



A PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER AS HINDU HERITAGE MONTH IN NEW ALBANY

WHEREAS, New Albany is home to a diverse and inclusive community; and

WHEREAS, the culture, history, traditions, achievements, and contributions of Hindus are recognized and celebrated throughout the United States in October, and, in January 2025, Governor DeWine signed House Bill 173 which officially recognizes October as Hindu Heritage Month in the state of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, October was chosen as Hindu Heritage Month because Mahatma Gandhi's birthday is at the beginning of the month and Diwali is typically celebrated near the end of the month; and,

WHEREAS, Hindus have made professional contributions in New Albany which span numerous industries including retail, healthcare, insurance, academia, telecom, technology, law, finance, art and more; and

WHEREAS, New Albany attracts Hindu Americans from all around the country and world; and the community is growing, in part from corporate initiatives and in part from how diversity is embraced; and

WHEREAS, the American Hindu community will collectively celebrate its heritage, culture, and diverse spiritual traditions rooted in India this month, including Navratri and Dussehra from September 22-October 2 and Dhanteras and Diwali from October 18-20; and

WHEREAS, New Albany invites residents to create Rangoli patterns during the week of October 12 and come to New Albany's third annual Diwali festival on October 18, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor of the City of New Albany, Counties of Franklin and Licking, State of Ohio, on behalf of council and the residents of New Albany, declare October 2025 as **Hindu Heritage Month** to provide an opportunity for our residents to learn about and celebrate Hinduism, to celebrate the contributions of the Hindu community, and to support Hindu residents of New Albany.

WHEREBY, I set my hand and seal this 7th day of October, 2025.

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "Sloan T. Spalding", is written over a horizontal line.

Sloan T. Spalding, Mayor