









ASIAN INDIAN OF HAMPTON ROADS PRESENTS

27TH ANNUAL



2024















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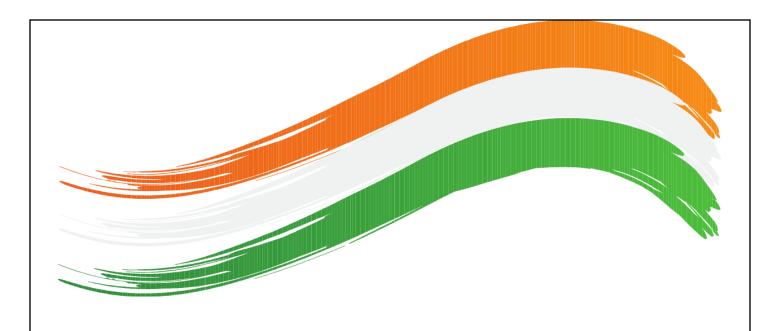


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We are proud to support India Fest! Enjoy!

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Message from the Chairperson



Dear friends!

Namaste! Welcome to India Fest 27th anniversary hosted by the Asian Indians of Hampton Roads (AIHR). It gives me great pleasure to invite you to this celebration of India. The 26th celebration of India Fest, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, promises to be a feast for the senses. We welcome you to explore and enjoy the vibrant tradition and culture of one of the world's oldest civilizations.

Savor the delicate intricacies of Indian spices from the best local Indian restaurants, be mesmerized by India's music and dance, and enjoy the educational activities with your children. Add bling to your wardrobe, and update your style with many exotic vendors from near and

far. We have tried to create the overarching majesty and diversity of India, with nonstop cultural performances that capture the essence of Indian culture. We hope that India Fest is not only an enjoyable experience for you, but also fosters a deeper understanding and appreciation of India.

The Asian Indians of Hampton Roads group proactively supports the Hampton Roads community. Read more about us at www.aihr.org. One of our focal missions is to promote education locally. Towards that goal, we have introduced youth-oriented competitions at India Fest. Art, badminton, chess, essay, math, poetry, public speaking, and tennis competitions create an environment of learning and fun. We also had a fun panipuri eating competition that contestants and spectators enjoyed equally. Ladies came out and showed off their talent by participating in saree draping, salad making and lemon spoon competitions. Our goal is to recognize talent and encourage children to compete and shine!

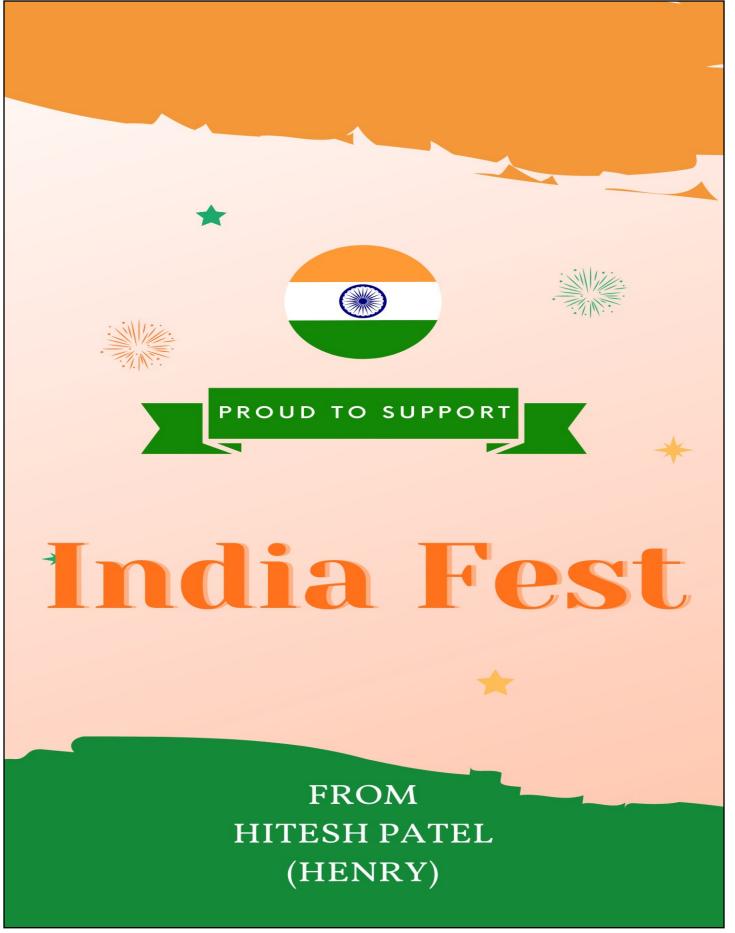
NETCON provides festive and relaxed environment for people from corporations, banks, restaurants, health professional, political dignitaries and sponsors to mingle. NETCON has been instrumental to provide business connections for attendees.

AIHR is grateful to our community for their massive support and encouragement to this Mega India Fest. An event of this magnitude is only possible with dedication, meticulous planning, and the labor of love. We extend our sincere gratitude to our sponsors! Our vendors, who come from far and near, are the jewels of India Fest. Finally, AIHR is indebted to the service of our innumerable performers, choreographers, committee members, and volunteers. Thank you for championing the success of our India Fest!

Best wishes for peace and harmony amongst us!

Bhrantí Patel

Chairperson, India Fest





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Best Wishes to India Fest

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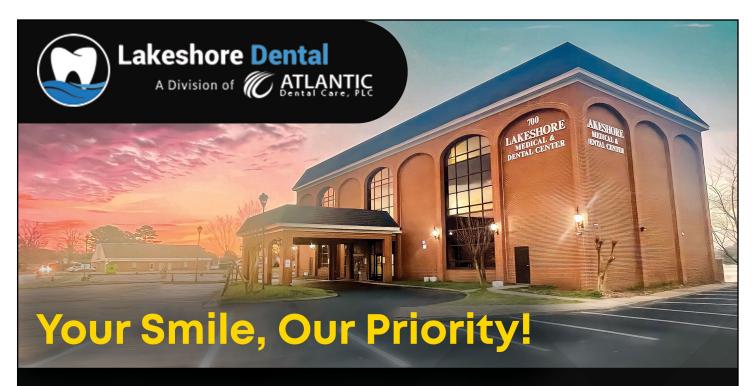
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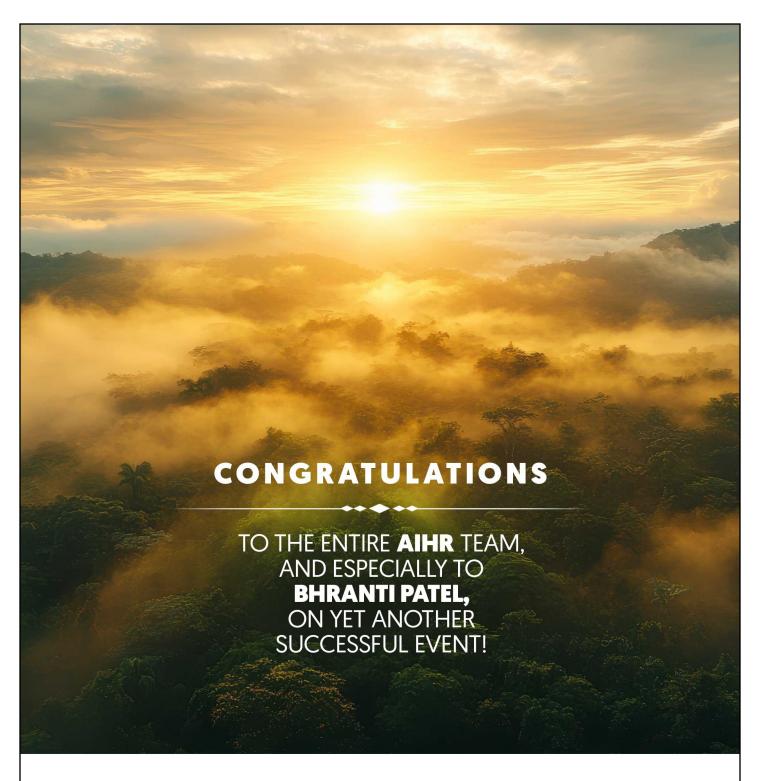
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Four Types of Anger

लोहे में लकीर-सा - यह तामसी मनुष्यों का होता है, जो जन्म-जन्मान्तर तक चलता है !

Like a line or deep etch onto a piece of metal – nothing can erase or remove the anger. It belongs to Tamsik (Vindictive) persons and they hold anger/grudge for years, a lifetime, or even pass it onto succeeding generations. Such anger is long lasting, never-ending, and is kept alive.

पत्थर में लकीर-सा - यह राजसी पुरषों का होता है, जो कुछ दिनों में मिट जाता है! Like a line engraved on a stone — while significant and noticeable, time eventually erodes away the line and the anger is gone. It belongs to Rajasik (Kingly or Noble) persons. It is the anger of passion that lasts for only a few days or months before disappearing.

बालू में लकीर-सा - यह सात्तिवक सज्जनोंका होता है जो हवा के झोंके से बालू की लकीर की भाँति तुरंत नष्ट हो जाता है!

Like a line in the sand - which quickly gets blown away by the wind. It belongs to Satvik (Virtuous) persons who quickly move past their anger. This is the anger that expresses itself, but quickly dissipates.

पानी में लकीर-सा - यह संतों का होता है, जो आता-सा दीखता है पर वास्तव में होता नहीं!

Like drawing a line in water - the evidence of the line disappears as it occurs. It belongs to Sant (Pious) persons where it may look like anger but is really not there. Even as the offense is occurring, the expected anger is gone.

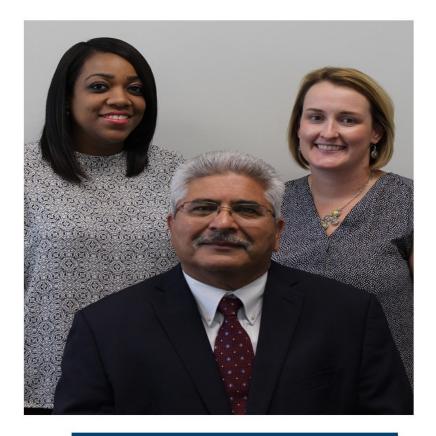
Author: Gita Press, Gorakhpur

With Best Wishes



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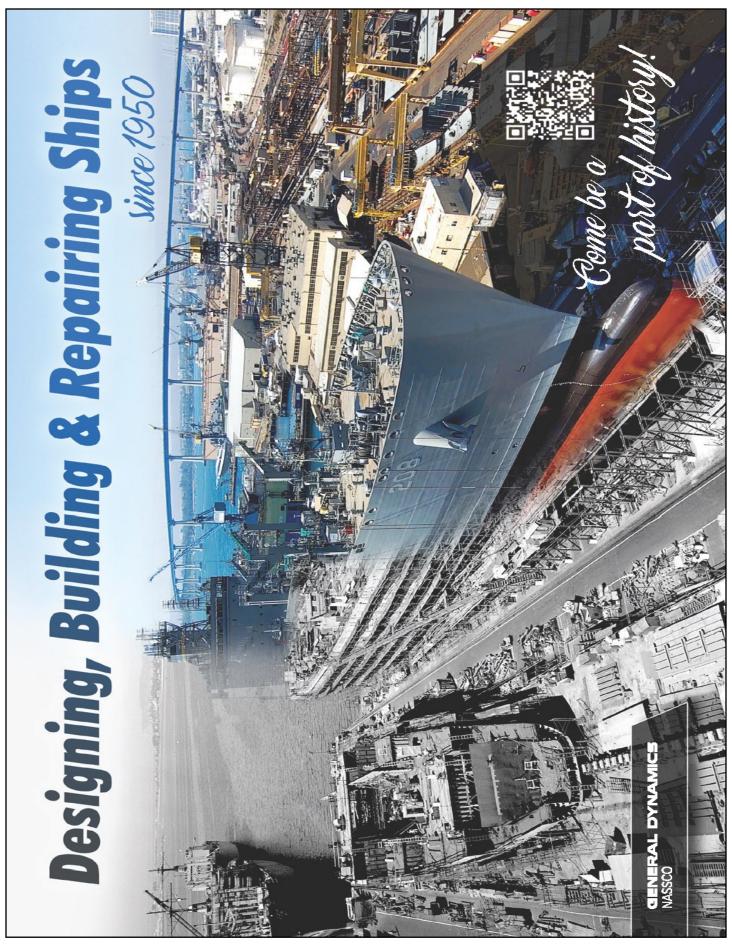






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Website: http://www.northsouth.org

US Contests Information: North South Foundation: Regionals

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From: Jatin Sharma



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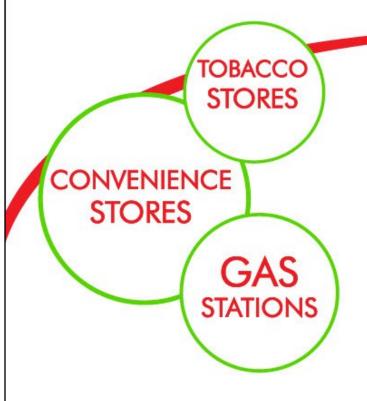
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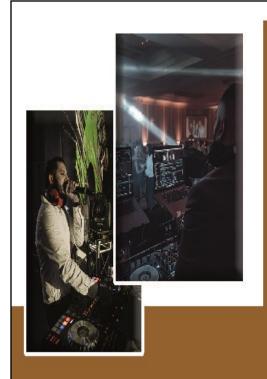
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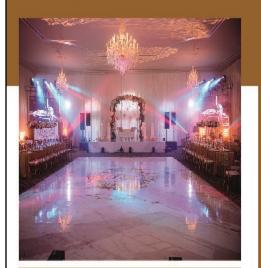










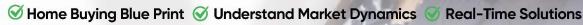






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- Homeowners Considering Refinancing?
- Renting and Buying Primary
- Selling/Renting and Upgrading?
- Keeping Property as a Rental?
- Calculating Profit? Tapping into Equity?



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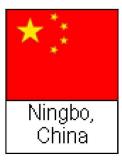












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AIHR MISSIONS & OBJECTIVES				
Charity & Community efforts	 Donate funds to local, domestic and international charities, trusts & foundations Support the penurious of the community. Support and work with community organizations like Union Mission, homeless shelters, Food Bank etc. Donate funds to support the Veterans of United States Raise funds for charities through events & programs. 			
Disaster Relief	 Support domestic and international disasters through financial and non-financial aid. Host fund raising events to support disasters. 			
Educational	 Promote the importance of Education in local schools. Seek and recognize talents from the local community. Host Math, English and Science competitions for school kids. Participate and promote Children's events and festivals. Award scholarships for academically excellent students. 			
Cultural	 Promote the cultural heritage of India in mainstream America. Represent India in various cultural events and programs. Host cultural events to show cast the cultural heritage of India. 			
Health	 Educate community about the importance of healthy living Promote Yoga and benefits of yoga in local community Host health related seminars and workshops Host Blood Donation camps in association with Red Cross Host Health Fair and camps to create health awareness 			
Community Support	 Support local community activities in Hampton Roads. Activities include cultural, charities, fund raising and festivities. Support local organizations and trusts. Promote networking platform for local businesses and sponsors. 			
Indian Heritage	 Act as a liaison and facilitate the involvement of people of Asian Indian origin in the mainstream of American social fabric. Disseminate information about India in local schools and colleges. Jointly host events with Indian orgs to promote culture and heritage of India. 			
Events Hosting	 Host signature event like India Fest to raise funds for charities, disaster support and operational expenses. Provide platforms to the local business community for networking through events. Raise funds through hosting cultural and non-cultural events. 			
Social & Political	Disseminate information on economic, social & political issues			



TALENT COMPETITIONS





















INDIA FEST TALENT COMPETITION WINNERS			
Competition	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd place
Instruments Juniors	Tharani Nivas	Pratiti Mohan	Nolan Bhandari
Instruments Seniors	Haneeta Jain	Jhasvisri Bezwada	
Singing Juniors	Tiara Dey	Shreya Aravind	Adhiti Murali
Singing Seniors	Haneeta Jain	Shruthi Giridharan	Riona Roy Choudhury
Public Speaking Junior	Patnayak Shrihan	Vikas Avika	Mohan Pratiti
Public Speaking Senior	Kesavamoorthy Srivardhini	Haneeta Jain	Hardik Baviskar
Math Junior	Akshara Arunprakash	Amirtaa Kumar, Deetya Parol Upendra, Samhita Mishra,Vaibhav Reddy	
Math Intermediate	Adithi Deepu, Shrihan Pattnaik	Nolan Bhandari, Abhinav Chokkalingam	
Math Senior	Soham Pattnaik	Vikaram Goudar	Pranav Mohan
Essay Junior	Tharani Nivas	Avyukt Thalluri	Adhiti Murrali
Essay Senior	Avika Vikas	Devika Padiri	Abhinav Hari Sarma
Art junior	Niharika MK	Anvika Saxena	Akshara Arunprakash
Art Intermediate	Priyanshi Swain,Samihita Mishra, Adithi Deepu		
Art Senior	Shruthi Giridharan	Samyuktha Satheesh Kumar	Avantika Rajasekaran
Lemon Spoon Race	Sujata Datta	Hema Madiraju	Neha Pardale
Pani Puri Eating	Amit Singh	Debjani Kanjilal	
Pooja Thali	Hemangini Patel	Mayuri Patil	Poornima
Billards	Vishal Dave	Dan Viar	
Salad Showdown	Mayuri Patil	Rekha Padiri	
Saree Draping	Rehka Padiri	Neha Parikh	Hetal Patel
Badminton Men's	Sudhagar Selvaraj &	Shaila Vijayaraja &	
	Rahul Bandela	Satheshkumar S	
Badminton	Kanchan Mishra &	Upasna Aron & Nagasri	
Women"s	Adwita Mishra	Yapala	
Carrom Men"s	Srikant Reddy Yapala & Ravi Reddy	Murli & Satish	
Carrom Womens	Venkatadasari Anitha Arumugam &	Madhuvanthi Rajabhoj &	
Tennis Youth Singles	Pushpa Bauliah Pranav Mohan	Shyamala Gowri Subburam Sravan Surapaneni	
Tennis Adults Singles	Karthik Rajaraman	Bikki Pradhan	
Tennis Doubles	Alok Neupane & Sanjog	RamBabu Surapaneni &	
	Thapa	Vikram Aleti	
Bowling Men's	Amit Singh		
Bowling Women's	Pushpa Bauliah		
Bowling Kids	Dev Patel		



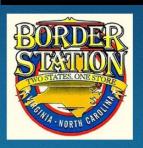
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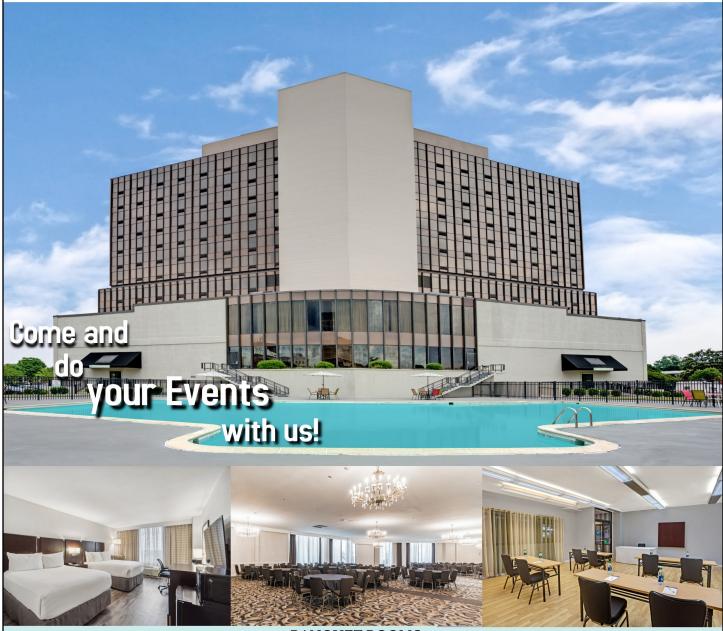
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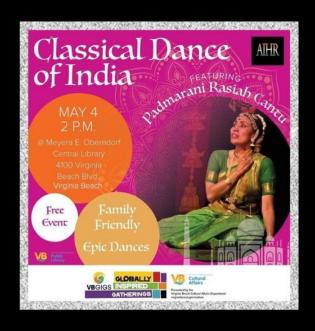
Bay Pointe nursing home, bringing India Fest to them when they can't come out to enjoy the Fest



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Parita Patel Chair, Operations



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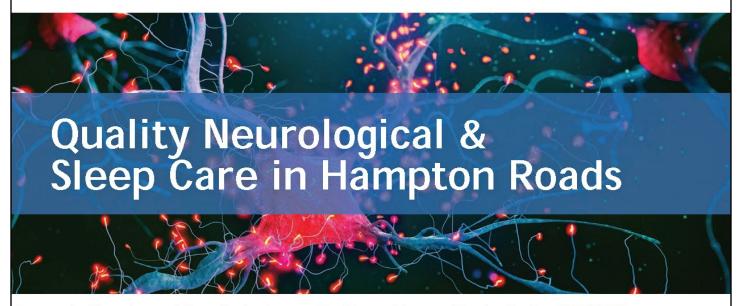


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Festival Symphony Experience the Cultural Harmony of India

By Malini Srirama

India is a diverse country of many religions, languages, and cultural traditions. Festivals present a vibrant tableau of unity in diversity, and are celebrated locally and regionally with great joy, bringing together families, friends, and festivalgoers who seek to learn more about the culture.

This year's India Fest theme offers a glimpse into the significance of some of the major festivals celebrated throughout the year. Produced by Vidhi Sharma, the main segment showcases the most popular regional celebrations.

Pongal is a southern Indian harvest festival, celebrated in January. In Tamil Nadu, it features the cooking of newly-cultivated rice. In Karnataka, people celebrate by offering sweet sesame seeds to each other.

Lohri, a festival of the Sikh and Punjabi tradition, symbolizes the end of winter with the harvest of the sugarcane.

Basant Panchami, held in the winter, honors Saraswati, the goddess of wisdom and arts.

Holi, a fun and colorful festival, focuses on the triumph of good over evil. People playfully spray liquid colors at each other.

Baisakhi, occurs at the start of a new harvest in Punjab. It commemorates the formation of the Khalsa tradition in the 17th century, which centers on community protection and service.

Krishna Janmashtami is one of the major festivals and recalls the birth of Lord Krishna, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Sweets are distributed and festival observers adorn their homes and the temples with fresh flowers.

Ganesh Chaturthi another major festival honors Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles and the God of Wisdom. It is celebrated grandly in Maharashtra and other parts of India.

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Onam is a harvest observance in the state Kerala, involving a grand feast, traditional boat races, and cultural performances.

Dussehra, also known as Navaratri, occurs on nine nights during which women dance in praise of the goddess, Durga, the slayer of a demon. In Mysore City, a grand royal procession features highly-decorated elephants carry a golden palanquin of the goddess. Tourists come from all over the world to see the spectacle.

Diwali, the Festival of Lights, symbolizes the triumph of good over evil. Festival attendees light lamps and firecrackers to symbolize the removal of darkness, evil, prejudice and ignorance, replacing them with light, goodness, knowledge, and truth.

All these festivals highlight India's plurality, its adherence to regional and local traditions and customs, and the blending of the past, present, and future in cultural harmony.



Malini Srirama is a lifelong dancer, teacher of Barathanatyam, and choreographer, current-

If roses grow in Heaven
Lord please pick a bunch for me
Place them in my mother's arms
And tell her they are from us.
Tell her I love her and miss her
And when she turns to smile
Place a kiss upon her cheek
And tell her that kiss is from me.



Mom as I was child you held my hands for a while And stayed in my hearts forever.

Your loving memory, we'll always miss you

Love · Anil Kumar, Kavitha Sri, Srivarun, Vasanth



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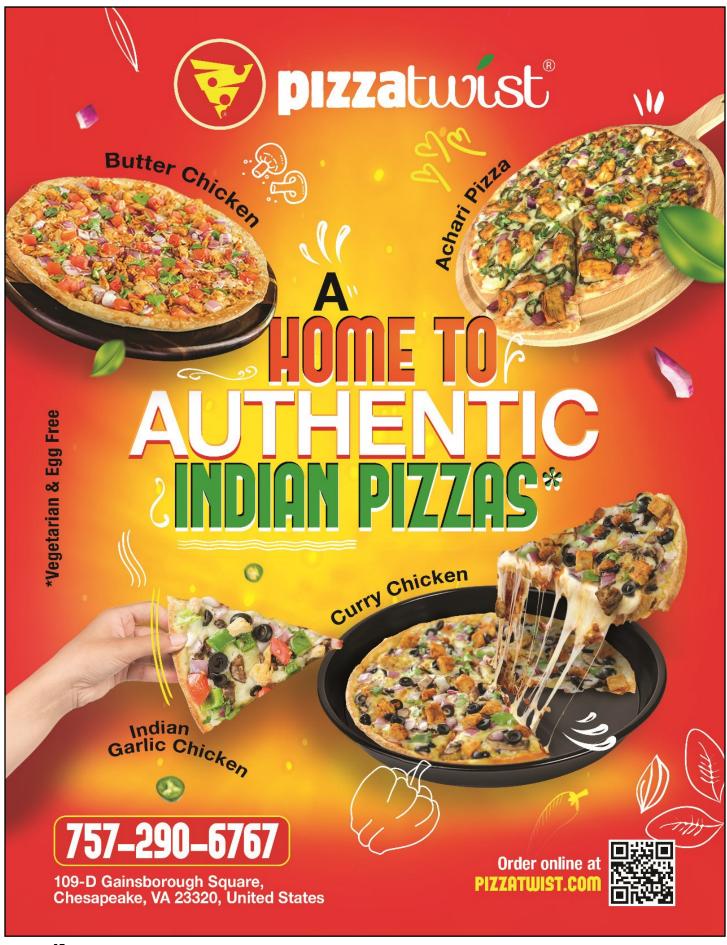
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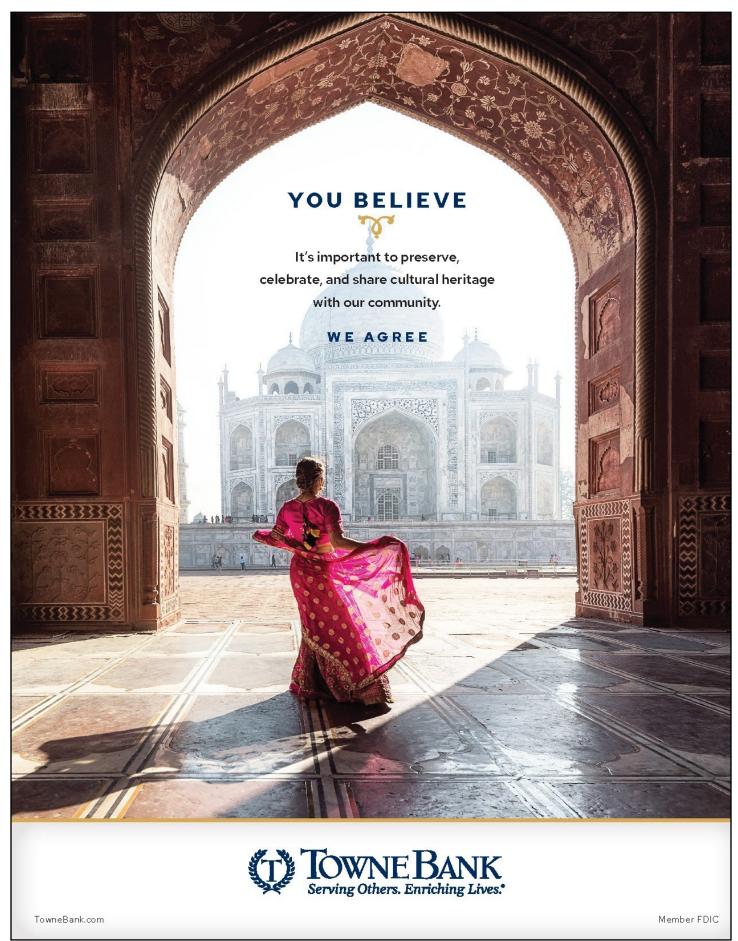
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