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5 held for robbing man posing as cops

K. K. Nagar police arrested five persons on the charges of posing as policemen looking for an unlicensed gun concealed in the house, and robbing S. Pandian in Ashok Nagar.

Police are in search of three more persons in connection with the case. According to the police, eight unidentified persons entered the house of Pandian (49) in 7th street, Ashok Nagar on Dec. 9. They introduced themselves as police officers and threatened Pandian and his family. They conducted a search stating that they had information that an unlicensed gun was concealed in the house. They locked Pandian and his family members in a room and made away with 43 sovereign of jewellery, Rs. 12 lakhs in cash, 3 mobile phones and a car parked outside the house. On the orders of Commissioner of Police Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal, a special team was formed to nab the accused.

Through CCTV footage and, with help from T. Nagar Cyber Crime team, the police identified the registration numbers of the three cars and a two-wheeler used by the accused.

Police arrested, A. Siva (26) of Ashok Nagar, Anthony Amby Lamp alias Ruben (36), A. Rajendran alias Ravi (40) of Tiruvottiyur, S. Satish (31) of Vandavasi and M. Ajithkumar (26) of Salem. They were remanded to judicial custody

Four cars, a two-wheeler and five mobile phones were seized.

Police are on the lookout for main accused Bhumathan, who is absconding.

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No user fee for garbage collection

Following widespread protests, the Corporation on Dec. 24 announced that it will not implement the user fee for garbage collection from residents, which was to be effective Jan. 1.

The announcement was made after Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami's instructions directing a rollback. The Corporation had on Dec. 21 announced that the user fee, based on the Centre's Solid Waste Management rules, 2016 would be implemented from January 1 and it would be collected along with property tax.

It had announced that residents, commercial complexes and public event organisers would be charged between Rs. 10 and Rs. 500 per month for garbage collection by the local body.

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36, ரெட்டிகுப்பம் ரோடு, ஆக்ஸ்போர்டு பள்ளி எதிரில், அரங்கநாதன் சப்வே அருகில், மேற்கு மாம்பலம், சென்னை 33
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Final voters list on Jan. 20
By Our Staff Reporter
The final voters list for the forthcoming Assembly election will be published on Jan. 20.

'Sarva Darshan' timings for New Year in TTD

By Our Staff Reporter
There will be 'Sarva Darshan' of the presiding deity of Tirumala Tiruupathi Devasthanams (Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar) for devotees from 6 a.m to 10 a.m, 10.45 a.m to 2 p.m, 3 p.m to 5 p.m and 5.45 p.m to 8 p.m on Friday, Jan.1 (New Year). All are welcome.

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ஸ்ரீ காஞ்சிபுரம் பட்டு சென்டர்
V.M.A ஹால் வல்லப கணபதி கோயில் அருகில், சீனிவாச தெரு, ஆரிய கவுடா ரோடு, (அயோத்யா மண்டபம் சம்பம்)
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தமாஷா வரிகள்

ஜே.எஸ். ராகவன்

ஆசை தோசை!

கிராமிய இளைஞன் கணபதிக்கு தோசை சாப்பிடுவது என்றால் அல்வாவை விழுங்குவது போல. வீட்டில் தோசைகளை அங்கிங்கினாதபடி எங்கும் உட்கார்ந்து சாப்பிடுவது கிடையாது. அது தோசைக்கு செய்யும் அவமரியாதையாகக் கருதி வளர்ந்தான். அன்னை ருக்குமணியால் வளர்க்கப்பட்டான்.

சமையல் அறையில் இதற்கு மேல் இன்னும் நெருங்க வேண்டும் என்றால் தோசைகள் தயாரிக்கப்படும் அடுப்பின் மேலேயே ஏறி ஹடயோகிபோல் சம்மணமிட்டு உட்கார வேண்டியவரும். அதன் பின் விளைவுகள் கோரமாக இருக்கும். கல்லிலிருந்து தோசை திருப்பியால் புலம்பெயர்ந்து வரும் தோசையின் குடு கிஞ்சித்தும் குறையாமல் கணபதியின் வாழை இலையில் சில நாளோசைகளுக்களில் வந்துவிழ வேண்டும் என்பதே அவனுடைய நோக்கம். டைம் அண்டு மோஷன் ஸ்டடி வித்தகர்கள் இதுநாள் வரை இந்த நிகழ்வை ஆய்வு செய்யாது இருந்ததே கணபதியின் மேல் திருஷ்டிபட்டுப் போய்விடுமே என்கிற ருக்குமணியின் அச்சத்தினால்தான். கணபதி சிற்றுண்டி அல்லது பேருண்டி சாப்பிடும்போது அன்னியர்களை சமையல் உள்ளில் அனுமதிப்பதில்லை.

சிறுவனாக இருந்தபோது கணபதி வாய் இனிக்க அடிக்கடி பாடி மகிழ்ந்த குழந்தைப் பாடல். அவனுடைய தாயாரிடமிருந்து அறிந்து கொண்டதுதான். அது:

'தோசையம்மா தோசை, நெய்யில் சுட்ட தோசை அரிசி மாவும், உளுந்து மாவும் கலந்து சுட்ட தோசை அப்பாவுக்கு நாலு, அம்மாவுக்கு முணு

பாப்பாவுக்கு ஒண்ணு

கணபதிக்கு? தெரியாது'

என்று ருக்குமணி அவசரத்துடன் பாடி முடிப்பான். பிள்ளை

மேல் கண் பட்டுவிடப் போகிறது என்கிற அச்சத்தால்.

ஆசைகளில் பல

விதம் இருப்பதுபோல

தோசைகளிலும் பல

வகை உண்டு என்பது

தெரிந்ததே. கல்

தோசை, ரவா

தோசை, ஆனியன்

தோசை, ரவா ஆனி

யன் தோசை, மசாலா

மற்றும் பட்டர் மசா

லா தோசை, பொடி

தோசை, கோதுமை

தோசை (இதை சில

மாதர்கள் கோலமாவு

தோசை' என்று கேலி

யுடன் குறிப்பிடுவது

உண்டு.) ஆனால்

தற்போதைய செட்

தோசை அந்தக் காலத்

தில் ஜனிக்கவில்லை.

இருப்பினும் கணபதி

விரும்பி சாப்பிட்டது

சுத்தியால் தட்டித்

தட்டி உருவாக்கிய தகடு

போல் மெலிந்த கல்

தோசையே.

பாப்பாவாக இருந்தபோதே

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நெய்யைவிட்டு சாப்பிட்டதுபோல்

அல்லாமல் சர்ரென்று

உறைக்கும் மிளகாய்ப் பொடி,

நல்லெண்ணெய் கலவையைத்

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குடிவாடாவில் சில காலங்கள்

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காட்சி அளிக்கும் பெஸரெட்

தோசையால் கணபதியைக் கவர

முடியவில்லை.

சராசரி ஒரு மாதத்தில்

கணபதி தின்பது எவ்வளவு

எண்ணிக்கை வேறுபடும்.

அதுவும் சில மாதங்களில்

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மாறுபடும்.

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அரிசியையும், உளுந்தையும்

பக்குவமாக அரைப்பதில் குரூர்.

அதாவது சூரி! வெட் கிரைன்

டர் இன்னும் பூழ்க்கத்திற்கு

வராத காலத்தில் கணபதியின்

அண்டை வீட்டில் வசிப்பவர்கள்

கல் உரலிலிருந்து கொடகொட

என்று மாவாட்டும் சப்தம்

ஆதார சருதியுடன் (அல்லது

லயத்துடன்) வராவிட்டால்

கதவைத்தட்டி 'என்ன ஆச்சு?' என்று

கவலையுடன் விசாரிப்பார்கள்.

கல்யாண வயதை கணபதி

தொட்டபோது பெண்

வீட்டார்களுக்கு ருக்குமணி

அம்மாள் ஒரு விநோத கண்டிஷனை

முன் வைத்தார். காலம் காலமாக

வழங்கப்படும் சொஜ்ஜி,

பஜ்ஜியை அண்டவிடாது

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கன்னிகையின் கையால்

வார்த்துப் போடப்படும்

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(அன்னை ருக்குமணியிடமிருந்தும்)

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TRADERS

</

Big crowd for Vaikunta Ekadesi in TTD temple



Padayathra Trust buys plot for mandapam



By Our Staff Reporter
Tirumala Tirupati Padayathra Trust (West Mambalam) has purchased a 5000 sq.ft plot of land in Narayanavanam (near Sri Kalyana Venkateswara Swami Temple, Vethalathadku Village, Andhra Pradesh) for constructing a mandapam for annadaanam and temple festivals.

S. L. Sriram (President) told *Mambalam Times* that the project will cost Rs.57 lakhs including interiors and other amenities.

He said that every year the Trust organises padayathra of hundreds of devotees from West Mambalam to Tirumala temple and provides free food and accommodation.

Readers of *Mambalam Times* who wish to support the project may contact 99400 96168 or 94441 45574.

Is anything interesting happening in your street or locality? Please inform Mambalam Times!

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Pedestrian Plaza lit up for Christmas, New Year



By Our Staff Reporter
The Pedestrian Plaza (Thyagaraya Road, T. Nagar) has been spruced up for Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Colourful and decorative lights fitted to poles placed 10 feet apart line the road on both the sides.

Radha Kalyana mahotsavam on Jan. 3

By Our Staff Reporter
Sri Narayana Kainkarya Sabha Trust (13, Kasi Viswanathar Street, West Mambalam) has organised 'Sri Radha Krishna Kalyana Mahotsavam' on Jan. 2 and 3 in Goshala (Kasi Viswanathar Street, West Mambalam). The thirukalyaanam will be performed by Kumbakonam Brahmasri Anantharama Baghavatar.

The following is the program:
Jan.2: 2 p.m: Ashtapathi; 6.30 p.m: Divyanama Sankeertheenam
Jan.3: 8 a.m: Unjavrithi followed by Radha Kalyanam; 1 p.m: Sri Anjaneya Utsvam followed by Annadaanam; 3 p.m: Special poojas.
All are welcome.
More details can be had in 90251 11829 and 99629 98351.

By Our Staff Reporter
A huge crowd of devotees gathered to have darshan of Lord Venkateswara and Thayyar Padmavathi in TTD, Venkatanarayana Road, T. Nagar on Dec. 25 on the occasion of Vaikunta Ekadesi.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tree guards damage trunks

Sir, As the tree guards used to protect saplings are not removed, they start to damage the trunks after the saplings grow into healthy trees.

There are two such adjacent trees on the pavement of Thirumalai Road, T. Nagar, on the west side of the Bengal Association, where the guards are exerting severe pressure on the trunks.

One of the trees has almost dried up.

The area comes under Ward 117, Zone 9. I appeal to the Corporation officials to take immediate action to remove the tree guards to safeguard the trees. **Indukanth Ragzde, T. Nagar**



Appeal to axe leaning tree



Sir, A tall avenue tree on the pavement of North Crescent Road (T. Nagar) is leaning across the road.

Its roots have weakened and it is likely to fall any time.

I appeal to the Corporation to cut and remove the tree to prevent any untoward incident. **Shyamala Sekhar, T. Nagar**

Roots damage house compound wall



Sir, The roots of an avenue tree on the pavement adjacent to my house have damaged a portion of the compound wall.

I have written several letters to the officials concerned, but no action has been taken so far to rectify the situation.

I am appending a photo to highlight the problem.

I appeal to the Assistant Commissioner (Zone 9) to cut and remove the tree. **K. G. Madhavan, 8, Sarathy Street, T. Nagar**

COVID-19 norms flouted in T. Nagar post office

Sir, I recently visited T. Nagar head post office and was appalled by the total disregard for the mandated COVID-19 protocols for the safety of the customers and employees.

Before COVID-19 lockdown, there used to be multiple counters for customers with a regulated token system which prevented crowding at the counters but now, when the need of the hour is to minimize the crowd, only one counter is open with a long queue of customers standing almost next to one another.

I appeal to the officials concerned to take immediate steps to prevent crowding at post offices by increasing the number of counters and strictly implementing all COVID-19 protocols like wearing masks and providing sanitizer at the entrance, else T. Nagar post office could soon turn into a COVID-19 cluster spot. **Lakshmi, Bazullah Road, T. Nagar**

2 cops among 10 held in 300-sovereign robbery

By Our Staff Reporter

Police arrested 10 persons including three from K. K. Nagar and two policemen, who allegedly robbed 300 sovereigns of jewellery by intercepting an auto near Sriperumbudur two weeks back.

Police seized 100 sovereigns of ornaments from them and Rs. 10 lakhs in cash.

Mahendran (52) of Thiruvallur owns a jewellery shop and supplied gold ornaments to shops in Sunguvachatiram and Sriperumbudur.

The robbery took place on Dec. 11 when Mahendran's son Ashish (25) along with employee Rajkumar (55) travelled to Kancheepuram in an auto to deliver jewellery.

Police formed three special teams to crack the case and arrest the accused who included two police constables.

City again records positive COVID-19 growth rate

By Our Staff Reporter

In the wake of new COVID-19 clusters in educational institutions, Chennai, for the first time since October end, is again recording a positive case growth.

According to data from Chennai Corporation, the city recorded a positive case growth of 0.5 percent in the last seven days.

This means the number of new cases being reported has been higher than the number of people discharged.

When the COVID-19 cases were at its peak around June this year, the city saw a case growth of 8 percent.

However, subsequently, the case growth kept declining till the first week of December.

While Chennai has been recording less than 400 cases continuously for almost a month now, officials said that the recent spike is due to the clusters formed in the city's educational institutions.

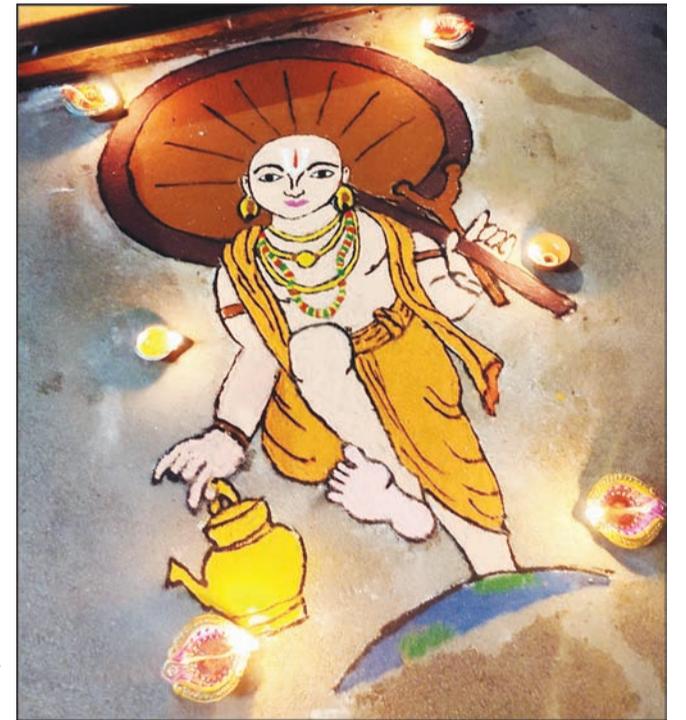
"IIT-Madras and Anna University alone logged close to 200 cases this week. That's why zones other than Adyar have not seen any such dramatic surge," the official added. Presently, zone-13 (Adyar) has a very high case growth of 6.2 percent, followed by zone-11 (Valasaravakkam) at 2.8 percent. Kodambakkam too has seen a case growth of 2.5 percent.

Eight of the total of 15 zones have negative case growth

Colleges with hostels have been instructed to follow COVID-19 norms strictly and warned that action would be taken if they do not adhere to norms. The city now has 3,022 active cases, which is 1.36 percent, while on the other hand, 2,14,968 persons have been discharged, which is close to 98 percent.

The civic body recently ramped up testing to above 11,000, while the officials said about 8,500 samples of students across colleges have been taken.

Residents create thematic kolams for Marghazhi



By Our Staff Reporter

Sisters V. Apoorva and V. Aishwarya have been drawing special thematic kolams made on pasurams daily for Marghazhi outside their residential complex Balaji's Anjandhri Apartments, 28/183, Lake View Road, West Mambalam.

Their contact numbers are 95001 83449 and 94448 96238.

Metrowater's head office shifted temporarily

The Metrowater Board's head office at 1, Pumping Station Road, Chintadripet was temporarily shifted to 75, MRC Nagar, Santhome High Road on Dec. 15 to facilitate its renovation.

The 24x7 Complaints Cell will continue to function on the ground floor of the old building in Chintadripet. Metrowater's new contact numbers are 4567 4567 and 2845 1300.

Damaged auto blocks road margin



An autorickshaw (TN02 / D0018) in a damaged condition has been lying outside 8/35, Ramasamy Street, T. Nagar for several weeks.

The residents informed this reporter that the vehicle has not been removed in spite of several complaints to the traffic police.

Social worker gets honorary Ph.D

By Our Staff Reporter

R. Raghunathan (Managing Trustee, Kalpavriksha Seva Trust, West Mambalam) was conferred the honorary degree of 'Doctor of Social Work' by Global Peace University (USA) at a function in Raja Annamalai Mandram last week.

Raghunathan has been running the trust since 2012 to help the needy.

He organises free tuitions and other educational welfare activities for students from underprivileged families studying in around 10 schools in and around T. Nagar.

During the lockdown period, he had distributed essentials like provisions, face masks, sanitizers and medical assistance worth Rs. 10 lakhs among the needy. His contact number is 97908 56066



Signal post on pavement removed following report in Mambalam Times



Before



Now

Following the report 'Traffic signal post lying on pavement' published in *Mambalam Times* recently, the traffic signal post was removed from the pavement of South Usman Road in T. Nagar.

Open drain filled with sewage water



By Our Staff Reporter

The slab covering the 2-foot wide storm water drain is missing on a 6-ft stretch on Ramakrishna Street, T. Nagar.

The sewage water is producing an awful stench and the opening is hazardous to pedestrians.

The nearby residents have requested Corporation officials to pump out the stagnant water and cover the opening.

Children start visiting local parks



By Our Staff Reporter

After a lull of over 7 months owing to the pandemic, parks are starting to get more visitors. The picture, taken on Dec. 24, shows a number of children enjoying themselves in the play area in Sharma Park (Habibullah Road, T. Nagar).

The Corporation had recently repaired and repainted the play equipment in the park.

Corporation removes illegal phone poles

As part of a major drive, the Corporation on Dec. 21 removed more than 2,000 poles illegally erected by a telecommunication company which included more than 200 poles in T. Nagar and Kodambakkam. The drive, which began last week, follows complaints from residents regarding poles being erected during night without permission.

As per estimates available with the civic body, the company must have erected 500 to 1,500 poles in each zone. Civic activist Vasanthi Kannan of Kodambakkam said that the Corporation's drive was underway only in south Chennai.

She said that in Ambattur and Mogappair, where several resident activists have raised complaints, no action has been taken so far.

Now, adopt park, median or traffic island for free

By Our Staff Reporter

NGOs, other organisations and individuals can now adopt a park, a central median or a traffic island in the city for free.

Corporation has decided to waive the Rs. 50,000 caution deposit and the annual adoption fee of Rs. 100 per sq.m of park. The decision was made to ensure proper maintenance of infrastructure.

"NGOs, organizations or individuals can contact the nodal officer concerned and fill up a form to take up a park for maintenance," said Meghnath Reddy, Deputy Commissioner, Works.

Those adopting parks can also put up small boards stating that they maintain the park along with their brand or the name of the company or resident welfare association.

Of the 703 corporation parks, 51 have been adopted so far.

The corporation maintains 54 parks and has outsourced 554 to contractors.

Park maintenance usually involves appointment of a security guard, sweepers, gardeners who can prune trees regularly and conduct minor repairs of play equipment.

Monthly maintenance cost varies between Rs 1,500 and Rs 1 lakh depending on the area and number of trees in the park.

Rs. 150 crores allotted for road repairs

By Our Staff Reporter

Chennai Corporation has received Rs. 150 crores from Tamilnadu Government to repair the roads damaged during the two consecutive cyclones last month.

A Corporation official said that about 1,170 interior roads and 161 bus route roads will be relaid using this money.

Work on relaying 2nd Avenue, Anna Nagar has started already.

Manhole closed following report in Mambalam Times



Before



Now

Following the report 'Open manhole in Mambalam High Road threat to motorists' published in *Mambalam Times* recently, the open sewer manhole in the middle of Mambalam High Road, T. Nagar was closed

Rotary Club organises Christmas fest for terminally ill patients

By Our Staff Reporter

The members of Rotary Club of Madras Vadapalani and Aura Holistic Wellness Center (Nungambakkam) organised Christmas fest in Karuna Sagar (Home for terminally ill and cancer patients) in its premises in Maduravoyal on Dec. 24.

There are more than 50 patients undergoing palliative care in the Home run by RMD Palliative Care Trust (West Mambalam).

Cultural programs were arranged to entertain the ailing patients followed by an interactive session and lunch. Mohan Boovaraghavan (President, Rotary Club of Madras), Divya Swapna Raj (Founder of Women League Foundation), Sruthi Sridhar (Managing Director, Aura) and Immanuel (Vice President, RMD Trust) interacted with the patients. Those who wish to help Karuna Sagar may contact 93810 16588.



Damaged car dumped in parking area on Prakasam Road



By Our Staff Reporter

A badly damaged car in an accident has been lying in the paid parking lot outside Corporation Park (Prakasam Road, T. Nagar) for the past several months.

Visitors to the park have appealed to the traffic police to remove the damaged car from the parking area.

Open rainwater harvesting pit closed after report in Mambalam Times



Before



Now

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Mosquitoes breed in damaged rain water harvesting pit' published in *Mambalam Times* (Dec. 20-26 issue), Corporation workers closed the open pit on B.R.P. 2nd Street, T. Nagar with a concrete slab on Dec. 23.

Open sewage chamber covered with boards



Before



Now

By Our Staff Reporter

Following the report 'Cover of sewage chamber caves in' published in *Mambalam Times* (December 20-26 issue), the open sewage chamber in Thyagaraya Road, T. Nagar, near Daniel Road junction, was temporarily closed with two plywood boards and a barricade placed over it to warn road users.

15 blood units collected from 60 donors

By Our Staff Reporter

15 blood units were collected from 60 donors in the blood donation camp organised by Thirumala Tirupathi Pathyathra Trust at Sriivasa Street, West Mambalam on Dec. 20.

The Trust has been conducting social welfare programs in the neighbourhood for several years and undertook relief measures during the lockdown period.



25 lakhs tested in city for COVID-19

By Our Staff Reporter

Nearly 25 lakh persons who constitute a third of the city's population have been tested so far for COVID-19, according to G. Prakash (Corporation Commissioner).

He said that increase in testing and isolation measures have helped Chennai bring down the fatality rate from 2.8% in May to 1.7% now.

The Corporation was testing around 5,000 samples a day till June, which was later ramped up to 10,000.

Since November, Anna Nagar Zone has recorded the highest recovery rate.

As on Dec. 17, there were 356 active cases in Kodambakkam Zone.

Christmas cribs installed in neighbourhood churches



By Our Staff Reporter

Large Christmas cribs have been installed in neighbourhood churches including Holy Cross Church (76, South Boag Road, T. Nagar) and St. Mathias Church (Kamarajar Salai, Ashok Nagar). They will be on display till Jan. 1.

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

Marghazhi Vizha on Velammal YouTube channel till Jan. 15

Digital Margazhi Utsav 2020, organised by Velammal Main School (Mogappair), started with music and magic show streamed live on the Velammal Nexus YouTube channel on Dec. 23. Renowned Carnatic musician and playback singer S. Mahathi presented a 1-hour concert followed by a magic show.

As part of the Marghazhi vizha, cultural and entertainment programs will be streamed daily till Jan. 15.

Police: Don't fall prey to lending apps

By Our Staff Reporter

Following incidents of people ending lives unable to face harassment from loan app representatives, the police have warned residents against falling prey to such apps.

There are about 60 mobile phone applications that offer loans to users, but they have not been recognised by Reserve Bank of India as non-banking financial companies (NBFC), said a note from the Central Crime Branch.

While it is not advisable to share Aadhaar and bank credentials with such applications, they also get access to users' data such as contacts and photos and locations which can be misused and individual's privacy can be violated.

Stating that the contact numbers and customer care numbers provided by the apps are fake, the CCB advised the public to approach police if they face any harassment by such apps.

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WEST MAMBALAM, Jubilee Road (Bus Route), 669 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, road facing flat, 30 years old, if interested, please call or send Whatsapp message to Ph: 98400 49579. Brokers excuse.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, opp. Corporation Office, 900 sq.ft, UDS 750 sq.ft, flat for sale, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, 6 years old, no car park. Ph: 98408 18795.

KODAMBAKKAM, Trustpuram 1st Cross street, near Arcot Road, 1200sqft, 2 bedroom furnished flat, 2nd floor, with lift, car park, Uds 600sqft, 12 years Old, Price 1.10 crores. Ph: 98414 06777.

MADIPAKKAM, Mahalakshmi Nagar 2nd Street, near Madipakkam Bus Terminus/Temple, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, ground floor flat, 725 sq.ft, UDS 616 sq.ft, semi-furnished, good ventilation, 20 years old, tiles flooring, price Rs. 34 lakhs (negotiable), no brokers. Ph: 98843 52588, 94440 82742.

VELACHERY, near Guindy Metro & Phoenix Mall, 600 sq.ft, UDS 405 sq.ft (UDS value more than flat cost), 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, recently renovated, ground floor flat. Ph: 73584 15014.

T. NAGAR, Flat-2A, 56/1, Sadhullah Street, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, 1583 sq.ft, UDS 716 sq.ft, covered parking, lift, genset, CCTV, wood work, 4 balconies, security, 24 x 7 water, 40 feet road, no deviation, price Rs. 2.6 crores (negotiable). Ph: 93448 83631.

WEST MAMBALAM, near Duraisamy Subway, new flat, 1200 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 2nd floor, covered car park, price Rs. 10000 per sq.ft (negotiable), no lift. Ph: 93835 67788.

ASHOKNAGAR (landmark Sangamam Hotel), land for sale, 21 1/2" x 70" = total area 1505 sq.ft, price Rs. 2.55 crores. Ph: 98405 59920.

VELACHERY, VGP Selva Nagar 2nd Main Road, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, house for sale, 1180 sq.ft, no water logging, metro water & drainage available, price Rs. 65 lakhs (negotiable), no brokers. Ph: 99413 84438.

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WEST MAMBALAM, 1,2,3, Vijaya Shanti Apartment, Flat No. 'C', Eswaran Koil Street, near Mambalam Railway Station, Opp. Narayana Mission School, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, rent Rs. 9500, 6 months advance, Brahmins only, no brokers, visiting time: 10 a.m to 5 p.m. Ph: 2489 9284, 63797 07034, 94440 84849.

ASHOK NAGAR, 8B, 2nd Avenue, 1st Street, Opp Imayam TV, ground floor, 1050 sq.ft, UDS 590 sq.ft, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, covered car park, furnished, price Rs. 90 lakhs. Ph: 99621 26309.

WEST MAMBALAM, Thambiah Road, near Satyanarayana Temple, 3 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, covered car park, 1200 sq.ft for sale. Ph: 97899 80481.

RENTAL
T. NAGAR, 11, Gopalakrishna Road, behind Ratna Fan House, Pondy Bazaar, prime location, ground floor, 3 bedrooms flat, hall, modular kitchen, individual parking, semi-furnished, rent Rs. 32000, no brokers. Ph: 98405 23190.

T. NAGAR, 9, Sivaji Street, near T. Nagar Bus Terminus/ off: South Usman Road, 800 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms flat, hall, kitchen, semi furnished, 1st floor, road side balcony, 2 wheeler parking, open car park, 24 hours metro & bore water, rent Rs. 20000, pure vegetarians, no brokers. Ph: 98412 29007, 2434 5468.

WEST MAMBALAM, 137, Lake View Road, near Railway Station, 1 bedroom apartment, hall, kitchen, balcony, bath attached, 1st floor, wood work, cupboards, rent Rs. 10500, 6 months advance. Ph: 89394 99735, 98403 60785.

ASHOK NAGAR, 13, Nagathamman Koil Street Extension, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, semi-furnished, 3 phase, 1 A/c, 2 geysers, 900 sq.ft, 3rd floor, Brahmins only, no brokers, no lift. Ph: 87545 35035, 2471 0845.

WEST MAMBALAM, 24, Postal Colony 4th Street, 970 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, semi-furnished flat, 2nd floor, Brahmins/vegetarians preferred, no lift, open car park, 24 hours water, rent Rs. 18000 (negotiable). Sriram, 94449 24242.

WEST MAMBALAM, 24/1, BRP 1st Street, ground floor, rent Rs. 14000, advance Rs. 70000, Brahmins only, no brokers, time to visit between 8 p.m and 9 p.m on all days and 8 a.m and 8 p.m on Sundays. Ph: 80563 53675.

WEST MAMBALAM, 67, Lake View Road, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, lease Rs. 12 lakhs or rent Rs. 13000. Ph: 73583 57499.

WEST MAMBALAM, 10/1, Giri Street, 836 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, 1st floor, independent house, 2-wheeler parking only, rent Rs. 14000 (negotiable), Brahmins/vegetarians only. Ph: 2474 0941, 98404 26008.

T. NAGAR, 21, Sadullah Street, 2 bedrooms flat, for immediate occupation with attached bathroom, balcony, A/c, geyser, 1st floor, vegetarians only, rent Rs. 20000, no brokers. Ph: 80560 82354, 95662 44962.

WEST MAMBALAM, Srividya Apartment, 14, Bala-krishna Mudali Street, 1 bedroom, hall, kitchen, ground floor flat, non-Brahmins also welcome, no brokers & bachelors, inspection by appointment. Ph: 94447 00288.

T. NAGAR, D-4, Amara-vathi Apartment, 4, Mahara-japuram Santhanam Salai, semi-furnished, 650 sq.ft, rent Rs. 20000, vegetarians. Ph: 99620 05983.

KODAMBAKKAM, 51/23, Parangusapuram Street, near 5 Lights, calm dead end street, 800 sq.ft, ground floor, 2 bedrooms, hall, kitchen, A/c, wardrobe, rent Rs. 20000. Ph: 79049 32768, 94443 23947.

WEST MAMBALAM, 137, Lake View Road, near Railway Station, 1 bedroom apartment, hall, kitchen, balcony, bath attached, 1st floor, wood work, cupboards, rent Rs. 10500, 6 months advance. Ph: 89394 99735, 98403 60785.

WEST MAMBALAM, G-3, Anandhi Apartment, 8/19, Kuppiah Street, 684 sq.ft. Ph: 72004 02402.

T. NAGAR, 8, Dr. Narasimhan Road (formerly North Boag Road) 2nd Street, alacrity flat, 1100 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms + study, hall, kitchen, 3rd floor, lift, A/c, open car park, rent Rs. 32000, vegetarian family. Ph: 9444 626187.

K.K. NAGAR, 440, 30th Street, 6th Sector, near PSBB School, independent, 2 bedrooms, 1st floor, 900 sq.ft, available from 1st Jan 2021, rent Rs. 15000, vegetarians only. If interested contact: 97104 50186. Inspection on Sunday 27.12.2020 between 10 a.m and 1 p.m only.

WEST MAMBALAM, 4A, Gokul Flat, Balakrishna Naicken Street, 750 sq.ft, 2 bedrooms, 2nd floor, small vegetarian family, rent Rs. 17500. Ph: 88970 09461.

K.K. NAGAR, 5, Ramasamy Salai, near PSBB & GRT Schools, 1200 sq.ft, brand new, 2 bedrooms apartment, hall, modular kitchen, lift, covered car park, wood work, 2 balconies, Brahmins, vegetarians & non-vegetarians also ok, rent Rs. 19000, office & bachelors, rent Rs. 22000, lease Rs. 12 lakhs. Ph: 98419 27338, 99419 99191.

WEST MAMBALAM, 5, Umapathy Street, 2 bedrooms, hall, dining, kitchen, semi-furnished, ground floor, road facing, prime location, rent Rs. 23000 (negotiable), 2-wheeler parking, pure vegetarians only. Ph: 98402 90060.

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Open-air kutcheris to raise funds for struggling artistes

By Our Staff Reporter

At a time when most sabhas have moved performances online, there is a couple holding kutcheris in open spaces so that rasikas and artistes do not miss out on the magic of a live concert.

Sunaadlahari, the music wing of Indira Ranganathan Trust that has been conducting free Margazhi concerts for five years, has been organising them this year too, as a fundraiser to help struggling artistes.

Manikandan Murali (Trustee) said that they decided to have an open-air kutcheri with limited seating as many artistes miss the live audience.

Only 50 persons are allowed in the venue that can seat 100. The concerts are also live-streamed.

While the concerts are usually free, this time, tickets are being sold at Rs. 150 for students and Rs. 200 for other rasikas to help nadaswaram and thavil vidwans.

Meditation session held for special children

By Our Staff Reporter

A program on enhancing mental health through meditation was organised for special children and their parents in BVSN School for Special Children, West Mambalam on Dec. 22.

R. R. Ramakrishnan (Vipassana Teacher) and Arul Joseph (Psychologist) conducted the program.

Shop sells pooja materials

By Our Staff Reporter

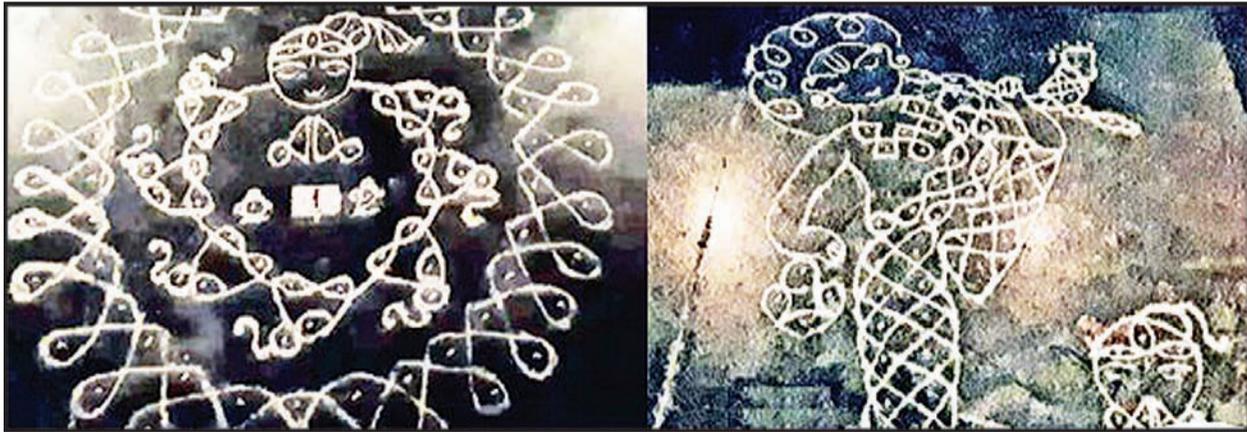
Om Sri Venkateswara Steel House & Textiles (VKK Complex, Basement, 73, Ranganathan Street, T. Nagar) offers pooja materials for rituals like Ayush homam, Valai kaappu, Sashtiyathapoorthi, Grahapravesam etc.

The shop, which was started in 1960 by Mookanoor P. Subramniya Iyer, is being run by his family.

It stocks dhotis, sarees and other textile items. The family provides 'Annadhanam' daily in a Guru-Sukra Vigneshwara Temple constructed by it in Saidapet.

It also runs a veda padasala in Kanchipuram. The phone numbers of the shop are 98403 15165/90032 47025.

Explaining Thiruppavai through kolams



By Our Staff Reporter

Margazhi month celebrates the poetry of Andal and, to make it interesting, historian Meenakshi Devaraj has decided to explore Thiruppavai through kolams.

She takes one chapter of Thiruppavai daily and explains the content of it through a kolam design. The engineer-turned-historian started the series on Dec. 16 and is planning to end it after Pongal. "The first five pasurams (poems) of Thiruppavai are an introduction to the Margazhi nonbu", she said.

"There are different types of kolam but I am doing the series in sikku kolam. It is also called pulli kolam," she added.



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1 lakh health workers to get 1st shot of vaccine

By Our Staff Reporter

Tamilnadu is gearing up to administer the COVID-19 vaccine from January and has started training 21,170 nurses as a first step.

The state is readying cold storage facilities in 27 government medical college hospitals, 303 other government hospitals and 2,286 primary health centres that will be used to give vaccine shots to 1 lakh health officials in the city and 4 lakh across the state in the 1st phase.

After healthcare professionals, others on the frontline personnel from the police, municipal administration, revenue and media besides the elderly and those with co-morbidities could be vaccinated, said J. Radhakrishnan (Health Secretary).

Child Helpline 1098

Beware of fake Amazon calls

R. Sudhakar,
Security Expert

In the recent trend of phone scams, fraudsters are cheating the public by presenting themselves as employees of Amazon.

The callers identify themselves as from Amazon's gift department and say that your name has been shortlisted for rewards like expensive laptops, iPhones, air-conditioners, refrigerators and big screen television sets.

They also provide images of their Amazon ID card, PAN card and Aadhaar card on WhatsApp for authenticity.

With their sweet talk, they trap unwary persons and send an Amazon link on WhatsApp to claim the gift by making a purchase for Rs. 5,000.

If the link is clicked, the recipient is provided with details of a bank account to be linked with Amazon Pay to make the purchase and avail of the gift.

Once the payment is made, the callers will cut the line and the money is lost.

So, be wary and abstain from falling for the latest fraud in the name of Amazon.

Purchases from Amazon can only be made through its Amazon app or by visiting its website and opening an account there.

Wellness expert gets 'Women Achiever' award

By Our Staff Reporter

Sruthi Sridhar (resident of Raghaviah Road, T. Nagar and Managing Director, of Aura Holistic Wellness Center, Nungambakkam) was presented 'Women Achiever' award by Syrafills Media and Research Pvt. Ltd. in the SIWAA-2020 (South India Women Achiever Award) awards function held in SPR City, Perambur on Dec. 22 for her outstanding service in the health and wellness fields. She organises wellness programs covering yoga, nutrition, fitness and general lifestyle.

During the COVID-19 lockdown period, she gave free counselling and stress relief support to many COVID-19 patients and their care givers.

She can be contacted in 91767 99333 and 4863 8555.



Radha Kalyanam for New Year in Jawahar Street, K. K. Nagar

By Our Staff Reporter

Jayamani Catering has organised Radha Kalyana mahotsavam for the 8th consecutive year from 8 a.m to 8 p.m on Friday, Jan. 1 in 20/5, Jawahar Street Extension, West K. K. Nagar.

All are welcome.

More details can be had from S. Sathish Kumar (President, Thambrass K. K. Nagar) in 91766 51942.

Violin concert by GJR Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi on Jan. 1

By Our Staff Reporter

Lalgudi Trust has organised 'Sharanam', a violin concert by Lalgudi GJR Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi, to usher in the New Year which will be livestreamed on the YouTube channel 'Lalgudi Jayaraman - God of Violin' at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAYBTqLgRd62F04KKzRfCVw> from 9 a.m on Friday, Jan. 1.

Krishnan and Vijayalakshmi will be accompanied by Trichy Sankaran on the mridangam from Toronto (Canada) and V. Suresh on the ghatam.

The tradition of ushering in the New Year with violin concerts on the morning of Jan. 1 was started by Lalgudi Jayaraman with Balasubramanya Sangeetha Sabha in Sastri Hall (Mylapore) 40 years back.

Palghat Mani Iyer and Lalgudi Jayaraman performed in the initial years and the tradition was later carried on by his son GJR Krishnan and daughter Vijayalakshmi.

Lalgudi Trust, founded by

Lalgudi Jayaraman in 1979, promotes young talent in Carnatic music, especially violinists.

The trust also provides educational scholarships to the needy, gifts musical instruments to deserving students and sponsors youth concerts in various venues all over India.

It has created endowments in leading sabhas to give prizes to young violinists. Donations to the trust are exempt under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act.

Trench not closed properly on South Boag Road



By Our Staff Reporter

TNEB workers have not properly closed the 15-foot-long trench dug on the margin of South Boag Road, T. Nagar a fortnight back to carry out maintenance work. The uneven surface is hazardous to motorists and pedestrians.

Corporation's ring-fence plan to check mutant virus spread

By Our Staff Reporter

The Corporation's Health Department has reportedly devised a ring-fencing plan to prevent spread of the mutated virus.

As per the SOP, only those who visited the city between Dec. 9 and 23 needed to be tested. However, the Department has been directed to test even those who came to the city after Nov. 25.

A total of 218 persons arrived at Chennai airport 48 hours before the banning of flights from the UK and 1,791 persons during the two weeks that immediately preceded the ban. In total, 2,805 persons had come to the city from the UK after Nov. 25. The move to test travellers who entered the State after Nov. 25 and their primary contacts has been taken as a measure of caution.

If the travellers were COVID-19 positive, they would have recovered but they could have passed the virus on to their primary contacts, it is said.

The Corporation has been ordered to strictly home quarantine those returning from abroad even if their test results are negative.

The returnees will be monitored by sanitary workers and staff of Health Department. Fever surveillance will be done to check abnormal spurts of cases which could be the result of public, religious and cultural gatherings.

'Pushpa Yagam' in Aachi Amman Temple

By Our Staff Reporter

'Pushpa Yagam' will be performed from 5 p.m to midnight on Friday, Dec. 31 to welcome the New Year and as part of ongoing Marghazhi poojas in Devi Sri Aachi Amman Temple (Siddhi Vinayagar Temple Street, T. Nagar).

Devotees can contribute flowers for conducting the yagam. All are welcome.

More details can be had in 99400 70888.

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