



# HARI TIMES

Priest: R. C. Yagnik

SITA-RAMA \* RADHE-SHYAM

January 2002

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Mrs. Ami Zumkhawala-Cook  
697-2394

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### Director:

Mr. Hiten N. Amin 732-0513

### Youth Forum Director:

Dr. Mukul Parikh 728-9801

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Mr. Pravin Patel 766-6256

Dr. V. C. Shah 732-6454

Mr. J. P. Sheth 299-5700

## WE WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS 2002!

We urge all devotee-families to pay membership dues for the calendar year 2002. Your support means a lot to us at HARI and we would appreciate if you become a member of HARI on the very first day of the New Year.

**Annual Membership: \$51.00**

**Lifetime Membership: \$600.00**

**(Sr. Citizens: \$25.00/yr or \$300.00/lifetime)**

Please consider making your ***first check of the New Year*** payable to HARI. We sincerely thank all the lifetime-member devotees for their unwavering support.

**The new HARI Directory is being compiled and is in its final stage. Many of the devotees have provided only their addresses without providing their telephone numbers. Unless they like to remain unlisted, we urge all to provide their telephone numbers, e-mail addresses (if they have one) by calling Pravin Patel at (717) 766-6256 ASAP.**

## MAKAR SANKRANTI / PONGAL

Saturday, January 19, 2002

Dance Recital: 5:30 PM

Artist: Ms. Preethi Sunder of Maryland, USA

Followed by

Aarthi & Dinner Prasad: 7:30 PM

Sponsored by South Indian Families

301 Steigerwalt Hollow Road \* New Cumberland \* PA 17070 \* (717) 774-7750

[www.haritemple.org](http://www.haritemple.org)

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**



❖ **Ekadashi, Poornima and Amawasya Dates:**

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<b>EKADASHI (Krishna)</b>	1/9/02, Wednesday, SAFALA	2/7/02, Thursday, SATTILA	3/9/02, Saturday, VIJYA
<b>EKADASHI (Shukla)</b>	1/24/02, Thursday, PUTRADA	2/23/02, Saturday, JAYA	3/24/02, Sunday, PUSHYA NAKSAMALKI
<b>POORNIMA</b>	1/28/02, Monday, POSHI	2/26/02, Tuesday, MAGH	3/28/02, Thursday
<b>AMAWASYA</b>	1/13/02, Saturday, DARSH	2/11/02, Monday, DARSH	3/13/02, Wednesday

Note: *Panchang* is available with Rev. Shastriji at the temple.

❖ **HARI Sunday School will observe following holidays:**

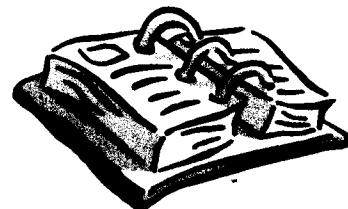
1/20/02	Rev. MLK Jr. Day
2/17/02	President's Day
3/31/02	Holi Celebration
4/14/02	Temple Hall Rented
4/21/02	Temple Hall Rented
5/26/02	Memorial Day

❖ **HARI is booked for private events on the following dates:**

1. SATURDAY APRIL 13, 2002 THRU SUNDAY APRIL 21, 2002 (9 DAYS)
2. FRIDAY-SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2002
3. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2002

❖ **Actual Dates of Major Hindu Festivals:**

1/14/02, Monday	Makar Sankranti / Pongal
2/17/02, Sunday	Vasant Panchami
3/12/02, Tuesday	Maha Shivaratri
3/28/02, Thursday	Holi
4/13/02, Saturday	Gudi Padva
4/21/02, Sunday	Rama Navami
4/25/02, Thursday	Mahavir Jayanthi
4/27/02, Saturday	Hanuman Jayanthi
7/23/02, Tuesday	Guru Purnima
8/15/02, Friday	Krishna Janmasthanmi
9/9/02, Tuesday	Ganesh Chaturthi
10/7/02, Monday	Navaratri begins
10/15/02, Tuesday	Dashera
10/25/02, Friday	Karva Chauth
11/4/02, Monday	Diwali



❖ **HARI Web Page:** Visit us online at [www.haritemple.org](http://www.haritemple.org). If you have a question or comment about the site, please contact HARI website coordinator Mr. Dasa Gangadhar at (717) 763-8545

### Chairman's Message

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish you all a very happy and prosperous New Year!

Primary responsibilities of the Board of Trustees are planning and policy making in addition to managing our organization's finances. Towards this end, we are getting organized for the current year by forming the following committees:

1. Finance Committee, 2. Public Relations Committee, 3. Security and Legal Committee, 4. Building Maintenance and Planning Committee, 5. Land and Lot Maintenance Committee, 6. Audio-visual Committee, 7. Priest Affairs Committee, 8. Endowment Fund Committee and 9. Website Committee.

Each one of the above committees will be headed by a Trustee and a member of the Executive Committee will also be serving on each one of these committees. As each Committee will have five members, there are plenty of opportunities for interested HARI members to get involved by volunteering to serve on these committees. Therefore, I invite you to get involved in serving our community through HARI. You can call me at (717)-763-8545 if you are interested in serving on any of the above Committees.

Thank you and May lord Rama bestow peace and prosperity upon each and every one of us!

Dasa V. Gangadhar  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

### HARI School

**HARI School** conducts several activities for devotees of all ages. Following is a comprehensive list of major activities. To find out more about any of the following HARI School activities, you may contact the coordinator listed with each activity directly or School Director Mr. Hiten Amin at 732-0513.

- ❖ **Strees Free Life:** Audience: Youth and adults, meets every Sunday 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM.. Integral Yoga techniques are deployed to develop a Healthy Body, Clear Mind and Sharp Intellect. This approach is based on the teachings of Swami Jothirmayananda, Swami Satchidananda and the instructor's own experience. Please contact Dr. Ray M. Kathiresan at (717) 612 0291 for more information.
- ❖ **Sunday school:** For children age six through 12. Classes are offered in Hindu religion, Indian languages, Bharatnatyam, and devotional music.
- ❖ **Youth Forum:** For our community youth, conducted by HARI School. Youth age 13 and up may participate on a weekly basis in various activities. The Youth Forum also conducts S. A. T. preparation classes in Math and English at appropriate time of the year. A few other activities of the Youth Forum include hiking, skiing, skating, bowling, and participating at various community-affairs. Please contact Dr. Mukul Parikh at (717) 728-9801 for more information.
- ❖ **Universal Healing:** Audience: Youth and adults. A five-step program to heal your body, mind and spirit. It includes light stretching, deep progressive relaxation, Shavasana, Dhyana (meditation), Visulization and group discussion. Meets every Thursday from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM. Please contact Mr. Girish Modi at (717) 732-2426 for more information.

## YAGNA

(A Brief Explanation)

*Yagna* or *Havan* is a term we normally hear in today's society. It is popularly understood as a fire sacrifice involving the offering of grains, clarified butter (*ghee*), sandalwood etc, to a fire. This fire is ignited in a special fireplace called the *Kund*, which literally means a "Pot". Normally, a *Yagna* is performed with the objective of ushering in prosperity or to avoid disaster and usually accompanied by mass feeding of people. The food being distributed as *Prasad* (i.e. food which has been sanctified by offering it to the God). Rituals similar to *Yagna* are performed during marriage, thread ceremony, *vaastu shanti* (opening ceremony for a house). *Yagna* is a very old tradition in the Hindu religion and it is looked upon as a Vedic ritual. In Vedic literature there are innumerable descriptions of a *Yagnas* being performed. Various examples of *Yagnas* are:

***Ganapathi Homam (Ganesh Havan):*** Dedicated to Lord *Ganesh*, to improve family bondage, to win over enemies, to overcome disease and to achieve a planned objective without any hindrance.

***Mruthyunjaya Homam (Mruthyunjaya Havan):*** Dedicated to Lord Shiva to avoid untimely death and for extending lifetime.

***Navagraha Homam (Navagraha Haven):*** Dedicated to nine planets to win over enemies, to overcome any health related problems, any education related issues, any children life related issues, any marriage related issues, and to strengthen healthy relationship between couples. In general, for any issues or problems, this is one of the best *havan* to be performed.

***Ayushya Homam (Ayushya Havan):*** Dedicated to the Life God (*Ayur Devatha*) to enhance longevity.

***Sudarshana Homam (Sudarshana Havan):*** Dedicated to Lord Sri Vishnu to win over enemies, to settle in life, and to be successful in business.

***Chandi Homam (Chandi Havan):*** Dedicated to Goddess *Durga* to gain self-confidence, for any blood, bone, nerves related issues, for a peaceful life, and to win over enemies.

***Gayatri Homam (Gayatri Havan):*** Dedicated to Goddess Gayatri to gain knowledge, tranquility and prosperity.

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## PONGAL

(Excerpt from an article from the S. V. Temple of Pittsburgh newsletter)

In Southern India, *Hemantha Ruthu* (winter) runs from mid-December to mid-February (*Margazhi-Thai* per solar calendar and *Margasirsha-Puasha* per lunar calendar). In mid-January, *Dhanurmasam* ends on *Bhogi*. Next day the Sun begins his Northward movement for six months and enters *Makara Rasi* (*Makara Sankramanam* or *Makara Sankranti*). This Northward movement of the Sun is known as *Uttarayana Punyakalam* (holy time) and is the beginning of a new SOLAR year. *Makara Sankramanam* is celebrated as *Sankranthi* festival in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and as Pongal in Tamil Nadu.

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## President's Message

### *Namaskar Friends!*

On behalf of everyone at HARI, I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

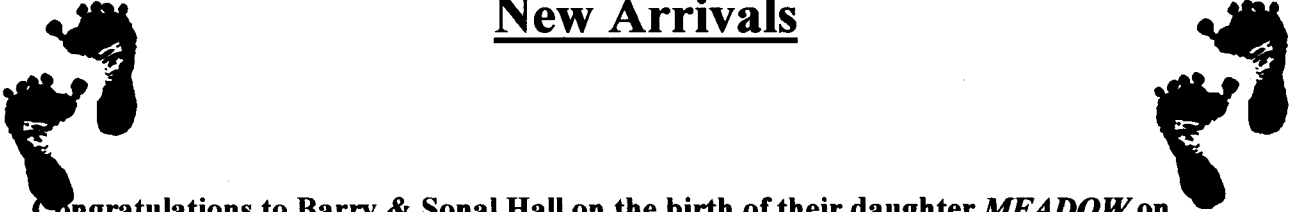
First, let me thank all the devotees for their unanimous approval of my nomination as the HARI President at our last annual meeting on Diwali. I sincerely will try my best to be worthy of your support and trust. My committee and I are excited to begin the year 2002 afresh. Most of the committee members are volunteering for the first time as a HARI committee member and they bring in lot of enthusiasm and new ideas with them. We have lined up good programs for the entire year and the committee will work very hard to make all of them a huge success.

Of course we dare not think achieve this without your support. Your attendance to all HARI programs together with your membership and generous donations are directly tied to both the quality and frequency of the programs that we will bring to you. We urge all families to pay the membership dues during the month of January. Remember that YOUR membership is a clear statement of YOUR support to the institute. So, if you like HARI and are taking advantage of its services and activities, please consider becoming a member of this great institute during the month of January. In our next newsletter, we will publish the names of all families who become member of HARI in the month of January.

Thank you all. May Lord Rama bestow his blessings upon all of us.

*Ashok Agarwal*

## New Arrivals

- 
- Congratulations to Barry & Sonal Hall on the birth of their daughter *MEADOW* on September 25, 2001. Deserving equal congratulations are parents of Sonal, Mr. & Mrs. Arun & Hina Barad.
  - Congratulations to Anand & Smitha Shukla on the birth of their daughter *ARYA* on November 7, 2001. Deserving equal congratulations are parents of Anand, Mr. & Mrs. Ashok & Maya Shukla and parents of Smitha, Mr. & Mrs. Dasa & Sujatha Gangadhar.
  - Congratulations to Pritesh & Shital Vyas on the birth of their son *TEJ* on November 9, 2001. Deserving equal congratulations are parents of Pritesh, Mr. & Mrs. Praful & Lina Vyas.

**Congratulations to all!**

❖ At the annual meeting on the Diwali celebration day, devotees unanimously elected new committee members for the year 2002. All new committee members are listed on the first page of this newsletter. Our heartfelt thanks to the following outgoing committee members for a great service that they have provided to the community in 2001:

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| ◆ Mr. Avdhesh Agarwal | ◆ Mr. Pravin Patel       |
| ◆ Mr. Hasmukh Amin    | ◆ Mr. Champak Shah       |
| ◆ Mr. Madhukar Panday | ◆ Mrs. Jyoti Shah        |
| ◆ Mr. Jitu Parekh     | ◆ Mrs. Rasmica Shah      |
| ◆ Mr. Parimal Parikh  | ◆ Mr. Ashok Shukla       |
| ◆ Mr. Bharat Patel    | ◆ Mr. Girish Subramanian |

❖ Devotees are requested to contact HARI President Ashok Agarwal at (717) 761-0784 or Secretary/Treasurer Neeraj Deorah at (717) 691-7597 for any of the following:

- To request Priest Services.
- To sponsor artists and/or dinner prasad on HARI sponsored program days.
- To rent the temple hall for private functions subject to temple's rental policy.

#### OUR SYMPATHIES

- ...To the family of Mr. Bipin Doshi as he lost his beloved mother Mrs. Mankunvar M. Doshi on September 18, 2001 in India.
- ...To the family of Mrs. Dhruvalata Kaushik Patel as she lost her beloved father Mr. Babubhai B. Patel on November 3, 2001 in India.
- ...To the families of Mrs. Vimla Shashikant Patel and Mrs. Jyotsna Rajendra Patel as they lost their beloved father Mr. Bhailalbhair M. Patel on November 4, 2001 in Florida, US.
- ...To the families of Mrs. Shobha Ramesh Desai as she lost her beloved father Mr. Chhotubhai K. Naik on December 02, 2001 in India.
- ...To the family of Mrs. Neelam Avnish Gupta as she lost her beloved mother Mrs. Padmarani Gupta on December 3, 2001 in India.
- ...To the family of Mr. Ravi Anand as he lost his beloved father Mr. Balraj Anand on December 13, 2001 in India.
- ...To the family of Mr. Gautam Kapil as he lost his beloved father Mr. Om Prakash Kapil on December 14, 2001 in Pennsylvania, US.

**MAY THE DEPARTED SOULS ATTAIN PARAM SADGATI**

## 2002 HARI CALENDAR

1.	New Year	Tuesday, January 1	New Year Havan	Families of HARI Committee Members
2.	Makar Sankranti / Pongal	Saturday, January 19	Dance Recital	South Indian Families
3.	Vasant Panchami		Saraswati Pooja	Bengali Families
4.	Maha Shivaratri	Saturday, March 16	Shiva Pooja, Bhajans	
5.	Holi Celebration	Saturday, March 30	Variety Program By School Students	
6.	Gudi Padva			
7.	Rama Navami			
8.	Mahavir Jayanti	Saturday, April 27	Bhajans By Mr. Ghanshyam Joshi & Mrs. Pushpa Doshi	Mr. & Mrs. Bipin & Pushpa Doshi
9.	HARI School Graduation	Saturday, June 9	HARI School Program	HARI Students
10.	Krishna Janmasthanmi	Saturday, August 20	Bhajans By Dr. Usha Bhargave	
11.	Ganesh Chaturthi	Saturday, September 15		
12.	Navaratri Mahotsav	Mon-Mon, Oct. 7-14	Garbaa / Raas	N/A
13.	Vijaya Dashmi	Saturday, October 19	Durga Pooja	
14.	Karva Chauth	Friday, October 25	Pooja by Devotees	N/A
15.	Diwali	Saturday, November 9	Diwali Annakot, Annual Meeting	HARI Devotees
16.	Annual Holiday Dance	Saturday, December 28	Dance Program of HARI Youth Forum	N/A

**HINDU AMERICAN RELIGIOUS INSTITUTE**  
**301 STEIGERWALT HOLLOW ROAD**  
**NEW CUMBERLAND PA 17070**  
**(717) 774-7750**  
[www.haritemple.org](http://www.haritemple.org)

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**Make left at the STOP for Route 114 West**  
**Go about 1/3 mile and make Left on Steigerwalt Hollow Road**  
**Go about 1/2 mile to HARI Temple on right.**

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*SEASON'S*

**2002**

*GREETINGS...*

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