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75 years of research in Sanskrit



Kuppuswami Sastri Research Institute launched its 75th anniversary with an event on May 24 at Madras Sanskrit College auditorium, Mylapore.

Guest T. S. Tirumurti released a few books. Scholar Dr. Sudha Seshayyan delivered a talk. Dr. R. K. Raghavan, president of the institute, participated.

This institute is one of the premier institutions in the world in the field of Sanskritic and Indological research.

Contact - No. 84, Thiru vi Ka Road, Mylapore. Ph.: 24985320; 29505320.

Seen in this photo are - Dr. K. S. Balasubramanian, director-in-charge, T. S. Tirumurti, former ambassador of India to the UN, Dr. R. K. Raghavan, president of this institute, Dr. Sudha Seshayyan and Dr Sita Sundar Ram, secretary.

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## NOOKS

### Duplicate house keys, car and bike keys

**Name of the shop:** Saravana Computer Keys  
**Address:** 100/152, Royapettah High Road (opp. UCO Bank), Mylapore.  
**Owner:** Murugan G.  
**Phone:** 9840568356  
**Timings:** Mon. to Sat.: 10 am to 7 pm, Sunday: 10 am to 1 pm.



Saravana Computer Keys is a well-equipped key-making shop with a mechanical key-cutting machine and makes duplicate keys on order. 'Electronic remote' keys of cars and bikes can also be made by the shop owner Murugan, who says he has 30 years' experience in key-making.

Murugan also does a 'site visit' in case the customer gets locked out of the home or office and has to make

a duplicate key.

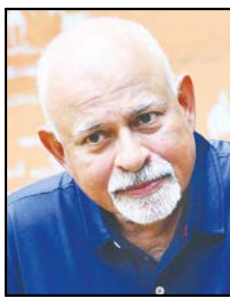
"I ask the owner to show his proof of identity to ensure there is no foul play," says Murugan, when asked how he can trust the caller who asks him to make a duplicate key. Vehicle owners will be asked to produce the registration certificate (RC) of the vehicle if they want a duplicate key made, adds Murugan.

While a simple lock key costs Rs 60 upwards, remote bike/car keys can go up to Rs 3500.

Report by V. Soundararani

📧 **SHARE details of your area's Nook that may be useful to all. Mail 3 lines - mytimesedit@gmail.com**

## CHECK THIS



S B S Raman (left) and Sujatha Vijayaraghavan

### THAMIZH PLAY AT R. R. SABHA

Watch this Thamizh play - *Kumin Chirippu* (Siva's Smile) - based on an idol-smuggling saga in Tamil Nadu that made international news (this crime continues to this day). Produced by SB Creations, directed by S B S Raman, written by Sujatha Vijayaraghavan, lighting by Charles and music by Baradwaj Raman.

On May 28, 6.30p.m. at R R Sabha, Mylapore. Donor tickets open for booking - WhatsApp S B S Raman - 98400 45608. rates - Rs.120 onwards.



Scene from 'Jugalbandhi'

### THAMIZH DRAMA FEST CONTINUES

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's drama fest continues, with a break for the key IPL matches. Open to all. Daily 6.30 p.m. at main auditorium. Check in by 6 p.m. because the shows are packed.

Here is the schedule -

25th May - "Thaayumanavan" (By Prasiddhi Creation)  
 27th May - "Thazhahall Veeram" (By S. Sruthi's Naatya Naadha Nataka Sangamam)  
 29th May - "Acham Enbathu Illayel" (By Mali's Stage)  
 30th May - "Karuppu Telephone Kadhavu Enn 12" (By Augusto Creations)  
 31st May - "Jugalbandhi" (By Stage Creations).

■ Have info to share here? Mail - mytimesedit@gmail.com

### LEARN KOREAN AT INKO

Admission to classes in Korean language at InKo Centre in R. A. Puram is on now. InKo signed an MoU with Sangmyung University in Korea for new initiatives in the field of Korean language teaching, including faculty and student exchange.

InKo now offers two main courses in Korean - namely Korean Language for General Purposes, for language spirants at different levels, starting from the Beginner Level to the Advanced and Korean Language for Business Purposes, which are customised courses for Indian employees in Korean companies in India. There are regular and online courses and also weekend classes.

InKo is at No.18, Adyar Club Gate Road, R. A. Puram.  
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## Velleeswarar Temple: Vaikasi utsavam begins with kodiyetram

By S. Prabhu

Following the kodiyetram on Thursday morning, the ten-day Vaikasi utsavam has begun at Sri Velleeswarar Temple, South Mada Street, Mylapore.

There was a pancha moorthy procession that started at 9.30am and went around the four Mada Streets. Velleeswarar provided darshan on pavazhakkal vimanam.

To mark the occasion, the temple presented pongal and sambar to the devotees gathered at the temple.



## Abiramapuram church to celebrate Our Lady's feast from May 28

By Juliana Sridhar

The community at Our Lady of Visitation Church in Abiramapuram led by parish priest Fr. T. Anthony Raj will be celebrating their annual church feast from May 28 to 31.

The flag will be hoisted on May 28 at 5.30 p.m. There will be holy Mass on all days at 6 pm. The eucharistic feast of Corpus Christi will be observed on May 29. On May 30, there will be a car procession and a statue of Mother Mary will be taken out in procession around the church zone streets.

As part of the preparation for the feast, three Fransiscan priests who will be celebrating Mass during the feast days, will visit all the families belonging to the parish. They will also conduct a retreat.

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you who gives me the divine gift to forgive  
and forget all evil against me and that in all  
instances of my life you are with me. I want in  
this short prayer to thank you for all things  
and to confirm once again that I never want to  
be separated from you, even and inspite of all  
material illusion. I want to be with you in  
eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy  
toward me and mine.

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'சம்ஸ்கிருதம் ஒரு தெய்வீக மொழி... இந்தியாவில் சம்ஸ்கிருதமும் கௌரவமும்  
கைகோர்த்துச் செல்கின்றன... சம்ஸ்கிருத வார்த்தைகளின் ஒலியே நம் இனத்திற்கு ஒரு  
மதிப்பையும், ஆற்றலையும், வலிமையையும் தருகிறது' என்கிறார் சுவாமி விவேகானந்தர்.

சென்னை ஸ்ரீராமகிருஷ்ண மடம் சம்ஸ்கிருத வகுப்பினை 'சம்ஸ்கிருத பாரதியுடன்  
இணைந்து கடந்த 9 வருடங்களாக நடத்தி வருகிறது. அதன் விவரங்கள்:

ஆரம்பநிலை : (4 மாதங்கள்)  
நாட்கள் : வாரத்தில் மூன்று தினங்கள்  
(திங்கள், புதன் மற்றும் வெள்ளி)  
நேரம் : மாலை 7.15 முதல் 8.30 வரை  
பயிற்சி மொழி : சம்ஸ்கிருதம்  
வயது : பன்னிரண்டு வயதிற்கு மேற்பட்ட ஆண்களும், பெண்களும்.

பயிற்சியின் நோக்கம் சம்ஸ்கிருதத்தில் பேசுவதும், எளிய சம்ஸ்கிருத சுலோகங்களைப்  
புரிந்து கொள்வதும். பயிற்சி காலம் ஜூன் முதல் செப்டம்பர் வரை - 4 மாதங்கள்.

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## VINCENT's JOTTINGS

By VINCENT D' SOUZA

Dogs. I used to be afraid of them. Then, I got wary and found my way away from them.

Then I let sleeping dogs lie and licking dogs lick.

But I am not a warm, dog-friendly person. In the sense, I don't rub their necks or take them into my lap.

I did not have pets when I was a kid. My pets were newspapers and magazines. They got all my attention.

And then, this happened.

In my freelance days, I often returned home late. Home was then deep inside Pallavaram, then the suburbs on the south side.

Not that I worked late but late evening was the time to catch up with the mainstream journalists. I'd take the electric train and then walk.

Now, there was this section of the unpaved main road which ran down and curved into the last lap of my journey home.

One moon-lit evening, a dog began to bark and I slowed down.

It came up to me slowly and barked.

I paused and walked on the edge of the rough road.

The dog got aggressive and I began to sweat a bit.

There was nobody around. I picked up a stone and flung it.

The dog barked and then slipped into a dark plot.

Then on, whenever I was walking here past the 10 p.m. hour, that very dog would be at its post and bark on seeing me.

Well, with my thick beard and locks of thick hair, that dog had every reason to treat me a suspect!

I recalled this 'dog' anecdote when I observed closely, the Rental Classifieds in *Mylapore Times*. Increasingly, owners of flats opting to rent them out are mentioning the 'pets/dogs' rule - the flat cannot accommodate a dog or the block is a pet-friendly one.

I have come across people sharing their tales on both sides of the issue. And I wonder if the city's civic body is studying life-styles where many people, not just the rich and landed, are now rearing pets and putting some good money into it.

So does the Chennai Corporation have to discuss regulations on keeping pets in residential quarters or is this an issue for some other state body?

I am aware that the issue of owners clearing dog poop themselves when they are out on a morning walk is severe but neither pet-owners are bothered nor are ward councillors debating this issue in the city council. Anyway, laying drains still tops their agenda.

This morning, I must have counted at least a dozen dogs on walks in the 20 minutes I was taking in some fresh air in this stifling summer.

Meanwhile, if I am a guest at your place and you have a dog, just warn me and make the right noises. Put me at ease. You cannot but love dogs.



## LETTERS FROM READERS

E-MAIL your letters to - mytimesedit@gmail.com. Or WHATSAPP to: 8015005628.  
Provide full name and short address.

Good job, Aavin staff

I had a problem renewing my Aavin milk cards as they were unused for a few months. I contacted Aavin's Customer Care service centre. They were courteous, directed me to their Mylapore zone branch and also shared the contact number of the manager. The manager, Akhila, extended her help promptly and sent across the milk cards to my residence, keeping my old age and immobility in mind. I appreciate and thank her for the service.

- R. V. Rao

Make R. K. Mutt Road 'no parking' zone

The violative parking in front of P. S. High School on R K Mutt Road is a cause of concern for motorists. The haphazard parking by customers who frequent a major fruits and vegetables shop here compounds the problem. During peak hours, there are traffic snarls.

If both the sides are made into 'No Parking' zones, the broadness of the road will help easy vehicular flow. The managers of Ramakrishna Mutt must also ask the devotees to follow the rules and avoid parking on the main road.

- Seshadri Baskar

Help for family hurt by tragedy: how to?

This refers to the *Mylapore Times* report 'Holiday Tragedy of Mandaveli family: community campaign has raised funds to support survivors'. I couldn't find the campaign on 'Milaap' or to the fundraiser's web-link. I would like to help this family as I know them from their past residency and we are deeply saddened by the news.

I would appreciate if you could mail me the fundraiser link.

- Sowmya

■ **Editor's reply:** Since the funds needed were generated quickly, the web campaign was taken off.



Kolam workshop

This refers to the page 1 photo and caption in *Mylapore Times* on a kolam workshop. It is so heart-warming to watch young girls of this generation try their hand drawing kolams and learning the basics.

- Kanchana J.

Help! Know people who pluck mangoes?

Can any Mylaporean suggest to me the contacts of any local or outside mango pluckers to do a job in the Alwarpet area? Nowadays, it is difficult to get such people. Contact 9840668484

- Keshav

Well done, Roopam

Congratulations to Roopam of P. S. Hr. Sec. School who lost his dad during the Board exams but answered a paper, attended the dad's funeral and finished the exams.

This is a superb achievement inspite of the sad situation this young man had to face on exam day.

- Ravi Ramanujam

Danger on R. K. Mutt Road

There is a big iron rod protruding on the side of R. K. Mutt Road towards Luz traffic signal side.

It poses great danger to motorists and pedestrians - it is near the public toilet adjacent to Picnic Plaza, Mylapore. We request the local unit of Greater Chennai Corporation to remove the iron rod immediately

- Geetha Sadasivam

## MY STORY



### Learning music, and values of life

By SUBHASHINI PARTHASARATHY

My first guru was vidwan P. N. Raghava Rao.

He was working with the Post & Telegraphs Department, and would come home over the weekends to teach me music. This was in the 1970s. Those were days, when generally, youngsters would have to go to a guru's house and learn.

But Rao owned a motorbike and would go to every students' house to teach.

There was no question of writing down notations in his classes. He would simply teach me the composition and I would repeat it. When I chose to practice by myself, the song would flow. By memory.

waiting for me with tiffin and coffee and would always welcome me with "va va... unnaku dhan kattuinden".

If I failed to understand any *sangati* (variation in the melody), Mukamma would repeat the *sangati* several times till I got it right.

Mukta was a very senior artiste but she had the capacity to reach the level of juniors like us, and teach us the way we managed to learn.

She would always insist that I rest for some-time before I left for home. I admired her for her simplicity and kindness which knew no bounds.

After every class, I would spend some time with him, sometimes fixing his vintage motor bike, which would break down often.

Later, I started learning from *Sangita Kala Acharya* T. Mukta in 1978. I would go to her house in the afternoons. She would be

My next guru was T. M. Thyagarajan sir; he was a strict disciplinarian, and you could not be late for his class. He would be ready for our classes at 7.30 every morning. Our music had to be perfect; you couldn't change one *swaram* (note). If you didn't get it, he would go over it again and again. There were no compromises.

He would neatly write down the notation of any song that you wished to learn from him.

Carnatic music learning was different in my times - you learnt the music through melody and lyric. And in this learning, we also learnt the values of life - to be punctual, to be honest, not go after people for concert opportunities. First, master the music and get the *gnanam*.

Looking back, the straight-forwardness and human touch of my gurus has really helped me in life. Those values are relevant even today.

● Subhashini is a senior Carnatic music artiste who holds a doctorate in 'Padams and Javalis'. Contact - subhpartha@hotmail.com





The Winner

# MYLAPORE's T7 CRICKET LEAGUE IS POPULAR

The second edition of this tourney, involving some 120 players just got over

By Our Edit Team

Even as the Indian Premier League (IPL) moved into its final week of Season 2023, a Mylapore Premier League ended at the playground alongside P. S. School campus here in Mylapore. The winning team called itself Gujarat Titans.

Played over the weekend, featuring eight local teams consisting of some 120-plus players, all Mylaporeans, this was the second edition of the League and the winner took home a big cup and cash prize of Rs.35,000.

"We are happy that everybody enjoyed the league matches and fans turned up to watch the games," said S. Vignesh, one of the five hosts of this league who resides in CIT Colony and works for a bank. "Had we got some more sponsorship we could have offered lunch to the players."

Local, IPL-like cricket tourneys are being organised in a few city neighbourhoods following the huge popularity of IPL, and Vignesh and his oraganiser-colleagues - Rathinam, Vijaykumar, Mani and Aravindan - seem confident of staging this league in Mylapore annually.

The budget is big. Close to Rs.3 lakhs. Funds flow from local retail stores and well-wishers. Vignesh says that there are over 300 youths residing in the Mylapore zone who play tennis-ball cricket, week in and week out. Their haunts - four playgrounds in this zone though one was taken over for Chennai Metro project. Many belong to clubs that play under a name; some even have their own logos



Rathinam, Mani, Vignesh and Vijaykumar (above), Aravindan (left)

and clothes. So sourcing players is easy.

Neither is there a dearth of signing up team 'owners' who not only choose the best players from a simple bidding process from three pools but also pay anywhere between Rs.25,000 to Rs.35,000 to 'buy' a team, the money going to the organiser.

Says Vignesh, "Each team will have new players and the challenge is for each person to train as a new team and excel."

Vignesh and team rented the playground from the HR&CE Department, which is in possession of the space but has not progressed on the state minister's promise of developing a new ground. "We could use only part of the ground because wild vegetation has grown at the far end," says Rathinam, another organiser who lives in Abiramapuram and works for a healthcare data firm.

This year, a group web-cast the matches live on a YouTube channel. "There are boys who couldn't be at the ground and wanted to watch," says Rathinam.

Five months goes into the planning and execution of this tourney. Says Vignesh, "Mylapore has always had lots of cricket players playing tennis- ball cricket and passionate about it and that was why we launched the league."



## HOW THIS LEAGUE WORKS

- Some 300 local players register. They must reside in the Mylapore zone.
- About 120 players are short-listed by the organisers.
- Eight teams have to be formed and 'owners' are sought out; they pay a sum to the host and have a word in choosing members of the team
- At a private hall, bidding for the players set in three pools goes on, based on the record of each player and choice of owner. Players do not get paid anything.
- The hosts provide jerseys, caps and basic resources for the games besides organising umpires, volunteers and support colleagues.



At the Rotary Club of Madras Coromandel's annual Charter Day celebrations held on May 13, Bharatanatyam dancer Narthaki Nataraj was conferred with the 'For the Sake of Honour Award' by Rotary's past district governor S. Krishnaswamy. Narthaki, based in Mylapore, is a senior artiste, and performs as well as teaches dance. She was decorated with the Padma Shri award and is a member of the Tamil Nadu State Development Policy Committee.

## MLA HOSTS MEET FOR HEADS OF RESIDENTS ASSN. MAY 28

Engal Mylai, an umbrella voluntary body ideated by Mylapore MLA, Dha Velu is hosting a meeting on May 28 in Mandaveli for the heads of all Mylapore zone residents' associations to discuss prime issues that need attention.

The meet starts at 4.30 p.m. at Narayani Kalyana Mantapam. 1st Cross St., Jeth Nagar, with high tea and allows each association head to make snappy presentations, followed by the MLA's response. This is an open invitation to all leaders of associations in the Mylapore zone.

## CONCERT BY VIJAY SIVA

Vocal artiste N. Vijay Siva will perform at a memorial concert hosted by R. Ramaswami Charitable Trust in memory of the Trust's founders, R. Ramaswami and Susheela Ramaswami. On May 27, 6.45 p.m. onwards at the auditorium in P. S. School campus. Open to all. Dr. R. K. Raghavan is a trustee.



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# SUMMER CAMPS SNAPSHOTS

■ Additional reporting by Smruthy Mahesh, a student trainee at Mylapore Times



Traditional Archery, a near-forgotten sport, has been revived at The Children's Club Society, Mylapore, and this sport was taught at the summer camp here. It was conducted by a team from Theatre Nisha, led by V. Balakrishnan. Apart from archery, Children's Club offers activities such as chess, table tennis and shuttle.



The Mylapore Veda Adhyayana Sabha hosted a camp focussed on spiritual and cultural themes and covered story-telling and slokas learning. Venue; Sir Sivaswamy Kalalaya Sr Sec. School, Mylapore.



Children have been attending the special summertime music training camp held by Galilee Academy in San Thome, a long-standing music school. It draws children keen to learn Western music.



A church is a place for prayer and worship. But this church turned into something else in summer.

The Vacation Bible School being conducted at the CSI St. Thomas English Church in San Thome brought a liveliness to the sacred space, created by children attending this camp.

The directors of this camp were Hannah Rosaline and Roopa Daniel (associate). There were 20 teachers and volunteers who handled classes.

The day started off with singing, then Bible study classes and ended with either a magic or a puppet show or a moral story-telling session.

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Cricket coaching was held for boys and girls at the 'nets' in the campus of Queen Mary's College, Mylapore. Senior coach R. Bala Chander was in charge here.





# PLUS TWO EXAM TOPPERS

■ Reporting by Smruthy Mahesh, a student trainee at Mylapore Times

## MONICA DID NOT LET GRIEF, NOR HER HANDICAP COME IN THE WAY

Monica lost her mother four weeks before the Plus Two exams were to begin. This 'special' teen, a student at Clarke School for Deaf, located off Dr. Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore was feeling low and her family wanted to skip the exam. But the school coaxed them, accommodated her in the campus hostel and prepared her well. She scored 59% in the exams (Thamizh medium).



Four of five 'special' students who appeared at the centre, St. Ebbas School, Mylapore passed. One got 'exam fright' and opted out.

These 'special' teens have to answer the standard exam papers of the state Board but can skip the second language paper - Thamizh in this case.

All of them were from the commerce stream.

S. N. Srikanth, school secretary says six have written the Std.10 exams and Clarke School is open to admission too. This school is for hearing impaired, intellectually challenged, autism, deaf-blindness and multiple disabilities.



**CORRECTION:** The school topper in Plus Two exams at St. Bede's school, San Thome is Kanishk J. K., who secured 589/600 marks. This is a photo of him. Mylapore Times had wrongly published a photo in the issue dated May 20.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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### REAL ESTATE SELLING

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● MYLAPORE Dr. R K Salai, opp Chennai Citi Center & Kalyani hospital, 2BHK, 830sqft, first floor, posh location, brokers excuse, Call: 9444641635

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● MANDAVELI 1400sqft, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 floor, lift, 8 years old, UDS 630sqft, power backup, CCP, 1.80cr. Ph: 9003186674

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● ABIRAMPURAM 450sqft, 1 bedroom, 8year old, 45lakhs. R.A.Puram, 450sqft, 1 bedroom, 40lakhs. Ph: 9003186674

● ADYAR Sastri Nagar, 3 BHK, 1500 sft, 3 BHK, 1480 sft, NF, lift, 3rd flr, 2 CCP, bkup, 10 yrs. Agent: 9840745243

● NEW flat at Nandanam, 1860 sqft, 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 1 floor, north facing, lift, CCP, UDS 900sqft. Ph: 9944761666

● R.A.PURAM, near Lazarus church, 543 sqft., G+2, old independent house for sale, 1.05cr, brokers excuse. Ph: 8939215045.

● MYLAPORE Dr.Ranga Road, 1360 sqft, (UDS 600), 3 bedroom apartment, lift, car parking, 30 year old, 1.55crores. S.John: 9444360000, 9710360000

● FLAT for sale, 1BHK, 420sqft, 19/8 Thatchiarunachallam Street, Mylapore, Chennai 4. Ph: 94446 27294, 94445 50070

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● LAND Sale - Chamiers Road, opp. Venkateshwara Hospital, 2263 sq.ft., land North facing, 30 feet road, builders, suitable land. Rate 3.20 Cr. nego. House sale - Mylapore, R. K. Salai, 983 sq.ft., land, 2200 sq.ft., building, Rate 1.70 crore negotiable, rental income Rs. 55K. Ph: 8807040321

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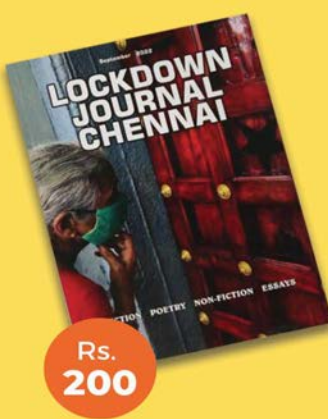
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# Divya Ganesh is a food entrepreneur

## She takes orders for meals, chapathis, phulkas and curries

By V. Soundararani

Divya Ganesh turned into a food entrepreneur recently. Her venture, 'Krishna Catering Service' is based in Mylapore.

She had been taking catering sub-orders earlier while she kept her day-job as an accountant, till a little while ago.

"I quit my job and decided to venture into the catering business full time," she said. "This venture also gives me the time to take care of my school-going kids."

Divya started small and steady - she accepted orders for chapathis / phulkas - even the tawa-made, any side dish that a client asks for - be it cauliflower masala, channa masala . . . or anything that is possible with locally available veggies.

You can order for a basic set of chapathis/phulkas which is served with the side-dish.



Divya is also game to supply dosa and poori and any other dish, as per the resources available on the day. Orders have to be placed two hours in advance.

Door-step delivery has been arranged with a Dunzo partner and the delivery charges have to be paid by the customer. Hence, there is no location constraint.

Divya also supplies lunch

and her menu consists of sambar, kootu, rasam and poriyal. If delivered along with rice, she charges Rs 130 per meal. Orders are obliged without rice as well.

Divya is open to taking up orders for small social events. People have the option to pick up the ordered food from 13, 1st floor, Mundagakkanni Amman Street, Mylapore (near the arch, off Kutchery Road).

Divya can be reached at 9566268893.

**Divya can also cook and supply dosa and poori and any side-dish a client wants**



## Celebrating music maestro T. M. Thiagarajan

Carnatic music maestro T. M. Thiagarajan's birth anniversary is being celebrated by his sishyas and well-



wishers at Narada Gana Sabha hall, Alwarpet on May 27 evening. Among the events starting

at 5 p.m. are the release of a special postal cover on TMT, as the guru was fondly called, a video show on TMT's life, group concerts by his sishyas and finally, Sanjay Subrahmanyam's concert at 6.30 p.m. This event is open to all.

TMT, one of the stars of the Thanjavur cultural world, started in the dance and theatre world, stunned vidwans like Semmangudi Srinivasaiyer with his musical talent when he was young and he went to be a great vocalist and hugely-respected guru.

He also served as the Head of many Music Colleges.



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## Samruthaa Vidyashram is for special children. Also prepares kids in Open Schooling

By Preetha K.

R Vijayalakshmi runs Samruthaa Vidyashram; a school for children with special needs.

And she seeks support to continue running her school.

She now has only five special students for the academic year 2023 - '24 who will be writing their Class 10 Board exams.

She also has enquiries from students who want to pursue a career in sports and do well in academics.

But she feels if she gets more admissions now, managing her space will be smooth. That is why she is reaching out.



She says, "This is a school which aids students to write their class 10 and class 12 Board exams through National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). There are two batches – one for 'normal' students and

one for special students."

Vijayalakshmi started this school in 2006 mainly for differently-abled students who have motor skill development issues and slight mental retardation.

She has a masters in commerce and psychology and has completed a M.Ed. course.

"I came across many children who were having difficulty coping up with academics in regular school. I also saw children being sent out of school if they were not up to the mark. I began teaching at home with just six children.

I am glad to have made a difference in many lives,"

she says.

The previous batch of students have joined colleges such as Stella Maris, SIET, Loyola, Vivekananda and law colleges.

"I request people to spread the word of mouth about the school to keep it up and running," she reminds us.

Samruthaa Vidyashram is located at 40, Thiru vi Ka Second Street, Mylapore. Phone no.: 9884609696

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## At Tribute meet for writer-historian Randor Guy, people recall his talent, writing

By Our Edit Team

It was a gathering of some 25-odd people and it celebrated the life and work of Randor Guy, writer, historian and film maker who passed away recently.

Held at Vivekananda Hall in the P. S. School campus on Saturday ( May 20) evening, Randor's well-wishers shared their memories of him.

First, host S. G. Sridharan, a close friend of Randor, screened a video recording of

Randor's talk where he traced his colourful life in law, advertising, cinema and writing.

The video was Randor's sharing with an audience at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan of the manner in which he came to be a popular crime and dark story writer.

Randor recalled in the video how he was influenced by American writer Truman Capote and began to write on Madras' sensational murder cases; but his first story was rejected by 12 publications and then, on a whim, he had mailed it to 'Kumudam'

magazine which put it out and it drew a record number of letters from readers and triggered a sensation and this set him off on his writing career.

Actor-film-maker S. Ve. Shekher, journalist Prakash M. Swamy, actor Sacchu, film maker Mukta Ravi and a few others spoke at this Tribute meeting.

Said Shekher, "This is the first tribute meeting where the person whom we remember is talking to us of his life. Though he is gone, Randor's writing will speak for his talent and contribution. It is sad he wasn't recognised well; he should have been given the Kalaimamani award by the state."

Randor's daughter Priya thanked the speakers and guests for remembering her father. "It was nice to see them talk about different sides of my father," she said later.

This meeting's host, S. G. Sridharan is at 98400 69507.



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