

TechTalk

By: Dharmen Patel

In this month's article I answer some of the questions submitted by a few of my readers. Here are a few of the Q&A's which I wanted to share with everyone as I'm sure many of you will find these questions interesting. Send in your questions to tech@citymasala.com as well and have them appear in a future edition of my article.

Q "My son is looking into colleges and which major to select. What is the difference between a degree in computer science technology and computer information systems"? – **Jay from Atlanta, GA:**

Jay, I'm sure you and your son are going thru some exciting and confusing times during his college search, hope this makes things a bit more clear:



A degree in computer science technology (CS) deals with advances in the current state of computer hardware and software. This field is a "Hard Science" and deals with the design and development of software such as operating systems which run computers or allow devices to work. Many mathematical concepts of computation and information are involved.

A degree in computer information systems (CIS) deals with the implementation of computer technology. This is a practical Engineering field that deals with providing solutions using computer technology through development and deployment of systems to fulfill the users' need - be it for business or otherwise.

Both fields are within Information Technology however which field of study you choose may determine what kind of employment you may get. It's best to review the details of the course of study within each of the

tracks to help determine the best fit for you based on your interests. I personally went down the CIS path being more of a hands-on person.

Q "What's the difference between 3G and 4G"? – **P.D. from St. Pete, FL**

This is referred to the 3rd and 4th generation of wireless networks which include mobile phones and mobile internet devices. One major difference is the speed, while 3G reaches speeds of up to 3 megabits per second (in a perfect world with minimal network traffic) it offers 50 times faster service than the old dial up internet services. 4G is designed to reach faster speeds of up to 14 Mbps on average and is capable of 100 to 300 Mbps. The speeds will vary depending on the service provider and the device used.

The 4G technology is also new and offers enhanced security and won't be a victim to "bottleneck" of data traffic which can slow things down as currently with 3G and lower. All of the major service providers are boosting about whose network is the fastest, but be careful and read the fine print as the statistics reflect that "perfect" network setting where no other users are around. When looking for a new mobile device whether it's for a phone or internet access I suggest something which is capable of both 3G and 4G networks.

Q "I hear so much about Cloud Storage and Computing, what does that really mean"? – **John from Tampa**

The term "Cloud" has become all the rage with everyone wanting to jump onboard. Basically it allows you to access files you save using the internet, just like a network at home or in the office. Files are stored on a server which you can access over an internet website. Here are a few examples of Cloud services:

Google Docs: www.google.com - Provides online documents which can be created and shared with multiple users all using the internet and allowing them to work on the same document together.

Dropbox: www.dropbox.com - A Virtual file cabinet which stores your documents, files and data online and can be accessed by installing the client on any computer or mobile device with internet access.

Shreyas The Art of Living

1. Have as many activities as possible take place as a family. Eating together and praying together are two great places to start. Also carve out some time on a regular basis (schedule it, if you are too busy) to give your total attention to the child. This usually means playing with the child. It is in this play time that you will learn a lot from your child.
2. Regularly visit and support a place of worship as a family. Learn the symbolism behind each of the deity and share it with your children.
3. Bring the essence of the worship into your own home by lighting a 'diya' regularly at the altar in your home. (The significance of the 'diya' was discussed in the article on *Diwali*)
4. Learn and teach your native Indian language to your children. There is a ton of good literature and culture that opens up when you do this.
5. Listen to and sing the songs that carry forth the message of love among humanity. This can be in the form of *bhajans*, *gazals*, or *geet*. Spend some time translating it and discussing it with your children.
6. But most importantly, be involved in your child's life. Remember, if you can't relate to your child's life, then you can't have a relationship with them and vice-versa. Be involved so you can relate to each other now and later.

My best wishes to you and your family as you incorporate some of these suggestions and reap your own rewards from working with nature's design. Namaste.

Maulik Trivedi, MD is a MindBody Physician in practice. Please access more information and resources at his website www.MindBodyIntegrated.com

TechTalk

Skydrive: www.live.com – Online hard drive space allowing you to store password protected documents, photos and videos, offers 250GB of space for free.

This month I also want to share some interesting facts on technology with my readers, which always makes for good reading and a great conversation subject.

- The Cigarette lighter was invented in 1816 before the match. Matches have been around since 577 AD but required an external source to ignite, in 1826 a few years after the invention of the lighter came the "friction match" which we use in modern times.
- The normal static electricity shock that zaps your finger when you touch a doorknob is usually between 10,000 and 30,000 volts!
- Car airbags kill 1 person for every 22 lives that they save.
- Over 220 million tons of old computers and other technological hardware are trashed in the United States each year.
- Bill Clinton's inauguration in January 1997 was the first to be webcast.
- Since its invention, the Blackberry was used for the 1st time in the US Oval Office after President Obama took office in 2009.