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FREE

Shop owners object to 2-way traffic in Pondy Bazaar

By Our Staff Reporter
Within 2 weeks of making Pondy Bazaar one-way, the traffic police have again made the road two-way.

The shop owners, who ob-

jected to this, took up the issue with the Corporation on April 22. They said that with the widening of the footpaths on both sides, the road width has been reduced, and there is no room for two-way

traffic. The three roads leading to Thyagaraya Road are blocked, they complained. Chaos continues as roads and drains are dug up, construction material is strewn all over and there is no parking space. A leading textile showroom owner told *Mambalam Times* that footfalls have dropped drastically over the past year and his business has gone down by almost 40%. Now, with the road made 2-way, it is going to affect business further, he said. A Corporation official said that they are looking into the appeal and will study the problem.

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உளறல் துறை!

(1)

(குறட்டுர் சிற்றரசர் குரகேசி குழம்பிய சிந்தனைக் குட்டையில் ஊறிக்கொண்டு இருக்கிறார். உள்ளே வந்த அமைச்சர் மாரப்ப பூபதி அரசரின் கவனத்தைக் கவர் மெல்லக் கணைக்கிறார்.)

குர: (சிற்றத்துடன்) அமைச்சரே! 'தொந்தரவு செய்ய வேண்டாம்' என்கிற பதாகை வெளியே தொங்க விடப்பட்டிருக்கிறது உங்கள் புரையோடிய கண்களில் தென்படவில்லையா? என் கூரிய வாளுக்கு உங்கள் குருதியை தானம் செய்து விடாதீர்கள்.

மார: (பாம்பாக வளைந்து) மன்னிக்க வேண்டும் மாமன்னா. அருகில் உள்ள பதாகையைக் கண்டிப்பாக கவனிக்கவும் என்று வேறு ஒரு பதாகையையும் எழுதி உடனே அருகில் வைத்து விடுகிறேன்.

குர: ம்! நீவிர் உளறல் திலகமய்யா. சரி, வந்த விஷயத்தைச் சொல்லும். அற்பமான விஷயத்துக்கு என்றால் பனை, நூங்கு வியாபாரி ஒருவரை விட்டுத் தங்கள் கோழிமுட்டை விழிகள் இரண்டையும் பெயர்த்து எடுத்து வானத்தில் வட்டமிடும் வல்லுறுகளுக்கு...

மார: மன்னா! மாமன்னா! இந்த ஏழையிடம் கருணை காட்ட வேண்டும். நான் வந்த காரணம் என்ன எனில்...

குர: எனிலாவது, அணிலாவது? சீக்கிரம் இயம்பும். மகாராணியார் வரும் நேரம் இது.

மார: நம் நாட்டு உளறல் துறைத் தலைவர் 'கட்செவி' கடாக்கராயரின் செயல்பாடுகள் விந்தையாக மாறி வருகின்றன. சிகரமாக சில நாட்களுக்கு முன் தன் வீட்டு முகப்பில் அவரது பெயர், துறை, பதவி விவரம் தாங்கிய பலகையைப் பொருத்தி இருக்கிறார். உள்ளேவெளியே என்கிற நிலைமையைத் தெரிவிக்கும் வசதியும் அதில் உள்ளது.

குர: (திடுக்கிட்டு) என்ன உளறல் இது? உடனே ஆஸ்தான செவ்வளிநீர் சீவி சிரஞ்சீவியை வரச் சொல்லுங்கள்.

மார: உத்தரவு. தங்கள் சிற்றம், மன்னிக்கவும், தங்கள் சித்தம் என் பாக்கியம், மன்னா!

(2)

(ஓடத்தேவன் சனை அருகே இளவரசர் வெந்தயத்தேவனும், சேர்ந்திசை வல்லபியும் நெடுநேரம் (கொத்துக்) கடலை போட்டுக் கொண்டு இருக்கிறார்கள். சோலைக் குயில்கள் 'சும்மா சும்மா' கூவிக் களைத்து ஓய்ந்து விடுகின்றன.)

வெந்தய: வல்லபி! ஒரு கானல்வரிப் பாடலைப் பாடேன். வல்லபி: (நாணத்துடன்) உங்களுக்குக் குறும்புதான். என்னால் தனித்துப் பாட இயலாது. தோழிகளுடன் கூட்டாக முன்கி ஏதோ ஒப்பேத்துவேன். அதனால்தானே சேர்ந்திசை வல்லபி என்று அழைக்கப்படுகிறேன் என்பதனை அறியாதவரா நீர்?

வெந்தய: சரி, சரி! நம் பாட்டை கவனிப்போம். என் தந்தையார் இந்நாட்டு மன்னர் குரகேசி, உன் தந்தையாரிடம் கடும் கோபம் கொண்டுள்ளார் தெரியுமா? தன் உடை வாளை சாணை பிடிக்கக் கொடுத்திருக்கிறாராம்

வல்லபி: (பதறி) அன்பே! உண்மையாகவா? காரணம்? வெந்தய: ம்! உன் தந்தை கட்செவி கடாக்கராயரின் மதி திடீரென்று கெட்டுப் போனதுதான். அதி ரகசியமாக செயல்பட வேண்டியவர், பகிரங்கமாகத் தன் பெயர்ப் பலகையை வீட்டு முகப்பில் மாட்டி வைத்து மடத்தனம் அல்லவா? என் தந்தையாரின் கண்கள் பஞ்சவர்ணக் கிளியொன்று கொத்திக் குதறிய கோவைப் பழமாகச் செக்கச் சிவந்து இருக்கின்றன.

வல்லபி: இளவரசே, நான் ஒன்றும் அறியாப் பேதை. நான் வணங்கும் கதம்பவன தூர்க்கையை 'அன்னையே! என்னை ரட்சி!' என்று வேண்டுவதைத் தவிர என்னால் என்ன செய்திட முடியும்?

(நெடுநேரம் தனித்து அழுவினில் சிறப்பு வல்லமை படைத்த வல்லபி விசும்ப ஆரம்பிக்க, இளவரசர் வாரிச் சுருட்டிக் கொண்டு கிளம்பி விடுகிறார்.)

(3)

(கட்செவி கடாக்கராயர் குரகேசியை சந்திக்க வருகிறார்) கட்செவி: (வலது கையையும், வெண்கலக் குரலையும் உயர்த்தி) மன்னர் வாழ்க! மன்னரின் மதிநுட்பம் வளர்க! மன்னரின் புகழ் ஓங்குக. மன்னரின்...

குர: கடாக்கராயரே! தங்களது புகழரைகளைக் கேட்டு மிக்க மகிழ்வடைந்தோம். நம் எதிர்நாட்டு ஒற்றர்களின் கவனத்தைத் திசை திருப்ப உம் வீட்டு வாசலில் அந்தப் பெயர்ப் பலகையை வைக்கச் சொன்னேன். அவ்வாறு செய்தால் அதைப் பார்த்த எதிரிகள், ஒற்றர் துறை தலைவர் தான்தான் என்று இப்படி பகிரங்கமாக மார்த்தட்டிக் கொள்வாரா? மாட்டார் என்று முடிவுசெய்து, வேறு ஒருவரைத் தேடி அலைவார்கள் அன்றோ? கட்செவி: மன்னரின் இந்த சூட்சமத்தை அறியவேண்டியும், அறியாதிருந்த மாரப்ப பூபதியார் உங்கள் காதுகளில் என்னைப் பற்றிய அவதூறான குறுஞ்செய்திகளை வலியப் புகுத்தினார். இருப்பினும் தாங்கள் அவரை நம்புவது போல நடித்து, மேலும் நான் வெளிச்சம் போட்டுக் காட்டிய அவருடைய விஞ்ஞான ரீதியில் செய்த மதகுக்கள் கட்டுமான ஊழல்களையும் மனதில் கொண்டு மாரப்பனாரைப் பதவி நீக்கம் செய்யப் போவதாக முடிவு எடுத்துள்ளீர்கள். பெரும் மகிழ்ச்சி மன்னா.

குர: கட்செவியாரே! உமக்கு வெகுமதியாக ஆயிரம் அரசு தங்கப் பத்திரங்களை இலவசமாகத் தருவதோடு உங்கள் செல்ல மகள் சேர்ந்திசை வல்லபியை இளவரசருக்கு மணம் முடிக்க முடிவு செய்துள்ளோம்.

கட்செவி: (உணர்ச்சி மிகுதியுடன்) அரசே! மன்னா! கொற்ற வா!

குர: (கை அமர்த்தி) அது மட்டும் அல்ல. உங்களுடைய திருக்குமரன் குரசிம்மனை குறட்டுரின் அமைச்சராக அறிவிக்கவும் முடிவு செய்துள்ள நான், மாரப்ப பூபதிக்காகப் புதிய துறையை ஆரம்பித்து தலைமைப் பொறுப்பை அளிக்கப் போகிறேன்.

கட்செவி: (குழம்பி) புதிய துறையா? என்ன துறை மன்னா? குர: (பலமாக சிரித்து) அவருக்கு ஏற்றது உளவுத் துறை அல்ல, உளறல் துறைதான்! jsraghavan@gmail.com

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University calls for applications for free education

University of Madras has invited applications from poor students under the free education scheme for pursuing degree programs in aided and self-financing colleges affiliated to the university. Students living in Chennai, Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram can apply for degree courses in the academic year 2019-20.

"Preference will be given to economically backward students, orphans, children of agricultural labourers, daily wage earners, widows, destitute women and first graduates of the family," a release from the university said.

The annual income of the family seeking admission to degree courses under the scheme should be less than Rs. 2 lakhs.

Students can download the application from www.unom.ac.in or may get it from the PRO's office in its Chepauk campus.

The completed applications with photocopies of certificates should be submitted by May 8.

TNPSC invites applications for vacant posts

The Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC) has invited applications for vacant posts of drug inspectors and junior analysts in government drug testing labs.

Interested candidates should pay a registration fee of 150 and apply online by paying 150-200 on the website (http://www.tnpsc.gov.in). The last date for online applications is May 12.

Bhuvanewari Trust releases Tamil New Year panchangam

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Bhuvanewari Charitable Trust (Munusamy Salai, K. K. Nagar), released 'Vihari year' panchangam on April 21 in Sri Sankara Vidhyalaya Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Velachery Road, East Tambaram. It was compiled by Vedic Ravi (Founder, Sri Bhuvanewari Charitable Trust). Anyone needing a copy of the almanac may contact Ravi in 98407 87957.

Metrowater to start bulk supply to gated communities

By Our Staff Reporter

Flooded with requests for water tankers, Metrowater is considering bulk supply, particularly to large housing complexes/gated communities, and is also looking into the possibility of allowing its tankers to operate till early morning.

According to an official, Metrowater is primarily concentrating on smaller supplies like 6,000 liters, 9,000 liters and 12,000 liters, resulting in a majority of gated communities turning to private tanker operators for daily supply of water.

He said that to lure them away from private operators who charge exorbitant rates, Metrowater has planned to provide residents with the large quantities they want at a nominal cost.

It is also in talks with its contractors to engage additional drivers to operate 24x7 to reduce driver fatigue and prevent accidents.

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), Kolapakkam Santhanam will give a discourse on "Thiru Arutpa" on Tuesday, April 30, at 6 p.m., in Sakthi Vinayagar Temple (P. T. Rajan Salai, K. K. Nagar).

All are welcome.

Srijha Academy offers coaching on Tally, Accounts, Taxation

By Our Staff Reporter

Srijha Academy (18/49, Baroda Street, West Mambalam) provides coaching on Accounts and Taxation including Tally at basic and advanced levels.

Batches of 10 students undergo coaching for 3 hours a day for 20 days.

The course will help candidates get jobs and enhance the growth opportunities for those who are already employed.

The Academy also provides special coaching for Std. 11, 12 students and undergraduate students in Accountancy, Commerce and Economics.

For registration and fee details, call 4850 2482, 93800 84783 or send email to srijhaassociates@gmail.com.

2-way traffic back on Thyagaraya Road

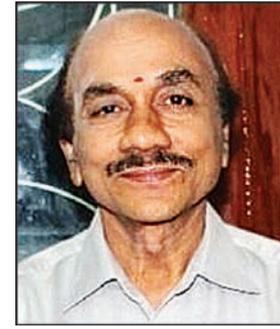


By Our Staff Reporter

After a one-week trial of one-way rule, two-way traffic has been reintroduced on Thyagaraya Road, T. Nagar. However, one-way traffic rule, which was simultaneously introduced on the side streets, continues to be in force.

It is causing hindrance to motorists and the residents of the streets.

Retd. professor donates Sanskrit books to Swami Dayananda Digital Library



By Our Staff Reporter

Dr. R. Thiagarajan (former HOD of Sanskrit College and Presidency College, and a resident of West Mambalam) donated his personal collection of rare and valuable Sanskrit books worth Rs. 5 lakhs to Swami Dayananda Digital Library and Research Centre (Express Avenue, Chennai) recently.

He told *Mambalam Times* that some of the books are more than a 1000 years old.

All the books will be digitized. The Digital Library is open to the public on week days from 10 a.m to 3 p.m.

The library welcomes volunteers for rendering service.

It also provides guidance to researchers and scholars pursuing thesis in Sanskrit.

It has welcomed pundits, Sanskrit scholars and the gen-

eral public to donate old Sanskrit works, palm leaf manuscripts and research worthy books for archiving.

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Projecting slab of storm water drain



By Our Staff Reporter

Half of the circular concrete slab covering the storm water drain is projecting on the road margin at the junction of Sarangapani Street and Arulambal Street, West Mambalam.

The cover has collapsed as the drain around it is damaged.

It poses a danger to motorists and pedestrians.

Centenarian from Ashok Nagar casts vote



A. Rukamani, who is 100 years old, cast her vote on April 18 at the polling booth in Dr. K. K. Nirmala Girls School, Ashok Nagar, which comes under South Chennai Parliamentary constituency.

She was accompanied by K. Gopinath (State General Secretary, Tamilnadu Udvikaram Association for the Welfare of Differently Aabled).

RMD Trust starts free palliative course in T. Nagar

By Our Staff Reporter

The T. Nagar branch of RMD Academy for Health (unit of RMD Pain and Palliative Care Trust) was inaugurated in RMD Nursing Home (Raghavaiah Road, T. Nagar) on April 25.

It will conduct a free course on palliative care for underprivileged women.

Akhila Srinivasan (Managing Director, Shriram Life Insurance) was the Chief Guest.

Dr. Republica Sridhar (Founder Trustee), Hemavathi (Principal, Sree Balaji College of Nursing) and Dr. G. Elangovan (Secretary, Tamilnadu Palliative Care Society) were also present.

Dr. Republica told *Mambalam Times* that Std.12 students (passed or otherwise) are eligible to join the job-oriented course. She said that it will also be beneficial for nurses, care givers and anyone interested in pursuing a career in palliative care.

Her contact number is 93810 16588.

Garden waste dumped in Parthasarathipuram



By Our Staff Reporter

A big heap of foliage, cut branches and other garden waste has been dumped on the margin of Parthasarathipuram 2nd Street, T. Nagar under its name board.

Free 15-day course on Vishnu Sahasranaamam from May 5

By Our Staff Reporter

VISVAS Institute of Vishnu Sahasranaamam will conduct a 15-day course on Sri Vishnu Sahasranaamam for students in the 5-20 years age group from May 5 to 19 in Little Oxford School (Ramanujam Street, T. Nagar).

The course will be conducted in two one-hour batches between 8 a.m and 10 a.m.

For more details, call 95001 77505.

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ஸ்ரீ மதே ராமானுஜாய நம: ஸ்ரீமதே நிகமாந்த மஹா தேசிகாய நம:
தேசிக தர்சினி
வெளியீட்டாளர்கள்: (தேசிகனின் காலண்டர்கள் தேசிக நூல்கள்) தேசிகனும் திவ்ய தேசங்களும் (பகுதி 8)
ஸ்வஸ்தி ஸ்ரீ விகாரி வருஷம் தேசிகனின் 751வது திரு நகூத்திர மஹோதஸம் கொண்டாடும் தருணத்தில் நாலாயிரமும் அடியோங்கள் வாழ்வே என்பதும் சேம மதாம் திருமால் தன் கருணையாலே என்பதும் பொன் எழுத்துக்களால் பொறிக்கப்படவேண்டியது. தேசிக ப்ரபந்தம் பகுதி நூலான் ப்ரபந்த லார பாசுரங்களுடன் ஆழ்வார்களும், ஆரண தேசிகனும் என்ற தலைப்பில் தேசிகன், ஆழ்வார்கள் வண்ணப்படங்களுடன் காலண்டர் வடிவில் வெளியிடப்பட உள்ளது. பாகவத உத்தமர்களும், மஹான்களும், ஆஸ்திகர்களும் பங்கு கொண்டு ஸ்வாமி தேசிகனின் திவ்ய அணுகர்வஹத்திற்கு பார்த்ரர்களாகுமாறு பிரார்த்திக்கிறோம்.

இடம் : ஸ்ரீ வேதாந்த தேசிக பவளம்,
30, வெங்கடேசு அக்ரஹாரம், மைலாப்பூர், சென்னை 1
நாள் : 27.04.2019 (சனிக்கிழமை மாலை 3.30 மணி முதல் 5.30 மணி வரை
தாஸன் ஸாமம் பார்த்தசாரதி 12, வடக்கு சித்திரை வீதி, ஸ்ரீரங்கம்.

Student with cerebral palsy secures 450 marks in Std. 12 exam

By Our Staff Reporter

S. Sankalp (student in Jaigopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya, Postal Colony, West Mambalam), suffering from cerebral palsy, secured 450 out of 500 marks in the Std.12 board examination.

He also suffers from mobility problems.

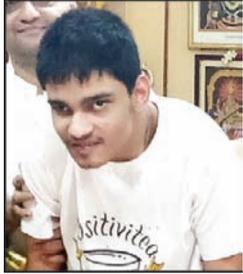
He joined JGHV in Std. 3 after being refused admission in several schools.

Dr. Girija Seshadri (Senior Principal) gave him admission. S. Sridhar and Revathi Sridhar (Sankalp's parents) said that the care, support and guidance given by Girija and the other teachers to Sankalp cannot be expressed in words.

Since he could not climb stairs, he had his class in the ground floor and was provided a ramp to climb the few steps to reach his class.

He was assisted by scribes for writing examinations and has won district and State awards in competitive exams.

Girija said that though the school provided all the support, the dedication, patience and upbringing of Sankalp by his parents should be applauded.



Tank painted in national flag colours



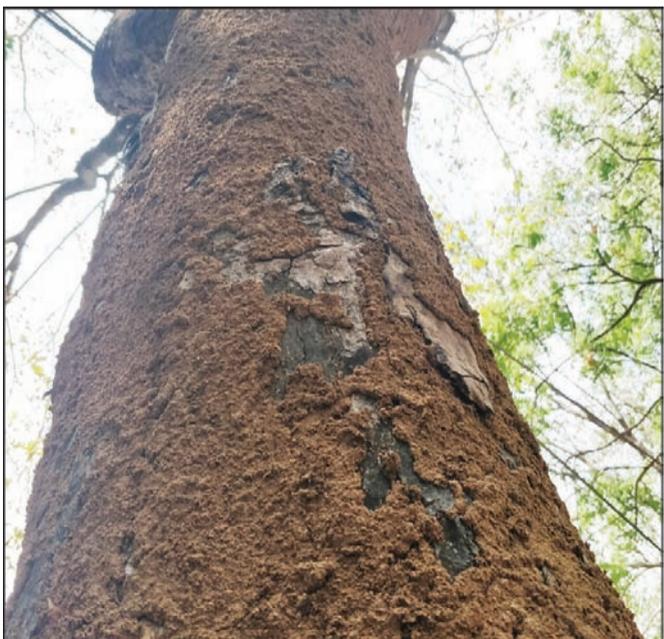
By Our Staff Reporter

The streetside metro water tank in New Boag Road, T. Nagar has been painted in the colours of the national flag.

An appeal in Tamil requesting the public not to paste posters has been painted on the tank.

According to a resident of the street, it was painted in the colours of the national flag, both to show patriotism and also to dissuade anyone from defacing the tank by pasting posters on it.

Trees near 12th Avenue Park infested with termites



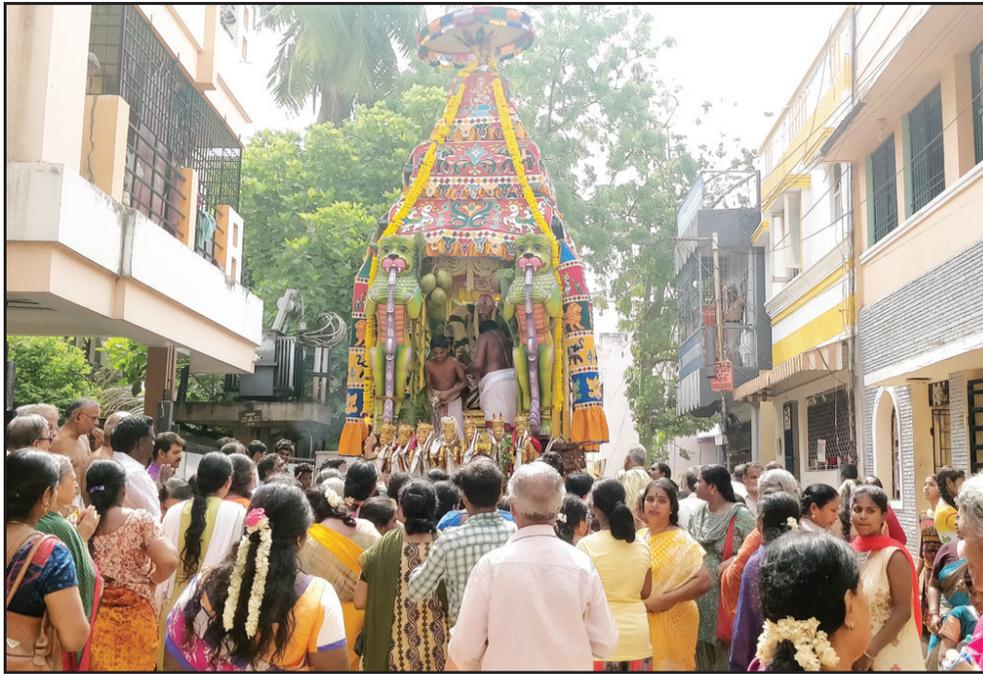
By Our Staff Reporter

A number of avenue trees around Corporation Playground on 12th Avenue in Ashok Nagar are infested with termites.

The park visitors and nearby residents have appealed for treatment of the trees to save them.

Child Helpline 1098

Hundreds pull temple chariot



By Our Staff Reporter

Hundreds of devotees pulled the chariot of Sri Prasana Venkatesa Perumal Temple (Mettupalayam Road, West Mambalam) on April 25 as part of Brahmotsavam festival.

The chariot was pulled along nearby streets.

A number of devotees braved the heat and participated with their bare feet.

Slab covering BSNL chamber above road level



By Our Staff Reporter

The 3 ft by 5 ft slab covering the underground chamber of BSNL is above the road level at the junction of Bazullah Road and Raghavaiah Road, T. Nagar.

The 3 inch thick concrete slab with a metal frame around it poses a danger for motorists.

Metrowater not tracking tankers using GPS

By Our Staff Reporter

It has been two months since Metrowater tankers were fitted with GPS, but the authorities have not started using it to track the vehicles.

Many have complained that the Metrowater contractors are selling the water meant for free supply to private tankers.

In most places, Metrowater tankers supply water. However, in areas such as Ashok Nagar and Nungambakkam, private tankers wait near filling stations in the morning. A few Metrowater tankers, after filling water, go to a nearby lane, where the water is transferred to private tankers.

"If GPS is used, such illegal movement can be avoided," the contractor said.

The main reason for the illegal transfer of water is increase in demand and the low rate offered by Metrowater.

Discourse on Gita tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Under the auspices of Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama (5, Maharaja Santhanam Salai, T. Nagar), Swami Satyaprabhananda will give a discourse on Bhagavad Gita in Tamil at 5.30 p.m., on Sunday, April 28 in the Ashram's premises.

All are welcome.

For more details, call 2814 3896.

Tamil storytelling session today, tomorrow

The drama troupe Theatrekaran (West Mambalam) has organised Tamil storytelling sessions titled 'Kathaigal Kaanalaam' from 5 p.m to 7 p.m on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28 in 51, 6th Main Rd, R.A. Puram, Govindaswamy Nagar, Raja Annamalai Puram. Three stage artistes will narrate the stories.

Entrance is free. All are welcome. For more details, call Sabarivas in 98849 66613 / 91769 96508.

Free Veda classes

Sri Sai Seva Chakra (15, Bharathi Street, West Mambalam) conducts free Veda, bhajans and sloka classes on Fridays from 5 p.m to 6 p.m and on Sundays from 3.30 p.m to 4.30 p.m in its premises. It also conducts the classes at the following venues: From Monday to Friday from 6.30 a.m to 7.30 a.m in Sai Murugan Trust Temple (Vadhiyar Thottam, Ranga-rapuram).

On Mondays, Wednesdays and Tuesdays from 4 p.m to 5 p.m in Sarva Priya Ganapathi Temple (Moorthy Street Extension, 7th Avenue, Ashok Nagar). On Saturdays from 6.30 a.m to 7.30 a.m in Sri Krishna Gana Sabha (Maharajapuram Sant-hanam Salai, T. Nagar) and from 8 a.m to 9 a.m in Guha Apartments (29, Viveka-nandapuram 1st Street, West Mambalam).

All are welcome.

ISKCON's free summer camp for children

By Our Staff Reporter

ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) will conduct a free summer camp for children in the age group of 6-12 years from Monday, April 29 to Friday, May 10 in two venues in the neighbourhood.

There will be no classes on Saturdays and Sundays

The children will be taught slokas, devotional songs, bhajans, mantras, lessons from Vedas and meditation. There will also be narration of moral stories, craft making and fun games.

Course material, a VCD and a completion certificate will be given to the participants.

The following are the timings and venues:

West Mambalam: 11, Vivekanandapuram 1st Street, behind Vedasaras Apartments.

From 10 am to 1 p.m. Contact Vijayanthi in 97911 61439.

K. K. Nagar: Greenpeace Apartments, near Double Tank Water Road.

From 9.30 a.m to 12.30 p.m. Contact Nithya in 88072 40531, 88397 69129.

Free eye check-up on May 4

By Our Staff Reporter

Jaimaa Trust (NGO, Vadapalani) has organized free eye screening from 9.30 a.m to 12.30 p.m on Saturday, May 4 in Sri Vaidyanatha Sai Baba Trust (Senthamil Nagar Main Road, Ramapuram).

A team of doctors from Sankara Nethralaya will examine the patients.

Participants will be checked for vision problems, cataract, eye pressure and retinal imaging.

Persons diagnosed with cataract can undergo free surgery in Sankara Nethralaya.

For more details, call 99400 30939 and 98402 65382.

Special darshan, discourse in Annai Dhyana Maiyam

By Our Staff Reporter

On the occasion of Prosperity Day, devotees can have balcony darshan at 6.30 a.m on Wednesday, May 1 in Sri Annai Dhyana Maiyam, Bakthavatchalam Street, West Mambalam.

There will be a talk on 'Super Mind' by A. V. Ramesh Kumar at 6 p.m and meditation at 7 p.m.

There will be 'Savitri Sathsangam' led by Ramesh Kumar at 6 p.m on Thursday, April 2.

All are welcome.

Those interested in performing pushpanjali or need personal counselling, may contact Annai Adigal (Founder) in 98414 25456.

Abolition of rank robs 5,000 students of scholarships

The Tamil Nadu government's decision to abolish ranking in board exams in 2016-17 has deprived more than 5,000 top rankers of scholarships and financial aid every year, sources in the school education department said.

The government used to bear the higher education cost of the top three rank holders in Class X and Class XII exams. District-wise toppers would get scholarships from government agencies, private companies, trusts and individuals.

However, now, the school education department is selecting 15 students from each district based on their overall performance, including sports and extra-curricular activities.

The selected candidates will receive a one-time financial aid of 20,000. For Class X students, it will be 10,000. But, it is no way near what students used to get when the ranking system was followed. "The

state government used to take care of the entire higher education expenses for the top three rank holders in Class XII board exams. Many educational institutions would offer free education for district toppers. After the abolition of rankings, they have been stopped," a source said.

More than 100 students from Class X and Class XII used to get the top three ranks at the state level, while hundreds used to get district ranks.

Big corporates approach the department for sponsoring the education of meritorious students. But, due to the policy decision, the government is not giving them any list of students.

Some teachers have questioned the logic of abolishing ranking when entry to IITs and civil services is decided by ranks. "Top rankers in joint entrance examination (JEE) and civil services are still being announced and publicized. It is unfair to deny attention to state

board students who hail from rural and poor background," a headmaster said, adding, "students should be trained for competition at a young age."

"There is no need to give undue publicity to top rankers. However, state-level and district-level toppers should be identified and provided free higher education," educationist Prince Gajendrababu said. "It would be motivation for both students and teachers. There are many deserving students without means to pursue higher education," he added.

At the same time, the move has reduced the hype surrounding the declaration of Class XII exam results. "There was literally no publicity given by private schools this year. It has restricted schools from trumpeting their achievements. I welcome the move to abolish ranking," said P. Swaminathan, secretary, SRV Schools in Namakkal and Trichy, said.

Sale of organic farm products tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Organic Farmers Market has organized an exhibition-cum-sale of produce by farmers from 10 a.m to 1 p.m in 32/44, Madhavan Nair Road, Mahalingapuram, near Ayyappan Temple on April 28.

On sale will be indigenous rice varieties including kichli samba hand pounded boiled and raw rice, sona masuri hand pounded raw rice, kullakar boiled rice and aromatic rice, thooyamalli, pulses, sweeteners, salt and cooking oil.

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

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.

Blood donation program in Vani Mahal tomorrow

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Thyaga Brahma Gana Sabha (Vani Mahal, 103, G. N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar) has organised a blood donation camp from 9 a.m to 1 p.m on Sunday, April 28 in its premises.

Paramedical staff from VHS Blood Bank will collect the blood units. Anyone in good health in the age group of 18-60 years can donate blood.

Members of Mahalakshmi Badminton Club will co-ordinate the camp.

More details can be had in 2434 6854 and 98406 39934.

Petrol car erroneously filled with diesel destroyed in fire

By Our Staff Reporter

A petrol car erroneously filled with diesel was destroyed in fire on G. N. Chetty Road on April 22. The fire also engulfed another car parked beside it.

Ramesh (a resident of Saligramam) did not notice that an employee of a fuel outlet in Anna Salai had erroneously filled up diesel in his petrol engine Hyundai i10 car.

While driving along G. N. Chetty Road after re-fuelling, the car started to malfunction forcing Ramesh to park by the roadside and return home as it was late in the night and he could not find a mechanic.

He returned the next morning with a mechanic.

When the mechanic started the engine, he noticed the smell of diesel and informed Ramesh. But before he could shut off the engine, the car caught fire and quickly spread to the car parked next to it.

Ramesh alerted the local Fire and Rescue station over phone.

Fire personnel from T. Nagar and Teynampet stations managed to douse the fire but, by that time, both cars were gutted.

The second car belonged to Madhavan who works in a bank opposite where his car was parked. The case is under investigation.

Heat keeps children away from playground



By Our Staff Reporter

The usually overcrowded Corporation Playground on Somasundaram Street, T. Nagar posed an empty look last week due to the scorching weather.

Normally, a number of students can be seen playing cricket and other games in the playground during summer holidays. The photo was taken at around 4.30 p.m.

'Samashti Sashtiapthapoorthi' performed for 67 underprivileged couples

By Our Staff Reporter

Sri Bhuvanawari Charitable Trust (Munusamy Salai, K. K. Nagar) conducted free 'Samashti Sashtiapthapoorthi' with all religious rituals for 67 couples from economically weak background on April



20 and 21 in Vidhyalaya School, Tambaram. They included inmates of senior citizens homes and orphanages. New clothes and useful gifts were given to the couples.

For more details, contact Vedic Ravi (President) in 98407 87957.

With no water supply, e-toilets kept locked



By Our Staff Reporter

The e-toilets adjoining the compound wall of Kanammampet Burial Ground, T. Nagar have remained closed for more than a month as there is no water supply.

Debris dumped in TNHB plot on Model House Road

By Our Staff Reporter

A large heap of earth and construction debris have been dumped in the vacant TNHB plot in Model House Road, near South West Boag Road junction.



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Advertise in the Classified Columns: Mambalam-T. Nagar & Ashok Nagar- K.K. Nagar Editions : Rs. 500 (upto 30 words); Bold letters: Rs. 750 Display: Rs. 270 per column centimeter. Advertisements will be received upto 1 p.m on Friday.

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MUSIC & DANCE
TRINITY Music Point - Piano, keyboard, guitar. Trinity grade exams, theory & practical (Western & carnatic) all days except Monday. No. 21/15, Bharathi Street (behind Ayodhya Mandapam), West Mambalam. Trinitymusic point.net Ph: 99403 15101, 97911 66297, 4266 8646.

SIVANartsacademy offers vocal, veenai, mridangam, violin, keyboard, bharthanatyam, advance class personally. Contact: Kalaimamani Dr. Rukmini Ramani. Ph: 98403 48638.

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WANTED Accounts Assistant for a reputed company in T.Nagar, knowledge in Excel and Tally is must. Apollo Management Services, 37, Damodaran Street, Doran Complex, Ph: 78711 64733, 78716 39570. (Contact during office hours.)

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WANTED receptionist for a dental clinic in Kannadasan Street. Full time, salary Rs. 9000 per month, timing: 8.45 a.m to 1 p.m & 4.45 p.m to 8.45 p.m. Ph: 84282 75762.

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Staff of fuse call office unhelpful

Sir, There was a sudden power outage in our street last week. When, even after sometime the power was not restored, one of our residents called the fuse call office.

The EB employee who attended the phone told him that our street does not come under their jurisdiction, and he had to contact the T. Nagar office.

When the resident sought the number, the person refused to give it and, instead, asked him to search for it on the internet.

Such behaviour is unwarranted.

What is the point of having a 24-hour fuse call office if the EB employees are rude and unhelpful. T. Nagar Residents' Welfare Association, Rangan Street, T. Nagar

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Key to success of Pedestrian Plaza project

Sir, The Pedestrian Plaza project under way in Pondy Bazaar, T. Nagar may not be useful to the public unless the officials concerned implement the regulations with an iron hand.

The widening of the pavements under the project will provide ample space for shopkeepers/roadside vendors to encroach upon them and shoppers to

park their vehicles. The police and the Corporation officials will have to take punitive action to prevent this encroachment if the project is to be a success and benefit pedestrians.

Even today, one shop near Soundarapandianar police station in Pondy Bazaar has encroached upon a large area of the pavement in front of the shop.

Will the authorities take action against the shop owner? Sooryan Basheer, Rameswaram Road, T. Nagar

Garbage dumped near school in Postal Colony 4th Street

Sir, As there is no garbage bin, waste is being dumped in the open in a spot close to a school in Postal Colony 4th Street, West Mambalam.

A small mobile bin kept near the school gate often goes missing.

The unhygienic condition poses a risk to the students and nearby residents.

I request the authorities concerned to

keep a garbage bin near the school to solve this problem and instruct its sanitary staff to clear the bin daily. R. Ramasubramanian, Ram's Ganga Apartments, Postal Colony 4th Street, West Mambalam

Schools should not shun 'slow learners'

Sir, I refer the report that a missionary school in Guwahati [Assam] expelled a 7-year-old girl for being a 'slow learner' and failing to secure better grades. The expulsion of the student only reflects the abject failure of the school to live up to its mandate. Irrespective of the calibre of the students, every school should strive to make every student bright, as herein lies its mettle. It does no credit to schools if they concentrate only on already bright students. It will then be a travesty of justice.

A school can boast of its standards or achievements only if it handles the students, irrespective of their learning capacity, without any bias or difference, and make them bright. Many so-called prestigious schools turn down the applications of below average students so as to ensure their top rankings. In doing so, these schools are, in fact, tarnishing their own image. V. S. Jayaraman, T. Nagar

A special thanks to postman Mohan

Sir, The service provided by K. Mohan (Postman in West Mambalam Post Office) is truly commendable.

After living in Mambalam for over 50 years I shifted to Thiruvanniyur in May last year. I had submitted my letter with the new Thiruvanniyur address in Mambalam Post Office, and was told that letters will be redirected only for three months. But Mohan continues to redirect my letters received in the old Mambalam address.

I and my family members appreciate his commitment. N. Vijayalakshmi, Thiruvanniyur

Crossing rail tracks

Sir, I retired from Railway police service a decade back. During my service I have seen hundreds, many in their youth, run over by speeding trains while crossing the tracks.

I regularly commute by suburban train and have often seen many crossing the tracks at Mambalam Railway Station oblivious to the risk involved. I do try and counsel many, but most just wave their hands and take the shortcut instead of climbing the overbridge to cross over safely.

With a portion of the compound wall demolished, commuters find it easier to cross the tracks to reach Ranganathan Street instead of using the overbridge. I appeal to Chennai Corporation to barricade the breach in the wall.

The Railway police should also take strict action against the offenders. R. Ramarajan, Kodambakkam



MAMBALAM TIMES

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BACHELOR accommodation, single bedroom, 350 sq.ft with all infrastructure, kitchen also, copious water, walking distance from Railway Station, rent Rs. 6500 per month, advance Rs. 30000, available at No. 15, Srinivasa Iyengar Street, West Mambalam. Contact: Krishnan, Ph: L9840327669.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Mettupalayam Market, near bus stop, semi-furnished, 2 balconies, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 765 sq.ft, UDS 570 sq.ft, south facing, 2-wheeler parking only, 14 years old, price Rs. 55 lakhs (negotiable), inspection on 10 a.m to 5 p.m any day. Ph: 88257 69401.

T. NAGAR, Varatharajan Street, landmark: T. Nagar Police Station, 3460 sq.ft, price Rs. 3 crores (negotiable). Ph: 98406 24077, 93604 97937.

GUDUVANCHERY, independent house for sale, 4 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 4 nos car park, approved land 2565 sq.ft, built-up 2400 sq.ft, price Rs. 90 lakhs (negotiable). Ph: 9444367059.

ASHOK NAGAR, Dr. Natesan Salai, deluxe flat, 1000 sq.ft, UDS 650 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, good ventilation, well maintained, covered car park, 27 years old, price Rs. 90 lakhs. Ravichandran, Ph: 9841089791.

T. NAGAR, Sivasailam Street, near Habibullah Road Post Office, 800 sq.ft, UDS 400 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, south facing, 20 years old, lift, open car park, price Rs. 76 lakhs. Ph: 94452 64053.

MARAIMALAI NAGAR, behind Ford company, DTCP approved, land 1500 sq.ft, for sale, no brokers. Ph: 2366 1116, 94458 00043.

T. NAGAR, Madley Road, Madley Apartment, 350 sq.ft, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, balcony, semi-furnished, 2nd floor, price Rs. 20 lakhs, renovated. Ph: 99628 95575.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 17/10, Veerasamy Street, 2nd floor, 636 sq.ft, UDS 320 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, balcony, semi furnished, 2-wheeler parking, no lift, rate Rs. 47 lakhs (negotiable). Ph: 73580 32159.

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T. NAGAR, 37, Sivaji Street, near Bus Terminus, single bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor, 2-wheeler parking only, Brahmins, rent Rs. 12000 + maintenance Rs. 600. Suitable for aged people. Ph: 98417 48757.

WEST MAMBALAM, 11, Nakeeran Street, near K.S. Academy & Kalibari Temple, 1100 sq.ft, ground floor, individual house, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, service area, fully wood work, newly painted, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins only, rent Rs. 18700 (negotiable). A.C. Saarathy, Ph: 81489 59362.

WEST MAMBALAM, 41, Sukha Nivas, Janakiraman Street, 1st floor, 1 bedroom, lift, one 2 wheeler parking, vegetarian small family, no bachelors, rent Rs. 9500 + maintenance. Ph: 98400 02733.

ASHOK NAGAR, 31, Balaji Street, Near Samiyar Madam, 955 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, dining, semi furnished, covered car park, rent Rs. 17500, Brahmins only. Ph: 92831 40700, 98846 96090.

T. NAGAR, 9/5, Chinnai Street, opp. Kamaraj House, independent house, 1200 sq.ft, 1st floor, residential/commercial, no brokers. Contact: G. Muthukumar, Ph: 98408 93308.

ASHOK NAGAR, 15, 10th Avenue, near Reliance Fresh / Pillar, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, bath attached, lift, rent Rs. 15500. Ph: 98403 60785, 98411 93685.

WEST MAMBALAM, 2, Dhanapal Street, near Schools, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, modular kitchen, 1138 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 balconies, wood work, 24 hours water bore & metro, car park, rent Rs. 18500 Maintenance Rs. 1000, no brokers. Ph: 90944 08470.

WEST MAMBALAM, 5/3, Bharathi Street, 1 bedroom, kitchen, attached bath, western toilet, bachelors 1 or 2 persons only, rent Rs. 7000. Ph: 94446 49125.

WEST MAMBALAM, 18/10, Devanathan Colony, near Srinivasa Theatre, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, small Brahmin family preferred, no car park, rent Rs. 14000 (negotiable), no brokers. Ph: 85272 41095.

ASHOK NAGAR, B5, Ashok Vihar, 21, 11th Avenue, 700 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, 2 bathrooms, 1 A/c, geyser, wardrobes, loft covered, open car park, metro water, rent Rs. 17000 + maintenance, ready for occupation. Ph: 98807 83303.

WEST MAMBALAM, 13/23, Vasudevapuram Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, pooja, ground floor house, fittings, covered cupboards/lofts, 2-wheeler parking only, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 2481 7447, 944458 62886.

K.K. NAGAR West, 2, Jawahar Street, near Vani Vidhyalaya & Meenakshi Engineering College, 850 sq.ft, 1st floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2-wheeler parking, Brahmins only, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 15000, no brokers. Ph: 99403 76414.

WEST MAMBALAM, 42/A6, Murthy Street Extension, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 bathrooms, 2nd floor, no car park, rent Rs. 12000. Ph: 99529 50494.

WEST MAMBALAM, 34, Velu Street, near Indian Bank, independent house, ground floor, 3 bedrooms, hall, dining, kitchen, Brahmins only, bore water, rent Rs. 20000. Ph: 98841 99784.

WEST MAMBALAM, 58, Subramanian Street, 600 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, rent Rs. 22000, for commercial purpose. Ph: 97907 88474.

T. NAGAR, 17, Krishna Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, no lift, 950 sq.ft, small vegetarian/Brahmin family, no brokers, immediate occupation. Ph: 97890 73016, 2474 5843.

WEST MAMBALAM, Sri Sankara Apartment, 119/10, Lake View Road, near Duraiswamy Subway, 2 bedrooms flat, 1st floor, 1 attached bathroom, 1 common, pooja room. Ph: 86102 59096, 90031 22004.

ASHOK NAGAR, 55, 11th Avenue, near Thalapakatti, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 900 sq.ft, marble floor, CCTV camera, open car park, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 17000, family/batchors, office. Ph: 73053 44555.

WEST MAMBALAM, 6D, Gokulam Colony, near Satyanarayana Temple, single bedroom flat, 500 sq.ft, 1st floor, rent Rs. 12000, Brahmins only. Ph: 63806 25187.

ASHOK NAGAR, 46, 10th Avenue, next to TNSC Bank, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1240 sq.ft, 3rd floor, lift, semi-furnished, open car park. Ph: 90420 86163.

K.K. NAGAR (Nesapakkam), Plot No. 75, Flat S1, H Block, Prakash Galaxy, Annai Sathya Nagar, near Aroky Hospital, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1300 sq.ft, semi-furnished, gated community, covered car park, lift, rent Rs. 20000. Ph: 95000 66389.

WEST MAMBALAM, 1, Appasamy Street, near Kali Bari Temple, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, 2-wheeler parking, rent Rs. 14000, advance Rs. 50000, visit on Saturday & Sunday, 3 to 6 p.m. Ph: 95000 87472.

WEST MAMBALAM, Sunil Flats, 15/3, Ramakrishnapuram 2nd Street, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, 700 sq.ft, Brahmins only. Ph: 98403 13048, 90809 47955.

T. NAGAR, 5, Burkit Road, 965 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor apartment, semi-furnished, rent Rs. 25000. Ph: 98403 20005.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 11/6, Appasamy Street, near Kali Bari Temple, 820 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 18000 (negotiable), Brahmins only, 2-wheeler parking only. Ph: 94454 19696, 94449 979675.

WEST MAMBALAM, 19/10, Sampangi Street, 1st floor, 1000 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, covered car park, rent Rs. 18000. Contact: Appu, Ph: 98414 67463, 95511 55011.

WEST MAMBALAM, 17/55, South K.R. Kovil Street, independent portion, single bedroom, spacious hall, approximately 900 sq.ft, rent Rs. 12000, Brahmins only, no brokers. Ph: 2471 1404, 98407 04336.

WEST MAMBALAM, 38/48/1, Baroda Street, small room, 1 bedroom, kitchen, rent Rs. 8500. Ph: 99622 30970.

WEST MAMBALAM, 12/30, Patel Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor, small Hindu family, sufficient water, one 2-wheeler parking inside compound. B. Sivakumar, Ph: 98408 59867, 98842 96692.

T. NAGAR, 48/50, Unnamalai Ammal Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2 baths, 1 balcony, 910 sq.ft, semi furnished, security, CCTV, 4th floor, lift, 1 open car park, vegetarians only, no brokers. Ph: 99400 13948.

WEST MAMBALAM, 24/47, Mahadevan Street, near GRT School, 500 sq.ft, 2nd floor, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 10000. Contact: Sri Sanjana, Ph: 98847 14991, 98413 21499.

T. NAGAR, Min Apartment, 18, New Boag Road, Kannamapet, 2 bedrooms flat, 750 sq.ft, road facing balcony, 3rd floor, no lift, 2-wheeler parking, vegetarians only, rent Rs. 13000. Ph: 2489 3267, 96001 90232.

Temple surroundings in Ashok Nagar

Sir, Though temples are a place of sanctity and peace, their immediate surroundings in the neighbourhood depict a different story. Due to the high footfall, a number of unauthorised roadside eateries, tea stalls and other encroachments exist around temples. Our street, which has a popular temple, is proof of that. The residents cannot even step out of their homes because of the chaotic parking of vehicles by the visitors. A number of beggars around the temple disturb the tranquility of the place and the devotees. They also pose a threat to the security of the residents living in the street. The 'prasadam' offered in the temple is found strewn all over the road. I hope the temple authorities and the civic officials take steps to remove the encroachments and the beggars, and strive to keep the surroundings clean. **Dr. C. Anupama, 40, 53rd Street, Ashok Nagar.**

Sruuthi dons lead role in the 'Manithan Punitham' play on Thursday

S. Sruuthi (resident of 44/21, Bagirathi Ammal Street T. Nagar) will play the lead role in the play 'Manithan Punitham', to be staged at 7 p.m on Thursday, May 2 in Narada Gana Sabha (TTK Road, Alwarpet) during the 30th year Kodi Nataala Vizha program.



It has been organised by Kartik Fine Arts. Her father S. Shivprasadh is a popular dramatist, and she is the granddaughter of famous Tamil actor and thespian late R. S. Manohar. Shivprasadh will sing the 9 songs as part of the background music for the play. There is no entry fee. All are welcome.

Sruuthi started acting at the age of 3, and has acted in a variety of roles including Lord Hanuman, Krishna, Guruvayoorappan, Raghavendrhar, Thiruvalluvar, Prahaladhan, Raja Raja Chozhan, Ganga Devi, Pamban Swamigal and Vivekanandar. As a 5-year-old, she acted as Kumaragurubarar in the drama staged to celebrate the 84th birth anniversary of R. S. Manohar in Narada Gana Sabha. In 2014, she joined the professional drama troupe R. S. Manohar's NXGS headed by her father. She has won awards from several organisations including Kartik Fine Arts Society and Mylapore Academy. She also performs on themes on raising awareness about social evils like female infanticide, child marriage and child labour.

She is a Std. 12 student in PSBB School, K. K. Nagar. Her contact number is 2834 4876.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A helpful Metrowater official

Sir, With the increase in property tax, water charges have been revised from Rs. 50 per month to Rs. 80 per month effective May 2018, along with the hike in the water/sewerage tax. In this regard, I approached the Metrowater office in Muthukrishnan Street, T. Nagar, to seek clarification and pay the tax on behalf of some residents in our apartment complex. Clarification had become necessary in view of the fact that the residents have paid the tax for the period April 2018-March 2019 in February 2018 itself based on the earlier rates. But the officials were not helpful, and did not provide any answers to my queries.

I then approached one Palaniswamy in the Depot Office No. 136 on the advice of Nellaiappan (Area Engineer). He was courteous and clarified all my doubts and I paid the dues as per the revised rates. Officials with such traits are the need of the hour. I have no hesitation in recommending him to those who need clarification on the revision of the charges by Metrowater. His contact number is 94443 05775. **V. S. Jayaraman, 31, Motilal Street, T. Nagar**

Appeals against abnormal revision in property tax not resolved

Sir, A number of appeals against the recent abnormal revision of property tax are pending before the authorities. Though the govt. promised that the revision will not be more than 50%, in a number of cases it has been increased ten fold and more. Such aggrieved and honest property owners are now running from pillar to post and are at the mercy of the Corporation officials. I hope that the new Commissioner puts a system in place to ensure that all get a fair hearing. **R. Seetharaman 5, 9th Avenue, Ashok Nagar**

EB official acts quickly to replace damaged transformer

Sir, The 25-year-old transformer installed in the compound of Tarapore Apartments, Station Road, West Mambalam not only provides power for the 48 flats in our complex, but also for a number of shops on Station Road. Last week, the transformer failed causing a major short and leading to power outage. When we lodged a complaint, Murugan (Asst. Executive Engineer) quickly arranged for a new transformer even though it was late on Saturday.



He arranged for transportation of the new transformer from his office to our complex and got the old transformer replaced by 6 p.m on Sunday with a team of 8. He stayed till the work was completed and the power was restored. The apartment complex residents and the shop owners profusely thanked Murugan and the team for their work. The residents also conducted a special pooja after the erection of the transformer. **V. Krishnaswamy, Secretary (Tarapore Apartments Residents' Welfare Association)**

Udavum Karangal appeals for donations for noon-meal scheme

By Our Staff Reporter

Ramakrishna Vidya Niketan is a non-aided school for girls run by Udavum Karangal (NGO with branch office in 41, Kannadasan Salai, T. Nagar) in Thiruverkadu.

The NGO provides lunch for 200 students from poor families studying in the school under its 'Million meals project'. It costs around Rs. 6,000 per day.

S. Vidyaakar (Founder, Udavum Karangal) told *Mambalam Times* that the scheme has been in existence since 2016 and they have so far provided 1.3 lakh meals.

"Our aim is to touch a million free meals by 2022," he said. He has appealed to the readers of *Mambalam Times* to support the NGO's noon-meal scheme.

Donors who wish to sponsor meals may contact Udavum Karangal in 99401 88011 or 2434 3668.

Surgical equipment worth Rs. 11 lakhs donated to PHC



By Our Staff Reporter

Phaco machine worth Rs. 11 lakhs was donated by V. R. Sundaram and Padma Sundaram to Public Health Centre (Lake View Road, West Mambalam) on April 19.

It is used in cataract surgery.

'Samashti Upanayanam' on May 3

Registration is open for the 'Samashti Upanayanam' to be performed for Brahmin boys on Friday, May 3 at a suitable venue in West Mambalam.

It has been organised by Manav Seva Trust (Public Charitable Trust, 9th Sector, K. K. Nagar). Boys between 5 and 13 years of age from any Vadam, subsect can have their upanayanam.

For registration and other details, contact C. A. K. Jayaraman in 2366 1150 / 9840628787 / 9344362503 / 7358508513

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