



# HARI Times...

SITA-RAMA \* RADHE-SHYAM

Vol. 09 No. 02

MAR-APR 2009

**PRIEST:**

Pu. Shastriji 774-7750

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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

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Mr. Ravi

Venkatasubramanian 651-0620

By the grace of Lord, HARI will be having two priests Shri Naranji Pandya and Shri Seetharamaswamy, starting Sunday, March 29, 2009.

**HOLI CELEBRATION**

**Sunday, March 15, 2009**

10:45am to Noon: Variety Program

Noon: Aarti followed by Lunch Prasad

Sponsored by: North Indian Families

**Please Note:** Holi Puja will be performed on the actual day of Holi, Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 6:00pm.



**GUDI PADVA CELEBRATION**

**Saturday, March 28, 2009**

5:30pm to 6:45pm: Musical/Dance program by Mrs. Ashwini Sathe & Group.

6:45pm to 7:00pm: Vote of Thanks

Followed by Aarti & Dinner/Prasad,

Sponsored by: Maharashtrian Families/Marathi Mandal



**24-HOUR RAMA CHARIT MANAS RECITAL / RAMNAVMI CELEBRATION**

**Begin on Friday, April 3 at 5:30pm and end on Saturday, April 4 at 6:30pm**

6:30pm to 7:00pm: Vote of Thanks & Announcements

Followed by Aarti & Dinner/Prasad

Sponsored by: Patel Family & Friends



**SHRI HANUMAN JAYANTI CELEBRATION**

**Thursday, April 9, 2009**

12:00pm - 07:00pm: 108 repetitions of Shri Hanuman

Chalisa. 7:00pm: Aarti followed by Dinner/Prasad

Sponsored by: Vishnu & Leena Shenoy



**SHRI MAHAVIR JAYANTI CELEBRATION**

**Saturday, April 11, 2009**

5:30pm to 6:30pm: Dinner/Prasad

6:30pm to 7:00pm: Jain Aarti - 7:00pm: Temple Aarti

7:30pm to 9:45pm: Spiritual Lecture by Shri Samaniji

9:45: Vote of Thanks

Sponsored by: The Jain Society of South-Central PA



**FIRST ANNUAL HARI FUNDRAISING GALA**

**Sunday, April 26, 2009 - 4:00pm - 9:00pm**

**Location:** Holiday Inn, New Cumberland, PA

Please see page 5 for more details.



| IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION               |   |
|---|---|
| Priest Service Requests for outside of HARI | Pallav Bhonde<br>266-9195   |
| Hall Rental Requests                        |   |
| Dinner Coordinator for HARI Programs        | Ramesh Bathini<br>697-3666  |
| Lunch Coordinator for HARI School           | Ken Kendre<br>545-3737  |
| HARI Times Editors                          | Executive Committee<br>Hiten Amin 732-0513<br>Ashok Shukla 737-1919 |

| EKADASHI, PURNIMA, AMAWASYA |           |                  |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>March 2009</b>           |           |                  |
| 07                          | Saturday  | Shukla Ekadashi  |
| 11                          | Wednesday | Purnima          |
| 22                          | Sunday    | Krishna Ekadashi |
| 26                          | Thursday  | Amawasya         |
| <b>April 2009</b>           |           |                  |
| 05                          | Sunday    | Shukla Ekadashi  |
| 09                          | Thursday  | Purnima          |
| 21                          | Tuesday   | Krishna Ekadashi |
| 25                          | Saturday  | Amawasya         |

## Donation Recognition

12/03/2008 to 02/10/2009

| Name   | Amount     | Transaction Type |
|--|------------|------------------|
| Anand & Shaila Bhat                          | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Anand & Suzanne Mahajan                      | \$501.00   | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Andrew & Payal Loser                         | \$302.00   | Donation         |
| Anil & Nita Rastogi                          | \$302.00   | Donation         |
| Anupama & Mani Sharma                        | \$1,000.00 | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Gautam & Mridula Mishra                      | \$500.00   | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Gopi & Renu Mehrotra                         | \$200.00   | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Harshadkumar & Sudha Patel                   | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Hasu & Hersha Shah                           | \$5,001.00 | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Kapil & Dipti Gami                           | \$500.00   | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Kirti & Pragna Shah                          | \$101.00   | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Mukul & Neelima Parikh                       | \$2,000.00 | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Narasimhan & Padmini Saiganesh               | \$500.00   | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Naren & Poonam Srivastava                    | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Narendra & Indra Saxena                      | \$202.00   | Donation         |
| Parul & Krishna Subramanian<br>Krishnamurthy | \$3,000.00 | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Raja & Geetha Ramani                         | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Rajeev & Manjiri Pangarkar                   | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Rajendra & Ashwini Sathe                     | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Ramesh & Alka Parmar                         | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Samir & Bina Parikh                          | \$200.00   | HARI Trust Fund  |
| Shiv & Alka Aggarwal                         | \$101.00   | Donation         |
| Srinivasan & Vimala Sarma                    | \$5,970.00 | Donation         |
| V. C. Patel                                  | \$202.00   | Donation         |
| Veena Mahendru                               | \$101.00   | Donation         |

**Donation Recognition Cont.**

|                          |          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|
| Vishnu & Kamini Vyas     | \$100.00 | Donation |
| Yogendra & Kanak Chandel | \$101.00 | Donation |
| Yogindra & Sonia Balhara | \$501.00 | Donation |

**Immediate needs at the temple:** We thank all devotees for a great response to our appeal for specific donation (\$). Below are few items for which we are actively looking for donations. Please contact HARI Chairman and/or President for more information:

**Donations Sought:**

| PROJECT   | APPROX. COST   | REMARKS  |
|---|----------------|--|
| HARI School Lunch Sponsorship   | \$300.00/Lunch | Cost of providing pizza to the students during HARI school.                              |
| HARI Times Sponsorship  | \$500.00       | One time printing and mailing cost of HARI Times newsletter.                             |
| Pest Control Expenses   | \$1,150.00     | Annual recurring expenses for inside and outside pest control service.                   |
| Electronic Communication Expenses   | \$1,250.00     | Annual recurring expenses for internet, website hosting, & e-mail communication service. |
| Upper Hallway Painting and Temple Roof Work Project                             | \$5,500.00     | Fixing the roof leakage and repainting of upper hallway & office.                        |
| Parking Lot Project (adding more parking spaces and repaving already completed) | \$40,000.00    | Mr. Kiran Patel at 717-657-8607 or email at kiran@hersha.com.                            |

**CONGRATULATIONS**



... to Shantibhai & Urmilaben Shah, proud grandparents of **Jayen Tolia**, born on Saturday, December 27, 2008 to Jallika & Ashish Tolia in Maryland.



... to Harish & Jyotsna Patel, proud grandparents of **Kris Patel**, born on Monday, January 19, 2009 to Nitin & Binta Patel.



... to Venkata Kunta & Ramalakshmi Avala, proud parents of twins, **Himabindu Kunta & Swathibindu Kunta**, born on Monday, January 26, 2009.

HARI Times is a bi-monthly publication of Hindu American Religious Institute (HARI), located at 301 Steigerwalt Hollow Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070. You may send your comments, suggestions, and important announcements to HARI Times Editors using the address provided on the HARI website [www.haritemple.org](http://www.haritemple.org).

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE

The 2009 year started auspiciously with New Year Havan attended by more than 425 devotees. We also distributed 2009 HARI Calendars to all the devotees as a gift from HARI. January month continued with Makar Sankranti/Pongal celebration with classical Carnatic music by local artists and their children participating well over 450 devotees. Towards end of January, we celebrated Vasant Panchami program. Goddess Saraswati Puja by HARI School students and devotees was performed, together nearly 200 devotees participated in the program. We thank you for your continuing participation and support to this great institution.

HARI is providing excellent service to devotees being the ultimate objective, the committee is working hard to ensure the religious festivities and vibrant functions are grand success. HARI will be having two priests Shree Naranji Pandya and Shree Seetharamaswamy, starting Sunday, March 29, 2009. With two priests, HARI priest services is now available for your home seven days a Week. Please look forward for 1<sup>st</sup> Annual HARI Gala in April, Raksha Bandhan program in August, and Sr. Citizen Bus Trips in summer, in addition to our traditional annual events.

Besides much ongoing work, EC and BOT have already embarked on projects aimed at enhancing the facility for broader use. Among them are, roofing work, re-painting of upper hallway, installation of canopy at the back entrance and more. We are also streamlining the HARI facilitated program coordination activities, enhancing office, financial, and website and e-mail communication process.

Finally, our membership drive is getting enthusiastic with a positive community response. Our target is to achieve above 500 members for the year 2009. We want to thank you, if you have already paid your 2009 membership. If not, please consider becoming a HARI member at the earliest and participate in the HARI activities.

Yours in service,

Mr. Janak Amin  
Chairman, Board of Trustee

Mr. Pallav Bhonde  
President, Executive Committee

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMITTEES

At the BOT meeting on Sunday, February 22, 2009, the BOT finalized HARI sub-committees as below. You can contact any of the following Committee Heads to enlist yourself to serve on one or more of these committees:

- Building Maintenance and Planning – Mr. Umesh Patel
- Finance – Mr. Samir Parikh
- Land and Lot Maintenance – Mr. Piyush Amin
- Priest Committee – Dr. Ray Kathiresan
- Public Relations – Dr. Harshad Patel
- Security and Legal – Mr. Ravi Venkatasubramanian
- Technical Committee – Mr. Rajeev Pangarkar

### TWO PRIESTS AT HARI

By the grace of Lord, HARI will be having two priests **Shree Naranji Pandya and Shree Seetharamaswamy**, starting **Sunday, March 29, 2009**. Please stay tuned for the following announcements coming soon.

- **Extended Temple Opening Hours**

- (Everyday: 7am to 1pm and 3pm to 9pm)
- **Increased daily Puja Services**
  - (Abhishekams, Aradhanas and Archans)
- **Seven days a week, HARI Priest Services at your Home**
  - (Schedule it through the President, Executive Committee)

### HARI WEBSITE & E-MAIL COMMUNICATION

Our HARI Temple website ([www.haritemple.org](http://www.haritemple.org)) is continuously enhancing and improving with more functionality and information. You may now donate, pay your membership, hall rental fees online. Visit 2009 HARI Calendar section to find out priest service and hall rental availability and events details. Visit HARI Events section to view our HARI Photo Album which you can view the pictures of the past HARI Celebrated events. Meet our committee members under About Us section. Please register to receive creative HARI e-mail notification regarding upcoming HARI and other community events.

### FIRST ANNUAL HARI FUNDRAISING GALA

Please note this special fundraising event is on **Sunday, April 26, 2009** and will be held at the Holiday Inn, New Cumberland, PA. The event will start at 4:00pm. The cost is \$100 per person. For more information or registration, please visit [www.haritemple.org/harigala.htm](http://www.haritemple.org/harigala.htm) or contact Mrs. Mridula Mishra at 717-914-1777 or [mridulamishra1@yahoo.com](mailto:mridulamishra1@yahoo.com). All proceeds will benefit the Hindu American Religious Institute (HARI) Trust Fund.

### EXTENDED PRIEST SERVICES

HARI offers the following Priest Services. The policies and further information can be found at <http://www.haritemple.org/services.htm>. To schedule a priest service, please contact Mr. Pallav Bhonde at 717-266-9195 or [pallavbhonde@hotmail.com](mailto:pallavbhonde@hotmail.com).

**Makan (House):** Bhoomi Puja, Graha Pravesha, Vastu Puja

**Yagna/Havans:** Any Havans (Navchandi Havan, Grahashanti Havan, Gayatri havan, Lakshmi Havan, etc.)

**Pooja/Abhishek:** Archana Puja, Vahan Puja (Car Puja), Sathyanarayan Puja, Randal Puja, Navgraha Puja, Any Vrat Puja (Resolution), Shiva Rudra Abhishek, Chopda Puja/Sharda Puja (Puja of account books)

**Path (Reading or Chanting):** Ganapati Atharvashirsha /Shri Sukta /Chandi /Vishnu Sahastra /Sundarkand Path

**Sanskar (Ceremonies):** Simant Sanskar (Baby shower), Punyahavachanam, Namakarana Sanskar (Naming Ceremony), Annaprashanam Sanskar, Chaul Sanskar (Hair Offering), Aksharum Sanskar Upanayanam Sanskar (Sacred Thread Ceremony), Vagdan Sanskar (Engagement Ceremony), Vivah Sanskar (Wedding Ceremony) Antim Sanskar (Funeral Ceremony), Utarkriya (After Death Ceremony), Hiranya Shradham, Narayanbali Shradh

**Janma/Lagna Din Nimitte (Birthdays and Wedding Ceremonies):** Vardhapan Sanskar / Markandey Puja (Birthday Ceremony), Sashti Apatha poorthi (60<sup>th</sup> Birthday), Beema Ratha Santhi (70<sup>th</sup> Birthday) Shatabhishekam - sahasrachandra darsana santhi (80<sup>th</sup> Birthday), Lakshminarayan Puja (Ceremony on Wedding Day), Abhishek (Ceremony on Wedding Day), Vishnu Sahastra Path (Ceremony on Wedding Day)

**Life related issues or problems:** Ashlesha Shanti, Jayeshtha Shanti, Mul Shanti, Vyatipat Shanti, Vaidhruti Shanti, Kalsarp Shanti, Trikprasav Shanti, Krishna Chaturdasi Shanti, Darsh Amavasya Shanti, Sinivalikuhu Shanti, Gadant Shanti, Anekan Kshatra Janan Shanti, Grahan Janan Shanti, Yamal Janm Shanti, Arkavivah kumbh vivaha, Kunyavivaha

**Katha (Narrative):** Shrimad Bhagvat Katha, Shri Ramayan Katha, Shivapuran Kata, Devi Bhagavt Katha, Other Religious Narratives



## HARI SCHOOL

Namaste!

Looks like we are nearly done with the cold weather and I am sure everybody is looking forward to the warm temperatures. We have been busy every Sunday with our classes going on full blast at the temple.

The Youth group and the SAT classes are steaming ahead as well. They have been planning and executing some activities. Our morning prayers for the HARI school at the temple starts at 10:25am followed by language classes and youth group/SAT classes.

Thank you to all the parents for all the help and support!

Mrs. Lakshmi Shrikantia, School Director  
Mrs. Meena Ravi, Asst. School Director

Mr. Kapil Gami, Youth Forum Director  
Mrs. Minoo Amin, Asst. Youth Forum Director

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## SANATANA DHARMA

*by Mrs. Lakshmi Shrikantia*

The word 'Hinduism' is a recent name given for the religion it represents. This religion had no particular name for the simple reason that there was no other religion it had to differentiate from. We know that the word 'Hindu' was coined by the ancient Persians, for the people living by the river Sindhu; in their language the sound 'S' is replaced by 'H' sound and thus Sindhu became Hindu.

Sanatana Dharma is another name for Hinduism, which is used by present scholars and orthodox followers as well. Sanatana Dharma means 'Eternal Religion'. This is true meaning for this religion. For if you see this religion has no beginning; it is eternal and has always been there. It is based on the Vedas and is considered as the oldest of the living religions. The word Sanatana Dharma has been used in both Bhagavata 7.11.2 and Brahmandapurana 2.33.37-38. However, the word does not refer to any specific religion, but of their eternal values and practices. It is also considered as the Universal Religion, for the simple fact that it was not founded by one single person nor does it follow one person's preaching.

Sanatana Dharma teaches us to pray, pray for enlightening the intellect; pray for the welfare of others; pray not for individual gains but for the entire mankind. The following prayer is a perfect example of Universal Prayer (Bhadaranyaka Upanishad — I.iii.28):

Asato Maa Sad Gamaya  
Tamaso Maa Jyotir Gamaya  
Mrtyor Maa Amrtam Gamaya

Lead me from unreal to real  
Lead me from darkness to light  
Lead me from death to immortality

Om! Let peace be upon us and on all the beings of the world.

In Sanatana Dharma, God is worshipped under many forms and symbols and each Name is celebrated with a thousand Names. The Names represent the attributes of God. Not only do we have many forms but also many ways of worship. There are many paths that lead to Him and no one path is the right way as long as you pray sincerely with concentration and devotion.

Our religious thoughts are based upon the belief in the Ultimate Truth or Ultimate Reality. Our numerous deities help us to reach the Ultimate Reality. It is a known fact that in order to reach a President of a country we have to go through various offices, in the similar fashion in order to reach Him we have to go through various deities. The ancient rishis discovered that there are different paths to reach the same goal, depending on the people's levels of spiritual development

One of the most remarkable aspects of Sanatana Dharma is that it has laid down a complete scheme of knowledge and topped it with six philosophies. However, all these philosophies are driven by one main idea and leading to one goal.

**2009 HARI EVENTS CALENDAR**

| HARI CELEBRATION DATE                          | EVENT NAME            | EVENT SPONSOR                            |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Saturday, May 16                               | Annamacharya Aradhana | HARI Devotees                            |
| Sunday, May 31                                 | School Graduation     | HARI School Students Parents             |
| Wednesday, August 05                           | Raksha Bandhan        | ***Open***                               |
| Saturday, August 08                            | Krishna Janmashtami   | Rajeev & Manjiri Pangarkar & Family      |
| Monday, August 17 to Sunday, August 23         | Paryushan             | Jain Samaj of South-Central PA           |
| Saturday, August 22                            | Ganesh Chaturthi      | Vishnu & Leena Shenoy                    |
| Saturday, September 19 to Sunday, September 27 | Navratri              | HARI Devotees                            |
| Friday, September 25                           | Kolu Pooja            | N/A                                      |
| Sunday, September 27                           | Dasherra              | ***Open***                               |
| Wednesday, October 07                          | Karva Chauth          | ***Open***                               |
| Saturday, October 17                           | Diwali / Annakut      | HARI Devotees & Local Indian Restaurants |
| Saturday, October 31                           | Tulsi Vivah           | ***Open***                               |

| ACTUAL DATES OF MAJOR FESTIVALS (MARCH – AUGUST) |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 03-10-2009, Tuesday                              | Holi            |
| 03-27-2009, Friday                               | Gudi Padva      |
| 04-03-2009, Friday                               | Ramanavami      |
| 04-07-2009, Tuesday                              | Mahavir Jayanti |
| 04-09-2009, Thursday                             | Hanuman Jayanti |
| 04-27-2009, Monday                               | Akshay Tritiya  |
| 06-24-2009, Wednesday                            | Rath Yatra      |
| 08-05-2009, Wednesday                            | Raksha Bandhan  |

| ACTUAL DATES OF MAJOR FESTIVALS (AUGUST - DECEMBER) |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 08-14-2009, Friday                                  | Krishna Janmashtami    |
| 08-23-2009, Sunday                                  | Ganesh Chaturthi       |
| 09-04-2009, Friday                                  | Pitru Paksha (Shraddh) |
| 09-19-2009, Saturday                                | Navaratri begins       |
| 09-28-2009, Monday                                  | Dasherra               |
| 10-07-2009, Wednesday                               | Karva Chauth           |
| 10-17-2009, Saturday                                | Deepavali (Diwali)     |
| 10-18-2009, Sunday                                  | Vikram Samvat 2066     |

**OUR HEARTFELT SYMPATHY**

... to the family of Mrs. Damyanti Dabhi, who lost her beloved husband, Mr. Govind Dabhi on Monday, December 15, 2008.

... to the family of Mr. Durai Srinivasan, who lost his beloved mother, Mrs. Varalakshmi Srinivasan on Sunday, January 4, 2009.

... to the family of Mrs. Indra Saxena, who lost her beloved husband, Dr. Narendra Saxena on Wednesday, January 14, 2009.

... to the family of Mr. Krishnaprasad Repaka, who lost his beloved father, Mr. Venkat Raju on Tuesday, January 27, 2009.

... to the family of Dr. Anand Bhat, who lost his beloved father, Dr. G. Ramakrishna Bhat on Saturday, January 31, 2009.

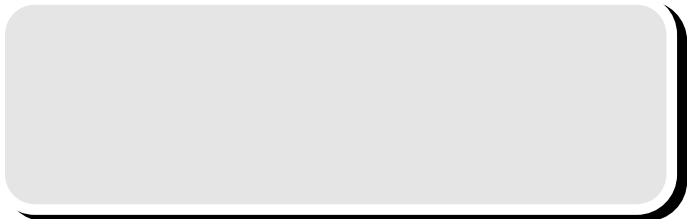
**\*\*\* MAY THE DEPARTED SOULS ATTAIN PARAM SADGATI \*\*\***

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

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Directions:  
Take 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) 774-7750



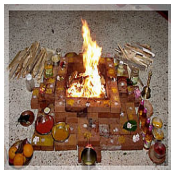
**Satyanarayan Katha**

Wednesday, March 11 at 7:15pm  
Thursday, April 09 at 7:15pm



**Jain Swadhayay / Puja**

Sunday, March 1 at 2:00pm  
Sunday, April 5 at 2:00pm



**Monthly Havan**

Saturday, March 7 at 10:30am  
Saturday, April 11 at 10:30am

To sponsor Monthly Havan/Lunch Prasad,  
please contact any HARI Executive  
Committee Member.

**THIS ISSUE OF HARI TIMES IS  
SPONSORED BY**

\* \_ \* \_ \* \_ \*

**Jai Patel and Yesha Patel**

\* \_ \* \_ \* \_ \*

“Volunteerism is the voice of the people  
put into action. These actions shape and  
mold the present into a future of which  
we can all be proud.” ~ Helen Dyer

\* \_ \* \_ \* \_ \*

**Be part of HARI, Become a Volunteer!**