

Arcot Road Times

February 5, 2012

8 pages

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REPUBLIC DAY AWARD FOR GRT SCHOOL

Reported by Sujatha Sankar

GRT Mahalakshmi Vidyalaya had reason to celebrate recently.

Its team was chosen as the team which presented the best cultural event as part of the Republic Day celebrations in Chennai.

The prize was for school level teams.

The parade took place on the Beach Road (Kamaraj Salai) in San Thome, near the Gandhi statue.

This Ashok Nagar school team impressed with its 'Carnival' theme.

24 girls and 12 boys made the team and presented a fusion dance based on Bharatanatyam.

Kummi and gymnastics also made the pot-pourri.

That evening, at a tea event held at the Raj Bhavan Governor Rosiah presented the prizes in the presence of Chief Minister J. Jayalalithaa.

The GRT Team had won a similar award in 2004.

The school is on at 76, 7th Ave., Ashok Nagar. Phones - 2489 1232; 2345 3650; 98414 50933

ADMISSIONS at PON VIDYASHRAM

Pon Vidyashram is open for admissions to the school now.

The process is on at its central office.

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POLICE SUPPORT TREES CAMPAIGN



Tree Bank, a NGO which promotes tree planting and care celebrated Republic Day in its own unique manner.

Its team gathered at Koyambedu Police Station and initiated a new program to plant 5000 bamboo trees in order to tackle the polluted environment in this zone.

Koyambedu Police Station (K10) Inspector of Police launched the programme.

.Tree Bank founder G. Mullaivanam was also present at the event.

Kid members of Tree Bank took the lead to plant the saplings.

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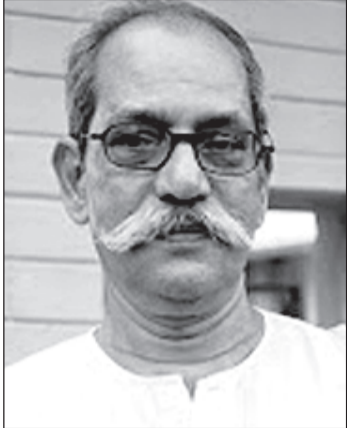
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Editor: Vincent D'Souza

PADMA SHRI AWARD FOR THEATRE PERSON NA. MUTHUSWAMY



Well known theatre writer and director Na. Muthuswamy who is based in Virugambakkam has been decorated with the Padma Shri award.

He is the director of Tamil folk theater group Koothu-P-Pattarai, which is based in Sri Ayyappa Nagar near the Marthoma School.

Muthuswamy has been described by The Hindu as "the master of the avant-garde". Muthuswamy first achieved prominence as a result of the play "Kalam Kalamaga", which has been described as the "first modern play in Tamil".

He has been decorated with the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Award by the Government of India for 1999.

Koothu-p-pattarai, an experimental theatre group and over the decades its actors have gone on to win laurels for their guru.

Many are making their mark in Tamil cinema, chosen by new and young film directors because of the actors' refined acting skills which are honed at the KPP home in Virugambakkam.

Muthuswamy's space has had a nomadic existence and but now has its own theatre space atop the building where he also resides.

From time to time, KPP hosts plays and theatre fests where the lights, sound and sets are appropriate for a great evening of theatre.

Muthuswamy says that he wishes to continue writing plays and that the Padma Shri should make his wife, family and actor community happy.

76 year-old Muthuswamy founded the Koothu-p-pattarai along with a few others in 1977.

They drew inspiration from Theru-k-koothu, a performing folk art form in Tamil Nadu.

Address - 16/58, 3rd Main Road, Sri Iyyappa Nagar, Saligramam, Chennai 92.

Call 99414 46543 / 65373633.

ART CONTEST FOR CHILDREN: THEMES ON ILL-EFFECTS OF CANCER

The Vasantha Memorial Trust is on campaign for a Cancer-Free tomorrow since 5 years and each year it has organised a paint contest on this theme to mark the World Cancer Day. This year this Ashok Nagar-based NGO is hosting it on Feb.12 at Rosary Matriculation School, Santhome.

The NGO says three important factors - food, exercise and habits- influence tremendously on our health . The abuses or ill use of any these 3 factors can increase the risk of cancer. If these abuses begin in childhood, they lead to cancer in the middle and older ages.

The coming painting contest is a platform to reach the message to children and their parents.



For this contest the children from across the city can take part. There are 3 categories - Class I - 1V , Class V - VII and Class VIII upwards. The themes are - for primary class - Food, for middle-l classes - Smoking and for Secondary-level students - Exercise.

A special talk on Parents role in preventing cancer in their children will be given to parents while the children are painting . Reputed artists from the city - Madhan, Keshav and Usha Elangovan will be the judges

Each School may send 3 children in each category .Children have to come in their uniforms and carry their painting materials. They have to register through their school principal with the NGO's office by phone 24717871 / 77 or 97910-48379 or email to vasanthamemorial@gmail.com by 7th Feb. 2012.

HOMAMS FOR STUDENTS PREPARING FOR EXAMS

Homam for students appearing for public exams; on Feb.12 in Virugambakkam

Tamil Nadu Brahmin Association of Virugambakkam will perform Hayagreeva homam along with Saraswathi, Mahaganapathi, Sudarsana, Medha Dakshinamurthi and Dhanavanthi Homams for all students appearing for upcoming examinations.

Prayers will be said to pray for the success of students in exams. These homams will be performed by Vedic scholars on Sunday, Feb. 12 between 8 am and 12.30 pm at Padma Sarangapani Cultural Academy, Venkatesa Nagar III Main Road, Virugambakkam Chennai-92.

All people are invited to participate. For registration, you can

contact S. Nagarajan, General Secretary, A/14H, Srividya Apartments, 19/57, Venkatesa Nagar 3rd Main Road, Virugambakkam, Chennai-92.

Mobile numbers: 9444522150, 9444401372.

Sri Hayagreeva Dhakshinamoorthy Homan Thamiznadu Brahmin Association is organising Sri

Hayagreeva Dhakshinamoorthy Homan. Feb. 05. Sunday at 8.00am, The venue at P.S.B.B. School, Ponnabalam Salai, K.K.NAGAR.

All THAMBRASS members and the public may attend the function, This is the programme - Morning 8.00 Sri Ganapthy pooja , sangalpam 8.30 Sri Medha

Dasheenamoorthy homam 10.00 sri Hayagreeva Homam 11.00 SRI Vidya saraswathi homam 11.30 Poornahothi 12.00 Distribution of prasadam For more details contact - Vedic Ravi - 9840787957, Kousalya Giridharan - 23661575, 42617096 and Satish - 9176651942

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REPUBLIC DAY AT JAINS ASHRAYA

By Chandrashekar Panchapagesan

Republic Day held at Jains Ashraya Phase 2 apartments in West K K Nagar on 26th January let children here have fun and show their talents..

The Secretary organised the entire event

They got to hoist the flag and to speak on special topics. The highlight was the karate demonstration by Mindcare Gymnasium.



SALIGRAMAM SHOP FOR BABIES, WOMEN

Mamma 'n' Pappa's is a chain of stores that has a special space for babies and toddlers and lifestyle products for women.

A new store of this chain opened in Saligramam some months ago.

All the essentials that young parents might want for their new-born is stocked here.

Clothes, accessories and the like.

You can also shop here for toys, cradles, socks, nappies, baby wear and footwear.

To expand its offerings to shoppers, this shop also sells cosmetics, kurtis (a good discount was on offer in late January 2012), salwars and necklace sets (for Rs.500 and above).

The range of soft toys like teddy bears catches your eye here.

Mamma 'n' Papa's store is at G3, Pankajam Enclave, 24, Arunachalam Road, Saligramam, Chennai 93. Ph: 24469712.

You can speak to shop owner Suresh Kumar at 9840063227.

The shop has branches at Adyar (opp. Malar-Fortis Hospital) and at Ashok Nagar (Raghavan Colony).



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Arangetram: Priyadarsini



Young Priyadarsini had her Bharatanatam arangetram recently.

Her guru is dancer and teacher Nriya Pillai of Saligramam.

Daughter of Gopala Krishnan. B and G. Sargunavathi, Priya is a student of class seven and a resident of MGR Nagar.

Danceuse Padmalakshme Suresh, program executive of Doordarshan Vijayalakshmi and Rajaram were guests.

Nriya says that Priya's family members who have never seen a full time dance recital before were quite enthralled by the child's endurance.

Nriya Pillai is the grand daughter of Swamimalai S.K Rajarathnam Pillai, and director of Rajrathnalaya Bharatha Kalai Koodam, Saligramam,

Priyatharsini has been taking part in all group productions under the Rajarathnalaya banner.

Contact Pillai at nrithyapillai@gmail.com

Kashmri Food Festival



an art and Kashmiris regard Wazwan as the pride of their culture and identity.

Kashmiri cuisine is quite famous for the gracious use of spices like cinnamon, cardamom, cloves, saffron, fennel, asafetida, dry ginger, onion, & locally grown chilies.

Four chefs have been called from Kashmir, who under the guidance of master chef Rehman are offering diners traditional preparations like the Roganjosh, Tabak Maaz (Lamb Ribs), Kukur Surkh Tikka (chicken), Gadh Korma (fish) ; as well as vegetarian delicacies such as Mausami Subz, Rajma Kebaba, Aloo Yakhni, Kashmiri Sarson Saag and Tamater Wagun to complete a tempting menu selection.

The desserts are classical specialties like Sewiyan, Chilgoze ki Kheer and Khubani ka Halwa.

If you wish to make bookings talk to Rohit Jha, F & B Manager at 9840804840.

Open for dinner only till Feb.5. Rs.649 per person.

Head to the Tulips Coffee Shop at Green Park Hotel in Vadapalani if you are a foodie.

There is a Kashmiri food festival which is on now and chef Rehman is waiting to share his best food with diners.

The traditional Kashmiri cooking is known as Wazwan which is rich and aromatic, replete with an unmatched flavor.

The Wazwan, a multi course royal cuisine is a meal in the Kashmiri tradition and is treated with great respect. Its preparation is considered

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Jottings

by VINCENT D'SOUZA

Politics, cinema and sport can be a potent mixture.

Especially when you consume much of each back to back.

You have to be up early to catch the Australian Open tennis matches, which are certainly a better option to the India series in Australia.

News always gets my attention and oftentimes a debate with Subramaniam Swamy and Soli Sorabjee on the side can be thought-provoking or mere drama for that night.

And now, it is Oscars time.

The awards show is not all that important. But some of the movies are must-see flicks. This is the season when channels vie with each other to screen award winning films.

It was good to watch The Pianist on Thursday and there are some specials to catch up this weekend.

I also make it a point to watch excerpts of the business in Parliament and in the Tamil Nadu State Assembly.

Hot air, sonorous speeches and loud drama dominate much of the proceedings but between the banal and the boring, you can zero in on some interesting ideas and debates.

On Thursday, I chose to watch the proceedings at Fort St. George. Now that Jayalithaa is in power, Jaya TV devotes time to Assembly reportage.

There had been lots of drama in the House that day featuring the Leader of the Opposition, actor Vijaykant who heads the DMDK party and Chief Minister Jayalithaa.

Before the drama could spill over, the Speaker managed to get the DMDK team moved out of the House.

A short session on Jayalithaa's effort to set up a fitness studio for women MLAs in the MLAs Hostel cooled the tempers. Even the Chief Minister smiled more than once.

I had not tuned in to get amused before The Pianist came on on another channel.

I was keen to pick up threads on some issues and projects that we have been following locally and in the region.

But on Thursday night, most statements by MLAs and replies by ministers were snappy.

We are still in the dark on what our local MLAs are doing in the Assembly. They never make an effort to share with our newspapers on what they may have said or extracted when the Assembly is on.

Nor do we get to know if they have been lobbying with ministers for projects or talking to state departments for funds.

Communication seems limited to speaking at local events and responding to SOS calls from the constituency.

How can we engage our MLAs be it in Mylapore or Velachery or Virugambakkam?

Comments on this column can be mailed to -
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SCIENCE EXPO

Padma Sarangapani School, Virugambakkam recently conducted an Expo titled Vidya Jyothi on the school campus.

The Expo had exhibits and displays based on themes in Indian and western literature, a 'marvelous machine' series in science, a focus on Math, Indian History and a variety of craftwork of the students.

Student teams took turns to explain their exhibits to student-visitors and others.

The parents of senior students were also invited to view the Expo.

They relaxed a bit when they got involved in the game shows on offer.

<< ARCOT ROAD TIMES invites schools and students to mail reports on campus events. Mail to - arcotroadtimes@gmail.com >>



YOGESH TOPS IN WESTERN MUSIC EXAM

Mahathi Academy of Music & Dance, Virugambakkam has been preparing students to appear for the examination conducted by the Trinity College Of Music, London.

This is done both in Western music theory and for the practicals.

The Academy offers classes in electronic key board and guitar departments.

P. Sekar who runs this place says that every year, students appear for the examinations in

various grades and are coming out with flying colors. Many students have reached the 5th Grade

M Yokeshe who appeared for the recent examination in the electronic keyboard in the Initial Grade has scored 94 % and become the National Topper.

Mahathi Academy of Music & Dance is at Khader Avenue, Venkatesh Nagar Main Road, Virugambakkam Chennai 600 092 .Ph 2377 2387,9841698229.



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OUR COUNCILLORS

Here is a listing of the Chennai Corporation Zones, the local area Wards, the areas that fall under the Wards and the Councillors who represent the Wards.

Valasarawakkam Zone - XI

Ward 149

Councillor - K Damodaran -
Contact - 9383723991.

Areas: Earlier Valasarawakkam municipal wards - 1 to 7, 17, and 18. The colonies on the right side of Arcot Road, when travelling towards Porur from Vadapalani.

Alwarthirunagar, Alwarthirunagar Annexe, AGS Colony, Balaji Nagar, Velan Nagar, Ramakrishna Nagar, State Bank Colony, Vallaimmai Nagar, Palaniappa Nagar, Fathima Nagar, Ramesh Nagar, Muralikrishna Nagar, Radha Avenue, Lakshmin Nagar, Sridevikuppam, Kamakshi Nagar, Kanakadhara Nagar, Brindavan Nagar, Venkateswara Nagar, Karumariamman Nagar, Thirupathi Nagar, Kamakoti Nagar, East and West, Ashtalakshmi Nagar, Venkatesaperumal Nagar, Lakshmi Nagar, Syndicate Colony, Sammanadam Nagar.

Ward 152

Councillor - Valasai V Kasi -
Contact - 9841118180.

Areas: Earlier municipal wards - 8 to 16. The colonies on the left side of Arcot Road, when travelling towards Porur from Vadapalani.

Om Shakthi Nagar, Suresh Nagar, Thiruvalluvar Nagar, Choudhary Nagar, Bethania Nagar, Hospital Road, Jai Nagar, Sairam Avenue, Madurai Perumal Nagar, Kadumbadiamman Nagar.

Kodambakkam Zone - X (Wards 127 to 142)

Ward 127

Councillor - K Malairajan -
Contact - 9444048933

Areas - Venkatesa Nagar, Its Extn 1 and 2, Si Nagar, Postal Audit Colony, Angamuthu Street Chinmaya Nagar - Aaani, Aadi, Chithirai, Vaikasi Streets, 5th Main Road, Sri Aiyappa Nagar, Aiyappa Nagar, Avvai Thirunagar, Veda Nagar.

Ward 128 (Areas of Virugambakkam)

Councillor - G Jayanthi -
Contact - 9941305665.

Areas - New Bangaru and Bangaru Colonies, stretch of East and West Vannier Street, Arcot Road from Alwarthirunagar Annexe, till Virugambakkam Market junction, Lambert Nagar, Ilango Nagar, Natesa Nagar, AVM Nagar, parts of kamarajar Salai, Indra Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Sadiq Basha, Sheik Abdullah Nagars of Virugambakkam, Erikarai street and parts of Nesapakkam, Golden Jubilee apartments in K K Nagar

Ward 129

Councillor - V Senthilpandi -
Contact - 9500097799

Core area of Saligramam which was under the earlier 129 - the area from behind MTC bus terminus to Abusali Street and parts of Virugambakkam - Annamalai Colony, Bhaskar Colony, Balaji Nagar, Venkateshwara Nagar, bordered by Kamarajar Salai

Ward 130

Councillor - Sathyanarayanan alias
T Nagar Sathya - Contact - 9841026424

Areas - Doshi Gardens, Vadapalani Post Office area, Doraisamy Street, Sivan Koil Street, Vijaya Street

Ward 131

Councillor - M Gunasekaran
Contact - 9941791087

Areas - Bharani Colony, Sathya Garden, Vijayaraghavapuram alongside 80 Ft Road, Sivalingapuram alongside Sivan Park, right side of P T Rajan Road when travelling from Anna Main Road to Kamarajar Sali junction - ie, Rani Anna Nagar, Bank of Baroda, CPWD colonies, Sectors 1, 5, 6 of K K Nagar.

Ward 132

Councillor - A Alamelu
Contact - 9841782005

Areas - parts of 1 to 4, 6 to 11, 16, 18, 19

avenues of Ashok Nagar, Indra colony and adjoining areas behind Udhayam Theatre, Ottagappalayam, Bajanai Kovil Street of Vadapalani - K K Nagar junction (of earlier ward 122)

Ward 133

Councillor - Geethalakshmi,
Contact - 9940489868

Ashok Nagar 5th Avenue and the streets 16 to 24 around it, parts of 10, 11, 12 Avenues and the nearby colonies.

Ward 137

Councillor - C Subramani
Contact - 9941877282

Bounded by Rajamannar Road, Munuswamy Slai, Ramaswamy Salai, R K Shanmugam Salai, sectors within, parts of MGR Nagar.



இயேசுவின்
Agony

கிறிஸ்துவைப் பற்றிய நாடகத்தில் நடிக்க
விரும்புகிறீர்களா?

இயேசுவின் மறைவிற்குக் காரணமாக அமைந்த நிகழ்வுகளைப் பற்றிய ஒரு தமிழ் நாடகத்தைத் தயாரிக்கவிருக்கிறோம்.

இந்த நாடகம் வரும் மார்ச் மாதம் சாந்தோம் பகுதியில் ஒரு திறந்த வெளி அரங்கில் மேடையேற்றப்படும்.

இதில் நான்கு பெரிய அரங்குகள் மற்றும் இசையுடன் கூடி 25 க்கும் மேற்பட்ட நடிகர்கள் பங்கு கொள்வார்கள்.

இந்த நாடகத்தில் நடிக்க விருப்பமுள்ளவர்களை வரவேற்கிறோம்.

- நடிக்க விரும்புவர்கள் 18 வயதிற்கு மேற்பட்டவர்களாக இருக்க வேண்டும். முன் அனுபவம் அவசியமில்லை.
- குறைந்தது 25 நாட்களுக்கு, தினமும் 2 மணி நேரம் பயிற்சி பெறத் தயாராக இருக்க வேண்டும்.
- தன்னார்வ நடிகர்கள் வரவேற்கப் படுகிறார்கள். குறைந்த பட்ச செலவுக்கான தொகை மட்டும் வழங்கப் படும்.
- ஆண்கள், பெண்கள் மற்றும் கிறிஸ்தவர்கள் அல்லாதவர்களும் பங்கு பெறலாம்.
- நாடகத்தில் பங்கேற்க விரும்புவர்களுக்கான நேர்முகத் தகுதிச் சுற்று அடுத்த வாரம் நடைபெற உள்ளது.
- விருப்பமுள்ளவர்கள் Francis Lazarus – 98414 47928 என்ற எண்ணில் தொடர்பு கொண்டு பதிவு செய்யவும்.

தயாரிப்பாளர் : Vincent D' Souza

ART GALLERY AT K K NAGAR

Reported by Anuradha Rajagopal

Art lovers have a destination to go to in the area. Head to the newly opened Achalam Art Gallery in K K Nagar.

It was inaugurated by artist and veteran actor Sivakumar. Taking a look at the exhibits, the actor appreciated the art works and said that he was himself a fine drawing and painting artist besides being an actor.

Some of the paintings and exhibits kept the invitees engaged.

There are art works of gods and goddesses besides little sculptures and statues, effigies. A bronze and iron statue of A.Vijaya Kumar had the caption, "Waiting for company" while artist Swapna's ballet dancer made in bronze caught the eye.

Achalam is a Sanskrit word and it means, The Unshakeable. And there is a reference to Lord Venkateswara here, adored by the gallery's promoter, Venkatachalapathy who has been an artist and art teacher for over 3 decades.

The gallery aims to support artworks of individual artists. They can showcase their talents and the gallery will give support to artistic pursuits like drawing, painting, dance, music etc.

Recently the works of Arun, a student of Venkatachalapathy were on show here.

Achalam Art Gallery is at 1 /131, 1st floor, Lakshmanaswamy Salai, 1st Sector, K K Nagar, Chennai 78. Ph: 9381024002/ 9840490662. achalamartgallery@gmail.com.



A section of the new gallery (above): guest Sivakumar enjoys the paintings at the Gallery's inauguration (left): young artist Arun (below)



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