



Dear Community Members:

My best wishes to all for a very Happy Navratri! I am very happy to see that the Herricks Indo-US Community Organization is able to bring us this joyous celebration. Six years ago, along with a few other active and concerned community members, I felt a need for such an organization in this school district.

We were able to take the necessary baby steps and grow into a successful group.

During my presidency, together with all of your support, we were able to grow our membership and increase awareness to the activities of the Herricks School district. In addition, we have held many successful events that have helped to maintain our Indian culture and tradition. Of note, in February of 2005, we were able to help the Herricks School District implement the multicultural policy. This has benefited our students by increasing awareness and preserving our culture.

The Herricks Indo-US Community Organization would like to remind all of you that it is important for you as concerned parents and responsible community residents to play an active role in the community. We have grown over the last six years, but there is always room to go further. I strongly urge you to encourage your friends and neighbors to join the organization and support our activities and programs. Recently, this has become easier as we have started a very active website. Please log onto www.herricksindo.org. Many options have been made available online.

The 2007 Navratri Festival should be a great success as in the past. I would like to say thank you to all the sponsors and organizers, including the executive committee of the Herricks Indo-US Community Organization, for all their support. This grand event would otherwise not be possible.

Sincerely,

Rajesh Patel, MD
Past President
Herricks Indo-US Community



Dear Friends:

My best wishes for a very joyous Navratri celebration. This is the fifth consecutive year that the Herricks Indo-US Community organization is sponsoring this popular occasion. This event is gaining more recognition as the number of attendees, approaching 1000, increase every year. I'm very happy to see this promotion of our rich Indian culture and tradition.

The primary goal of the Herricks Indo-US Community Organization is to promote awareness and increase member participation in our school activities. Many of us moved into the Herricks community for its excellent schools and proudly we may still say that it is one of the best school systems in Long Island. It offers our children the best education and allows them to develop their best potential. I strongly encourage all of you to get involved in your child's school activities as this will directly benefit their future.

The Herricks Indo-US Community Organization has allowed us to maintain the Indian heritage and culture. Navratri is a festival of dance and worship, mainly of the three goddesses Durga, Lakshmi, and Saraswati. Although we celebrate this event with our rich, colorful costumes and joyful dances, it is important to realize and perhaps discuss with our youth the significance of this festival. Despite the advances in technology, this will keep our Heritage and Culture intact for future generations to cherish. Our children have much to offer in upholding our culture and tradition. As this organization grows, I would like to see more input from our youth.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during my past presidency of the Herricks Indo-US Community Organization. Our mission of increasing social, cultural, and academic awareness of the Herricks Indian Community is progressing well. We continue to increase our membership with your support.

Please join me in thanking all of our sponsors for making this Navratri Festival a great success, past and present. Also, many thanks to the organizers, especially Mr. Kirit Panchmia and Dr. Rajesh Patel. I welcome you to enjoy Navratri with your heart.

Sincerely,
Sandip R. Parikh, MD
Past President
Herricks Indo-US Community