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Vol. 28, No. 34

Nov 11 - 17, 2023

16 pages Free Circulation

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A variety of sweets and savouries have been prepared this past week at Mami Tiffen Stall, Mylapore to meet orders for the Deepavali festival. One section of this popular restaurant located on Pitchu Street, off East Mada Street, has been turned into a storage and packing space for the festival. Large orders are being shipped while people can also drop in and pick up sweets here (8 am to 10 pm). Prices range around Rs.450 for mixture and rava ladoos to Rs.800 for kaju katli. Contact 9790767673 / 24643525.

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Started three years ago, this shop caters to both wholesale and retail buyers.

The rates of each variety are displayed at the shop.

"Atleast 300 retail customers buy bananas from my shop everyday," said Gnanavel.

He gets the fruit from Cuddalore, Erode and Trichy - daily.

"I give the extra fruits at low rates at end of day and sometimes free of cost to the needy," he says.

Before venturing into the banana business, Gnanavel was a waste-paper dealer in R. A. Puram. He continues that business today.

Report by V. Soundararani

WATCH VIDEOS on Nooks -
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CHECK THIS



TV SERIES BASED ON DIKSHITAR'S KRITIS

On Deepavali Day, which is believed to be the day Carnatic music composer Muthuswamy Dikshitar attained samadhi, Doordarshan Podhigai TV channel will begin airing a special serial presented by Mandaveli-based artistes Jeyaraaj and Jaysri called "Vaineeka Gaayaka". This goes on air from Nov 12 onwards, every Sunday, 8 pm.

'Vaineeka Gaayaka' is a presentation highlighting some of the Puranic references found in Dikshitar's kritis. Excerpts from the relevant kritis of Muthuswamy Dikshitar pertaining to these references have been explained, sung and played by the artistes under various topics like Lord Ganesha, Navagrahas, Lord Muruga, and so on. The musical aspects of these excerpts have also been discussed. The first episode will include some details of Dikshitar's life and also some salient features of his compositions.

DOCU FILM ON PALGHAT K. V. NARAYANASWAMY

A documentary film on Carnatic music maestro Palghat K V Narayanaswamy, whose birth centenary is being celebrated on Nov.15, will be screened on this day at R R Sabha, Mylapore.



It has been made and produced by artiste Bharadwaj Raman. It will be screened at 6.30 p.m. that evening.

At 4.30 p.m. there is a music concert by vocalist Sumitra Vasudev Open to all.

METROWATER'S OPEN HOUSE

Metrowater is holding its monthly Open House at all its zone offices in the city this Saturday, Nov.11. One such office is at the Dr Ranga Road - C P Ramaswamy Road junction.

People can drop by in the morning to file complaints or discuss local issues that need attention - water supply, sewage flow / overflows, water connections. Senior engineers will be present to meet people.

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

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Internet Design, Input - C. Parameshvaran
Photographer - M. Madhan Kumar
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Advertising Executive - R. Kathiravan
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Mylapore Times is published every Saturday, is given free in the Mylapore area and has a circulation of 25,000 copies.

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Dubba Chetty shop sells Deepavali marundhu in two forms

By Preetha K.

Deepavali is here. You must have bought or made sweets and savories. But do you have a bit of Deepavali marundhu that will take care of you as you and your family enjoy all the goodies?

One place that many Mylaporeans have gone to over the ages, for this marundhu has been the 138-year-old Dabba Chetty shop, now located on North Mada Street.

“We have been making Deepavali marundhu for more than 30 years. It should have probably started with one kilogram. Now, we make it as and when the stock gets over because people like it to be fresh and flavourful,” says K. Badrinath, the owner, whose great grandfather started the business.

Badrinath’s son Krishna is also into this business today.

Badrinath says people prefer to buy either powder or the legiyam. “Not many people buy raw materials to make the Deepavali marundhu these days so the legiyam sells fast,” he adds.

Badrinath says sukku, chitarattai,

kanda tippuli and omam are the main ingredients used to make the Deepavali marundhu. Pepper, Jeera, Elakkai, Lavanga Pattai are also added.

“There is a certain proportion to be followed to make the marunthu. It takes about 3 to 4 hours to make it,” he adds.

Customers who buy the powder can make the marunthu in about 15 to 30 minutes, he says.

A 80gms packet of Deepavali marundhu in legiyam form costs Rs 100 and in powder form, it costs Rs 100 for 60 grams.

The Dabba Chetty Shop moved from Kutchery Road to its present location in North Mada street in December 2022, due to Chennai Metro rail work.

Known for its native medicines, the shop sells a range of products including post-natal legiyam and face packs. Special puja items and items needed for homam and marriage are also sold here.

“Our shop used to store products in dabbas (boxes). We still have some of them. People started calling us Dabba Chetty kadai and it became the name of our shop,” says Krishna.



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VINCENT's JOTTINGS

By VINCENT D' SOUZA

I have known Vijayalakshmi for some years. She is a woman of many parts.

Firstly, she is a dedicated craftsperson. Working with beads and thread and all sorts of materials to make miniature figures.

Then, she is a socially-conscious person who cares for dogs and cats and birds in the public space.

And then, she cares for the civic space around her.

On the eve of Navaratri, Vijayalakshmi was a busy bee, as she always is in the days leading to a festival.

She had orders from Bangalore and Dubai and from people across our city.

To make little 'return' gifts at Navaratri time.

She flooded me with pictures of her work when I asked her for them - and then we did a little video on it.

I zeroed in on a miniature kum-kum box that had a little colourful head of what looked like a clown or a character from an epic or the creation of her imagination. That figure seemed to be talking to me. Or maybe, it wanted to tell me something!

On Sunday, Balu, officially G. V. Balsubramaniam, sent me a 'thank you' message. Balu used to be a senior officer in a bank. but his first love has always been photography.

He is all over the place, shooting pictures.

And in his retirement, has the luxury to spend more time and earn rewards for his fantastic shots.

One warm thing about Balu is that when he shoots pictures of hawkers and people on our colourful streets, he often sends them a printed copy. The many kolu bommai hawkers of North Mada Street in Mylapore that he has shot over the years have all been pleased with the prints that Balu has gifted them.

Balu sent us a 'thank you' after 'Mylapore Times' did a feature on Deepak. This special young man is part of Balu's family.

Deepak, assisted by his mother, paints simple diyas and pots and turns them into little items you can gift or buy at Deepavali time. The creative effort and the sales does a lot to the spirits of the family.

Somebody needs to make an effort to drive a 'Go Local' campaign across Mylapore. And make it genuinely good.

There are dozens of people in every neighbourhood who put their creative juices to work. Will it not be good for people of the neighbourhood to patronise them, buy their stuff and get others to buy and boost their sales?

For the Christmas season, I used to zip into well-known bakeries, pick up some great plum cakes and was content with my festival shopping.

Then I got to know of a woman in our backyard who made splendid Sri Lankan Plum Cakes. They cost a bit but they were yummy. She bakes a limited number and so I ordered a few every year. Because they were real good and because the person who made it was a resident of the neighbourhood.

Somebody must come up with a simple idea on how we can Go Local. And how the really sincere and genuine entrepreneurs amongst us can find more clients and more appreciation for their work.



LETTERS FROM READERS

E-MAIL your letters to - mytimesedit@gmail.com. Or WHATSAPP to: 8015005628.

Provide full name and short address.

● This column also contains comments posted on our social media pages.

Sharpening Knives/ Scissors: mobile service

Noor is in the business of sharpening scissors and knives, with his unit fixed to his bike. He parks himself everyday at St Mary's Road - R. K. Mutt Road junction (near the pakoda snacks shop) around 7 a.m. He is also open to visiting your house to provide his service. People can contact Noor at 97909 66362.

- **Baskar Seshadri**



Apartments' maintenance fee

In one of the letters published in Mylapore Times, V. S. Jayaraman had written that apartments' maintenance cost should be equally divided regardless of the square feet area of the flat.

It is not always right. There are some residents whose terrace gardening efforts lead to water seepage. There are others who pile up old and damaged furniture in common areas causing inconvenience to other residents and maintenance staff.

It is another question how to charge those who are away, leaving their homes locked. It is recommended that the cost of maintenance should be shared based on the individual use of their homes.

- **Sanjeevi Arul Joseph**

Water leakage on New Street

There is Metrowater leakage near the junction of Chitrakulam North Street and New Street - this has been happening for more than a month.

Despite complaints raised to the authorities, nothing has happened. I request the area councillor to initiate action to plug the leakage.

- **T. K. Kannan**

Teacher PSR

I read about Ms. Krishnaveni who turned 100 in September. Her husband, P. S. Ramamurthy, or PSR, was my school teacher. He was a very simple man and he never scolded students. He commanded great respect from students.

He was my class teacher in 8th standard in the year 1962 - '63 in P S Secondary School which was later upgraded as P S High School (North).

- **K. R. Jambunathan**

Thank you!

We thank you for the feature in *Mylapore Times* on Deepak and his diyas for Deepavali.

It was very encouraging and we also received positive reactions from readers and some people placed orders too.

- **Shoba Shanmugham**

My Story

I find the My Story series in Mylapore Times very interesting. They record various experiences of people of the neighbourhood. I hope this series is archived and can be referred to later.

- **S. Arun Kumar**

MY STORY



Studying at P. S. High School in the 1960s

By A. V. VISWANATHAN

Our family has connections with P. S. High School in many different ways. My mother and my maternal uncles studied there in the 1940s and 50s. My cousins and I studied in the 1960s and 70s.

Our family lived not far from this campus so when it was time to get admitted to a school, there was P. S. next door. But that era was so different from what it is today.

It was a 'boys only' when I was admitted here - with classes from 6th standard to 10th standard

The students and teachers came from the neighbourhood areas. The school served students predominantly from lower middle class to poor families. I recall that the parents of these students worked in various professions such as

potters, daily labourers, school teachers, local grocers and small traders, auto-rickshaw drivers, masons, carpenters, milkmen and temple priests. There were also students whose parents worked for the state and central government while some worked for private companies.

Even though there were predominantly Hindu students in the school, we had several Christian and Muslim students from the area of the same demographics. The teachers encouraged us to celebrate all festivals of all religions together at the school including Deepavali, Christmas and Ramzan

We had very passionate teachers - who were simple, conservative, dedicated and sincere. While some of them were strict, many of them were friendly. There was good bonding between teachers and students that continues even today.

The school and the teachers believed in holistic education and in addition to academics, there was emphasis on sports, arts and social work. Physical education was given importance

Those were days when students and teachers

played cricket together - after school hours. The student teams and teachers' cricket teams used to compete in inter-school competition and we even won awards. The teachers and the school administration would help students with their tuition fees by securing merit-cum-means scholarships from Govt. and from private agencies.

The school produced many bright students who got state ranks in the public exams. I was school first in the 10th standard public exam and was in the top 20 ranks in the state.

As the students came from similar financial and social background, they were able to relate to each other and the bonds that were formed during school last even today.

Our school timings - 8:30 - 2:30 pm - allowed us plenty of time to play (both in school and outside) and that is how bonding took place.

I gained a lot of life skills that have served me very well in my professional and personal life. Tolerance, patience, empathy, friendship, discipline, hard work, being non-judgemental and contentment.

● A. V. Viswanathan is a corporate management consultant. He also practices psychotherapy. Contact - v.a.viswanathan@gmail.com



MUSICAL AT UTSAV

By Our Edit Team

It was called a Carnatic fantasy play. It was titled “Gandharvalokathil Oru Isai Maanaadu”. And it was part of the opening evening’s programme of the annual Bharat Sangeet Utsav 2023 held at Narada Gana Sabha, Alwarpet.

But the man who conceptualised it, artiste, teacher and festival curator, K. N. Shashikiran does not want to call it a play. Perhaps, a sort of musical but even that does not completely describe this production that had many people in the audience that

November 4 evening engaged.

Premiering it at the Utsav, it featured the drama legend Kathadi Ramamurthy and many popular Carnatic music artistes including Ashwath Narayanan, Thiruvavur Girish, Akshay Padmanabhan, K. Gayathri, Vidya Kalyanaraman, Anahita and Apoorva, R.P. Shravan and J.B. Keerthana besides others.

Shashikiran says the core of this production came from the content of a book on Carnatic music appreciation which led to a manuscript on a fantasy fiction which featured the old masters coming face to face with music and artistes of the day, and the

current generation of artistes imagining the times and music of old.

Veteran actor Kathadi Ramamurthy donned the role of the well-known music critic Subbudu and music artiste Sarvesh Karthik played the role of Naradhar. And the thread of the production was fleshed out around the duo and focussed on themes on the tradition, depth, practice and width of Carnatic music.



“I brought in elements of a music Anthakshari and a quiz,” explains Shashikiran. “I set a scene in an amusement park and brought in some katha-kutcheri element too.” This enabled him to feature various artistes to play distinct roles and present songs that suited the situation.

Since the artistes featured in this production are fairly busy with public concerts and travel a lot, they were briefed on their roles, given copies of the script and briefed about their scenes and how they would fit into the event.

There were small group rehearsals to start with and a few rehearsals in full on the eve of the show. 30 artistes featured in this production.

Shashikiran says the script and theme allows for flexibility - new themes on Carnatic music and featuring other artistes who wish to be part of this production, can be incorporated and some parts can be left out.

“I see the scope for staging this production a few more times if people are keen to have it,” says the Dwaraka Colony resident, who has also curated the Utsav.

HSBC bank hosts sales by NGOs at its branch

By Our Edit Team

HSBC hosted its annual Helping Hands Mela at all its branches Nov.6 onwards, through the week. The branch on Cathedral Road, near Amaravathi restaurant, also hosted this unique sale.

By providing NGOs space in these branches to display and sell their products, the bank is trying to not only help them have a good Deepavali, but also help build awareness about their causes among staff, customers and the public, said Stephen Dique, senior vice president and branch

head, HSBC Chennai

At the local inauguration of this mela, the chief guests were N. Ram of The Hindu, Palainvel Thiaga Rajan, state minister and the Dhananjayans, Bharatanatyam dancers and gurus.

Stephen Dique said his team chose ‘Enchanting Tamil Nadu’ as its theme. Products on sale included sarees, diyas and festival decor, utility items, foodstuff, fashion accessories, jute products and more.

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Obituary

Padma Yuvaraj, music teacher at Savitri Ammal Oriental Hr. Secondary School,



Mylapore and a Carnatic music researcher and a vocalist, passed away on November 3.

She was 41 years old.

She studied at St. Raphael's Girls School, San Thome and was music teacher at Savitri

Ammal for 17 years.

Padma did her M. Phil studies at Queen Mary's College, Mylapore and went on to finish her doctoral studies as a candidate of the University of Madras; her study was on 'Karaikudi Smt. Rajeswari Padmanabhan; a legendary musician.'

Her Ph. D. guide, Dr. Shanti Mahesh, faculty at the music department at Queen Mary's College said that she and Padma travelled to many corners and met scores of people to gather materials for the latter's doctoral study.

She said that Padma located Rajeswari Padmanabhan's compositions and chose five to notate and sing and record them and add it to her thesis record.

"Padma was a passionate, dedicated music scholar and artiste," said Shanti.

Said Dr. M. A. Bhageerathi, former HoD of music at QMC, "Padma was into music because of Padmavathi Ananthagopalan's disciple. She performed regularly for All India Radio. I was her doctoral committee member and took classes for her when she did M.Phil. at QMC."

Padma was a 'B High' grade artiste of All India Radio and primarily sang for dance concerts.

She leaves behind her husband Yuvaraj and two children. The family resides at No.5, Annai Flats, Prasanna Vinayakar Koil Street, Mylapore. Phone: 8056228892

Abdul Khader, better known as Babu, who ran Bala Medicals on Dr Ranga Road, Mylapore passed away recently after a tragic accident at his residence.



Two weeks ago, he had called a technician to tackle a problem with the gas cylinder at his residence. But when the testing process was on, a fire developed and engulfed both of them in the kitchen.

Khader and the technician were rushed to Kilpauk Medical College hospital and after treatment for over a week, Khader was shifted to Apollo Hospital but he did not survive the severe burns.

The technician is still in hospital but has recovered.

Khader was 51 years old and had a large, loyal clientele. One of them said, "Babu was friendly and ever-smiling. He did all he could for his customers."

The family resides at Raja Flats, near the medical shop, on Dr Ranga Road.

— Reported by Baskar Seshadri

K. Rajam, wife of V. Kulathu (Hariharan) passed away on October 25.

Hailing from Kallidaikurichi, Tirunelveli district, she was a resident of Warren Road,



Mylapore, for about 45 years.

The couple were deeply religious and shared traditional Vedic hymns with those who were keen to learn and understand.

Her family said that the couple not only recited the Vishnu and Lalitha Sahasranamam, Lalithambal Shobanam, Narayaneeyam and Soundarya Lahari but also taught their children and grand children the importance of following Indian culture and tradition.

They were ardent followers of the Sringeri Sharada Peetam and regularly participated in events at the Peetam in Mandaveli.

Rajam was affectionately called Kolam mami. This is because she used to decorate the entrance of the house with beautiful kolams / rangolis. She also used to draw kolams at the Sringeri Mutt and at Sri Kapaleeswarar Temple.

Her family said she was also a great cook, preparing authentic, traditional food and sharing it with family and guests.

She has helped many families in the neighbourhood at times of need and shared small tips about the medicinal value of Indian medicines (*patti vaidhiyam*).

She leaves behind her husband, two sons and a daughter.

The family's contact – son K. Venkatasubramanian – Ananthi Flats, Warren Road, Mylapore.

Phone: 9790826985

Restaurateur **P. H. Padmanabha**, the owner of the popular Sukha Nivas restaurant in Luz and of RPR Residency (formerly Murudi's Lodge), passed away on November 1. He was 65 years old.



His father was in the food and restaurant business and soon after Padmanabha, whose

family lived in Karpagambal Nagar, Mylapore passed out of P. S. School and joined New College, he began to get trained in the family's business.

He took over Murudi's Lodge, over 70 years old now, from the larger family and managed it; today it is called RPR Residency. He took charge of Sukha Nivas too; he did this some years earlier. Sukha Nivas has a branch in Royapuram.

The restaurant was known for its South Indian food, with the Udupi flavour. His son Raghavendra said his father worked long hours, from about 8.30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

"My father was particular about maintaining the quality of the food, administering the business well and customer service was very important," Raghavendra said.

Padmanabha leaves behind his wife and two sons. The family now resides in Thiruvannamiyur. Contact - 9840358575.

MAIL to Mylapore Times your Tributes on family members / neighbours / people of Mylapore. Mail 8/10 lines, mention a contact name and phone number, and attach a photo of the deceased. Mail to - mytimesedit@gmail.com

Mandaveli's Raja St. community discuss local issues: Chennai Metro work, drains desilting

The local effects of the ongoing Chennai Metro work dominated the discussion at the Mandaveli Raja Street RWA conducted its 8th Annual General Body Meeting on Sunday, November 5 2023 in Raja Street.

Raja Street is currently at the epicentre of the CMRL work that is going on for laying the ground settlement markers that will be monitored during the underground tunneling work .



As per the current underground rail route, the underground track cuts under the dense residential zones of Raja Street.

CMRL has been laying new bore connections and plugging the bore connections which are within the 3m range of the underground tunnel.

At the meeting, the RWA team also briefed its members about the welfare activities executed in the last year. It was agreed that updates about the CMRL work will be provided to the residents regularly. The audited accounts were presented by the treasurer.

K. Mohan, a senior advisor for the RWA suggested new ideas to bring the residents together and to address core issues.

The office bearers for the RWA were re-elected – Kanthi Neelamegham – president, V. Santhosh – secretary, Shiva Kumar – vice president, Uma Krishnan -treasurer.

The core committee members are Ganga Sridhar, Rupa Rajesh, Shantha Shiva Kumar and Saranya Karthik – they will be actively supported by a team of young volunteers.

The committee members have escalated the problems related to storm water drains desilting work, – this was immediately attended to by the local GCC team.

This annual civic exercise, personally monitored by the residents, has helped Raja Street stay dry even during heavy rains.

— Inputs for report by Ganga Sridhar

Halloween celebrated at this Mandaveli campus

By Kalyani Muralidharan

Halloween celebrations at a Mandaveli apartments campus got everybody excited here.

The community at Ragamalika Apartments on Thiruvengadam Street celebrated it on November 5 evening .

50 children participated; many of them landed up in crazy costumes, some looked devilish and some fancy.

There was even a Harry Potter in that group. They went around the apartments in groups and picked up little treats from residents.





All local make-shift shops selling crackers for Deepavali are offering only 'green' crackers in accordance with state regulations. Two shops that received lots of shoppers mid-week were the one located in the Chennai Corporation Complex in R. A. Puram and a stall set up on R. K. Mutt Road, opposite the tank of Sri Kapali Temple.

Gift boxes of crackers start from Rs.150 and the big packs cost as much as Rs.10,000.

Ready-to-eat food at Ganapathy's store sells fast at noontime

By V. Soundararani

Ready-to-eat food packs sold over the counter at Mylapore Ganapathy's store seem a big hit.

Mylapore Ganapathy's is a 80-year-old establishment (fondly called Ganapathy ghee by the customers), well known for its quality food products (like butter, ghee, podis, pickles, appalam, vadam, vathal, native foods like palak-kad veppilaikatti, chakka varatti, mudalur karuppt-ti halwa, muscoth halwa, Rajkot Khakra, and native bakshanams, customised seer bakshanams).

The food packs though have their set of customers from noon time.

Sevai made out of parboiled rice in multiple flavours - in lemon, coconut, pulikaichal tomato flavours - are sold here.

For a spicy option, there is vegetable biriyani sevai. Each pack is priced from Rs. 45 to 70 at present.

What's more. You can buy plain sevai too (to have it along with your home-made gravies).

All these come in alu-

minium foil bowls. These apart, mani kozhukkattai, morkali, ilai adai, podi idli are also available.

Sweet and salt kozhukkattais are sold at



piece rate (Rs. 15 each). This sale is more than a decade old, says Saravanan, the proprietor.

The food is hygienically prepared, packed and delivered by Speciality Foods based in Adambakkam.

The stocks arrive at around 11.30 am and get exhausted by 3 pm. Weekend days sales seem heavy.

"Generally people from households in the Chitrakulam zone buy this food often.

If you need it in large numbers you must place an order the earlier day," says Saravanan.

Mylapore Ganapathy's store is at 14, Chitrakulam West Street,

Mylapore.
Phones: 24640292, 8939027272.



MYLAPORE TIMES CIRCULATION CONTACT

If you regularly get a copy of Mylapore Times every Saturday but find the boy has skipped your gate one week or the next, call our staff, **Abdullah - 99418 70089**. On Saturdays, bet 8 am and 5 pm.

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GOODIES READY

Like many caterers and home-based food businesses, R. Hariharan, proprietor of V. Raju Iyer Catering, has a schedule for the Deepavali season.

He employs extra hands to prepare sweets and savouries, to meet the bulk orders that are received at his desk.

His first goal is to prepare for the orders from abroad and then, across India. The first set of orders were shipped around November 6 this season.

You may be lucky if he still has some packs of sweets and savouries for you now.

At 54/24,
V. C. Garden
2nd Street,
Mandaveli.
Ph: 9444434269



R. A. Puram school holds fancy fete to generate funds



By Juliana Sridhar

The fancy fete at Fatima Nursery and Primary School was a fun event for all those who soaked in it. This campus, located off Lazarus Church Road in R. A. Puram came alive on Sunday, November 5.

Father Y. F Bosco, the correspondent of the school said that it was conducted to raise funds for the development of the school and to purchase computers.

Entry to the fete was free and some 1000 people enjoyed the fete. There were food stalls selling varieties of food, lots of games stalls, music and dance too.

T. Julie, principal of the school said that the fete was a success and she appreciated the team work of the teachers and the students' parents.

IF YOU HAVE MADE DEEPAVALI SWEETS AT HOME, CALL US TO VIDEO SHOOT

Have you made sweets and snacks at home this past week?

Do you want Mylapore Times to visit your residence and video-record for 3 minutes the traditional foodstuff you have made for this Deepavali? The quantity does not matter.

You can call video-photographer Madhan Kumar of the newspaper. Call 99417 72334. Or the office manager Shanthi at 2498 2244.

The short videos will soon be posted on the newspaper's YouTube channel. www.youtube.com/mylaporetv

The video shooting will take place only on Saturday, Nov.11 - call 9.30 am onwards.

■ Photo featured here is the Deepavali bhakshanam which Carnatic music artiste Gayatri Kamakoti prepared and posted on her social media page.



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- ALWARPET, apartment newly renovated, 3350 sqft, 1250 sqft UDS, 3 BHK, 3 bath, servant room and bath, private open terrace, 2 balcony, east facing, price 4.47crore. Ph: 9841999945

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- 3BHK flat, well maintained in a 30year old building with lift, opp Kauvery hospital, Luz church road, Mylapore, Chennai 4. Proximity to pharma, hospitals, temple, retail shops, beauty salon with two wheeler parking only, no car park avl, ideal for back office, elderly needing hospital care etc. Contact: 7299665052.

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- ALWARPET flat, 1450 sqft, 3 BHK, 1.70cr. 1100sqft, new 2.25cr. R.A.Puram, Alwarpet, Mylapore, 1 to 4 ground, land and individual houses. Mandaveli, 1560 sqft, 3cr. Buyer's Call: 98407 19797
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- PLOT for sale Tambaram east selaiyur, from main road 400mtr, 2100 sqft land, 63ft frontage, 1.65cr. Ph: 9094819992
- HOUSE for sale, Arumbakkam, 300meter from metro, 1200sqft, G+2, 10years old building, income Rs.60K, 1.80cr. Ph: 90948 19992

- KANCHI Athi varadar near temple by 300m, new villas and apartment ready to occupy. Ph: 9655191499, 9791459449.
- ROYAPETTAH Balaji Nagar, new, 3000 sqft, 4BHK, 4 bath, 3CCP, lift, gym, 100 percent power backup, 100% vastu. Ph: 7299141164, 6380844247
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- R.A.PURAM 2nd Cross street, Canal Bank road, 1287 sqft, east facing, open land for sale, price 2.80cr, negotiable. Agent: D.Gopalakrishnan: 9791192817
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- R.A.PURAM near Chettinad school, east facing, 1 BHK, AC, fully furnished, 27K. Ph: 9841147769
- ALWARPET 3BHK, 2BHK, carpark. Raja Annamalaipuram, 3BHK, 2BHK, carpark. Mandaveli, Norton road, 3BHK, 2BHK, carpark. Mylapore, 3BHK, 2BHK, carpark. Greenways road, 3BHK, 4BHK, carpark. RK Real estate: 9841901877, 9840770388
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- MYLAPORE, Gopalapuram, 5 bedroom, 3rd floor, 3200 sq.ft., 2 car parking, lift, woodwork, Rent 75000 nego. Contact: 9940415778, 9444742617
- MYLAPORE, Dr. R. K. Salai, near Yellow Pages, 1000 sq.ft., 1st floor, lift, car parking, 2 bedroom, Rs. 30000. 3 bedroom, 1500 sq.ft., Rs. 40000. Ph: 9382509090, 9566024633
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- 900sqft, 2BHK, flat available for commercial use on ground floor (preferably for clinic, lab, pharma, office), at No 6/3, Dooming Lane, San Thome, Chennai 600004 (near jockey showroom), Rent 25K. Contact: 9840274819, 9841258633.

- MYLAPORE near Saibaba temple, fully furnished tuition centre, suitable for IAS, TNPSC, Bank exam, office accommodation, GF, available. Contact: 9840807390
- COMMERCIAL space for office, godown available at Mandaveli, near the RTO office, ground floor, 450 sqft, rent Rs.20000 pm. Contact: 9884034958, 9884816996
- MYLAPORE Karaneeswarar Koil street, ground floor, 900 and 650sqft with attached 2 bathrooms for rent, Rs.35K and 25K, suitable for dental and medical clinics, Office, department store and godown. Contact: 9445587920.
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- WANTED female office assistant, computer and English knowledge was essential, salary based on qualification and merit, office at Mylapore. Contact Sasikala: 6381582089
- WANTED Supervisor civil front office 12 hr duty. Contact: 7200009527
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A 'Listening Session' based on the Carnatic music of T. Brinda was held on the occasion of her 111th birth anniversary at a private space in Alwarpet on Sunday, November 5.

The event was curated by vocal artiste and music teacher Geetha Raja and Shreeraam Shankar of Vaak Foundation and held at Shreeraam's residence. This session was conducted live and online so that more rasikas could enjoy it.

Among those who attended were T. Brinda's son Sounder, T. Sankaran's son Yadav Murti Sankaran, artistes Neyveli Santhanagopalan, Subhashini Parthasarathy, Subhasree Ramachandran, Delhi Muthukumar and Aruna Ranganathan.

Geetha Raja said that listening to two hours of Brinda's exquisite music – the varnam, raga alapanas, rare krithis, padams, javalis, viruttams – in an intimate ambience was an educative experience for everyone.

Residents annoyed with contractor who flouts rules at GCC site in Alwarpet

By Our Edit Team

Residents on and off Dr. Ranga Road are unhappy with the building violations made by the civil contractor who is constructing the new community-wedding hall for Chennai Corporation on C. P. Ramaswamy Road on GCC's property.

They say that the contractor has flouted building rules and continues to do so without securing the construction site on all sides with ACP sheets, as is required mandatorily.

On both sides of this site, Chennai Corporation buildings exist – on one side is the campus that houses offices of the MLA and a councillor besides GCC offices and a shopping complex. On the other, is a recently-built hospital.

At the rear (east side of plot) are residential houses and people residing here say that for the past six months, they have been suffering from noise and dust pollution as ACP sheets have not been put up on this side of the site.

Said one resident who wished to remain anonymous, "In spite of lodging an official complaint in August on the GCC website no action has been taken till date. Also contacting the local officials has been of no use."

They now want Mylapore MLA, Dha Velu whose office is next door, to get the contractor to respect the rules and save residents the problems they have faced.

Said another resident, "It is ironic that the GCC is quick to penalise private buildings who do not cover their construction site and turn a blind eye to public building construction sites."



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Revathi Ramachandran signs out as director of Kalakshetra



Photo: Kalakshetra Foundation

By Our Edit Team

Abiramapuram resident Revathi Ramachandran, who was director of Kalakshetra has ended her assignment there on October 31.

In the last lap of her tenure as head of this prestigious cultural campus founded by Rukmini Devi Arundale, Revathi was in hot waters, having to deal with a controversy related to sexual harassment charges against a teacher at the college on this campus made by a former female student.

This issue erupted in March 2023, college students went on strike, the media was full of reportage on the issue and the way it was handled; the accused teacher, a male, was later arrested by the police and is now out on bail.

A senior Bharatanatyam dancer and dance teacher and a star basketball player in her youth, Revathi took charge in 2018 and her tenure was to be on till 2021. It was then extended and it came to an end in October 2023.

“It was unending work all these years, sometimes thankless too. But I enjoyed every moment of it and am quite happy with whatever I have done at Kalakshetra,” said Revathi days after she said goodbye to Kalakshetra and handed over charge to an officer there.

What next?

“I have not made up my mind yet,” she said.

Revathi runs a Bharatanatyam school in Abiramapuram; her daughter Manaswini, also a dancer, handled its classes when Revathi was heading Kalakshetra.

Community, Rotary and private eye clinic join hands to screen civic workers



Rotary club of Chennai IT City, Ramana Eye Centre and R A Puram Residents Association (RAPRA) jointly organised a free eye camp for sanitary workers, GCC staff, Urbaser Sumeet staff and watchmen and maid of this area.

The camp was held at Ramana Eye Centre, Third Main Road, R A Puram on Nov 5.

85 persons were screened at this camp.

Dr. C Senthil Nathan, chief ophthalmologist of Ramana Eye Centre, guided his team at work here. 50 Urbaser staff were given spectacles, free of cost. Office bearers of RAPRA and Rotarians helped in organising the camp.

Councillor launches web site for ward 126

Councillor Amirda Varshini of the Congress party who represents Ward 126 has launched a web site and a QR code.

Corporation commissioner J. Radhakrishnan was at the event to do the honours.

Varshini says that, for now, the two Net-based tools will enable people of her ward to alert her to grave issues that



may crop up during the monsoon. The ward broadly covers Mandavelipakkam / Mandaveli zone. Other local issues can also be raised / shared. The web site address is - www.amirdavarshini.in The QR code that can be scanned on your smartphone to lead you to the web site.

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The curators of the annual MYLAPORE FESTIVAL, plan to hold an exhibition during the Festival in January 2024, of 25 objects which Mylaporeans used in the 1950s and 60s.

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torches, cooking vessels, walking sticks and anything of such kind.

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We invite you to contribute to this show. Call Shanthi at Mylapore Times - tell her what you can share. Tell us now. Call 2498 2244 / 4766 2029 (11 am to 5pm)



WHEN 'OLD GIRLS' OF STELLA MARIS MET IN MYLAPORE

By Our Edit Team

Imagine meeting up some fifty-plus years after you passed out of college? What would the atmosphere be in this party?

Plain fun, loads of campus anecdotes and some harmless leg-pulling too, is how Judy Nagarajan puts it.

Judy, a resident of CIT Colony and the honorary director for education projects of 'Aim for Seva', was among the 22 of the 35 'old girls' who attended the B. Sc. (Math) course at Stella Maris College, who had a party recently. In Mylapore.

Somebody got the bright idea, it was shared, many 'old girls' approved and the meet-up was held at the house of Rajeswari Thyagarajan, located in a lane that runs off from Musiri Subramaniam Road.

Judy says that this 1970 batch had 35 girls and most of them have been in touch via social media platforms. But it had not occurred to them that they should have a party and some fun, in person.

Rajeswari used to teach at her alma mater. Her classmate Lalitha Kalyan is said to be an expert kolam designer and batchmate Seetha is currently the secretary of The Sanskrit College, Mylapore.

"There was a lot of conversation and we had a pot-luck lunch," says Judy.

And the 'old girls' have promised to make these meetings a periodic affair.

REPORT ON MEET-UPS OF OLD BOYS / OLD GIRLS.

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Statues of two celebrated Jesuit missionaries unveiled at Dhyana Ashram

By Our Edit Team

The statues of two of the most celebrated Jesuit missionaries who came to the Tamil country in the 17th and 18th centuries, Robert de Nobili and Constantine Joseph Beschi were unveiled at Dhyana Ashram on Mada Church Road, R. A. Puram on November 8.

Fr. Jebamalai Irudhayaraj, provincial of the Jesuit Chennai Province, formally unveiled the two statues that were installed with the support of Xavier Britto, a businessman and well-wisher.

The two statues flank a vintage granite image of Mother Mary, which is believed to have been unearthed in this campus which was, for a few centuries, the hub of the Jesuits in the San Thome area.

After the formal function, there were presentations made on de Nobili and Beschi by scholar Fr. Anand Amaldass who is based at the Ashram, Prof. S. Amalraj, Loyola College and Fr. Maria Arul Raja.

Fr Darwin S. Michael, superior of the community at Dhyana Ashram and his team here hosted the event

and arranged the hospitality.

Members of the local parishes, nuns and priests and local ward councillor participated.

The Ashram hosts workshops, seminars, talks and training for the Jesuits as well as for others here. The Mother of God church (Madre de Deus) is located here – its roots go back to the late 16th century when the Portuguese first built this church which was demolished some decades ago.

THE MISSIONARIES



Robert de Nobili



J. Beschi

Robert de Nobili, a Jesuit missionary, spent much time in the Madurai area since 1606 when he arrived here. He appreciated and imbibed local culture and literature, mastered Sanskrit, Thamizh and Telugu, integrated Saiva texts and philosophy into his writings, localised theology in his communication and contributed much to Thamizh prose. He dressed like a sanyasi and adopted Indian customs. His final days were spent in the Madras region and it is believed that he was buried in San Thome.

Constantine J. Beschi, a Jesuit missionary, was in south Thamizh land since 1710, and later travelled in Pondicherry and Thanjavur. He too acknowledged Christian ideals in local culture / literature, mastered Saiva literature and incorporated local philosophy into his own writings and discourses. He was a Thamizh litterateur - compiling three dictionaries and writing books on grammar; he translated the Thirukkural into Latin and works like Thiruppugazh into European languages. His biggest poetical work is the Thembavani. He was called Veeramamunivar.

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VRUSHA SCHOOL FOOTBALLERS EXCEL IN TOURNEY

By Nisha Vidyasagar

The students of Vruksha Montessori School, Abhiramapuram, have excelled in an inter-school football tournament hosted by Lady Andal School on November 1.

The under-7 years team which was a mix of three boys and four girls took home the trophy while the under 12 years all girls team were ranked second.

All the matches were closely played, and the competition was tough. The players displayed a keen sense of passing, ball control, and shooting skills. To top it all, they bonded well as a team.

Santhosh, the school coach (also founder of First Touch Football Academy) was instrumental in mentoring the school students.

Deepavali Legiyam sale

Deepavali Legiyam is being sold at Venkataramana Ayurveda Dispensary on Kutchery Road, Mylapore .

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– Reported by Baskar Seshadri



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