



BHARATI भारती

A Publication of the India Association of Indianapolis, Inc.

Vol. 34 No. 1

A Magazine with a Mission - to Inform, Communicate and Enlighten

January-March 2010

Dear IAI Members and Supporters

At the outset, I, on behalf of the Committee members of the India Association of Indianapolis (IAI), wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

I hope you all had a joyous Holiday Season and are rejuvenated to get on with your goals and resolutions for the year ahead. I am sure your resolutions do include dedicated support to IAI. I am thankful to those who contributed to the success of IAI activities in 2009 and hope they will continue to do so in 2010 and beyond. I invite those who for some reasons could not support IAI in the past to come forward and participate in making IAI's functions a great success in 2010.

One of the goals of IAI is to celebrate the culture and traditions of India. The IAI executive committee has drawn a charter of a number of fascinating events for next year. To name some, these include Holi – a festival of colors, India Day – a day to celebrate cultures from different regions of India, Diwali and New Year's Hungama night. These events and functions cannot be successful unless you – the members of Indian community – get selflessly involved in these and extend needed monetary support, volunteer your time, and promote the cause of IAI. Therefore, I humbly request each and every Indian family of Indian community to take pride in becoming a member of IAI and support its activities in any which way it can.

As I count on your support, I assure you that my Executive Committee and I are open to your suggestions in bringing IAI to the level where it meets expectations of its members. Please feel free to send your suggestions to me at: amitaahuja11@aol.com<mailto:amitaahuja11@aol.com>.

Again, I wish you a very Happy New Year and look forward to your participation in IAI events.

Sincerely,

Amita Ahuja

President, India Association of Indianapolis

The Clock of Life

Ram S. Ravindran

Last year 2 of my relatives and 3 of my friends passed away. Two of them were relatively young. They had not been afflicted with life threatening illnesses earlier. It was devastating for me. I was looking for some solace and comfort in some reading. I came upon this poem on the Net.

The clock of life is wound just once
And no one has the power
To tell just when the hands will stop
On which day or at which hour
Now is the only time you have
So, live it with a will
Don't wait until tomorrow
The hands may then be still.

Anonymous

I find a great deal of inspiration in this simple poem. I don't take it to mean just live it up as though there is no tomorrow. It can also be taken in a different spirit. It can also mean that don't put off doing things that connect you with others.

In the case of one of the friends that died, I had postponed visiting that friend for some time, but, I was glad I got to meet with that person 2 or 3 times, before that person passed on. In the case of another friend and my relative, when I came to know about their hospitalization, it was too late. I could see them but not interact with them.

Now I make it a point to visit with older relatives and friends. Call friends who have left Indianapolis and live elsewhere. Renew old friendships through emails and phone calls. Find newer ways of expressing my love for my family. Attend any functions that mark significant birthdays or anniversaries of friends and relatives. I make it a point to say hello to every acquaintance at various gatherings

I keep telling myself the clock of life may stop for me or others any time. It is not a morbid thought. It just reinforces for me the preciousness and surety of the "present".

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Dear Bharati advertiser / IAI sponsor :

Thank you very much for supporting IAI through your generous event sponsorship(s) and/or Bharati advertisements. I would like to request your continued support for 2010. The Bharati newsletter is an important service IAI provides to the Indian community as it serves as the primary means of bringing awareness and engaging the community in upcoming events/activities, volunteer work and providing awareness of the past work and service provided by IAI and volunteers.

Please let me know if you would like to advertise in the 2010 issues of Bharati. We will have 3 additional issues, one per quarter (first issue in January 2010). The rates, per issue, are as follows: \$300 full page, \$150 half page, \$80 1/4 page, \$50 1/8 page. Your ad will reach approximately 1,300 families. Ads should be sent directly to Madhu Bhargava at Bhar Printing (madhu@bharprinting.com)

Wifred Mascarenhas (Advertising Editor)

Raas Royalty Roundtable

The Raas Royalty Roundtable is proud to present the first ever Raas Royalty Raas competition on February 13th, 2010! Originating in the Indian region of Gujarat, raas is a traditional form of dance rooted in Hindu celebrations. Raas is traditionally performed during the nine day festival of Navaratri and this form of devotional dance uses sticks called 'dandia'. Raas is partner-oriented to the beat of the dhol drum and the pace gradually quickens as the celebration progresses. In recent years, choreographed raas has become increasingly popular at colleges and universities across the country as competitions provide an outlet to showcase the talent and creative spin put on a timeless tradition.

Taking place on campus in Bloomington, Indiana, Raas Royalty was created to further spread culture, community, and philanthropy associated with an inter-collegiate dance competition. Raas Royalty will welcome ten teams from around the country to compete for cash prizes and a bid to Raas Nationals in Dallas, Texas. The show will be held at IU Auditorium and is free of charge so make sure to tell friends! Check out our website for more information and remember to save the date!

Minesh Rajkotia
The Raas Royalty Roundtable
RaasRoyalty.com

Haiti Relief Fund Update

Thanks to all the donors that have sent in their checks. IAI has mailed a first check for \$1400 to Red Cross. Our goal is to send atleast \$2500. The people of Haiti desperately need our help - Please continue to send in your donations and remember them in your prayers.

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Bharati is a quarterly newsletter of the India Association of Indianapolis, Inc., dedicated to communicate, inform and enlighten the Community and be a forum for fostering Indian arts and culture. It reaches approx. 1200 families of Indian

American Community of Central Indiana. Bharati invites advertisements, articles and letters to the editor. Articles should be of general interest and not be more than 600 words. Letters to the editor should not exceed 200 words. Letters should be mail or email and must include your name. The editor reserves the right to edit any material selected for publication.

The deadline for receiving articles and advertising for the April issue is March 1, 2010.

The advertisement rates are as follows. Please make checks payable to India Association of Indianapolis.

	One Issue	Four Issues	Four Issues w/advance	Print + E Top	Print + E Side
Full page	\$300	\$1200	\$900	\$1350	\$1325
Half page	\$150	\$ 600	\$450	\$ 750	\$ 725
Quarter page	\$ 80	\$ 320	\$240	\$ 470	\$ 445
Business Card	\$ 50	\$ 200	\$150	\$ 350	\$ 325

India Association of Indianapolis is not responsible for ad formatting and misprint. Please provide pre-formatted ad to our publisher and verify ads prior to print by request. Business Card size advertisements will be provided free to Non-Profit Sister Organizations.

The Diwali Celebration 2009

The Diwali celebration hosted by the India Association of Indianapolis at the Murat on November 14th 2009 was a great success with more than 650 people in attendance. The food, décor, and entertainment were enjoyed by all. IAI would like to thank the caterers Amber, Chef Suhel, and Passage to India; Treasured Moments for the décor; and Gregory Hancock Dance Theatre, Niteen Nevrekar, and DJ Naveen for the entertainment. The event would not be possible without our sponsors. IAI sincerely appreciates the support of all the Silver, Gold, Diamond, and Platinum sponsors.

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2. National City Bank

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For more pictures visit www.myiaindianapolis.org



From left to right – IAI President – Sumit Thaker, Owner of Nightingale Home Health Care – Dr. Dev Brar, National City Representative – Fiorella Gambetta, IAI Chairman – Dr. Vijaypal Reddy

Spring Events from IAI – Fine Arts Committee



Dr. Ashwini Bhide-Deshpande

In spring (April-May) 2010, the Fine Arts Committee will present a vocal recital by Ashwini Bhide-Deshpande. She will be accompanied by Seema Shirodkar on the Harmonium and Vishwanath Shirodkar on the Tabla. The highly acclaimed singer will enthrall the audience with her vocals in the rich tradition of Jaipur-Atrauli gharana. She will present both classical and light music genres.

Ashwini began her training at the age of five under the guidance of Pandit Narayanrao Datar, graduated with a "sangit visharad" from Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, received guidance from her mother, Smt. Manik Bhide, (a great Khayal singer herself) and from Pandit Ratnakar Pai, (a veteran of the Jaipur gharana), and has performed at hundreds of concerts in India and abroad to the delight of music lovers all over the world. In 2006, the Fine Arts Committee had presented two concerts by Ashwini in Indianapolis.

Later in spring the Fine Arts committee will present a Kathak and Odissi dance program featuring Swati Sridhar and Yogini Gandhi. Details of both programs will appear in due course on e-Bharati.

IAI 2010 – Events

Holi - April 17, 2010

Independence Day - August 14, 2010

Diwali - November 13, 2010

Youth Dance - September 24, 2010

New Year Party - December 31, 2010



SEVA HEALTH & SERVICES, INC.

It is not only in the Halls of Congress that the issue of affordable and available Health Care has been one of the dominant issues being debated. This is a daily challenge that many face in every corner of this great nation. In our own backyard, Dr. Vipin Kalia has struggled with this issue almost daily as he, and most other physicians, are called upon regularly to help those facing a health crisis. It was this frustration that kept him single mindedly resolved to do something about this. Our most vital resource is our Own Community – neighbors helping neighbors – within a framework that can responsibly deliver health care to the medically underserved.

As a first step, Dr. Kalia and a group of volunteers, along with the support of India Association of Indianapolis, started a basic free clinic at the India Community Center. However, after a few clinic sessions, it became apparent that some of the fundamental issues related to medical liability and privacy were not being adequately addressed in this setup. The group decided it was prudent to step back and start over, on a firmer footing, in a more organized and structured manner.

A core committee is now in place and we are proud to announce that Seva Health & Services, Inc. (SEVA) has been formed. In the coming months, this entity will seek a non-profit charter and has begun work on establishing a free clinic right here in Indianapolis. We have enlisted the help of an organization by the name of "Volunteers

in Medicine" (VIM). VIM's basic mission is to help free clinics get off the ground successfully, and then provide the necessary support on an ongoing basis. VIM has an excellent framework which we plan to adopt, including guidance on obtaining malpractice insurance, identifying scope of services, site selection and layout, fund raising etc. In fact, the SEVA Committee visited a very successful VIM Clinic in Bloomington, Indiana.

SEVA will be guided by the following mission –

- offering comprehensive health care services without cost to the medically underserved,
- providing health education which empowers individuals to take responsibility for their own well-being, and
- organizing volunteers and resources to extend a caring hand to those in need in Central Indiana.

Although the doors of the Clinic will be open to all, our objective will be to focus on the South Asian Indian population.

Soon, a needs assessment survey will be distributed to the members of the community that will help guide the decisions related to scope of services, location of the clinic, and other medical related ancillary needs and challenges that should be addressed. We request your support in completing this survey when you receive it.

Please direct your questions to one of the members of the SEVA organizing team shown below. Volunteers are welcome to join this project.

Dr. Vipin Kalia - 317-414-4439, Kanchana Ishwar -317-679-5508, Jon Findley -317-502-5299, Indu Subramaniam -317-432-2399, Zalak Thakkar -217-721-7500

"Embraced by GOD"

*I haven't much in worldly things or the treasurers that are rare,
But I have "Love", that comes from "God"
He gives so much that I can share.*

*I give of self and of my time to help whenever I can
I am guided by God's holy words
to live according to HIS Plan*

*My wealth is truly measured in so many countless ways
The joy and peace that fills my heart
through starlit nights an sun-filled days*

*I walk with hope and confidence. My faith in God Prevails
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*Submitted by
Dr. Mohini Ahuja*

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