

is offering a special summer fresh thali complete with Rasgullas, Gulab Jamuns, Chenna Payas or even some Aam Ras along with the food

The Great Indian Thali. Koramangala. I The Oriental Kitchen in Koramangala has 'Thai on the Menu' with an extensive lunch buffet and also an a-la-carte menu with a wide variety of options to choose from



QUOTE OF THE DAY

66 Who are you to judge the life I live? I know I'm not perfect and I don't live to bebut before you start pointing fingers...make sure you hands are clean! - Bob Marley

CITY SCAPE



Krishna by Shobana

Krishna - the man and his philosophy - and why he is still above man's understanding. The story whenever righteousness fails and adharma rears its ugly head, the supreme releases himself in the world - as Krishna. Cost: ₹500 - ₹3000 Call: 9243777970 When: June 9, 6.00 pm Where: Chowdiah Memorial hall, Gayathri Devi Park Extension, 16th



Cross, Malleswaram

Art exhibition

showcases original art, covers and prints from egends of Halahala, the atest graphic novel by

Call: 9886117375 **When:** On till June 11

Where: Gallery Five Forty Five, 6th Main, 4th Cross, HAL 2nd Stage,



3D View

SHE TEACHES SPECIAL CHILDREN WITHOUT HURDLES, OR RULES

ANGEL INVESTOR

DARSHANA RAMDEV | DC **BENGALURU, JUNE 2**

itanjali Sarangan understands excellence. Her academic career has been marked by achievement, including being the gold medalist at Bombay University. Despite being able to adapt wonderfully to the system, being a teacher herself, she speaks out against teaching methodology and an education system that is only geared for a certain set of people. There is no place in this world, she agrees, for those who exist on both ends of the spectrum, just for the subset in the middle.

"Topping Bombay University held no relevance to me. I've always felt the approach to learning has to change. It shouldn't be driven by subjects or the teacher, the only thing that matters is the student." Gitanjali is the founder of Snehadhara, an organisation that is still in its nascent stages, poised on the brink of a journey that is fraught with difficulty. Gitanjali, as she works with children and adults with special needs, is challenging the mindset of a society that leaves very little room for tolerance, acceptance and understanding.

"Working with children has always been my dream, ever since I was a 16-year-old," said Gitanjali, who runs Snehadhara, a not-forprofit organisation, out of a house in JP Nagar. "I applied for training in Speech and Therapy back then, but it didn't work out." As she did her Masters in Biochemistry, living in Mumbai, studying music and dance alongside, she would make her way to the slums in Worli, singing songs and bhajans with the people there. "It always brought me peace," she said.

When she put her older daughter, Divya, in Magic Puddles, a school that offered alternative education, Gitanjali met a young child who would change her life. Sneha was the only child in the school with Down's Syndrome. "Being around children, even then, gave me a lot of peace. The are so very nonjudge-mental and so much fun," she said with a laughter. "I don't know what

WITH SPEECH COMES

crowd

THE SLEEP

considerable



Sneha got out of her environment in the school, but I do know what she brought to the other children there," she said. Sneha rekindled a worry Gitanjali had had since she was a child. "What do their parents do? How will they manage when children have to go out into the real world?" Parents of children with special needs are consoled only when their children find a place in the mainstream society, which Gitanjali doesn't seem to approve of. Why should they, after all? Why can't they be who they are? "The struggles that these children and their parents go through together what prompted me to start Snehadhara."

Gearing special children to live in a conventional society just wasn't enough. "I want something that touches the core of their being," she said. The obvious question arose what? What will reach out to these children? The answer fell into her lap. Gitanjali discovered an artsbased therapy course run by the

World Centre for Creative Learning in Pune, the only place in the country that offered such a course at that time. "It seemed as if learning through art was the only way to go," she said. "When I couldn't remember an answer, I would make up a tune or draw some symbols. That's what these children need. They have excellent rhythm and are won derfully talented." In 2011, Gitanjali graduated from the WCCL course. That changed my life," she admits. Snehadhara gets its name from Sneha, whom Gitanjali describes laughingly as "a little riot". Sneha and her parents have been part of Gitanjali's journey for years now, right from the time when she ran a unit for children with special needs at Magic Puddles. "When I saw how much Sneha could do, I realised how much further she could go, too, in terms of potential." These parents, Gitanjali says, go for about five therapies a week, including speech therapy, cognitive therapy and physiotherapy. "It's like the children are being treated for an ill-ness," she said. "We're the only artsbased therapy centre in the country now and the challenge is that you're fighting a mindset. The child doesn't ask you for anything, unlike other children and sometimes, I feel we exploit that." Snehadhara runs on a philosophy that Gitanjali calls, "a continuum of compassion and care. I would tell parents that what they're doing to their children is ridiculous." Children with autism, Down's Syndrome and Cerenbral Palsy need to be taught in a very sensory way. Most people resort to a range of hyper tools, therapy included. "I'd rather have a child rub the bark of a tree and have a sensory experience than use a gadget," she said.

Run by a varied group of trustees, Snehadhara runs on one rule – there are none. "I can't work with children under the looming pressure of clocking in numbers and profits," she said. "If someone can't pay the fees, I should be in a position to say it doesn't matter.' Dealing with countless hurdles hasn't stopped Gitanjali from doing just that. There are children who can't afford to pay anything, there are others who can afford a pay a little more, who make up for the rest."

Snehadhara, even in the six months of its existence, has faced a number of problems. "We're harassed every day by our neigh-bours in JP Nagar, who say it's mentally disturbing to have an establishment like this close by. They claim we don't have the proper permissions, even though we do." Quite a few of these children are self-injurious, they will bite themselves until they bleed. What's more, the age group at Snehadhara varies from 3 to 35. "Water and music, we've come to see, has a very calming effect." Gitanjali's husband, Soundarajan Sarangan, the managing trustee, gives the children water-based therapy. "They're not training to be Olympians, they just do it to have some fun," she said

Gitanjali wants a piece of land to run her establishment, one surrounded by nature. "I want to start a restaurant for these kids," she says. "With the overheads, I'm usually out with a begging bowl most of the time! So far, it's been a party!

SPEAKEASY

• It is a wrong notion that IT is only for those who know English. Abroad, IT is developed with the help of mother tongue. I will strive to enable those who know only Kannada to work in the IT field.

Mr S.R. Patil, IT minister

The sheep is holier than the cow. Declare sheep as the national animal and ban their slaughter.

K.N. Raianna, Madhugiri Congress MLA

■ When Mr. Kagodu Thimmappa won the assembly election for the first time, I was just a four-year-old child. In 1972, when I was in SSLC, I listened to his speech sitting at the gallery in the Assembly.

H.D. Kumaraswamy, ex-CM and Assembly opposition leader

I have requested Assembly opposition leader Mr I.D. Kumaraswamy to work together with other parties on the floor of the House. Let us keep our fight outside the assembly hall

Mr Ashok Kheny, NICE MD and MLA

Former chief minister Mr. B.S. Yeddyurappa has stabbed me in the back. Though I worked according to his instructions and respected him, he made me lose the election.

Mr Revunaik Belamagi, former animal husbandry

■ No discussion was held on bringing former chief minister Mr. B.S. Yeddyurappa back into the party fold. There is no proposal either to bring back BSR party leader Mr. B. Sreeramulu. These are just rumours.

Mr Jagadish Shettar, former chief minister and BJP

If the Third Front takes shape at the national level. there is no doubt that the JD(S) and KJP would join hands in Karnataka. I am 99 per cent sure that Mr. B.S.Yeddyurappa will not join the BJP again. Even if he goes back to the BJP, I will not join that party again.

Mr G.S. Basavaraju, Tumkur MP, on the future of KJP

■ The news that I met KJP leader Mr. B.S. Yeddyurapa is false. This is not the right time to meet him and there is no reason to meet him. Everything is a creation of the media

Mr C.T. Ravi, former minister and BJP leader

■ We will definitely set up Tipu University at Srirangapatna. The government is committed to the project. The dream will be realised soon

Mr K. Rahman Khan, Union Minister for Minority Affairs

I will not react to the news of notifying the Krishna Mutt in Udupi. The chief minister is an experienced administrator and he will take the right decision. The party will support the decision of the chief minister

Dr G. Parameshwar, KPCC president



NOTES FROM THE BEAT



er to make the governor of the state count minutes before the start of a function. Recently, at a tourism-relat-ed event, the function was delayed by over half-anhour, but there was a hurried activity around the dais. When the organisers were they said Governor asked H.R. Bhardwaj had already arrived at the venue, but not the minister concerned, Ramanath Rai. Before darting off from the spot, the organisers said, "Of course, this is off the record."

Galleryske presents the group show featuring works by Navin Thomas Amirthraj Stephenand & Karun Kumbera. The exhibition presents the distinct practices of an artist, photographer and architect bringing togeth er works that examine human intervention and the environment. Call: 080-41120873

When: June 5, 11:00 AM -7:00 PM

Where: Galleryske, 2 Berlie Street, Langford Town

Kannada plav

Maari Kaadu is based on Shakespeare's *Macbeth.* Chandrashekhara ambara has transform he Elizabethan classic nto a Kannada folk tale This is a story of deceit ason, murder, and ower hungry people **Call:** ₹250 Call: 080-26592777 / 26493982 or visit www.anan-dayana.runnershigh.in **When:** June 7 & 8, 7.30 pm **Where:** Ranga Shankara IP Nagar



Art exhibition

Sublime Galleria presents an art exhibition featuring the works of Sujata Sah Sejekan — a Nepali-born artist whose explores happiness and joy through hues of fantasy Call: +91-9663828485 When: Till June 10, 11.00 am to 7.00 pm Where: Sublime Art

Gallery, UB City, Vittal Mallya Road

them was a distinguished gentleman, who came with a stack of notebooks and reference books. As soon as the scientist started speaking, the enthused member of the audience was busy jotting down notes. But within the next 10 minutes, there was a faint purr from the gentleman's corner. An eager beaver till then had abandoned his notes and was deep in sleep, probably unable to comprehend the scientist's rendering. Two hours and an anguishing few minutes later, the speech concluded. Just then, the coordinator thanked everyone and that woke up the gentleman. Frantically, he went through his notebooks and shot up his hand. Just when he finished asking the question, the man sitting next to him said: "Sir, that last slide was the answer to your question. Were you not listening?"

NO ONE IS SPARED, **NOT EVEN GOV**

It is one thing to make the people wait for hours at pub-lic functions, but it is anoth-

WATCH

Actress and theatre personality, Arundathi Nag with children seen relishing sweet mangoes at the Mango Party organised at Rangashankara, in Bengaluru on Sunday

READ

ADRIAN RAINE

NOT MISSING MOBILE PHONE

When Justice Santosh Hegde was the Lokayukta, he would answer queries from the general public and give quotes to journalists over his mobile phone. But the present Lokayukta Justice Bhaskara Rao seems to be a man who enjoys his privacy, and has not given his mobile phone number to anyone, includ-ing journalists. Recently, a young reporter gathered her courage and asked Justice Rao for his phone number. Pat came the reply: "I don't have a mobile phone. I have never used it till now, and neither would I need one in the future. am an old man of 75-odd years.

Upadhye, Luna Dewan

Contributed by Amit S.



HANGOVER PART II

> Cast: Bradley Cooper, Zach Galifianakis, Ed Helms, Justin Bartha Dir: Todd Phillips

A HUNGOVER FLASHBACK **OF WHAT WAS ONCE GREAT**

STU IS getting married. Along with Doug, Phil, and his soon-to-be brother-in-law Teddy, he regretfully invites Alan to Thailand for the wedding. After a quiet night on the beach with a beer and toasting marshmallows by the camp fire, Stu, Alan and Phil wake up in a seedy apartment in Bangkok. Doug is back at the resort, but Teddy is missing, there's a monkey with a severed finger, Alan's head is shaved, Stu has a tattoo on his face, and they can't remember any of it. The wolf-pack retrace their steps through strip clubs, tattoo parlors and cocaine-dealing monkeys on the streets of Bangkok as they try and find Teddy before the wedding. Actually, Paul Giamatti makes an appearance as a bad-tem-pered tough guy, but this isn't the big cameo – that comes in the form of the

Monday, HBO hits, 2.50 p.m.

ding.

THE ANATOMY

OF VIOLENCE Author: Adrian Raine Publisher: Pantheon; celebrity booked to sing at Stu's wed-1 edition 478 pp

THE BRAIN — A KEY CULPRIT **IN CRIME CAUSATION**

WHY DO some innocent kids grow up to become cold-blooded serial killers? Is bad biology partly to blame? For more than three decades Raine has been researching the biological roots of violence and establishing neurocriminology, a new field that applies neuroscience techniques to investigate crime. Raine documents from genetic resear-

ch that the seeds of sin are sown early in life, giving rise to abnormal physiological functioning that cultivates crime. Drawing on classical case studies of well-known killers in history, Raine illus-trates how impairments to brain areas controlling our ability to experience fear, make good decisions, and feel guilt predispose us to violence. He contends that killers can actually be coldhearted: something as simple as a low resting heart rate can give rise to violence. He also sketches out provocative new biosocial treatment approaches that can change the brain and prevent violence.



ROUGH CARPENTERS

By: The Black Twig Pickers Label: Thrill Jockev Genre: Folk

DISCIPLES OF TRADITION RETURN WITH THEIR BEST

-KPN

THERE'S NO doubting that the Pickers see their primary role as progressively-minded guardians of the traditional songbook, delivering their selections with exuberance and joy. While that has always been intrinsic to their approach, Rough Carpenters also finds these musicians at the top of their game. Morgan's bowed strings seem to add

another dimension to their sound while Nathan Bowles' banjo-playing continues to grow in confidence and scope, alternating from bluegrass picking to frenzied frailing to delicate lyrical runs.

And though the collective's singing has never been their strongest suit, the vocal arrangements are now weighted in their favour. With the name Rough Carpenters, the Pickers are alluding to their creations as constructs of old timber, offered up with spontaneity and passion rather than precision. But it's also a misleading moniker, for what is unquestionably the group's smoothest ride yet.







