

# Milestones

## Tso 2004 Noonday Citizen of Year

The *Noonday Club* is pleased to announce the selection of their *2004 Citizen of the Year*. This year, the *Club* has chosen local attorney and benefactor Joseph Tso as the recipient of this prestigious award.

Mr. Tso – “Joe” to his many friends and associates – was born in Kiangsu Province, China. He immigrated to the United States at the age of 21 to work for the War Department (now the Defense Department). His mission was to train Chinese pilots to fly American military aircraft. He attained the rank of Captain in the Air Force and in May 1946, President Harry S. Truman awarded Joe the Medal of Freedom.

Tso later developed the 120-room *Mount Cathalia Resort Hotel and Ski Center* in Ellenville. He later became a real estate broker and developer, developing a number of hotels and residential projects.

In 1979, Mr. Tso passed the New York State Bar exam through legal clerking instead of obtaining a formal law degree.

He is currently a partner in the law firm of *Kooperman, Kooperman & Tso*. Mr. Tso lives in Napanoch with his wife, Lana, a retired *Ellenville Elementary School* teacher.

In naming Tso as the *Club's* choice, Committee Chairman Jeffrey Kaplan cited Mr. Tso's many philanthropic projects and stated that many local businesses and home purchases were made possible by the generosity of Joe Tso.

The event will take place on September 7<sup>th</sup> at the *Nevele Grande Hotel*. Tickets are \$39 per person and include cocktails and dinner. For reservations and/or information, please call 647-4110. ☆

## Ezrath Israel Plans for Centennial

*Congregation Ezrath Israel* is embarking on a two-year centennial celebration beginning **Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM**. At a specially-planned buffet dinner and concert, the congregation will begin the writing of a new Torah, the first in its history. To be known as the *Ellenville Centennial Torah*, it will represent the first 100 years of the congregation, originally named the *Hebrew Aid Society*. Internationally-renowned Torah scribe Rabbi Tzvi Chaim Pincus will be the guest speaker, and will begin the manual process of writing the Torah. It will be dedicated in 2007, on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the congregation's founding.

The Torah, the first five books of the Bible, must be written by hand on parchment made from animal hides. There can be no misprints or errors, or the Torah would not be considered proper to use during services. The Torah is read every Sabbath and on Mondays and Thursdays during the week, and on all Jewish festivals. Rabbi Pincus will be beginning the book of *Bereshis* (Genesis) at the dinner. Being used as a fundraiser for the synagogue, the writing of the Torah will be funded by donations. These donations take the form of ‘purchases’ of parts of the Torah. Entire books, chapters, verses and even letters will be offered for sale. These may be ‘purchased’ in memory or in honor of someone special. Those who make purchases will be considered as if they participated in the last mitzvah (commandment) given in the Torah – to write a Torah scroll. Participants will receive a certificate of their purchase and all donors will be inscribed in a centennial journal to be distributed when the Torah is dedicated in 2007.

Dave Buchman, Centennial Chairman, conceived the idea of writing a community Torah a few years ago when another Torah was dedicated by a family in honor of a loved one. “I thought it would be nice to have a Torah that represented the Ellenville Jewish community as a whole. When I realized that our centennial was coming up, I thought that would be a wonderful venue to start the process. I approached Rabbi Frank with the idea and he readily agreed,” he said.

He and Rabbi Frank met with Rabbi Pincus at his Jewish bookstore, ‘Tiferes Stam,’ in Brooklyn. There, they arranged to have the Torah started this summer and mapped out plans to get the community involved. This includes members who have moved from Ellenville, but who still maintain close ties to the synagogue.

Rabbi Frank is enthusiastic about the new Torah. “What better way to celebrate our centennial than through everyone commissioning a portion of this Torah, even if it is just a single letter. A new Torah, marking our 100<sup>th</sup> year, symbolizes the foundation upon which the future success of our synagogue will be built,” he stated.

Also in the works: a commemorative journal to contain the names of all who donated to the writing of the Torah, and a special DVD that will contain interviews with members who have grown up with the community and the synagogue.

The evening's activities on **July 10<sup>th</sup>** will include a buffet dinner and entertainment by the *Ellenville Klezmer Band*, featuring Steve Bill, starting **5 PM**. Reservations are a must, **\$20** adults, **\$10** children. For information and reservations, contact *Congregation Ezrath Israel* at **647-4450**.

Also that weekend, we will be hosting a Carlebach Shabbos, featuring Chazzan Heshy Brody, who will brighten our Friday night (7-8 PM) and Shabbos morning (9 AM – Noon) services and enhance our prayers with melodies from the late Shlomo Carlebach, followed by a special Shabbos luncheon (**Free**, RSVP by July 5<sup>th</sup>). If you have never attended a Carlebach Shabbos, please take this opportunity to join us for a unique experience.

We are looking for volunteers to help make this weekend a success. Please contact Dave Buchman at **647-1821** if you wish to help. ☆

## Lonstein Chiropractic & Acupuncture

### FREE WORKSHOP

**Stressed Out? Hurting?  
Headaches or Back Pain?  
Receive an Introductory  
TRIGGER POINT**

**Therapy Treatment**

As part of our Community Outreach Program, we are offering a Trigger Point Therapy Treatment.

Trigger Point Therapy is a popular treatment where the doctor or massage therapist applies gentle finger pressure to alleviate: Headaches  
Back Pain ~ Carpal Tunnel ~ Sinus Problems  
Neck Pain ~ PMS ~ Low Energy ~ Joint Pain

Sponsored by the Doctors' Speaker Bureau  
**Guest Speaker: Dr. Herbert Lonstein**

**Tuesday, July 12 & 26**

**7:00 PM at 1 Terrace Hill**

**(Lonstein Professional Building)**

**Limited to the first 30 callers to 845-647-8866!**