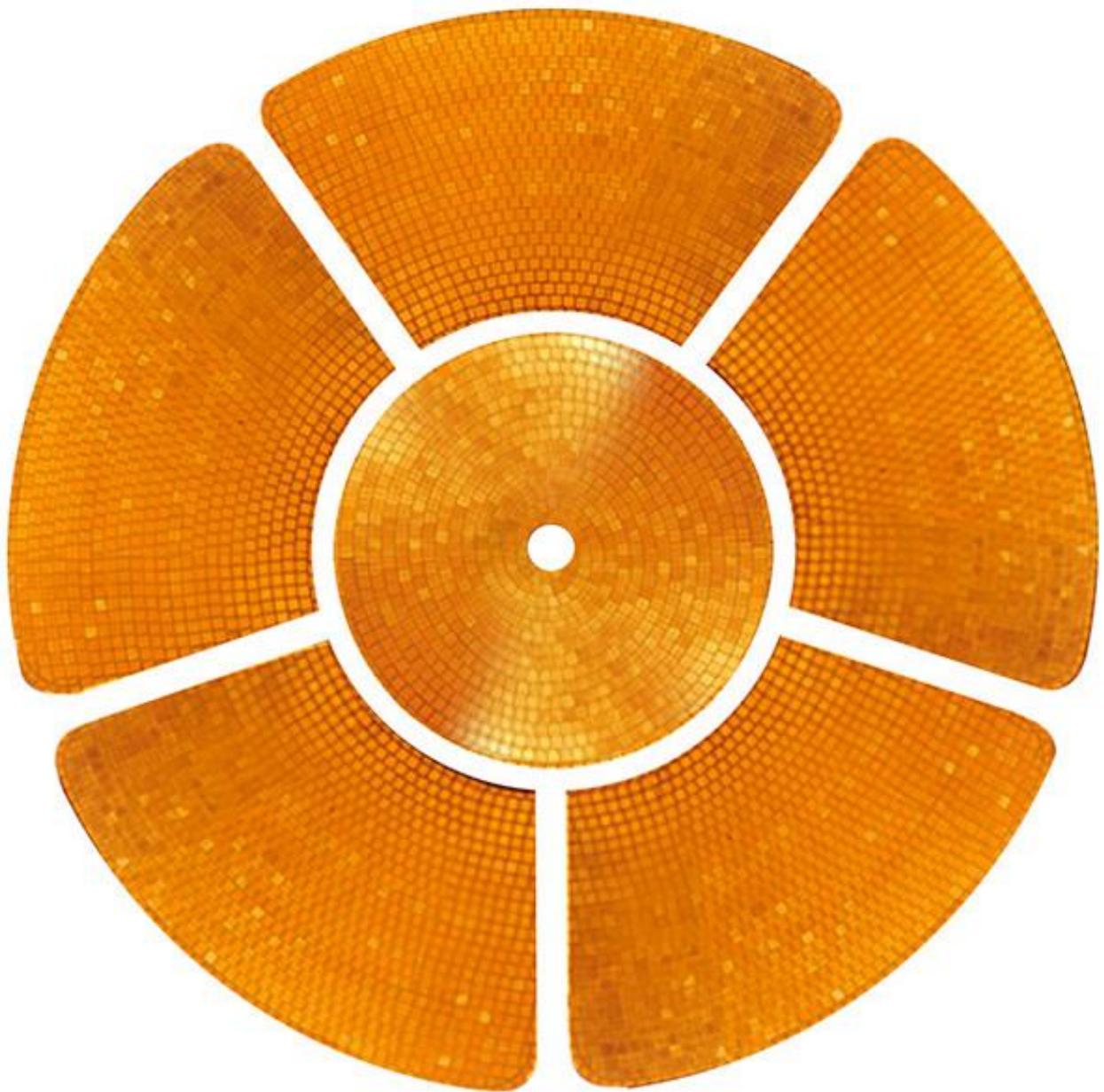


News and Notes

#859

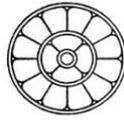
A weekly bulletin for residents of Auroville

27th February 2021



Happy Birthday Auroville!

HOUSE OF MOTHER'S AGENDA



The Enigma ceased that rules our nature's night,
The covering Nescience was unmasked and slain;
Its mind of error was stripped off from things
And the dull moods of its perverting will.
Illumined by her all-seeing identity
Knowledge and Ignorance could strive no more;
No longer could the titan Opposites,
Antagonist poles of the world's artifice,
Impose the illusion of their twofold screen
Throwing their figures between us and her.
The Wisdom was near, disguised by its own works,
Of which the darkened universe is the robe.
No more existence seemed an aimless fall,
Extinction was no more the sole release.
The hidden Word was found, the long-sought clue,
Revealed was the meaning of our spirit's birth,
Condemned to an imperfect body and mind,
In the inconscience of material things
And the indignity of mortal life.
A Heart was felt in the spaces wide and bare,
A burning Love from white spiritual founts
Annulled the sorrow of the ignorant depths;
Suffering was lost in her immortal smile.
A Life from beyond grew conqueror here of death;
To err no more was natural to mind;
Wrong could not come where all was light and love.
The Formless and the Formed were joined in her:
Immensity was exceeded by a look,
A Face revealed the crowded Infinite.
Incarnating inexpressibly in her limbs
The boundless joy the blind world-forces seek,
Her body of beauty mooned the seas of bliss.
At the head she stands of birth and toil and fate,
In their slow round the cycles turn to her call;
Alone her hands can change Time's dragon base.
Hers is the mystery the Night conceals;
The spirit's alchemist energy is hers;
She is the golden bridge, the wonderful fire.
The luminous heart of the Unknown is she,
A power of silence in the depths of God;
She is the Force, the inevitable Word,
The magnet of our difficult ascent,
The Sun from which we kindle all our suns,
The Light that leans from the unrealised Vasts,
The joy that beckons from the impossible,
The Might of all that never yet came down.
All Nature dumbly calls to her alone
To heal with her feet the aching throb of life
And break the seals on the dim soul of man
And kindle her fire in the closed heart of things.
All here shall be one day her sweetness' home,
All contraries prepare her harmony;
Towards her our knowledge climbs, our passion gropes;
In her miraculous rapture we shall dwell,

Her clasp shall turn to ecstasy our pain.
Our self shall be one self with all through her.

In her confirmed because transformed in her,
Our life shall find in its fulfilled response
Above, the boundless hushed beatitudes,
Below, the wonder of the embrace divine.
This known as in a thunder-flash of God,
The rapture of things eternal filled his limbs;
Amazement fell upon his ravished sense;
His spirit was caught in her intolerant flame.
Once seen, his heart acknowledged only her.
Only a hunger of infinite bliss was left.
All aims in her were lost, then found in her;
His base was gathered to one pointing spire.
This was a seed cast into endless Time.
A Word is spoken or a Light is shown,
A moment sees, the ages toil to express.
So flashing out of the Timeless leaped the worlds;
An eternal instant is the cause of the years.
All he had done was to prepare a field;
His small beginnings asked for a mighty end:
For all that he had been must now new-shape
In him her joy to embody, to enshrine
Her beauty and greatness in his house of life.
But now his being was too wide for self;
His heart's demand had grown immeasurable:
His single freedom could not satisfy,
Her light, her bliss he asked for earth and men.
But vain are human power and human love
To break earth's seal of ignorance and death;
His nature's might seemed now an infant's grasp;
Heaven is too high for outstretched hands to seize.
This Light comes not by struggle or by thought;
In the mind's silence the Transcendent acts
And the hushed heart hears the unuttered Word.
A vast surrender was his only strength.
A Power that lives upon the heights must act,
Bring into life's closed room the Immortal's air
And fill the finite with the Infinite.
All that denies must be torn out and slain
And crushed the many longings for whose sake
We lose the One for whom our lives were made.
Now other claims had hushed in him their cry:
Only he longed to draw her presence and power
Into his heart and mind and breathing frame;
Only he yearned to call for ever down
Her healing touch of love and truth and joy
Into the darkness of the suffering world.
His soul was freed and given to her alone.

— Sri Aurobindo. Savitri – A Legend and a Symbol.
Book 3: The Book of the Divine Mother;
Canto 2: The Adoration of the Divine Mother . Lines 119-221



Be free in thyself, and therefore free in thy
mind, free in thy life and thy body.
For the Spirit is freedom.
- Sri Aurobindo
The Hour of God, vol 17,
The Divine Superman, p.75



Matrimandir and the Park of Unity is open
everyday from 6 to 8 am & 4:30 to 6.30 pm
(for Aurovilians, Newcomers and Volunteers
holding a valid Matrimandir Pass). Volunteers'
place of work will need to send an email to
mmconcentration@auroville.org.in to be considered for the pass.



Lands for Auroville Unified Newsletter - 21 February 2021



We have just published our February Darshan newsletter and we invite you to read this issue's good news, land updates, and many inspiring articles and interviews:

1. A4A FLIER - 21st FEBRUARY 2021 With 75 new plots purchased to date, A4A continues with its goals of Master Plan land consolidation and long-term viability for Auroville, and with its promises of transparency, accountability, and the use of donations for land purchase only. **Version française en pdf.** பிடிஎஃப்பில் தமிழ்ப் பதிப்பு <https://land.auroville.org/a4a-flier-21st-february-2021/>

2. LFAU FLIER - 21st FEBRUARY 2021

"Auroville: At last a place where one will be able to think only of the future" - these words were an integral part of the Mother's message about Auroville. With an inspired vision backed by comprehensive knowledge, Auroville has what no utopian undertaking ever had before. **Version française en pdf.** பிடிஎஃப்பில் தமிழ்ப் பதிப்பு <https://land.auroville.org/lfauletter-21st-february-2021>

3. MORE NEW AUROVILLE LAND!

Another 2.74 acres have just joined Auroville near the Greenbelt community of Fertile Windmill, making 7 new parcels of land since the start of A4A Year 7! The sole resources for this vital work come from the solidarity of land donors - and we thank all of you for making this progress possible. <https://land.auroville.org/new-auroville-land/>

4. "A HANDFUL OF EARTH" - ANU SHARES THE MOTHER'S VISION

"I tell people that the creation of a city such as Auroville has more weight in the history of the earth than all the groupings of the world," the Mother would say, and she said "All that is needed is a handful of earth..." Anu shares the start and evolution of The Mother's vision for Auroville and the importance of the land. <https://land.auroville.org/handful-earth-anu-mothers-vision/>



5. VARADHARAJAN GOPALAKRISHNAN - AN AUROVILLE PIONEER & 'THE MOTHER'S CHILD'

Varadharajan had his first Balcony Darshan of The Mother on 15th August 1964, the day when the official announcement of Auroville was first made and he was present in The Mother's Room when she first spoke to a small group on "being a true Aurovilian". In this interview with Ashwini Selvaraj, he shares his experiences with The Mother and thoughts on Auroville (a full Tamil version will be ready soon). <https://land.auroville.org/varadharajan-gopalakrishnan/>

6. CLEO, FROM FINLAND - A NEWCOMER AT WORK WITH THE LAND BOARD!

Auroville's newcomers are the pioneers of today, coming from all parts of the world to continue to build the international township. We are happy to share the rich life path of Cleo from Finland, a secretary with the Land Board team, working towards the Mother's dream and lands for Auroville. <https://land.auroville.org/cleo-finland-newcomer-work-land/>

7. OUR NEW YEAR'S CARD RELEASE - "AUROVILLE WELCOMING 2021"

Every year, the land fundraisers design and publish a New Year's card. This year, Rathinam of the Unity Fund did the honors of releasing our card for 2021. We thank Aravinda for the design and photographers Om and Julie (cover) and Marco Saroldi (page 2). Our appreciation goes to all who generously submitted their photos. <https://land.auroville.org/auroville-welcoming-2021/>

8. ART FOR LAND 2021 - THE CLOSING WEEK OF "LIMINAL SPACE"

"Liminal Space" - this year's Art for Land exhibition and land fundraiser - has achieved a yet higher level of professional quality and beauty than ever before. Here are views of some of the magnificent works through video clips of the exhibition. <https://land.auroville.org/art-land-2021-closing-week>

9. INSPIRING QUOTES FROM THE MOTHER AND SRI AUROBINDO

We close our newsletter, as always, with a compilation of inspiring quotes from Sri Aurobindo and The Mother. With this «food for the soul» as a start to 2021, we welcome the new year and the personal and collective progress it will bring! <https://land.auroville.org/inspiring-quotes-2/>

COHERENCE

Three finely polished Gems; Ratnas of the Land
Rarest of the Rare; Purer than pure

Bharat Ratna

Matrimandir Amphitheatre, 6:30 - 7:30 PM, 26th February 2021

Lata Mangeshkar . Bhimsen Joshi . Ravishankar

(Music Playback curated by Chandra Pai)

ACRES FOR AUROVILLE, UNITY PAVILION & AV ARTS invite you to:

«LIMINAL SPACE» - ART FOR LAND 2021
exhibition & fundraiser for Auroville's land

These are the **final days** of AFL 2021 & we invite you to continue the unity by joining us for:

ART FOR LAND EXHIBITION EVENT

Shrutu Laya Samarpanam
Music Concert

Shri Mahesh Vinayakram
ON VOCALS AND PERCUSSIONS

& Keshava
ON TABLA

CONCERT ON 26TH FEB 8 PM IST
UNITY PAVILION AUROVILLE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS SECURING LANDS FOR AUROVILLE

FOR ZOOM LINK EMAIL UNITY.PAVILION@AUROVILLE.ORG.IN

ART FOR LAND EXHIBITION

Liminal Space

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS
SECURING LANDS FOR AUROVILLE

ART FOR LAND 2021'S FINAL DAY!
FEBRUARY 28TH FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM

UNITY PAVILION AUROVILLE

WE INVITE YOU TO VISIT LIMINAL SPACE AND JOIN US FOR A
LAST LOOK AT OUR MAGNIFICENT 2021 EXHIBITION.
TOGETHER LET'S SHARE THE JOY OF BEAUTY & CREATIVITY,
UNITY OF VISION, AND SOLIDARITY FOR THE LAND!

UNITY PAVILION | INTERNATIONAL ZONE | AUROVILLE 605001 | PH 262 3376 |
UNITYPAVILION@AUROVILLE.ORG.IN

ART FOR LAND EXHIBITION EVENT

Vocal Workshop
CHANT & CHAT WITH

Shri Mahesh Vinayakram

Session Includes

- Introduction to basic vocal exercises of Carnatic music
- Konnakol syllables initiation and Laya technique on rhythm control
- [Thamizh padigam (song) from Thamizh Thevaram (Thamizh Vedam) from Tamil literature
- Question answer session about Carnatic music
- An Art Meditation led by Gopika with the chants

ON 27TH FEB 9 30 AM TO 12 PM
UNITY PAVILION AUROVILLE
INCLUDES AN INTERMODAL ART MEDITATION WITH GOPIKA

GUEST CONTRIBUTION INR 300

UNITY PAVILION | INTERNATIONAL ZONE | AUROVILLE 605001 | PH 262 3376 |
UNITYPAVILION@AUROVILLE.ORG.IN

«Come together ... speak with one voice... let thy hearts be one ... »

~ Rig Veda

The Liminal Space Exhibition and Art for Land fundraiser has been a true example of the wonderful things that can happen when many people bring their hearts, skills and aspirations together in unity. This year's exhibition has been a remarkable experience of common cause and generosity that has flowered into a remarkable harvest of beauty, creativity, and joyful togetherness - all for the goal of building needed resources for Auroville's missing land!

This 6th year of Art For Land had beauty, joy and harmony present at every step, filling our hearts and feasting our senses! **Yes, we came together for the land, and yes, we truly came together!**

The ACRES for AUROVILLE Land Campaign sincerely thanks all the many people, on-stage and behind the scenes, who so generously contributed their precious art, created events, and offered their time, skills and goodwill. We express our warm and sincere gratitude to all the participating artists, the presenters, the musicians, singers, dancers, poetry-reciters, photographers & videographers, technical people, electricity-magicians, support staff, planners and organizers, accounting people, chefs & bakers, contributors of Generosity Fair gifts and very especially to the hardworking and supremely talented dedicated teams of **Art for Land, Unity Pavilion, and Auroville Art Service.**

And now - to finish this year's unity action - we invite you to join us for AFL's final events – **the concert on the 26th at 8 PM IST** (<https://donations.auroville.org/events/a4land-shrutu-laya-smarpanam/>) ... **the Vocal Workshop on the 27th, 9:30 AM – 12 PM** ... and **your presence for a last look at the magnificent Exhibition on its final day, Auroville's Birthday, the 28th from 10 AM to 4 PM.**

Exhibition: daily at the Unity Pavilion 10 am to 4 PM *till and including February 28th*
unitypavilion@auroville.org.in 2021 website: www.artforlandonline.com

*Proceeds from art sales, events, and land donations, will be transferred to the
Acres for Auroville Land Campaign at the end of the exhibition cycle.*

JOIN US – THIS BEAUTY & CREATIVITY IS ALL FOR THE LAND!

21 – 2 – 21
Bonne Fête Douce Mère

Kind, smiling, close and helpful, not easily turned away or discouraged, insistent even after repeated failure, her hand sustains our every step on condition that we are single in our will and straightforward and sincere.

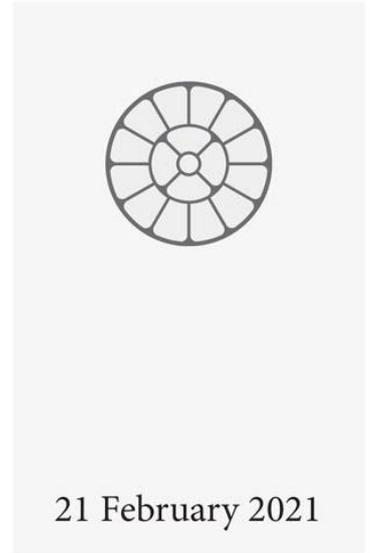
Sri Aurobindo



Preparing the flower mandala in the Amphitheatre on the beautiful, sunny 20th.



The handful of die-hards who came in the torrential rain in the early AM on the 21st!



It was reported that here in Auroville, we received 16 cm. of blessed rainfall on Mother's birthday!

28.2.2021, Sunday, 5 to 6:30 AM

Collective Meditation for Auroville's Birthday with Dawnfire

Please take note that this year only Aurovilians, Newcomers and Aurocard Holders will be allowed to attend the meditation. Cellphones, cameras, bags will need to be deposited at the Access Office, as usual, before entering the Park of Unity. Please do not bring your pets to the Matrimandir. All are invited to create and maintain an atmosphere of silence and concentration.

The bonfire will be live streamed so all our friends can watch it from their homes. The link will be posted on: www.auroville.org. Entrance will be from the Matrimandir Office Gate from 4.15 am. All are requested to be seated by 5 AM. Strict COVID protocols will need to be followed.

28.2.21 Evening, 5.30 pm at the Amphitheatre
A musical offering by chandra, Holger & Svaram Team
Entrance from the Office Gate at 5 pm.
Guests are requested to bring along their Aurocards.
BONNE FETE and see you there!

Please note that on the 28th, the Inner Chamber will remain open for Aurovilians and Newcomers from 7:30 to 8:30 AM and from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Strict SOP to be followed as usual.

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

From the Working Committee re: Groupism in Auroville

We have noticed in recent times a growing tendency towards 'groupism' based on specific interests. Such groups then try to get involved in Auroville's governance and organization with the primary objective to promote these interests or opinions.

We find this tendency quite disturbing and inappropriate as it leads to a deep sense of division, rather than unity, in our collective life in Auroville as an international intentional community with a spiritual base and a primary aim of manifesting 'an actual human unity'. As has been stated by The Mother:

"Auroville wants to be a universal town where men and women of all countries are able to live in peace and progressive harmony, above all creeds, all politics and all nationalities.

The purpose of Auroville is to realize human unity".

We appeal to all to reflect on this and refrain from supporting or encouraging these types of interest groups in future. Let's all please remember what Auroville is aspiring to do and be, and try with all sincerity to align our actions in daily life to those aspirations, even if we are still very much a work in progress.

- Sincerely and with hope, The Working Committee

- * - * -

New Guidelines for International Arrivals

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India, has issued new guidelines for international arrivals on February 17th 2021, and will come into effect from February 22nd 2021 (23.59 Hrs IST). The full document can be downloaded at the following link: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Guidelinesforinternationalarrivals17022021.pdf>

Below is a summary of the main provisions. Please note that there are some significant changes for people traveling from **Europe, Middle East, UK, Brazil and South Africa**.

- all travelers should submit a self-declaration form on the online Air Suvidha portal (<https://www.newdelhiairport.in/>) and submit a negative test report conducted within 72 hours before the departure.
- an undertaking should be uploaded on the same portal that the passenger will abide by the decision of the appropriate govt authority in relation to home quarantine/self monitoring of health for 14 days or as warranted
- Airlines are instructed to take on board only passengers with a negative RT-PCR test report
- only asymptomatic travelers will be allowed on board after thermal screening
- passengers are advised to download the app Aarogya Sethu on their mobile
- Thermal screening will be conducted on arrival and symptomatic passengers would be taken to medical facility as per health protocol
- all passengers that have upload RT-PCR negative test will be allowed to leave the airport and monitor their health for 14 days with exceptions for passenger coming from **Europe, Middle-East, UK, Brazil and South Africa**
- Passengers coming from **Europe or Middle-East** should give a sample in a designated area of the airport. After that, if they are tested negative they will have to undertake **7 days of home quarantine and have a new test at the end of the period. If negative, the quarantine is over but they have to continue to monitor their health for another 7 days**
- Passengers coming from **UK, Brazil and South Africa** should wait for the results of the test at the airport that may take 6-8 hours. If positive they will be isolated in institutional quarantine at passenger's expense
- For all travelers coming to Auroville taking a domestic connecting flight the test will be carried at the airport of international arrival and they will be permitted to take the connecting flight only after the test is negative. Therefore

a minimum of 8 hours for the connecting flight should be considered. This advise apply for all passengers. We therefore are advising that as far as possible Aurovilians should fly directly into Chennai or Bangalore international airport to avoid any complications arising out of testing at airport and connecting domestic flights.

- Travelers coming to India for less than 14 days will be permitted to leave India under intimation of the district/state health authorities.

Please remember that the pandemic is not over, especially with new variants that have emerged and are spreading. We request you all to continue to take all due precautions of wearing masks and distancing in public places, and using sanitizer or washing hands often.

Regards, The Working Committee

From the (new) Auroville Council:

We are very pleased to announce that a new AV council has formed in good spirits. We all wish to express our gratitude for being selected by the community and hope to bring forth our highest qualities in order to serve to the best of our abilities.

Regrettably Riju, who was also selected, has decided to decline her membership. But she has offered herself to us as a resource person which is very much appreciated and will surely be availed.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Errata - In the last week (N&N #858) published Council report (October 2020 to January 2021), under **Appeals/Arbitrations**, it should have read: "*Facilitated meetings between members of Morning Star project and FAMC and Wcom are being organised by Koodam facil-itators.*" (not as erroneously put "with TDC").

The Council apologizes for the mistake.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

This is to inform you that an inquiry has been called jointly with AVC and Wcom. After choosing the names from the pool of arbiters for a task force to investigate the tampering of the WCom selection process, eleven names have gotten the maximum votes from the two groups. We have sent out an email to the eleven persons out of which four of them agreed to serve. These 4 arbiters will choose 3 members from the community at large to complete their team. They agree to start their work at the beginning of March.

Towards a more harmonious future and in Her service,

- The Auroville Council

Balaji, Claudine, Ganesh, Meenal, Shiva, Shivaya, Suresh, Suryan

From the Residents Assembly Service



We would like to highlight again that the functioning of RAS, process of RAD and other processes under the purview of RAS are all carried out based on the RAS mandate (2007) and RA Decision making policy (2007). The recent selection process and the RADs pointed out that a number of issues were caused by the gaps in these documents. With a lot of changes in our community organization over time it is necessary to revise our mandate and policies in order to respond to the current needs and considerably the near future. The RAS team has requested the Auroville Council to review these documents in order to be able to deliver concise and transparent organizational processes, which we fail to tailor now to evolving community needs, due to these often outdated regulations.

We would like to inform the residents that RAS will put on hold any decision-making events (RAD) until the RAS mandate and RA Decision making policy are revised. Meanwhile, we intend to continue our regular work in facilitating all kinds of selection processes, surveys, offering our online platforms for mass communications, arranging information-sharing meetings, GM/GM+ however we cannot sustainably hold decision making events as things are. We have requested Koodam to help us resolve situations of conflict with individuals who raised the groundless accusations on RAS through a mediation process. We hope you take this appeal by the RAS to heart and reflect on it. We welcome your feedback and support that will help us in collective progress.

Update on Voting Boxes Tampering in Selection Process 2021

On 12th February, the RAS was called for a joint meeting with Auroville Council and the Working Committee to discuss on how to move forward with this incident. The meeting mainly was about the formation of an Inquiry team, their scopes of work, their purposes and an expected time-frame to arrive with a report. The outcome of this meeting was that the Auroville Council would take lead in the selection of this Inquiry team, and the RAS is ready to support this process in its full cooperation. We are awaiting the Auroville Council to provide an update to the community and the RAS in regard to this matter. ~ Resident's Assembly Service

From Auroville Service Trust re: Pour Tous

On 24 January 2021 the Service Trust posted on the Auronet an article with the latest updates on the transition of Pour Tous [<https://auroville.org.in/article/83281>]. This information was also published in the News & Notes dt. 30 January 2021 #855. We shared with you then that we are very happy to have the support and expertise of the Residents' Assembly Service team to assist us, as a community, in this part of the process which is an invitation to serve at Pour Tous. We also acknowledged that this invitation was delayed due to the extension of the selection process for the working groups.

The RAS has launched this process on Monday 15 February. We have prepared this Form (https://auroville.formstack.com/forms/offer_to_serve_at_PTPTS) to be completed by each Aurovilian who is ready to serve and has particular skills and capacities to contribute to a healthy balance in the new team. Please review the document [2020.12.25 qualities sought and process to create new executive team](#) describes the four particular areas of service, the capacities looked-for, and the process of review & selection. **Last date for submission of the form is 1st March '21**

We ask those Aurovilians who will apply to please answer all of the questions on the form so that we have complete information, and to be sure to include a photo because we've grown so much over the last few years we certainly don't know everyone by name. Your completed form will go directly to the RAS who will follow the process as described in the attached document. Please do this by 1 March 2021. After this time, the invitation will be closed. We hope that you'll participate with an open heart and sincerity in this part of the transformation process of Pour Tous.

Do you know of anyone who you feel would be an effective team member in Pour Tous? If so, please provide us their name and contact details at raservice@auroville.org.in. The RAS will get into touch with them directly. Thank you for your offer to serve!

~ Warm regards, Auroville Service Trust, and the Transition Team



L'Avenir d'Auroville has recently had three interim members joining the Interface team. The current application team is also in the process of being reconstituted. However we have started processing applications in a limited way.

We request feedback from the community on the design of the following application to enable us to complete the evaluation of the same before issuing the design approval. Please take note that this is an evaluation of the design only & not a final building NOC therefore, no construction can begin before acquiring the final building NOC. **Kindly mail any feedback before the 14th of March 2021 to application-avenir@auroville.org.in**

Application no: PDA 2456

Project: Rebuilding of former residence of Herbert

Application type: Preliminary design approval

Structure: To be demolished and rebuilt

Applicant/s - Herbert Damian

Community/ area - Siddhartha Farm, Greenbelt

Area for which approval is sought - 99.,12sqm

Estimated Cost of the project: 1700000/-, and it will be paid by Herbert and family

Architect/ Designer - Murali; Myli Design Studio, T. Ganesh B.E.

Project brief - The current house is technically unfit to be repaired, thus a request to demolish and rebuild. This shall be

used for Herbert's family, who are currently staying in a volunteer accommodation facility. The rebuilt house shall be built on the existing footprint. It shall consist of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, kitchen with dining area and small storage space.

The following application is for the final NOC of extension - BA B form, and has gone through the process with ATDC. We request feedback from the community on the design of the following applications to enable us to complete the evaluation of the same before issuing the final building NOC. Kindly mail feedback before the 14th of March 2021 to application-avenir@auroville.org.in

Application no: 2461

Project: To Make Rain Proof Workers Toilet / Kitchen Shed, Storage

Application type: Application for final NOC type of BA B application for renovations and extensions

Structure: Existing **Applicant/s** - BUILDAUR / DUSTUDIO

Architect/Designer - BUILDAUR / DUSTUDIO- Dharmesh

Community/ area - Swayam community/ Residential Zone

Area for which final NOC is sought - 40sqm

Estimated Cost of the project: 1,50,000/- rupees, and it will be paid by Dustudio.

Project brief - The request is to cover and rainproof the area for workers(female) facility(tea, lunch, toilets), using roofing sheets. This would create a protected, safer and better working staff facility. **The project holder can begin construction on site after picking up the signed NOC document from the TDC office.**

Below is an application that has gone through the full review process including community feedback during its preliminary design approval and will be issued the Final building NOC.

Application forms, drawings & area maps for these have been uploaded on the Intranet in the application announcement posting. Any concerns or queries regarding the below building NOC's can be sent to application-avenir@auroville.org.in

Application no: BA A 2459 **Project:** Extension of Residence on the first floor.

Application type: Final building NOC. The preliminary design approval has been obtained

Ref preliminary Preliminary Design Approval : 2393 announced on 29th of September 2020

Structure: RCC roof/Masonry structure in first floor of an existing ground floor RCC roof/Masonry structure.

Applicant/s - K.Ganesh **Architect/Designer** - Shivangi Gadia

Community/ area - Protection

Area for which final NOC is sought - 65sqm

Estimated Cost of the project: Rs.12,13,000/-, and it will be paid by loans and grants

Project brief: Residence in first floor of an existing structure,consisting of a living room, kitchen, bedroom, study and bathroom. The extension shall have a living room, kitchen, bedroom, study and bathroom.

The project holder can begin construction on site after picking up the signed NOC document from the TDC office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Press interaction during birthday week

During the anniversary week we are expecting several journalists (print, radio, TV). This is just a reminder that if you are approached by someone **please make sure they have already informed us of the details of their project and are carrying the badge of Outreachmedia.** Mobile: 949 8816627-Thanks, Outreachmedia team



OUTREACHMEDIA
Auroville

Red Earth Riding School is pleased to be hosting its annual riding competition, the **Auroville Horse Tournament**, this year **from 25th to 28th February**. This dressage and show jumping show is being held under the aegis of the Equestrian Federation of India and will include qualifiers for the Junior Nationals. While the show will not be a spectator event this year due to the pandemic, we invite those interested from the Auroville community to come and see the events, which will be **happening daily from about 7 to 9.30 am and 4 to 6 pm.**



We recently received a new electric cargo cycle (see photo). You are welcome to visit our KINISI workshop at CSR to try it out. We would like to propose this type of e-cargo bike to units that need to carry and deliver loads, such as the Farms, Foodlink, EcoDuties, the Bakery, the Solar Kitchen, etc. Interested units can contact us directly at kinisi@auroville.org.in. - Your KINISI team



AUROVILLE
ART CAMP
MARCH 2021
2ND EDITION
MARCH 20TH TO 27TH

Mark your calendars. Details to come next week!



Taxi Sharing from AUROVILLE to COIMBATORE on 26/27 of Feb. Date flexible. Contact 'G' at sattvig@gmail.com or WhatsApp at 8407997970.

Taxi share - Leaving from Chennai domestic airport at 7.30 PM on 3rd March. Share possible both ways. sigrid@auroville.org.in

LOST & FOUND

LOST - Blue glasses (spectacles) - Last Friday, 19/2) in the area around Town Hall/Matrimandir garden or inside the gardens itself. They were in a little beige/brown flexible case. If found PLEASE do let me know. Thanking you in advance. 2622 649 or sylviazi2000@yahoo.co.in. Sylvia, Surrender

Set of 3 keys found at News & Notes Office. Also, single key on a found on the road between Gaia and Surrender and turned in at the N&N office. Call/mail if you're missing them. 0413-262-2133 or admin-newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.

APPEALS

Volunteers Needed - "CREEVA", Center for Research Education Experience in the Visual Arts, maintains a studio in Creativity with most materials people need for classes we give or for their OPEN STUDIO time. We hold painting and drawing shows several times a year. CREEVA sees to it that those who need studio space have it in our OPEN STUDIO time. Everyone on our team has to be an artist or working to become one, and will have time to create art while volunteering with us. Volunteers will participate in our meetings, welcome and orient people who come to the studio, monitor people's time with us and help maintain the studio. Computer skills are very desirable. sathyacolour@auroville.org.in

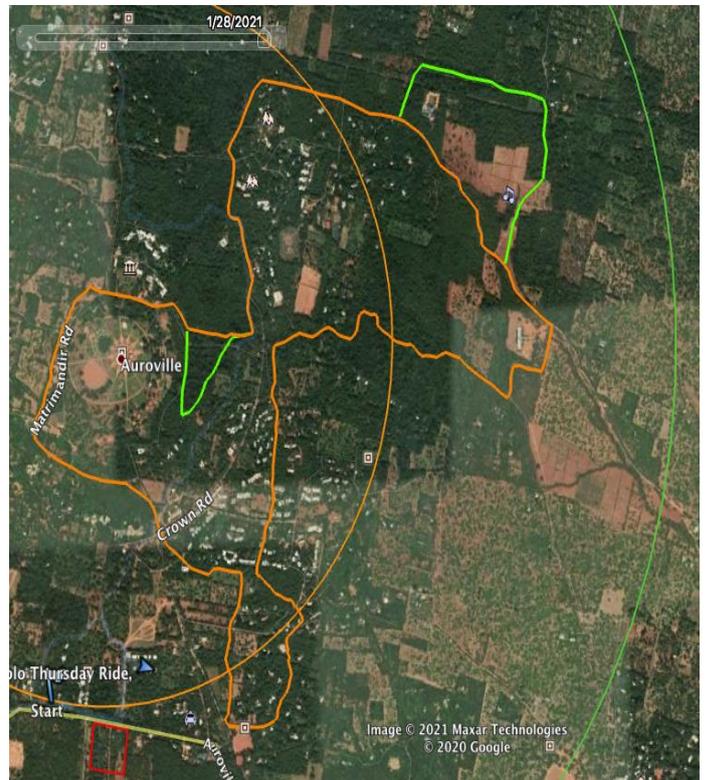
Second hand scooty in good condition is needed for our Last School watchman. If anyone has one that they no longer need, please contact lastschool@auroville.org.in or call 262 2195 (between 8.30am-3.30pm). Thank you!

MATRIMANDIR



Meditation at sunset with Savitri read by Mother to Sunil's music. Every **Thursday, 5.30 to 6.00 PM** (weather permitting)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Auroville Run 2021 for 20k, 10k, 5k
28th Feb at 3 pm from Certitude
(Please note the changes on the map)

At the Kolam, turn right through the open space (Swami Land) till Fertile East, turn left after Patrick and Heidi's and continue on the dirt road till the Dana security checkpost. This adds approximately 680 m (1380 - 700). Then when one reaches Gaia (paved road), turn towards Matrimandir and branch left towards Deepanam (very soft sandy stretch), then turn right skirting the Matrimandir. This adds approximately 550 m (730 - 280). With those two changes, the route measures about 10.2 km. The 5-K Run will go from Gaia directly to Deepanam, Matrimandir and back

Volunteers are requested to meet on Sat. the 27th at 3 pm at Certitude to mark the route, prepare refreshments and medical stations.



auroville
village
action
group

AVAG (Auroville Village Action Group) in collaboration with Mona-Yantra Studio and the Indian Vision Institute organized an eye camp to bring positive changes in the eye care sector by addressing

the challenges of non-availability and non-affordability of quality eye care. The camp took place in Bommiyarpalayam village, the 23rd and 24th January 2021.

SOCIAL IMPACT:

- 305 people were given free consultation and screening test
- 80 reading specs were distributed for the people in need
- 120 people will receive glasses free of cost by end of Feb 2021
- 48 people recommended for cataract surgery.

AUROVILLE SUPPER CLUB

Efrat & team is cooking up a storm on **Saturday, 6th March, 6.30 PM**, Mitra Guesthouse Menu; Middle Eastern couscous dish with vegs & beans stew, colorful salad and malabi sweet. Booking recommended (limited to 50 seats) Mobile 0709 453 2505; WhatsApp +459 111 8176



**Let's talk about Death
Part VII - GRIEF
Saturday 6th of March
Inside India Office,
Auroshilpam, 3 to 5pm**

The 'Let's talk about Death' group intends to provide space and time on the topic of Death. We have till now met six times at different locations and we had approximately 80 people attending across the span. The meetings have been heart-warming and inspiring.

Our next meeting is open to all (especially former participants) and we would like to address the topic of Grief around Death. Grief is an emotion that comes up in response to loss and sometimes we go through different waves during that process. Commonly observed stages are denial, anger, bargaining and depression, followed by acceptance. Grief gives us an opportunity just like any other emotion to open up to awareness and we would like to create a safe space to let it unfold and be expressed as it wants.

Please book by email to quietusauroville@gmail.com. Once you reserved, an email of confirmation will be sent to you. If you would like to give a donation to help us to cover expenses, we opened an FS account, no 106829 Quietus.

Upcoming: Saturday 13rd of March at 3 pm at Sangam Hall, Savitri Bhavan. A special talk from Dr Alok Pandey about Death. More details will follow soon.

The 'Let's talk about Death Group', Dan, Fakeera, Julietta, Kalsang, Lisa, Valeria

FAREWELL MATTERS

From time to time we like to remind Aurovilians that they have the possibility to express their personal wishes (often referred to as *last wishes*) about how your body will be handled after your death. A Farewell form may be filled out, labeled with your name and community, placed in a sealed envelope and delivered to Farewell on the Crown Road. These forms are kept confidentially until the need for consulting them arises. They may be updated at any time. Hard copies are available at PTDC (Anandi's desk) and at Farewell; soft copies may be downloaded from Auronet on the Farewell group site. If you would like to consult with a member of the Farewell team about filling in your form, you can write to farewellmatters@auroville.org.in and arrange an informal meeting.

Upon the death of an Aurovillian a short text is posted on massmail and a longer text that speaks more about the individual's participation in the life of Auroville, is published on Auronet and in "Auroville Today." Some Aurovilians have indicated that they would like to compile the information about themselves while they are still embodied, and this option has always been available but used by few. Mauna very much welcomes you to share your life in Auroville and maintains a confidential folder of such personal reminisces until needed. Texts may be sent to mauna@auroville.org.in.

Volunteers are often needed for Farewell work when there is an event. We need people for keeping vigil at Farewell during the days before a funeral (usually 6am-6pm). With the vigil we hope to evoke the original concept of a "wake" in which family members and friends and fellow Aurovilians hold a quiet presence for the one who has passed. Kindly contact Marion (9486959117) or marion@auroville.org.in if you want to take a turn at keeping vigil. For the funeral itself, which is held at AVBCG at Adventure, we welcome help with flower decorations. This task usually begins two hours before the timing of the funeral. Any who would like to participate may just come to Adventure at that time. No need to inform anyone.
- The Farewell Team

Local Foods and New Farm

Industrialized foods that have a high ecological cost and carbon footprint are massively responsible for the erosion of well-being on every level of our lives: nutritional, ecological, economic, social and even culturally. A renaissance of well-being in our society calls for a road back to nature where we start to understand the importance of local foods, foods that grow around us and thus have no carbon footprint and have other notable characteristics. Local foods grow easily, thus found in abundance, they consume less water, have high nutritional & medicinal value, have NO ecological cost and multiple parts of the plant can be used - i.e. banana flower stem, leaves and fruit.

In our bioregion, if you ask people which vegetables they eat the recurring response is: carrots, potatoes, beetroots, broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower - none of which grow here and thus none of which are local. If we extend this idea we can see that this ancient civilization of Tamil Nadu was not created from eating these foods, but rather with local foods such as taro, yams, a host of different spinaches, gourds and various other roots, flowers, vines, weeds, fruits, millets and vegetables. This diversity, which is the very fabric of Ayurveda and traditional medicine, is still somewhat alive in the culture of Tamil Nadu, unlike many western cultures where we have forgotten the roots from which our cultures were born.

If a farmer were enabled to sell baskets of fruit and vegetables, spinaches, weeds, and to honor this great nutritional abundance found in this bio-region that has been eclipsed by industrialized agriculture, not only would a farmer earn his living on the back of his own cultural heritage without any ecological cost to the planet, but he would also feed his community and strengthen the very fabric of cultural identity which like an adhesive, bonds a society together.

A CSA, or Community Supported Agriculture basket service is one where a farmer offers a basket of locally grown produce once or twice a week to participants. The participant does not choose what they get, but rather gives thanks to what is growing in the season. Money is paid in advance and the farmer also offers assistance to teach how to use the produce, if there are any doubts about how to prepare them. At Solitude, we have been running a successful basket service for over 10 years, and it is thanks to the basket service that many people have discovered wonderful produce like green papaya, tapioca, various spinaches, banana stem, turkey berry and the abundance of edible weeds..

SHAKTI Natural Farm

Ezhumalai and Surya have worked in Auroville for over 10 years. In Evergreen they set up a wonderful permaculture garden with Amir and since then have helped many people create vegetable gardens, often with consultation and inputs from Solitude Farm. They are lovely people and have not yet joined Auroville simply because it is not so easy for local people with a family to do so. They love Auroville, have brought much with them, and learnt a lot too.

For the last 4 years I have been suggesting to them to get land and start a small farm where they could start a CSA basket service. Last week I met them by chance and they told me that they had finally taken a loan and had leased a half acre land, fenced it and put in a bore well. This was a huge step for them, especially financially. I was so happy that finally a local farmer is ready to demonstrate that their nutritional culture can generate a decent income. They have courage because no one else is doing this.

Community is the key to their success. They need help to get started now. These are people worth investing in and here is how! They urgently need SOLAR PANNELS and SOLAR PUMP as there is no electricity connection at the land. If you have them lying around consider offering them for a good cause! They also need, wheel barrow, hose pipes, irrigation system, water tank, green net for nursery, compost, tools and other help like setting up social media etc., as communication is key for the basket service. If you have any of the above to offer great! or if you would like to help them financially, contributions can be made to Solitude Farm Account 103322 or you can contact us directly.

We plan to have an event at their place, which they have named, "Shakti Natural Farm" on the 27th February, 3 PM. Meet outside Fertile to find the way! The event starts at 3:30 and will consist of: permaculture workshop (practical), perennial hedges,



raised beds, mulching, rotations etc This workshop will also be a chance to get some work done at the farm. There will be food and music.

Please ring 9843319260 WhatsApp and we will try and share a location on google maps. Please come and share, learn and get involved! Let's help create change with Surya and Ezhumalai.

- submitted by Krishna, solitudepermaculture@gmail.com

HEALTH

Screening for breast cancer

The Auroville Health Fund recommends for women from age 40 annual physical breast examination by a doctor or other health professional (Paula Murphy at Sante offers physical examinations).

- If you are 40 to 49 years old, talk to your doctor or midwife about your risk for breast cancer, along with the benefits and limitations of having a mammogram.
- If you are 50 to 74 years old, have a mammogram every 2 years.
- If you are 75 or older, talk to your doctor or midwife about whether having a mammogram is right for you

Kindly contact the AVHF (avhealthfund@auroville.org.in or 2622123 Tue & Thu AMs) in case you have questions.

Stay well! - AVHF Team

I did a talk on the **Dilemma of Dairy** that I missed sharing in the News and Notes or AuroNet but here is the recording now for anyone who wants to watch <https://youtu.be/f8WSn3hmzyY>.

We used to make vegan cheeses and I know that many loved it not just for its taste but also because it was organic and zero cholesterol. (Only animals produce cholesterol, and there is none in plants). The recipes and many more are on our website www.sharan-india.org for anyone who wants to make them. **SOME GOOD NEWS - now there are 2 people making fantastic vegan cheeses in Auroville.** Agnes - 9361328573 and Debu and Karen - 9488084274. These are new and may not be available everywhere yet, but don't wait. Call them and try some. Marc's Café also serves vegan cheeses as options as do some other vegan eateries around!

-submitted by Nandita Shah

WORK OPPORTUNITIES



Communication and Marketing Manager - Auroville Consulting is looking for a communication & marketing manager with a strong background in content writing to lead our communications team. Responsibilities entail: Minimum three years of communication and marketing experience; proven work experience as a Marketing Communications Specialist; specialised in content writing for business modeling; good organizational planning and coordination; hands-on experience with web content management tools (WordPress); knowledge of SEO, Google Analytics and Google My Business; experience with marketing campaigns on social media; ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously; coordinate the design of promotional materials and distribute in online and offline channels; prepare and send regular newsletters with company updates. Having an understanding of sustainability is a plus. Do send your CV to hr@aurovilleconsulting.com to apply. We look forward to hearing from you.

Auroyali is looking for experienced Artisans such as masons, helpers, painters, welders & carpenters. Interested people can contact Mr Logesh at 8012809612 or Mr Mohan at 9585550709. auroyali@auroville.org.in

Experienced Photographer for Outreach Media

The candidate should be an **Aurovilian or a Newcomer** and needs to be fluent in English. The job requires taking photos of community events such as meetings, exhibitions, etc., cataloguing photos from the data bank, editing knowledge of digital media is a plus. A half maintenance is available if needed. Contact Abha and Fabienne at outreachmedia@auroville.org.in.

SAIER is looking for a secretary for its office. Secretarial experience preferred, including shorthand, however anyone who has computer skills, good written and spoken English, is willing to learn and can learn quickly is welcome to apply. Please write to saiier@auroville.org.in to express interest, and include a CV. Looking forward to receiving many interesting applications.

- Ashoke, Chali, Divya, Sanjeev

HR Initiative is a service which helps individual Aurovilians and Newcomers who are looking for suitable work to find it, and to help Auroville units and services who are looking to fill positions to find the right individuals to step in.

Electromechanical Engineer - You have knowledge in electro mechanics and hands-on experience in repairs (building infrastructures, water/electrical/ac systems). You will repair (hands-on) medical equipment, take care of planning of repair works, write the instructions for the use and maintenance of the equipment. You will make sure that all the equipment is in good working condition ensuring the smooth functioning of the unit. Part time, maintenance provided.

Digital Communication & Community Manager - You will develop the social media tools as per our new brand communication charter (Facebook, Instagram, you tube, etc.), edit our blog online and organize our video and photo library. You will participate in the definition of the e-strategy for the launch of the new product/brand internationally, implement this strategy online to boost our sales and our presence online, and generate traffic on the website (SEO, etc.). You will also implement and follow up on the online direct marketing tools and on our CRM development. You have excellent communication skill in English (written and spoken), French would be a plus, previous experience in the communication field, especially editing and writing is a plus. Digital skills: ability to use Pack Office tools and graphic design tools with a social-media mindset. You are able to work with the IT development team. You have good creative skills, are autonomous, rigorous and have a solution-finder spirit. Full time, maintenance as per experience.

And other positions (please inquire about details):

- Volunteers for Auro Orchard
- Experienced Social Media Curator (on project basis)
- System Administrator (ERPNext)
- Software Developer (ERPNext)
- Distribution Consultant (ERPNext)

Please contact us for more information and if you are interested in any of these work opportunities or if you are looking for something else. hr_hub@auroville.org.in

LOOKING FOR

Computer Monitor - a used but working computer monitor for an animation project with my children's book, *Yaroslava's Flowers*, and possibly other children's stories. If you have something we could have or borrow long-term (or for a small contribution), please contact Noel at earthyyoga@hotmail.com. AND

Audio Recorder to borrow - Needed from from time to time to record children's stories that I have written in different languages for my website StoryYoga for Children (www.storyyoga.wordpress.com). We already have many stories/ languages available, but we have more to add and need a way to record them. This project is done entirely with volunteers, so if you have a recorder you might let me use periodically, and/or if you have knowledge of editing audio files and wouldn't mind helping with this, please let me know. Noel at earthyyoga@hotmail.com... Thank you! OM

3 kva PCU solar inverter in good condition for reasonable price. Boobalan, Siddhartha Forest, boobalanbullet@auroville.org.in or 978-708-4506,

An English speaking lady to help my wife with housework, Mon/ Wed/ Fri, 2 PM- 4 PM & Sat/Sun, 8 AM - 5 PM. Language preference: Hindi/English. Pawan @ 91197 62631/Anamika @ 93453 21570

Someone to bring a small parcel weighing only a few grams (computer part) from the U.S. It's currently in Sacramento CA. If you know of a possibility, please contact Marlenka 948 636 3525.

A CD player for the kids. In case you have any and are not using it or would simply like to pass it on - we will be very happy to bring it to life. Namaste. Ulrike Urvasi 9442069249 (sms only) or ulrike@auroville.org.in

HOUSE - Long term, house sitting, stewardship family of 3 looking for accommodation, preferably house. We are finishing our house sitting contract soon, so we need a place ASAP. If you know any place available, contact me: pedro.santos.guedes@gmail.com or 875 460 4810.

AVAILABLE

One bedroom available at Kipaak Home, AuroAnnam. A double bed room with shared bathroom and kitchen. Up to 3 friends can share. Contact me at 8523915031 or mawite@auroville.org.in

A tiny house is available at Udayan. Please contact Mawite 8523915031 for more details.

GREEN MATTERS



Water Saving Tip of the Week!

Purchase a flow meter. Do not consider flow meters as tools to invade your privacy, but as tools useful to develop your consciousness.

- With love from the Water Group, helping Auroville become a water-sensitive city. watergroup@auroville.org.in / www.aurovillewater.in



Broad Castings

Dirty Power: In two recent studies by the Centre for Science and Environment and the International Energy Agency's Clean Coal Centre an assessment was made of compliance with emission norms for Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂). Progress towards clean air targets by power stations across India was tracked and it was found that thirty-three states and Union Territories depend on coal based electricity, most failing to comply with SO₂ norms (Tamil Nadu being one of them). 77% of all power still comes from coal, and only 13 states procure their entire supply from SO₂ compliant plants. Coal-based thermal power stations with no pollution control technology are responsible for over half of all man-made emissions of SO₂, 30 percent of Nitrogen Oxides, and 20 percent of particulate matter. This trumps transport and other industrial sectors as sources of air pollution, which is especially urgent as it makes the population more susceptible to COVID19. The Ministry of Coal has asked the Ministry of Environment to postpone implementation of its emission targets from 2022 to 2024.

Bangalore crops laced with heavy metals: Crops grown in and around Bangalore are receiving untreated sewage and industrial effluents reports a [study](#) published December in *Current Science*. Cadmium, nickel and chromium and even lead are found, exceeding European and Indian food safety standards. Lead and nickel lead to renal failure, excess cadmium and chromium can cause cancer. The source is thought to be contaminated urban lakes which are used for irrigation.

The Food Industry: The Global Food Industry is likely to cause widespread ecological damage that will impact the habitat of almost 88 % of land animals by 2050 says a study published in *Nature Sustainability*. A total of 1,280 species are set to lose a quarter of their habitat or more. The study has looked at the impact of Food industries on biodiversity. Sub-Saharan Africa and Central and South America are the most vulnerable. This year international biodiversity targets are set to be updated, so now is a good time for global action to change our diet!

Ads lie about Pure Honey: Adulteration of honey with sugar syrup is a fraud that threatens Indian beekeeping who were already suffering due to poisoning of bees due to heavy [use of pesticides](#) as well as use of hybrid seeds which has reduced the flowering period of many crops. Sugar syrups can be now added in such a manner that they pass through all adulteration tests used by the *Food Safety and Standards Authority of India*. Ten times more honey than what is produced by genuine Indian

beekeepers is now available on the shelves.... Big brands advertise their honey as being pure while it is not!

> **How to test your honey for purity?** simply drop some honey in water and see if it mixes readily. If it does, it has sugar, if it doesn't, it is pure!

Mounting cost of climate disasters: A record number of hurricanes, wildfires and floods exacerbated by climate change cost the world \$210 billion in damage and 8,200 lives last year, according to insurance firm Munich Re.

We wish our readers a happy and green Auroville Birthday!

The Green Column is published bi-monthly in the News & Notes and (irregularly) on Auronet. We report on green issues in Auroville, the bioregion and the wider world. We like to hear from you! - Gijs & Lisbeth avgreencenter@auroville.org.in

You're invited: Citizens' Assembly film showings

The Citizens' Assembly and Auroville Water Group invite you to watch some Aurovilian water players reflect on our water situation! The series will be screened every Thursday at 4:30pm till March 18. See you there!

Speakers who will be featured are: Allan, Alok, Bhagwandas, Dariya, Dave, Gilles B, Giulio, Ing-Marie, Jean-François, John, Juergen, Kireet, Krishna, Luca & Bobby, Lucas, Margarita, Meenakshi, Mita R, Nagappan, Priya, Ramalingam, Renu, Ribhu, Satprem, Sreevatsa, Suhasini, Tency, Toby, Tom and Tomas.

Thurs, March 4th, 4:30 PM at MMC:

Chapter 6: Water Governance & Planning (40 mins), followed by Q&A with speakers

Summary: Decisions on how we plan and govern our city are critical to ensure we have water now and in the future. This video features four different views on the current water situation in Auroville from the planning & governance perspective. Please join us in exploring the dreams, challenges and opportunities these Aurovilians face in their unique context. Presenting different perspectives here are: Mita, Renu, Sreevatsa and Suhasini. [Link to Tamil version.](#)

Water Talks: March 2021

Let's talk about water! Each Monday in the month of March, a member of the Auroville community will dive into the topic of water in an engaging presentation or site visit. This year's theme is "Systems that Work," and focuses on systems that help us catch, conserve, or recycle water. Please see the schedule below and join us! All talks/walks are free of cost, but if you would like to support the on-going work of the Water Group, our FS# is 252000. Thank you! Water Group (www.aurovillewater.in)

March 1, Darkali, 2:30pm "Exploring Water Works at Darkali"
Join Darkali community members on a walking tour to explore its water catchment systems and erosion control work done in the canyon and the forest/park. You will also get to see the dry garden and perhaps be inspired to create your own. Talk given by: Darkali community members. (Please enter through the main Darkali gate, which is the green gate along the paved road to Ganesh bakery opposite the turn-off to Vérité/Afsaneh guesthouse. There is a 'Darkali' sign on the gate.)

- **March 8, 4 PM** -Residential Zone Sewage Treatment Plant, "An Odour-Free Visit to the Residential Zone Wastewater Treatment System"
- March 15: Surprise speaker
- March 22: Special event for World Water Day!
- March 29, Buddha Garden, 5:00pm "Whole Water in Buddha Garden"

-Water Group: (Eric Chacra, Giulio, Ing-Marie, Tency)
www.aurovillewater.in / www.facebook.com/aurovillewatergroup



Voices Notes



This is the most intense and strong time for our town...enjoy it and stay tuned! [Here](#) you can listen to the stream channel (playing 24/7). [Here](#) you can see on-air schedules.

Last published podcasts:

[Lunaria - ep.6 "Feminine Archetypes: Inner Alchemical-Animal Woman and Luteal Phase" \(Women's health\)The interview: Deepa and Calvin \(Sustainable habits\)](#)

[Aarohan - ep.19 "Ritaraaj Basant" \(Music\)](#)

[Soul Tracks Se02. Ep.3 - The Music of Laurel Canyon. \(Music\)](#)

[Audible Weed Walk - ep.30 "Where the journey truly started" \(Food education\)](#)

[Happiness, Love and Laughter - ep.86 "Love for Health \(Part 2\)" \(Wellness\)](#)

[The Tamil Literary Forum - ep.22 "மாத்ரி மந்திரி பற்றி அன்னை கூறியவை" \(Tamil culture\)](#)

[Neo Urban Chronik - ep.33 "Are aurovilians exaggerating? With Anuskaya? \(Humour\)](#)

[Marlenka's Weekly Offering - ep.22 \(Integral yoga\)](#)

...and more! on www.aurovilleradio.org.

For more information write to radio@auroville.org.in

Received on Mother's Birthday

On February 21, as we were immersed in a magical moment during the flute concert in the amphitheatre, a voice was heard in my heart; soft and penetrating words carried by the music, familiar and prophetic words like those we had the privilege of hearing 50 years ago ("Talks with Aspiration").

Here are these words received as a gift to be shared, from the One who is at the origin of everything and to whom we owe everything...

"Tell them that the time has come, the time we have been preparing for many years, the time of the unexpected, of revelations; my city is coming down to earth, it and all humanity are in great need of it.

"Tell them that in a burst of faith and enthusiasm they manifest it in their thoughts, words and deeds?

Sincerity, fraternity and courage are three pillars on which it will rest ...

"Tell them that I love them that I am in their hearts ready to manifest.

"Tell them that a great light is going to invade the earth and that it is good, that this is part of the divine plan!

No fear to have; free yourself from all fears, beliefs, dependencies...

Dare to be yourselves, love each other as I love you, reveal your divinity.

Words received by Bhagwandas on February 21, 2021

Method of practicing the Evolutionary Yoga of Nature in Auroville

The Mother says that Auroville is the place for practicing the Evolutionary Yoga of Nature. She has emphasized that one should have fairly a good knowledge of this Yoga before coming to live in Auroville. Newcomers are supposed to be the Novices or the Initiates of the Evolutionary Yoga of Nature. This knowledge will help them to have an initial perception of Auroville based on the Vedic System of Existence. They will have a vision of Auroville with seven planes of consciousness similar to those of the Universe because Auroville is part of the Universe. Aurovilian like any other man in humanity has seven bodies of consciousness. He is a mental being in a living body. He is unable to liberate himself from the struggle and suffering in life.

Saint Manickavasahar (900 C.E) was a great Vedic scholar. He was suffering in life because of his past Karmas (good and bad deeds). He had no knowledge and power to come out from that pathetic state. He pursued the Evolutionary Yoga of Nature and was confident that Satchitananda (the Soul of the Universe) alone

could save him from the struggle and suffering in life. He went to Chidambaram (Tamilnadu), not to worship the Lord Shiva in the temple but to get the grace of the Soul of Chidambaram which is also the soul of the Universe. He noticed there a great number of Vedic scholars practicing the Evolutionary Yoga of Nature and started practicing it under their guidance. He placed on his mind the image of the Feet of Shiva which represented the Soul of Chidambaram and aspired to get Satyam (Truth Consciousness). Though he did not see Him physically, he felt His presence and working in his being. He found the growing Light (Gnana) and Ananda in his mind and had the vision of seven planes of consciousness in Chidambaram and found overmental gods and the Sadhaks of the Evolutionary Yoga of Nature waiting to receive Light and Ananda from the Soul of Chidambaram.

Auroville could easily adopt the method of the Evolutionary Yoga of Nature followed by Saint Manickavasahar. The Soul of the Universe, which is also the Soul of Auroville, is represented by Matrimandir. The Vedic scholars have assigned ruby (red) colour to Soul (Purusha) and Emerald (green) colour to Nature (Prakriti). If we look at Matrimandir from the terrace of any building near Townhall, we will see one third part of golden Matrimandir emerging from the green surface formed by the top of the trees surrounding Matrimandir. This wonderful creation incidentally formed in Auroville indicates Satchitananda in an unmanifested state. Soul (Purusha) implies Nature (Prakriti: the indivisible conscious-force and Ananda of the Supreme). Saint Manickavasahar tells us to keep the image of the Feet of the Lord Shiva (the Soul of the Universe) on the mind and meditate on it. Since Matrimandir is the Soul of Auroville, it is perfectly right to keep the image of Matrimandir on the mind and meditate on it. Let Aurovilians do this Yoga sincerely and honestly and verify whether they are liberated from the struggle and suffering in life.

- Submitted by Somasundaram

THE GIFT OF PARSIMONY

The Mother dressed up as a queen, devotees would spare no money and loving work to adorn their Divine Mother. But underneath her royal clothes she wore mended lingerie and she taught the yogini faithfully serving her for 28 years, in her room, to do the same; taking care of every single object, whatever the function and worth; even envelopes and the tiniest bit of paper were recycled. This was that yogini's daily service to the Mother.

That sadhika taught me by example, my photographic exhibitions are born in the same spirit. If there is no budget, as it is often the case, I use recycled photos; I always remove the blue tack (and re-use that too) or, if the photographs are fixed with a double tape, I remove it then stick bits of paper to keep safely separate one photograph from another. I recycle the boards too, cutting the damaged parts or sticking there a photo in another exhibition. Needless to say, I safely keep rippers and unused boards. Everything is kept in my bedroom. This way I have displayed dozens of exhibitions, at the Town Hall, Pitanga and the old Centre of Indian Culture; occasionally, Kalakendra, Savitri Bhavan and the Tibetan Pavilion.

If there is a budget, as I do all the work myself, for free, the only cost is printing; this too at minimal cost, where I print my books also at minimal cost. My exhibitions at the Town Hall and Pitanga, with a GOI budget or that of a generous Aurovilian, cost between Rs. 3,500 and Rs. 7,000; sometimes nothing at all.

Regarding the present exhibition at the Town Hall, *Sadhaks of Integral Yoga*, these are the original printouts of the first exhibition in 2003, miraculously preserved in a folder in my bedroom, with no air-conditioning. They were done in an ordinary Pandy lab and since then have been re-used five times. On display now at the Town Hall for the first time, apart from Rs. 1000 for the clips and rope, everything else is recycled. The rippers were a gift from Kalakendra, where I had displayed a few exhibitions.

Parsimony - recycling! - is very much part of Integral Yoga and the Mother set the example. Materially as much as spiritually, this has to become a truly indispensable habit, if Her town is to manifest - in India, nowhere else, true living examples of a new consciousness to be born.

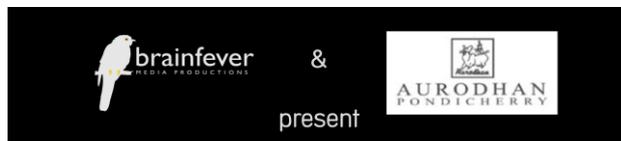
PS. Recycling is a cardinal tenet of ecology. Most prestigious building and settlements, winning the LEED platinum certification, honour recycling. What about us?

-Submitted by Paulette

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



AV Art Service is discontinuing the "Basket of the Week" column because it is no longer necessary. Information on cultural events in Auroville, the bioregion & Pondy can be accessed through the calendar on our website. Also through the website, you may subscribe to the weekly newsletter which will give you the same information in your mailbox. Artservice.auroville.org. -Krishna



EVER SLOW GREEN

RE-AFFORESTATION IN AUROVILLE, SOUTH INDIA

a documentary film

film screening followed by Q&A

date: Saturday, 27th February, 2021
time: 7.30 pm
venue: Krtashraya Aurodhan Gardens,
33, François Martin Street
Kuruchikuppam, Pondicherry



Slide-show with Explanations by Dr. Alexander Pereverzev
Thursday, March 4th, 5-6 pm
Sangam Hall, Savitri Bhavan

The slide-show narrates the story of the "Roerich Pact", the first international treaty for the protection of historic monuments which was a brainchild of the renowned Russian artist, thinker and explorer Nicholas Roerich. A great humanist and peacemaker, Roerich campaigned for the protection of culture throughout his life, and the pact was finally signed in Washington in 1935.

Live music at Café Le Morgan
Friday 5th March from 6.30 PM



Jazzy blues, and maybe a little Rock & Roll from Matthew and Hubert (AV) plus special guest from Delhi, folk rock-reggae artist Calvin Wumbaya. Simple food and drinks available.

Savitri
B H A V A N

March 2021

Exhibitions

Meditations on Savitri

The series of 472 paintings created by the Mother with Huta from 1961-67 is now on display in the Picture Gallery

Glimpses of the Mother: Photographs & texts (upper corridor)

Special Exhibition in the Square Hall - "Out of Lockdown" Art Works curated by Creeva. This has been a precious time for we artists, who usually have service jobs that keep us from doing our own art work. March 8-28, 10 AM - 5 PM, Monday to Saturday

Films - Mondays 4pm

March 1: *Building Matrimandir - Labour of Love 1971-2008*

The Matrimandir is the soul of Auroville; the documentary shows the dedicated work and construction. [See details below]. Duration: 52min.

March 8: *Integral Yoga - Sri Aurobindo & The Mother's vision of Supramental Consciousness and how Haridas Chaudhuri brought it to the West* - The 'California Institute of Integral Studies' (CIIS) was founded in 1968 by Haridas Chaudhuri. Duration: 55min.

March 15: *The Yoga of the Earth* - This sensitive and meditative film shows a new version of 'About Savitri' where Mother gives unique insights into the past and future of our earth, produced in 2016. Duration: 32min.

March 22: *How the Mother's Inner Quest brought Her to Sri Aurobindo - by Lopa*. Lopa, a former student of the Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education, speaks about the Mother's spiritual experiences from childhood and her meeting with Sri Aurobindo on 29 March 1914 in Pondicherry. Duration: 51min.

March 29: *Our Gratitude*

A musical offering composed and performed by Ashram students in the Savitri Bhavan Amphitheatre for the centenary of the first meeting of Sri Aurobindo and the Mother in 1914. Duration: 35min.

Full Moon Gathering

Sunday, March 28 7-8 PM in front of Sri Aurobindo's statue

Regular Activities

Sundays 10.30-12 noon: *Savitri Study Circle*

Mon & Tues, 3-4 PM: *Psychic Awakening* led by Dr. Jai Singh

Tues/Fri/Sat, 4-5pm: *L'Agenda de Mère*; listening to recordings w/ Gangalakshmi

Wednesdays 9-10 AM & Saturdays 3-4 PM: *Introduction to*

Integral Yoga, led by Ashesh Joshi

Fridays 3-4pm: Reading of the Mother's *Commentaries on the Dhammapada*, led by Dr. Jai Singh

Saturdays 4-5.15pm: *Satsang*, led by Ashesh Joshi

Exhibitions, Main Building and Office are open Mon-Sat 9-5

Library is open Monday to Friday 9-5

The Digital Library can be accessed on request Mon-Fri, 9-4

Everyone is welcome.

BUILDING MATRIMANDIR - LABOUR OF LOVE: 1971-2008

Monday, 1 March 2021, 4pm at SAVITRI BHAVAN

The Foundation Stone of Matrimandir was laid on Mother's birthday in 1971. On that day, the Mother gave the message:

"Let the Matrimandir be the living symbol of Auroville's aspiration for the Divine."

The impressive and touching documentary on the building of the Matrimandir contains archival footage of the early stages of the construction and the Foundation Stone ceremony and provides a more comprehensive coverage of the final stages of the project. It also includes insightful interviews with some of the actual builders. The construction of the Matrimandir represents a special aspect in the growth of Auroville and its soul.

The film that will be screened in English. Audio is also available in eight other languages in DVD format, produced by Auroville Video Production in 2008. All proceeds from the sale of DVDs will go towards the maintenance of the Matrimandir.

Solitude Farm
presents



Wednesday
3rd March

6:30pm - 9:00pm



AN EVENING WITH BOB DYLAN'S MUSIC
AND VEGAN LOCALICIOUS DINNER



MULTI MEDIA CENTRE AUDITORIUM
(MMC, Town Hall)

FRIDAY 5th MARCH, 8:00 PM "THE QUIET AMERICAN"

Directed by: Phillip NOYCE, USA, 2002

With: Michael Caine, Brendan Fraser, Thi Hai Yen Do

Synopsis: From the classic novel by Graham Greene comes a murder mystery centered on a love triangle set against the French Indochina War in Vietnam, circa 1952. It's the story of a veteran English journalist, Thomas Fowler, a young American Alden Pyle, a member of a medical aid mission, and a beautiful Vietnamese woman, Phuong, caught between them. This is a world where nothing is what it seems, wrapped with opium, intrigue, and betrayal... *It is a good historical film which deals with the period announcing the arrival of the United States on Vietnamese soil.* Michael Caine was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actor. *English version with English subtitles - Duration: 1h41' - Covid, please follow the current SOP.*

Reminder: FRIDAY 26 FEBRUARY, "THELMA AND LOUISE"



Anwar Khan

contemporary painting exhibition
Kalakendra Art Gallery, Bharat Nivas

through 28th February, 9 AM - 5 PM. Sundays Open

anwargkhan@yahoo.com; bharatnivas-kalakendra@auroville.org.in; 0413-2622914



AUROFILM / AV FILM
INSTITUTE PRESENT:



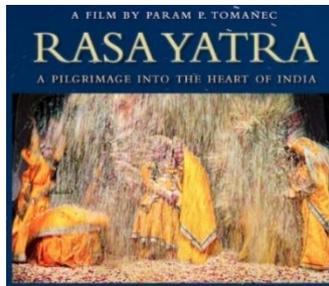
"CINE-MASTER CLASS"

Aurofilm (next to CRIPA), Kalabhoomi
Saturday 6th March- 5.00 - 7.00/7.30 pm

If you like to discuss, share and learn more about films and Cinema, we invite you to our Cine-Master classes!

Welcome to the 8th chapter:

RASA YATRA: When documentary meets devotion
A presentation and film by Param Tomanec



Overview: RASA YATRA explores the essence of devotion in Hindu culture through non-linear narrative. Shot over a period of four years in one country, India, RASA YATRA invites the viewer on a meditative cinematic journey across the majestic Himalayan Mountains right into the spiritual heart of India – Vrindavan. For the receptive viewer RASA YATRA becomes a pilgrimage rather than a mere depiction of a pilgrimage.

Q&A and discussion after the 52 min. film, and something very visual on his next project...

Param Tomanec is an independent Czech born visual poet and bhakti yogin. He lived in Oxford (UK) and in Vrindavan (India). Param researched Indian art and life during his tenure at the Oxford's Centre for Hindu Studies and at Vrindavan's own Sri Caitanya Prema Sansthana. Param is a film student of **Godfrey Reggio** (Qatsi Trilogy, Visitors), the inventor of a film style that can invoke profound emotional experiences in viewers. The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, a Recognized Independent Centre of the University of Oxford, founded in 1997, is an academy dedicated to dispassionate study and research of Hindu cultures, arts, languages and philosophies. Sri Caitanya Prema Sansthana is a Vrindavan-based institute, which provides patronage for people with serious interest in Indian spiritual life and culture. The institute hosted musicians such as George Harrison, Ravi Shankar and Amelia Cuni. Among photographers Sansthana welcomed in the past most notably Fazal Sheikh, Steve McCurry and Paul Wakefield as well as international scholars and professors, like John Stratton Hawley and David L. Haberman, and many others.

-- We follow the Covid-19 SOP. You may carry your torch light.



We invite you all to Bharat Nivas events and we kindly request you to inform all your friends about cultural programs taking place in Bharat Nivas.

Upcoming events in March:

1. Feature Film: (See poster below)
2. Sharing by Deepa and Kalvin on their cycling journey (without any budget) from Delhi to Auroville - October 2020. Venue: Bhumika Hall. Saturday, 6th March, 4 to 6 PM.
- 3.. Conference, Display/ & Sales of Women's Weaving Fabric (Nagaland) and related products by visiting NGO Group: "Exotic Echo" (Exoticecho.org) at SAWCHU: 7 & 8th March, 10 AM to 4.30 PM with lunch break (Sunday & Monday).
4. Art Exhibition by Women Artists at Kalakendra, to celebrate the International Women's Day: Monday 8th to Sunday 21st March.

Opening on Monday 8th March 4 to 6.30pm. Sharing by exhibiting participants on their artistic journey.

All are welcome! Tapas, Vani, Saisuresh, Devasmita, Bharat Nivas Cultural Group



THE WIZARD OF OZ
 Friday 5th March 7:30PM
 Sri Aurobindo Auditorium Bharat Nivas

We are happy to announce that Bharat Nivas team has initiated weekly movie screenings. The first show will be shown at the Auditorium and the three others will be shown at Bhumika Hall. We look forward seeing you all and have a wonderful experience.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Joy Community Activities News

We would like to announce that Jass is back to do his Mindfulness Circles on Tuesdays at 6 pm and Tea Cerimonies on Sundays at 10 am. And also we would like to let everyone know that Lhamo will pause her classes from March 3rd to March 7th; otherwise they will be as usual on Mondays and Fridays at 6.30 am or on Wednesday at 4.30 pm. For additional info just check the regular activities page or our website <https://joy.auroville.org>.
 - Love, Joy Community team.

Odissi

Beginners Odissi Classes with Devasmita beginning from April 2021.

Classes on Wednesdays 5:15 - 6:30 PM. Min 3 months commitment required. Orientation mandatory.

Come join us for Orientation class on 7th April 2021 (Wednesday) at 5:15 PM at Harmony Hall, Bharat Nivas

Bharat Nivas pavilion of india

Mat Pilates with Diksha

6.30 AM - 8.00 AM
 4TH MARCH 2021 TO 10TH MARCH 2021

This 7 day Mat Pilates workshop will help you develop a sustainable practice.

Practice of over 25 Pilates exercises, Stretching and Mobility drills. Body weight muscle toning and core strengthening Low impact exercises.

Work out suitable for all Age and Fitness levels. Entry on pre-registration only.

Where - Auromode yoga space, Auromode, Auroville.
 Contact: diksharathiofficial@gmail.com
 Whatsapp: +91 7498078772

Contact: contact@auromodeyogaspace.com
www.auromodeyogaspace.com

HAND MADE WITH LOVE!
INDIAN ART CRAFT & HANDLOOM MELA

5TH - 28TH FEB - 10 AM TO 6 PM
 KALA KENDRA - BHARAT NIVAS
 AUROVILLE

Bharat Nivas Pavilion of India

Now extended till the 21st of March

Registration required for the following intensive
 Please contact Verite @ 0413 2622045, 2622606, 7094104329 or programming@verite.in, treatments@verite.in

GUIDED CHAKRA HEALING MEDITATION (Intensive) - with TANIA
 Friday, 5TH March - 9.30 AM to 12.30 PM

A guided journey throughout the body and its chakras. We will learn and practice tools which promote purification, healing, balancing of the chakras and an increased awareness of the body. We will also explore the importance of proper grounding and self-love, to bring more balance and an enhanced feeling of well-being.

MUDRA-CHI RE STARTS:
 Saturday, 6th March, 4:30 PM
 Savitri Bhavan

"A Body Prayer in a Tai-Chi Form" Based on Mother's Mudras Facilitator: Anandi-a
 Everybody Welcome

TRANSPARENCY
 6th to 24th March 2021

ADIL
 ALESSANDRA
 AUDREY
 AURELIO
 BHAVYO
 BIRGITTA
 DOMINIQUE
 IRENO
 JEAN LUC
 JYOTI
 KAYALVIZHI
 LAKSHAY
 MARCO
 MARIANA
 MARIE CLAIRE
 MOGHAN
 NELE
 PRIVA
 RACHNA
 ROBERT
 SABRINA
 SARASWATI
 SARAVANAN

Opening Sat 6th March at 4.30pm
 Mon to Sat 2.30-5.30 pm
 Centre d'Art Citadines Auroville

Please park at Town Hall

Tai CHI QI GONG classes w/ Eli
 Monday 6:30 - 7:30 AM & 7:45- 8:45 AM
 at Progress Hall, Bharat Nivas
 (Exercises with accessories, balls, sticks...)

Qi gong is an active action whose purpose is to connect to the harmonious movement of life and to move places that have frozen out of opposition or lack of acceptance of the banal reality. Emotions are an expression of the movement of qi that can be - loose, stuck, weak, and excess. Expanding beyond the self and converging inward is the basic movement of the existing - inanimate, living, growing - everything in the pulsating universe expands and converges. The waves and the sea, day and night and the seasons-exhalation and inhalation. Qi Gong is designed with the intention of forming a balance and improving the physical and mental state of the person. If we listen to the rhythm of the sounds that change in the seasons, there is an internal movement of healing forces within us and thus we will mobilize the power of all nature for our health. FMI/Registration: ellimagen@gmail.com



Quiet Healing Center

www.quiethealingcenter.info / quiet@auroville.org.in
+91 413 2622329 / +91 9488084966 (mobile)



Watsu for Babies w/ Dariya Tuesday, 2nd March, 9 AM - 6 PM, Quiet Beach

This is an invitation to participate in a one-day course as a Watsu student and a CALL TO PARENTS with babies from 2 months to 2 years young, to join in the afternoon from 2.30 pm.

Watsu for Babies is a water shiatsu course to ease and inspire movement with a baby in warm water, based on the two main principles of Watsu: presence and moving from our core, while being in water with a baby.

This course is for aquatic bodywork students, who have completed at least Basic Watsu course, and for professionals working with babies. In the morning, we will learn simple 'sequences' on dolls or teddy bears; as a participant, you will need to bring a large doll, teddy bear or something alike. In the afternoon, we are inviting parents with their little ones to join us on this sweet journey.

Parents, who would like to get inspiration to be with their little ones in water with more presence, play, deepen connection with water, and use the properties of water as stimulation for hyper- and hypo-tonic muscles of babies, are most welcome! FMI & registration either as a participant or as a parent interested to join us with your little one: quiet@auroville.org.in, 0413-2622329 or 9488084966

~ ~ ~ ~

Watsu & OBA Basic with Petra

Monday 8 - Thursday 11 March, 8.45 AM - 6.30 PM)



Watsu & OBA are aquatic bodywork modalities given in a warm water pool (ideally 35°C). It combines elements of light movements and stretching, massage and mobilization of the joints in connection with breathing and energetic work conducted both on the surface and under water.

Watsu & OBA offer an opportunity for profound relaxation and letting go, building trust, being nurtured and held, expanding inner and outer boundaries, releasing emotions and traumas - ultimately, for freeing body and mind in a flow unique to each client and each session.

In this course, you will practice basic techniques and qualities of being: grounding, presence, stillness, movement, attention. You will experience floating other people and being floated, on the surface and under water, thereby creating space for deep relaxation and nurturing body, mind and spirit. No previous experience required!

~ ~ ~ ~

Conscious Touch with Verena

Saturday & Sunday 13th/14 March, 9.30 AM - 6.00 PM)

This workshop is designed to increase trust through conscious touch as an instrument for healing and connection.

During this workshop, you will gain a better knowledge of the body; learn basic massage techniques; develop trust and concentration; activate healing energies; relieve stress and anxiety; and practice hygienic massage standards in personal and professional situations. You will also learn different ways to develop a deeper heart-connection. Open to all, who would like to learn how to touch with love, care, presence, and skill. No previous experience required.

⇒⇒⇒⇒PLEASE GO PAPERLESS!

RECEIVE THE NEWS & NOTES by EMAIL weekly!

Subscribe at newsandnotes-list+subscribe@auroville.org.in

or click directly on this [link](#).

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Auroville Emergency Contact Numbers Save them in your phone now!

Auroville Safety and Security Team (24/7): 9443090107
Ambulance: Auroville: 9442224680
PIMS: 0413-2656271/72
Farewell: mobile number: 8903836246. reachable 24/7
Matram: 9487746051, reachable 24/7
Emergency Service of India: 108
JIPMER hospital 2278380 / 2272389
General Hospital 2336050
Puducherry helpline: 104
TN COVID helpline: 044-29510500

EVERYONE HAS ACCESS TO THE FOLLOWING ANY TIME:

** The News&Notes is available FOR ALL to download from the Auroville website at www.auroville.org/contents/4186

The N&N archives are found at www.auroville.org/contents/186

And also, on Auroville Wiki http://wiki.auroville.org.in/wiki/News_%26_Notes

Important information about News & Notes

Hard deadline for submissions or cancellations: Tuesday 5pm FOR THE ISSUE to be published that SATURDAY (though the digital version generally goes out on Thursday)

The contents of News & Notes are a reflection of the growth process of this community towards its ideals of harmony, goodwill, discipline and truth. Editing of submissions, mainly for reasons of space and clarity, is done according to an established policy. How to submit material: Material (no pdf files, please) may be sent (in English only) to: newsandnotes@auroville.org.in.

Please do **NOT** send submissions and inquiries as a "Reply" to the digital subscription mail. There is NO guarantee that anyone will see communications sent this way!

Please try your best to send your announcements, reports, film schedules whenever they are ready. Any modifications of submitted News items must be sent to the editors before Tuesday 5pm. Please do your best to submit copy that is ready for printing (i.e. Word shows you typos, extra spaces, punctuation errors, etc - don't make us do all the work!).

We regret not being able to attend to visitors on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thurs AM due to work pressure.

Articles for the Notes section should ideally be no longer than 500 words.

Visiting hours: Hit or Miss. Call first or email for appointment.

Disclaimer: The views expressed on these pages are those of their respective authors or work groups and do not represent the position of the editors or of the community as a whole. The News & Notes serves as a channel for the publication of material coming from trusted sources within Auroville. The editors cannot be held accountable for any alleged misinformation given or offence caused. In case of any dispute, the Auroville Council may be consulted and publishing of disputed material suspended.

News & Notes, Media Centre, Town Hall: 0413-262-2133





Cinema Paradiso

Multimedia Center (MMC) Auditorium
Film program 1st March to 7th March 2021

Cinema Paradiso-Multimedia Center are fully operational. We offer the full 121 seats now. Mask is a must (and not scarves etc.) Standard Covid19 protocols will be followed. Also, now the screenings are now open to ALL.

Indian – Monday 1 March, 8:00 pm:

- **THE PARCEL**

India, 2020, Dir. Indrasis Acharya w/Rituparna Sengupta, Saswata Chatterjee, and others, Thriller-Drama, 120mins, Bengali w/English subtitles, Rated: NR (PG)

A doctor couple, Nandini and Souvik, work in a private hospital, before the pandemic. The unscrupulous practice of charging the patients high was a key issue. The couple is fine navigating that and leads a comfortable life with their daughter. Suddenly, starting from Nandini's birthday, she started receiving an anonymous parcel every day. Does it matter who sends them or how she reacts? What we would have done? The parcels hold a mirror to the protagonist and the audience. *A slow-paced reflective film for a discerning audience. Highly recommended!* Prior to its theatrical release the film was screened in Auroville to seek reflections before finalizing. It is being re-released now.

Italian – Tuesday 2 March, 8:00 pm:

- **MARTIN EDEN**

Italy, 2019, Dir. Pietro Marcello, w/ Luca Marinelli, Jessica Cressy, Vincenzo Nemolato, Drama-Romance, 129 mins, Italian w/ English subtitles, Rated: PG

Based on a 1909 novel by Jack London, set in a provocatively unspecified moment in Italy's history, the film is a passionate and enthralling narrative fresco in the tradition of the great Italian classics. Martin is a self-taught proletarian with artistic aspirations who hopes that his dreams of becoming a writer will help him rise above his station and marry a wealthy young university student. The dissatisfactions of working-class toil and bourgeois success lead to political awakening and destructive anxiety in this enveloping, superbly mounted bildungsroman.

Interesting – Wednesday 3 March, 8:00 pm:

- **GATHER**

USA, 2020, Dir. Sanjay Rawal, Documentary, 74mins, English, Rated: NR (PG)

Through interviews with Native Americans of all ages and different tribes, this thought-provoking and inspiring film, looks at the potential for food sovereignty to transform communities, provide locally sourced food for regions that have otherwise become "food deserts" with junk food and little else. The film follows indigenous peoples who heal themselves, restore hope, and bring dignity to places where despair and substance abuse are natural. One of the interviewees calls this a "restorative revolution" and the idea is universal. *Shared with us by the director, we are re-screening on popular demand.*

Biography – Thursday 4 March, 8:00 pm:

- **PAPA HEMINGWAY IN CUBA**

USA-Canada, 2015, Dir. Bob Yari w/ Giovanni Ribisi, Joely Richardson, Adrian Sparks, and others, Biography-Drama, 110mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: R

Based on a true story, this film is about the relationship between Miami journalist Denne Bart Petittlerc and legendary writer Ernest Hemingway. Set during the Cuban revolution, the film was shot on location in Havana and inside Hemingway's estate, Finca Vigia. It is the first Hollywood film to be shot in Cuba since 1959.

International – Saturday, 6 March, 8:00 pm:

- **MY NAME IS SARA**

USA, 2019, Dir. Steven Oritt w/ Zuzanna Surowy, Konrad Cichon, Pawel Królikowski, and others, Drama-History, 111mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: NR (R)

The film tells the true life-story of Sara Guralnick, a 13yrs old Polish Jew whose entire family was killed by Nazis in September 1942. After escaping to the Ukrainian countryside, Sara steals her Christian friend's identity and finds refuge in a small village where she is taken in by a farmer and his young wife. She soon discovers the dark secrets of her employers' marriage, compounding the secret she must protect, her true identity.

Children's Matinee - Sunday, 7 March, 4:30 pm:

- **FOUR KIDS AND IT**

UK, Dir: Andy De Emmony, w/ Teddie-Rose Malleson-Allen, Pippa Haywood, Matthew Goode and others, Fantasy, 110mins, English w/English subtitles, Rated: PG

A group of kids on holiday in Cornwall meet a magical creature on the beach with the power to grant wishes

LUIS BUNUEL FILM FESTIVAL @ Ciné-Club Sunday 7 March, 8:00 pm:

- **UN CHIENE ANDALOU**

- **EL ANGEL EXTERMINADOR (The exterminating angles)**

UN CHIENE ANDALOU: France, 1929, Dir. Luis Bunuel w/Pierre Batcheff, Simone Mareuil, Luis Bunuel, others, Short- Horror, 16 mins, French w/English Subtitles, Rated: NR. A surrealist tale of a man and a woman who are passionately in love with each other, but their attempts to consummate that passion are constantly thwarted by their families, the Church, and bourgeois society. EL ANGEL EXTERMINADOR: France, 1962, Dir. Luis Bunuel w/Silvia Pinal, Jaqueline Andere, Enrique Rambal, others, Drama-Fantasy, 95 mins, French w/English Subtitles, Rated: NR. After a lavish dinner party, the guests mysteriously the guests are unable to leave. Over the next few days the elaborate pretenses they've built up due to their societal standing, collapse.

Rating codes we often use are from Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA): G=General Audiences, PG=Parental guidance suggested, PG-13=Parents strongly cautioned, R=Restricted (equivalent to Indian rating: A i.e. for Adults), NR=Film Not rated, Rating awaited, or Rating not available.

For scheduling programs at MMC/CP venue: please email us at mmcauditorium@auroville.org.in. **We appreciate your continued support. Pl donate to "Cinema Paradiso" (account #105106) or set up for a monthly contribution. We need it now more than ever.**

Thanking You,
MMC/CP:Group:Account:#105106,
MMCauditorium@auroville.org.in