

Division 8 employees Ranjit Basra, Jatinder Singh, Shiv Bhardwaj, Sharanjit Singh, Richard Jajja and Avtar Chatta celebrated Indian Independence Day with a feast for co-workers.



Celebrating Indian Independence Day At Division 8

By ERIC RAPP

(Aug. 22, 2003) West Valley Division 8 is continuing tradition that began three years ago – celebrating Indian Independence Day.

August 15 is a special day for MTA employees who were born in India or who are of Indian heritage. Much like July 4 in the United States, August 15 commemorates the day in 1947 that India gained its freedom from British rule.



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To celebrate, several Division 8 operators who immigrated to the United States from India took it upon themselves to cook a traditional Indian feast for everyone at the division. Ranjit Basra, Jatinder Singh, Avtar S. Chattha, Richard Jajja, and Mandeep S. Sagoo also serve the food and explain what the dishes are to Indian food “novices.”

In addition to familiar items like curried chicken and herb rice, they brought new treats such as “pakoba,” a fried vegetable snack; and a delicious dessert called “jalabi.”

Next year, say the operators, they’ll be celebrating in an even bigger way. In addition to the food, says Basra, “we will be wearing traditional Indian garb and playing Indian music.”

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