

Text to accompany LOSC winning Photo: "Walkway"  
Photographer: Malini Parekh

What do you do?

Professionally, I am a Systems Analyst, worked in the IT as a consultant for various industries over the last 20 years. I am an enthusiastic photographer and gardener.

What kind of photography do you like to do?

I am an amateur photographer with a passion to capture nature, landscapes and small moments in daily life. I use the basic functions of a camera with emphasis on the composition, trying to capture things that we may otherwise miss in our daily hustle and bustle. I have traveled extensively and love to capture the local color, scene and mood. Looking at the pictures, I want people to feel what I felt taking them.

How do you feel about open space, and open space in Livingston?

I love open spaces; especially meadows and brooks, hills and trees, and curvy roads leading to a breath-taking spot! Fall colors and fresh snow always captivate me. Outdoor spaces are the treasures of any community. They provide a venue for hikes and picnics for family activities, a peaceful walk in solitude, group sport activities, or jogging and running.

Livingston is a very friendly community for people with passion for open spaces. I love to take walks around the Oval, Littell's Pond, and East Hills Park on Shrewsbury Drive. Watching the sunset from Riker Hill Art Park, listening to 'Music Under the Stars' at Memorial Park, enjoying 'Art at the Oval' and watching July 4 firecrackers from the Hillside School lawn are some of the other benefits that open spaces in Livingston offer.

How and why did you take this particular photo?

We have a family tradition to walk to the Oval after a major snow fall, once the drive way is clean! During one such walk in January 2005, the ground was freshly covered with snow, the pine tree branches were hugging the ground and the children were sleigh riding on the Hillside School slope. As we were walking from South Ashby Avenue towards the bridge to Littell's Pond, I was captivated by the scenery and I had to capture it in my camera. I am happy that the resulting picture provides a glimpse of one of the magnificent open spaces we have in Livingston.