Ashok Easwaran

Aurora, IL 60506.

Education: Degrees in Commerce, Economics, Business Management and Journalism from the University of Nagpur in India.

Work History: I have been a journalist since 1973 covering political, business, art and culture in Mumbai, New Delhi, Nagpur and Chandigarh in India.

In 1992, I immigrated to the United States and I have worked with three South Asian newspapers in Houston, New York and Chicago as Bureau Chief and later as Editor.

I have worked as the Literacy Coordinator and Executive Director of the Indian American Center, a South Asian immigrant advocacy organization in Chicago.

I am the Editor for a South Asian web portal <u>www.indiandiaspora.com</u> and the Indo-Asian News Service, the largest independent Indian news service.

I am now in the process of completing a biography of one of the pioneering actors of Bollywood cinema with a couple of other books in the initial stages.

I have always been involved in the local community. I was a Commissioner in the Telecommunications Advisory Commission of the Village of Skokie(Illinois) for more than a decade, till I moved to Aurora in 2013. I was also on the board of the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Committee which set up the first statue in memory of the Indian leader in Skokie.

I have a wide range of contacts in the South Asian community in the Chicagoland area. I speak several Indian languages and have also participated in voter registration campaigns involving South Asians. I believe I can use my skills to act as a bridge between the City of Aurora and the fast growing Indian American community in the area.