

Holy and Great Council Moving Forward; Patriarch Arrives



TNH/COSTAS BEJ

St. Demetrios Graduation photo- Saint Demetrios High School in Astoria Celebrates its Senior Class

Class of 2016 Salutatorian Julia Kokkosis, who received the Three Hierarchs Award, addressed her fellow graduates at the St. Demetrios High School graduation on June 10, noting the knowledge of religion, moral values, and love of the Greek language instilled by the school. Graduations for the William Spyropoulos Day School and the Stephen and Areti Cherpelis Greek Afternoon School also took place at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church, Flushing on June 10 and 11.

NJHF Honors Spireas, Siamboulis, & Sweeney

By Demetris Tsakas

MOONACHIE, NJ – The Hellenic Federation of New Jersey, at its Sixth Annual Awards Banquet on June 13 in Moonachie, NJ, presented the Alexander the Great Award to

Dr. Spiro Spireas, Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Sigmapharm Laboratories; Pan Gregorian Enterprises President George Siamboulis; and New Jersey Senate President and avid Philhellene, Senator

Stephen Sweeney.

Next Generation Initiative Advisory Board Chairman Nikitas Tampakis spoke about the Federation's efforts to attract the younger generation, noting the seven student unions active in the Greek Independence Parade, and that this year for the first time, scholarships totaling \$10,000 were awarded to Maria Xarhakis, Maria-Eleni Nikolaidou, Ilias Pappas and Andreas Savvas.

Organizational Committee

head Panos Stavrianidis praised the Federation's founders and its leaders today, emphasizing that the Greek-American community of New Jersey continues to be increasingly represented each year at the New York parade.

Greek Consul General Konstantinos Koutras reminded that the Federation and community as a whole is obligated to honor its roots and to promote the Greek language and religion, which are the main components

of the Greek character. He praised the honorees for their significant initiatives and devotion to the Greek community. "The new generation should look up to these men as their role models."

Congressman Frank Pallone (NJ), also a Philhellene, spoke of Senator Sweeney's efforts to advocate Hellenic causes.

Federation President Savas Tsivicos expressed his satisfaction

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Bartholomew Makes Last-Minute Request, but Russians and Other Churches not Attending

By Theodore Kalmoukos

CRETE, GREECE – The Orthodox Church from throughout the world will gather for a historic Holy and Great Council (also called the Great Synod) on Crete, scheduled at press time from June 19 through 27, to witness its unity and strength speaking with one voice and one heart, despite attempts made by some Local Orthodox Churches to postpone it.

Specifically, the Churches of Bulgaria, Russia, Georgia, and Antioch decided not to participate in the Synod, invoking reasons about the texts and documents and also the ongoing dispute between the ancient and historic Patriarchates of Antioch and Jerusalem over the issue of the canonical and ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of Qatar, established some three years ago by the Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

Calls from the Patriarchates of Bulgaria and Moscow to His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to postpone the Synod for a later date went unanswered simply because all the Prelates of the Local Orthodox Churches had agreed and signed the preconciliar documents.

Patriarch Bartholomew, who will preside, arrived on Crete on June 15. More representatives from self-governing Orthodox Churches from around the world were arriving at press time. Agenda items have been under discussion for more than 50 years by Inter-Orthodox Preparatory Commissions and Pan-Orthodox Preconciliar Conferences.

In preparation for the Council, Bartholomew convened a Synaxis of Primates of the Orthodox Autocephalous Churches at the Orthodox Centre of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Chambésy, Geneva, from January 21

to 28. For months now, a Small Synaxis of the Primates has been scheduled for June 17th as well.

The agenda items are: 1) The mission of the Orthodox Church in the contemporary world; 2) The Orthodox diaspora; 3) Autonomy and the manner of its proclamation; 4) The sacrament of marriage and its impediments; 5) The importance of fasting and its observance today; and 6) The relationship of the Orthodox Church with the rest of the Christian world.

On June 15, Bartholomew made a last-minute plea inviting all the Churches to participate. He was warmly greeted at the airport by His Eminence Archbishop Irineos of Crete and members of the Holy Synod of the Semi-Autonomous Church of Crete, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of Greece Ioannis Amanatidis, the Mayor of Chania Tasos Vamboukas, and other local civil, army and police authorities.

THE PATRIARCH'S WORDS

The patriarch said in a well-known ceremony at the Chania

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Scaros on Fox Discusses the Election, and New Book

TNH Staff

NEW YORK – TNH Executive Editor Constantinos E. Scaros, who also writes a regular political column for the newspaper, appeared on the Fox News Channel on June 11 to discuss the presidential election.

Weekend edition host Arthel Neville primarily focused on Scaros' latest book, Grumpy Old Party: 20 Tips on How the Republicans Can Shed Their Anger, Reclaim Their Respectability, and Win Back the White House.

She began by asking Scaros about Tip 3: Credibility Trumps Quantity, and whether Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump measures up. "I began writing the book after the 2012 election," Scaros replied, and explained that it was a criticism to Republicans criticizing President Obama about the slightest, pettiest details. "Nit-picking," instead of concentrating on substantive issues. Scaros conceded that to this point, Trump does not follow the tip, but that in many ways he is "the exception to the rule."

Neville then asked Scaros about Tip 7: Don't "Latinify" the Message Artificially. "Donald Trump does this very well, because Donald Trump does not pander to Latinos," Scaros said, pointing out that given all the backlash Trump received for questioning the impartiality of Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who is of Mexican descent, Trump did so not solely based on Curiel's heritage, but also because of the pro-Latino organizations to which he belongs. "The real racists," Scaros

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Economy of Greece to Grow Again

TNH Staff

ATHENS – The Bank of Greece has backed international forecasts that Greece's economy will return to growth next year and is urging bailout lenders to act swiftly to ease the country's debt load.

In a report published June 14, the central bank said Greece is expected to emerge from a mild recession to grow 2.5 percent next year — close to forecasts of 2.7 percent growth made by the European Commission and the International Monetary Fund.

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The 10th Annual LA Greek Film Festival's Solid Lineup

By Vasilis Papoutsis

LOS ANGELES, CA – The tenth anniversary of the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF) was celebrated in front of a sold-out crowd at the historic Egyptian theater in Hollywood.

Following the screening of Christopher Papakaliatis' acclaimed film Worlds Apart, the Honorary Orpheus Award was

presented to Fox Filmed Entertainment Chairman Jim Gianopulos and to Academy Award Winner J.K. Simmons in a ceremony hosted by Mena Suvari.

Greek Deputy Minister of Tourism Elena Kountoura came from Athens to attend the festival and to promote Greece as an ideal production locale for American film companies. New this year was the arrival from Athens of the Gastronomy Days-Athens International Culinary Film Festival that highlights Greek cuisine and presented a live cooking demonstration by Chef Marisa Churchill.

The festival screened a total of 56 films, 24 of those were North American premieres. Opening night started with a live performance from Greek singing star Alexia Vassiliou and Grammy-nominated KCRW DJ Chris Douridas was the closing party DJ.

The opening night film was Tasos Boulmetis' Mythopathy, Notias is the Greek title, his first film since his groundbreaking Politiki Kouzina.

The movie follows the adventures of a university student during the 1970s and 1980s in Greece after the return of Democracy following the overthrow of the military junta. The film navigates the hero's coming of age as he embarks in the art of filmmaking, love and politics. Along the way the protagonist loses what he loves most and has to adopt and overcome that reality. Director Boulmetis was very happy with the audience reception at the festival: "the LAGFF is a very important institution. It is vital to have a forum that promotes Greek Cinema in the entertainment capital of the world. We received excellent treatment from everyone involved."

An Australian/New Zealand co-production, Alex & Eve chronicles the challenges facing a couple with different religious backgrounds. Alex is a handsome and shy Greek Orthodox man who falls in love with Eve, a successful lawyer from a Lebanese Muslim family. Both families furiously oppose the union as their children try to distance themselves by ignoring their feelings. Preceding

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TNH/COSTAS BEJ

Ribbon-Cutting at the New Krinos Facility in the Bronx— New York City Economic Development Corporation President Maria Torres-Springer and Krinos CEO and Chairman Eric Moscahlaidis at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand opening of the new Krinos facility in the Bronx. The \$26 million, state-of-the-art facility is 100,000 square feet and decorated with vibrant murals on the exterior walls.

Krinos Opens New Facility in Bronx

By Eleni Sakellis

BRONX – The largest importer, distributor, and manufacturer of Greek, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern specialty foods, Krinos Foods opened its new facility in the Bronx on June 15.

Two days earlier, TNH toured the facility and spoke with Krinos Chairman Eric Moscahlaidis. The state-of-the-art facility in the Tremont section of the Bronx is an impressive structure. At 100,000 square feet, the facility cost \$25 million and will serve as the new corporate headquarters, manufacturing operation, and distribution center for the company. The Long Island City plant, in use since 1981, was technologically out of date and no longer large enough for the growing company. Moscahlaidis noted that many suggested the company

should move to New Jersey, but he was adamant about staying in New York. "We're a New York company," Moscahlaidis remarked. The 2.5 acres in the Bronx is an ideal location with direct access to the Cross-Bronx Expressway. The energy efficient lighting and HVAC systems, and 1,743 solar panels generating 70% of the new facility's power are among the green elements of the facility. The solar panel installation is one of the ten largest in New York City. The power generated, 566.475 kilowatts annually, is enough to power 65 residential homes a year. With 55 trees planted on and off-site, Krinos is also helping to create more green space in the community.

Moscahlaidis said "the new facility is a significant milestone for Krinos as we continue to lead within the Mediterranean

specialty foods market. The new building and systems will improve and streamline our production and distribution. I am proud of what we've built and am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for our company."

Krinos will employ 100 employees in the Bronx when they are at full capacity. A cutting-edge warehouse management system will increase the efficiency of shipping and minimize out of stocks. The manufacturing operation housing production lines for packing jars, tubs, and bags features new equipment and machinery, including a German-designed plastic cup sealing machine, the first of its kind in the United States. Visually striking murals on the exterior walls of the building by the

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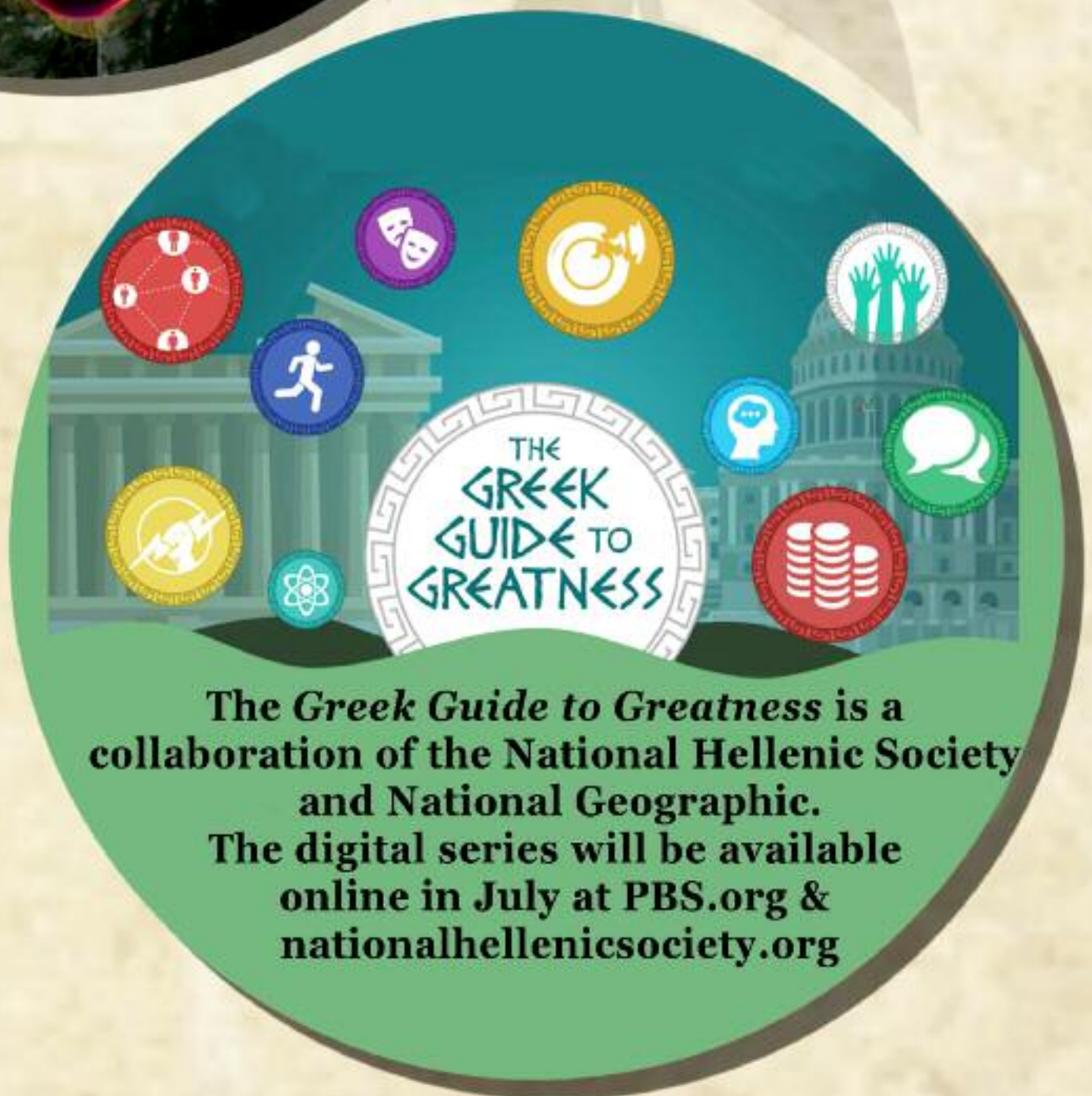
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NATIONAL HELLENIC SOCIETY

Dedication of Stavros Niarchos Foundation Emergency Department Mt. Sinai

TNH Staff

ASTORIA— The dedication of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Emergency Department took place on June 9 at the Mount Sinai Queens Ambulatory Pavilion in Astoria. The new state-of-the-art Emergency Department is five times the size of the former emergency department and will serve the needs of a growing Queens population.

A significant gift from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) was the first in the philanthropic campaign to support the expansion and rebuilding of Mount Sinai Queens, providing the naming gift for the Emergency Department.

“We are excited and honored to begin opening this state-of-the-art building for our community and borough,” said Caryn A. Schwab, Executive Director, Mount Sinai Queens. “We want to deliver the best care for our residents and in this building, they will get it. I’m grateful to Mount Sinai leadership, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, our elected officials, and our community partners who helped make this project a reality.” NK Architects and Davis Brody Bond LLP served as architects, and the builder is Skanska USA.

“We are delighted to serve Western Queens with a state-of-the-art, fully integrated medical facility with access to the highest quality, personalized care,” said David L. Reich, MD, President and Chief Operating Officer of The Mount Sinai Hospital. “We look forward to continued collaboration with our community to realize the vision of a new Mount Sinai Queens.

Among those present at the ribbon cutting ceremony, Roula Siklas, Program Coordinator for Health, Medicine, and Sports, represented SNF at the event and spoke on behalf of SNF co-President Andreas C. Dracopoulos, SNF co-President, who was unable to attend. Siklas noted that the first conversation between Mount Sinai and SNF on the visionary project was in June 2011, and five years later, the project is realized. In her remarks at the event, Siklas highlighted the importance of the human element of the project, along with SNF’s support for the brick and mortar building, which allowed the vision to be



The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Emergency Department at Mount Sinai Queens was held on June 9. Left to right- Michael Minikes, Judy Rubin, Dr. David Reich, Roula Siklas, Caryn Schwab, Vasil Tsamis, and Costa Constantinides.

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realized. She congratulated the Mount Sinai Queens will continue to serve the community.

In a statement released prior to the event, Dracopoulos said

“The Stavros Niarchos Foundation was a strong and early supporter of this project, which took many years of hard work and collaboration to bring to fruition.

“The result is a cutting-edge facility that will enable talented clinicians to do their best work, and will serve the demands of a growing Queens community.”

The 20,000-square-foot Emergency Department has already seen an increase in the number of patients. In 2015, more than 51,000 patients were

treated. The glass-enclosed, spacious entrance and waiting area, features a combination of private rooms and patient bays, a separate pediatric emergency area with a family-friendly waiting room, a cardiac and critical care resuscitation room, bariatric- and dialysis-capable rooms, and a separate covered ambulance entrance. Wi-Fi service is available throughout the Emergency Department, and individual televisions are available at all bedsides for the patients.

Also present at the event, Vasil Tsamis- SNF Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Brian Radbill- Chief Medical Officer, and Vice President of Medical Affairs at Mount Sinai Queens, Judy Rubin- a trustee of the Mount Sinai Health System in New York and of its School of Medicine, Thomas P. O’Brien- Director of Development at Mount Sinai Queens, Michael Minikes- Managing Director, Investor Client Management, Chairman and President of JP Morgan Clearing Corp. and wife Cheryl, Archimandrite Nektarios Zafeiropoulos- Dean of St. Demetrios Cathedral in Astoria, City Councilman Costa Constantinides, and George Zapantis, Esq.

LIC Building Redeveloped by Alma Realty to Attract New TAMI Tenants

TNH Staff

The former Apple Tag & Label building in Long Island City is nearing completion on its redevelopment by Alma Realty. Located at 30-30 Northern Boulevard, the eight-story, 213,000 square foot building has been redeveloped to appeal to technology, media, and other creative industries. A diverse range of businesses and office configurations can be accommodated by the floor plates with their range of 26,000 to 30,000 square feet and 12 to 15 foot high ceilings.

Mostly vacant for decades, the Queens Plaza South building will have 7,200 square feet of retail space on the ground floor, helping to reinvigorate the block and connect it to the surrounding neighborhood, which has recently undergone significant res-

idential and commercial development.

Peter Kosteas, Commercial Property Manager of Queens-based Alma Realty, said, “We are investing in this community because Queens is our home and we believe strongly in the neighborhood.”

Kosteas went on to say, “In a matter of months, the building will become home to what we envision as a world-class group of tenants who will enliven and enrich the community as well as provide further economic development to positively impact the whole area.”

He observed, “Long Island City is definitely on the march. The once great and glorified heritage of the Queens Plaza corridor and greater Long Island City as a home to top tier businesses is being restored and Alma Realty is proud to play a



role in that effort.”

The iconic neon Apple Tab & Label sign and logo which topped a tower of the building has been a fixture of the area for years.

A refurbished version of the original neon sign will illuminate the top of the redeveloped TAMI (technology, advertising, media, information)-friendly building, echoing the charm of the old sign and recalling the history of the building and the area.

Expected to receive LEED (Leader in Energy and Environ-

A refurbished version of the iconic neon apple sign will appear on the LIC building redeveloped by Alma Realty, expected to open in the fall. Photo: Lost New York City.

mental Design), the development, will offer bicycle racks to encourage employees to cycle to work, a full-service free fitness center for the exclusive use of tenants, LED motion sensor lighting, and office terraces on the sixth and seventh floors. Only a two-minute bike ride and five-minute walk from the Ed Koch 59th Street Bridge pedestrian walkway connecting Queens and Manhattan, the property is conveniently located for those living and/or working in either borough. The building is also close to public transportation, and is just a short walk from the 39th Avenue N/Q station. Features including benches, landscaping, and views of the Manhattan skyline will offer a park-like setting from the roof deck. The \$60 million project is expected to open in the fall.

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PHOTOS: TNH/COSTAS BEI

Krinos CEO and Chairman Eric Moscahlaidis spoke to The National Herald about the new, state of the art facility featuring cutting edge technology in the Bronx on June 13. Krinos Chairman Eric Moscahlaidis and The National Herald publisher/editor Antonis Diamataris view the vibrant murals on the exterior of the new Krinos facility in the Bronx on June 13. The massive warehouse at the new Krinos facility in the Bronx features cutting technology to maximize efficiency with a bin and barcode system to streamline distribution.



Krinos Grand Opening of its New State-of-the-Art Facility in the Bronx

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world-renowned Victor Matthews on the East wall, Moscow-based artist Misha Most on the North wall, and Kenny Scharf on the West wall deco-

rate the facility and also beautify the neighborhood with vibrant color and dynamic imagery. Moscahlaidis highlighted the fact that the company did not want to simply “build a box,” but also connect with the

community.

Being a part of the community is important to Krinos, and honoring the history, however sad, led the company to place a plaque on the Northwest corner of the building, to commemo-

rate the six firefighters who perished on April 4, 1956 due to a wall collapse of the previous structure. The ceremony to mark the 60th anniversary of the tragedy was held on April 4 and included the dedication of

the plaque in honor of the fallen firefighters. The lot was vacant for nearly thirty years until the new facility was built. Famed British-Indian author Salman Rushdie, an avid art collector and fan of Matthews, vis-

ited the facility on June 12 to see the artist’s latest work. Most flew in from Moscow to paint the mural on the north wall of the Krinos facility, his first piece ever in New York.

Attorneys Lycoyannis and Estis Make Sense of NY Law about Airbnb Rentals

Continued from page 1

dwelling on a short-term basis can converge with tourists seeking to avoid exorbitant hotel fees. Naturally, the attorneys explain, a tourist haven like New York City is tailor-made for Airbnb. The only problem is, in many cases, such “landlord-tenant” transactions are in apparent violation of the law.

The most prevalent law they cite is New York City’s Multiple Dwelling Law (MDL) §4(8)(a), which defines a “multiple dwelling” as any residential building with three or more apartments, and which prohibits occupation for less than 30 consecutive days.

Because the majority (72% between 2010 and 2014, the attorneys wrote in the Journal) of would-be vacations do not last a month or longer, those seeking to rent all or part of a NYC apartment for a few days or a couple of weeks defy what the MDL mandates.

Estis and Lycoyannis identify two exceptions to the law: 1) if the “permanent occupant” (owner or tenant) continues to occupy the unit simultaneously; and 2) if the occupant is away for personal reasons – such as

vacation or medical treatment – and so long as there is no monetary compensation provided. It would seem, then, that New Yorkers who are out of town for a few days who allow, say, friends or relatives to stay in their apartments for free during that time, do not violate that section of the MDL.

But that probably doesn’t allow NYC occupants to apartment-swapping, Lycoyannis told TNH.

Suppose, for instance, that a Greek-American family living in a Manhattan apartment decides to visit Greece, while their cousins on Samos would like to come to New York. By apartment swapping, Lycoyannis explains, that rather than paying for lodging at their respective destinations, both families would use each other’s residences as a “de facto hotel,” thereby saving money. While it is not certain that MDL prohibits apartment swapping as such – there is no current case pending about this – Lycoyannis can envision how a court might interpret the law in a way that defines free lodging as “monetary compensation.” It sounds like a “close call,” he told TNH.

In any case, even the excep-



ROSENBERG & ESTIS

Estis Lycoyannis: Attorneys Warren Estis (L) and Alexander Lycoyannis.

tion regarding the occupant remaining on the premises while the visitor is there does not apply in the case of rent-controlled apartments, because the law is designed to prohibit occupiers of apartments with rent subsidized considerably below market value from profiting by charging high rents to roommates.

OTHER VIOLATIONS

Estis and Lycoyannis also site provisions that require tenants

to obtain the landlord’s consent before offering use of their apartments, which is usually not the case in an Airbnb transaction. Moreover, there is the New York City Fire Code to consider.

“Residential apartment buildings are usually not constructed to the heightened standards that the New York City Fire Code requires with respect to hotels,” the attorneys write. “While residential apartment buildings are con-

structed to house non-transient permanent residents who will presumably acquire a familiarity with their surroundings that will allow them to vacate quickly in the event of a fire or other emergency, hotels, by nature, are populated by transient guests without such familiarity.

“Thus, the fire code requires that hotels be constructed with certain additional safeguards not present in residential apartment

buildings, such as, for example, photoluminescent exit path markings for exits and stairwells, the posting on every hotel room entrance door of diagrams showing the route to two stairwells or other means of egress, and the provision of portable fire extinguishers.”

CRACKDOWN?

Both articles are very clear in their explanations, and written with ample information for legal professionals, yet in language simple enough to render them reader-friendly to the layperson.

It is not clear how much of a focus there will be to put an end to the abuse of New York’s laws by would-be Airbnb users. It is also difficult to determine whether such a crackdown might be more or less prevalent than, say, rented units whose condition violations provisions of the Board of Health, or which, in violation of federal immigration law, involve illegal aliens.

Nonetheless, Attorneys Estis and Lycoyannis through their articles provide very useful information about an industry that in a world of explosive technological breakthroughs and a stagnant economy in which every penny counts, understandably continues to thrive.

Graduation Ceremonies Celebrate the Class of 2016



PHOTOS: TNH/COSTAS BEJ

St. Demetrios Graduation Is a Very Joyous Affair

By Demetris Tsakas

ASTORIA – The St. Demetrios High School in Astoria celebrated its graduation on June 10, as the faces of the graduates, their families, and their teachers gleamed with joy.

With an optimistic view of the future, the graduates bid a fond farewell to the school they called home for so many years, vowing never to forget it, or the Greek-American community of Astoria at large.

Assistant Principal Helen Karagiorgos, who coordinated the event, announced that all of the graduates had been accepted to college, many with scholarships.

Attendees included Greek Consul General Konstantinos Koutras, Consul Manos Koubarakis, Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education Director Maria Makedon, community benefactor Dr. Apostolos Tambakis, Hellenic Medical Society (HMS) of New York President Dr. George Liakeas, PSEKA President Philip Christopher, and numerous alumni.

The keynote speaker was Mana Products Founder and CEO Nikos Mouyiaris, who encouraged the students to be proud of their Greek heritage and to not forget the School and the community.

Valedictorian Christina Katehis and Salutatorian Julia Kokkosis delivered particularly impressive addresses.

“Are we are ready to face a new and unknown path? I believe so,” Katehis asked and answered.

“I have been at this school for twelve years and I can say without a doubt that it has fully

prepared us to enter society. The memories I have from the school will remain forever in my heart. We bid farewell,” her words ringing with emotion, “but will never forget.”

Makedon presented Kokkosis with the Three Hierarchs Awards of Excellence from Maria Makedon.

The salutatorian noted that her graduating class’ education at the Saint Demetrios had come full circle.

“Our spiritual journey at this school has provided us with valuable knowledge. It has taught us that we must face each problem in life with hon-

The keynote speaker, Mana Products Founder and CEO Nikos Mouyiaris, encouraged the students to be proud of their Greek heritage and to not forget the School and community.

esty. We will enter college and continue to uphold our religion and moral values that it teaches us as well as our admiration and love for the Greek language.”

Drs. Liakeas and Tambakis congratulated the graduates and offered for the science program established with the help of HMS, a check for five thousand dollars.

Other speakers included Principal Dr. Anastasios Koularmanis, Student Council President Vasiliki Yokovon, Parish Council President Emmanuel Dritsas, Chairman of the School Board Nick Andriotis, Consul General Koutras, Director Makedon and Cathedral Dean Reverend Fr. Nektarios Papazafiropoulos.

Koutras expressed admiration for the School, noting that “as a parent, I would be very proud if my son was able to graduate from this school.”

Andriotis reminded the graduates to always have their minds on Ithaca, and that the High School and the community of Saint Demetrios is their own Ithaca.

St. Nicholas, Flushing Graduation

ABOVE: St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church of Flushing, NY celebrated the graduation of the Stephen and Areti Cherpelis Greek Afternoon School on June 11. Among those attending Consul General of Greece in New York Dr. Konstantinos Koutras, Principal George Kanellopoulos, benefactor Stephen Cherpelis, and Father Paul Palesty.

RIGHT: Benefactor Stephen Cherpelis with graduates of the Stephen and Areti Cherpelis Greek Afternoon School at the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church of Flushing, NY on June 11.



William Spyropoulos School Holds 33rd Commencement Ceremony

TNH Staff

FLUSHING — The William Spyropoulos School Class of 2016 celebrated its graduation at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Flushing on June 10.

The 33rd Commencement ceremony began with a prayer led by Father Paul Palesty, who read from St. Paul’s First Letter to Corinthians, Chapter 13, “Love is patient and kind, love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.” Father Palesty then gave the graduating class this blessing, “May the gift of love from God always be with you.”

Among the proud parents and family members, Father Aristidis Garinis, Father Ioachim Valasiadis, and alumni from the Class of 2012 also attended the ceremony.

hard it is to say farewell. She mentioned the lessons learned from the classic literature they studied during the school year. Sophocles’ Antigone, William Shakespeare’s Macbeth, and Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird taught the students about faith, humility, and understanding.

School Board Chairman Elaine Mallios gave the students advice on high school, quoting among other notables, A.A. Milne, “You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.” She concluded with best wishes for the Class of 2016 and the exhortation to hold the door open for their parents and grandparents when out shopping together.

Fr. Palesty then presented the Pastor’s Awards to Social Studies teacher Georgia Kakivellis, and to parents of graduates, who in a sense were also graduating from the PTA.

Class of 2012 Valedictorian Alexander Gliagias gave the

and President of the Parish Council, noted how the William Spyropoulos School provides the finest education and instruction in the faith. He and his wife, Anna, made sure daughters Georgia and Andreana attended the School and excelled because of it. Andreana (Class of 2012) was also in attendance. Karacostas urged the Class of 2016 to embrace opportunity, thank their teachers and parents, and appreciate the time they spent at the school. He also noted the value of being able to read, write, and speak Greek. Family, church, and education are the keys to success, as Karacostas himself has found. At the conclusion of his speech, he was presented with a gift from the graduates.

The ceremony continued with songs, and Valedictorian George Kontopoulos delivering his speech in Greek and English, noting the importance of Hellenism and Orthodoxy, and pride in our heritage. Salutatorian Alexis Kalapodis thanked

Mary by their side to protect and guide them, and observed that Katerina Tsiboukis was with them and praying for all from above. The graduates received an icon of Christ the Teacher.

Among the high schools they will be attending in the fall, Bronx High School of Science, St. Francis Preparatory School, Cardozo, Archbishop Molloy, and Holy Cross High School.



TNH/COSTAS BEJ

The William Spyropoulos Greek-American Day School Class of 2016 commencement took place at the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church in Flushing on June 10.

PTA President Thalia Misthos spoke about her pride in seeing the students graduating, noting the special bond the students will always share as an alumna, reminding everyone that life is precious and short, especially when she mentioned Katerina Tsiboukis, who would have graduated this year had she not been tragically killed in a car accident with her grandparents while on vacation in Greece in 2009. Later on in the ceremony, the graduating class sang See You Again, dedicated to Katerina. The moving tribute brought many to tears, and everyone to their feet for a standing ovation.

Assistant Principal Mary Tzallas reminisced about the first day of school, observing how

Alumni Exhortation giving his advice to the students as they embark on their academic journey through high school. Gliagias will attend New York University’s Tandon School of Engineering in the fall. Among his tips were time management and trusting in God, and he spoke about friends, and the strange people the students might meet in high school. Gliagias concluded with a quote from Dr. Seuss, “You have to be odd to be number one.” He received an icon of the Panagia Glykofilousa as a gift.

Keynote speaker Nicholas Karacostas, Senior Vice President of the Arch Insurance Group, former Supreme President and current Chairman of the Board of Trustees of AHEPA,

her teachers and parents, and encouraged her classmates to make the world a better place. Medals were given to the Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Class of 2016’s talented singer Olga Kontos sang the Greek song Elisso.

Principal Athena Kromidas, the heart and soul of the William Spyropoulos School, as Father Paul described her, remarked on the joy and sadness of the day, knowing that the students are ready for the next step of their education, but sad that she will no longer see them on a daily basis. She encouraged the graduates not to forget their heritage since Hellas means light, joy, majesty, and freedom. Kromidas also noted the importance of keeping the Virgin

Advertisement

TO ALL ATHEIST AMERICAN POLITICIANS

Dear Politicians,

Can you prove what kind of knowledge governs your mind, and also, how much of it is wisdom and how much is foolishness? Wisdom is a perfect knowledge which proves what is the best for you and for others by facts. Foolishness is an imperfect knowledge without facts that can destroy your life and the lives of others. Dear Politicians, are you an atheist? If you are, you prove that your mind is governed by foolishness.

Where is the evidence of the origin for the human body's creation? Have you ever discovered it, or have you let other peoples' foolish lies come into your mind and accepted it? Do you understand anything about technological processes? Technology is knowledge and physics put together to create something else, and we have two different kinds of laws. There are the laws of physics and there are the laws of wisdom which are completely separate. How can you tell the difference between each one? Look at your body. Can you tell you are a super technology? How can physics create your brain to produce knowledge when physics has no wisdom to create knowledge? To create the human brain which produces knowledge, it must come from someone that has the technology to understand the importance of knowledge. Physics has no understanding because it is not a personality. God is the first perfect personality, which is why He exists, even before all creation.

Anything that is made for a good purpose outside of physical laws proves to be a technology. This is what the human body is. An automobile has a motor created by the wisdom of man. Our body has a motor too, the heart. The heart was created for a purpose, and there must have been a perfect knowledge to know the body would need a heart to pump blood. Physics does not have knowledge to know the future, only perfect knowledge knows the future.

God gave us life to keep it, not to destroy it. Through His wisdom, we can keep it, through foolishness we destroy it. Who proved die perfect education for every mind? Did man, or did God? So if you believe in your own, you are destroyed and you destroy others. If you know God's wisdom and do it you have saved your life. Because mankind could not prove perfect education to himself, God had to send someone to bring it to us. This is when Jesus Christ came to teach us the perfect education, which is God's education.

American atheist Politicians, you took God out of schools and created the biggest catastrophe in America by putting your own foolishness in His place. Our children are the future of America, but don't you see what is happening to them? Drugs. gangs, teenage pregnancy, gender issues, Satanism, etc... is growing every hour. Atheist Politicians, by taking the wisdom of God out of schools and replacing it with your foolishness, you have destroyed the minds of our children. How can you permit paranoia to govern your minds?

You must NEVER separate perfection from our minds, state or no state. So you are destroying our children because you are an idiot. And you want to become a leader of America?! America began as one nation under God, and He gave America to His people not to those who reject Him. America belongs to God not to the devil, atheists, or satanists. In order to save our children, our families, and our society, we must put God back into the schools immediately!

Atheism must be stopped in the schools because it is a He (i.e. a crime), a myth, and brings destruction to America. Dear Politician, are you going to help America or will you continue destroying it? Jesus is the biggest history of the world. How can you dare reject that? Did history verify through witnesses and authentic documentation that Jesus rose from the dead? So Jesus' wisdom proves life after death! What does your wisdom prove? Your knowledge will take you to the grave. So Mr. Politician, you want us to believe myths, or historic facts? So your foolishness, proves to be a myth, there is nothing there. Yet Jesus proved life after death, so why are you taking history away from our children and life after death? Are you going to help America, or are you going to stay an enemy to America?

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"I serve the highest authority that governs the mind perfectly without any foolishness or evil". - Niko Philosopher

Demetri Kofinas’ Production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream Premieres

By Eleni Sakellis

NEW YORK— A Midsummer Night’s Dream by William Shakespeare opened on June 9 at Theater 80 St. Marks in the East Village to a full house. Those lucky enough to attend the premiere were delighted with the latest incarnation of the much revived, and beloved, romantic comedy with its inter-connected plots set in a woodland and in fairyland simultaneously. In this version,



PHOTOS: DEMETRI KOFINAS

the woodland is updated to the concrete jungle of New York’s Lower East Side. The story follows events surrounding the wedding of Theseus, Duke of Athens to Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons, and the complications of love for four Athenians, the shenanigans of the rude mechanicals, and the fairies toying with everyone’s fate. The show features original music

and dance along with an incredibly talented cast of actors, singers, and comedians creating a theatrical experience not to be missed.

The chemistry between the actors is impressive and undeniable, especially between the couples who can’t seem to get their tangled love lives untangled without supernatural intervention. The love quadrilateral of Demetrius and Helena, Lysander and Hermia, skillfully portrayed by Ted Serro,

Ruthellen Cheney, John Purdy, and Natalie Hoy, manipulated by the unseen fairies is delightful. Peter Quince (Armand Lane) and his band of players, including Nick Bottom played in a perfect comedic frenzy by Eric Ryan Swanson, planning to perform for the Duke and his bride, become entangled in Oberon’s plot against Titania, played with comic precision by Marisa Brau.



TNH/ELENI SAKELLIS



ABOVE: Director Alexis Confer, producer Demetri Kofinas, and moderator Stephanie Simon of NY1 in a Q&A after the Premiere of A Midsummer Night’s Dream on June 9. FAR LEFT: Eric Ryan Swanson as Nick Bottom flanked by Eden Eenierssee as Peaseblossom, Vanessa Golenia as Cobweb, and Kelsey Usher as Mustardseed in A Midsummer Night’s Dream. LEFT: John Purdy as Lysander and Natalie Hoy as Hermia in A Midsummer Night’s Dream produced by Demetri Kofinas.

Erin Marsz is a rock and roll Puck carrying out schemes not exactly as ordered by Oberon, played with a fun, punk sensibility by Sam Parrott. Music di-

rector/composer Thomas Lee has composed original songs for the play. The entire production radiates with the joy. Following the opening night performance, a Q&A session was held with Executive Producer of Offline Productions Demetri Kofinas, and director Alexis Confer, moderated by Stephanie Simon of NY1. Noting that this year marks the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death, Confer remarked on her love for the Bard. Kofinas remarked on theater, the ancient form of entertainment, as an analog experience, and though today we are more connected through social media, we are often alone, the communal experience of theater is unique, creating shared moments, and reinforcing the connection between theater and community. Confer mentioned that this is the third production of Shakespeare by the company and most of the performers and the team have worked on all three of the shows, beginning with Much Ado About Nothing and Twelfth Night both produced in 2015. Kofinas, who previously worked in television, also commented on the three Shakespeare productions, learning how to put on a show, and how he now has to think about the audience and ventilation in the theater, for example. When asked what was next for Offline Productions, Kofinas said he would like to move beyond Shakespeare, to produce an original play. He told The National Herald that he would like to eventually produce some updated Greek classics, possibly a comedy by Aristophanes. The production runs at Theater 80 through June 26.

The 10th Annual LA Greek Film Festival’s Top Films: Thumbnail Reviews

By Penelope Karageorge

The Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF) celebrated its 10th anniversary with a record showing of 56 films, from the brilliant to the esoteric, all of them worth a second look, with 58 filmmakers in attendance. Aris Katopedis, artistic director, set the pace on opening night when he said: “we feel proud and lucky that we have managed not only to endure as a film festival but also to flourish, learn, and mature in the process.” This year’s festival boasted the largest attendance yet, film goes stepping over the stars on Hollywood Boulevard to enter the historic Egyptian Theatre, headquarters for the festival. LAGFF culminated with the Orpheus Awards and a screening

and North American premiere of the highly anticipated Worlds Apart from writer/director Christopher Papakaliatis. The film presents love sprung from the bitter rinds of economic depression and xenophobia. Three splendidly acted stories of disparate but connected romances include one of a mature couple. It’s an improbable mash-up of romance and tragedy that works. Maria Kavogianni won the Orpheus prize for Best Actress for her moving portrayal of the older woman. Oscar winning actor J.K. Simmons, her love interest, won a special Orpheus. The film, Greece’s No. 1 Box Office success, won the festival’s Audience Award. The Orpheus for Best Feature film went to Riverbanks from writer/director Panos

Karkanevatos. Elegant and mysterious, steeped in love and death, the film focuses on two drifters who meet at a border post between Greece and Turkey. Accepting the prize, Karkanevatos pointed out that “Greece is both a frontier and a bridge.” Erotica, Exotica, Etc. from director/writer Evangelia Kranioti took the prize for Best Documentary. Golden Dawn: A Personal Affair, by journalist Angelique Kourounis won honorable mention. This stunning film takes us inside the workings and thinking of the new Greek fascism. In a festival notable for excellent shorts, Stagnation from Alexander and Valia Zwart took the Orpheus for Best Short Fiction Film. The festival honored Jim Gianopoulos, chairman and CEO OF

20TH Century Fox Film Corp. with a special Orpheus. Cary Antholis of HBO introduced Gianopoulos. In a moving on-film tribute, cinematic notables pointed to Gianopoulos’ wide-ranging brilliance on all fronts fueled by his love of the movies. In his acceptance, Gianopoulos graciously acknowledged all of the wonderful Greek filmmakers who are making a difference. Outstanding film selections included: Mythopathy from writer/director/producer Tassos Boulmetis. the cinematic poet who earlier gave us A Touch of Spice. A young man mixes up mythology and reality to create new stories. Boulmetis confesses to finding inspiration in his own life. He told TNH: “story telling is our goal in life. We need stories, and to create our own myths. That makes us human.” Chevalier from filmmaker Athina Rachel Tsangari. Six Greek men go on a boat trip and vie in a game to see who will be the best. Tsangari told TNH: “I’m not thinking about the audience. Never. Because that will confuse the audience and me. I enter into a cocoon and I want it to make sense to me. You can’t please everyone. I’m not thinking about art. I’m doing it.” A special tribute to the late filmmaker Alexis Damianos (1921-2006), showed his Evdokia, made in 1971. This terrific, heart-breaking, funny, sad film focuses on a young prostitute, Maria Vassiliou, who falls in love with and marries and army sergeant. The film has everything, including a wicked



ANI BERBARIAN

Christopher Papakaliatis presents an Orpheus Award to J.K. Simmons.

pimp and an aging prostitute who reads the cups. Invisible from director Dimitri Athanitis offers a slice of cinematic realism. This powerful film tells the story of a 35-year-old factory worker who’s laid off from his job without warning. He struggles with rage, loss, financial and emotional ruin. Producer Diamatis Kamastasis said: “I believe this film is Greece today. He could not beat the system. It was too powerful. It destroyed him.” In Alex and Eve, a romantic comedy from Australia/New Zealand, directed by Peter Andrikidis, shy, handsome Alex,

whose family wants him to marry a nice Greek girl, falls in love with Eve, a charming Lebanese Muslim. Suntan from writer/director /producer Argyris Papadimitropoulos. It’s hot, hot, hot, sexy, humorous and heartbreaking. A lonely 40-something, nerdish doctor on the island of Antiparos becomes obsessed with a beautiful young tourist kicking up her heels with her hedonistic friends. All have gorgeous bodies, much in evidence on the naked beach. It’s The Blue Angel (Remember Emil Jannings and his obsession with Marlene Dietrich?) brought up to date.



TNH/COSTAS BEJ

The students, parents and teachers of the Academy of Hellenic Paideia’s TIMARETE Hellenic Art Festival opened its Children’s Art Exhibition at the Greek Cultural Center on June 6.

AHP Presents Children’s Art Festival

TNH Staff

ASTORIA – The Academy of Hellenic Paideia’s TIMARETE Hellenic Art Festival opened its Children’s Art Exhibition at the Greek Cultural Center on June 6, showing the fantastic artwork created by the children in the Drawing and Painting class offered by the Academy, taught by renowned artist and teacher Antonia Papatzanaki who curated the exhibition as well. Also featured in the exhibition, artwork by the students of the 8th Elementary School of Kordelio, Thessaloniki. The remarkable creativity expressed by the children using various artistic media is impressive. Their imagination on display in acrylic on canvas, aquarelle on paper, fabric constructions, and collages is dynamic and colorful. The exhibition not only displays the creativity of the students, but also gives back. The students donated all the participating artworks. In view of the current economic crisis, the proceeds from the sale of the students’ works of the 8th Elementary School of Kordelio, Thessaloniki will be donated to support students of that school who are in need.

Young artists proudly showed their artwork including Haroula Katsanevakis, Alexandria Giannopoulos, Eleni Sfakianos, and Iphigenia Petras. Also present at the opening along with other students, their parents, and teachers were Papatzanaki, Petros Pitsilos, Adamantia Mari, Andreas Michaelides, Marietta Pilarinos, Demetra Varsami, Athena Efter, Kostas Sfakianos, Paula Sfakianos, Dora Fiotodimitrakis, Konstantinos Doikos, and Nikos Katsanevakis. Varsami, principal of the Academy mentioned the importance of supporting the festival and Greek art while encouraging the children to express their creativity. Gifted artist and teacher Papatzanaki, also noted the importance of nurturing the creativity of the children. Papatzanaki who teaches art at the Academy for children and adults, was educated at the Athens School of Fine Arts (G. Nikolaidi’s Workshop), in the Vienna Hochschule für Angewandte Kunst (W. Bertoni’s Workshop), and Pratt Institute in New York, where she acquired her Master’s degree in fine arts. She has received many prestigious awards: the Katonah Museum of Art, NY; Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Foundation

for Hellenic Culture; Gerondelis Foundation, Lynn, MA; the Hellenic State Scholarship Foundation; and the F.V.S. zu Hamburg Foundation; and has gained first prizes from PanHellenic and International Competitions for public art work installations. Papatzanaki has also participated in more than fifty group exhibitions in Europe, Asia, and the United States, including most recently Whispers, Museum of Contemporary Art of Crete, Rethymnon, 2016; History-Irony at Vorres Museum, Paiania, Athens, 2015; and Harmony, 22nd Seoul International Art Festival, Chosunilbo Museum, South Korea, 2014. The Hellenic Art Festival opened on June 5 with the Academy of Hellenic Paideia’s adult theater workshop presentation of The Heirs, a comedy inspired by old Greek cinema written by Konstantinos Doikos, taught and directed by Ioanna Katsarou. The festival continues with short film screenings from the International Film Festival of Drama, Greece, the first of which followed the opening of the art exhibition. The Short Film Screening featured a variety of films representing the extraordinary work of Greek filmmakers.

Continued from page 1

the film a heartwarming short, Christos and Dimitra. A story of an 8-year-old-boy’s efforts to take his girlfriend to watch a touring theater’s performance of Romeo and Juliet. But when Dimitra is unable to attend, Christos has to make a brave decision. Athina Tsangari’s much anticipated feature Chevalier presented an ambiguous and inconclusive story of six men competing in a game of superiority during a sailing trip. It was received with mixed reactions by the audience. One of the least appetizing offerings was The Republic. An extremely violent and bloody film about human traffickers and corrupt politicians who intermingle in illegal activities. Unfortunately, the endless barrage of violence overshadows the tragic issue of human trafficking that began since the start of the financial crisis and has skyrocketed with the recent arrivals of thousands of political refugees all over Europe. Suntan is a film that is set on a beautiful Greek island and follows a middle-aged doctor who falls for an attractive young tourist. The affair is short lived and the obsessed doctor unable to deal with rejection resorts to

a violent confrontation that leaves the audience wondering. Perhaps next year we will be treated to a few comedies. The documentary HAIL ARCADIA, a visual and historical journey of Tegea, received very positive feedback from the audience. The closing night film Worlds Apart is Christopher Papakaliatis second directorial effort. Comprised of three separate love stories with one Greek person falling in love with a foreigner in each story that in the end finishes as a single story. The film that has as a backdrop the crisis inflicted city of Athens deals with the loss of human dignity and loss of love but the story is told with pathos, humor and a sense of hope. Music score was the work of Kostas Christides. It received an enthusiastic reception from the audience that propelled the film to winning the Audience Choice Award. Director Papakaliatis told TNH that “I am very pleased of the positive reception the film has received in the LAGFF, after it was embraced by the audiences in Greece. I am hopeful that the American audiences will have the opportunity to embrace it as well.” Alexander Swart’s short Stagnation received the first Jury prize of the Van Vla-

hakis Short Film Award. His daughter Kelly Vlahakis-Hanks in an emotional speech said about her late father “I am proud to present this award in honor of my father who was a huge fan of Greek and Greek-American cinema. We are dedicated in supporting the LAGFF and our filmmakers who are spotlighting critical issues affecting Greeks and Cypriots.” Other awards include Best Fiction Feature Film for Panos Karkanevatos’ Riverbanks and Best Documentary Film Exotica, Erotica, Etc. Maria Kavogianni won the Best Performance award for her excellent portrayal of an unhappy Greek housewife who finds herself attracted to a retired German college professor in Worlds Apart. LAGFF Executive Producer Alex Kalognomos told TNH that “for a decade, LAGFF has been a creative home for a generation of independent Greek filmmakers. When projects that were birthed at LAGFF debut on the silver screen, it helps the festival to attain greater levels of visibility and support. LAGFF also builds and fosters relationships and creative partnerships with filmmakers, businessmen, and talent.” Preparations for next year are already underway.

IOCC Helping Cooperative Farms and Families in Greece Help Themselves

TNH Staff

BALTIMORE, MD – International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) is helping to revitalize Greece’s rural communities by assisting worker cooperatives, or co-ops, of farmers, fisherman, bakers, and agricultural product producers who are essential to the country’s economic recovery. The co-ops help small farmers and other trades with networks of support, training for improved yields and profitability, and aiding small producers supply products to the market on a larger scale, creating worthwhile, sustainable jobs and providing income for families in need. IOCC through its Give for Greece program is helping the co-ops and rural families.

Christos, age 38, sold sweets and newspapers at his busy Athens kiosk for over a decade. The economic crisis drastically affected his business, leaving

him struggling to make ends meet with rent due each month and mounting grocery bills to pay. As the situation in Athens looked bleak in terms of the job market, Christos decide to move his family of four to his grandfather’s village of Kato Poroia, Serres in the region of Central Macedonia. He then joined a farming cooperative of 30 families growing oregano for Europe’s culinary market.

One of the biggest challenges is a lack of funds to expand businesses and hire more employees. IOCC and Apostoli, the humanitarian arm of the Church of Greece, are offering help to 24 co-ops in the region to increase production and profits. The co-ops receive agricultural and business training, and funding for supplies, equipment, and machinery necessary for sustaining and growing their enterprise. In return for this help, the participating co-ops donate a portion of their products to local

social welfare institutions including orphanages and elder care homes.

To date, more than 850 rural families have benefitted from assistance, among them, Christos, his wife and two young children. He is learning quickly from the more experienced farmers in his co-op, some of whom are also former urban dwellers. The busy life of a farmer leaves Christos with little time to ponder the life he left behind. He observed, "it is hard work, but here I know I can build a better future for my family."

IOCC, in cooperation with Apostoli, Greek national ministries, and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, has responded to Greece’s economic crisis with more than \$23 million in food, medical support, heating fuel, agriculture development, and job assistance since 2012.

Those interested in helping

families in Greece may make a financial gift to the Give for Greece Fund. More information is available online at iocc.org/GiveForGreece or toll free at 1-877-803-IOCC (4622).

IOCC is the official humanitarian aid agency of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America. Since its inception in 1992, IOCC has delivered \$580 million in emergency relief and development assistance to families and communities in more than 50 countries. IOCC is a member of ACT Alliance, a global coalition of more than 140 churches and agencies engaged in development, humanitarian assistance and advocacy, and InterAction, the largest alliance of U.S.-based secular and faith-based organizations working to improve the lives of the world’s most poor and vulnerable populations. More information about IOCC, is online at iocc.org.



RADA TIERNEY IOCC

Christos joins other farmers for a daily check on their oregano crops in the Greek village of Kato Poroia. IOCC is helping agricultural cooperatives like this one succeed.



Consul General of Greece in New York Dr. Konstantinos Koutras, His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey presenting Dr. Spiro Spireas with the Alexander the Great Achievement Award, his wife- Dr. Emily Spireas, and Savas Tsivicos, President of the Hellenic Federation of New Jersey Executive Committee.

New Jersey Hellenic Federation Honors Spireas, Siamboulis, and Sweeney

Continued from page 1

that the event was well-organized and well-attended, and noted that the proceeds will go to scholarships, Metropolis camps, and the rebuilding of the St. Nicholas Church at Ground Zero.

THE HONOREES SPEAK

Siamboulis noted that it has been seven years since the establishment of the Federation and that everyone struggles together to keep the flames of Hellenism and Orthodoxy burning.

Sweeney spoke about his relationship with the Greek-American community and his recent visit to the Metropolis of New Jersey, and pointed out that the community has offered so much to the state. In addition, he expressed his gratitude for the Alexander the Great Award and noted that it decorates his office.

Then, Tsivicos recognized TNH Publisher-Editor Antonis

H. Diamataris and invited him to present the award to Dr. Spireas.

Spireas emphasized that it is not only important to succeed, but also to share with the community and to support Greek education and the Church.

He spoke in awe of his late parents and pointed out the obligation of Hellenes to honor the first generation of Greek immigrants who endured hardships and paved the way for the next generations to succeed. Spireas called upon the community to continue their struggle for the language, the religion, the “philotimo” and all the elements that comprise the Greek identity and that it is imperative to pass it on to the younger generations.

Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey responded to Spireas’ appeal and pointed out the significance of passing on language, faith and cultural her-

itage. Addressing the younger generation, he noted that instead of saying that they are of Greek descent, they should say that they are Greeks, second, third and fourth generation.

Regarding the awards, he explained that they are dedicated to Alexander the Great and reminded everyone of the obligation to fight for Macedonia to remain Greek.

Lastly, he called upon Greek-Americans to request that the U.S. government withdraw the recognition of FYROM as “Macedonia.”

Pan Gregorian Enterprises President George Siamboulis, wife Evangelia and family at the Sixth Annual Awards Banquet of the Hellenic Federation of New Jersey, on June 13 in Moonachie, NJ. Siamboulis was presented with the Alexander the Great Award.



Scaros Discusses Election, Book on Fox

Continued from page 1

continued, “are all those who every day say ‘well, Donald Trump is going to lose the Latino vote because he’s so strong against illegal aliens,’ as to imply that Latino-Americans are against law, for lawlessness, and they will be okay with lawbreakers as long as they share a common heritage. That’s the racist statement, that’s what the panderers do, and Don-

ald Trump does not do that, which is why he passes that point with flying colors.”

Neville also asked Scaros about Tip 12: Reclaiming Race Relations, to which Scaros referenced that historically, the Republican Party was founded on the notion of abolishing slavery, and should be an inclusive party that does not simply go after “the white vote.”

Finally, Neville asked who

can benefit more from reading Grumpy Old Party: Trump, or the Republican establishment? “Oh, the Republican establishment, big time!” Scaros emphatically responded. “And I really hope they get this book.”

Grumpy Old Party is available at amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, and at bookstores nationwide. The full interview appears on TNH’s website: thenationalherald.com.



TNH/COSTAS BEI

Hellenic Heritage Celebrated at Festival in Brookville

The Greek Village Festival of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Resurrection in Brookville, NY took place on June 10-12. The festival featured Greek food, music, and dancing performed by the children in traditional costume.

Hipster Alert: Athens is the New Brooklyn

TNH Staff

In spite of the economic crisis, Athens continues to be a wonderful, vibrant city to visit. Regular visitors know how dynamic a city it is, with great shopping, fantastic food, and incredible art on view practically everywhere you look. The various neighborhoods offer their own distinct charm and character, leading some to suggest that Athens is the new Brooklyn, drawing on the trendy, hipster influence of the more creative, artistic people and businesses in the city. The city’s current marketing campaign Speak Athenian Be an Athenian, promotes a kind of hybrid vocabulary. The term “hipstoriical” for example, describes the Athenian paradox of hipsters fitting in alongside the 2,500 year-old Acropolis. Whatever word you use for it, Athens is a remarkable city to visit. Below are a few places to visit on your next trip to downtown Athens.

For shopping, the side streets near Dionysiou Areopagitou are popular. Be aware, some shops are by appointment, so call or email before visiting.

Greece Is for Lovers is located at the foot of the Acropolis and offers contemporary products with unique style. Pieces designed by Thanos Karampatos and Christina Kotsilelou, and handmade by local craftsmen are available.

Daphnis and Chloe founder Evangelia Koutsovoulou works with scientists analyzing rare plant varieties and testing for essential oils, to create fine quality culinary Mediterranean herbs and spices.

Froots Juice Bar, offers a variety of juices and a vegetarian



café with a pleasant staff, courtyard, and free WiFi, located only one block from the Acropolis Museum.

Forget Me Not is a gift shop in Plaka with products and designs from more than 150 Greek brands and artists, architects, and graphic designers, including Ancient Greek Sandals, lifestyle brand Zeus + Dionye, Zyelo hand-crafted wooden eyewear, and new all-natural beard grooming products by Hommer.

If food is more your interest, try Nolan, a recent arrival to the Plaka neighborhood, serving updated comfort food inspired by owner Kostas Pissiotis’ travels and Greek-Japanese chef Sotiris Kontizas’ passion for “real food that makes people happy.” Emerging architect Manos Babounis has created an elegant, yet comfortable space combining mosaics, marble, and wood. On the menu, samphire with soutzoukakia, soba noodles with smoked salmon in tahini sauce, langoustines and tuna.

Family-run for three generations, Takis Bakery offers more than 50 varieties of Greek and international breads, cakes, and pies. Greek sourdough, chori-

atiko loaf, French baguettes, kouloures, and dark Bavarian rye bread are all available. For sweets, try the lemon drizzle pound cake, carrot cake, or the double-decker daily special. The bakery is an extremely popular destination on weekends and holidays, so be prepared to wait.

For entertainment, try Six D.O.G.S (Six degrees of global separation) a cultural entertainment center open day and night, indoors and out. Located on side streets near Monastiraki and Psyrri, the venue showcases live music, DJs, and local and international performers. The founders launched Six D.O.G.S Records in 2015. While visiting, say hello to the venue’s actual resident dogs, Markos, Gilda, and Hawaii.

For film, Ciné Thission is an open-air theater in the neighborhood of Thission, next to the Ancient Agora. It offers the charming experience of watching a film outdoors. One of the oldest outdoor cinemas in Athens, it opened in 1935. Views of the Acropolis may distract you from the movie. The owners offer homemade drinks and snacks, unlike other outdoor cinemas.

Hero Pilot Steve “The Flying Greek” Pisanos, Dead at 96

TNH Staff

SAN DIEGO, CA – Steve “The Flying Greek” Pisanos, a decorated fighter pilot with both the British (Royal) and United States Air Forces, died on June 6 at age 96, the San Diego Times reported.

Born in Athens in 1910 and the son of a railroad engineer, the young Pisanos was always fascinated with becoming a pilot, and would frequent local military airfields to watch the planes.

His dream was to go to the United States to take flying lessons, and in 1938, while working as a merchant marine, he jumped ship in Baltimore and traveled to New York, where he worked in the shadows.

Well-liked by employers and friends alike, Pisanos (now called “Steve – his birth name was “Spiros”) was able to become a lawful immigrant, though not a citizen.

When WW II broke out, Pisanos, who by then had earned his pilot's license, wanted to fly for the U.S. Air Force (USAF). But in 1940, with the United States yet to enter the war and still maintaining a position of neutrality, there were no combat missions to be flown. Instead, Pisanos became a fighter pilot for the Royal Air Force (RAF).



Steve Pisanos became the first person in American history to be naturalized as a U.S. citizen on foreign soil. Legendary newsmen Edward R. Murrow and Walter Cronkite, both lifelong friends of his, attended the ceremony.

ALCHETRON

His success in combat missions became well-known, and even though by 1942 the United States had entered the war the fact that Pisanos, though a legal permanent resident, was not a U.S. citizen, prevented him from flying full combat missions for the USAF.

The solution was for Pisanos to become a citizen. On May 3,

1943, he did so, and made history as the first person in American history to be naturalized as a U.S. citizen on foreign soil (in London), the Times reported.

Legendary reporters Edward R. Murrow and Walter Cronkite, with whom he remained lifelong friends, attended the naturalization ceremony, the Times noted.

DEATH NOTICES

■ **ANTONIS, LAMBROS**
SACRAMENTO, CA (from the San Francisco Chronicle, published on Jun. 4) – Lambros "Louis" Antonis passed away on May 31, 2016 in Sacramento, California at the age of 85. Lambros was born on December 18, 1930 in Karitsa, Lakonia, Greece to Panagiota and Christos Antoniou, who predeceased him. Lambros is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Ekaterini "Rina" and his devoted children, Yiota (Tom Makris), Maria, and Chris (Keri). He was the adored Papou of Eleni and Katia Antonis and Dimitris Makris. He is also survived by siblings Paul (Antonette), Ernie (Adamantia), and Eleni Manokas; sisters-in-law Magdalene Antoniou and Aglaia (John) Capetanou, and brothers-in-law Elias Bithas and Nikos (Lemonia) Bithas. His cherished siblings George, Angeliki, and Theodore; parents-in-law George and Maria Bithas; and brothers-in-law, Diamantis Zafirris and Nikos Manokas predeceased him. He leaves many adoring nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and cousins in the United States, Australia, and Greece. Lambros' childhood was dramatically affected by the sudden and premature death of his father, and by World War II, and the ensuing Greek Civil War. To support his mother and siblings, Lambros left school and became a shepherd, overseeing the family's herd of goats, and cultivating their farmland in Greece. After his honorable discharge from the Greek Army, he immigrated to the United States in 1961, joining his brothers, Paul and Ernie, in San Francisco. The three brothers shared a deep and abiding love for one another. Once in San Francisco, Lambros attended Marina Adult School to learn English, embraced America as his new home, and became a naturalized citizen. He worked as a waiter at renowned restaurants Veneto and Castagnola's at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf until his retirement. Lambros was a member of the Foresters of America, the Hotel & Restaurant Employees & Bartenders International Union Local 2, member and past Vice President of the United Arcadians of San Francisco Chapter No. 35, and participated in the Greek Independence Day Parade as an Evzone. He was a member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church where his maternal grandfather, Christos G. Zoumboukos, was a founding member and where Lambros raised his family honoring his religious and cultural heritage. In 2011 the Holy Trinity community bestowed upon Lambros the Lifetime Achievement Award for his many years of dedicated service on the Parish Council, the Makaria group, and as a greeter in the Narthex. Lambros was fondly known for his boundless energy and goodwill. He loved people, entertaining, and dancing. He particularly enjoyed reading people's fortunes from the grounds at the bottom of their empty Greek coffee cups as well as sneaking additional helpings of food onto people's plates at dinner parties when they were not paying attention. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made

Days and dates of funerals, memorials, and other events directly correspond to the original publication date, which appears at the beginning of each notice.

in Lambros' memory to: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, the Alzheimer's Association or a charity of your choice.

■ **ARVANTINOS, DIMITRIOS**
CICERO, NY (from the Syracuse Post Standard, published on Jun. 12) – Dimitrios "Jimmy" Aravantinos, 75, of Cicero, NY, lost his long battle with Parkinson's disease on June 7, 2016 at Sunnyside Care Center. He was born in Soular, Kefalonia, Greece to the late Angelos and Konstantina Aravantinos. Dimitrios served in the Greek Navy for two years where he developed his love of cooking. In 1969 he immigrated to the United States. He owned and operated Jimmies Place Restaurant in North Syracuse for 17 years. Dimitrios had a heart of gold, he loved his customers and was known to help those in need. He was passionate about his garden, his handyman skills and of course cooking. He was predeceased by his parents; his sisters, Eleni Simatos and Angeliki Rigatou of Greece and his brother, Jerry Aravantinos of Liverpool, NY. Dimitrios was proud of his family, his wife of 48 years, Katina Aravantinos; his daughters, Dena (Galo) Almeida of Queens, NY and Angela (Scott) Murphy of Cicero, NY. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Cosmo, Dimitri and Christos Almeida and Daniel and Nicholas Murphy; two brothers, George (Grace) Aravantinos of Liverpool, NY and Nicholas (Vasiliki) Aravantinos of Greece; his sisters, Kate Antonelou and Maria Dranina of Greece, along with several nephews and nieces. In lieu of flowers, please donate generously in Dimitrios name to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, Grand Central Station, PO Box 4777, New York, NY 10101-6347 (donations@michaelfjfox.org).

■ **BOURNAKEL, DR. GEORGE**
YARMOUTH, ME (from the Portland Press Herald, published on May 21) – Dr. George S. Bournakel, 80, of Yarmouth, passed away in Falmouth on May 20, 2016, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. George was born on April 28, 1936, in Lewiston, the son of Spiro and Antigone Bournakel. A 1954 graduate of Lewiston High School, he obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from Tufts University in 1958, and his Doctor of Optometry degree from the Massachusetts College of Optometry in 1962. After completion of his studies, George returned to Lewiston and established his own practice, Optometric Associates. In 1966, he and Kay Angelides were married in Athens, Greece, before settling in Auburn, where they raised their two children, Stefan and Christina. George achieved numerous distinctions in optometry, including full membership in the International Society of Contact Lens Specialists. In 1981, he was recognized for his outstanding research contributions in the development of contact lenses, and was part of the original "dirty dozen," a group of 12 renowned optometrists across the country. After his retirement from Optometric Associates, George was honored with the Lifetime Distinguished Service Award by the Maine Optometric Association in 2006. Beyond these professional distinctions, George took incredible pride in his connection with his patients, and he is loved and remembered by many

of them to this day. George was extremely active in the local community, working with many local organizations, including serving as president of local area child and family mental health services. A child of Greek immigrants, George was especially proud of his heritage and was active in the Greek Orthodox church community for many years, serving as president of the church council and being instrumental in the development of the community's new church in Lewiston. A lover of jazz music and an avid skier, George had an incredible passion for boating, and was particularly fond of summers in Boothbay Harbor, sailing and spending time with his family. Friends and family alike will remember George's sense of humor and his ability to relate stories of his many travels and adventures. George is survived by his wife of 50 years, Kay Bournakel of Yarmouth; his daughter, Christina, of Portland; his grandson, Nicos Bournakel, of Kentfield, Calif.; and his sister, Angela Bournakel of Yarmouth. He was predeceased by his son, Stefan Bournakel, in 2004; and his brother, Charles Bournakel, in 2012. George is also survived by his sisters-in-law, Cynthia Arnold of Brunswick and Kiki Bournakel of Lewiston; and his nephews, Chris Bournakis and Nicholas Bournakel, of Portland. You are invited to offer condolences and pay tribute to George's life by visiting his guest book at: www.thefortingroupauburn.com.

■ **CHIGAS, FILITSA**
CHELMSFORD, MA (from the Lowell Sun, published on May 19) – Filitsa V. (Papathanasiou) Chigas, 82, of Chelmsford, passed away peacefully at home on May 15, 2016 surrounded by her loving family. She was the beloved wife of the late Vess Chigas, who died in 1989. Born on May 24, 1933 in Argos Orestikon, Greece, she was the daughter of the late Michael and the late Sevasti (Tsolaki) Papathanasiou. Moving to Thessaloniki, Greece as a teen to escape the fighting of the Greek civil war, she graduated at the top of her class from both the 1st Gymnasium of Thessaloniki and Paedagogiki Academia of Thessaloniki. Following her university studies, she taught at the prestigious "Scoli Schina," the first private school established in Thessaloniki during the Turkish occupation. In 1958, she was introduced to Vess while he was vacationing in Greece. They married in 1960, ultimately settling in Chelmsford. Filitsa devoted her life to her family, friends and community, serving on the board of the Lowell General Auxiliary, as a Corporator of Lowell General Hospital, and on the Board of Directors of the House of Hope Homeless Shelter in Lowell. Her many interests included travelling, classical music, gardening and other creative activities. Filitsa is survived by her children, Diana Chigas and her husband George Anto-

This is a service to the community. Announcements of deaths may be telephoned to the Classified Department of The National Herald at (718) 784-5255, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST or e-mailed to: classifieds@thenationalherald.com

Tom Cleaver, Pisanos' friend for over 30 years, told the Times that Cronkite had described Pisanos as "the single most interesting individual it was my privilege to meet during the entire Second World War."

Cleaver added: "With Steve's passing, there are no more Eagle Squadron pilots, and he was the last living ace of the 4th Fighter Group, the most successful American fighter unit ever."

In 2006, Colonel Pisanos was inducted to the International Air & Space Hall of Fame, the Times reported, and in 2010, Pisanos was awarded the French Legion of Honor, the French Republic's highest decoration, in a ceremony at the San Diego Air & Space Museum.

The award, presented by the consul general of France in Los Angeles, recognized Pisanos' achievements in World War II as a fighter pilot and in support of the French Resistance, the Times reported.

The Times also announced that hymns will be said at 7PM on June 29 at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Encinitas, with a funeral at on June 30 at the Church, with burial following at Miramar National Cemetery

A celebration of life is set for June 30 at 2PM at the San Diego Air & Space Museum.

niadis of Belmont, MA and Daphne Bogert and her husband Jonathan of Wallingford, PA, two grandchildren Anna G. Antoniadis and Charles V. Bogert, her brother, Dr. Andreas Papanathanasiou and his wife Niki of Thessaloniki, Greece, brother-in-law Dr. William Chigas and his wife Margaret of Wells, ME, and numerous nieces, nephews and godchildren. In lieu of flowers, those wishing may make contributions in her memory to the House of Hope, 812 Merrimack St., Lowell, MA 01854 or the Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center, c/o Philanthropy Office, 295 Varnum Ave., Lowell, MA 01854.

■ **KARAGIANNIS, PETER**
LACONIA, NH (from the Concord Monitor, published on May 19) – LACONIA – Peter S. Karagianis, a former New Hampshire State Representative, died peacefully on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at his home. He lived in Laconia, N.H. for 71 years. Peter was born June 25, 1916 in Somerville, Mass., son to the late Soterios and Maria (Viniot) Karagianis. He grew up in the Central Square area of Cambridge. Peter graduated from Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and took Harvard University extension classes at night. He came to Laconia in 1945, where he owned and operated the Laconia Spa. In addition, he started at age 68, Happy Jack's Cigar, Pipe & Tobacco Shop in Laconia and worked until he retired at age 95. He was a New Hampshire State Representative for four terms, He served as a Laconia City Councilor; was chair of the Belknap County Convention. Karagianis made countless community contributions over the years and was often celebrated for his achievements in the local media. He worked tirelessly to preserve the clean waters of central New Hampshire's lakes Winnepesaukee and Winnisquam, after years of raw sewage was dumped into the lakes. He also championed the effort to save Laconia's Belknap Mills from the wrecking ball; serving as the "Save the Mill Societies" 1st president from 1971 to 1978. He put Laconia's Greek Orthodox Church on solid financial footing; Serving as president from 1986 to 2002. Peter was a dedicated member of the Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce, where he served as president in the 1950's, and worked to enhance Laconia's Motorcycle Week. In 1985 he was dubbed "Mr. Laconia" by Edwin Chertok the then president of the Laconia Chamber of Commerce. Peter was also a 70 year member of the Laconia Kiwanis Club, where in the 1950's he lead the Laconia HS Key Club as a counselor. He was a Mason for over 70 years, and in 1975 he was honored as a "33rd" degree Mason. His family was from the small mountainside village of Georgitsi, 20 miles west of Sparta, Greece, which is located in the New England-like province of Laconia. Peter is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Lydia Ann Karagianis of Laconia, his son S. Peter Karagianis and his wife, Jane of Gilford; three grandchildren, Nicole, Evan and Christian Karagianis all of Gilford. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be made in Peter's Memory to Taxiarchai Greek Orthodox Church, 811 North Main Street, Laconia, N.H. 03246.

CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation 681 BAY LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 06/07/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process to: 2383 McDonald Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11223. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275259/20030

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation GIRE HOLDINGS LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 02/18/2016. Office located in Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against him or her: Anand Parikh, 530 RXR Plaza, 5th Floor - West Tower, Uniondale, NY 11556. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275258/20029

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation KACHLINE ENTERPRISES, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 05/19/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: KACHLINE ENTERPRISES, LLC, 1144 DeKalb Avenue, Apt. 3B, Brooklyn, NY 11221. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275254/20026

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation CLEAN LIVING INITIATIVE, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 05/12/2016. Office located in Bronx County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: THE LLC, 801 Tilden St., #15G, Bronx, NY 10467. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275257/20028

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation JARED RYDER PHOTOGRAPHY, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 02/25/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: c/o United States Corporation Agents Inc., 7015 13th Avenue, Ste. 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275243/20019

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Wang's Property LLC, Art. of Org. filed with Sec'y of State (SSNY) on 5/3/16. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 749 52nd St., 2nd Fl., Brooklyn, NY 11220. Purpose: any lawful activities.

275242/10834

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation SOUNDPAPERED, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 03/31/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: 295 Carroll Street #4, Brooklyn, NY 11231. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275234/20016

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation 1034 E 14 REALTY, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 09/08/2015. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: THE LLC, 1585 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11230. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275235/20017

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation ASOR LIFE, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 04/26/2016. Office located in Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc., 7015 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275221/20010

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation OTFF, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 04/12/2016. Office located in Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: Angel Wong, 37 Fairway Drive, Manhasset, NY 11030. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275222/20011

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation EAST EGG PM, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 04/19/2016. Office located in Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: c/o United States Corporation Agents, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275216/20001

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation 269 INVESTORS CLUB LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 05/10/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: Bentley Shang Zhao, 4918 3rd Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11220. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275210/19997

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation KINGS POINTE LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 03/15/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: KINGS POINTE LLC, 1457 W 5th Street, Ground Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11204. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275208/19996

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation VALUE VENTURE PROPERTIES LLC (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 04/26/2016. Office located in Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: Gary Cohen, 75 Lotus Oval North, Valley Stream, NY 11561. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275203/19994

LEGAL NOTICE

Toro Labs LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/ SSNY 5/13/16. Office in NY Co. SSNY designated for service of process and shall mail to: The LLC, 175 Varick St. Suite 541, New York, NY 10014. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275205/18796

LEGAL NOTICE

390 MYRTLE, LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/ SSNY 4/24/07. Office in Kings Co. SSNY designated for service of process and shall mail to: The LLC, 390 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275194/18796

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation FP INDUSTRIAL VENTURE I LLC (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 03/01/2016. Office located in Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: FP INDUSTRIAL VENTURE I LLC, 6851 Jericho Turnpike, Suite 200, Syosset, NY 11791. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275196/19992

LEGAL NOTICE

RLNY IMPORTS LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/ SSNY 5/10/16. Office in Kings Co. SSNY designated for service of process and shall mail to Reg. Agent: Thomas Law Firm PLLC, 175 Varick St, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275191/18796

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SMART D, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Sec'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/10/16. Office location: Kings County. Princ. office of LLC: 68 Jay St., Ste. 319, Brooklyn, NY 11201. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275200/19796

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of ROBYN UNIVERSAL, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 04/28/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: Robyn A Warren, 1250 Pacific St., Apt. 3A, Brooklyn, NY 11216. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275206/19995

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation HEMPSTEAD ROAD LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 10/15/2015. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: THE LLC, 1332 43rd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275187/19984

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation B & D DREAM HOMES IMPROVEMENT LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 08/21/2015. Office located in King County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: Jacqueline Johnson, 102-12 Avenue K, 2nd Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11236. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275186/19983

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation PAJARITO PRODUCTIONS, LLC. (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 02/16/2016. Office located in Kings County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: c/o United States Corporation, 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, NY 11236. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275185/19982

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation CHAT & CHANGE COUNSELING SERVICES LLC (DOM. LLC). Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York, SSNY on 01/11/2016. Office located in Nassau County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: 615 Broadway, Unit 31, Amityville, New York 11701. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275184/19981

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of PROSPECT GROUP REALTY LLC (DOM. LLC) Articles of Organization filed with SSNY on 04/25/2016. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated for service of process and shall mail to: THE LLC, 1329 65th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11219. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

275183/19980

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GREEK GASTRONOMY

Amygdalota, Flourless Almond Cookies, Two Recipes to Try

By Eleni Sakellis

Almonds are a nutritionally dense food, full of nutrients, including B vitamins, niacin, Vitamin E, and minerals like calcium, iron, magnesium, phosphorus, and zinc. They also have cholesterol-lowering properties due to their rich dietary fiber content, monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats, and phytosterols. The main almond-growing region of Greece is Magnesia in Thessaly, around the town of Almyros. Amygdalota are a favorite Greek dessert, often made for weddings. There are several different versions of amygdalota, flourless almond cookies. The one thing they all have in common is a simplicity that allows the flavor of the almonds to shine through. Made with a few, key ingredients, they are a delightful sweet to enjoy any time of the year. They can be made with or without egg whites to bind all the ingredients together. The vegan version, without eggs, can be enjoyed during fasting periods, and by vegans and vegetarians. Here are two recipes for amygdalota to try at home.

Amygdalota (vegan)

- 3 cups finely ground blanched almonds
- 1 1/2 cups confectioners’ sugar
- Rosewater
- Whole cloves for decoration (optional)



FIVE STAR GREECE

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the ground almond almonds with 1 cup of the confectioners’ sugar.

The amount of sugar added may be adjusted to taste. Add the rosewater slowly, a few drops at a time and mix until the mixture can hold its shape when molded into a small pear shape.

Be careful not to add too much rosewater since the mixture will then be too wet to mold into shape.

If desired, the amygdalota may be baked for 5 minutes in a preheated 350 degree oven. Allow them to cool completely on wire racks if baking. Place on a plate and dust with additional confectioners’ sugar.

If preferred, decorate with a whole clove at the top and bottom to appear like the stem and bottom of a real pear.



METROGREECE.GR

Serve immediately with a cup of coffee or tea. Store the cookies tightly covered or in an airtight container.

Amygdalota

- 3 egg whites
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1 pound finely ground blanched almonds
- 1/8 teaspoon almond extract
- 2 tablespoons water
- About 30 blanched whole almonds

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. In the bowl of a stand mixer with the whisk attached, beat the egg whites, a 1/2 cup of the sugar, and a pinch of salt. Beat until soft peaks form, set

aside.

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the ground almonds, the remaining 1/2 cup of sugar, the 1/8 teaspoon of salt, and the almond extract.

Fold the beaten egg white mixture into the almond mixture until well combined. Dampening your hands with the water, take a spoonful of the dough and roll into a ball.

Make a dimple in the center, place on a parchment paper lined baking sheet, flatten slightly, and place a blanched almond in the dimple.

Bake the cookies in a preheated 325 degree oven for 20-25 minutes, or until lightly golden and set, rotating the baking sheets about halfway through baking.

Cool completely on wire racks before enjoying or storing in an airtight container.

LITERARY REVIEW

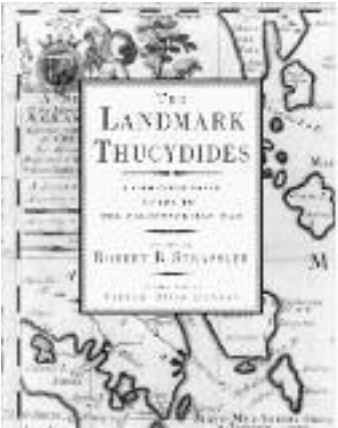
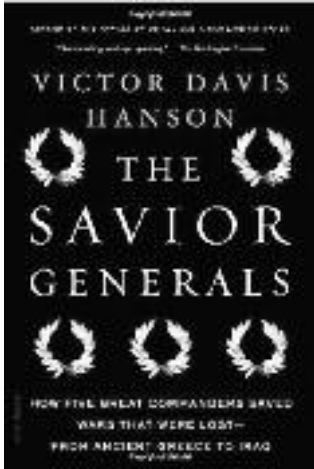
Celebrating Father’s Day with Books— Gifts Ideas for Dad

By Eleni Sakellis

Recommended for fathers interested in military history, *The Savior Generals: How Five Great Commanders Saved Wars That Were Lost— From Ancient Greece to Iraq* by Victor Davis Hanson is a fascinating book delving into military history through the biographies of five generals starting with Themistocles, the Athenian general and politician, born around 524 BC. The reversals of fortune in war are unpredictable, but the leadership demonstrated by the generals in this book is inspiring if only for their courage in the face of adversity. The book offers lessons on leadership and destiny we can learn from generals who changed the course of history.

The End of Sparta by Victor Davis Hanson is a historical novel which recounts the Battle of Leuktra. One of the greatest generals of ancient Greece, Epaminondas leads the Thebans against the formidable Spartans in this dramatic novel. Perhaps not as well-known today as other ancient Greek generals, the Theban Epaminondas led his city-state out from under the yoke of Spartan subjugation.

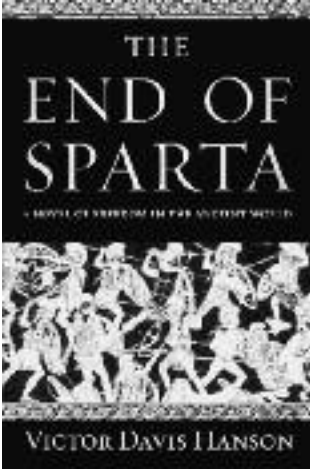
The Landmark Thucydides: A Comprehensive Guide to the Peloponnesian War by Thucydides, edited by Robert B. Strassler and with an introduction by Victor Davis Hanson is another great choice for fathers with an interest in military history. The classic text of Thucydides’ A History of the Peloponnesian War is annotated for modern readers and includes several maps to illustrate the volume. The insightful introduction provides readers with the context for Thucydides’ history which includes Pericles’ funeral oration, one of the most famous speeches



ever written.

The Greeks by H.D.F. Kitto, first published in 1951, is a classic and in its latest edition, published in 2007, includes 32 photographs to illustrate this introduction to the ancient Greek civilization for modern readers. Kitto, a professor of Greek at the University of Bristol, traveled extensively in Greece, writing *In the Mountains of Greece*, published in 1933.

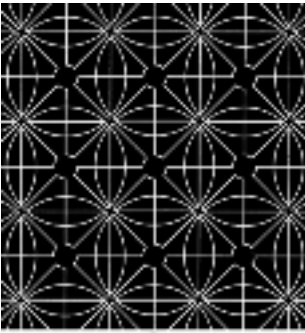
The Odes of Pindar is a fine volume for those who enjoy ancient poetry. The book includes Pindar’s unforgettable praise of



Athens, “O glittering, violet-crowned, and chanted in song, Bulwark of Hellas, renowned Athens, Citadel of the gods.” Pindar’s poetry brings the world of ancient Greece to life in a profound way as no other media can.

Ten Days to Destiny: The Battle for Crete 1941 by Dr. George C. Kiriakopoulos is a history of the pivotal, though often overlooked, World War II battle in May 1941. The invasion of the island by Germans and the brutal fighting that ensued is chronicled here. The

Greek troops, Cretan civilians, and their British, Australian, and New Zealand allies fought with a valiant spirit in the struggle. Kiriakopoulos presents a well-researched work that reminds us of the bravery of those who fought and died for freedom. The battle and its aftermath are included in this history that is a must read for anyone interested in World War II and the Greek experience of the war. Kiriakopoulos is also the author of *The Nazi Occupation of Crete 1941-1945*.



OUR EVERYDAY GREEK

Tri-, Pent-, Ept-, Dek- athlon: Greek Numbers You Know

By Dr. Dimitra Kamarinou

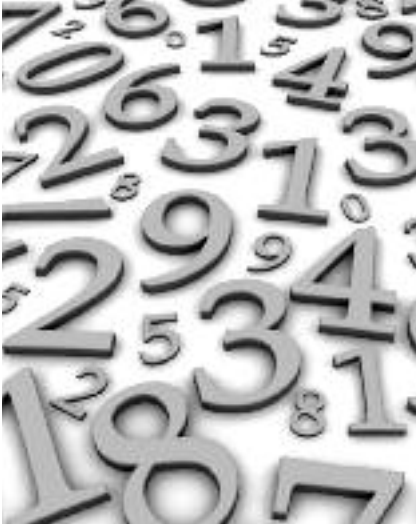
Did you know that most of the Greek numbers from 1-10 exist in English as a component of compound words?

2. A duet comes from the Greek two (=δύο).
3. The word triathlon comes from the number τρία/τρεῖς and the noun ἀθλος (athlos). Ο ἀθλος originally means achievement and ancient Greeks used this word to describe Hercules’ labors as well. From the Greek word ἀθλος derive the English words athlete, athletic. The triathlon is a multiple stage competition that involves swimming, cycling and running in immediate succession. The triangle (τρία) is a geometric form with three angles. The Greek word for angle is γωνία, so the triangular is in Greek to τρίγωνο.
4. Το τετράγωνο> τετρα (=τέσσερα) + γωνία (=angle) is the square, a geometric form with four angles. A similar word in English is the tetrahedron, a geometric form which consists of tetra (=4, τέσσερα)+ ἑδρας (=sides).
5. The pentathlon combines the Greek words πέντε (=five)+ ἀθλος (=athlos). It was performed in the ancient Olympic Games as a contest featuring long jump, javelin throwing, discus throwing, stadion (a short foot race) and wrestling. The modern pentathlon focuses on the skills required by a 19th century soldier, shooting, swimming, fencing, equestrianism and cross country running.
6. The hexagon is a geometric form with ἑξί (=6) + γωνία (=angles)
7. The eptathlon, which derives from the number ἐπτά (=seven) + ἀθλος (= athlos) is a combined event in women athletics consisting of seven track and field events.
8. The octopus> octo+pus is the creature with 8 legs, called ὀκταπους in ancient Greek. Οκτώ means eight. Ο πους in ancient Greek and to πόδι in Modern Greek is the leg. Therefore in Modern Greek it is called χταπόδι with the omission of the first syllable for euphonic reasons.
10. The decathlon comes from δέκα (=ten) + ἀθλος (=athlos) and is a combined event in Modern Olympics that consists of ten track and field events.

Number	Greek word	Pronunciation
1	ένα	Ena
2	δύο	DEEo
3	τρία	TREEa
4	τέσσερα	TEsera
5	πέντε	PEnte
6	ἑξί	EXi
7	επτά	ePTA
8	οκτώ	oKTO
9	εννέα	eNEa
10	δέκα	DEka

Note that numbers 3 and 4 of neuter grammatical gender are τρία, τέσσερα, different than the same numbers of masculine and feminine gender, which are τρεῖς (3) and τέσσερις (4). All other numbers are exactly the same in all genders.

In Modern Greek the n in the ending of the ancient Greek words πένταθλον, δέκαθλον is omitted, and we say πένταθλο, δέκαθλο. The original ending with the n has been preserved in English: pentathlon, decathlon.



WORD CLUSTERS

Greek word	Pronunciation	Meaning
Ο ἀθλος	O Athlos	achievement, sport
Το ἀθλημα	TO Athlima	sport, game
Τα αθλήματα	Ta athLEEmata	sports, games
Ο αθλητής	O athlITEES	the athlete
Το τρίαθλο	TO TREEathlo	triathlon
Η γωνία/-es	EE ghoNEEA/-es	angle/-s
Η ἑδρα/-es	EE Edra/-es	side/-s
Το τρίγωνο	TREEghono	triangular
Το τετράγωνο	TO teTRAghono	square
Το τετράεδρο	TO teTRAEdro	tetrahedron
Το πένταθλο	TO Pentathlo	pentathlon
Το χταπόδι	TO htaPOdi	octopus
Το ἑπταθλο	TO Eptathlo	eptathlon
Το δέκαθλο	TO DEkathlo	decathlon

EXERCISE

- Write the numbers in Greek words.
- 1. Έχω(2) τρίγωνα.
- 2. Θέλω (8) χταπόδια.
- 3. Πίνω (3) καφέδες.
- 4. Το πένταθλο έχει..... (5) αθλήματα.
- 5. Το δέκαθλο έχει (10) αθλήματα.
- 6. Τρώω (4) σουβλάκια.
- 7. Θέλουμε (3) σαλάτες.
- 8. Το τρίγωνο έχει (3) γωνίες.
- 9. Το τετράγωνο έχει (4) γωνίες.
- 10. Έχω (4) τετράγωνα.

- Write the numbers in Greek words: 2, 4, 6, 7, 9.

PRONUNCIATION KEY

i (i-diom), ee (n-ee-dle), e (e-nergy), o (o-rganism), oo (b-oot), y (y-es), h (h-elium), th (th-eory), d (th-e), gh (w-olf). The capitalized syllables are accented.

Dimitra Kamarinou, PhD, has studied philology and archaeology at the University of Ioannina, Würzburg and Bochum in Germany. She has been honored with the Academy of Athens Award in Archaeology and Homeric Philology.

GREEK AMERICAN STORIES

Highlights of a Life

By Phylis (Kiki) Sembos
Special to The National Herald

One of the highlights in my life was when, at the Lemnian dance, the president of the society, Sotiris Avras, a portly, distinguished gentleman sat at our table and I got the courage to ask him if I could sing at the next dance. “Why not?” he responded, after being plied with drinks and mezedes by my mother and others at the full table. Flushed and jolly, he promised he’d arrange everything.

From that moment I was planning to replace Ella Fitzgerald. I chose a Greek song made popular at the time by Sophia Vembo called, “H Tambakiera” (the cigarette case). For my second number – in case the audience’s thunderous applause begged for an encore, I chose, “H Tsigana,” (the gypsy). I came

well prepared with my tambourine, relic from a Halloween party. I practiced before my mirror to get that glamorous, smoldering look – like Lauren Bacall or Rita Hayworth but managed to look like I was coming down with stomach virus. My brother knew a piano player from a bar in lower New York City. He warned, “He’s good, Kiki, but he drinks a lot.”

We met, gave him my music and we practiced evenings after work in a studio nearby. He seemed sober. I figured he probably drank when patrons treated him to free drinks. My biggest thrill came when I saw my name in the National Herald advertising Teddy James orchestra at the Hotel New Yorker for the Lemnian Society, featuring Kiki Zouroudis (in very small print) as singer. My dreams went afire; I imagined men tossing flowers at my feet, me giving out auto-



graphs, agents rushing to sign me up for future engagements.

I gave the piano player the cash he demanded beforehand. “Hey! I gotta get a taxi, ya’ know,” he insisted, though he lived four blocks from the hotel. “You’re not going out like that without your mother,” warned Papa, viewing my seductive black taffeta dress, high heels, sheer black stockings and lots of makeup. Ma dressed, hurriedly, and we left. The taxi driver looked like one I’d seen on a ‘wanted’ poster in the post office. Only, he looked more like

‘unwanted’ by anyone. The ride was harrowing, barely missing other cabs, fire hydrants and pedestrians (I think he only nicked one. But, he got up.) I had to help my mother out of the cab but we got there.

Tons of people were drinking, eating, and having a grand time. People danced Greek dances with enthusiasm. Then Mr. Avras asked if I still wanted to go through with it. I said, “Sure!” During a break, Teddy James played an introduction and announced a barrel bellied baritone singer, wearing an obvious, black toupee. He sang an aria from some opera no one recognized or cared about and got polite applause, hoping not to encourage him. My piano player hadn’t arrived yet. I got nervous. He had my music. Teddy James introduced me. The piano player finally appeared and stumbled towards

the piano – fumbling with the music sheets. Then, in a loud voice, “waking a god in the air, he said, “ok, let’s go!” like it was roundup time at the corral. People giggled. He’s drunk! He played an introduction that went on and on while I stood at the microphone waiting for my queue. More giggles from the crowd while I continued to wait in growing agitation. Then, he got up from the piano, collected the music, bowed and stumbled off the stage, leaving me at the mike. Teddy James, always the gentleman, stepped right in and played an introduction. I sang, waving the tambakiera that, in my stress and nervousness, slipped from my hands with a crash to the floor. But, like a trooper, I sang my second song, rattling my tambourine like a volunteer for the Salvation Army. It sure wasn’t how I planned it. Teddy James, mer-

cifully, played louder, covering my pauses. A smatter of applause followed. But, had there been an applause meter mine would have surpassed the baritone’s. My mother was a loud clapper. I suspected the applause was really sympathy for the cute kid trying out for the big time. Mr. Avras must have enjoyed it – he was near tears. Anyway, I can always say I sang with Teddy James’ orchestra. Ma and I sat at a table, the baritone joined us. “Tough crowd,” he said, sitting down. “Yeah!” I agreed, becoming friends. As a trio, we sang a bunch of songs together, loud and raucously, laughing, eating, drinking, (coke for me), and had a rollicking time. After the dance, on our way out, I found seventy five cents in the tambourine. Someone appreciated us. Just another highlight in my life.

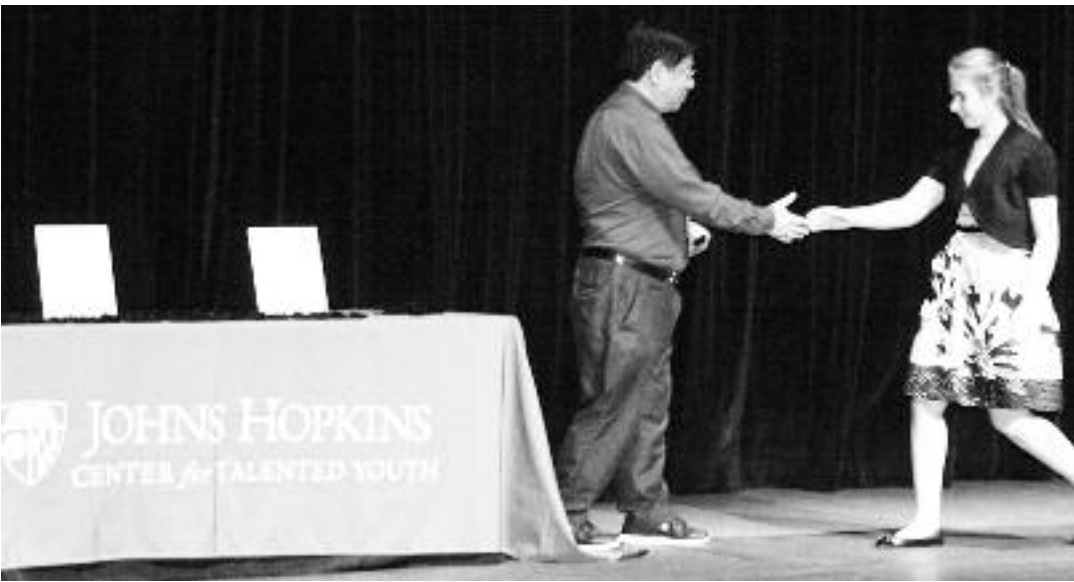
HELLENIC HAPPENINGS FROM COAST TO COAST

TNH Staff

NEW YORK, NY – ANASTASIA KALIABAKOS, daughter of JOHN and POLYXENI of Astoria, was recognized by JOHNS HOPKINS CENTER FOR TALENTED YOUTH (JHCTY) for her outstanding academic achievement on May 14. At only age 14, Anastasia received the award for her high score on the SAT at a ceremony held at COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. She took the SAT in middle school and qualified for the JHCTY Talent Search. At age 12, Anastasia was accepted into the program and received High Honors for the top score among students in her age group, placing over the 85th percentile of college-bound seniors. She was one of more than 30,000 students from 60 countries who participated in the talent search from March 2015 to February of this year.

JHCTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ELAINE TUTTLE HANSEN said “we are thrilled to celebrate these students for their hard work and academic achievements. We'd also like to recognize the parents and educators who saw the academic talent in these students and provided them with opportunities to develop it further.”

After successfully completing the eighth grade, Anastasia took the specialized high school test and earned a spot at STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL,



Anastasia Kaliabakos receiving an award for her outstanding academic achievement from the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth. Photo courtesy of Polyxeni Kaliabakos.

as well as some of the elite private schools in Manhattan, choosing to attend BREARLEY SCHOOL, the top all girls school in the country.

In her first year at Brearley, Anastasia joined the math team, Latin team, and the chorus, and was one of five girls selected for the Advanced Science Research Seminar for her remaining three high school years. Her extracurricular activities include tutoring underprivileged students in Latin and competing in equestrian events with two equestrian teams. Anastasia has competed

and placed at the regional and national level.

SALT LAKE CITY, UT – Utah's Hellenes recently celebrated the construction of the state's first Greek Orthodox Church, HOLY TRINITY, which was constructed 111 years ago, by dedicating a monument at the Church's original site on 300 South in Salt Lake City, the Salk Lake Tribune reported.

The original church was built on a \$7000 loan, the Tribune reported, and dedicated on October 29, 1905 according to CONSTANTINE SKEDROS, author of a history of the Greek-American community in Salt Lake Valley, the Tribune reported.

The HELLENIC CULTURAL ASSOCIATION (HCA) designated the monument at the original site, instead of at the current site of the larger Holy Trinity Church, built in 1925, at the corner of 300 South and 300

West, the Tribune reported.

According to the HCA's website, pahh.org, “the official life of the Greek Orthodox community of Utah began on October 29, 1905, with an elaborate religious ceremony and the dedi-



Holy Trinity Cathedral in Salt Lake City Utah.

cation of the church of Holy Trinity, considered to be the mother church for other communities in the Intermountain West.

“The growing community eventually necessitated the

building of a larger facility. Consecrated on August 2, 1925, the new Church of Holy Trinity was unique in that it provided Salt Lake City and the Intermountain West with a distinctive example of Byzantine architecture.”

GOINGS ON...

■ **THRU SEPT. 10**
TARPON SPRINGS, FL – Tarpon Springs' annual Night in the Islands tradition continues on the historic Sponge Docks once a month from 6-11PM on the City's historic Sponge Docks, along Dodecanese Boulevard. Food, drinks, and the street is closed off for live dancing: 6-11PM on Saturdays April 2, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 6. And September 10. Sponsoring restaurants include Costa's Hel-las, Mama's and Mykonos.

■ **JUNE 15-18**
PITTSBURGH, PA – The 44th Annual Greek Festival of the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 123 Gilkeson Road in Pittsburgh, takes place Wednesday, Jun. 15 through Saturday, Jun. 18. Take note, this is one of the few Greek festivals that begins on Wednesday! Enjoy the hospitality of Pittsburgh's Greek community, and experience the simple pleasures of life in a Greek village. Dozens of volunteers enthusiastically staff their booths, creating a welcoming atmosphere. Festival-goers will not want to miss the delicious Greek food. — Delectable festival favorites like gyros and moussaka. And no Greek village would be complete without homemade pastries from Yia Yia's traditional recipes: baklava, diples, finikia, and kataifi are just a few of the sweet treats to delight you. Listen to the distinctive sounds of the bouzouki and other exotic instruments played by authentic Greek musicians who perform traditional and popular songs. Delight in the beauty of the elaborate costumes worn by performers as they share their carefully practiced steps and intricate dances with the enthusiastic audience. Enjoy participating in the same dances you would perform in the traditional villages of Greece. Dance to live music during the evening, eat delicious Greek food, shop in the Greek marketplace, relax and enjoy yourself under the trees in the warm embrace of the best Greek culture has to offer. Learn more about our church by taking a church tour. So maybe you can't make it all the way to Greece this year. This Pittsburgh Greek Festival is the next best thing to being there! Schedule: 11:30AM to 9PM every day! If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us. (412) 833-3355.

■ **JUNE 24-26**
OCEAN, NJ – The St. George

Greek Orthodox Church, 1033 West Park Avenue in Ocean, invites you to its annual Greek festival, June 24 to 26! Highlights include: Church Tours, Games and Rides, Greek Folk Dancing, Authentic Greek Foods and Pastries, Gift Shop, Religious Gifts, Books, and Icons, Greek Food Store, and Little Kids Play-ground and Activities. Free parking at Ocean Township High School 550 W Park Ave, Oakhurst, AND Ocean Township Intermediate School 1200 W Park Ave, Ocean Township. Free shuttles from both schools! We are an 83-year-old, community, but for over twenty-five years, a new Church Home was a dream and the members of our community were dedicated to making this dream a reality. A tract of land was purchased, and we broke ground in the summer of 2008, and on Sunday, April 1, 2012, we were proud and humbled to celebrate the Thyranixia, the official opening of the doors, of our new House of Worship at 1033 West Park Avenue. This momentous celebration officially opened the doors to our long awaited new Saint George Greek Orthodox Church and its surrounding campus which includes a Cultural Center, Administration Building and Education Center, and Athletic Center. For more information about our Church and the festival, please visit our website: stgeorgeap.org.

■ **JULY 14-17**
SOUTHAMPTON, NY – The Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, at 111 St. Andrews Road in Southampton, is happy to present our annual Greek Festival, Thursday, Jul 14 through Sunday, Jul. 17. Our Church Family has been working for months to prepare for the largest and happiest party given by Greek Americans in the Hamptons. We thank you for coming to the Hamptons Greek Festival and hope you will enjoy your stay with us. We have opened our hearts and home to you; we will feed you; entertain you; and yes, enlighten you about our culture and heritage. Please be sure to visit all the booths and try our delicious, home-made foods and pastries. In the true spirit of “Filoxenia”, that is, hospitality, we welcome you and pray your stay with us will be enjoyable. Festival hours are: Thursday-Saturday 4-11PM, and Sunday 12-9PM. Come learn more and be part of our community! For more information, please visit

our website at hamptonsgreekfestival.com.

■ **JULY 15-17**
PORTSMOUTH, NH – The St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 40 Andrew Jarvis Drive in Portsmouth, is proud to present its annual Greek festival Friday, Jul. 15 through Sunday, Jul. 17. For 41 years, this festival has proven to be over and over again a fun event for all ages. This years' Greek Festival year promises to be another great event. The families of the St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church get together in April through early July preparing many of the menu items. So come join us for fresh Lamb, Moussaka, Spanakopita (Spinach Pie), a Gyro or a fresh piece of Baklava. All of the food and pastries at the St Nicholas Greek Festival, taste just like your YiaYia's (Grandmother) recipes. With all of this great homemade food, it's no wonder that the St Nicholas Greek Festival is one of the must attend events every summer on the Seacoast. People travel from all over New England to enjoy the food and the live entertainment. Oh and they may buy some delicious pastries for the ride home! Also, please make sure to visit the Church and enjoy the beautiful iconography! The Church itself has a traditional Byzantine architectural style, with the center dome and the footprint in the shape of a cross. The church structure is modeled after many island churches typical in Greece. Between the altar and the upper Solea is a wall adorned with icons with a central doorway called "Royal Doors." This wall is referred to as the iconostasis, and is characteristic of all Orthodox churches. This year's festival hours are Friday, 5-11PM, Saturday, Noon-11PM, and Sunday, Noon-4PM. Greek Dancing Exhibitions by our Greek School Students Friday at 6PM and Saturday at 7PM. For more information, please call (603) 436-2733.

REDONDO BEACH, CA – The St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 722 Knob Hill Avenue in Redondo Beach, will hold its South Bay Greek festival Friday, Jul. 15 through Sunday, Jul. 18. Friday, 5-10PM, Saturday, Noon-10PM, and Sunday, Noon-9PM. Music, games, dancing, and the best Greek food in town! For more information, visit sbgreekfestival.com or call (310) 540-2434.

This Week in Greek History:
Legendary Songwriter Manos Hadjidakis

This week, on June 15, 1994, legendary Greek music composer Manos Hadjidakis died in Athens at age 68.

Born in Xanthi in 1925, Hadjidakis began his music education at 14, learning the piano, violin, and accordion.

From 1940-43, Hadjidakis studied advanced music theory with Menelaos Pallandios, and traveled in the same circles as numerous musicians, writers, and intellectuals in Athens.

Part of the Greek Resistance during WWII, Hadjidakis met Mikis Theodorakis, and a strong friendship soon blossomed.

His storied career began with writing the tune for the song “Paper Moon – Hartino to Feggaraki” featured in Tennessee Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire, not to be confused with “It's Only a Paper Moon,” an American standard sang by many, including Vivien Leigh as Blanche Du Bois in the film ver-

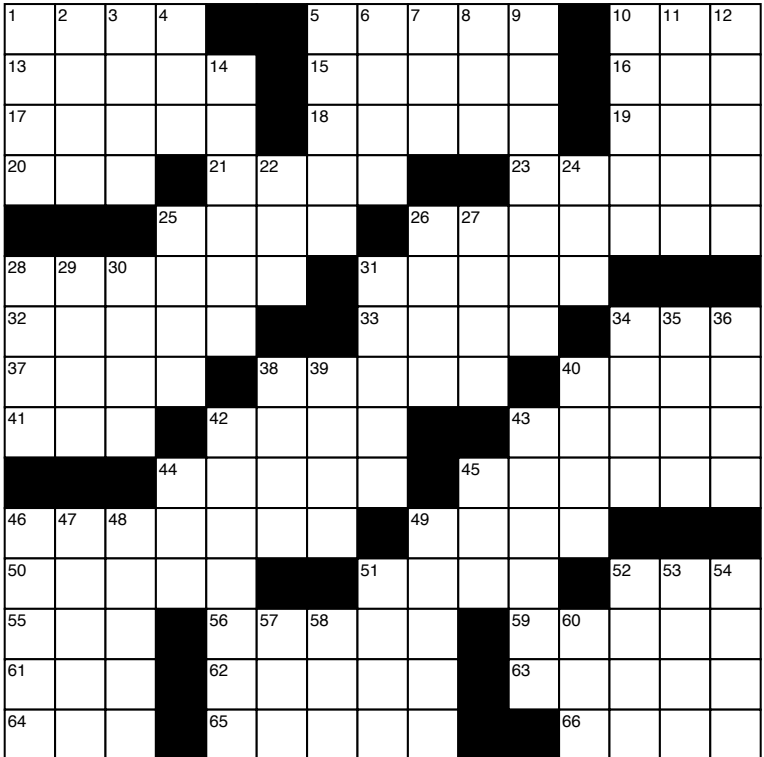


sion of Streetcar.

But he is best known for the song “Never on Sunday” made famous in the eponymous 1960 film starring Melina Mercouri, for which he won the Academy Award for Best Original song.

He wrote and contributed to countless other songs, including “300 Spartans,” “Topkapi,” and “America America,” and he wrote the music for “All Along Am I” (Arthur Altman wrote the lyrics), recorded by Brenda Lee.

THE HERALD SQUARE
TNH's Crossword Challenge



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 1 Washy
- 5 Athenian Neighborhood
- 10 Famous TV maker of old (abbrev.)
- 13 Association (abbr.)
- 15 St. Constantine's mother
- 16 Multinational Ins. Org.
- 17 ___ and burn
- 18 Amphitheater
- 19 Trgt. Nomination List (abbrev.)
- 20 Doozy
- 21 Too
- 23 Skid
- 25 Inflammatory disease
- 26 City of Tigers and Lions, but not Bears
- 28 Fancy
- 31 National capital
- 32 ___ Matisse, painter
- 33 Totals
- 34 Now defunct immigration agcy. (init.)
- 37 Advise
- 38 Had the weight of the world on his shoulders
- 40 Breaking sound
- 41 Golden Girls actress Arthur, for short
- 42 Annoying insect
- 43 Greek-American Ranger
- 44 Bluish white metals
- 45 Gov. Schwarzenegger
- 46 Adios
- 49 Blueberry and Pumpkin, e.g.
- 50 Reddish dye
- 51 High-end pet food brand
- 52 Damage
- 55 Army Liaison Off. (abbrev.)
- 56 Nice cars
- 59 Largest Greek Island
- 61 Sun's name
- 62 Diamond feature
- 63 Famous fabler
- 64 Seventh Greek letter
- 65 Foe
- 66 Drains sap

DOWN

- 1 Beeps cousin
- 2 Eng. as a Second Lang. Institute (abbrev.)
- 3 Rght. away! (abbrev.)
- 4 From where Hippocrates hails
- 5 Stage
- 6 An Ancient Celtic god
- 7 Lager
- 8 Barbie's beau
- 9 Newsman Ernie

- 10 Relationship
- 11 Ms. Lauper
- 12 Metal tip on the end of a lance
- 14 Joanie Loves _____ (Happy Days spinoff)
- 22 Loc. News Initiative (abbrev.)
- 24 Long Range Init.
- 25 Land unit
- 26 Father
- 27 Ceases
- 28 Small fresh water fish
- 29 Not there
- 30 Acres Swenson
- 31 Brakes
- 34 Within
- 35 Arrest
- 36 Potato
- 38 Years, to Bruno
- 39 Mexican fast food
- 40 Male children
- 42 Long-necked animal
- 43 Alternative to 7UP or Sprite
- 44 Type of Buddhism
- 45 Goal
- 46 Run after
- 47 Spartan slave
- 48 _____ Gay
- 49 Anemic
- 51 Object
- 52 Plateau
- 53 A spinning toy (2 wds.)
- 54 Representatives
- 57 Gillan of Deep Purple
- 58 Highest or lowest card
- 60 Radio Equipment Syst. (abbrev.)

Solution to last week's puzzle												
D	E	B	T		B	A	L	S	A		R	C
A	L	O	O	F		A	C	O	R	N		A
D	I	N	E	R		S	E	P	I	A		T
S	A	D			A	R	I	S		S	L	I
					O	P	A	L		D	E	T
S	C	U	L	P	T		H	A	N	O	I	
A	L	G	A	E			A	D	D	S		F
S	U	L	K		N	O	N	O	S		F	I
H	E	Y		B	A	B	E		O	R	B	I
				R	E	P	A	Y		F	R	E
B	E	S	P	E	A	K		R	A	G	E	
I	T	E	M	S			V	I	D	A		O
G	H	I		W	A	D	E	S		N	A	M
O	A	S		A	B	A	T	E		S	E	A
T	N	M		X	E	N	O	N		K	N	E

Rep. Maloney, Congressional Delegation in Cyprus Meet Officials, Pres.

TNH Staff

NICOSIA – On May 28, Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney, co-Founder and co-Founder of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, recently joined a bipartisan Congressional delegation to Cyprus where she met with Cypriot President Nicos Anastasiades, U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Kathleen Doherty, and Foreign Minister Ioannis Kasoulides to discuss the status of reunification negotiations between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders and opportunities for economic growth in the region presented by the discovery of offshore natural gas.

“Cyprus is a critical US ally and our cooperation is essential for global security, which is why I continue to strongly advocate for active US support of and engagement in negotiations to create a unified Cyprus free of Turkish occupation. As we toured along the buffer zone or ‘Green Line’ that partitions the country, the ‘ghost towns’ of Famagusta and Varosha illustrated the drastic impact that a divided Cyprus has on its peo-



PHOTO: US EMBASSY, CYPRUS- COURTESY OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
President Anastasiades met with the US delegation led by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), joined by Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), and Rep. Randy Weber (R-TX).

ple. It was a visualization of the opportunities lost, the time wasted, and development forgone because of this extended conflict. I was pleased to hear from President Anastasiades and others that there is hope for an

agreement on reunification. I understand that the parties have been able to find common ground on issues including EU integration for Turkish Cypriots and property rights upon reaching a settlement, and discussion

on other matters related to governance and security are ongoing. After decades of division and occupation, the people of Cyprus deserve a unified country and a peaceful future.” Rep. Maloney joined the del-

egation, led by Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), with Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), and Rep. Randy Weber (R-TX). Rep. Ros-Lehtinen, Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Middle East and North Africa, said, “In Cyprus, we discussed reunification efforts, potential economic opportunities, stronger security cooperation, and developments regarding Cyprus and Israel’s discovery of offshore gas reserves that could provide greater energy security in the region. More cooperation between all of our countries has enormous potential for issues like energy production, economic development, counterterrorism, and our shared democratic values, and this was a productive trip that could help advance the mutual security and prosperity achieved by our important partnership.”

Congresswoman Maloney represents one of the largest Hellenic communities in the United States and outside of Greece and Cyprus. She recently met with the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), the Daughters of Penelope and Sons of Pericles

for the AHEPA Family Annual Capitol Hill Day to address US relations with Greece and Cyprus and the efforts to support awarding Greek-American World War II veteran James “Maggie” Megellas with the Medal of Honor.

She noted on that occasion that, “Greece and Cyprus are critical strategic allies of the US and our cooperation is essential for global security and economic growth. That is why I have so strongly advocated for US support for Greece’s economic recovery and why I continue to push the United States to remain actively engaged in negotiations to create a unified Cyprus free of Turkish occupation.”

The 42nd anniversary of the invasion of Cyprus is nearing as a grim reminder of how long the illegal occupation and the suffering of so many Cypriots forced to leave their home has lasted. The meeting between President Anastasiades and the bipartisan Congressional delegation will hopefully help the long, drawn out process of negotiations come to a successful conclusion.

With Financial Stability, Greek Economy to Return to Growth Next Year

Continued from page 1

The central bank also recommended a range of measures to ease Greece’s massive debt load. It says the creditors could exploit the “historically low global interest rates” to help Greece.

European Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis targeted the middle of next year as Greece’s expected time of return to growth, Reuters reported, if the Greek government makes a serious effort to regain financial

stability.

The economy began growing by 0.8 percent in 2014 after years of recession, Reuters noted, and pointed to Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras’ SYRIZA government’s rejection of the lenders’ reforms as having sent Greece back into recession.

“We were forecasting 2.5 percent growth in Greece this year, now we expect a 2.0-2.5 percent recession,” Dombrovskis told Reuters at the IMF’s meetings in Lima, Peru.

But Greece could quickly return to growth if the government ensures financial stability, because all the fundamentals are there, Dombrovskis said. “If the government works seriously to regain financial stability, it can return to economic growth,” he told Reuters.

Dombrovskis also told Reuters that:

“Our current forecast is that next year as a whole it will still be a mild recession, but already during next year, on a quarterly

basis, in the second half of the year, Greece will return to year-on-year growth.

“If the economy gets back on track, there can be also some positive surprises in terms of performance, because the Greek economy is now substantially below potential and you can catch up to the potential quite quickly.”

Eurozone creditors are considering debt relief by putting a ceiling on Greece’s gross debt servicing costs of 15 percent an-

nually, Reuters reported.

Dombrovskis said that Greece’s net debt servicing costs, which do not include debt rollover, were only 4 percent of gross domestic product a year, which is less than that of Italy or Portugal.

Greek Finance Minister Euclid Tsakalotos said on June 12 that he believed Greece’s recession would be less severe this year than the lenders speculated in their writing the new bailout program, Reuters reported. “Our

projections for the third quarter are much better than the projections that we had in August. That is what led the prime minister to say yesterday that we can return to growth (in the second half of 2016),” he told Parliament, Reuters reported.

“We feel that we have persuaded the institutions that the results will be better so we can be more optimistic,” he said.

Material from the Associated Press was used in this report.

Zakynthos’ Mysterious Underwater “City” Built

TNH Staff

Scientists investigating what appeared to be a kind of underwater city off the island of Zakynthos were surprised to find it was built by bacteria millions of years ago.

The structures were spotted about 20 feet under the sea by tourists snorkeling in the area, an island popular for that activity.

“The site features what appear to be clusters of cobblestones and symmetrical stone cylinders with Hellenic flair. It’s easy to see the waterlogged structures and imagine a bustling square full of artists and philosophers,” the Washington Post wrote.

A study published in Marine and Petroleum Geology revealed what archaeologists suspected, that bacteria clustering around ejections of methane gas from under the ground below sea level created it with their waste leading to hard surfaces forming in shapes that seemed to be manmade.

The archaeologists who dove down quickly saw there was no other detritus such as coins, pottery or other devices of man to indicate that it was some kind of mini-Atlantis, and that it wasn’t as sophisticated as it seems.

They analyzed the mineral content of the “pillars” and “streets” as they looked under all the scales and found dolomite, a calcium byproduct produced by microbes that feed off methane.

When bacteria huddle around a reliable source of the gas, their calcium excrement can react with methane to produce the cement-like substance.

“Essentially what you’ve got are bacteria that are fossilizing the plumbing system,” study co-author Julian Andrews of the University of East Anglia told Smithsonian Magazine.

The lost city shows the remains not of an ancient people, but of an ancient leak, as gas seeped in through subsurface faults, the Post noted.

The tubular structures were likely formed as microbes piled up around focused jets of methane, while the slabs that built the city’s “streets” may have been the result of large, sloppy spews of gas.

All this happened eons ago as there’s no longer any methane leaking out.

The discovery was surprising because the kind of structures that were found usually are much deeper underwater where natural gas under the ocean bottom’s surface leaks out easier.

Holy Synod Moving Forward, Patriarch Bartholomew Arrives in Crete

Continued from page 1

airport that “it is good to be with you. I have just set my foot on the holy land of Crete, and, with much joy and emotion, I bring to all of you the blessing and embrace of the Mother Church, our Ecumenical Patriarchate. I embrace each one of you blessed Cretans personally, who, throughout the centuries, have ever been the pride of our Ecumenical Patriarchate.

“Even though each time I have been to Crete I have been filled with joy and emotion, and I have come many times, glory be to God, this time it is obvious that I am filled with even greater joy, emotion, and enthusiasm. The reason for this is the holiness of the undertaking that lies before us, and by this I mean the Holy and Great Council of the Orthodox Church, and also on account of the responsibility that weighs upon the shoulders of us, the Primates, and of all our Holy Brothers, the Hierarchs, for the fulfillment of this, our sacred mission.”

Regarding those Prelates who are not planning to attend the Council, Bartholomew said “of course the joy of this historic event is overshadowed by the decision of certain sister Churches not to attend, and not to participate... The responsibility for their decision lies with



HOLY AND GREAT COUNCIL VIA AP
In this Wednesday, June 15, 2016 photo released by Holy and Great Council, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, centre, speaks next to Archbishop of Crete Irineos, left, and Deputy Greek Foreign Minister Yannis Amanatides, during his arrival at the airport of Chania in Crete.

those same Churches and their Primates, since, just five months ago, at the Synaxis of the Orthodox Primates in Geneva, we made a decision and put our sig-

natures to it, that we should come to Crete in June and realize this vision held over many years, which all our Churches cherish, to declare and proclaim

the unity of our Orthodox Church, and to examine and reach a common resolution of the problems that are of concern to the Orthodox world. I pray

that those Churches reconsider, even at this very last moment, and honor their signatures and come to Crete, where, along with the joy of the fulfillment of our historical mission, we shall also have the joy of partaking of the hospitality and nobility of all Cretans, from the most elderly among them, to the youngest child. And I say this because I have personal experience from my many visits here.”

The patriarch thanked “all those who have labored all these days, weeks and months... who, one and all, have truly toiled much for the Council to take place. I especially thank the honorable Greek State for providing all kinds of facilities and services for the organization of our Council during the preparatory phase. I thank the local organization committee under the presidency of my dear brother the Archbishop of Crete, and, without exception, all local authorities, mayors, the secretary of the region, the representative of local civil authorities and the other authorities of the Megalonissos [great island: Crete] and those who have come from Athens to this purpose who, together as a group and each one individually who have worked zealously, selflessly and with great willingness for this great event of the Holy and Great Council of our Orthodox Church to take place.”

Attorney and Economist Gramatidis Starts New Political Career

By Lena Argiri

WASHINGTON, DC – Listening to Yanos Gramatidis, the founder of the new political movement “Nea Poroia” share his vision for a new Greece, one can easily come to the conclusion that he spent a considerable amount of time analyzing the reasons that led to the unprecedented economic crisis. And, as he says “this crisis didn’t land by parachute, the political system should bear the responsibility because, all the previous years, it did absolutely nothing to identify the reasons for this crisis.”

Gramatidis, an attorney, law professor, former president of the Institute on Economic Policy and Public Governance and the Hellenic American Chamber of Commerce, believes that it is not too late to recognize these reasons and change Greece’s economic model which, as he explains, remains one of the last closed economies, which does not produce internationally tradeable goods and cannot attract investments.

Asked how to do so and why his platform can make the difference, Gramatidis said “you can only attract investments by favorable legislation and a credible tax system.” He explained



NEA POROIA
Yanos Gramatidis, founder of Nea Poroia

that this is not the case right now in Greece and that this structural change can only occur by a new cast of politicians, preferable technocrats that should participate in a big coalition to lead the country out of the crisis.” We need to make the economy revive, not just survive, he says, pointing at the current political system for handling the situation through a

short-term prism. “I do not accept that SYRIZA should negotiate with the Institutions all by itself. The majority of the parliamentary political parties should participate. There must be a consensus. We all have to take the political risk, if there is one.”

Gramatidis believes that the agreed “prevention mechanism” will definitely need to be trig-

gered sometime soon. “The negotiations have just begun,” he predicts, and he sounds truly concerned about the challenges that lie ahead. Challenges that the current government and the opposition parties do not have the will and the determination to face effectively.

He thinks that the debt relief through reprofiling, should be the first thing that needs to be discussed: “actually, it should be a precondition for any further discussions,” but when reminded that the Europeans are the ones who set the preconditions and they are reluctant to do so, he said “this is happening because they don’t have capable neither experienced interlocutors.”

Gramatidis considers himself a liberal. It is the only label that he accepts and he acknowledges that his political movement that was launched last July “doesn’t make much noise, because he prefers for the time being to campaign all over the country explaining his positions to the citizens.”

He also believes in campaigning outside the country because as he says his ideas should be presented in the United States: to the president, Congress, and the IMF. That was the main reason for his trip to Wash-

ington, where he held multiple high-level meetings. As to the U.S. government’s recent supportive language regarding Greece, Gramatidis said “we have to go beyond rhetoric. There is no evidence of such support, only words. We must see concrete actions.”

A specific reason for the trip is the revival of the Economic Commercial Cooperation Committee (ECCC), which he thinks would be extremely helpful for Greece because it will give the United States the chance to help it on multiple levels, for instance by providing the knowledge for restructuring Greece’s tax system based on the IRS model. “That would not cost them a penny and would be extremely beneficial for Greece. This would be tangible help by the United States.”

Gramatidis intends to inform the Greek government about his DC meetings, though

he is skeptical as to whether they would even pay attention, simply because they don’t know how the American system works. He says that what we should do is put Greece back on the United States’ radar: “that is crucial and must be done, even if the Greek government today has a different agenda.”

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Putin’s Synod Shennanigans

It took 787 years for the Primates of the 14 Independent Orthodox Churches to arrange to meet and attempt to resolve their differences.

And now, at the last minute, and although everything is set, the Russian Church and its constituent churches have decided – forced is the more appropriate word – to declare that they will not participate, citing some unconvincing reasons.

The non-theologian reader will wonder: first, why are there 14 Independent Orthodox Churches and, second, why did it take them eight centuries to decide to conduct a Synod (also called Great and Holy Council)?

Preparations for the Great Synod began 55 years ago, but the deal was sealed last January in Geneva, Switzerland, where it was unanimously decided that the Synod was to convene. In fact, they put it in writing.

Crete was chosen as the location in order to satisfy the sensitive issues of the Russian Church, which did not wish to meet in Constantinople, due to tense relations between Russia and Turkey.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew did everything in his power to get the Russian Church to participate. Even upon his arrival in Chania, he invited it to attend, even at this late stage.

That, of course, is not going to happen, because its refusal is not based on ecclesiastical reasons but rather on political ones. Specifically, it seems that Russian President Vladimir Putin considers the conduction of such a Pan-Orthodox Synod, under the auspices of the Ecumenical Patriarchate – the first among equals – as a defeat for Moscow in its competition with the West.

Of course, just as with many other instances, this conduct is also devoid of sobriety.

At the same time, it deprives legitimacy for an institution, the Church, whose cornerstone is the solemnity with which it regards its mission, and which of course has nothing to do with political and geopolitical rivalries.

Thus, the Russian president is doing harm to the Church and to the people of his country, but without spoiling the success of the Synod, which belongs to the Ecumenical Patriarchate and to Patriarch Bartholomew personally.

Because, while the patriarch is working for the unity of the Orthodox Church, and while his personality will shine at the Synod in Crete, Putin and the patriarch of Russia will be following the events from afar.

Unfortunately, it is not only the Holy and Great Synod which is affected. Putin’s shenanigans reach our shores as well, as the Russian Church, after all, is present in the United States too.

The Age of Fear

Over a dozen years ago, America started a couple of wars in faraway places unknown to most, in order to combat terrorism.

But now, after all these years, there is no doubt that instead of peace, we are facing a different, peculiar war: the war of the individual, the “lone wolf,” against powerful states.

This is a situation that has introduced us to a new, dangerous world, one without solutions on the horizon. A world of fear.

Which is why we worry that the situation will get much worse before it improves.

Let’s just hope that history doesn’t repeat itself.

A lot has already been written about the man who opened fire in an Orlando nightclub, killing 49 innocent victims and wounding even more than that. And much more will be written in the future. Everything about him is certainly significant. From the way he was raised, to his family, to his allegiance to ISIS.

In the end, however, we return to the question: how can a human being who has passed the big stages and the transformation of his soul from childhood until now, reach the point of such unfathomable inhumanity so as to shoot down dozens of strangers, his fellow human beings?

What is it that made him worse than the wildest of beasts? What is it about today’s culture that incites such unprecedented actions?

If we don’t examine this, the moral foundations of our culture in all its forms, from the tremendous inequality to our relationship with material goods, the functioning of institutions, as well as the functioning of our republic in general, then we will go from one massacre to a bigger one.

Meanwhile, politicians’ reactions undermine the country. These cannot be the words of individuals who aspire to rule the country most of the world turns to for leadership.

Hillary Clinton limited herself to the well-beaten track. She will work together with various countries to control terrorism, she says.

Donald Trump, once again, outdid his worst self. He practically accused the president of fostering terrorism. “Look, we’re led by a man that either is not tough, not smart, or he’s got something else in mind,” he said.

Many believe that this new terrorist attack strengthens Trump’s campaign, may lead the U.K. out of the European Union, and give new momentum to the far-right parties in Europe.

Therefore, things may get much worse before they get better. One thing is for certain: the politics of anger have permeated many countries.

And this is alarming.

Freedom-Worthy Press

We disagree with Donald Trump’s recent ban of Washington Post reporters at his rallies, and take no comfort in envisioning a nation in which freedom of the press, as so valiantly defended by the First Amendment, would be in jeopardy.

By the same token, we do not condone misrepresentative journalism that distorts – often grossly – the facts, often to perpetuate a hidden motive or agenda.

This is by no means limited to a specific news medium, politician, political party, or even country. It happens far too often in the media worldwide, and it is wrong.

We’ve said it before, and we’ll say it again: opinions belong on the opinion pages, but news stories should present the facts with the utmost accuracy and objectivity.

As Americans unite to defend freedom of the press, the press needs to consistently demonstrate that it is worth defending.

EDITORIALS

LETTERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reader Praises Sakellis Reviews

To the Editor:

Thank you for publishing the Literary Review column by Eleni Sakellis. It is always informative and well written.

I much appreciated her mention in the May 14 column of Athena, A Modern Greek Life, by Aliko Alexxa. I had ordered it from Amazon after seeing it in your paper.

It is a great read and a vivid

saga of life and love in New York and Greece over a 50-year time span. Alexa’s description of the aspirations and struggles of her characters in a new land rang true and were deeply moving. But what I found especially riveting was the love story and the changes in the characters’ lives and hearts wrought by the inexorable passing of time.

Thanks again for an excellent column by Ms. Sakellis.

Evanthia Allen
Virginia Beach, VA

TO OUR READERS

The National Herald welcomes letters from its readers intended for publication. They should include the writer’s name, address, and telephone number and be addressed to: The Editor, The National Herald, 37-10 30th Street, Long Island City, NY 11101. Letters can also be faxed to (718) 472-0510 or e-mailed to scaros@thenationalherald.com. We reserve the right to edit letters for publication and regret that we are unable to acknowledge or return those left unpublished.



GEORGE SARAFIOGLOU / SPECIAL TO THE NATIONAL HERALD

COMMENTARY

“We Are at War!” What I Would Have Said on Fox News

I was invited to appear on the Fox News channel on Saturday, June 11 to discuss the presidential election. Host Arthel Neville focused mainly on my book Grumpy Old Party, which gives the Republicans 20 tips for overall improvement, which would result in winning elections.

Had the appearance been scheduled for Sunday (June 12) instead of Saturday, the topic would have been much different – in fact, the segment most likely would have been canceled altogether – in order to make way for ongoing coverage of the deadliest mass shooting in American history, which took place at 2AM on June 12 at a gay nightclub in Orlando, FL.

The lone gunman, a 29-year-old native New Yorker of

What I don’t understand is why it has to be an “either-or” situation. Why not make it harder for people to obtain guns, while at the same time understanding that we are under attack?

To the latter point, I am tired of hearing the argument that “more people die from falling in their bathtubs than by being victims of terrorist attacks.” That naïve reasoning fails to take into consideration that bathtubs across the country and throughout the world are not, as you read this, conspiring about how



by **CONSTANTINOS E. SCAROS**

Special to
The National Herald

the United States, until we find out what the hell is going on.”

There are problems with that suggestion beyond the fact that millions of Muslims – the vast majority of which are peaceful – would be disadvantaged. There is also the practical problem that all a would-be terrorist would have to do say “I’m a Christian” at the border, and waltz right in.

Just because Trump’s suggestion is not ideal, however, is no reason to condemn him for it. It is not Islam that Trump con-

and there is nothing Islamic about killing innocent people in Paris, San Bernardino, or anywhere else in the world. True Muslims know that the ruthless violence of so called Islamic jihadists goes against the very tenets of our religion.”

No doubt, the champ would’ve echoed those sentiments today about the Orlando shootings.

Therefore, the gunman’s father was correct: his son’s heinous act of terror indeed had nothing to do with religion. But it has everything to do with an interpretation of a particular religion.

Similarly, the Detroit Red Wings hockey team in no way condones lawlessness. But if a group of extremists who donned Red Wings jerseys and went on a crime spree throughout the country were dubbed “Radical Red Wings,” everyone with even half a brain would realize that the slur was not intended to describe or offend the vast majority of Red Wings fans.

Donald Trump’s singling out all Muslims sparked concern that when he says that “I have friends who are Muslims,” it doesn’t necessarily convey what portion of the Muslim population he considers peaceful rather than dangerous. Is it 99%, 90%, 50%, 30%?

In fact, a great deal of Americans aren’t too sure, either.

Which is exactly why we need another Muhammad Ali (a difficult pair of shoes to fill, indeed). Because no one in his right mind thought Ali would endorse terrorism. America needs to trust another Muslim just as much to lead the way.

I was encouraged to hear that members of the LGBT community and Muslim-Americans joined forces at Diversity Plaza in Jackson Heights in the hours following the horrific incident in Orlando.

In the effort to defeat evil, no one ever said that love and unity shouldn’t be part of the mix.

But make no mistake, we are at war.

Constantinos E. Scaros' latest book, Grumpy Old Party (about the 2016 presidential election), is available for purchase on amazon.com and in bookstores nationwide.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

“I am a Muslim and there is nothing Islamic about killing innocent people,” said the late, great Muhammad Ali. “True Muslims know that the ruthless violence of so called Islamic jihadists goes against the very tenets of our religion.”

Afghani heritage who lived in Port St. Lucie, FL, armed with a handgun and an AR-15 assault rifle, entered Pulse, the nightclub, and opened fire.

His father told NBC News that the attack “had nothing to do with religion” and that his son was recently angered by the sight of two men kissing. He apologized for his son’s actions, saying he had no idea about any of it, and that he was “in shock, like the rest of the country.”

But the gunman, while carrying out the attacks, placed a call to 911 pledging allegiance to ISIS, which later took credit for the attacks.

This shooting may have broken the record of being the deadliest in our nation’s history by total victim count, but whether the victims were 50 or 5, the fact remains that it was an act if not orchestrated by terrorist groups, then certainly inspired by them.

The familiar cries from the left are for more gun control, while the right insists that President Obama and Hillary Clinton use the words “radical Islam.”

to become more slippery and thereby cause more fatal falls.

Motorists and airplane pilots are not purposely trying to create more road and air crashes. Mosquitoes are not congregating to find more effective ways to contract and spread the Zika virus.

Lightning’s mission statement does not include striking more people...and so on.

But various terrorist organizations seek to destroy Western civilization. And they are trying to make such attacks more frequent and more lethal all the time.

If our primary focus is not to stop them, it won’t be long until jihadists surpass bathtubs in total number of homicides on U.S. soil.

Contrary to what presidential candidates might say, we don’t have to call it “radical Islam” in order to defeat it, nor by calling it that would it make things worse. But we have to stop pretending this problem is as random as a mugging.

One of Donald Trump’s suggestions was “a temporary ban on all Muslims from entering

demns. He has no problem that there are folks who pray to Muhammad instead of to Jesus. And, contrary to the narrative purported by reckless members of the press, he does not have a problem with looking at “brown people” and listening to their “foreign accents.” He is concerned about events like what happened in Orlando, as he rightly should be.

Muhammad Ali, arguably America’s most beloved and celebrated Muslim, who passed away earlier this month, said in December that “I am a Muslim

GUEST EDITORIALS

The National Herald welcomes manuscripts representing a variety of views for publication. They should include the writer’s name, address, and telephone number, and be addressed to the Editor, The National Herald, 37-10 30th St., Long Island City, NY 11101. They may also be e-mailed to scaros@thenationalherald.com. We reserve the right to edit any manuscripts that we publish, and we do not return or otherwise acknowledge unpublished ones. Due to considerations of space we enforce a strict 850-word upper limit.

Observations By Antonis H. Diamataris

The Omogenia Spring

This piece is not dedicated to the graduations of our community’s schools.

It is linked to them, but I prefer to consider it a column dedicated to life. Humankind, and also the life of the Greek-American community.

Because that is the message of our schools. Notice the freshness, the life in the graduates’ faces. Notice the hope, not only for the continuation of what already exists, but for the conquest of new heights in the arena of life, of this vibrant American society.

Therefore, the graduation ceremonies taking place these days are a true “Spring of the Omogenia.”

As long as these exist, we will exist as well, in this organized structure – even with its weaknesses – that we have.

The provision of education, though, supersedes the self-centered reasons; it has mainly to do with the lives of the children. The environment in which they spend their school years, their bond with other Greek children, their shared experiences, the memories of a lifetime. And, of course, knowledge of our language, religion, values, and traditions.

Perhaps some may consider these to be of no particular significance, perhaps because they are not aware of their meaning. Maybe if those same critics had attended one of our schools they might think otherwise.

I know that for many parents, tuition is a great burden, although now there are solutions.

I know that children often resent running to two schools – their conventional one in the morning and Greek school in the afternoon. They are children, after all.

But I do not know any adults who wish

they had never learned to speak Greek. In fact, I hear just the opposite. About how bad they feel not speaking Greek. And I see a few, at an older age, who are now learning Greek.

And let us not place all the blame others. Let’s not wait for others to do what we ourselves can and ought to do.

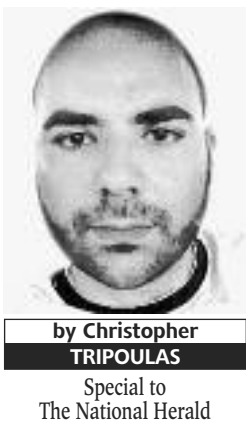
I am not trying to “clear” the Archdiocese, the parish councils, or our teachers. Granted, they could all do so much more. The same may even hold true for us, the community’s newspaper.

But let’s not kid ourselves. Everything begins in the home. What can an archbishop or a teacher do when the newly arrived mother from Greece insists on speaking to her child in English, even though she barely speaks five words of it?

Yet despite the problems, despite the hardships, the truth is that our Greek-American education still holds strong.

Cultural Diplomacy — Can Greece Realize Its Potential?

This month a major exhibition at the National Geographic Museum (NGM) in Washington, DC entitled “The Greeks—Agamemnon to Alexander the Great” opened. This seminal event will showcase 5,000 years of Greek history and culture, presenting stories of individuals from Neolithic villages through the conquests of Alexander the Great and featuring more than 550 artifacts from the national collections of 22 museums throughout Greece – making it the largest exhibition of its kind to tour North America in 25 years. This cultural display is the product of collaboration among five organizations: the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports (Athens, Greece), The NGM, the Field Museum (Chicago), the Canadian Museum of History (Gatineau), and Pointe-à-Callière Montréal Archeology and History Complex (Montreal, Canada). In addition to this exhibition, NG is producing a three-hour series, The Greeks, which will air nationally on PBS, starting June 21.



by Christopher TRIPOULAS
Special to The National Herald

Of course, the most successful example of neo-Ottoman cultural diplomacy is likely Turkish imam Fethullah Gulen, who successfully established and runs nearly 120 charter schools in the United States, together with over 1,000 schools worldwide. Among other things, The Gülen movement runs the International Turkish Language Olympiads, an annual competition in the Turkish language. Students who have learned Turkish from over a hundred countries compete in different titles such as: grammar, oral skills, writing essays, reciting poems, singing songs, theatre, general culture etc. At many of the schools, Turkish classes are mandatory. Many afterschool clubs have Turkish cultural themes - Turkish dancing, cooking, art, etc. Some select American students go to Turkey for summer programs and even earn academic credits. In some schools, subsidies for these trips are offered to students as a reward for academic performance. On these trips, American students are encouraged to befriend Turkish students, in an attempt to mold a generation of future American sympathizers. As Greek-Americans, we typically boast about our Community's lofty rank in statistics on per-capita education and income, however, when compared to what Mr. Gulen, who runs the largest charter school network in the country has done, any comparisons are shameful. There are currently maybe a dozen Hellenic charter schools across America, and no nationwide network or nexus to help promote the establishment of other schools. Meanwhile, more Greek-American day schools are closing than opening, while zero measures are being adopted by the Archdiocese and organized Community to address this situation. Embarrassing indeed.

Hellas is a superpower when it comes to its cultural resources, but Hellenic policymakers fail

This commendable effort reveals the largely untapped potential that cultural diplomacy has to offer. And while modern Greece may be suffering from financial looting by creditors and corrupt politicians, organizational ankylosis, regional bullying by neo-Ottoman sultans, Tedescan economic neo-barbarians, and Balkan gangsters, not to mention a governing Greek left that's proven itself dexterous in just about nothing save implementing the policies of the right and...political onanism (where Greek parties were always ambidextrous), Hellas is truly a superpower when it comes to its cultural resources. Sadly, countries with far less potential are working tirelessly to maximize this so-called “soft power,” while Hellenic policymakers inside and out of the country fail to capitalize on their tremendous advantage.

One needs only to look at certain activities of our neighbors to understand the importance of culture in international relations and power. Turkey recently incited many Orthodox Christians worldwide with its decision to hold Islamic prayer services in the Hagia Sophia during Ramadan, despite the latter's museum status in Kemalist Turkey (It's worth investigating whether other denominations bothered to denounce the act, so as to check on the status of the ecumenical dialogue...). For Christians, this may be a painful development, but for Islamists like Turkey's would-be sultan Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the act is quite symbolic. Of course, in keeping with the fistas he organized during the annual celebrations of the fall of Constantinople last month, it also demonstrates that nearly six centuries later, Ottomans continue to link their culture to conquest, sporting others' creations as their own. This was not unlike a major tourism campaign run some years ago by Turkey across New York's mass transit system, where it advertised itself as the “cradle of Western civilization” and featured images of the Hagia Sophia and ancient ruins at Ephesus, among other stolen Hellenic cultural artifacts.

Ex-Turkish premier Ahmet Davutoglu was famous for trying to export his vision of neo Ottomanism throughout the region. Fortunately, in this instance, Erdogan's megalomania proved advantageous to Hellenism because Davutoglu was a very capable diplomat, and thankfully his tenure was cut short.

Aside from Turkey, those wannabes in Skopje have made usurping Greek identity their raison d'être. The Internet, textbooks, journalistic pieces, etc. are replete with historical revisionism which is as irredentist as it is kitschy. Nonetheless, the government of this mady-by-Tito statelet knows full well that if it does not continue to propagate its falsehoods regarding the region of Macedonia, its very existence will be threatened because of the strong Albanian and Bulgarian ethnic elements lying within its made-up borders. Undoubtedly, this new exhibition at the National Geographic serves as a resounding answer (far more effective than any Greek efforts at the United Nations or demarches to individual countries) to set the record straight regarding the genuine Hellenic identity of Macedonia.

Undoubtedly, Greece's rich cultural tradition beginning from antiquity, and proceeding through Hellenistic times, the Byzantine era (Romanity), the period of Ottoman occupation – when Hellenic culture continued to shine in the Diaspora communities and was remarkably preserved by the subjugated Greeks who remained ever conscious of their Roman citizenship –, and the modern Greek period, which also inspired many philhellenes, provides a seemingly inexhaustible array of themes and cultural propositions that would interest a global audience.

Consider alone, just how many people all over America (and the world) would love to speak Greek just to understand the Bible in its original language, or to hear Homer's poetry in its genuine form? Then ask yourselves why so few Hellenic communities or institutions offer classes in these studies, and you'll see why we're lagging so far behind in cultural diplomacy.

Follow me on Twitter @CTripoulas

Should Greece Consider Cuba’s Way Out of Poverty?

By Dr. Dimitra Kamarinou

Greece and Cuba are not comparable. The problem in Greece is that the austerity measures won't contribute to the development of the country unless a smart strategy will be designed and implemented, which by using Greece's social, natural and cultural assets will create long-term sustainable competitive advantages. “But Greece doesn't produce anything”. What if the emphasis shifts from goods and productivity to services, like tourism? Can tourism become a structural factor of a country's economy?

Cuba offers a rare example in international history of a country in deep depression that based its dynamic structural transformation on the development of tourism.

Havana Vieja was sunk into darkness, when my plane landed. The taxi's headlines swept out worn out house facades. I could feel the deep holes on the road under the wheels of the old Lada. A sense of the scary unknown grabbed my stomach. When I finally reached my casa particulares, I asked in Spanish Sergio, the apartment owner, what was happening. “Blackouts happen quite often in Cuba”.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union Cuban economy was sent into a rapid and deep recession. Cuba relied heavily on Soviet Union for substantial aid, mainly oil, chemical fertilizers, pesticides and farm products in exchange for a sheltered market for its sugar. 50% of Cuba's food was imported. Its own agricultural production dropped seriously without the fertilizers and the pesticides. Severe shortages of consumer goods, services and above all food occurred. In order to alleviate the crisis the government took limited free-market oriented measures, which included allowing some self-employment in light manufacturing sectors and certain retail, the legalization of the U.S. dollar in business and the strategic development of tourism.

Ten years ago, the sugar in-



WIKIPEDIA

A street in Trinidad, Cuba, showing the ravages of the economic crisis.

dustry provided 75% of the income of the balance of payments, while the tourist sector accounted for only 6%. In ten years tourism in Cuba has converted into the most dynamic sector of its economy contributing to 43% to the income of the balance of payments tripling its market share of Caribbean tourism.

How can a country multiply the number of visitors and double the number of jobs in the tourist sector?

First of all, by providing sufficient and qualitative accommodation. Besides hotel accommodation increasingly popular for tourists are the casas particulares, private residencies offering bed and breakfast services. Being less expensive than hotels they give the tourists the opportunity to engage in the Cuban life. By generating about 20% of industry income they result to a significant support of local households.

Air and land transportation was improved. Though Cubans use old trucks – known to us only from WWII films – a new bus transportation system and a destinations network have been developed for the tourists.

A decisive step for Cuban tourism economy was the intro-

duction of a second currency just for the tourists. Every tourist who enters the country has to exchange his money with the Cuban Convertible Peso (CUC) (rate 1 USD=1 CUC). The prices of the tourist amenities and services are comparable to those in Central Europe. A night at a hotel double-room in Varadero costs 100 CUC, equivalent to the monthly salary of a University Professor in Havana. “I need two months' salaries to buy a pair of shoes”, said my taxi driver who works in the morning as a teacher getting less than 30 CUC a month. Though Cubans have their own stores consisting of a few shelves with plastic bags filled with powder milk, flour, beans and rice, where they buy limited food with coupons, super markets and restaurants for tourists in European prices exist in every city.

Teaching centres educate 16,000 workers a year for tourism. Cuba invested on its culture. In every major Cuban city state-sponsored music and dance salons exist, Casa de la Musica, where tourists enjoy the most popular Cuban export these days, music and salsa. In the state-sponsored Casas de la Cultura locals and tourists can

attend classes on dance, percussion, painting, Spanish etc.

I am not suggesting a second currency for Greece. My only point is this. Cuba lacking channels of access to markets, experience in tourist operations and even infrastructure used tourism to emerge its sinking economy. Greece has these prerequisites and is a well known and sophisticated destination. Why can't Greece find a way out of the depression through the further development of the tourism sector? Why can't we design and implement a strategic plan aiming at offering year-round attractions to guarantee a steady flow of visitors, and repeat visits? It's not only Santorini and Mykonos. Each island is unique; Northern and mountainous Greece have more attractions to offer. Why can't we extend the geographical scope of tourism seeking a better balance throughout the country and promote a new markets policy?

Dimitra Kamarinou, PhD, has studied philology and archaeology at the University of Ioannina, Würzburg and Bochum in Germany. She has been honored with the Academy of Athens Award in Archaeology and Homeric Philology.

LETTER FROM ATHENS

Up in Smoke: Another Phony Greek War about Smoking

All you needed to know about the hypocrisy of the ruling Looney Left in Greece was seen on the smug pusser of Deputy Health Minister Pavlos Polakis – a surgeon – puffing away on a cigarette at a news conference pushing anti-smoking laws.

Apart from SYRIZA's Walking Dead, armchair philosophers and café rhapsodizers, no one else is really surprised Prime Minister Alexis “Che” Tsipras turned out to be an empty suit without a tie and the biggest liar this side of Pinocchio.

So, as George Carlin famously said of governments, believe nothing, zero, zilch, nanu nanu, tipota, when told this one – whose hardcore constituency can be seen at cafes gulping cappuccinos in one hand and cigarettes in the other – wants to enforce No Smoking laws.

There have been five No Smoking laws in the last decade, all of them summarily ignored, especially by Members of Parliament who light up inside the building, by people sitting in public offices where it is allegedly forbidden, by doctors inside hospitals, students and teachers inside schools, postal workers at their desks, people in restaurants and cafes where it's banned, and now ministers who are, of course, above the law.

Some 51.7 percent of Greeks over the age of 15 smoke. For the amount of cigarettes smoked, Greeks in 2014 ranked 15th in the world, consuming 2086 per year. By 2016, according to the World Atlas, Greece was second, with an average of 5,840 cigarettes per year. It seems like 5840 per day when you see them in a bar or restaurant.

If the prices are too high, they just turn to cigarette smugglers standing in the middle of

some streets selling them for far less. It wasn't that long ago you could see workers behind meat counters in supermarkets puffing away, wiping the ashes off the counter where they were putting meat.

Greeks pretty much smoke where they want without recourse of fear of punishment because there isn't any. Non-smokers have no rights and to complain in a restaurant or bar about someone smoking is to invite a beating. According to the Tobacco Atlas, cigarettes kill 25,400 people in Greece annually while 27,000 children and 3.586 million Greeks smoke. Some 29.5 percent of deaths among men are caused by cigarettes and 11.2 percent of women.

As a percentage of the price of a pack of cigarettes, Greece ranks 10th in the world at 81.6 percent but at about 4 euros, or \$4.48 per pack, it's far behind the number one priciest cigarette pack in the world, Australia at \$16.11, which is raising the tax 12.5 percent through 2020 when the price will be \$34 per pack.

The truth is that cigarettes could cost any prohibitive amount you want to name and hardcore smokers, the ones you hear screaming hysterically, “I have to have them! You don't understand!” would find a way to get them, like junkies robbing people and stealing and doing whatever it takes to get a fix.



by ANDY DABILIS
Special to The National Herald



smoking champion to take a futile stand against a losing effort.

George Behrakis, a Massachusetts-based philanthropist and former pharmaceutical company owner and philanthropist also sponsors no smoking campaigns in Greece, but, alas, his money goes up in smoke too.

Three years ago, 88 of the 300 Members of Parliament in Greece wrote an open letter complaining their colleagues were flouting the no smoking laws they had passed. The com-

plainants were ignored too.

The lawmakers wrote that, apart from assembly halls, at times there is “not a single square meter” in Parliament where the law isn't broken. Eh, this is Greece.

There actually are fines for breaking the no smoking laws and they are stiff, ranging from 50-500 euros depending on the offense but if you find someone who's been fined it will be rarer than Diogenes finding an honest man.

Starting Sept. 1, 2010 it was allegedly against the law to smoke or consume tobacco in all working places, transportation stations, in taxis and passenger ships (in trains, buses and airplanes smoking is already prohibited), as well as in all enclosed public places including restaurants, night clubs, etc., without any exception.

“Since the municipal police force was disbanded, inspections have only been carried out if someone makes a complaint to the Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention (KEELPNO),” Attica Regional Authority officials more recently told Kathimerini and a smoking hotline to report violators is out of order but no one cares.

Really heavy smokers are just sad drug addicts and say they can't stop, even if they're on oxygen while suffering from cancer, emphysema or Obstructive Chronic Pulmonary Disorder, although Mark Twain had the very last word on this: “Giving up smoking is the easiest thing in the world. I know because I've done it thousands of times.”

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