

SAMACHAR

AUGUST 2004

Kalamazoo, Michigan

IAK Essay contest highlights

- **Topics:** "Our India— Ownership and Social responsibility among Indians" or "Expatriate Indians and their heritage"
- **Deadline** for submission: October 15, 2004.
- **Prize:** Two prizes of \$200 payable towards expenses at WMU.

IAK Essay contest for Indian students at Western Michigan University

India Association of Kalamazoo (IAK) is happy to announce an essay competition for students of Indian origin who are currently enrolled at Western Michigan University.

Original essays are invited from interested students on any one of the following topics:

'Our India- Ownership and Social Responsibility Among Indians' or 'Expatriate Indians and Their Heritage'. Essays should be no more than 500 words in length.

Submitted Essays will be reviewed by a panel of judges appointed by IAK and the best submissions will qualify for two prizes \$ 200 each payable towards expenses at WMU.

Two printed/typewritten hard copies should be submitted to the address listed below no later than October 15, 2004 along with submitter's contact



address and phone number on a separate paper.

Vijay Mehta, 1622 Bellaire Ave.,
Portage, MI 49024

Phone: (269) 327-5456

All enquiries or requests for additional information should be directed to the above address and contact number.

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Celebrate Rakhi on August 30

Raksha Bandhan (Rakhi) stirs up one of the deepest and noblest emotions - the abiding and chaste bond of love between brother and sister. The delicate cord tied by the sister on her brother's wrist on this day represents this sublime sentiment.

A story is told of Alexander's wife approaching his mighty Hindu adversary Pururavas

and tying Rakhi on his hand, seeking assurance from him to spare the life of her husband in the battlefield. And the great Hindu king, just as he raised his hand to deliver a mortal blow to Alexander, saw the Rakhi on his own hand and restrained from striking Alexander dead.

Happy Rakhi everyone!!!

Celebrate Onam on August 28

Join the Malayalees in Kalamazoo to celebrate Onam, the most popular festival of Kerala. Onam celebrates a happy blend of myth and reality, Onam is part of the cultural repertoire of every Malayalee. Year after year, for centuries, the people of Kerala, irrespective of caste, creed or color, join together to celebrate Onam. According to local belief, in a war that took place between the gods and the demons, the demons won. Deeply hurt by the defeat of the gods, Aditi, their mother prayed to Lord Vishnu to destroy Mahabali, the Demon King. Consequently, Lord Vishnu, in the guise of a Brahmin boy, Vamanan, went to Mahabali and asked him to grant him three steps of



land. The wish was granted and Vamanan covered the whole land with his two steps and then came back to Mahabali asking him where can he place the third step. To honor his word, the King offered his own head as the third step. Vamanan pushed Mahabali deep down into the earth. Pleased by his honesty and generosity, the Lord granted him a wish that he could visit his kingdom and people on a particular day once a year. Onam is the day Mahabali comes back to visit Kerala.

Happy Onam to all Keralites!

CONDOLENCES

Our hearty condolences to Akshay and Vaishali Goel.

Recently, Akshay's father passed away in India. Our thoughts and prayers are with the grieving family and relatives.



CONGRATS

Seema, daughter of Ramesh and Mati Patel will be married to Rohit, son of Subhash and Kiran Sharma of Sterling, Virginia on September 19th.

Congratulations to Seema, Rohit, and their proud parents.

DO YOU SHOP ONLINE?

If you buy books, airline tickets, cars, phone cards, etc. online, here is an opportunity to make a contribution to the India Association. The IAK website is an affiliate of several online merchants such as Amazon.com, Orbitz, Ebay, Autobytel, Weightwatchers, and scores of others.

All that you need to do is to go to <http://www.indiakalamazoo.com/business/advertisers.htm> and then click on the link to the merchant's website from this page. If you do, a percentage of any purchase you make will be credited to IAK. Thanks.



IAK POOL PARTY AT THE DEMELLO RESIDENCE

Harsha Shah wins the IAK Cooking Contest

The first IAK Cooking competition was conducted on July 24th, 2004 at the residence of Jimmy and Pearl DeMello. Vijay Mehta meticulously planned and oversaw the contest. Nine contestants presented the four judges—Om Jolly, Nalini Qureshi, Punita Sharma and Swerun Valvani, with the delicious task of choosing the winning recipe. The evaluation criteria were taste, uniqueness of the recipe, presentation of the dish and presentation of the recipe. Quite a Herculean task but when the results were announced, Harsha Shah walked away with the first prize of \$50 for her Potato Pattis recipe. There were two winners of the second prize

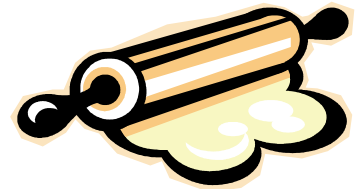
of \$25: Glory Christian for her Coconut Mouse recipe and Paramita Bandyopadhyay for Roasted Cauliflower recipe. The third prize of \$10 was won by Janice D'Souza for her Red Mutton Masala. Please visit the IAK website for these recipes.



Harsha Shah's prize winning dish



Cooking competition judges:
Punita Sharma, Nalini Qureshi,
Swerun Valvani, and Om Jolly



First Prize winning recipe

Stuffed Potato Pattis

Ingredients for Pattis

6 medium potatoes – broiled, ½ cup bread crumbs, 2 tsp corn starch, 2 medium size green chilis, 3 tsp salt, Ingredients for stuffing, 2 cups of frozen peas (grind while frozen), 1 cup fresh grated coconut, 2 tsp lemon juice, 3 tp salt, 1 tsp sugar, 10 count resins, 10 count cashews, 2 green chilis, ½ cup fresh coriander and 1 tsp oil

Method for Pattis:

Boil potatoes and smash it. Add above ingredients in and make small balls.

Method for stuffing:

Add all ingredients for stuffing except coriander in one bowl. Heat 1 tsp oil and add mixture from bowl to oil and cook. Let all water disappear then take away from stove. Let it cool down then add coriander and make small balls. Take potatoes balls and make patties by hiding stuffing balls into potato balls. Cover pota-

to patties with bread crumbs again and deep fry. Serve with mint chutney.

Mint Chutney

Ingredients:

½ cut coriander leaves, ½ cup mint leaves, ¼ cup chopped onion, 2 tsp ginger (chopped), 2 green chilis, 2 tsp lemon juice, 3 tbs dry coconut powder, 2 tsp sugar, 2 tsp salt

Method: In a blender, grind all the above ingredients to a smooth paste adding little water. Store in a jar in refrigerator.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Janmashtami - Sept 6
Ganesh Chaturthi - Sept 18
Navaratri - Oct 14-22
Ramadan – Oct 15- Nov 14
Dusshera - Oct 23
IAK Diwali—Nov 6
Diwali - Nov 12
Thanksgiving—Nov 25
Guru Nanak Jayanti - Nov 26



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PLEASE DIRECT YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO GRACIE KAYANY AT (269) 501-1254
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*For regular community news
updates, visit our website*



Preparations for Diwali 2004 underway

Mark your calendars! Diwali 2004 celebrations have been scheduled for November 6, 2004. The venue of this year's celebrations is Kasdorf Auditorium at Loy Norrix High School. Details of the program will be published at the IAK website as soon as the schedule has been finalized.

Any individual or group interested in presenting a program during the celebration is invited to contact either Rebanta Bandyopadhyaya (324-1238) or Vijay Mehta (327-5456) or Pearl DeMello (353-6818) before September 25, 04.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

NAME:

ADDRESS:

.....

SPOUSE:

CHILDREN:

.....

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY:

.....

.....

ANNUAL DUES ENCLOSED:

(\$12.00 single, \$25.00 family)

Please mail this form with payment to Vijay Mehta,
1622 Bellaire, Portage, MI 49024. Thank you.