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of Ganesha, the "God of Luck" and then entertained with amazing number tricks perfected during 12 years as a college professor in Chicago. He asked guests to write down random numbers; he projected the correct sum *eyyy* before the numbers were put down on the paper.

Shah also pulled out a handwritten speech delivered two days earlier at the Farmington City Council meeting. The speech was revised for a similar presentation Monday, before the Farmington Hills City Council.

"I have brought the message of goodwill, friendship, love, peace, progress and prosperity from my motherland, India, a land of spiritual leaders ...

"Even though considered a technically backward country, we Indians have made our strong presence felt in the fields of medicine, engineering, science and computer technology."

During the two council meetings, Shah exchanged gifts with Farmington Mayor Mary Bush and Farmington Hills Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi, respectively, and congratulated both cities for their contributions to society.

Before returning to India in July, Shah, a three-time graduate of South Gujarat University, plans on giving talks before various service organizations in the Farmington-Farmington Hills area.

Likely sprinkled into his speeches will be some original, thought-provoking sayings. For example, Shah wrote down the words north, east, west and



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BEZLER

Family ties: Victor Shah joins wife Manjula and his mother Shenaben in enjoying Farmington area hospitality.

south on a piece of scratch paper and then offered an intriguing explanation.

"It's N-E-W-S. The story comes from all four sides."

His son's residency and new employment aside, Victor Shah said he hopes his tour of the Detroit area will help foster an improved understanding of what India is all about.

Currently, there are about 95,000 natives of India living in the United States, "well settled as doctors, engineers, computer consultants and motel managers," explained Shah, 58. The need for mutual understanding will grow as more and more

come over from India.

"The Indian people would like to keep a very good, healthy relationship with American citizens," he continued. "We would request the American public to visit India. It's a land of history, yoga and meditation."

Not to mention the Taj Mahal, Jain Temple, Himalayas and sitar legend Ravi Shankar, who is familiar to many Americans from his mentorship to former Beatle George Harrison.

In India, one might add Vasant "Victor" Shah to that impressive list.

FARMINGTON NOTABLES

Elite Dealer Award

f-Stop Photography Center of Farmington Hills has been named as a recipient of the Elite Dealer Award presented by Kodak Processing Labs.

The Elite Dealer Award is pre-

sented "in recognition of exceeding customer expectations in marketing, promotions, training and new product introductions in 1998."

McDonald's manager graduates
Carol Mikloski of the McDon-

ald's restaurant located at 38400 W. 10 Mile Road in Farmington has been awarded a bachelor of hamburgerology degree from McDonald's Hamburger University for graduating from the University's Advanced Operations Course.

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