



The National Festival of School textbook distribution for 2012 was held at Girls' High School, Kandy recently. Here a student receives his set of textbooks from Prime Minister D.M. Jayaratna. Bandula Gunawardana, Minister of Education, Sarath Ekanayaka, Chief Minister of Central Province are also in the picture.



Palitha Ganewatte's *Mavatha Abiyasa* was adjudged the Best Sinhala novel at a competition held by Dayawansa Jayakody Publishers, Colombo 10. Here the publisher Dayawansa Jayakody presents the cash prize of Rs. 50,000 and the award to the author at a function at the bookshop recently. Ranjan Thenuvara, Minsara Bookshop proprietor, Gamini Moragoda and Gogitota Sarath look on.



St. Bridget's Convent choir held its carol service on Wednesday, at their auditorium - the theme being "Hark the Angels sing on High". Here the choir is directed by Priyanthi Seneviratne with Shanella Wijewardene as the choir leader and Shanika de Silva, the Deputy leader.



Attorney-at-Law, journalist and Editor of the Tamil health magazine *Sugavalu* R. Sadagopan was awarded the 2011 National Sahithya Literary award for the Best Tamil translation Ksantha Koppi of the original English novel *Bitter Berry* authored by Christine Wilson. The novel is on the life of the Indian migrant labour in the early 19th century. Here he receives the award from Minister of Education Bandula Gunawardana, at a function held in Nawalapitiya, organised by the United Youth Front.



A medical clinic was held at Vidyaloka Maha Vidyalaya, Kerawalapitiya, Wattala under the patronage of Social Services Minister Felix Perera recently. The event was organised by the Social Services Ministry, Lions Club of Wattala and Pokuna Janatha Ekatuwa. Here the chief guest and the invitees being conducted by the chief organiser of the Janatha Ekatuwa, Sherwin Perera to the venue. Pradeshiya Sabha member Mrs. Suranji Manjula is also in the picture. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



The Diriya Development Foundation organised a memorial ceremony at Sangamitta Vidyalaya, Galle recently to mark World Disabled Day. Six persons were felicitated for the services rendered for betterment of the disabled. Here Agriculture Minister Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena receives an award from Health Minister Maithreepala Sirisena. Chairman of the foundation Dr. Wilstan De Silva was also present. Pic: Wehelle Piyathilake, Maharagama Spl. Cor.



The Lanka - Japan Friendship Society hosted a dinner to welcome the new Japanese Ambassador Nobuhito Hobo at the Grand Oriental Hotel, Colombo 1. Here the Secretary of the Society, Upali S. Jayasekera receives the Ambassador on arrival. Kosala Wickramanayake, President and Daya Wethasinghe, Vice Patron were also present. Pic: Vipula Amarasinghe



Astron Ltd., Ratmalana donated equipment for the Children's Park at the School for the Deaf, Ratmalana recently. Here Mrs. Manisha Peiris, Principal (first from right) in conversation with Sirimal Fernando, Director, Astron Ltd. Shivantha Vivekanandan, President, Deaf School Past Pupils' Association, Ratmalana was also present.



Kalutara district MP Vidura Wickramanayaka provided electricity, on an initiative by the Minister of Good Governance and Infrastructure Facilities, Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka to Pahuru-thota Road in Maputugala. Here the Parliamentarian commissions the supply. Pic: Ingiriya Central Gr. Cor. Priyadarshani Kahawala



Kadiresan Hindu Ladies' College, Nawalapitiya felicitated three past teachers recently. From left: Mrs. Gnanambikai Chandana Krishnan (Teacher), Mrs. Jayanthi Siyamasundaram (Vice Principal), Miss. Kandasamy Pillai Sivagamy (Teacher) with Principal Mrs. Selvaraja. Pic: D. Vasanthakumar, Nawalapitiya TKN, Cor.



The Batch of 2011 of Zahira College organised the *Zahbee Night* at the Cinnamon Lakeside Hotel, Colombo recently. Here the chief guest, a distinguished old boy Attorney-at-Law Ali Sabry receives a memento from Co - Chairperson Nuzri Munsoor Amir. Fahad looks on. Pic: Ruzaik Farook



Plant seeds were distributed free at a ceremony held to mark the launch of Devinaagala program - Stage II at Dehiwita recently. Here Napawala Grama Niladarini, Nilanee Hettiarachchi distributes plant seeds to one of the participants. Napawala Agricultural Research Office H.M. Gnanawathie was also present.



The pupils of St. John's Tamil Maha Vidyalayam, Mattakkuliya sing a religious song at their annual *Kalai Vizha* at the Vidyalayam recently. Pic: A. Maduraveeran



Maria and Christian Hofmann who hail from the city of Waecherbach in Germany donated a dental chair to the value of Rs. 100,000 to the Naleem Hajjar Dental Clinic (AL-Humaisara National School), Beruwala recently. Dr. (Mrs.) Manel Kaluarachchi, R.D.S. NIHS, Kalutara, Dr. Senarath (N.H.D.C.) and Irsan Mohamed are also in the picture. Pic: B.M. Mukthar, Beruwala Spl. Cor.



A Community Service project organised by the Pugoda Hatton National Bank branch to mark its first anniversary was held at the branch premises recently. Stationery items for 25 students and spectacles for the 150 needy were donated. Here the Bank's Regional Manager Jude Fernando presents a pair to an elderly person. Branch Manager B. Vipula Semaratne was also present. Pic: Malwana Gr. Cor. - Mahanama Vithanage



Minuwangoda Pradeshiya Sabha member W.N.N.P. Ariyadasa and a businesswoman of Naiwala, Padmini Abeysirwardena donated a wheelchair to H.P. Ananda of Matikotamulla. Here Ariyadasa presents the wheelchair to Ananda. Pic: Ivon Nissanka, Divulpitiya Gr. Cor.



P.H.L. Wimalasiri Perera assumed duties as the District Secretary, Kalutara recently. Ex-Secretary, Kalutara Kamal Padmasiri and the Additional Secretary P.G.S. Gunatilaka and an officer the district office look on. Pic: Divakara Mohotti, Kalutara Gr. Cor.



Seven books authored by veteran Tamil writer, Anistus Jayaraja were launched at the Tamil Sangam Hall, Wellawatte recently. Here the author presents the first set of books to Dubel International proprietor Abdul Kayoom. TNA parliamentarian Vinayagamoorthy Appathurai and former MP Mano Ganesan look on. Pic: A. Sumanasena, Kolonnawa Gr. Cor.



The Sarathchandra Jayakodi: Sambawana Literature Festival", organised by the Horana Pradeshiya Sabha was held at Wagawatta in Poruwedanda recently. An Uphara ceremony was held where senior citizens received awards for the service rendered by them to the community and the country. Chairman, Horana Pradeshiya Sabha, Yamith Chandana and Secretary Ms. G.J. Anoma are also in the picture. Pic Ingiriya Central.Gr. Cor. Priyadarshani Kahawala



A ceremony to mark World Elders' Day organised by the youth in Kalutara North was held at Nigrodharama Vihara recently. Here some elders present a dance item.

## EVENTS

### St. Benedict's College Christmas carols

St. Benedict's College will hold its annual carols program 'A Green Christmas' on Tuesday, December 20 at St. Lucia's Cathedral, Kotahena. This inclusive service will contain secular as well as seasonal carols and music, and is expected to last no more than one hour and 30 mins. The entrance procession at 6.45 p.m. will be led by the Choir of Benedict's College.

Inspiring Choral music will continue with Choro Benedicte with alltime Christmas favourites at its best. The Shakespeare Drama Club will present "A Green Christmas".

The program in the Cathedral will conclude with a grand finale by all three Choirs (over 100 voices) in popular Christmas songs and medleys.

### Bodhi pooja by JICA A.A.

The JICA Alumni Association of Sri Lanka will hold a Bodhi pooja and pirith-chanting at the Gangaramaya, Hunupitiya, Colombo 2 on December 23 commencing 5.30 p.m. to invoke blessings on His Majesty Emperor Akihito, Emperor of Japan on his 78th birthday.

### Krishnamurti talk

A recorded public talk on 'Can the mind be free from error?' delivered by the late Indian sage J. Krishnamurti will be replayed at the Public Library auditorium, Colombo 7 today at 10.30 a.m.

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

### X'mas, New Year programs at Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour

The Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7 has organised the following Christmas and New Year programs.

#### Christmas

December 24 - Christmas Eve Service (English) - 11.30 p.m.

December 25 - Christmas Day Service (Sinhala) - 7.00 a.m. (English) - 8.15 a.m. (Tamil) - 11.00 a.m.

#### New Year's Eve/New Year

December 31 - Watch Night Service - (English) - 11.30 p.m.

January 1, 2012 - New Year's Day - (Sinhala) - 7.00 a.m.

(English) - 8.15 a.m.

(Tamil) - 11.00 a.m.

All Christians are welcome to worship at the Cathedral, next to the BMICH, a media release said.

### CHA's free workshop series

The Consortium of Humanitarian Agencies (CHA) will conduct a free workshop series on mental health on December 21 and 23 at Rosmead Place, Colombo 7.

**First session:** Resource Person: T.T. Mayuran (Master Trainer in Social Work) on 'Creative Development in Early Childhood' (Tamil medium) on December 21 (Wednesday) from 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

**2nd session:** Resource Person: Dr. Jayan Mendis (Director of National Institute of Mental Health) on 'Detection of Mental Illnesses in School' (English medium) on December 23 (Friday) 9.30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

**3rd session:** Resource Person: Dr. Jayan Mendis (Director of National Institute of Mental Health) on 'Workplace Stress' (English medium) on December 23 (Friday), 11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

### X'mas of Jesus Centre Ministries

Jesus Centre Ministries will celebrate the birth of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ on December 25 at 9.15 a.m. at the Mount Lavinia Hotel.

## OFFICE-BEARERS

### Senior Old Anandians

**President:** J.F. Ranjith Perera

**Vice Presidents:** Prof. H. Sriyananda and Upali Madanayake

**Jt. Secretaries:** Upatissa Nikapitiya and Meghawarna Kumarasingha

**Treasurer:** Nihal Jayawardana

**Asst. Treasurer:** Sarath Manchanayake

**Committee:** Upali Sirisena,

W.K. Wickramarachchi, Kit Liyanage,

Major Gen. C.M.N. Silva and

Ananda P. Maddumage

**Ex-Officio:**

**Immediate Past President:** Das Miriyagalla

Past Presidents: G.P. Dhanathunga,

Dr. Pandu Liyanage, Thilak Wijesinghe

and Col. Parakrama Molligoda.



The news bulletin *Puwath*, a newsletter of the organisation of Retired Education Administrative Service Officers (OREASO) was launched at Ananda College, Colombo recently. Here the Editor, Jayasena Buttipitiya presents the first copy to the Western Province Director of Education P.N. Ilapperuma. Pic: Wehelle Piyathilake, Maharagama Spl. Cor.