



### Issue 32 – November 2006 Newsletter

#### ARTICLES:

Pride of ZAGNY	2
Halloween Parade	3
ZAPANJ Visit	3
Scholarship Update	3
Announcements	4
Donations	4
Stand up Against Poverty	5
Membership Form	6
New Year Eve Registration Form	7

## NEW YEAR'S EVE IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER AND YOU ARE INVITED!!

December 31, 2006

ZAGNY invites you once again to celebrate Auld Lang Syne with your family and friends. Join us usher in another New Year as we prance n dance and countdown to 2007 with fun, food, games n music. The program will start at 7 pm. So folks, end this year on a prompt note and avoid the late surcharge---complete the attached registration form (**on page 7**) and mail it to reach us by **December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006**. If you have any questions about the event, please contact any of the board members.

## YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL UDVADA ATASHBEHRAM DONATION DRIVE

Our 22<sup>nd</sup> annual ZAGNY sponsored luncheon get-together on October 15<sup>th</sup> 2006 in honor of Udvada Atashbehrum (Pak Iranshah) was another major success, thanks to all of you who attended or sent in your donations. This extremely valuable effort started in 1984 when Erach Munshi and his late wife, Perin, decided on this worthwhile community project to help deserving Parsis and support the maintenance of Atashbehrums in Udvada,

Navsari and Surat. Since then, members of ZAGNY and our sister Zoroastrian Associations of North America have been sending contributions every year. Since 1984, under the auspices of ZAGNY, the Zoroastrian community of North America has remitted a total sum of \$283,500 (approximately Rs. 1.3 crores) toward this noble cause!

This year thanks to all your generous donations, an amount of \$15,000 has already been received, but Eruch Munshi's goal is to collect \$30,000 by June 2007. If you wish to make contributions, checks can be made to ZAGNY Critical Assistance and sent to **Erach Munshi** (212-865-6683).



#### ZAGNY BOARD:

##### President

HOMI GANDHI  
president@zagny.org

##### Vice President

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##### Treasurer

MINOO BENGALI  
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shahnaz@zagny.org

## CARROM RAMWA CHALOJI

Reminder—ZAGNY's 1<sup>st</sup> Arbab Rustom Guiv Carrom Tournament will commence on **Sunday Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2006**--the death anniversary of our benefactor Arbab Rustom Guiv. Details for the tournament were provided in our September Newsletter. Please contact our volunteers **Gev Nentin** and **Viraf Commissariat** who have graciously offered to coordinate the competition and serve as judges. Your participation is absolutely essential in making this tournament a success. Please send in your registration to **Viraf Commissariat** at [viraf@adelphia.net](mailto:viraf@adelphia.net) or **Gev Nentin** at [Gev.Nentin@optonline.net](mailto:Gev.Nentin@optonline.net).



## ZAGNY PRIDE

We are extremely proud to bring to you inspiring stories of four of our community members. We congratulate each and every one of them on their achievements as they strive toward attaining their personal goals.

### FROM EYE SURGERIES TO BLINDING HEIGHTS!

Do you recognize this person standing at the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro? Yes he is none other than *aapro* **Satish Modi**, MD, FRCS—an ophthalmologist who performs cataract and LASIK surgeries in the Hudson Valley region of Poughkeepsie, NY. Satish, a self-proclaimed “quintessential couch potato” describes his climb as “upscale, and non-technical”—meaning there were no crampons, nor was there a need for ice picks or ropes. He describes it as basically strenuous hiking and arduous walking. His group of 12—including an ironman athlete, 5-6 marathon runners, and a farmer from rugged Montana. He says he was the weakest link.

Their group was led by three native Changa guides and porters who provided water and carried their tents and supplies. The climbers each carried a 30-pound backpack with their own gear and water. They were advised to drink 4 L of water/day to stay hydrated and ate a minimum of 4000 Cals (he still lost 7 pounds). The trek took 7-days and they walked 50-60 miles. The hardest part according to Satish was there was no bathing for those 7 days—just small basins of water to clean up with.

While approximately 10 people a year perish trying to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, Dr. Modi characterizes going up the ridges and down the moraines as a test of endurance. He says that there were tricky spots, especially in the rain. The Barranca Wall a 900' 50° climb was where they had to use all four extremities to get to the top. The greatest risk was developing acute mountain sickness due to lack of oxygen at high elevations. He enjoyed the sights and sound along the way—lush plants in the rainforest, monkeys, huge plants in the heath zone, and crushed rock called scree in the alpine zone. At 14,000 feet he recalls that they were walking through clouds. The group reached the peak at 19,000 feet on Feb 1 at 7:30 am. When the euphoria had subsided a little, they started the descent. The big worry then was stress on the knees and “black toes.” They had to tighten their shoes to prevent their toes from slamming against the front of their shoes.

Dr. Modi admits that when people heard of his plans to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, they thought he was nuts. He faced much opposition from family and friends. But at 57 he says he just needed to do something different. He calls on the experience as a “mark on his life and on himself” and says he would do it again in a heartbeat!



### ZOROASTRIANS AT 2006 NEW YORK CITY MARATHON

Submitted By Homi Gandhi



And they all ran and finished the Marathon!!! Our **Jamshed Ghadiali** (60) and **Sohrab Mirza** (64) from Los Angeles completed the race for the first time! And **Firdaus Dotiwala** (37) completed the New York Marathon for the seventh time this year. Congratulations to you three for carrying the ZAGNY banner to the finish line. Thanks to Sheroo Kanga (who prepared the banners) that were presented to the three runners a day prior to the race when we felicitated them at a sumptuous breakfast arranged by **Mithoo & Khurshed Birdie**. Thanks to the generosity of Birdie family, a crowd of 20 Zoroastrians was able to meet and greet the runners and enjoyed the delicious breakfast of “Akoori” and other “goodies.”

**Sheroo Kanga** also had baked a lovely cake to celebrate the event. We are planning to invite the Marathon runners to our next Religion class event so that young and not so young of our community will have a chance to meet them and hear directly from them about their training and experiences. For more information about the results, the timings, etc. please visit [www.ingnycmarathon.org](http://www.ingnycmarathon.org)



## ZAGNY HALLOWEEN PARADE 2006

Our annual costume pageant once again drew in sporting marchers from 8-month olds to forty-fifty somethin'! Among this year's signature features were baby twins dressed in adorable puppy and bunny rabbit outfits (carried onto stage by proud parents Shiraz and Zarir Unvala), a cute-cuddly oinky pig, a gorgeous Genie and a charming old Parsi lady. The onlookers clapped on to cheer all our costumed marchers which included a sporting Yankee, a bustling batman, a happy Harry Potter, a screeching scream, a sprawling spiderman, a perky



pirate, a weird witch and a wolverine, a weary werewolf, a bubbly ballerina, a cute cat, a hopping harlequin, a jazzy jazz dancer, good ol' Abe Lincoln and a Mexican hat dancer. Each contestant got to take home a bag of some yummy-cavity-causing-goey assortment of candies (which were hopefully confiscated by the candy patrolling parents while the kids changed out of their costumes)!

The Randelia sisters, Farah and Friya, then entertained the audience by playing some Halloween melodies on their violins as other kids joined in the songs. They also made some scary spooky sounds on their instruments and little kids got to guess them. All in all a super, spooky Halloween was had by all.

## ZAGNY VISITS ZAPANJ

As you may recall, members of our sister organization, ZAPANJ had visited our Darbe Mehr in Nov 2005 and since then they have been inviting us to visit them.

Finally, on **Saturday Nov 11th**, about 40 of us from ZAGNY joined ZAPANJ at their monthly religion class in Cherry Hill. Both, kids and adults benefited from the lively discussions with their peers, and made many new friends at this unique social event. We all thoroughly enjoyed the delicious supper prepared by three ZAPANJ families.

ZAGNY presented our ZAPANJ friends with a check of \$501 and wished them well with their fund raising efforts toward building their new Zarathushti Cultural Center.



## ZAGNY 2006/07 SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Congratulations to this year's ZAGNY scholarship recipients-- **Yezad Anklesaria, Perinaz Bhada, Pinky Bilimoria, Shireen Cama, Rayomand Dabhoiwala, Tara Master, and Amy Suntoke.**

They are all great assets to our Zoroastrian community. We wish them success in all their future endeavors!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### CONGRATULATIONS!

**BIRTH:** Born to Anahita Deboo and Cavas Pavri on Sunday, November 5, 2006 a baby girl, **Ariana Deboo Pavri**, in Philadelphia. Grand-daughter to Gulestan and Farrokh Deboo of New Canaan, Connecticut and Yasmin and Shapur Pavri of Houston, Texas and niece to Shanaya Deboo of New York, New York.



### CONDOLENCES

Dr. Sam Morris, husband of late Mithoo (nee Karanjia), passed away in Pittsburgh on September 27, 2006. Dr. Morris was a true friend of ZAGNY and he regularly sent donations in thousands of dollars each year for various ZAGNY funds. When I was ZAGNY treasurer almost 20 years ago, he sent annually \$1,500, to be equally divided between Critical Assistance, Scholarship and New Building funds. I have been informed by the past and succeeding treasurers that this tradition had continued. It is estimated that over his lifetime, Dr. Morris donated to ZAGNY funds over \$30,000. I believe that makes him & his family one of the primary donors to ZAGNY funds. Sam is survived by his son, Malcolm, grandchildren Dylan and Nicholas, and brothers Soli, Jehangir and Fred. Our condolences to all Morris family members.



## DONATIONS

Donors	New Bldg	General	Scholar ship	Critical Asst.
Bhappu, Xerxes and Valerie				\$50
Buhariwala, Behram and Kasad, Jehan				\$50
Byramji, Homi and Ellen		\$150		\$101
Cama, Lovji, Mehru and Kaizad				\$125
Cama, Rohinton and Mahrukh			\$100	
Chavda, Kamal		\$21		
Dubash, Mehru				\$125
Dutia, Noshir and Kashmira				\$25
Gandhi, Rusi	\$200	\$100	\$100	\$100
Merchant, Nawaz and Hoshi				\$20
Mistry, F.D.		\$101		
Mody, Keki and Diane in Memory of Jimmy Mody				\$25
Navder, Khursheed and Shailendra Dusaj				\$30
Nentin, Gev and Aban				\$25
Palkhiwala, Baji and Christine				\$30
Shroff, Zubeen and Anahaita Kotval				\$60
Vimadalal, Khushroo and Parynaz				\$51
<b>United Way Funds</b>				
Davar, Virasp		\$103		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$372</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$817</b>

## STAND UP AGAINST POVERTY

Submitted by Jasmine Dukandar

While growing up, I have noticed that many times the only issues that people are interested in are those that affect them. It is because of this mentality that the truly important issue of poverty in the world is not given due importance. Most people feel that since this is a prevailing problem in other parts of the world, there is nothing we can do about it.

That, however, is where a program such as "Stand-Up" comes into play. "Stand-Up" is a Millennium Project program that allows everyone to raise their voices against poverty. By making a statement, we can make a difference.



In their campaigning, our governments have made promises to take action against poverty, but have not carried them out. With only 20% of the world's population consuming over 80% of its resources, we are sure that this plague can be overcome.

My younger sister **Tina** and I believe in causes like "Stand-Up", so we took it upon ourselves to host ZAGNY's first ever "Stand-Up" Event. The goal of this worldwide event, held over a span of two days, was to have as many people as possible literally and mentally "stand up" against poverty.

With the help of our ZAGNY President Homi Gandhi, we were able to hold this event on the 15th of October in conjunction with the Annual Udvada Function. After the prayers were finished for the Udvada Function, I went up to the podium and gave everyone a brief introduction of "Stand-Up" as well as raised the concerns and issues that poverty is causing. My sister then followed and asked everyone to rise as she read the "Stand-Up" pledge out loud.

After our official event was over, my sister and I, along with the help of the other kids, went around selling the "Stand-Up" wristbands. People were very generous with their donations and were eager to buy the wristbands as a reminder of the issues that those less fortunate face. I was very pleased with the enthusiastic way our Zoroastrian community responded to this serious issue and was ready to take action. Many adults were surprised by the fact that such a heavy issue was brought to ZAGNY's attention by two teenage girls. Our response was, "As long as you strongly believe in a cause, you're never too young or old to fight for it."



## ZAGNY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

### A Message from Your President

It is once again time to renew your ZAGNY Membership for the coming year. Membership to ZAGNY is on an annual basis and is due on January 1<sup>st</sup> for the calendar year. The ZAGNY membership form for 2007 is provided on the next page. Please help us to serve you better in maintaining an accurate database of the Zoroastrian community by completing the form in its entirety, and mail it to the Treasurer by **January 15th 2007**. At this time, may we suggest you consider making an annual donation to any of your favorite charities that ZAGNY supports. Your contribution goes a long way in continuing to keep these charities active and well funded. Without the help of the community at large, these lofty endeavors would not achieve results. We urge you to donate generously. Thanks to your commitment in previous years, ZAGNY has been able to maintain these funds and help fellow Zoroastrians. Your membership is valuable to us.

**Do become a member if you are not one. Re-new your membership promptly, if you are a current member.**

**For FEZANA news and appointment of new chairs for various committees  
please visit [www.FEZANA.org](http://www.FEZANA.org)**

New Member  Returning Member

## 2007 ZAGNY MEMBERSHIP FORM

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name
First Name
Spouse's Name

**CHILDREN:**

	Name	Date of Birth (mm/yy)
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

**HOME ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone / Cellular / E-Mail**

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse's E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the checked addresses on the ZAGNY email list.

**My contact information has changed within the last year.**

**MEMBER'S INFO.**

**SPOUSE'S INFO.**

**Originally from:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Profession/Title:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Business Phone:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
**Business Fax:** (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
**Business E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Type of membership desired (check one):**

<i>Regular Member*</i>	<i>Associate Member**</i>		
[ ]	[ ]	Family membership	\$100
[ ]	[ ]	Individual adult membership	50
[ ]	[ ]	Senior citizens-per person	30
[ ]	[ ]	Full time student membership	25
[ ]	[ ]	Non-resident membership	40
[ ]	[ ]	Mail me the next directory (\$5 S&H)	5
<b>Donation:</b>			\$ _____
			\$ _____

Please allocate my donation to the following fund(s):  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

New Building \_\_\_\_\_

General Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_

Critical Assist. \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\* Regular Members: At least one member of the family is Zoroastrian  
\*\*Associate Members: No member of the family is Zoroastrian

- o Family: Parent(s) and their Children under the age of 21 years.
- o Individual Adult: 21 years old and over.
- o Senior Citizen: 65 years old and over.
- o Student: Enrolled Full-Time at an Academic Institution.
- o Non-Resident: Residing outside the States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

**Please make your check payable to ZAGNY**  
and mail it with your form to:  
**ZAGNY Treasurer Minoo Bengali**  
**1124 Indian Hill Road**  
**Toms River, NJ 08753**  
**Tel. 732-288-1227.**





# New Year's Eve Celebration



The Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York  
Cordially invites you to celebrate New Year's Eve

December 31, 2006

At the Darbe Mehr - Suffern, NY

At 7:00 PM

## Featuring

Hors D'oeuvres

Authentic Parsi Food

Door Prizes/Raffle/Games

Dance to Live Music with DJ

Champagne Toast at midnight



Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

_____ ADULT MEMBERS	\$30.00	_____
_____ CHILDREN (5 - 12)	\$20.00	_____
_____ SENIOR CITIZENS (OVER 65)	\$20.00	_____
_____ CHILDREN (under 5)	FREE	_____
_____ NON MEMBERS	\$40.00	_____
TOTAL:		_____

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATION BY DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>

(No phone reservations will be taken after that date)

**There will be a surcharge of \$15/person for reservations received thereafter and at the gate**

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO ZAGNY

Mail to:

Treasurer, MINOO BENGALI

1124 Indian Hill Road, Toms River, NJ 08753

**ZAGNY**  
106 Pomona Road  
Suffern, NY 10901

**Phone**  
845.362.2104

**E-Mail**  
secretary@zagny.org



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS



### DECEMBER

12/3	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES (1 pm START)
12/3	1 <sup>ST</sup> ARBAB RUSTOM GUIV CARROM TOURNATMENT
12/10	WZCC MEETING-"CLIMBING THE CORPORATE LADDER" (12 PM)
12/31	NEW YEAR'S EVE FUNCTION (DETAILS & REG. FORM INSIDE)

### JANUARY 2007

1/7	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES (1 PM)
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### FEBRUARY 2007

2/4	ZAGNY RELIGIOUS CLASSES (1 PM)
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**Rejoice all good things in your life  
HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE  
THANKSGIVING!!**



ZAGNY  
106 Pomona Rd.  
Suffern, NY 10901

*Sign up for email alerts*

*at:*

[www.ZAGNY.org](http://www.ZAGNY.org)