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The Hub for Young Chennai

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Fortnightly

Electronic edition

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Chicago sings with Chennai



Dhanvee B **Student Reporter**

As the bell rang, it was the signal to enter into the hall to listen to the music. The comparer David came on the stage and introduced the American musical Chicago Children's Choir.

On Jan. 30, they joined the children of Rhapsody from Chennai at Mutha Venkatasubba Rao Hall.

Founded in 1956 as a civil multiracial association, the choir group has 3,000 students from 51 schools across Chicago.

group is a winner of Emmy Award.

They began with a Rabindranath Tagore's song. The song showered light and positive energy on the audience.

During the Korean song they asked the listeners to repeat a Korean word from the song and everyone followed it with much enthusiasm.

The rhythm of claps made by the choir children echoed everywhere. The Indian choir group students came for the Tagore's song and the final song which was like a cherry on

the ice-cream.

The song and dance for Hanuman's heart made us feel as if the real hanuman opens his heart and shows Sita Devi and Ram.

Allah song vibrated each nerve and created a feeling of oneness. "I need you and you need me" is a real need of the day.

John, Robinson, Michael, Jonathan are the other musical troupe members who brought liveliness to the music.

The Chennai based classical pianist Mr. Anil Srinivasan was instrumental in bringing this event to the city.

The concert ended with our National Anthem and all the audience too joined. The concert by the children of Chicago and Chennai will remain in the heart of the young and the old for a long time.

This fortnight for you ...

Event Series

Exercise the dance way

From Feb. 6, 2013

Hansel & Gretel Kids Centre, T. Nagar is conducting a fun way exercise programme for kids. Dancercise is a program that introduces children to aerobic dance exercises in simple, fun method.

Open for kids of age 3 to 8 yrs.

The program will be held on every Wednesday from 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.

To enroll contact Hansel & Gretel, 11, Jagadambal Street, T. Nagar. Phone – 28152549, 98404 31549

Sports

Tennis Tournament

Enroll before Feb. 6, 2013

St. Michael's Academy in Adyar will conduct the Rev. Bro. McEvoy Memorial State ranking junior tennis tournament for boys and girls in Under 12, 14 and 18 categories.



The tournament will be held from Feb. 11, 2013. No entry fee. Young players who want to enroll should do so before Feb. 6, 2013.

Contact St. Michael's Academy, 2, 3rd Canal Cross Road, 4th Main Road, Gandhi Nagar, Adyar. Phone: 2491 5331, 7200626297

Badminton Tourney

Feb. 8 to 10, 2013

Kalakshetra Badminton Club is hosting a non ranking open badminton tournament on the



above dates. Open to boys and girls in the categories of under 12, under 14 and under 16 (singles). For registration contact Shiva at 98844 87872 or Sukumar at 99622 33449

Workshop

By Hand, From The Heart

Feb. 9, 2013



Ojo-de-Dios - A Native American Hand Weaving Art.

Workshop will be conducted by Ms. Jayashree and Sandhya.

Batch 1: 10:00 a.m to 12:00 noon

Batch 2: 02:00 p.m to 04:00 p.m

Workshop Fee: Rs.1200/- inclusive of materials.

Contact 944 44 14227.

Event Series

Clay Play

From Feb. 13, 2013



Funfilled edutainment sessions using clay will be held for three months

(Continued on page 8)

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A Fortnightly Newsletter from

YOCee

(www.yocnee.in - news website for Chennai's young people)

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Circulation

- Free circulation - online at www.yocnee.in/category/epaper/
- Circulated through email to individual subscribers

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Smile of Pride: Dheer Singhi

Smooth Sail

Dheer Singhi of RMYC emerged as the top ranked sailor in the optimist category from India in the 10th KFC Langkawi International Regatta Perdana, held at the National Sailing Centre Langkawi, Malaysia recently. He ranked 13th overall in a fleet of 96 boats.

Fourteen year old Dheer, studying in Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram in Chennai, began training in sailing when he was 10. His passion for the sport grew and performing well in the regattas held in India, he became part of national squad in 2011.

In 2012 he won a bronze at the India International Regatta held in Chennai.

Bangalore based 15 year old Vir Menon, representing The Royal Madras Yacht Club, bagged gold at the prestigious this annual Malaysian dinghy sailing regatta.

Vir sails the Laser 4.7 class of boat (under 18 age bracket) and is the current Inland National Champion as well as the under 16 Coastal National Champion.

The Royal Madras Yacht Club trains children and adults interested in sailing. The club functions out of the Madras Harbour. The managers Mr. Martin and Mr. Ramesh are on mobile no. 92821 07443.

Art at Heart

YOCee Team

R. Harihar Prasad, a student of DAV Boys Senior, Gopalapuram was all in an awe looking at his huge trophy received for his art at the International Global Art competition held in Bangkok in late November last year.

The theme for the competition was 'Saving the World'. The contest was aimed at testing the creative skills of more than 600 children across 10 countries including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, China, Vietnam, Philippines, Brunei, Cambodia and India in the age group of 5 to 18 years.

Twelve children from Chennai represented India in the competition. Harihar Prashad won the Championship in Group D (13 years and above). He had earlier won the 'Best of the Best' award in 2008. He trains at Kalaa Manjari, an activity centre and a Global Art franchise in Alwarpet. Four other children training at this centre were adjudged runners up in their respective categories.



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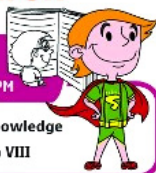
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In West Mambalam neighbourhood

Madhumitha Murali
Student Reporter

The residents of Bakthavatchalam Street in West Mambalam celebrated the Republic Day in a grand manner.

The members of the Bakthavatchalam Street Association had come together on the day to mark the occasion as well as to inculcate patriotism and to make the children, the future citizens integrated and responsible.

The celebration began with the unfurling of the National flag by the honorable association head, P. Sreenivasa Murthy, followed by the speeches by the children and senior citizens. Participants also narrated stories on our great freedom fighters.

Drawing and Singing competitions were held and prizes were distributed on the same day.

After a patriotic song the teenagers presented a dance on the song 'Vande Mataram' followed by a talk show and a quiz based on our constitution.

The occasion became all the more special when the Association Head addressed the gathering, reminding the residents about the sacrifices made by our freedom fighters and encourage them to be good citizens.

The celebrations served as a stress-buster and also gave a chance for all the residents to meet each other after a long time and with a patriotic feel on the day.

In DAV Public School, Velachery

Anirudh Madhavan
Student Reporter

It was with great festivity, pomp and grandeur, the Republic Day was celebrated at DAV Public School, Velachery, in its campus on Jan. 24, since it was holidays after that day.

The day began with an invocation to the Almighty in the assembly, and was followed by a self composition by the choir titled 'Hum Sab Bharatvaasi Hai' literally meaning 'We are all Indians' symbolising the patriotic mood of the gathering.

A wonderful dance by the students of class nine and ten in tribute to the single most popular leader of India, Mahatma Gandhi. Soon after this was received with applause, the main attraction was to follow.

The students then performed their own mini parade based on the Republic Day celebrations that occur in the nation's capital. Two boys and three girls formed the delegation representing one state. Various states like Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra were represented in befitting honour in a royal and stylish way.

A peaceful rendition of the National Anthem followed. Soon after this, the students went to their classes with a heroic feeling of patriotism on this great day. All the students got their chocolates as well as mini- flags to get into the spirit of the occasion. The students came away, feeling entertained greatly, but also with a message – It is time to act.

SCHOOL BUZZ

More interviews @ <http://yocee.in/category/schoolbuzz>

Village comes to school

Nikila Raman
Student Reporter

It was time when the bullock carts went around with cute little kids enjoying their ride. It was time when pretty girls and handsome guys were around the place in traditional costume.

It was music and dance along the way – guess where I was?

School last year. The fund raised in the previous year was used for building restrooms for the school.

The fund raised this year is to be used for furnishing the classrooms and getting in 'interactive learning methods' for the school.

The new committee of the 'interact' club members were announced and given their badges.



It was fiesta time in the PSBB Millennium School. The theme of the event was Village Dhamaka.

The day being the 26th of January, the function started in a patriotic way, with the school choir singing prayer songs and hoisting of the national flag.

The program was initiated by the Rotary club of Madras, as a part of student interact club' fund raising programs. The stalls put up gave a good run for speed, memory and presence of mind. The cultural programs made one experience the real state of euphoria.

The school had adopted the Kolapakkam Panchayat



The chief guest of the show was singer Prasanna, who gave a special performance of some of his hit numbers.

The students of the Kolapakkam Panchayat School gave a special performance with great enthusiasm which was appreciated by all.

The day concluded with the announcement of the winners of the raffle draw and the winners of Mr and Miss Millennium. It was indeed a fabulous Village Dhamaka.



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INTERVIEW

More interviews @ <http://yocee.in/category/interviews>

Meet Ruchika and Harini, karate champions

Kavya K G
Student Reporter



I dragged my two very best pals to the end of noisy corridor for a short chat. The two girls, U.B. Harini and A.G.S. Ruchika, are international karate champions, who attended the International Karate Tournament, held in Talkatora stadium at Delhi, between November 21 and 25, 2012. Both of them are students in Sri Sankara Senior Sec. School, Adyar.

When did you start learning Karate?

Ruchika: I started learning Karate when I was in 4th standard. We had it as a part of our extracurricular activities in our school.

Harini: I joined Ruchika when I was in my 5th standard.

What is your style of Karate?

Ruchika: We learn the style Shito Ryu from the Gurukulam School of Karate, Adyar branch. It has many other branches in the city.

Who is your mentor?

Harini: Our mentor is Shihan K.Tamil Selvam.

Tell us more about the tournament ...

Harini: It was held by WUKF (World Union Karate Federation – Not Recognized by Olympics). 13 countries participated in the event.

Ruchika: In katas, we had age and belt wise categories. In kumite (fighting), we were categorized based on weight and belt. For team katas, it was belt and age wise categorization. About 500 people contested from India and India got 643 medals in total.

What belt are you in?

Ruchika: We both are in Black belt DAN I

What other karate competitions have you participated in?

Ruchika: We have gone for a few National tournaments and a few Inter Karate Schools tournaments.

What were the prizes you won in the International Karate Tournament?

Harini: Ruchika won Silver in Individual kata and Bronze in kumite. I won Bronze in Individual kata. We, together with our master's daughter, Krithikaa, won Bronze in Team kata.

What would you like to tell the young people who learn such art forms?

Harini: Do hard work and luck will always be by your side.

Hosting events for kids?

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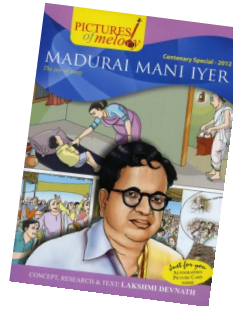


If you enjoy reading Amar Chitra Katha books on great personalities, here are a couple of more to add to your bookshelf.

The life history of two celebrated Carnatic musicians are now available as picture books.

'M.S. Subbulakshmi – The queen of song' and 'G.N. Balasubramaniam – Speed thrills', are part of the 'Pictures of Melody' series published by Heritage Publishing House.

The series is the passionate effort of the author Lakshmi Devnath. Extensive research on the lives of the artistes have gone into producing these picture books, says the author.



Lakshmi Devnath has earlier authored a book for children, 'Poorva', that tells the story of the twelve azhwars or saint-poets. The series of pictures books on the musicians is aimed at taking the art and culture to the young people.

Recently, the third in the series, Madurai Mani Iyer – the joy of song, was released. It was a centenary year special book on the musician.

The sketches are by artists C. Thangavelu and G. Sekar. And the sketches for the recent book are by Ajay Krishnan.

Priced at Rs.125, copies are available online at <http://www.kalakendra.com>

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This fortnight for you ...

(Continued from page 2)

beginning Feb. 13. Pottery artiste Malini Kalyanam will handle the sessions.

The sessions will be held at a venue in Anna Nagar (West) from 4.30 to 5.30 p.m. every Wednesday.

For details and registration contact Vatsan at phone: 97909 75024.

Storytelling

Loveable stories

Feb. 14, 2013



Tulika Publishers and Bamboola are hosting a storytelling session on Valentine's day at Bamboola between 4 and 6pm.

The stories that will be told are loved Tulika titles, Purple Jojo and Mala's Silver Anklets performed by popular storyteller, Praba Ram.

The session will include some rhymes and the two stories with lots of sounds and movement.

The registration fee for this session is Rs. 250 per child and this fee will include a copy of both books.

Register at Bamboola, 73, V.K. Iyer Road, R.A. Puram. Phone: 2461 1779.

Exhibition

R.K. laxman's doodles

Feb. 9 to 28, 2013

Forum At Gallery, Adyar in association with Indian Institute of Cartoonists

will exhibit R. K. Laxman's unpublished doodles at its gallery.



About 90 sketches done by the cartoonist will be on display.

Open from 10.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. All days except Sundays.

Forum Art Gallery is at 57, Padmanabha Nagar 5th Street, Adyar. Phone: 4211 5596.

Contests

Art, music, dance

Feb. 10, 2013

Twist 'n' Turn Dance Studio, Arumbakkam is conducting various competitions for children of age 3 to 15 years on Feb. 10.

There are contests in Art, craft, music and dance. A fee of Rs. 75 will be collected per participant.

Register before Feb. 5 at the studio located at 842, Poonamallee High Road, Arumbakkam. Phone: 99404 96228, 91766 16158.

Joke telling

Feb. 3, 2013

Besant nagar Humour Club is holding a Joke Telling competition for school children this Sunday at 4 p.m.

At No.4,3rd Floor, G3 Building, Bharathi Nagar Cross Street, Off L.B. Road, Near Sathya Nilayam, hiruvanmiyur.

Open to students of class 1 to 8. Participants will be allowed to tell three short jokes.

No Registration Fee. Contact phone

no. 42019306, 9444609467.

Walk

Walk around a garden

Feb. 9, 2013



Love the sights of the Spring?

Vanilla Children's place opens up its gardens to the young visitors. 'The Flower Bazaar' is an event, where Vanilla invites children to walk around their garden, find a variety of flowers, plants, vegetable saplings, plant containers and pots of different varieties.

Open to all from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Vanilla Children's place is at 89, Bishop Garden, Greenways Road, R.A. Puram. Phone: 4206 6660, 99400 12785.

Music

Concert in the park

Feb. 3, 2013

Baanupriya, a student of Modern Senior Sec. School, Nanganallur will present a classical concert at the Nageswara Rao Park, Mylapore on Feb. 3 at 6.30 a.m.

Accompanying her on the violin is Parur M.K. Ananthalakshmi and on the mridangam is P.V. Srivatsa.

The concert is held as part of the Sunday Kutcheri in the Park series hosted by Sundaram Finance. A mikeless music concert is organised on the first Sunday of every month at this park.

Children are selected through an audition. For details contact 94450 34557.

Catch the Chennai Science Festival

On till Feb. 3, 2013

The annual Chennai Science Festival, hosted by the Science City, Chennai, is on from Jan. 30, 2013.

The festival is being held at the Anna Gem Science Park School located within the Anna University on the Gandhi Mandapam Road.

The theme for this year's festival is 'Biodiversity and Food Security'. Exhibits and other stalls on the theme is put up by many



educational institutions and organizations at the festival.

Various animals that we do not see in our daily life like ostrich, frizzles, guinea fowls are brought from the farm maintained by Tamil Nadu University for Veterinary and Animal Sciences are part of the festival.

Information on safe foods and food adulteration are displayed in the stall. Demos on food preservation, safe and healthy food are also done by experts and research students.

Added attraction is the aeromodelling stall where children will be briefed about the basics of flying.

The festival is on only till Feb. 3, 2013 and is open to all.

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Vintage cars heritage rally

Kavya K G
Student Reporter

The VGN Developers, a property company, joined hands with The Hindu to organise the Heritage Rally from Chennai to Pondy on Jan. 19, 2013.

There was an exhibition of the vintage cars in Besant Nagar beach till 8 a.m., after which they were flagged off to Pondy.

All the cars on the rally belonged to those who were members of Madras Heritage Motoring Club.

The cars were followed by a few recovery vans. The cars on display were from the 20th and 19th centuries too.

The cars on display included Morris – Minor, Van, 1000, Ford – Anglia, Prefect; Chevrolet, Jaguar, Volvo, Mercedes Benz, Austin, Ambassador and President. It was a delight to the vintage auto enthusiasts to see all the old beauties together.

There were also the Royal Enfield and Lambretta two wheelers on display.

Many people including children thronged to Besant Nagar Beach with their cameras, phones and iPads to click a photos of the cars belonging to the bygone centuries.



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