

CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE

Office of the Mayor

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December 23, 2012

To the Residents of Charlottesville in 2062:

I want to introduce you to the Charlottesville of 2012. It is a great and beautiful community, ranked one of the best places to live in America. It has a diverse population, which is one of its strengths. It is a historic but very progressive city, and home to the University of Virginia.

The year 2012 has been an eventful one. We had a visit from President Barack Obama, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, and many other interesting people such as the musician Bruce Springsteen, and the Charlottesville-based Dave Mathews Band.

The focal point of the City of Charlottesville is our Downtown Pedestrian Mall, which is like a community living room and the heart of our community, with shops, cafés, restaurants, housing, art and cultural activities, and civic functions.


The City has a Council/Manager form of government, where Council is elected by the citizens at large to make policy for the City. We encourage citizens to participate in making our policies. The City Manager administers and implements policies and programs with the assistance of about thirty departments.

Some of our favorite local traditions include the Dogwood Parade, First Night Virginia, which occurs on New Year's Eve, the Virginia Festival of the Book, and the Virginia Film Festival. First Fridays, where art galleries open their new shows on the first Friday of every month, are a fun event. We have one of the oldest Municipal Bands in the country, and they give free performances for the community at the Paramount Theatre and other locations in the City. One of my favorite celebrations in Charlottesville is the Fourth of July Naturalization Ceremony at Monticello.

The City of Charlottesville has four sister cities: Poggio a Caiano, Italy; Pleven, Bulgaria, Besancon, France, and Winneba, Ghana. We have enjoyed various exchanges with them, which is enriching to each of us.

I wish to share with you my personal background. I was elected Mayor in January 2012 for a two year term. My City Council term expires in December 2015. I am originally from India, and I follow Sikh religion, but I also attend the Unitarian-Universalist Church on Rugby Road. I was Director of Planning for the City of Charlottesville for 25 years and Director of Strategic Planning for 6 years before retiring from the city in 2004. I also teach courses on community planning at the University of Virginia's School of Architecture.

I want to send the very best wishes to you all from the current residents of Charlottesville in 2012, at the opening of this capsule in the year 2062.


Satyendra Singh Huja, Mayor