



A border Control Unit of the Emigration and Immigration Department was opened at the Ratmalana Airport recently, to facilitate foreign technical personnel engaged in exploring petroleum and gas in the Mannar Gulf. Here Immigration and Immigration Commissioner General Chaulananda Perera addresses the gathering.Senior Assistant Secretary at the Presidential Secretariat Chandima Wickremasinghe, Sri Lanka Airport and Aviation Services Chairman Prasanna Wickremasuriya and Executive Director Yohan Jayaratne were present.



The latest edition of Newton Gunasekara's Sinhala novel Ahasai Numba Mata was relaunched at Dayawansa Jayakody bookshop, Colombo 10 recently. Here the publisher Dayawansa Jayakody presents the first copy to the author. Film producer Chitra Balasuriya, Karunaratne Alahakoon, Somaratne Pannila and Vasantha Kumudini Samaranyake look on.



The Grama Niladharini of Napawala in the Dehiowita Secretariat Division, Nalini Hettiarachchi along with Agricultural Research Assistant H.M. Gnanawathi plant chillie saplings in clay pots at the auspicious time to mark the inauguration of Divi Neguma Stage 2 in the Grama Niladhari Office compound at Napawala.



A new branch of the National Savings Bank was opened at Ingiriya town recently. Here the Chairman, Raigam Udugahapattu Multi Purpose Co-operative Bank, Sunil Jayakodi hands over the first transaction for a fixed deposit for a sum of Rupees ten million in favour of the Co-operative Bank, to Minister of Good Governance and Infrastructure Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka. Parliamentarian Vidura Wickramanayaka and Western Provincial Councillor P.D. Abeyrathna are also in the picture.

Pic: Priyadarshani Kahawala - Ingiriya Central Gr. Cor.



Minister of Agriculture, Mahinda Yapa Abewardana paid a visit to the Fruit and Crop Development Centre, Kananwila, Horana recently. Here the Minister is on a field visit with the Minister of Good Governance and Infrastructure, Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka and Kalutara District Parliamentarian, Vidura Wickramanayaka.

Pic: Priyadarshani Kahawala - Ingiriya Central Cor.



The annual prize-giving of Ath-Thoqwa Islamic Institute, Beruwala was held at the Ocean Grand Banquet Hall, Beruwala recently. Here the Chairman Urban Council, Beruwala Milfar Gaffoor awards a prize to a student.

(Pic: B. M. Mukthar, Beruwala Spl. Cor).



Central Province Tamil Sahithiya Vizha was held at Pussallawa Saraswathy Central College recently. Here the Central Province Governor Tikiri Kobbekaduwa, the chief guest, special guest Asst. High Commissioner of India, R.K. Misra as the special quest and Minister Education (Tamil) Central Province Mrs. Anusha Sivarajah being conducted to the venue.

Pic: D. Vasanthakumar, Nawalapitiya TKN.



The award ceremony of the Model Environmental School 2011 competition, organised by the Haritha Wana Sansadaya was held at the National Youth Centre, Maharagama under the patronage of Minister of Power and Energy, Patali Champaka Ranawaka recently. Here the former Principal of Sri Sangamiththa Balika Vidyalaya, Colombo 10 Winitha Jayaweera receives the "Surebimani Gold Award" from Minister Ranawaka. Executive Director of Sansadaya Yavas Serasingha and Deputy General Manager, Bank of Ceylon, Deepa Wanniarachchi look on.

Pic: Saman Sri Wedage



A two-day workshop on "Develop the capacity of moral quality, high ethical standards and Inter ethical friendship among the students of Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka through 'Mahinda Chintana' organised by the Ministry of Education for teachers of the Akkaraipattu Zonal Education was held at its auditorium recently. Here Dr Ms H.D.A. Lalitha, Subject Master Specialist (Peace and Value Education) of the National Institute of Education is delivers the inaugural address. Deputy Director of Education A.M. Ahmed, President of the National College of Education, A.L. Abdul Rasool, Zonal Directors A.L.M. Cassim and M.K.M. Munsoor were also present.

Pic: M.A. Phakurdeen, Addalaichenai Gr. Cor.



Thusara Kumarathunga of Pannipitiya Dharmapala Vidyalaya was selected as the Best Orator of 2011 at the Best Environment Friendly School Contest organised by the Green Forest Association. Here he receives the special Memorial Award and a collection of books from the Youth Affairs and Skill's Development Minister Dullus Alahapperuma at a ceremony held at the Youth Theatre Maharagama recently. Secretary to the Ministry S.S. Hewapathirana is also present.

Pic: Wehelle Piyathilake - Maharagama Spl. Cor.



The Rural Hospital, Attudawa Matara constructed at a cost of Rs. 15 lakhs was opened by the chief minister, Southern Province recently. Here the chief minister registers the admission of the first patient.Parliamentarian Hemal Gunasekara looks on.

Pic: A.W. Gunawardhena, Matara Central Cor.



The felicitation ceremony for 35 personalities in various categories was held at the Wattala Secretariat's Office recently. The event was organised by the Hendala Welfare Society to mark its 10th year anniversary. Here Veteran Journalist S.G.K.D. Julian receives the Desha Sakthi award from the Assistant District Secretary, Mrs. Thusari Priyangika for his valuable services rendered to the community for the past 10 years.

Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The Sri Lanka-UK Society organised the members' get-together at the Ceylon Continental Hotel recently. Here the Society President Carlo Ponnampalam delivers the welcome address.

Pic: Vipula Amerasinghe.



Sri Lanka Red Cross Society has launched a special project to assist low-income group families in the Kegalle district to construct 'Home-Friendly houses'. Here the President of SLRCS Jagath Abeysinghe presents some items to be used in construction work in Dehiowita recently. Deputy Director General of SLRCS Col. Sudath Madugalla looks on.

Pic: Edward Weerasinghe, Kelaniya Group. Corr.



The National Tree Planting program of Haritha Ratak, Dayata Setak was held at Horana Magistrate's Court premises recently. Here the interpreter of the Horana Court plants a sapling while the Range Forest Officer, Ingiriya, P.S.L. Jayasingha and others look on.

Pic: Ingiriya Central Gr. Cor. - Priyadarshani Kahawala



Prof. Sarath Amunugama plants a Na sapling at the Kelaniya University compound at Dalugama, Kelaniya, in connection with the National Tree Planting Program, 'Deyata Sevana 2011'. The Deans of various Faculties also participated.

Pic: Edward Weerasinghe, Kelaniya Gr. Corr.



R. Rajah Ratnasingham Goonesekera and Army Sgt. J.H.N.C. Adikari of the Gajaba Regiment are cycling from Kataragama to Jaffna carrying the message "save the Globe". They will plant saplings en route Jaffna.



His Holiness As Syed Aboobackar Jifri bin Syed Fazal Jifri Moulana presents a gift parcel to a child at the annual prize-giving of Isha-Athul Islam Home for the Orphans, Dharga Town recently. Chairman of the Beruwala Pradesiya Sabha Prasanna Sanjeeva, Al-haj M.Z.M. Badiuddeen President of the Home for the Orphans and Secretary Haleem A. Azeez are also in the picture.

Pic: B.M. Mukthar, Beruwala Spl. Cor.



A Sri Lankan Mother and her Daughter shone in England When Mrs. Sumithra Mohanathasan Director of Mohans Video Vision, Wellawatte won two gold medals and a bronze and her daughter Miss. Tharika Sheyanthini Mohanathasan a gold medal for their exhibits of decorations at the Cake International Show held recently at the National Exhibition centre Birmingham. Mother-duo are pupils of R.L. Clement.



The Elders' Day felicitation ceremony jointly organised by the Maharagama Divisional Secretariat and the Senior Citizens' Association was held recently. Seventeen elders who had completed 65 years were felicitated by the Divisional Secretary, Maharagama Mrs. Buddhi Taranga Karunasena (centre).

Pic: Wehella Piyathilake, Maharagama, Spl. Cor.

EVENTS

Wekanda Jumma Mosque 125 years today



The Board of Trustees of Wekanda Jumma Masjid, Colombo 2 has organised the 225th anniversary and website-launch ceremony today at 9.00 a.m. at the Jumma Masjid premises. The Ambassador of Indonesia in Sri Lanka Djafar Hussein will be the chief guest while the High Commissioner of Malaysia in Sri Lanka Azmi Zainuddin will be the guest of honour. A special lecture will be delivered by Darul Hasanath Foundation Chairman, As Sheik Akram Noor Amith. Indonesian Ambassador will launch the website. President of the Masjid, Basheer M. Latiff will deliver the welcome address.

Text and Pic: Ruzaik Farook

Down Memory Lane today

A sing-a-long festival will be staged by the Moratuwa Arts Forum today at the Lake Nest Resort, Gorakana, Moratuwa.

Titled Down Memory Lane the festival will commence at 6.30 p.m. and the program will include evergreens, American cowboy songs, Plantation songs, English, Irish and Scottish favourites, International hits and Sinhala songs.

Krishnamurti talk

A recorded public talk on "Love and freedom" delivered by the late Indian sage J. Krishnamurti will be replayed at Anula Nursery School hall, Colombo 6 today at 9.45 a.m.

It is organised by the Krishnamurti Centre, Sri Lanka Inc.

Islamic New Year at Tihariya

The Islamic Centre for the Physically Handicapped, Tihariya has organised the Islamic New Year celebration today from 9.00 at its auditorium. (RF)

Seminar on 'Islam' for O/L students

The Sri Lanka Islamic Society organised a seminar on 'Islam' for GCE O/L on Sunday, December 4 students from 9.00 a.m. at the Fathima Girls' School auditorium, Thimbirigasyaya, Colombo 5.

The seminar will be conducted by Ashroff Yoosuf. Admission free. (RF)

'An Evening of Christmas Songs and Music'

'An Evening of Christmas Songs and Music' with 'The Priests' (clergy choir), Lylie Godridge Singers, VIP choir - Wilson Gnanadas, Devashrie de Silva, King 'The Band', Sureni de Mel, Elaine Alles and Krishan Wickremasinghe, organised by the Cathedral Institute for Education and Formation (CIEF) to celebrate God's presence with us will be held on December 2 at 6.00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Christ The Living Saviour, Baudhdhaloka Mawatha.

Year end sale - 2011

A year-end sale All kinds of Everything is organised by Sri Lanka Housewives Association at the Public Library Auditorium on Saturday December 3.

More than 55 stalls will offer items at bargain prices. These includes sarees, shoes, bags linen, costume jewelry, plants, vegetables, food items and many more.

A raffle draw and a lucky dip stall will offer valuable prizes. Hot lunches, snacks and drinks will be available. Be there early and pick your bargains. Entrance is free.

X'mas carols with the L.G. Singers and Bethel Chapel Choir

The L.G. Singers will begin their Christmas season on Friday, December 2 at 6.45 p.m. With an evening of carols at the Bethel Chapel of the Seventh-day Adventists, Alfred House Gardens, Kollupitiya. The service will include 16 carols presented by the singers.

The Bethel Chapel Choir will present "Emmanuel" at the Bethel Chapel of the Seventh-day Adventist, Alfred House Gardens, Kollupitiya on Saturday December 3 at 6.30 p.m. The service will include the Christmas story and music from John Rutter, Graham Kendrick and other modern composers.

AGM today

The Annual General Meeting of the Past Pupils' Association of Anula Vidyalaya, Nugegoda will be held today at 9.00 a.m. at the main hall.

AGM today

The ninth Annual General Meeting and get-together of Irrigation Department Ex-Officers' Association will be held today, commencing 10.00 a.m. at Randiya Hotel, Korallawella, Moratuwa.

YMCA carol service

The annual carol service of the Colombo YMCA will be held on Saturday, December 3 at 5.30 p.m., in the Colombo YMCA Gymnasium, 39, Bristol Street, Fort, Colombo 1.The choirs from leading schools and institutions will participate.