



ISKCON NEW TALAVANA



NEWS LETTER

A month filled of fun and festivities!

13th Annual Cow Festival

Hare Krishna, We kicked off this month with our very successful 13th Annual cow festival! The turnout was great and the atmosphere was in a buzz. We started off the



festival by invoking auspiciousness by performing a fire sacrifice which was conducted by our temple president His Grace Yogendra Vandana Das prabhu. The fire sacrifice is meant to dispel all negativity allowing positivity to surround us and our welcomed guests. What a great way to start!

There were various types of activities from Yoga and Kirtans under the clear skies for the adults and hayrides, donkey rides, play park, face painting and many more for the kids. All in all there was laughter and smiles all around New Talavana's Farm and we were indeed happy to be apart of it.

The food stalls were on a roll, with delicious eats everywhere, from Indian curries to Italian pizzas and pastas, South Indian Sambar dosa, And various kinds of delicious sweets... Oh boy it's surely was a treat!



The fireworks display was something everyone waited for and it was most certainly worth the wait, it beautifully lit up the dark skies which was such a magical sight!



We then ended the festival celebrating Dussehra, Dussehra, is an Hindu festival that celebrates the victory of good over evil. It's generally celebrated by building a figurine in the form of Ravana, the evil king that tried to devour goodness and failed miserably in a fight with the supreme Lord Ram (God). In many countries, on this day, people build a figurine of Ravana stuffed with fireworks and set it alight depicting light will always prevail over darkness and religion will be reestablished. Here in New Talavana the kids and some parents got together and did a great job by building up Ravana, one of the children dressed up as the king Lord Ram and shot the arrow of fire into the belly of the demon and set the figurine alight. Everyone watched intriguingly.



Govardhan- the hill of love and protection

On the 28th of October we celebrated a beautiful pastime of lord Sri Krishna, where the lord picks up a the Govardhana mountain to save the inhabitants of Vrindavana from torrential rains and thunderstorms. It was due to the great king of heaven Indra being infuriated when the prayer that was meant for him had been stopped by Krishna, the supreme lord, who took birth in Vrindavana, India to reestablish religion once again. One day Krishna the supreme lord very well aware of everything that's happening as a baby decided to test the God of the heavens, Indra. Lord Krishna had requested his father along with the residents of Vrindavana to stop doing the Indra puja (prayer to the God of rain and thunder) because he said that it is the duty of Indra to shower the lands with sufficient rain and nourish the grounds and the crops, so why does he needs to be worshiped for something he is bound to do, Lord Krishna said rather worship the form of Lord Vishnu as Giri Govardhana because he is the one that provides the food source, grains, fruits vegetables and fresh water to the residents

After a lot of contemplation by the Lord's parents and elders and after some very persuasive words by the supreme personality of Godhead, Sri Krishna, they all agreed to worship the Govardhan hill instead, when Lord Indra discovered that the worship that was meant for him is now to be performed for Govardhan hill he was furious so much so that Lord Indra let his anger blind him from the reality that this was decided by the supreme Lord Sri Krishna. Indra commanded the clouds to shower torrents of rain and storm gushing and flooding the lands of Vrindavana. Sri Krishna being the supreme personality of Godhead smiled and said to the inhabitants of Vrindavana do not fear! Govardhan hill will protect you! He then lifted the hill with the pinky finger of his left hand and told all of the inhabitants of Vrindavana to take shelter under Govardhan hill along with all of their belongings and cattle. The supreme Lord protected them all for seven days and nights. Lord Indra after using all his might and power to destroy the place realized that his effects was futile and this could only because of the supreme Lord Vishnu, Sri Krishna. He ordered the clouds to stop immediately and he put an end to the storm, Krishna then informed the residents that they are now safe to go home with their families and cows. Lord Indra realized his mistake and immediately came to the Lord to apologies and seek His forgiveness, He praises Krishna as the supreme father and performed glorious rituals to the Lord as Govardhan hill. Sri Krishna, as Govardhana hill was pleased with Indra and accepted his prayers and forgave him just as a father forgives a stubborn and ignorant son. Such is the mercy of the Lord. All glories to his unlimited pastimes.

Here at New Talavana in order to celebrate this most wonderful pastime of the supreme lord lifting Govardhana Hill. All the residents of the farm gets together by preparing all sorts of eatables to offer Lord Krishna as Govardhana and build a hill made of halva, sweets, biscuits , coconut, cakes and many more nice offerings. The artistic kids make figurines depicting the hill and the animals in Vrindavana. After the worship and prayer to Sri Krishna as Govardhan hill we auction the figurines and raise funds for other projects within the farm that could involve the kids in spiritual activities and honoring the pastimes of Sri Krishna.



Srila Prabhupada

Disappearance Day



On the 31st of this month we observe the disappearance of our founder acharya his divine grace A.C Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada.

“ On this date in 1965, at the age of Sixty-Nine, Srila Prabhupada left india on a steamship bound for the United States with the intention of bringing the teachings of Krishna and Caitanya Mahaprabhu to the English speaking world. With him was a trunk full of his translations and commentary on the first canto of “Srimad-Bhagavatam”, and about forty rupees in cash.

Within a year, he attracted a few committed followers willing to help him spread his mission. Over the next decade, Srila Prabhupada had initiated thousands of disciples, made “Hare Krishna “ a household word, and established over a hundred centers of the “International Society for Krishna Consciousness worldwide.” (Extracts from “Krishna.com”)

Srila prabhupada left this world on November 14 1977, in Vrindavan, India. He had hundreds of disciples present with him chanting the holy names of Krishna. Srila Prabhupada was such a great personality that even in his last moments he continued to preach and dictate the essence of “Srimad Bhagavatam.”

Out with the "Old" and in with the "New"



The main fridge in the deity kitchen has not been working properly for some time now, every now and again it will leak out and flood the area around it. Devotees had the struggle of always having to clean it up and make sure all the water is dried as the drain is a distance away. Finally we managed to get it replaced by the grace of Alison Narshma. The new fridge cools wonderfully and has nice shelves and lighting. Now all of Lord Krishna's bhoga can be nicely packed ready to be made into feasts for his pleasure. All glories



to these wonderful devotees for making this possible and a huge thank you from all of us at New Talavana. May you always be blessed by the mercy of Sri Sri Radha-Radhakanta...

