

## Shanthi Mandir News Update

December 3, 2005

Do plan to visit the Shanthi Mandir (2006 Holly Avenue – Drive east past Rangeline on Vandiver, left on Parker, right on Holly to Shanthi Mandir) if you have not done so lately! A lot of exciting developments are underway. There is no more timely way to update you on these developments than to share them with you through e-mail. We also have an informative web site <[www.shanthimandir.missouri.org](http://www.shanthimandir.missouri.org)> – but given the work loads, we may not always be able to keep it up to date, particularly given the pace of activities during the last several weeks.

### Upcoming Events:

- **Sunday, December 4, 2005, 1:30 –3:30 p.m. at the Shanthi Mandir** (2006 Holly Avenue). See our web site for more details!  
**Hindu Temple, Community Activism and You** – A Town Hall style lecture forum with **Sam Kannappan**, Founding Secretary of the Houston Meenakshi Temple
- **Samuhika Satyanarayana Puja – Limited slots. Please sign up early!**  
**Saturday, December 17, 2005 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. at the Shanthi Mandir**  
Srinivasji, the priest from the St. Louis Hindu Temple will lead us in conducting our first **Samuhika Satyanarayana Puja** (collective multifamily puja). Due to space limitations at the Mandir we will only be able to accommodate the **first 30 families to sign up for the puja**. Puja sponsors can sign up by sending a check for **\$51** favoring **Hindu Temple and Community Center of Mid-Missouri** to **Visala Palaniappan ASAP** <[visalap@hotmail.com](mailto:visalap@hotmail.com)>, **404 Carpathian Drive, Columbia, MO. Sign-up will be completed only when Visala receives your check.** The amount will cover the cost of the puja materials, St. Louis temple service charges, and dakshina to Srinivasji. Money left over will be used for the operating expenses of HTCC. Most of the puja materials will be provided just prior to the puja in individual family kits. Families performing the puja will however be expected to get 2-3 items from their homes for the puja (list will be provided on sign-up). Members who are not able to perform the puja this time may attend the puja on December 17 and receive prasad. Depending upon the interest from the community we will consider repeating this event in the very near future so that all interested persons can perform the puja.

### Noteworthy Milestones:

- Shanthi Mandir web site up and running (address above)
- **Hindu Temple and Community Center of Mid-Missouri (HTCC)** – New name approved by consensus after input from Town-Hall meeting of November 13, 2005
- HTCC incorporated in the State of Missouri as a Nonprofit Corporation – Nov. 21, 2005
- Federal EIN for HTCC registered – November 17, 2005
- 501 (c) 3 Status – Documents filed with IRS – (to be submitted by December 9, 2005)
- Bank Account for HTCC opened –December 1, 2005
- Interim Executive Board and Interim Board of Trustees Officers chosen by consensus (charged with taking care of operations until elections are held. Elections planned after HTCC membership drive is completed early in 2006)
- Interim Executive Board (day to day operations): V. S. Gopalaratnam, President, Anuradha Rajagopalan, Vice President, Inder Khurana, Secretary, Visala Palaniappan, Treasurer.
- Interim Board of Trustees Officers (long-term policy): Ranadhir Mitra, President, H. R. Chandrasekhar, Vice President, Nila Gupta, Secretary

### Infrastructure Renovations/Additions

- Parking lot paved and striped (Oct./Nov. 2005)
- Termite treatment completed (Nov. 2005)
- Electrical upgrades (Underway – Nov. 2005)
- Kitchen Upgrade (Underway – Nov. 2005)
- Library Setup (Planned – Dec. 2005)

### Equipment Additions:

*Our thanks to the donors recognized alongside each item!*

**Audio System:** Sanjiv and Punam Sethi

**Coffee Makers:** Vivek and Manjula Nathan

**Digital Projector:** Vikram and Leena Pattarkine

**Electric Range:** Murali and Surya Mantrala and Ratti and Shubha Ratneshwar

**Refrigerator:** Bharath Srinivasan and Manjula Narasimhan

**Resin-Top Tables:** Krishna and Raji Subramaniam, Senthil and Kalai Kumar, Balaji and Akhila, and Anonymous donor

**Wireless Audio System:** Anand and Moe Chandrasekhar

*Bookshelves for the library, concrete bumpers for parking lot, snow blower, lawn mower are among the items still available on the wish list. Please visit our web site to review current items on the wish list.*

### Regular Ongoing Activities

- **Sai Bhajans**  
Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- **Venkateshwara Suprabatham and Vishnu Sahasranamam**  
Saturdays from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- **Shram Daan (Volunteer Service)**  
Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- **Bal Puja**  
Second Sundays of each month 10:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
- **Bal Sabha**  
Fourth Sundays of each month 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- **Tamil Classes**  
First and Third Sundays of each month 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Regular Activities (on the drawing board)

*Details will be posted on the web site as soon as they become available*

- **Yoga Classes**
- **Hindi Classes**
- **Bharatha Natyam Classes**
- **HTCC Quarterly Newsletter**

### Nonregular Activities (on the drawing board)

*Details will be posted on the web site as soon as they become available*

- **Summer Workshops for Youth** (Combination of semi-academic and creative thinking curriculum planned - Summer 2006)

### An Invitation

We welcome you to all devotional, educational and service programs conducted at the Mandir. If you can contribute in any way to make Mandir operations more efficient and meaningful to you and to the rest of our community, please do not hesitate to contact any of the interim officers with ideas. You can also use our web site to provide timely feedback. We would love to have your support – spiritual, moral, physical and financial (and not necessarily in that order?). We are in the process of forming several standing committees to provide operational support to the officers of the Interim Executive Board. Please sign up to volunteer on a committee (or committees) of your choice using the Mandir web site.

If we have inadvertently missed including some of your friends in this distribution list (**Friends of the Mandir**) please forward this message to them with a copy to me so that we can include them in our future mailings. If you do not wish to be included on this mailing list, we will be glad to remove you from the same for future mailings with our sincere apologies.

We look forward to seeing you at the Shanthi Mandir.