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Inside The Oak Committee

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(Left to Right) Namrata, Riddhi, Krishna, Dhanshri, Devanand, Krunali

ISSUE NO. 17 -**NOVEMBER 2022**

PREFACE

Hello Readers!

One privilege of my job is that I started as an early Team Member of Lone Oak Solutions and had the opportunity to understand and participate in designing, building, and living in the Lone Oak workspace. The initial interactions have given me great respect for the challenges of the role a designer plays in giving 'form' to a space that defines an organization's functioning through inviting colours, accessibility, warmth, and enthusiasm. A place that fosters collaboration, shapes a connection of respect & trust, gives way to ideas & concepts and a place that we all can call our second home!

This *Inside The Oak* issue dives into the voyage of how the Lone Oak Alley with big white pillars and a sky blue ceiling took 'The Form' of a loved space into the hearts of Oaksters and family. It's not an everyday story where the Team Members are involved in picking the designs and colours of walls and furniture to brainstorming the meaningful names of various spaces and then dancing their way to welcome the world into this beautiful buildout. You are surely to find an exciting read in 'Sitting under the Oak' to find the first impression of the visit to our office by one of the family members of our Team, Nishant Trivedi, interviewed by Dhanshri Swami. Dhanshri also interviewed Jincy Lalpurwala for 'Winning Ways'.

Continuing with our regular columns 'Let's Celebrate' which covers Team Member birthdays, work anniversaries, new joining and promotions compiled by Pooja Parekh. In '3 Cheers' you will read about the achievements of last quarter Star Performers. 'Throwback' and 'Through my Lens' is compiled by Krunali Divecha. An interesting read of 'A Day in the Life of Chris Weekley' is certainly not to be missed, written by Krunali. 'Spread like Wildfire' contributed by Krishna Tilekar, who also did a nail-biting 'Rapid Fire' Q&A with Aashish Srivastava and Krunali Divecha. Much loved new addition introduced from last Inside The Oak - 'Story Time' has a curious case for you to solve of 'An Ice-Cream Hater Car'.

We would like to make a special mention of Jayesh Sharma, who designed the Front Cover and of Dev Makhijani, Sumit Saini and Tania Sil who helped with filming and editing the interviews for which you will find the hyperlink in the magazine. Lastly, thank you everyone for the feedback you provide with each new issue of Inside The Oak, it helps the committee to give their best each time!

Aparajita Gaekwad Editor

WHY WE EXIST?

To provide World-Class Services to our Affiliates.

As an affiliate company, our vision dovetails into the vision of David Weekley Homes of "Building Dreams and Enhancing Lives". We endeavour to provide them our services – by being proactive, on-time and of high quality. This in essence captures the expectations and deliverables, and this is our DNA. The vision statement is our 'North Star' that provides the direction to our goalpost. Our Mission statement is a manifestation of commitment and resolve of our team that takes pride fulfilling expectations of partners.



HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Mission statement is essentially our toolbox, our compass that aligns our purpose, efforts, aspirations, energies to reach the summit that is our vision. The mission statement with acronym of P.A.T.H. is our roadmap - GPS which will lead us to our ultimate goal. The mission statement is about leveraging all resources to implement a strategic plan to realize our vision.



Performance Oriented and Proactive:

Each team member at LOS has a clarity of purpose and has clearly defined goals; success orientation defines our team and by being Proactive we control our situation and act in anticipation to avoid pitfalls. Performance is a way of life at LOS.



Accurate and On-time Services:

Our team takes pride in producing output that is accurate without losing the sight of committed timelines. The work culture of quality and timeliness ensures that we meet the expectations of our customers every single time.



Trust in Teamwork:

Team LOS believes in collective success. We inculcate the climate of trust in individuals and team. We see Teamwork and Trust as a success multiplier. We seek support and provide support to build a winning team.



Happy and Harmonious Work Culture:

LOS is developing a culture of Harmony that makes us a happy workplace. We rise above our differentiations of knowledge, age, experience, hierarchy etc. and this makes us one homogenous force that brings success and breeds success. We are one big family where each member is a key constituent that supports the structure.



We wish to build LOS as a Value Driven Organization. Values define who we are and define our behaviors and culture.



Excellence:

The best there is - we set high standards and intend to meet the expectations of our customers by being at our best. We continually learn new skills, update knowledge that keeps us ahead of the curve and set high performance standards for ourselves.



Passion:

Team works with passion - with the mind and soul. The passion energizes our efforts to provide high quality services which is intended to bring customer delight.



Integrity:

Team LOS believes in 'doing-the-right-thing'; it has high moral obligation to the company, stake holders, society etc. to ensure that our work practices meet the best ethical standards. We have a work culture of zero tolerance when it comes to the issue of Integrity.



Commitment:

This is like an unwritten contract where we ensure our customers of our highest commitment to deliver value and expected performance. Each team member is dedicated to meet this expectation.







People Services 28th July

Architectural Visualization 19th July

Information Services 2nd July

People Services 26th July

Design Services 19th July



8th August

Information Services Information Services Purchasing Services 8th August

8th August

Architectural Visualization 7th August

Division Services 25th August

Architectural Visualization 24th August



Design Services 25th August

Division Services 4th August

Purchasing Services 18th August

Purchasing Services Information Services 26th August

17th August

People Services 20th August

Purchasing Services 12th August



Prasann Apte

Architectural Visualization 28th September

Deval Shah

Information Services 28th September

Aditi Pithava

Purchasing Services 24th September

Jay Joshi

Design Services 16th September

Kevin Patel

Design Services 16th September

Dhwani Chauhan

Design Services 30th September

WORK ANNIVERSARIES



People Services 01-09-2017

Design Services 04-09-2017

Information Services 11-07-2017

Information Services 24-07-2017

People Services 01-09-2017



Architectural Visualization 02-08-2018

Division Services 17-09-2018

Division Services 01-08-2018

Design Services 01-08-2018

Division Services 01-08-2018

Architectural Visualization 20-08-2018



Design Services 16-07-2018

Division Services 17-09-2018

Division Services 01-08-2018

Information Services 17-09-2018

17-09-2018

Purchasing Services Architectural Visualization 09-07-2018



Design Marketing 01-07-2019

15-07-2020

Architectural Visualization Architectural Visualization Architectural Visualization 15-07-2019

03-09-2019



NEW TEAM MEMBERS



01-09-2022

Information Services 01-09-2022

Design Services 05-07-2022

Design Services 16-08-2022

PROMOTIONS



People Services Admin Associate

Purchasing Services Purchase Associate II

Division Services Division Services Designer III

Division Services Sr. Division Services Designer



Design Services Design System Analyst I Information Services Tech Lead III

Information Services Senior Software Developer II Information Services UX Designer II

Architectural Visualization Lead 3d Visualizer

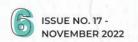
MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES



Architectural Visualization 15-07-2021



Purchasing Services 04-07-2014





STAR PERFORMERS OF QUARTER 2, 2022



ACE Award winner for Q2 of 2022 is Krunali Divecha. From day one Krunali has worked hard to improve her knowledge and skills. She eagerly asks questions and apply feedback quickly. Krunali keeps a positive attitude, works diligently, and tackles the more challenging tasks with a smile. With a readiness to help and "can-do" mentality, she has fit in seamlessly with the Team. Since starting with us Krunali has taken on new types, new cities, and lately a new estimating template.

Urvi Shah won Arjuna Award of Production Team. Urvi joined LOS in 2017 and is consistently one of the top performers on the Team. She has always excelled at every responsibility assigned and does everything with a smile their face. Urvi remained focused and achieved highest no. of production files with 6 days of turnaround time in last quarter. Along with maintaining production goals, she helps with production training, peer checking, sharing knowledge with Team Members. Addition to this, Urvi has been an active participant of CARE committee since the beginning and always active in various Team bonding activities. In her free time, Urvi likes to spend time with family and friends. She is one of the top Ping pong (table tennis) players of LOS.





IS Impact Award winner is Jayanti Upadhyay. Jayanti has worked in our TIPS system and impacted feature work like lender management, REA management, also contributed with CCS team and resolved bugs and did feature enhancement. Currently, she is working with Purchasing Team and working on few features like Bulk item inactivation feature, Documents feature etc. Jayanti is humble and a great Team player who is always ready to help others. Her troubleshooting skills are remarkable. Jayanti has also been terrific at alerting the Team of errors in the queue and investigating causes and recommending solutions. In her spare time, she loves to spend quality time with her son, Vyom. Not to forget, Jayanti is a natural at mimicking almost anybody, so don't get surprised next time you find her mimicking you.

AV Avenger's Award was received by Sneh Verma. Sneh joined LOS in August 2018 and has been a Team player in true sense. He frequently assists his fellow teammates in resolving their queries which enables us to provide high quality renders. Sneh has greatly improved his output and consistently provides error free images. His outstanding performance inspires his fellow Team Members to reach new heights. He produces CAD models in record time and takes on these more difficult tasks with an incredible attitude. And, has been described as a diligent hard-worker and perfectionist. During his free time, Sneh enjoys travelling to different places with his first love (motorbike – Royal Enfield) and spending time with his wife Deepshikha.





Krishna Tilekar of Division Services won Spotlight Award. Krishna welcomes any challenge and an opportunity to learn a new skill. When she joined our division, we had to fast track her training since our local Team Member was going to no longer be with us. This meant Krishna had to learn ASR's and plan changes without the support from a local TM. She immediately took on the responsibility and did so with a very positive attitude every day. Krishna has consistently completed ASR's and plan changes ahead of schedule while producing a high quality product. She has completed over 60 plan changes since the beginning of the year ranging from sheet organization to full redesigns and elevation changes. Krishna has become very versed in all aspect of her position and is someone we rely on heavily! She is always eager to help the Team and does so with a smile on her face!



Jincy Lalpurwala won Team Member of the Quarter, for Q2, 2022.

Jincy joined LOS in September 2018 as a part of Division Services Team. She lives with her mother, Mayuri Lalpurwala, her father Ashesh Lalpurwala and her extended family.

Jincy is described as "friendly, approachable, and keeps a positive environment around" by her fellow Team members.

Winning Team Member of the Quarter award has always been a sense of pride and achievement for the Team Members, how would you like to describe the dopamine hit when your name was announced as the winner?

To be honest it came as a total surprise. There I was guessing out names and suddenly realized my name was being called out. It intensified the adrenaline rush and I felt awesome as it's always wonderful to receive such a recognition. It inspires me to keep going on the road I have been heading to.

WINNING WAYS

Is there any action plan that you follow with shifting priorities of ASRs, PCRs and keeping up with the timelines at the same time?

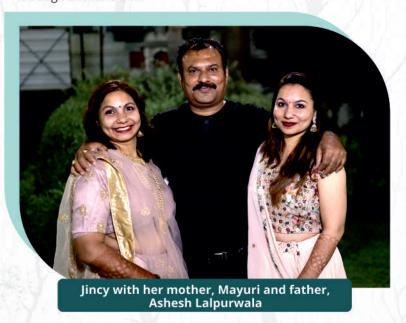
I record the assignments and list them in order of highest to lowest priority depending on the due dates. Although we have different turnaround days for ASR'S (4 days) & PCR'S (12 days), I kickstart with the ASR and would make it my top priority. And, on the contrary when the PCR requires some minor changes only, then I would grab that first and get it done before starting the ASR that way the average turnaround time for both ASR and PCR is balanced.

As it is believed that a quality workspace design leads to more productive atmosphere. How does the LOS office space encourage you at your work?

It probably isn't the first thing that I consciously think of every time I enter the office, but I would say the workspace design has a huge impact on guiding our behavior at work. The tidy office spaces, open cubicles for cross interactions, the soft muted colors, some exquisite plants in the lobby, make the work environment livelier. Extra life, Library, Bistro and Lounge provides with quick mental breaks to re-charge the mind. Summing up, LOS workspace design promotes a positive, open culture that fosters and prioritizes collaboration and cheerfulness, where I feel encouraged and connected to people.

Being a certified Bharatnatyam dancer, what is that one learning from the dance form which you have imbibed in your life?

It's hard to point out one single greatest lesson. But, having said that I would go ahead and say - it taught me to not give up and being consistent throughout my journey. Discipline and persistence is what kept me going during the 7 years of my journey of getting this degree. I tend to use these virtues learned during my dance course in my professional and personal life that help me stick to my goals through thick and thin.



FOOD DRIVE

C.A.R.E Committee prepared, packed, and distributed 300 packets of vegetable biryani which were distributed to the underprivileged around the city and to the workers at nearby construction sites. The distribution of the food essentials was facilitated successfully by the joint efforts of C.A.R.E Team.





















CLEANLINESS DRIVE

A cleaning campaign was initiated where the entire C.A.R.E. Team participated. Everyone visited a nearby beach location, Kotna beach on the banks of the Mahisagar river and cleaned the entire surrounding area as much as they possibly could. As a bonus, they also threw seed balls over there.





Satyanarayan Katha was performed at LOS in the holy month of Shravan, followed by a potluck where entire LOS Team, divided into several groups, had got lip smacking food items that were presented with unique titles.





INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Following the tradition, LOS celebrated the 76th Independence Day with lot of zeal and patriotism. Whether it was through the lovely rangoli made at the entrance by Isha Pandya & Prachi Patel or by everyone singing the National Anthem together in the Weekly World, it was a room full of energy. Also, not to forget the flag decorations placed at each desk added to the fervor of celebration.









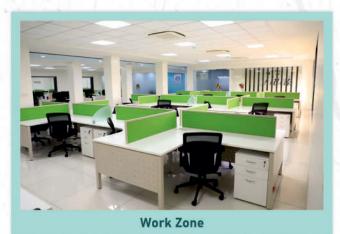
FIRE SAFETY TRAINING

To raise awareness and provide Team Members the correct protocol they need to follow in the event of an emergency or fire hazard, the People Team had arranged a session on fire safety training.

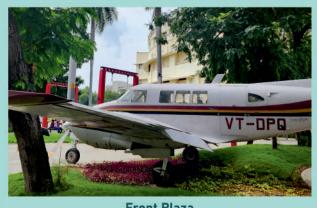
SITTING UNDER THE OAK

From referencing the LOS office building as the one across the Big Banyan Tree to mentioning it now as the establishment with an aircraft parked at its front, the journey has been truly enjoyable.

My first glance at our office space was through an introduction video that was presented at our college conference room during the campus placement. It seemed fascinating to me. The joyous splash of vibrant colors from green, orange, blue to morning glory white absolutely amazed me. Surely, a workplace where everyone and anyone would be delighted to walk in. Do you all remember the conference rooms that we gave our interviews in? Well, mine was conducted in "Think Big". Certainly, a kickstart for me to something bigger and better for the professional journey.







Front Plaza





Passing by the "Oak-Story" gave a quick glimpse of the happy work culture that LOS have imbibed. Brightly lit pathway in hues of white where all of us are welcomed with a grand gesture of "Clap-line" and the row of fresh green plants not only enhances the workspace but also makes us feel happier & comfortable. A perfect amalgamation of vivid colors in the work zones, gives an on-point portrayal of our Team Members with creative minds and diverse personalities, all working harmoniously together under one space. Each nook and corner of LOS holds its own symbolic essence and impact. Our Vision statement, Our Mission - P.A.T.H and the E.P.I.C. Values inscribed on the walls, gives us a constant reminder of what we aspire and the action plan we seek.

Every meeting room has its own significance with their unique name and quotes written on its walls, that inspire growth. All these conference rooms have witnessed the growths and the action plans made for constant upliftment. Apart from this, one can also find spots to have a quick break over a cup of coffee in the Bistro, a fun game in Extra Life or a quite reading session in the Lounge. I discovered my little reading corner in the Extra Life and in the Lounge. I'm pretty sure each one of you have your own share of stories from Lounge, Extra Life, and Bistro where we all have shared giggles, laughter, information, facts, food and what not.

It has been a wonderful journey of four years from being amazed to see the office space and now it has become an integral part of life where we spend 9 hours of our day, learning, laughing and constantly growing together.

Lone Oak Solutions has always welcomed the family members of our Team Members, following the same tradition this time for Sitting Under the Oak, we have an interesting interview of Medha Trivedi's husband - Nishant. Medha is working with Lone Oak Solutions since May 2017 in the IS Department. Nishant currently works as Senior Project Engineer with Siemens. He is also Chair of ASME and loves networking with people, enjoys outdoor activities and never misses any new cuisine that falls his ears.

It was fun getting to know his experience about Lone Oak Solutions office, culture, and the team. We hope you enjoy the article.



Medha & Nishant Trivedi

As they say the first impression is the last impression, do you remember the first time you happen to be at Lone Oak Solutions? How will you describe the first impression of it?

I vividly remember the day when Medha insisted me to visit her at LOS on a working day just to get the feel of the company she works for. At first, I was bit hesitant as not many companies are open to have visitors. However, it felt great to meet her colleagues and get to know them. As we walked through the alley, she explained how they were involved in designing the office space, various meeting rooms, how the Vision, Mission, and Value statements were formed. This has a profound effect on me as to how LOS has developed the level of engagement from smallest detail that gives each Team Member a sense of belongingness.

What do you find the most appealing about the workplace at Lone Oak Solutions?

I pretty much like everything about the LOS's workplace and the cafeteria. Being specific, I instantly got attracted towards the memory wall aka 'The Oak Story'. The thought of having a memory wall was itself a great way of acknowledging and celebrating accomplishments and contributions. It's outstanding!



You accompanied Medha at the mesmerizing Goa trip on the occasion of LOS's 5-year anniversary celebration. Which part of the trip did you look forward to most?

Entire LOS Team has made my GOA trip experience such delightful one and worth going again. Nonetheless, I enjoyed kayaking race and sky dining the most. Not in my wildest imagination had ever thought of kayaking race nor I had ever experienced kayaking in my life. But participating and racing with kayaking was an amazing way of team building activity, enhancing leadership skills and the enthusiasm of every Oakster made it more fun filled. I had experienced it first time and still in search of kayaking near Vadodara over the weekend.

Working at a Multinational company yourself, what is that one thing about Lone Oak Solutions that makes it stand out?

In my 8+ years of Multinational experience with companies having distinct ideologies and different people, I must say Lone Oak Solutions is highly employee friendly. It is uncommon to see People Team and other Teams work hand in hand with diligence, harmony and enthusiasm. While not forgetting to mention how much I appreciate quarterly Growth Reviews which are not so thoughtful in some of the big multinational companies of India.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF CHRIS WEEKLEY



All of us know Chris but most of us never had the opportunity to see his life closely, therefore we wanted to give you a slice of a day in the life of Chris Weekley. Chris joined David Weekley Homes fifteen years ago and has been in various roles throughout the years, beginning as a builder in Austin and progressing through sales, operations management to management at HST. Recently, he has been entrusted with more high-level company responsibilities, which means he has more to accomplish in less time. And Chris, with his great time management skills and work delegation, has built an effective work-life balance for himself. He is married to his wonderful wife Sarah for 18 years and has five children, Grayson, 15, Sawyer, 12, Asher, 10, Tobin, 8, and Thatcher, 6. Not to forget, the two miniature golden doodle dogs named Ozzy and Penny. "It's a full house but we wouldn't have it any other way." is how Chris describes his loved unit. So, let's dive and have a quick glance about his daily routine.

Like many successful individuals, Chris wakes up at 5:00 a.m. and starts his day with a nice run. Once he is back, he enjoys doing some home duties with Sarah, which includes waking up the kids and getting them ready for school, as well as caring for pets. He believes in splitting duties with his wife to manage all the youngsters timely. "My wife and I generally split up so we can divide and conquer driving the kids around," Chris said.



Our management motto at

David Weekley Homes is Define Reality
and Give Hope.I do my best to do this
with our Team each day."- Chris Weekley

on completing all his morning responsibilities at about 7, he arrives in the office around 7:30 a.m. At work, you'll notice him busy with several meetings, with barely an hour or two to manage email and eat! Reviewing land plans for new land acquisitions, marketing updates, Planned Encounters with the wonderful team, 401k and Insurance, meetings with developers is how his normal day at office looks like. "In addition, I travel most weeks, either to one of our markets or to an industry event." Chris added when we asked him about his work.

Talking about his journey at David Weekly Homes and his involvement with the Team, Chris said "Wow, what a journey it has been! One could argue that my journey started at birth as my father had already started the company before I was born. But my official start date was 15 years ago. It's been an incredible 15 years and the journey is just beginning...I'm as excited and energized about our company now as I was on day one!".



As he started working with David Weekley Homes from the basic level up to the higher management, he is proud of working on High Density projects which are now called Central Living communities that are smaller homes in infill locations. "These are smaller residences in urban areas. I'm pleased to report that we are still constructing Central Living communities today," Chris mentioned.

Working with Team Members is without a doubt his favorite task. Chris said "It's the people! I absolutely love getting to work with some amazing, smart, funny and thoughtful people day in and day out. And that includes our fantastic team at Lone Oak!" Aside from work, he enjoys Team outings to go-kart races, picnics in the park, happy hours, and simply relaxing together.

With more innovations and disruptions in the homebuilding industry in the past 5 or 10 years than in the preceding 50, Chris is always scanning the horizon for the next approach to delight consumers, deliver a betterquality product, and outperform the competition. He keeps a watch on 3D printing and brick laying robots to see when or if those technologies might enter the business. He prefers to read a lot to stay up to date on all the relevant information and expertise. The Wall Street Journal (the physical print, not the internet version!), Axios News, Bloomberg News, a daily Christian devotional, and the Harvard Business Journal are among his frequent reads.

For Chris the real fun begins after work, that is when he and his wife take their children to various sports and school events, which typically wraps up around 8 p.m., and then the little ones go to bed. After a long day, they unwind by binge watching TV shows on Netflix or Amazon Prime. Both then retire to bed at 10:30 p.m. to gear up for the next day all over again.



SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE



BRAHMASTRA (PART ONE - SHIVA)

Taking the top spot at the Global box office, Brahmastra has been a talk of the town since its release. Being one of the most expensive Bollywood films to date, this fantasy, adventure mishmash has been performing exceptionally well locally and internationally, seemingly defying the somewhat mixed reviews it received from the critics. From VFX to performances, cameos to anticipation for part 2, internet is buzzing with all things 'Brahmastra'.



BTS

Record breaking South Korean boy band BTS (Aka Bangtan Boys) takes the internet by storm with the jaw dropping energetic blend of dance pop and hip-hop, with deeply introspective lyrics that helped them build a global following. With the Lyrics that tackle topics like mental health, self-acceptance & empowerment, BTS connected with a devoted fan base world-wide.



TWIN TOWER DEMOLITION

India goes gaga all over the social media as twin towers crumble, since it being the largest demolition the country has ever witnessed. Soon after an implosion triggered with 3700 kilograms of explosives brought the towers to the ground in just 13 seconds, feeds on WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook and other platforms were flooded with its photos, videos & memes.

ISSUE NO. 17 -



KRUNALI DIVECHA

RAPID FIRE

If you could trade lives with anyone for a day, who would it be and why?

I want trade my life with Sakshi Tanwar. I am a huge fan of hers, and I want to see how her life goes...

If you were famous, what would you be famous for?

I will follow my childhood dream of becoming an Actor, I love acting and I want to be famous for that.

3 Name one thing that caught your eyes off when you entered the office for the first time.

I really like how the placements of desk have been arranged it is so spacious and we have two desktops which attracts me the most.

What will you do if you stay invisible for a day?

I will come to the office and sleep the entire day at a desk because I like the atmosphere here.

Tell me the first thought that you think of when I say, "LOS infrastructure"?

It is the best I have ever seen.

If you could time warp yourself to any point in history, when would it be, who would you spend time together with?

Well! This is little emotional, but I would like to go back 25 years to where I wanted to spend time with my father.

What fashion trend do you wish should disappear forever?

Low ankle pants and palazzo I really do not like that trend.

8 Finish the phrase "the way to my heart is...."

Food with movie. If you give me that I will be the happiest.

Have you read any books that changed your perspective on life?

I do not read many books about life changing perspectives, but I have read a fiction book called Ram from Ramchandra series and it helped me see how a person goes to help every other person.

Let us say you are the host of a late-night talk show. Who would be your first guest?

I would like to invite someone from our purchasing team since our talks are never ending... and I would like to name that show The Gossip...



AASHISH SRIVASTAVA

If you could trade lives with anyone for a day, who would it be and why?

Cristiano Ronaldo! He is one of the biggest superstars in football and I love football. I have been watching him for a long time. And who does not want to live a glamorous life.

2 If you were famous, what would you be famous for?

There are many things, but I would like to be famous for my sarcasm.

Name one thing that caught your eyes off when you entered the office for the first time.

Brilliant place, so spacious, so many conference rooms and it has great natural light and of course how we can miss the game room!

What will you do if you stay invisible for a day?

I will visit every corner of the world without paying.

Tell me the first thought that you think of when I say, "LOS infrastructure"?

It is one of the best.

If you could time warp yourself to any point in history, when would it be, who would you spend time together with?

I would go back to the age where jobs were not there you just have to eat food and sleep all day and just hang out with the people around you.

What fashion trend do you wish should disappear forever?

Low ankle pants because I just hate it. This trend should just disappear.

B Finish the phrase "the way to my heart is...."

Stomach... I just need food that is the only way to my heart.

Have you read any books that changed your perspective on life?

I'm not a reader and haven't read a book that I can say has changed my perspective or has been life changing. I can say reading Sherlock Holmes has been a different experience.

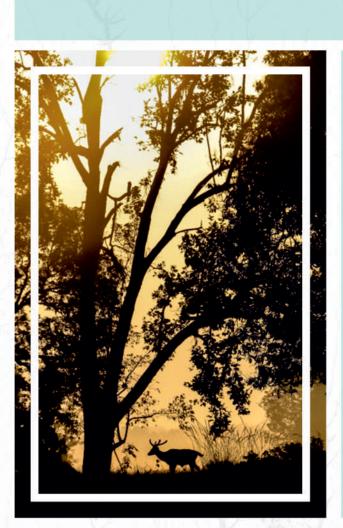
Let us say you are the host of a late-night talk show. Who would be your first guest?

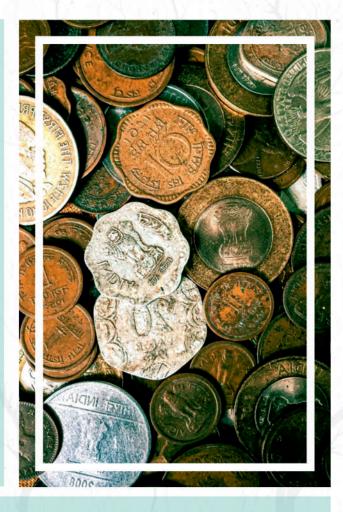
I would like to invite Charlie Chaplin to my show so that I can have a conversation with him without saying a word, and I would like to name that show PJ with Ashish.

ANCIENT CURRENCIES

Delineates ancient civilizations, culture, and period of history it was crafted in. This picture is reminiscence of my grandmother imparting us wisdom of treasuring cultural wealth and preserving antiques.

Pranati Vahia





GOLDEN HOUR

The early morning and late evening hours are considered the "golden hours" in the photography world, which can give you some magical pictures. I clicked this silhouette of a lone deer roaming in the meadows of this dense but beautiful park, Kanha Tiger Reserve. On one of those cold morning safaris at Kanha Tiger Reserve, I saw a few deer grazing in the meadows. Kanha is a unique park located in central India that has tall Sal trees. At dawn and dusk, the soft sunlight cuts through the sal forest and illuminates everything beneath. I instructed our driver to position the vehicle so that the deer was facing the sun. I waited for the deer to walk under the tree so that I could add some extra elements and clicked this picture.

Sachet Khandeshwar

Location : Kanha Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh





THE MYSTERY OF PONTIAC THAT DISLIKED VANILLA

I'm sure all of us have a personal favourite when it comes to ice-cream flavours, but have you heard that car, yes a car that hates a particular flavour. Sounds weird, right? Let me tell you a story about a *Pontiac car that hates vanilla ice-cream.* Yes, that's the flavour the car hated.

Mr. James and his family had a tradition of having ice-cream for dessert everyday after dinner. They would vote which

flavour and had different ice-creams everyday but after buying their brandnew Pontiac, they started facing a weird issue. He wrote his complain to the General Motors regarding the issue. As the problem was not addressed after the first letter, Mr James wrote again to the Pontiac

Car Division of General Motors: This is the second time I have written you, and I don't blame you for not answering me, because I kind of sounded crazy. You see, every time I buy vanilla ice cream, when I start back from the store my car won't start. If I get any other kind of ice cream, the car starts just fine. I want you to know I'm serious about this question, no matter how silly it sounds: 'What is there about a Pontiac that makes it not start when I get vanilla ice cream, and easy to start whenever I get any other kind?'"

Sometimes the obvious is not always the solution, and the facts, no matter how implausible, are still the facts....and even insane –looking problems are sometimes real!

Although sceptical, the Pontiac President sent an engineer to know what the real issue was. The Engineer and James drove to the ice cream store that night. It was vanilla ice cream that night and, sure enough, to the Engineer's surprise, after they came back to the car, it wouldn't start. He returned for three more nights. The first night, they got chocolate - the car started. The second night, he got strawberry - the car started. The third night he ordered vanilla - the car failed to start! Now that is something scary! The Engineer applied all his knowledge, there was nothing left unchecked - the gas used, the car model, the time it took to drive back and forth, everything remained the same during both the visits. The Engineer was a man of logic and after a lot of thinking and observation, he got the missing piece of the puzzle! "Vapor Lock" -Time was the problem - not the vanilla ice

How & why? The answer was in the layout of the store. Vanilla, being the most popular flavour, was in a separate case at the front of the store for quick pick up. All the other flavours were kept in the back of the store at a different counter where it took considerably longer to check out the flavour. Since it took Mr James, extra time to get the other flavours, it allowed the engine to cool down sufficiently to start, while on other days when he got vanilla, the engine was still too hot for the vapor lock to dissipate!

James and the entire staff were now relieved, their Pontiac didn't hate the most popular ice-cream flavour after all!

cream!