

HARI Times...

SITA-RAMA * RADHE-SHYAM

AUG-SEP 2005

TEMPLE PRIEST:

Rev. Seetharamaaswamy (Punditji)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President:

Mrs. Priti Patel 732-2345

Sr. Vice President:

Mr. Srini Subramanian 730-7168

Secretary:

Mr. Manpal Singh 691-5890

Treasurer:

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Mr. Mohit Parikh 728-9762

Mr. Ramesh Parmar 728-1143

Mrs. Minaxi Patel 273-3739

Mrs. Shobhana Patel 766-6256

School Director:

Dr. Mukul Parikh 728-9801

School Youth Forum Director:

Mr. Haresh Bharucha 975-3432

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Chairman:

Dr. Ray Kathiresan 790-0786

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Mrs. Rekha Arora 761-5225

Dr. Ramesh Bhatia 560-1405

Mr. Harish Doshi 840-1090

Dr. Nirmal Joshi 541-0363

Mrs. Sukanya Mukherjee 761-7927

Dr. Neelima Parikh 728-9801

Mr. Subodh Patil 731-9398

Mr. Ashok Shukla 737-1919

Mr. Raghu Tadavarthy 728-2883

ANAND BAZAAR

(HARI arranged Food & funfair activities)

Saturday, August 6, 2005

From 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Food & Funfair activities consist of various food stalls, arranged by HARI community members, to benefit HARI Temple. Fun activities for all age groups such as kids' talent show etc. will be hosted. Devotees are encouraged to participate with friends and family.

KRISHNA JANMASTAMI

Saturday, August 27, 2005

Puja & Dinner Prasad: 5:30 pm

Sponsored by Neelima & Mukul Parikh

Aarti: 7:00 pm, Followed by

Dance Performance by Rashi Anand and Bhajans

Artist: Dr. Usha Bhargave

GANESH CHATURTHI

Saturday, September 10, 2005

Puja & Dinner Prasad: 5:30 pm

Sponsored by

Naranbhai & Damayantiben Patel

Shantilal & Madhuben Patel

Bhupendra & Surekhben Patel

Aarti: 7:00 pm, Followed by Bhajans

Artist: Mr. Manan & Mrs. Gitaben Mehta

Spiritual Discourse

By Swami Sarvanand Saraswati

Thursday-Friday, Sept. 15-16, 2005

Dinner Prasad: 5:30 pm

Sponsored by

Thursday: Deep & Rani Gupta

Friday: KD & Rekha Patel

Aarti: 7:00 pm

Followed by the Discourse

COMMUNITY CORNER

| IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Priest Service Requests for outside of HARI premises | Priti Patel |
| Hall Rental Requests | Priti Patel or Srini Subramanian |
| Dinner Coordinator for HARI Sponsored Programs | Shobhana Patel |
| Lunch Coordinator for HARI Sunday School | Alka Amin 540-5380 |
| HARI Times Editors | Hiten Amin 732-0513 Ashok Shukla |

| COMMUNITY EVENTS | |
|---|--|
| Saturday, August 13 – India Day (AIACPA) | |
| Sat, Sept. 10 – International Unity Festival (AIACPA) | |
| Fri-Sat, October 14-15 - Navaratri Garba (Gujarati Samaj) | |

UPAKARMA / AVANI AVITTAM

The purpose of the *Upakarma* (also known as *Aavani Avittam* in Tamil) is to renew one's Vedic learning and acknowledge the contributions of the rishis. As part of this, the year-old *yajnopaviitam* is also replaced with a fresh thread. This year the Upakarma will take place on the following dates at HARI Temple. Please contact Punditji at 717.774.7750 for details:

Rugveda Upakarma 08/18/2005
Yajurveda Upakarma 08/19/2005
Samaveda Upakarma 09/06/2005

Science without religion is lame,
religion without science is blind.

- Albert Einstein

IMPORTANT RELIGIOUS DATES

| August 2005 | | |
|----------------|-------|--|
| 5 | Fri | Amawasya - Haryali |
| 12 | Fri | Tulsidas Jayanti Rugveda Upakarma |
| 15 | Mon | Independence Day |
| 16 | Tue | Ekadashi – Pavitra |
| 19 | Fri | Purnima / Raksha Bandhan Yajurveda Upakarma |
| 27 | Sat | Krishna Janmashtami |
| 30 | Tue | Ekadashi – Aja |
| September 2005 | | |
| 3 | Sat | Amawasya – Bhadrapada |
| 6 | Tue | Samaveda Upakarma |
| 7 | Wed | Ganesha Chaturthi |
| 8 | Thurs | Rishi Panchami |
| 14 | Wed | Ekadashi - Dhol / Jaljholini |
| 18 | Sun | Purnima / Sraddha Begins |
| 28 | Wed | Ekadashi – Indira |
| October 2005 | | |
| 3 | Mon | Amawasya - Sarva Pitru |
| 4 | Tue | Navaratri begins (till 10/11) |
| 12 | Wed | Vijaya Dashami |
| 13 | Thurs | Ekadashi - Papakunsha |
| 16 | Sun | Purnima – Sharad |
| 20 | Thurs | Karva Chautha |
| 28 | Fri | Ekadashi – Rama |
| 30 | Sun | Dhanteras |
| November 2005 | | |
| 1 | Tue | Amawasya - Diwali |
| 2 | Wed | Vikram Samvat 2062 |
| 3 | Thurs | Bhai Duj |
| 12 | Sat | Ekadashi - Dev Uthani |
| 15 | Tue | Purnima |
| 27 | Sun | Ekadashi – Utpatti |
| December 2005 | | |
| 1 | Thurs | Amawasya |
| 11 | Sun | Ekadashi / Gita Jayanti |
| 15 | Thurs | Purnima - Margashirsha |
| 27 | Tue | Ekadashi – Safala |
| 31 | Sat | Amawasya |

HARI Times is a monthly publication of Hindu American Religious Institute (HARI), located at 301 Steigerwalt Hollow Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070. You may send your comments, suggestions, religious writings (original work only) and important announcements to HARI Times Editors using the address provided on the HARI website www.haritemple.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HARI DIRECTORY:

This is the last call to submit your additions and/or updates to the upcoming HARI Directory. You may contact any Executive Committee members with your request on or before August 19, 2005. Individual and business sponsorship is encouraged to offset the printing cost of the new HARI Directory. Interested devotees are requested to contact HARI President Priti Patel for further details.

TSUNAMI RELIEF FUND:

We thank you for your generous contribution for this humanitarian need. As of today, the following donations have been distributed:

- \$25,000.00 to the Rotary International District 2980 Chidambaram for the relief effort in the village of Thirumullaivayal, India, for the procurement of 50 Fishing nets, four Motorboats and to provide psychological support services.
- \$20,000.00 to Human Enrichment by Love and Peace "HELP" for the relief effort in the village of Chinnoorpettai, India for the construction of a new School.
- \$5,000.00 to the World Surgical Foundation for the ambulance project in Patong, Thailand.

The above organizations have signed "Donation Agreement" with HARI. We shall keep you posted on the progress of these projects as and when available.

HARI SUNDAY SCHOOL:

HARI Sunday school reopens on September 11, 2005. The school offers courses for children ages six and up (first grade onwards) in Hindu Religion, Gujarati, Hindi, Tamil, Indian Classical Dances, Indian Folk Dances, Classical Vocal, SAT preparation, and Stress Free Life (Yoga). A one-time registration fee per child per school year is required. Necessary information is provided at the time of registration or contact HARI School Director Dr. Mukul Parikh at 728-9801.

Congratulations

Congratulations to HARI members Dr. Ramesh & Dr. Prabha Jindal, proud grandparents of **VIKRAM KAKARIA**, born on Monday, May 16, 2005 and **ARJUN NARASIMHAN**, born on Thursday, June 2, 2005.

Our Solemn Sympathy

... To the families of Tarak Mehta, Trupti Shah, and Bhavana Desai who lost their beloved father Mr. Praful S. Mehta on June 20, 2005.

... To the family of Sundhar Sekhar who lost his beloved father Mr. Jayaraman Chandrasekhar on July 20, 2005 in Chennai, India.

... May The Departed Souls Attain Param Sadgati ...

A MESSAGE FROM HARI COMMITTEE

We had a spiritual June-July, filled with celebrations and discourses.

The Executive Committee is very busy carrying out major maintenance items to enhance the interior and exterior of the temple facility. Did you notice the clean and lighted front entrance? Our special thanks go to Sunil Desai for his dedicated service.

The invocation of a full size (9' by 7') drawing of 'Sri Hanuman and Peepal Tree' by the Artist Sanford was conducted on June 5 with the start of the "Sponsor a Leaf" campaign. It is very encouraging to see youth and devotees coming forward to sponsor leaves in their names! The HARI Trust Fund Steering committee is in the process of developing guidelines and investment strategies for the long term self sufficiency and growth. Please consider sponsoring leaves in the name of your children by motivating them to raise money for charity (if they are old enough), or by encouraging them to perform daily prayer with a dollar depositing into HARI piggy bank at home. More information is available on this initiative in the dining hall.

With increasing revenue, this year the Board has appointed an external auditor Mr. John Kostukovich, CPA, to perform the financial review. The year 2004 Account Summary is published in this issue. The auditor's recommendations will be implemented in the new HARI office process.

Our thanks go to the families of Naren & Damu Patel and Anil & Jana Godhania for donating 11 ceiling fans to keep our temple facility cool. The Board has approved to replace two of the old Air Conditioning Units.

An exciting, fun and stomach-filling day is being planned for you and your family on Saturday, Aug 6, 2005 by the Executive Committee. Please, do not miss it!

Have a healthy and happy vacation!

Yours in service

Priti Patel
President, Executive Committee

Ray Kathiresan
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Tsunami Update (since last published in June-July 2005)

Khetarpal, Sharad (Dr.) & Sunita (Dr.)

\$500.00

2005 Annual Membership Update (since last published in June-July 2005)

| | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Amin | Madhusudan & Kalpana | Muddasani | Govinda & Uma | Radhakrishnan | Rajgopal & Mullai |
| Bhatia | Prem & Beena | Nagarajan | Padmanabhan & Jayanthi | Ramachandran | Venkat & Meenakshi |
| Chundru | Satish & Satya | | | Rayavarapu | Kamala |
| Datta | Srinath & Rupa | Parekh | Rajubhai & Lina | Repaka | Krishnaprasad & Swarna |
| Desai | Dhimant & Jagruti | Parikh | Dinesh & Mita | Sapra | Aman |
| Goel | Padma | Patel | Ashok & Meeta | Shah | Amit & Shefali |
| Goel | Vipin & Suman | Patel | Babubhai & Sangitaben | Shah | Harshad & Nayana |
| Gopalakrishnan | Rajeev & Simi | Patel | Harish & Jyotsna | Shah | Mayank & Swati |
| Gupta | Shruti | Patel | Ratilal & Sharda | Shah | Sandip C. & Vandana S. |
| Gupta | Vijay & Angu | Patel | Shirish & Tanuja | Singh | Surinder & Manjeet (Drs.) |
| Krishnamurthy | Parul | Patel | Vinodchandra & Kailas | Subhas | Arun & Shilta N |
| Lathia | Durla N & Shobha | Pathak | Bhavin K & Sonal | Ved | Narendra V. & Neela |
| Maingi | Stan & Naresh (Dr.) | Pathak | Divyang & Ashita | Vyas | Prakash & Damyanti |
| Mishra | Randhir (Dr.) & Shalu | Pediredla | Srinivas & Sarada | Yadwadkar | Shirish & Nilisha |
| Mittal | Vimal & Anju | Pratheesh | Viswanthan & Bharathi | | |
| | | Radhakrishnan | Arunkumar & Radhika | | |

HARI Youth Reunion

The HARI Youth Group alumni reunion was held on April 16, 2005 at the Duke's Riverside Bar & Grill in Wormleysburg. Attendees were: Neela Bhajandas, Sushama & Sashin Bhuta, Amit & Purvi Gandhi, Samir & Megha Gandhi, Rachana & Rishi Garg, Anil & Shilpa Khanna, Seema Khanna & Eric Quickel, Jemin & Mona Patel, Kunjal Patel, Manish & Hem Patni, Rajesh & Dipali Sahasrabuddhe, Neil & Juhi Shah, Nikur & Mimi Shah, Rakhee & Mehul Shah, Anand & Smitha Shukla, Hersh Shukla & Andrea Cox, Vinay Singh, Monica Thakrar, Jallika & Ashish Tolia, and Manisha & Vic Walia. The group donated a portion of the admission price and auctioned off two pairs of NFL football tickets to raise \$701.00 for HARI Temple. We wish to congratulate the HARI Youths and pray Lord Rama to bless them with success in their pursuits.

2004 Account Summary

(For the year ending December 31, 2004)

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Opening Balance – Jan 1, 2004 | \$ 36,064.42 | Funds Disbursement | \$664.00 |
| | | Capital Projects | |
| Collection | \$91,863.59 | Utilities | \$16,472.07 |
| Includes general donations, | | Gas & Electric | \$14,311.97 |
| Memberships, Rentals, program | | Telephone | \$565.95 |
| Sponsors, school and Trust Fund | | Waste Disposal | \$1,594.15 |
| Interest | \$961.95 | Temple Maintenance | \$16,299.67 |
| | | Maintenance | \$10,112.77 |
| | | Cleaning | \$1,905.90 |
| | | Insurance | \$4,281.00 |
| | | Priest Related | \$14,617.28 |
| | | Salary & Related | \$13,417.28 |
| | | Insurance | \$1,200.00 |
| | | Announcements | \$5,766.11 |
| | | Newsletters, Brochures, etc. | |
| | | HARI Programs & Miscellaneous | \$6,884.14 |
| | | General Supplies | \$5,691.13 |
| Total Collection | \$128,889.96 | Total Disbursement | \$66,394.40 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Ending Balance – Dec 31, 2004 | \$62,495.56 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|

Note: Our sincere thanks to Finance Committee coordinator Raghu Tadavarthy for facilitating this audit to a closure. We wish to recognize the hard work of Anant Kulkarni, Treasurer, and Suchitha Chitnis, CPA.

2005 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In accordance with the requirements of the HARI bylaws and the amended (09-08-2002) addendum to Policies and Practices, the Board of Trustees have nominated the past President of the Executive Committee, Subodh Patil, as the Chair of the 2005 Nominating Committee. The current President Priti Patel is appointed as the second member of the Nominating Committee. The Board of Trustees will nominate three additional members representing a cross-section of the community.

The function of the Nominating Committee is to come up with a slate of Officers of 2006 Executive Committee and three Trustees to serve for a three-year term (2006 -2008). By this announcement, we

2005 HARI CALENDAR

| DATE | EVENT | PROGRAM | SPONSORED BY |
|--|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Tuesday, October 4 to Tuesday, October 11 | Navaratri Mahotsav | Durga Puja Raas-Garbaa | N/A |
| Friday, October 7 | Kolu Puja | Kolu Puja by HARI Devotees | N/A |
| Saturday, October 15 | Dasherra | Durga Puja | Madhuben & Bhupendrabhai Patel |
| Thursday, October 20 | Karva Chauth | Puja by Devotees | N/A |
| Saturday, November 5 | Diwali | Diwali Annakot, HARI Annual Meeting | HARI Devotees |

VARALAKSHMI VRATAM

Friday, August 12, 2005

Puja from 6:15 pm, Aarti 7:00 pm

The glory of performing the VARALAKSHMI VRATAM, narrated by Lord Shiva Himself, is elaborately discussed in the *Skanda Puranam*. This is a festival to propitiate Shri Varalakshmi (Mahalakshmi) - the consort of Lord Vishnu, who is the abode of all *mangalam* (auspiciousness), prosperity, and wealth. The Varalakshmi Vratam is to be performed on the *Shravana Shukla Shukra Varam*, that is, the Friday immediately before the full moon day (Purnima) in the auspicious month of Shravana (corresponding to August - September). This Vratam is undertaken by the *sumangalis* (whose husbands are still living) for good progeny, good health, and wishing long life for the husbands.

Lakshmi is symbolic of eight forces - wealth (shri), earth (bhu), learning (Saraswati), love (priti), fame (kirti), peace (shanti), pleasure (tushti), and strength (pushti). Each of these forces is called a Lakshmi, and collectively they are known as Ashta-Lakshmi. Worship of Varalakshmi is rendered equivalent to the puja for Ashta-Lakshmi. Since She is ever ready to grant boons to her true devotees, she is usually referred to as "Varalakshmi."

Hindu American Religious Institute
 301 Steigerwalt Hollow Road
 New Cumberland PA 17070
www.haritemple.org

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Directions:

Exit 39A, Lewisberry Road, off I-83
Make left at the STOP for Route 114 West
Go 1/3 mile; make Left on Steigerwalt Hollow Rd
Go 1/2 mile to HARI Temple on right

Phone: (717) 774-7750www.haritemple.org***Satyanarayan Katha***

Friday, August 19 at 7:15 pm
Saturday, September 17 at 7:15 pm

Satyanarayan Puja is performed on a full moon (Purnima) day to seek Lord's blessings for good health, peace, and wealth. The puja is performed with total devotion, offering fruits, flower, ghee, milk, yogurt, butter, wheat flour, sugar, and honey to Lord Satyanarayan. After the puja, the story of Lord Satyanarayan is read and the Prasad is distributed to all attendees. The puja thus performed brings in fulfillment of one's wishes and prosperity.

Jain Swadhayay / Puja

Sunday, August 7 at 2:00 pm
Sunday, September 4 at 2:00 pm

Monthly Havan

Sunday, August 14 at 5:30 pm
Sunday, September 11 at 5:30 pm

HARI observes a monthly HAVAN on the second Sunday of each month, followed by Aarti and Prasad. Devotees are invited to attend the Havan with their friends and family members. Devotees who wish to sponsor the monthly Havan and/or Prasad at the monthly Havan are requested to contact any of the HARI committee members