



সমাজ সংবাদ



Volume 34 Issue 3

June 2009

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Upcoming Events

Banga Sanskriti Dibas

- ♦ June 27, 2009
- ♦ Plainfield South High School
- ♦ Program details on Page 4 and directions on the back cover

Picnic

- ♦ July 25, 2009
- ♦ Twin Lakes, Palatine, IL
- ♦ Web-site: Indicated below president's message

If you move...

... then please let us know your new address by contacting any one of the two newsletter editors (contact phone number on next page).

—President's Message—

After a long painful winter, finally the spring has sprung. We are all happy and charged up with energy to embark on our next BAGC project, which is Banga Sanskriti Dibas on June 27 at Plainfield South HS. We promise you an exciting and fun-filled day. Throughout the day will have activities that will connect you with Bengal's culture through various activities featuring exhibitions of sari, music, books, etc. (Mela), culinary satisfaction in Bengali style (our food committee will try to bring some authentic Bengali food), and of course the most important portion: A great cultural program based on our colorful heritage. Apart from our great local talents, we will be presenting '**Bhoomi**', one of the best 'folk bands' from Bengal. Who can forget their 'Doriya Ailo Toofan', 'Barandaaye Roddur', 'Kam Sarche', 'Kaande Sudhu Mon Keno.' These melodious presentations are unmatched! Within an instant, they take our minds back home and create a nostalgic feeling in hearts that we all yearn for subconsciously!!! So, don't be selfish; don't just come alone or with families. Be sure to bring all your friends to enjoy this memorable evening!



And my friends, I left the most important and exciting event to share with you for the last! **The 'GBM'**. In this GBM you will have the opportunity to express your opinion through voting on 'Banga Bhavan' property. This perhaps will be the most important decision you will ever have to make for BAGC. As a member myself, I will strongly encourage you to attend the GBM and understand the full scope of the project before making a decision. Ask questions, express honest viewpoints, and then give us your verdict.

As always, I am very excited to see you all during Banga Sanskriti Dibas.

Sincerely,

Angshuman Chatterjee

Picnic Venue: Twin Lakes Golf Course & Recreation Area:

1200 E. Twin Lakes Dr., Palatine, IL 60074

Web-site:

<http://saltcreek.multisportsystems.com/page/show/6812-twin-lakes>

Editor's Desk

Summer is almost here. It is the time when many of our youths graduate from high school and leave behind the small boundaries of their immediate family to enter into the larger world of Universities: no wonder that the English word *University* sounds like *Universe* (though the two words are not related in origin) and the Bengali word "Viswa-Vidhyalay" literally transcends the students to the World stage. This season has also brought some of our young couples together in to the bond of marriage. Along with these joyous occasions, we are also laden with the sadness of losing some of our dearest members forever. This issue of "Samaj Sangbad" brings you news of both joy and sorrow in our community.

"Samaj Sangbad" is our newsletter – the newsletter of the Bengali Association of Greater Chicago. The literal translation of *newsletter* could have been "Sangbad Patro"; instead, somebody in BAGC's past came up with the brilliant title "Samaj Sangbad". The Webster dictionary defines the word *newsletter* as "a small publication containing *news of interest* chiefly to a special group". "Samaj Sangbad" contains news (*Sangbad*) of interest to the local Bengali community (*Samaj*).

However, "Samaj Sangbad" contains not only news of interest to the Bengali community; it also contains literary contributions from our members of all ages, both young and experienced. That only goes to show our cultural heritage – our deep connection with art and literature. Thanks for your continued literary support to this newsletter.

And in keeping with that wonderful Bengali culture, BAGC will celebrate the "Banga Sanskriti Dibas" soon. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

- Alpana & Subhasis

-DISCLAIMER-

Articles in *Samaj Sangbad* are obtained from individual members. The editors are not responsible for the content of these articles. The opinions expressed in these articles are solely those of the contributors and are not necessarily representative of BAGC.

2009 Committee Members

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Vice-President	Jasendu Chakraborty 630-820-1196
Secretary	Sudipta Sengupta 630-357-1570
Treasurer	S. Sriram / 630-355-0719
Cultural Programs	Mahua Chakraborty/630-499-7588 Kaniskha Chaudhuri/630-718-1488
Community Services	Bula Jha/312-527-2852
Food	Debashish Chanda/630-983-0275 Samir Dutta/847-301-9551
Newsletter	Alpana Gangopadhyaya 630-515-1390 Subhasis Laha/630-585-1528
Logistics & Facility	Rahul Chatterjea/630-513-7580 Asish Ghosh/630-820-8614 Gautam Saha/630-851-5514
Puja	Manika Dhar/630-462-1409 Gauri Roy/630-455-5677 Monisha Datta / 630-830-0851
Registration	Ananta Bardhan/630-281-4478
Sports	Sudip Maiti/847-722-2780
Website E-mail	Biswajeet Mukharjee/847-776-1787
Youth Programs	Linisha Basu/630-410-8785 Lia Nandi/630-420-7390 Diya Mazumdar / 630-482-9155
Photography	Nirmalya (Shanku) Ghosh 847-677-9884

Community News

Graduations

As graduations take place this year, another crop of our shining BAGC youth has achieved fantastic results. We are all very proud of their accomplishments. Congratulations, Graduates!

Nandini Maiti, daughter of Pratima and Sudip Maiti, graduated from Preschool to Elementary school of Schaumburg Christian school.

Pratima Maiti graduated from University Of Illinois, Chicago with a Masters of Engineering. She earned a specialization in Bioinformatics.

Kiron and Rishi Mishra, sons of Lily and Tapan Misra graduated from Wheaton War-

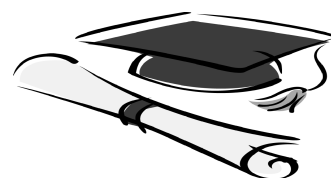
renville South High School. They represented the school Tennis team, Scholastic Bowl, and Mathematics club in various inter-school competitions. Their next academic destination is University of Illinois at Urbana-Campaign, College of Engineering.

Arpan Roy son of Alaknanda (Bubu) graduated from Naperville North High School. He will be attending University of Illinois at Urbana-Campaign, College of Engineering.

Piali Yang, daughter of MingJen and Sunayana Yang, graduated from Waubonsie Valley High School. She is a National Merit

Scholar and has deep interest in music, art, science and literature. Piali will be attending Univ. of Chicago in Fall, 2009.

Shreya Bardhan, daughter of Ananta and Sarmistha Bardhan, graduated from Neuqua Valley High School, Naperville. She will be attending University of Illinois at Chicago intending to major in Biology. She takes active interests in playing violin and piano.



Weddings

Shaunak Roy, son of Subir and Devipriya Roy got married to Sangeeta Agrawal, daughter of Sushil and Kiran Agrawal. The wedding took place on the 22nd Nov, 2008 in Mumbai. Shaunak and Sangeeta have made their home in San Francisco, California.



Saptarshi Bandyopadhyay (Mithai), s/o Bhaskar and Ratna Bandyopadhyay, Rockford, IL. married Rajoshree Roychowdhury, d/o Capt. Amalendu and Mita Roychowdhury on 25th Nov, 2008 at Kolkata, India.



Obituary

Shahab Latif passed away on Saturday, April 19. We pray for the peace of the departed soul and the bereaved family for their loss. We will remember him for his outstanding passion and enthusiasm for music.



Births

Debapriya and Mrinmay Mukhopadhyay of Woodridge wish to announce the birth of their son Debargha, 6 pounds, 7 ounces, on Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at Edwards Hospital in Naperville. Both mother and son are doing well.



Arnab and Mimi Roychowdhury from Homer Glen wish to announce the birth of their son Aayush, 6lbs, 11 ozs, 19.7 inches on April 25, 2009. Proud Grandparent Deepa Roychowdhury is a longtime BAGC member.

Banga Sanskriti Dibas: Cultural Program

BHOOMI – LIVE IN CONCERT

Bhoomi is a music group based in [Kolkata, India](#). **Bhoomi** was formed in 1999, with the aim of reviving the folk music of Bengal and making it popular amongst all sections of the society by providing it an urban touch. The band was initially created out of the interest of the two founding members - Surajit Chatterjee and Soumitra Roy - to experiment with the vast store of traditional (and in many cases non-attributed) Bengali Folk music ("*procholino gaan*") and mix it with their repertoire of Western music and instrumentation.

Surajit Chatterjee and Soumitra Ray's experimentation with folk resulted in the formation of the band with the name **Bhoomi** - meaning Earth - which gelled in, in spirit and essence with their earthly and folksy style - along with the other members. Their current line-up includes 6 band members -

Soumitra Ray - Vocals, drums & congas

Surajit Chatterjee - Vocals, guitars, mandolin & flute

Sanjoy Mukherjee* - Percussion & effects

Hemanto Goswami - Electric guitar

Abhijit Ghosh - Bass guitar

Robin Lai - Keyboards & violin

Since the debut album, they have gone on to write and play folk songs that were influenced by western music - like the blues. There were gems from the traditional *Baul* based minstrel songs - which imparted a spiritual message alongside - like "*Emon Manob Jonon*" and "*Kancha Haarite*".

Touring has been one of their strong points. Soumitra, one of the band's lead singers, has always stressed on their live performances, which has taken the band on a punishing schedule around the globe. They have played in the USA in four touring seasons - and each time doing a hectic schedule around the country - initially in California and the Mid-West and then subsequently in various cities on the East Coast. In 2006 they capped off their live performance tour program in the United States with a performance at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, in a special performance for UN Staff. This was their 880th live performance - an incredible achievement for any live band who have resurrected Folk music from its forgotten past.

Their UN performance resulted in the group penning their first song in English - **For a Better Day**.

In 2008 Bhoomi was the only Asian Band to perform at the International Jazz Festival at Montreal, Canada.



BAGC is proud to present "**BHOOMI – LIVE IN CONCERT**" for the very first time ever in Chicago during the Banga Sanskriti Dibas function on June 27th, 2009 at Plainfield South High School.

* Sanjay Mukherjee will not be able to come.

Banga Sanskriti Dibas Events : June 27, 2009

Banga Sanskriti Dibas: 2:00—11:00 pm

Registration	Starts 2:00 pm
GBM	3:00 - 4:30 pm
<i>BAGC Email Policy</i>	3:00 - 3:30 pm
<i>Banga Bhavan Update & Voting Kick Off</i>	3:30 - 4:30 pm
<i>Banga Bhavan Voting</i>	4:30 - 7:30 pm
Tea & Adda	4:30 - 5:30 pm

Cultural Program: Part 1 <i>Gaaner Ratan O Haar:</i> <i>Directed by: Bula Jha</i> <i>Nrityanjali:</i> <i>Directed by: Bidula Sinha</i>	5:30 - 6:30 pm
Dinner	6:30 - 8:00 pm
Cultural Program: Part 2 <i>BHOOMI – Live In Concert</i> <i>For the first time in Chicago</i> <i>Best Bangla Band from India</i>	Starts 8:00 pm



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BAGC Bangla School Update

Our 2008-2009 session wrapped up May 30th. This year was marked with good strides made by a number of students to self-sufficiently read Bangla passages and answer questions. Also, the Choir Group performed beautifully at the Durga Puja festival and at Saraswati Puja. The school continues to demonstrate how some effort by a large group of volunteers can create something significant. Fall registration is now open – email shanku@yahoo.com to register.



Saraswati
Puja
Program

Congratulations!

Following students have successfully completed their Level Tests.

Level 1 – Diganta Roy, Simron Dhali, Soumyaa Mazumder

Level 2 – Arjun Pal, Meghna Dasgupta, Sagnik Chakraborty, Ahiri Ghosh, Aishani Dutta, Anjan Ghosh and Tanmoy Datta



Language Class



Choir Class

Thanks!

Following members donated generously of their time to share our cultural heritage with the next generation. Their dedication has made the 2008-2009 Session a success and we look forward to their continuing involvement in future sessions of Bangla School.

Level 1 Table 1 – Soma Sanyal and Manjusree Ghosh

Table 2 – Debjani Sen

Table 3 – Sudipta Paul

Level 2 Table 4 – Mahuya Sengupta

Table 5 – Debabrata Pal

Manjusree Ghosh – Lead Language Teacher
Jaya Banerjee, Rubal Dasgupta – Choir
Ronti Ghosh – Communications
Surya Dutta – Facilities

Special thanks to *Khona Deb* for providing additional curriculum material, *Manjusri Chakravarti* for donating a set of English/Bengali dictionaries and *Sunondo and Debjani Roy* for transporting those dictionaries from Kolkata.





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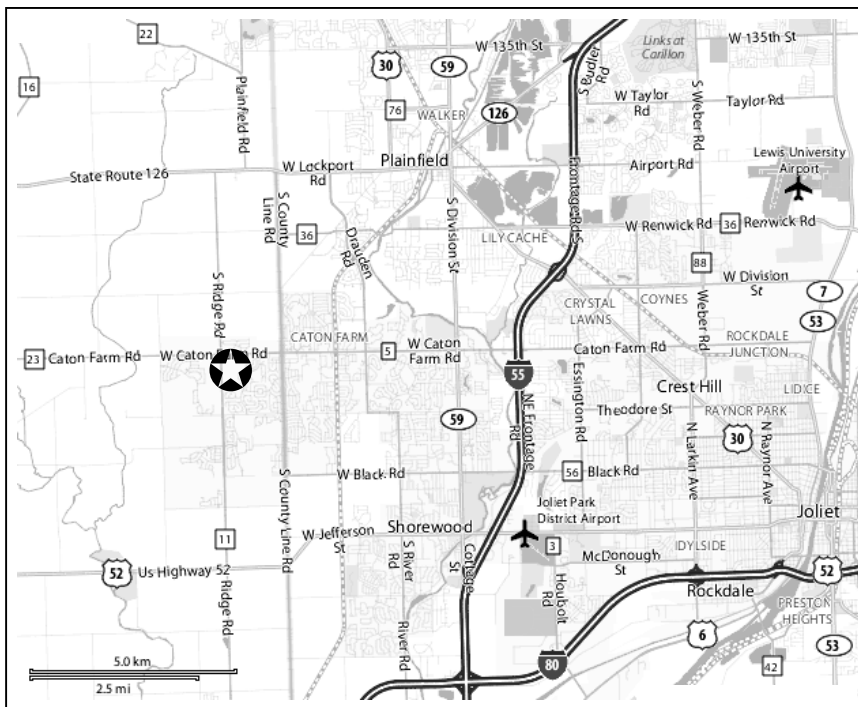
324 Senna Ct Naperville, IL. 60565

<http://www.bagc.net>

To:



Mark your calendar for upcoming event:
“Banga Sanskriti Dibas”
June 27, 2009



Venue:

Plainfield South High School
7800 Caton Farm Road
Plainfield, IL 60586

Directions:

Via Route 55 or Route 355:

- Exit at Route 126(Plainfield exit). Travel west approximately 3 miles to Route 59.
- Turn Left (South) on Route 59 approximately 6 miles to Caton Farm Road.
- Turn Right (West) approx 6 miles to PSHS (School is at Caton Farm & Ridge)

Via Route 80:

- Exit at Minnoka exit (Ridge Road). Travel North 8 miles on Ridge to Caton Farm Road
- School is at the intersection of Ridge and Caton Farm Roads

◆◆◆◆ Google maps ◆◆◆◆

Use **Caton Farm Rd & S Ridge Rd, Plainfield, IL 60586** to find the correct location