will celebrate its 5th Margazhi music festival on Sunday, Jan. 7 in Ramakrishna Mission School (Dhandapani Street, T. Nagar). Its students will present concerts on the occasion.

Following is the program:

4.15 p.m. Vocal concert by Krithika Saraswathy

5 p.m: Group singing by Rakthaksh, Subadra, Ganesh and Kavya, followed by Gayathri's veena recital

6.30 p.m: Vocal concert by Karthick Rajaraman

7.30 p.m. Vocal concert by Hari Krishnan

They will be accompanied by K. Madeshwaran and Venkataraman on the mridangam, Buma Sriram on the violin and M. Vignesh on the morsing.

All are welcome. For more details, contact S. Ram in 94444 21264 or 73974 76349.

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Music contests on Jan. 7

By Our Staff Reporter

Nalaiya Sigarungal (2/41, 11th Cross Street, Mahalakshmi Nagar, Adambakkam) will celebrate its 5th Margazhi music festival on Sunday, Jan. 7 in Ramakrishna Mission School (Dhandapani Street, T. Nagar). As part of the vizha, it will conduct competitions in vocal (Carnatic/Cine) and instrumental music for students in the age group of 5 years to 25 years.

The winners of the competition will be given a chance to perform in Nalaiya Sigarungal's future events and will also be given training for participating in reality shows in popular TV channels.

Those interested in participating may contact S. Ram in 94444 21264 or 73974 76349.

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