

**PLEASE NOTE THE SCHEDULES**

Monday Through Thursday: 9 am to 12 noon
and 6 pm to 8 pm
Friday, Weekends & Holidays: 9 am to 8 pm

PASCHIMAVANI

DIRECTIONS

From Freeway 580 in Livermore:
Exit North Vasco Road, left on Scenic Ave,
Left on Arrowhead Avenue

NEWS FROM THE HINDU COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER, LIVERMORE

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT <http://www.livermoretemple.org>

SHIVA-VISHNU TEMPLE

OM NAMAH SHIVAYA

TELEPHONE (925) 449-6255 FAX (925) 455-0404

OM NAMO NARAYANAYA

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Devotees,

Thank you for a great participation in various HCCC Religious functions and festivals, Y&E events, Human Service events, and cultural programs through out the year 2008. In the past 3 months, HCCC has conducted several functions including Navarathri celebrations, Durga Pooja, Vishnu Brahmotsavam, Saraswati Pooja (Akshara Abhyasa), Dhanalakshmi Pooja, Kali Pooja, Kartika Masa Somavara Shiva Abhishekham, Vishnu Pushpa Yaaga, Annual Children's day, Skanda Shashti, Shiva Annabhishekham, Sudarsana Homam, Geeta Jayanthi, Ayyappa Mandala Pooja, and Jugal Bandi. It was a great joy to witness an excellent youth and children participation in Annual Children's Day and Geeta Jayanthi programs.

New Year preparations have started. Please contact temple office if you would like to volunteer on New Year's Day. The New Year Annadana program at HCCC has become one of the well-liked and well participated programs. We invite you to participate in upcoming functions Vaikunta Ekadasi, Andal Abhishekham (daily during Dhanurmasa), Andal Thiru Kalyanautsavam, Ayyappa Makara Deepa Pooja, Ratha Saphami, Maha Shivarathri, Shiva Brahmotsavam, Panguni Uttiram, Sri Ramanavami, and Ugadi. There will be an Annual Grant-in Aid (HCCC provides funds to local non-profit humanitarian organizations) in March/April '09. Please obtain the details from temple web-site, if you would like to participate in Grant-in Aid program.

Children are encouraged to participate in upcoming March '09 Spelling Bee and Shivarathri functions. Our cultural team will be bringing Arudra Nrityanjali in January, Sri Purandara Dasa Aradhana in February, and Guru Vandana in March.

Annual Election committee has been formed to conduct elections for Executive Committee and Board of Directors positions.

Utsavamurthy Kalyanautsavam has become blessing and an enriched devotional experience for devotees. Several devotees are sponsoring Kalyanautsavam of Lord Balaji, Goddess Mahalakshmi and Goddess Bhoodevi Utsavamurthies, to be performed at their residences. Stay tuned for details regarding fundraising and mega event of Kalyanautsavam & cultural program.

HCCC is looking forward to increased youth participation in various programs. With parent's consent and encouragement, we would like to add youth e-mail addresses in our information system, so that temple programs can be communicated through an e-mail on weekly basis.

HCCC's Master Planning Committee (MPC) has conducted a neighborhood meeting to inform the elements of the Master Plan. Neighbors have raised noise and traffic concerns. We request devotees to maintain silence outdoors after 8 PM while leaving from the temple and also request cautious driving which results in a safer neighborhood for residents. MPC team is scheduled to apply for Master Plan permit by January 2009 to Livermore City. Noise concerns are addressed by Master Plan.

Volunteers and function coordinators are instrumental in conducting all HCCC functions successfully. We thank devotees, sponsors, and volunteers for a continued support to provide quality services to all devotees at HCCC facilities. Please visit temple web-site www.livermoretemple.org for the up-to-date information.

We look forward to your continued support.

Wish You All A Very Happy and Prosperous New Year 2009.

Srinivasa Malladi
Chairman of the Board, HCCC

From Editor's Desk

Dear Devotees,

HCCC would like to wish all the readers of its Newsletter a very happy, prosperous, and safe New Year 2009. Your favorite religious calendar for 2009 is available. Please do not forget to pick your copy during your visit to temple. Please see inside for more details on the calendar. We recently began printing the Newsletter in color for your reading pleasure. The on-line edition of Newsletter is in color as well. We hope you like it. We have been thriving to get you the Newsletter that is informative and we hope it is quenching your thirst for information about temple and its activities. We would like to hear from you on the contents and what you would like to see. We would like to encourage you and your children write short articles for publishing in the Newsletter. Send your articles and feedback via email to Janakiram.kaki@gmail.com.

Janakiram Kaki, *Publicity Chair, EC, HCCC*

PLANNED SPECIAL EVENTS

DATE/DAY	EVENTS	TIME	ACTIVITIES
Jan 1st Thursday	New Year's Day 2009	7:00 AM 7:30 AM 7:30 AM 8:00 AM 8:30 AM 8:00 PM	Lord Shiva & Lord Vishnu Suprabatham Lord Shiva Abhisheka and Goddess Andal Abhisheka Maha Ganapathi Homam Nitya Pooja Arathi to all Deities Single Line Darshan Starts Ekanta Seva See Detailed Program at the end
Jan 2nd Friday	Shukla Shashti	6:30 PM	Lord Murugan Sahasranama Archana
Jan 3rd Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon	Swarna Alamkara for Lord Shiva Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Jan 6th Tuesday	Krittika	6:30 PM	Lord Murugan Abhisheka
Jan 7th Wednesday	Vaikunta Ekadasi		Detailed Program at the End
Jan 8th Thursday	Pradosham Rohini	6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Lord Shiva Abhisheka Sri Krishna Puja
Jan 10th Saturday	Arudra Darshana 2nd Saturday of the Month	9:30 AM 11:00 AM 12:00 Noon	Lord Shiva Abhisheka Muttangi Alamkaram for Lord Shiva Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji
	Poornima	5:00 PM	Sri Lalita Sahasranama Parayana
Jan 12th Monday	Dhanur Masa puja ends		
Jan 13th Tuesday	Makara Sankranti, Thai Pongal Uttarayan Punya kala Ayyappa Makara Deepa Pooja Sankatahara Chaturthi	6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Ayyappa Pooja Lord Ganesha Abhisheka
Jan 17th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon 3:00 PM	Rajatha Alamkaram for Lord Shiva Tiruppavadaï seva for Lord Balaji
	Andal Kalyanam		
Dec 27, '08-Jan 17, '09	Sri Adhyayana Utsavam	various timings	See Flyer for schedule
Jan 18th Sunday	3rd Sunday of the Month Swati Ayyappa Makara Deepa Puja	11:00 AM 5:00 PM 5:00 PM	Sahasara Nama Archana for Lord Shiva Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Abhisheka Weekend Function
Jan 19th Monday	Martin Luther King (MLK) Day	Open all day	Temple Open: 9:00 AM thru 8:00 PM
Jan 21st Wednesday	Ekadasi	6:30 PM	Lord Balaji Bhoga Murthy Abhisheka
Jan 23rd Friday	Pradosham& Masa Shivaratri	6:30 PM	108 Kalasha Abhisheka for Lord Shiva
Jan 24th Saturday	4th Saturday of the month	12:00 Noon	Pushpa Seva for Lord Balaji
Jan 25th Sunday	Last Sunday of the Month Annular Solar Eclipse	4:30 PM	Kala Bhairava Abhisheka Not Visible in USA
Jan 26th Monday	Sravana	6:30 PM	Lord Balaji Sahasranama Archana
Jan 30th Friday	Vasantha Panchami Saraswati Puja	6:30 PM	Lalita Sahasranama Archana Detailed Program at the End
Jan 31st Saturday	5th Saturday of the Month	10:30 AM	108 Kalasha Abhisheka for Lord Balaji
Feb 1st Sunday	Ratha Saptami	11:00 AM	Surya Namaskaram with Aruna Parayanam
Feb 3rd Tuesday	Krittika	6:30 PM	Lord Murugan Abhisheka and Archana
Feb 4th Wednesday	Rohini	6:30 PM	Sri Krishna Pooja
Feb 5th Thursday	Bheeshma Ekadasi	6:30 PM	Lord Balaji Bhoga Murthy Abhisheka
Feb 6th Friday	Pradosham	6:30 PM	Lord Shiva Abhisheka
Feb 7th Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	Swarna Alamkara for Lord Shiva Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji Sri Rama Abhisheka
Feb 8th Sunday	Punarvasu Thai Poosam	11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Lord Karthikeya Abhisheka and Archana Mayura Vahanam for Lord Karthikeya
	Poornima	5:00 PM	Lalita Sahasranama Parayana
Feb 12th Thursday	Sankatahara Chaturthi	6:30 PM	Lord Ganesha Abhisheka

PLANNED SPECIAL EVENTS

DATE/DAY	EVENTS	TIME	ACTIVITIES
Feb 13th Friday	Shiva Brahmotsavam Day 1		Detailed Program at the End
Feb 14th Saturday	Shiva Brahmotsavam Day 2 2nd Saturday of the Month Sesha Vastra Event	10:00 AM	Detailed Program at the End Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji
Feb 15th Sunday	Shiva Brahmotsavam Day 3 Swati	5:00 PM	Detailed Program at the End Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Abhisheka
Feb 16th Monday	President's Day	Open all day	Temple open: 9:00 AM thru 8:00PM (Weekend Timings)
Feb 20th Friday	Ekadasi	6:30 PM	Lord Balaji Bhoga Murthy Abhisheka
Feb 21st Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 PM	Rajatha Alamkaram for Lord Shiva Tiruppavadai Seva for Lord Balaji Lord Shiva Abhisheka
Feb 22nd Sunday	Pradosham Maha Shivaratri Last Sunday of the Month Sravana	4:30 PM 5:00 PM	Detailed Program at the End Kala Bhairava Abhisheka Lord Balaji Sahasranama Archana
Feb 28th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 Noon	Pushpa Seva for Lord Balaji
Mar 2nd Monday	Shukla Shashti & Krittika	6:30 PM	Lord Karthikeya Abhisheka and Sahasranama Archana
Mar 3rd Tuesday	Rohini	6:30 PM	Sri Krishna Pooja
Mar 6th Friday	Ekadasi Punarvasu	6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Lord Balaji Bhoga Murthy Abhisheka Sri Rama Abhisheka
Mar 7th Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon	Swarna Alamkaram for Lord Shiva Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Mar 8th Sunday	Day Light Savings Start Pradosham	5:00 PM	Lord Shiva Abhisheka
Mar 10th Tuesday	Poornima	6:30 PM	Lalita Sahasranama Parayana
Mar 13th Friday	Kardiyan Nombu Sankatahara Chathurthi	6:30 PM	Lalita Sahasranama Archana Lord Ganesha Abhisheka
Mar 14th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	Muttangi Alamkaram for Lord Shiva Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Abhisheka
Mar 15th Sunday	Swati	11:00 AM	Lord Shiva Sahasranama Archana
Mar 21st Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon 5:00 PM	Rajatha Alamkaram for Lord Shiva Tiruppavadai Seva for Lord Balaji Lord Balaji Bhoga Murthy Abhisheka
Mar 22nd Sunday	Ekadasi	5:00 PM	Lord Balaji Sahasranama Archana
Mar 23rd Monday	Sravana Pradosham	5:00 PM 6:30 PM	Lord Balaji Sahasranama Archana Lord Shiva Abhisheka
Mar 24th Tuesday	Masa Shivaratri	6:30 PM	108 Kalasha Abhisheka for Lord Shiva
Mar 27th Friday	Ugadi Asthanam, Virodhi Samvatsaram Vasanta Navaratri starts	6:30 PM	Ugadi Asthanam, Panchanga Sravanam in Telugu & Kannada Srimad Valmiki Ramayana Parayana starts (Details at end)
Mar 28th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 Noon	Pushpa Seva for Lord Balaji
Mar 29th Sunday	Last Sunday of the Month	4:30 PM	Kala Bhairava Abhisheka
Mar 30th Monday	Krittika	6:30 PM	Lord Karthikeya Abhisheka and Archana
Mar 31st Tuesday	Shukla Shashti Rohini	6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Kartikeya Sahasranama Archana Sri Krishna Pooja
Apr 3rd Friday	Sri Rama Navami		Detailed Program at the end
Apr 4th Saturday	1st Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon	Swarna Alamkaram for Lord Shiva Vastra Samarpana for Lord Balaji
Apr 5th Sunday	Sri Rama Navami (Weekend Function) Ekadasi	5:00 PM	Detailed Program at the end Lord Balaji Bhoga Murthy Abhisheka
Apr 6th Monday	Pradosham	6:30 PM	Lord Shiva Abhisheka
Apr 7th Tuesday	Panguni Uttiram		Detailed Program at the end
Apr 8th Wednesday	Poornima	6:30 PM	Lalita Sahasranama Parayana

PLANNED SPECIAL EVENTS

DATE/DAY	EVENTS	TIME	ACTIVITIES
Apr 10th Friday	Swati	6:30 PM	Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Abhisheka
Apr 11th Saturday	2nd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 12:00 Noon	Muttangi Alamkara for Lord Shiva Tomala Seva for Lord Balaji
Apr 12th Sunday	Sankatahara Chathurthi	5:00 PM	Lord Ganesha Abhisheka
Apr 13th Monday	Tamil New Year, Baishaki, Vishu Virodhi Samvatsara	7:00 PM	Lord Murugan Archana and Panchanga Sravana in Tamil
Apr 18th Saturday	3rd Saturday of the Month	11:00 AM 5:00 PM	Rajatha Alamkara for Lord Shiva Tiruppavadai Seva for Lord Balaji Lord Balaji Sahasranama Archana
Apr 19th, Sunday	Tamil New Year, weekend function	11:00 AM 11:30 AM	Lord Shiva Sahasranama Archana Pushpa Seva for Lord Karthikeya
Apr 20th Monday	Ekadasi	6:30 PM	Lord Balaji Bhoga Murthy Abhisheka
Apr 22nd Wednesday	Pradosham and Masa Shivaratri	6:30 PM	108 Kalasha Abhisheka for Lord Shiva
Apr 25th Saturday	4th Saturday of the Month	12:00 Noon	Pushpa Seva for Lord Balaji
Apr 26th Sunday	Krittika	5:00 PM	Lord Karthikeya Abhisheka and Archana
Apr 27th Monday	Rohini Akshaya Tritiya Basava Jayanthi	6:30 PM 6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Sri Krishna Pooja Chandana Abhisheka for Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Lord Shiva Archana
Apr 28th Tuesday	Adi Shankara Jayanthi	6:30 PM	Adi Shankara Pooja
Apr 29th Wednesday	Shukla Shashti Sri Ramanuja Jayanthi	6:30 PM 6:30 PM	Lord Karthikeya Sahasranama Archana Sri Ramanuja Satmurai
Apr 30th Thursday	Punarvasu	6:30 PM	Sri Rama Abhisheka

New Year's Day 2009

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENTS
Jan 1st Thur	7:00 AM	Lord Shiva & Lord Vishnu Suprabatham
	7:30 AM	Lord Shiva Abhisheka
	7:30 AM	Maha Ganapathi Homam
	7:30 AM	Andal Abhishekam
	8:00 AM	Nitya Pooja Arathi to all Deities
	8:30 AM	Single Line Darshan Starts
	8:00 PM	Ekanta Seva

Vaikunta Ekadasi

Jan 7th Wed	6:00 AM	Suprabatham
	6:30 AM	Lord Balaji Moola Murthy Abhisheka
	6:30 AM	Andal Abhisheka
	8:00 AM	Dwara Pooja
	8:30 AM	Dwara Pravesham for devotees
	6:00 PM	Sri Venkateshwara Sahasranama Homa and Poornahuti
	8:00 PM	Ekanta Seva

Andal Tiru Kalyanam

Jan 17th Sat	3:00 PM	Edukkola Utsavam
	4:00 PM	Kalyana Utsavam
	5:30 PM	Tiru Veedhi Utsavam
	6:30 PM	Tiru Kalyana Bhojanam for all devotees
	8:00 PM	Ekanta Seva

Vasanta Panchami Saraswati Pooja Celebration

Jan 30th Fri	10:30 AM	Saraswati Pooja
	11:30 AM	Pushpanjali
	12:00 Noon	Bhog Prasad
	12:15 PM	Aarati

Vasanta Panchami Saraswati Pooja Celebration

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENTS
Jan 30th Fri	12:30 PM	Aksharabhyasam (HateKahari)
	7:00 PM	Sandhya Aarati and Pushpanjali
	7:30 PM	Aksharabhyasam (HateKahari)
	8:00 PM	Shanti Jal and Prasad

SHIVA BRAHMOTSAVAM

Feb 13th Fri	7:00 PM	Anujna, Ganapati Pooja, Punyahavachana, Deeksha Panchagavya, Ankurarpanam, Nandi Abhisheka, Vastu Homa, Dhawaja Pataka Pooja, Dhawaja Arohana, Bali, Arati, Prasadam
	Feb 14th Sat	9:00 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM
Feb 15th Sun	8:00 AM	Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu Suprabatham
	8:30 AM	Lord Shiva, Ganapati & Kartikeya Abhishekam
	10:30 AM	Nitya Homa, Bali
	11:30 AM	Parvati Parameshwara Utsava Murthy Abhisheka
	1:00 PM	Avabrutha Snamam, Maha Poornahuti, and Arathi
	3:30 PM	Lord Shiva Kalyanam
	5:00 PM	Nandi Vahana Seva for Lord Shiva
	7:00 PM	Mouna Bali, Dwaja Avarohanam, Deeksha Visarjanam, Asheervachanam

MAHA SHIVARATRI

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENTS
Feb 22nd Sun	6:00 AM	Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu Suprabatham
	6:30 AM	1st Yaama - Lord Shiva Abhisheka
	10:00 AM	2nd Yaama - Lord Shiva Abhisheka
	1:00 PM	3rd Yaama - Lord Shiva Abhisheka
	3:30 PM	4th Yaama - Lord Shiva Abhisheka
	5:00 PM	Jyothirlinga Archana
	6:00 PM	5th Yaama - Mahanyasa Parayanam, Rudra Abhisheka and Rajopachara Seva
	12:30 AM	6th Yaama - Lord Shiva Abhisheka
Mar 27th Fri	8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon	Srimad Ramayanana Parayana
	to Apr 3rd Fri	6:30 PM - 7:30PM
Apr 3rd Fri	10:00 AM	Sri Rama Abhisheka
	11:00 AM	Sri Rama Shadakshari Homa and Namakarana Samskara Homa
	12:00 Noon	Theertha prasadam
	6:30 PM	Sri Seeta Rama Kalyanotsavam

SRI RAMA NAVAMI CELEBRATIONS

Mar 27th Fri	8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon	Srimad Ramayanana Parayana
	to Apr 3rd Fri	6:30 PM - 7:30PM
Apr 3rd Fri	10:00 AM	Sri Rama Abhisheka
	11:00 AM	Sri Rama Shadakshari Homa and Namakarana Samskara Homa
	12:00 Noon	Theertha prasadam
	6:30 PM	Sri Seeta Rama Kalyanotsavam

SRI RAMA NAVAMI (WEEKEND FUNCTION)

DATE/DAY	TIME	EVENTS
April 5th Sun	8:00 AM	Lord Shiva and Lord Balaji Suprabatham
	8:30 AM	Abhisheka for Lord Shiva, Lord Ganesha, Kartikeya and Anjaneya
	9:30 AM	Seeta Rama Edurukola Utsavam
	11:00 AM	Sri Seeta Rama Kalyanam
	12:00 Noon	Sumuhurtam
	12:30 PM	Akshataropanam, Asheervachanam and Theertha Prasadam
	1:30 PM	Sri Seeta Rama Sankeertanam
	3:00 PM	Sri Rama Pattabhishekam
	6:00 PM	Hanumanta Vahana Utsavam with Rama Sankeertana
	7:00 PM	Maha Mangala Arati
	8:00 PM	Ekanta Seva for Lord Balaji

PANGUNI UTTIRAM

Apr 7th Tue	5:00 PM	Sri Suktha Homam
	7:00 PM	Gadya Traya Parayanam, Mahalakshmi Utsavam
	7:30 PM	Sethi Seva
	8:00 PM	Ekanta Seva for Lord Balaji

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Hundi Donations**

When you visit the temple, please offer your donations only in Hundi. Please do not throw or place cash (bills/coins) on or near idols.

Need Volunteers

The HCCC is a non-profit organization and is run by many dedicated volunteers. Many new volunteers have joined the crew and have supported temple events. We need many more volunteers to help with the activities of temple in the areas of publicity, cultural, religious, maintenance, administration, fund raising, youth & education, and many more areas. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact volunteer coordinator Manashi Bagchi at manashibagchi@yahoo.com or temple office.

Delivery of Newsletter

To ensure delivery of temple Newsletter to your inbox (not your spam or bulk folders), please add svtl@livermoretemple.org to your addressbook.

Dravya Usage

In the last edition of Newsletter we appealed to all devotees to bring limited quantities of the Dravyas (milk, yogurt, honey, and fruit juices) for Abhishekam. Many devotees responded to our appeal and HCCC would like to thank devotees for their co-operation and understanding. However, the problem of excessive Dravyas clogging drainage is not completely eliminated. Please continue to bring in the Dravyas in limited quantities.

Temple Calendar For 2009

Popular religious calendar for the year 2009 is available at the temple. Please pick up your copy during your visit to temple. In addition to the religious calendar, there is one foldable sheet giving summary of temple events during the year 2009 for your quick reference that you can either stick to the refrigerator or put on your office desk. 2009 calendar includes start and end times of Rahu Kala for each day of the year. An easy-to-read table is provided at the end to convert Thithi and Nakshtra times in 30-hour format to standard 12-hour AM/PM format. On the last page of the calendar, Shanthi prayer along with meaning is provided



for you to teach to your children. Similar to previous years, you will see beautiful color pictures of god and goddesses for every month.

It has Thithi and Nakshtra times for every day. Important festivals and holidays are listed in different color for easy recognition. Weekend functions are called out for your information.

Expansion of Temple – A Master Plan

K Venkateswaran – Chairman, MPC Committee

HCCC is working on a Master Plan to expand and make improvements to the infrastructure of the Shiva-Vishnu temple site. HCCC owns twelve acres of land; four acres of temple land, four acres of land south of temple (Dakshina Bhumi), and four acres east of temple (Poorva Bhumi) across the Arrowhead Avenue. A Master Plan Committee (MPC) was constituted by the management to review the immediate and long term needs and develop a plan for the entire twelve acres of land including the temple lot.

The goal of the MPC is to build an institution that the community can be proud of and that covers the immediate needs with a long range perspective. After a detailed evaluation of the needs of HCCC based on inputs collected from several internal committees, staff, and devotees, MPC has developed a list of additions and improvements to meet the needs. To prepare the Master Plan HCCC selected a reputed Architecture firm, Archevon, from the Bay Area. Archevon has designed many Churches, Temples, Schools and Community Centers in this area, including ICC in Milpitas. MPC is now very excited to present a Master Plan that is well suited for the activities that are conducted in HCCC: Religious, Cultural, Educational, Humanitarian and Community Welfare. This Master Plan has a Campus type approach that has devotee comfort and safety as priority as well as attempts to minimize and mitigate impacts to neighborhood residents. The immediate facility improvements will be in the combined 8 acres of the Temple Land and Dakshina Bhumi. The Poorva Bhumi improvements will be planned at a later date to improve future community and temple needs..

The main features of the Master Plan are:

1. The Ornate Temple as the focal point.
2. Campus approach with enclosed courtyards. This approach will keep all activities indoor or in inner courtyards to reduce the impact of noise on the surrounding neighbors.
3. An administrative and Devotee center where devotees can get Archana tickets etc. for a donation. The center will also have Class Rooms, Private Pooja Rooms, Media Room and Restrooms.
4. A new Multi-purpose Assembly Hall with a large Lobby.
5. A large kitchen moved to the center of the campus and away from the neighbors which will include indoor cold storage, large vessel cleaning area, etc.,
6. Conversion of the present Assembly Hall to an exclusive dining area.
7. Conversion of the present Kitchen to Priest rest area
8. Plenty of Storage rooms for all Vahanas, Puja Materials, table and chairs etc.
9. The facility will be built "Green" with sustainable and energy efficient materials.
10. Professional landscape surrounding the entire facility.

The first stage of development consisting of administrative and devotee center and the Kitchen will be built before the next Maha Kumbhabhishekam scheduled for June 2010.

The preparations for obtaining of city permits and approval of plans from Livermore city are in full swing. By the grace of God, we hope to receive the permits soon.

It has been a long journey undertaken by the present and past members of the Master Plan Committee who have volunteered numerous hours to bring it to this stage. Your donations of all amounts will help to make the plan a reality.

Health Fair 2008 – Highlights

Anand Gundu – Human Services Chair

Here are results of feedback from the devotees who participated in the Health Fair event conducted by HCCC in 2008. Ninety seven (97%) percent of people said that it was either very good or good. 34% of people became aware of the Health fair from temple web site. 20% said they read the flyer distributed by temple and 15% heard from the friends. Here is what some of the attendees has to say about the program:

- "Very well organized/ Friendly volunteers"** **"Opportunity to consult different specialties"** **"Every health department was available"**
"The devotion with which the tests are done and administered is unique" **"All doctors were very courteous"**
"Presence of Rehab expert and cardiology. Access to free Cholesterol/ Bone density screening" **"More Cardiology consulting [needed]"**
"It seems the cholesterol testing was very popular and consequently the waiting time was more." **"Cholesterol - More machines [needed]"**

Grant-in-Aid Program - 2009

Anand Gundu – Human Services Chair

The Hindu Community and Cultural Center, Inc., (HCCC) of Livermore is pleased to announce their annual Grant Program and invites applications from non-profit, human services organizations in Livermore and the surrounding areas. We plan to give out a total of \$25,000 during the year 2009. Each grant can vary from \$500 to \$3500 depending on the needs and suitability of the applicant. This grant program was initiated in 1987 and is one of many Human Services activities at the temple.

Human Services organizations serving the needs of the elderly, abused women, and youth (that are primarily funded through private donations) are encouraged to apply for these grants. Organizations can apply in their own format giving us the details such as mission statement, sample projects, the name of specific project for which the grant is being sought, and any other information in support of the application. The last date for receiving your application by us is February 10, 2009. Mail the application to:

HCCC, Inc.
Anand Gundu
Human Services Chairperson
1232, Arrowhead Avenue
Livermore, CA 94551-6963

All the applicants will be informed of the grant decisions and the representatives of the selected organizations will be invited to an Award Program at the temple.

Program for Seniors

Temple has been conducting programs for seniors to share their experiences with fellow seniors. Seniors regularly meet on first Saturday of every month from 2:00 to 4:00 PM in the temple. Some of the senior programs include Health workshops, Vedic chanting practice, informative and knowledgeable talks by experienced seniors, basic computer training, and fun games for entertainment. Participation is free. You can register by sending an email to setlurs@sbcglobal.net. Please mention "Seniors Program" in the subject line. For information regarding public transportation, please call the temple office at (925) 449-6255. For more information, please contact the Human Services Chairperson, Anand Gundu at anand_gundu@yahoo.com

Annadaana Program

"Annath Bhoobhani Jayanthe Jathani Annena Vardhanthe" – Upanishath

Vijaya L Neelamraju – Food Chair

In this whole universe, the creation and progress depends on food. Giving food to the devotees is more than attaining heavens. All our Puranas hail that the Annadaana is the supreme charity.

HCCC temple has been providing lunch Prasadam (Annadaana Program) for all devotees visiting the temple on weekends for the last six years. This program is completely sponsored by the devotees of the temple. On the average, four families sponsor Annadaana Program every weekend day.

Devotees sponsor Annadaana Program to mark the occasions that are special to them such as birthdays, marriage days, graduations, promotions on the job, start of new business, new year day, festival days, and death anniversary days of their dear ones.

The best part of Annadaana Program is also when you become part of the process of cooking food for devotees. When possible, please become part of the Srama Daana by helping in cooking and serving food for devotees on a weekend day. Some of the weekends, one to three families will come to the temple and prepare food for devotees.

For example, on Jan 1, 2008, Annadaana sponsors took care of 13,000+ devotees visiting on that day. Sponsors donated money, food items, and volunteered to prepare food and serve for all the devotees visiting the temple. This program is successful because of devotees like you and is completely managed by the temple devotees.

We would like to continue our Annadana Program for 2009 year. We always depend upon generosity, dedication, and commitment of devotees.

A suggested donation of \$251 to the Temple will provide food for about 600+ people on a weekend day. If you wish to become one of the sponsor for this unique program, please contact Durga Duggirala (nehasri@hotmail.com, 925 819 0830), Mohan Reddy (mohan_r_soma@yahoo.com, 925 819 0830), Dharwar Achar (dhawar2000@yahoo.com, 925 525 0914), Vijaya Neelamraju (vijayan_hccc@yahoo.com, 925 963 4685), or temple office (925 525 0914).



KEY EVENTS CELEBRATED

Saraswathi Puja and Aksharabyasa

On 6th October 2008, Youth & Education Committee organized Saraswathi Puja and Aksharabyasa. All Youth & Education functional committee volunteers helped with the event. The participation was overwhelming considering that it was a week day. Over 100 children and their families participated in the Puja to obtain the blessings of Goddess Saraswathi, the goddess of learning. HCCC would like to thank all Y&E volunteers to make the event so successful.

Annual Children and Youth Day

On Nov 15, HCCC Y&E committee conducted Annual Children and Youth Day in the temple. A good number of children and youth participated in this event. Family members and friends witnessed their children participating in the program as well. There were several sessions on this day. Sloka recital sessions in the morning. Interesting discussion on the topic "Surya -the sun God, source of life on the planet earth". An art exhibition was held showcasing the creative artwork of children and youth. The art work will be on display in the temple library until end of January 2009. As part of Youth Ambassador Program, awards were presented to five youth recognizing their volunteer services in the library, front office, and Laddoo packing. There was also cultural show on this day where several children took part. We have 25 registered youth volunteers. Thirteen of the registered volunteers participated in the Youth forum session.



Visit by Girls from Developing Virtue Secondary School



Students from World Religion class visited HCCC temple to learn and appreciate the Hindu religion. Dr. Kamala Shankar and Mr. Jai Kandaiah gave them a guided tour of the temple and educated them on the virtues of Hinduism. Mr. Heng Yin, Girls Division Principal of Developing Virtue Secondary School, Ukia, California wrote a letter thanking the temple representatives for the opportunity. Here is an excerpt from his communication "Our students all felt they understood and appreciated the purpose of abhishekam and Hindu rituals much better after observing and getting a tour from yourselves. They also could connect and relate Hindu beliefs and practices to similar ones in Buddhism, and

greatly enjoyed speaking with you and sharing in the Prasadam. Thank you all for taking the time to show us around. We hope to call on you again next year."

CPR Training for Temple Staff

On Dec 3, 2008, as part of the Safety and Security initiative, HCCC had conducted first CPR training for the priests and temple administrative staff to handle any eventualities.



CPR Training was organized by the Human Services Chair at the HCCC. The training was conducted by Mr. Brian of American Health Education Inc., from 1 pm to 4 pm. It was a detailed training that included video presentation and hands on practice on the mannequins. Training covered adult CPR, child CPR, and dealing with Choking situations in adults and children. There were a total of 14 participants including the priests, office staff, and the cleaning crew. The training generated a lot of interest in the participants. Participants appreciated the way Mr. Brian covered the topics. Dr. Kamala Shankar and Mr. Anand Gundu oversaw the training from the management side.

Geeta Jayanti Celebrations



A spectacular Geeta Jayanti Celebration took place on Saturday December 13. The celebration began with a group recitation from Bhagawad Geeta describing the gospel of selfless action and how we can live a peaceful life within the family and society. It was followed by children's performances on Bhagawad Geeta and some traditional dances from I-Gurukulam exhibiting the spiritual mystery of Lord Krishna's birth, childhood pranks, and penances. The recital of Bhagawad Geeta, Chapter 15, by 8 years old Anargya and 10 years old Rooshika was simply amazing. The group singing of Jayadeva Astapadi by Ananth, Meghana, Kumkum, Manasa, Anusha, Srujana, and Kavya and the singing of Geeta Dhyanam was highly appreciated by the audience. Each participant received a picture of Lord Krishna besides the other awards. Devi Bode and

Padamaja assisted in organizing the children's program.

The highlight of the day was the lecture and Panch-Kosha guided meditation by Prabha Duneja which led everybody into inner calmness and ecstatic trance. The Bhajans by Mino Puri and Rattan Naidu filled the air with ecstasy of divine love and the audience exhilarated in spiritual fervor. There was free distribution of a copy of Bhagawad Geeta, audio cassettes, Geeta Satsang, and other prayer books which was highly appreciated by the attendees. This year the program has attracted a large gathering of

Cont. from previous page...

devotees exceeding previous year levels. Over 3000 devotees from all over the Bay Area attended this event. Several American and Japanese devotees seeking authentic spiritual growth also attended the celebration and enjoyed the gourmet vegetarian Indian food. Many American students from yoga centers came to volunteer and helped whole-heartedly during the meditation session. The team spirit of devotees and volunteers through cooking, decorating the hall, serving food, and the distribution of books was simply exemplary. The photographer from Valley Times took pictures of devotees reciting Bhagawad Geeta and dance performances of children. Everybody enjoyed being a part of the collective spiritual energy that filled the air throughout the day. The joyous celebration culminated with Aarti Sri Krishna Ji, Aarti Sri Geeta Ji and special prayers for peace, love, and happiness on Earth. Everybody went home with Prasadam and special blessings for the New Year.

Ayyappa Mandala Puja

A grand function was conducted to celebrate the Ayyappa Mandala Puja on November 15, 2008. The function was very well attended. We had over 250 devotees participating in the event. Over 200 devotees ate the special dinner (Sambar Rice, Potato Curry, Curd Rice and Chakkara Pongal) that was prepared by the volunteers at the temple. The volunteers from Ayyappa Samaaj sponsored the Annadhana and also prepared the food that morning.

There was Thalapolli for Lord Ayyappa to the accompaniment of "Chenda", the traditional music in all Kerala temples. Over 50 women and children participated in the Thalapolli.

The 18 steps for Lord Ayyappa were renovated and there were special decorations around the 18 steps. Three "Ayyappas" commenced their Vratam by wearing the Thulasi Mala during the function. Five more people wore the Mala on November 23. Five adults and children the Mala on December 20.

There was a video coverage and photo coverage for the event. Video can be viewed on www.youtube.com using the links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUIg-a5QrLs>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i0SC22ZZ3EM>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWfjfU9wvBI>



PICTURE GALLERY



Children and youth day



CPR Training for temple staff



Geeta Jayanthi



Geeta Jayanthi



Children and youth day

Did you know this?

HCCC Grants Program started 21 years ago in 1987. Over 100,000 dollars have been given over these years. Following 15 organizations benefited from this program:

Jackson Avenue Elementary, Asha for Education, North South Foundation, Senior Support Program, Tri Valley Youth Court, St Vincent De Paul Society, Del Arroyo 4H Club, Sankara Nethrala OM Trust, Assistance League Amador Valley, Yoga Bharathi, Tri-Valley Haven, Life ElderCare Inc, Tri-Valley Adult Day Care Program, Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, Kruti Dhata Inc.

Here are some words of appreciation from the beneficiary organizations:

“With great joy, I thank you for selecting the Jackson Ave. School Choir to be one of your Grant-in-Aid recipients. Your support means a great deal to us during the state’s budget crunch when many programs are threatened. We are most grateful to know that with your help, music will continue to ring through the halls of our school. In the meantime, please know that we are very grateful for the generosity of the Hindu Community and Cultural Center. Thanks to your thoughtful contribution, we will be able to demonstrate to our community the value of a quality music program, one that brings joy and harmony into our lives. Thank you for helping to make that possible.”

- Clara Yen, Choir Director, Jackson Avenue Elementary School

“Your generous donation went to a good cause”

- Volunteer from Sankuratri Foundation



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