

## Turkey's U.S. Lobbyists Try to Bar Lifting of Cyprus Ban

TNH Staff

With the US Congress considering further sanctions against Turkey for its invasion of northern Syria to get at the Kurds, American allies – allowed by President Donald Trump when he removed American troops working with them against ISIS – Turkish lobbyists in Washington are trying to prevent the lifting of an arms embargo for Cyprus.

Turkey, which has occupied the northern third of the island since an unlawful 1974 invasion, keeps a 35,000-strong standing army there and has no arms restrictions like the one affecting the legitimate government that is a member of the European Union.

Turkey wants American lawmakers to drop a provision in the annual defense authorization bill that would lift the United States' three-decade arms embargo on Cyprus, reported Al-Monitor.

"The longstanding U.S. policy has purposefully not taken sides among peoples of the island or guarantor states to avoid promoting an arms race that might lead to an undesired or unintended consequences," Turkish Ambassador Serdar Kilic wrote in a pair of identical letters to the Chairman and top Republican on the House Armed Services Committee: Reps. Adam Smith, D-Wash., and Mac Thornberry, R-Texas.

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## Greece to Clear Buildings of Squatters

TNH Staff

ATHENS – With the anarchist-dominated Greek capital's neighborhood of Exarchia a hotbed of anti-establishment, anti-government activity, and almost under their control during the 4½ years of the reign of the former ruling Radical Left SYRIZA sympathetic to them, squatters living in abandoned buildings didn't have to fear being forced out.

That ended when New Democracy leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis won July 7 snap elections and targeted them as part of his plan to rein in lawlessness and violence in the neighborhood as well as others where the notorious Rouvikonas had rampaged with near-impunity, even going after SYRIZA offices as a show of its outright defiance of any government, even far-leftists.

In a feature, the news site OZY, which portrays itself as representing the Change Generation, people from every corner of the globe who are challenging the status quo and bucking convention, reported how the evictions of the squats was turned

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EUROKINISSI

## United Nations Day Marked with Acropolis Flag Ceremony

The flags of Greece and the UN flew side-by-side on the Sacred Rock, the Acropolis, on October 24 for UN Day, the anniversary of the UN Charter's entry into force in 1945. Present were Regional Gov. Dr. George Patoulis of Attica and Gaetano Leone representing the UN, co-organizers of the event, and Deputy Minister Antonis H. Diamataris representing the Greek Foreign Ministry.

## John the Greek in the Wild West

By John Sitilides

Earlier this year, my koumbaro and dear friend Angelo K. Tsakopoulos drove me to Duke's Diner in Olivehurst, CA, about 35 miles north of the state capital region of Sacramento where Angelo has achieved so much in shaping over the past half century. We stopped for a 6:30 AM breakfast en route to a tour of Angelo's growing complex of walnut orchards in one of the most beautiful farm regions in the country.

We sat down for an eye-popping breakfast of eggs, corned beef hash, grits and fresh-baked biscuits seeping with thick, creamy gravy. But even more enticing than the sumptuous meal before us was the story that was shared by the restaurant's proprietor, Mary Jane Griego. It turns out she is the

descendant of one of the first Greeks to ever cross the Rio Grande and set foot in California.

Juan Griego was born in Iraklion, Crete in 1566, the son of Lazaro Griego. One theory holds that he may have been a fellow-townsmen of Domenikos Theotokopoulos, better known as El Greco, and that his actual last name in Greek may have been equally challenging to pronounce – hence the translation to Griego, Spanish for 'the Greek'. Juan was described as having a good stature, grey-bearded with a large gash-like wound on his forehead.

Well before British settlers arrived in Jamestown, VA in 1607, or the Mayflower pilgrims landed at Plymouth, MA in 1620, 32-year old Juan Griego (John the Greek) joined the Don Juan de Oñate expedition that

set forth in 1598 from Mexico City to found a colony in New Mexico. This was part of a determined Spanish Empire campaign to evangelize the Pueblo Indians into the Roman Catholic faith.

Griego married Pascuala Bernal, an Aztec Indian from the Valley of Mexico who had acculturated to Spanish society, before embarking on the journey to New Mexico, along with his thirteen horses. Juan and Pascuala's children were consistently identified as 'mestizos', indicating a racial mixture of Caucasian and Indian.

The Oñate expedition endured an arduous 1,450-mile trek on horseback and by foot through harsh desert conditions to cross the Rio Grande.

However, that region pro-

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## Archbishop Elpidophoros Reports on Church

By Theodore Kalmoukos

NEW YORK – Presiding for the first time over a meeting of the Archdiocesan Council Arch-

bishop Elpidophoros of America, in his keynote declared that door opening ceremony for the St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church and National Shrine at the World Trade Center in Man-

hattan will take place on September 11, 2021.

He said that "we must recommence the building of the Church immediately, and open the doors by September

Eleventh, 2021, as a tribute to those who perished that fateful day, and as a lead off to the centenary year of our Holy Archdiocese."

The new Vice Chairman of the Archdiocesan Council John Catsimatidis in his speech to the Council repeated in a decisive way the declaration of the Archbishop that St. Nicholas will be ready by September 11, 2021.

Archbishop Elpidophoros, in his keynote address at the meeting at the New York Hilton Hotel, spoke with frankness, honesty, and directness about the real and existent conditions of the Archdiocese and its institutions.

He started his speech by saying that "today, just four months after my arrival in the United States, and only five months from my election as your Archbishop, I can promise each of you that our beloved Archdiocese of America is back on course and headed to the safe harbor of stability, progress, and growth. This is not to say that all the painful repercussions of the past are behind us."

He added that, "there are challenges all around us. Christianity remains under attack, Americans continue to lose their trust and faith in religion, and our own beloved Archdiocese has suffered from a lack of

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AP PHOTO/PETROS KARADJIAS

## Medieval Festival in Cyprus

In this Oct. 19 photo, a performer from Belarus in medieval costume performs music with a traditional wind instrument during the 14th Medieval Festival in Ayia Napa, Cyprus. Performers from across Europe take part in the festival every year.

## Greek Parliament Committee OK's ND Voting Scheme

TNH Staff

ATHENS – After much wrangling, a Parliament committee representing parties recommended approval for a plan by the new New Democracy government to give Greeks abroad the right to vote in national elections, with restrictions.

Interior Minister Takis Theodorikakos said lawmakers agreed that the vote will count towards the overall election result and that diaspora Greeks will be able to select among 15 (previously 12) candidates from a state list, said Kathimerini.

Voting will only take place at a Consulate or any other venue selected by the authorities and Greeks who can prove with state documents they have lived in their new country for two years over the past 35 years will be eligible to vote.

Political parties can include diaspora Greeks in their tickets, if they choose to. "It is a bill that deserves and should be voted by 300 lawmakers,"

Theodorikakos said.

The legislation requires a two-third majority (200 votes) to be ratified and New Democracy has 158 votes in the 300-member body and needed to pick up at least 42 votes from its rivals to make sure the measure would pass.

The diaspora vote has been promised by successive governments for years but is coming closer to fruition under Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis who appointed The National Herald Publisher-Editor Antonis H. Diamataris as Deputy Foreign Minister to deal with Greeks Abroad. Diamataris took a leave from the newspaper to take on the role.

Other details weren't reported, including whether there was a consensus on where the voting would take place and if electronic or voting by mail would be allowed as well too.

Before an agreement was reached there was plenty of

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## New Archons Installed at Cathedral in NY

Archbishop Elpidophoros of America installed the first group of new Archons of his tenure at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in NY on Oct. 20. At the annual Archons banquet on Oct. 19 Metropolitan Epiphanius of Kiev and All Ukraine was honored with the Athenagoras Human Rights Award (related story on page 4).

## GS VP Arrested for Insider Trading

TNH Staff

NEW YORK – On October 18, Bryan Cohen, a Goldman Sachs vice president in the Consumer Retail industry group, was arrested on charges of conspiracy to commit securities fraud and sued by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for improper use of insider information concerning impending corporate deals, Euronews reported.

Cohen, 33, "is the third Goldman Sachs employee to be charged in an insider trading scheme since May 2018," Euronews reported, adding that he was "arraigned on Friday before a U.S. magistrate judge in Manhattan and released after he posted \$250,000 and ordered to refrain from the 'conduct alleged,' according to court records. A pre-trial hearing is set for Oct. 22."

Goldman Sachs spokeswoman Nicole Sharp said on October 19 that the firm is "cooperating with the authorities

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# What You Should Definitely Pack When Visiting Greece

Planning a getaway to Greece? Whether you're traveling during the warm summer months or during the off-season, there are some essential items you'll want to have in your suitcase regardless of the season. Here is a list of what you should definitely pack when visiting Greece:



**1. A hat**  
Although it's a rather simple addition to your suitcase, with an average of 350 days of sun per year a hat is a necessity when visiting Greece. Many islands have few trees and most activities (beach-going, sailing, hiking, walking etc.) will be outdoors. It's best to choose a hat that provides coverage for your face and neck and that is made of a light-colored, breathable material.

**2. High SPF sunblock**  
In addition to hats, a high SPF sunblock is a must when visiting Greece as sun can be intense even during the fall and winter. Sunblock is available from the local grocery stores and pharmacies but these can be pricey and may not be the brands you are used to. To be safe, pack your favorite sunblock from home.

**3. Good quality sunglasses**  
Again, due to the sun's intensity, a good pair of sunglasses with UV protection is a necessity year-round. In the summer, nearly every day is sunny and in the autumn/winter natural filters like deciduous trees and other plants have lost their leaves. Your sunglasses needn't be expensive, but should have

wide, dark-tinted lenses.

**4. Mosquito repellent**  
Restaurant and bar gardens offer a beautiful, relaxing place to sit but their moisture can attract mosquitoes whenever the weather is warm. Come prepared with your own mosquito repellent and, if you are traveling with babies or young children, repellents that are approved for their age. You should also bring a mosquito net that can cover strollers and bassinets.

**5. Seasonal Clothing**  
With all the images of sunny, island destinations in Greece, visitors may have the impression that Greece is warm year-round. Most islands and the mainland, however, become quite cold in the fall and winter. It's best to research the temperatures of your destination before you



travel and pack accordingly. You may need warm sweaters, boots, and outdoor in winter and, most probably, light clothing for the summer.

**6. Appropriate Shoes**  
Comfortable footwear is important for any trip and with Greece's varied landscape, your specific destination (and the season you're travelling in) will determine the type of shoes you'll need. If you're visiting a rocky beach, consider bringing water shoes. If you've planned mountain hikes (even easy ones) pack a pair of durable walking shoes. In the winter, you'll want comfortable, waterproof boots.

**7. Power Converter**  
If you aren't visiting from continental Europe, you'll need a plug converter for cell phone chargers, laptops, and other electronic devices. Outlets in Greece are type C and F so choose an appropriate converter. There are many quality options out there; ones with USB ports are especially useful.

These are some items that you should definitely pack when visiting Greece. Having them the moment you arrive will save you time and allow you to enjoy your trip from the very first day!

This article has been released by My Greek Friend, an online travel agency specializing in creating personalized vacation packages to Greece. You can reach us out via email at [info@mygreekfriend.travel](mailto:info@mygreekfriend.travel), phone on +30 2810247365 or visit our website at [www.mygreekfriend.travel](http://www.mygreekfriend.travel).



## Best Wineries and Vineyards in Cyprus

By Aimee Laurence

Cyprus is a wonderful place to visit if you want to experience good food, wine, and beautiful landscapes, but where exactly should you go once you're in Cyprus?

Well, a winery or vineyard would be a good start for any-

one who loves wine, or even just wants to see a picturesque view while they relax, since most wineries and vineyards are located in remote towns and villages with stunning landscapes around them. You can often also end up learning more about the wine-making process and history than you ever thought you would, even if a part of you just

goes for the wine-tasting or restaurant!

In any case, a winery or vineyard should definitely be on your destination list, so now you just need to decide which you're going to visit, and how better to decide than reading a list of the best wineries and vineyards in Cyprus?

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### Tsiakkas Winery, Limassol

Tsiakkas Winery is located just a few kilometers away from Pelendri Village, surrounded by the overwhelmingly beautiful and peaceful Pitsilia mountains. A business started by Nicolas Tsiakkas selling wine off the back of a mule has led to his grandchildren achieving great success in the field of wine-making, and they produce ten different varieties of it. From five hectares of land they create wines such as the Red Zivania, aged for ten years, and the award-winning Xynisteri 2014 (at the Decanter World Wine Awards, 2008, it won a regional trophy), so there's no reason to not head over, sample the wine and even take a few bottles home. Besides, you get the opportunity to trek through the amazing wilderness surrounding the winery, which can be a blissful and calming activity, so it really is a win-win trip all around!

### Vouni Panayia Winery, Paphos

From a winery which started off the back of a mule to a completely opposite experience, we come to Vouni Panayia Winery, at the entrance to the village of Pano Panayia, a strikingly modern take on Cyprus' more traditional wineries. "If you've been to a few other wineries in Cyprus and are bored of the 'same-old same-old', then Vouni Panayia is for you," says Florence Hailey, a tech writer at Top Essay Writing and Review, "since it's open all year round and invites people in to view the latest technology in wine-making (presented in a lovely educational video) and taste the wine that they produce. Thanks to the specific grapes of this area, the wine also tastes markedly different, so you could confidently say that Vouni Panayia is just different from the rest - In a good way, of course!"

### Ktima Dafermou Winery, Larnaca

Ktima Dafermou is also rather unique, since it functions



### Zambartas Wineries, Limassol

Newly founded in just 2006, this is a family-run business working out of the Limassol region. Since it is relatively new, the winery is still (understandably) expanding, but this just means that new and exciting changes are likely to have happened every new time that you visit the winery! "For me, the best wine available in the Zambartas Wineries would have to be their flagship wine, the Zambartas Rose. Rose petal, cherry and strawberry is a unique and exciting combination which works excellently, and shows off their fresh perspective in the world of Cyprus' wineries." Karen Sane, a survey analyst at State Of Writing and Bestbritishessays, says. "It's a new outlook on an old, old art-form, and it works surprisingly well! With tours available all year round, I'd gladly recommend that anyone visit this up and coming new winery!"

Aimee Laurence is a marketer and blogger

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His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros was honored by AHEPA Delphi Chapter #25 with the Board of Governors award. Left to right, AHEPA Supreme Vice President Jimmy Kokotas, Supreme President George Horiates, Ted Klingos, Louis Katsos, Archbishop Elpidophoros, Delphi Chapter President, Michael Papaphotes, Basil Katsamakis, Argyris Argitakos, and Jimmy Douloubakis.



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros

PHOTOS: TNH/KOSTAS BEJ

## AHEPA Delphi Chapter #25 Honors Archbishop Elpidophoros

By Vasili Voultzos

NEW YORK – AHEPA Delphi Chapter #25 of Manhattan honored His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America at their annual dinner gala at the Loeb Boathouse in Central Park on October 21.

The event began with appetizers and cocktails, followed by the speeches, an award presentation, and a formal dinner. Nicole Petallides, the well-known news presenter, was the emcee, while soprano Anastasia Zanis performed the American and Greek National Anthems. His Eminence then gave the invocation.

Petallides addressed Archbishop Elpidophoros and noted that the community is excited about the goals he has set and

intends “to support both you and the promotion of your goals.”

She added, “the exciting news is that AHEPA has raised \$1 million to build the historic St. Nicholas Church and His Eminence will lead us there, to the World Trade Center, in 2021 on the twentieth anniversary of 9/11.”

A number of speakers gave details on AHEPA’s contributions to the Community since its inception and on the Archbishop’s Christian ethos and his contributions to Orthodoxy. Among the speakers at the event was Consul General of Greece in New York Konstantinos Koutras, AHEPA Chapter #25 President George Eliopoulos, Chairman of the Board of Governors and past chapter president Louis Katsos,

and AHEPA Supreme President George Horiates. Consul General Koutras said, “I take this opportunity to congratulate the members of AHEPA on their initiative to honor our Archbishop tonight. AHEPA’s mission is to promote Hellenism and Orthodoxy. Al-

though His Excellency’s ascension to the Archdiocese is very recent, expectations for his work are at the same time very high. And they are high because we have confidence in his ability to achieve his goals.”

“I am very proud to preside over such a historic chapter,” George Eliopoulos, Chapter President, said. He noted that “what we do and what we accomplish reveals who we are as human beings. Thank you all for your trust and generous support.”



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Katsos referred to the history and mission of AHEPA, and spoke of its’ founding in 1922 when the Hellenic community in the United States faced open hostility and racism. He noted the discrimination and attacks from the Ku Klux Klan and the

anti-Hellenism characterized by violence and boycotting of Hellenic-owned businesses. In response to these extreme phenomena, and in order to help Greek immigrants, AHEPA was founded.

He also mentioned the upcoming ‘OXI Day’, October 28, noting that it was a turning point in World War II and also for the Hellenes living in the United States whose image changed from then on partly through AHEPA and its contributions to the war effort as this year marks the 80th anniversary of the start of WWII.

Supreme President Horiates, referring to the Archbishop, noted in his speech, “Your Eminence, you are here to be honored by us, but in reality, you are honoring us all with your

presence.”

“Thank you all for your warm welcome,” said Archbishop Elpidophoros of America after accepting the award. “For many years I have seen the tremendous work AHEPA has produced, not only in America but around the world,” he added, while praising the ideal combination of love and Orthodox faith that distinguishes the organization’s spirit of giving.

Among those present at the event were Consul of Greece Lana Zochiou, John Catsimatidis and his wife Margot, Fr. Alex Karloutsos, AHEPA Executive Director Basil Mossaidis, President of the Federation of Hellenic Societies Cleanthis Meimaroglou, Atlantic Bank President Nancy Papaioannou, and Chryssa Avrami.

## MGSA’s 26th Biennial Symposium in Sacramento, Nov. 7-10

By Eleni Sakellis

SACRAMENTO, CA – The Modern Greek Studies Association (MGSA), celebrating its 52nd anniversary this year, holds its 26th Biennial Symposium at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Sacramento, November 7-10. Katerina Lagos, Professor of History and Director of the California State University, Sacramento Hellenic Studies Program, is hosting the event and is also the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee.

The Symposium is organized by MGSA Executive Board, the Program Committee, and the Local Arrangements Committee.

Prof. Lagos spoke with The National Herald about the Symposium and ushering in the next 50 years of the MGSA. She noted the inclusivity and diversity of the program which includes topics from all aspects of Modern Greek Studies, not only related to 1821, but from throughout Greek history and up to present day such as traditional Greek music in the 20th century, gender issues, and the effects of the crisis. Prof. Lagos pointed out that everyone is welcome, scholars from various backgrounds, from the most seasoned professors to graduate students.

TNH: Could you tell us a bit about what attendees can look forward to at the event?

Prof. Katerina Lagos: The conference will provide an opportunity to engage in the current areas of research and issues facing Greece and the Greek diaspora. The topics that will be covered span literature, music, religion, politics, history, economics, and identity. This symposium brings together researchers from around the world in different points in their career to discuss the topics and issues affecting Greeks and Greece.

TNH: How long did it take to put the Symposium together?

KL: The conference took about two years to plan and I had submitted my conference proposal for the February 2017 Executive Board meeting and was awarded the 2019 conference. The preparations have been a team effort both from the Hellenic Studies committee at Sacramento State University and with the MGSA Executive Board.

TNH: What is the most rewarding aspect of the MGSA’s Biennial Symposia?

KL: This has been a labor of love for me so that I could bring the symposium to the West Coast and to usher in the next 50 years of the MGSA. My hope is that the diversity and inclusivity of the organization continues to expand. Our keynote lecturers will also reflect on the next chapter of Greek studies as

they speak on Greek studies in the 21st century. One of my greatest achievements was to secure \$20,000 to help underwrite the travel costs for scholars who come from abroad – especially Greece and Turkey. I hope that everyone enjoys the topics covered in the conference and the discussions that will follow.

Among the speakers will be Lieutenant Governor of California Eleni Tsakopoulos Kounalakis, Sacramento State University President Robert S. Nelsen, MGSA President Franklin Hess of Indiana University Bloomington, Program Committee Chair Thomas W. Gallant of the University of California, San Diego, and Prof. Lagos.

The keynote speakers Artemis Leontis, C. P. Cavafy Professor of Modern Greek & Comparative Literature and Department of Classics Chair at the University of Michigan, and Antonis Liakos, Emeritus Professor of Contemporary History at the National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, will discuss Modern Greek Studies in the 21st Century: Views from History and Literature.

The opening night of the Symposium also includes the presentation of awards honoring the competition winners in the following categories: books, dissertations, edited volumes, translations, and graduate student essays. A reception and music concert featuring Orestis Koletsos and his band rounds out the opening night’s program.

More information about MGSA’s 26th Biennial Symposium, including the complete program, is available online: [mgsasyposium.org](http://mgsasyposium.org).

At a previous MGSA Symposium, left to right: Michaela Iatrou, Dia Philippides, Rhea Lesage, Harold Leich, and George Paganelis.



COURTESY OF THE MGSA, WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO JOHN O. IATRIDES, LILY MACRAKIS, AND VICTOR PAPACOSMA  
A historic photo from the MGSA Poros 1973 Summer Seminar including Edmund and Mary Keeley and Lily Macrakis.

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# Princess Katherine on the American Associates of the Saint Catherine Fdn.

By Eleni Sakellis

**NEW YORK** – The American Associates of the Saint Catherine Foundation will hold a benefit dinner in aid of the foundation on Monday, October 28, at the Union Club in New York City. The American Associates and its related organizations in Great Britain and Switzerland support conservation work at Saint Catherine's Monastery in Sinai, Egypt. The American Associates is a 501(c) (3) charity, established in 1997.

Saint Catherine's Monastery is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, so named for its cultural and religious significance. Saint Catherine's is one of the best preserved early Christian sites. Renowned for its architecture, icons, and manuscripts, the monastery has been continuously occupied since the sixth century. This is the home of the Codex Sinaiticus, the world's oldest bible. Only part of the manuscript remains here, although the library collection is large and important.

There are some 3,500 bound manuscripts and 2,000 scrolls in 11 different languages, as well as more than 5,000 early printed books. The collection contains the world's largest single surviving accumulation of Byzantine bindings. The Syriac and Arabic manuscripts represent a remarkable, virtually untouched, collection of early manuscripts in their original bindings. Among the early printed books are finely printed Greek texts from most of the major European printers. Some are in fine bindings and others are in even rarer contemporary interim bindings of parchment and paper.

The American Associates has funded a diverse range of projects. More than \$6 million has been spent to date. The President of the Board of Directors, HRH Crown Princess Katherine of Serbia, spoke with The National Herald about the foundation and its vital efforts to preserve the unique monastery.

**TNH:** What is the greatest challenge facing the Foundation today?

**HRH Crown Princess Katherine of Serbia:** The foundation is facing multiple challenges, not just one. Not everyone knows about the monastery. It's in a remote part of the world, the Sinai Desert, in a country, Egypt, that also faces many challenges. We are doing our best to make the monastery known and get the message of conservation out. Fundraising is a big concern for us. In 20 years, the foundation has spent more than \$5 million. We've just completed the first phase of a big project to renovate the monastery's main building and improve the facilities in the library on the second floor. We have had to pause the second phase while we raise the



TNH/KOSTAS BEI

At the 2018 benefit in New York for the American Associates of the Saint Catherine Foundation, left to right: Sherri Kaufman, HRH Crown Princess Katherine of Serbia, Permanent Representative of Greece to the UN Ambassador Maria Theofilis, Libby Angeliades, and Lila Lalaounis.

funds we need. Right now, the conservation of the monastery's thousands of manuscripts and scrolls is our main priority. We have launched a new project to provide individual conservation boxes for the most fragile manuscripts. The boxes are specially designed for the climate of Sinai. They are made of hand-welded and finished stainless steel. One box costs \$1,000. A first run of 600 boxes has been manufactured. We need new funds to make about 1,500 more. We depend on individual contributions, which is daunting.

**TNH:** What is the most rewarding aspect of working with the Foundation?

**HRH:** It is a blessing for me personally to be able to help the monastery. It's a true symbol of peace and tolerance, a place that's important to people of different faiths and backgrounds. Christians revere Sinai, but so do Jews and Muslims. It's incredible to think that the Burning Bush that Moses saw still exists, and

that it's growing in the monastery. Mount Sinai is here too, the mountain of Moses and the Ten Commandments. There's even a mosque in the monastery and, more astonishing, an ancient document with the handprint of Muhammad. After all these centuries, it is still protecting the monastery.

I feel very privileged to be able to contribute to the conservation effort. The monastery is a UNESCO World Heritage Site now. We need to preserve it for our children and grandchildren. I have a new great-granddaughter, and I want the monastery to be there for her.

**TNH:** How can people participate?

**HRH:** We need everyone's support. Our membership is international. You can join via our website, [www.saintcatherine-foundation.org](http://www.saintcatherine-foundation.org). You can read news about the monastery and the foundation online and buy our charity Christmas cards. The cards are fully sponsored by EFG

Bank, which means that 100% of the profits benefit our work, not just a small percentage. The same is true of the books we publish. Everyone is welcome to come to the Benefit Dinner we are organizing. It will be on Monday, October 28 at the Union Club in New York City. Andre Gregory is the person to contact for information and tickets. Call him on 914-715-3030 or send an email to [agregory33@gmail.com](mailto:agregory33@gmail.com).

**TNH:** What can we look forward to for the future of the Foundation?

**HRH:** We are committed to completing the boxing of the manuscripts. We also plan to create a conservation workshop and digitization studio in the main monastery building, but more structural work is needed first. An online catalogue of the library is planned in coordination with Ligatus-University of the Arts London. The work of conservation at Sinai will go on long beyond our lifetimes.

## Elios Charitable Fdn's 12th Charity Ball

TNH Staff

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Elios Charitable Foundation announced plans for the upcoming biennial Hellenic Charity Ball, scheduled for Saturday, November 16 at San Francisco's historic Westin St. Francis hotel on Union Square. This year's formal dinner dance and awards show will honor four prominent Greek-Americans for their extraordinary work in the arts and entertainment industry: Broadway and Hollywood actor Dennis Boutsikaris; award-winning author and HBO writer/producer George Pelecanos; acclaimed dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Constance Stamatiou; and world-renowned film and television animation director and creator Aliko Theofilopoulos.

This year's sold-out Hellenic Charity Ball, the 12th since its inception in 1997, will be hosted by popular television and Broadway stars Marilu Henner and Constantine Maroulis. The evening will begin at 6 PM with a lavish cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception, and will include a silent auction of one-of-a-kind sporting, travel and leisure, and entertainment opportunities.

Beginning at 7 PM, guests will be seated for a three-course dinner and enjoy a lively-awards show with this year's honorees. Live dinner music will be provided by Mediterranean

as President Roarke in Quantic and many appearances on Law and Order. He has earned numerous awards for his work on over 140 audiobooks.

George Pelecanos is a novelist, screenwriter, film and television producer, and the recipient of numerous international writing awards. He is the author of 21 novels set in and around Washington, D.C., and was a producer and writer on the HBO series The Wire, Treme, The Pacific, and The Deuce. In Entertainment Weekly, author Stephen King wrote that Pelecanos is "perhaps the greatest living American crime writer." Pelecanos quickly pointed out that King used the word "perhaps."

Constance Stamatiou is a dancer with the world acclaimed Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, a company she first joined in 2007. She has performed at the White House Dance Series and has been a guest performer on So You Think You Can Dance, Dancing with the Stars, TED Talk, Logo's Trailblazer Honors, and The Today Show. On film, she danced in Shake, Rattle & Roll and in Dan Pritzker's Bolden. She is a certified Gyrotonic and Gyrokinesis instructor.

Aliko Theofilopoulos, a native of Southern California, launched her career animating on iconic Disney films including Hercules and Tarzan before moving into the world of televi-



Journalist Markos Kounalakis and his wife Lieutenant Governor of California Eleni Kounalakis, with her father Angelo Tsakopoulos at the Elios Hellenic Charity Ball in San Francisco.

FILE/DREW ALITZER PHOTOGRAPHY

Soul featuring Christos Sarantakis on bouzouki and Venetia Phillips on trumpet. Mediterranean Soul returns for live Greek dancing following the Award Show featuring special guest vocalist Evgenia. Cloud 9, the Bay Area's premier party band, tops off the evening with its high-energy Top 40 favorites, pop hits, and more.

Elios Charitable Foundation President and Chair John Gumas commented, "On behalf of the Elios Charitable Foundation, it is my honor to announce the details of this year's Hellenic Charity Ball, a biennial evening that rallies and unifies Greek Americans while reaffirming the essence of our being Greek, our philotimo. I'm proud we can celebrate our distinguished honorees and at the same time, raise financial support and awareness of our Hellenic beneficiaries. It is the support of these programs that truly informs our path forward as proud Greek Americans and Philhellenes."

### ABOUT THE 2019 HONOREES

Dennis Boutsikaris has received the prestigious Obie Award twice for his theatrical work. He was the first American to play Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on Broadway in Amadeus. His Broadway credits include Filuemma (directed by Sir Laurence Olivier), Bent and the 2009 revival of Brighton Beach Memoirs. His many films include The Bourne Legacy, Money Monster, Oliver Stone's W, Dream Team and Crocodile Dundee 2. On television, he can currently be seen as Richard Schweikert in Better Call Saul,

tion as a story artist, writer, director and executive producer. Theofilopoulos co-directed, wrote and storyboarded the first Minnie Mouse driven short on Disney's Disney Mickey Mouse and received an Annie nomination for the episode. Recently, she worked at DreamWorks as the co-executive producer on the upcoming "Unannounced" series as well as serving as the supervising producer on the Harvey Girls Forever. For Walt Disney Animation, she served as the storyboard artist, writer and Emmy-nominated lyricist for the acclaimed and long-running cartoon, Phineas and Ferb, helping to give shape to the characters, their stories and overall tone of the show. Her many credits include work with Nickelodeon Animation, Warner Brothers Television Animation, Hanna-Barbera Productions and others.

At the heart of the not-for-profit Elios Charitable Foundation, the group's mission is to preserve and foster the values of Hellenic culture. Through its grants and sponsored projects and programs, the Foundation strives to position Elios as a leader in the community and to make a positive impact in the lives of Greek Americans and Philhellenes.

The leadership of the Elios Charitable Foundation includes: John Gumas, president and chair; Patrick Mockler, vice president; Philip Economopoulos, secretary; and Michael Kasolas, treasurer; Frosene Phillips, executive director.

More information about the 2019 Hellenic Charity Ball is available online: [elios.org](http://elios.org).

## Metropolitan Epiphanius of Kiev Honored with Athenagoras Human Rights Award

By Christodoulos Athanasatos

**NEW YORK** – His Beatitude Metropolitan Epiphanius of Kiev and All Ukraine was honored as the 2019 recipient of the Athenagoras Human Rights Award. The Award was presented by the Order of Saint Andrew, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, at the organization's annual banquet on October 19 at the New York Hilton Hotel.

Archon Michael Psaros gave the welcoming remarks at the event and introduced the speakers. The first greeting was given by Archon Ekdikos John Halecky Jr., and the event was co-ordinated by Archon Ekdikos John Zavitsanos.

In his speech, the National Commander of the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle, Dr. Anthony J. Limberakis, referred to the issue of religious freedom in the shadow of the major ecclesiastical theme raised by the proclamation of the Autocephaly of the Ukrainian Church.

His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in his message noted that "the Ecumenical Patriarchate also considered that there was a moral obligation and responsibility to give autocephaly to the sacred and historical Church of Ukraine."

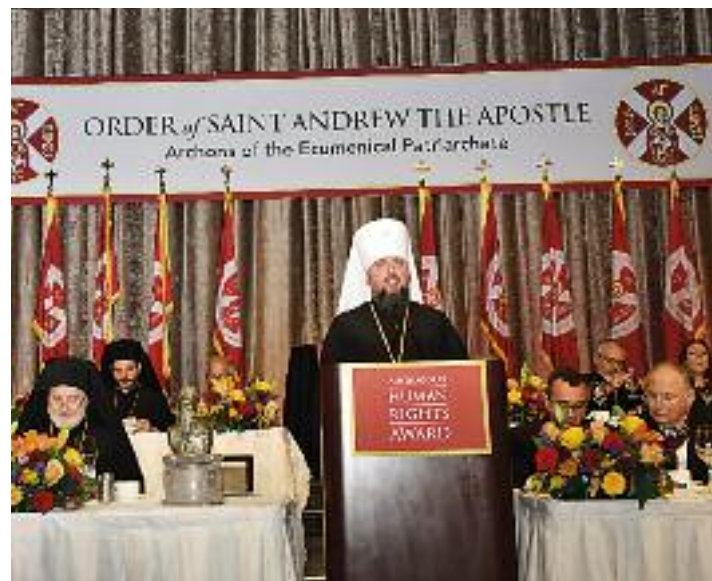
"The Church operates under the rule of freedom, love and unity," said Patriarch Bartholomew, and expressed the belief that "Ukraine's freedom and independence followed canonically and lawfully the direction of the faithful and its communities, which have every right to a Church that responds to their ecclesiastical and cultural roots."

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America attended the annual dinner for the first time as head of the Greek Orthodox Church in America and emphasized that "the occasion is in honor of Metropolitan Epiphanius, especially important to him, as he stands for the particular spiritual significance of the Ukrainian Church and Kiev as an Orthodox spiritual center."

Archbishop Elpidophoros, continued, addressing Metropol-



TNH/KOSTAS BEI



His Beatitude Metropolitan Epiphanius of Kiev and All Ukraine was honored as the 2019 recipient of the Athenagoras Human Rights Award by the Order of Saint Andrew, Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Diaspora," said Metropolitan Epiphanius, who spoke in his native language.

During the event, Archon Skevophylax Constantine Caras announced the names of the new members of the Order, who were recognized and applauded by the audience.

Also present at the event were His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, formerly of America, Rep. Carolyn Maloney, Consul General of Greece in New York Konstantinos Koutras, Consul of Greece Lana Zochiou, Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus Alexis Pheonon-Vadet, Permanent Representative of Greece to the UN Ambassador Maria Theofilis and her counterpart from the Republic of Cyprus Ambassador Andreas Mavroyianis, Metropolitan Alexis of Atlanta, and New York State Assemblymember Nicole Malliotakis, among many others.

itan Epiphanius: "The restoration of most of the Orthodox Christians in Ukraine and the subsequent founding of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which came out of its own internal processes, which you have chosen to lead, and the Autocephaly received from the Ecumenical Patriarchate is an achievement. For that, you deserve our congratulations and we declare you, Axios (Worthy)."

In his speech, Metropolitan Epiphanius noted that he accepted the award as a represen-

tative of millions of Ukrainian Orthodox, in Ukraine and the Diaspora.

"If this Prize were exclusively for me, I would hesitate to accept it, as I do not consider myself worthy to be among these prominent people and organizations who have been honored over the last thirty years. However, I will accept it with gratitude, not as a personal reward for myself, but as the fruit of the work of hundreds of thousands – or even millions – of Orthodox Ukrainians, both in our country and in the

## HRF and HAOC Present Night at the Opera, Nov. 23

TNH Staff

**NEW YORK** – The Hellenic Relief Foundation, in cooperation with the Hellenic American Opera Company, presents Night at the Opera: A Journey through 250 Years of Greek Music at the Bruno Walter Auditorium at Lincoln Center, 111 Amsterdam Avenue in Manhattan, on Sunday, November 23, 7 PM.

All net proceeds will benefit future food distributions to families in need in Greece.

The Hellenic American

Opera Company performers with Artistic Director Pavlos Kordis and Pianist and Musical Director Justin Pieper include: Demetrios Jussi Tsinopoulos, Melina Jaharis, Stella Papatheodorou, Nina Kassis, and Xeni Tziouvaras.

Ticket Prices: \$50, \$65, \$75. For reservations: 954-294-7680.

The Hellenic Relief Foundation Inc. is a nonprofit organization (501(c)3) and was founded in February of 2012, with the goal of raising funds in



the United States to be used towards the purchase of food items, and other basic necessities for the underprivileged in Greece that have increased in numbers due to the current crisis.

To date, approximately \$225,000 have been remitted, with these funds, approximately 240 tons of aid has been purchased and distributed, in monthly deliveries, to about 15,000 families in need.

For more information: [www.hellenicrelief.org](http://www.hellenicrelief.org).

COURTESY OF THE HELLENIC RELIEF FOUNDATION

# Prof. Flora Karagianni Lectures on Alexander the Great's Legacy

By Eleni Sakellis

NEW YORK – This year, the 13th Annual New York City Greek Film Festival (NYCGFF) was dedicated to Alexander the Great and featured a digital exhibition on the rare manuscript commissioned by Alexios III Megas Komnenos – The Grand Commene – of Trebizond in the 12th century on the life of the legendary military commander and conqueror of the then-known world. The manuscript held by the Hellenic Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies in Venice includes 250 illuminations illustrating the life of Alexander from his birth in Pella to his death at the age of 33 in 356 BC.

On October 18, the NYCGFF in association with the Pan Macedonian Association USA, the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, and the Treasury, NYC, presented a lecture by Professor Flora Karagianni on The Legend of Alexander the Great from the Hellenistic to the Byzantine Oecumene (World).

Event organizer Nektarios S. Antoniou, Founding Director and Curator, the Treasury, NYC, gave the welcoming remarks thanking NYCGFF Managing and Artistic Director Maria Tzompanaki for her efforts, and then acknowledging all those present for their interest and support. Antoniou noted that Deacon Spyridon from Halki was representing His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros who



Nektarios Antoniou gave the welcoming remarks at the event.

unfortunately could not attend the lecture due to other commitments. Also among those in attendance was Consul General of Greece in New York Konstantinos Koutras, Cultural Attache Evelyn Kanellea, Dr. Charalampos Chotzakoglou, Stavros Kamilaris, Aris and Marilena Christodoulou, Jeannie Kourou, and many members of the community.

Prof. Karagianni has studied History and Archaeology in the Department of History and Archaeology at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, where she continued her postgraduate

studies on Byzantine Archaeology and Art. Later on, she received a diploma in Theology from the Theological School of the same university. Since 1995, she has been working in the Ministry of Culture, whereas she has taught courses on Byzantine Art and Archaeology at the International Hellenic University, the University of Thessaly, the Technological Institute of Larissa, and at the School of Guides. Her academic interests include topics in the field of architecture, art, and iconography. She has written two books, edited nine others, participated

in many international and Hellenic conferences, published more than 40 studies, and has given lectures in Greece and abroad on Byzantine archaeology and art. She has particularly undertaken the scientific organization of conferences and exhibitions for several Byzantinological topics in Greece and abroad. Since March 2017, she has been appointed as Ephor to the Patriarchal Foundation for Patristic Studies, where she recently organized the exhibition, Our Sacred Beauty: Byzantine Icons from Thessaloniki.

Prof. Karagianni's lecture re-

counted the fascinating life of Alexander the Great and how his story captivated and continues to captivate the world, inspiring artists and authors centuries after his death. The manuscript in the digital exhibition is just one of many examples from the Byzantine era

spread throughout his journey and his short life.

Prof. Karagianni also spoke about the summer school program which brings scholars from around the world to Thessaloniki and Cyprus for Byzantine studies. Finding the tomb of Alexander, she noted would



Left to right: Event organizer Nektarios Antoniou, Prof. Flora Karagianni, and Consul General of Greece in New York Konstantinos Koutras.

which showed how far-reaching Alexander's influence was throughout the known world from East to West, transcending language, culture, and even religion to highlight Hellenistic ideals and values that Alexander

be the find of the century, or rather centuries.

A lively Q&A session followed Prof. Karagianni's informative lecture which added further insight into the legacy of Alexander the Great.

# "Magic Always Happens" for Autism: An Interview with Dr. Papanephytou

By Aria Socratous

Dr. Neophytos (Neo) Papanephytou is a Professor of Psychology at the City University of New York (CUNY) and several other institutions, a renowned clinical psychologist who maintains a clinical practice in New York and in New Jersey and is the Founder and President of the nonprofit organization Magic Always Happens, which envisions a world with full services offered to all people on the autism spectrum. He recently spoke with The National Herald about his endeavors and his upcoming book presentation Autism 360 Degrees, at the St George Church in Piscataway, NJ.

**The National Herald:** What inspired you to be a child psychologist and how are you able to cope up with so many activities at the same time?

**Neophytos Papanephytou:** Agape for our fellow human being is an integral part of our existence on this planet. Children are, by definition, a very vulnerable segment of our population. At the same time they can master tremendous levels of learning and exhibit internalized resilience. Plus, with children, there is always more hope! They can learn and process, adjust, adapt and adopt new lifestyles through healthy means of psychotherapy or other therapy. Most importantly, they have a whole lifetime to do this!

Certain developmental experiences we go through in life shape our destiny and choices, both on a personal and a professional level. Coming from a family with a long history of pro-social activity with the 'religious element' embedded in it, giving and helping our fellow humans, must have made a difference in my life and personal development. Mind you, 'spirituality' is what I find to be the key element in one's personal path of development, not necessarily 'religion' per se.

As Erik Erikson discusses in what he calls the Generativity vs. Stagnation stage of cultural development, most socially educated humans do wish to leave something behind for the generations to come – once they reach a certain age. This, mind you, is a healthy element of human nature. Kohut would have described this behavior as an element of our "healthy narcissistic side."

**TNH:** In 2015 you formed the non-profit organization for autism, Magic Always Happens, which is solely composed of volunteer experts from some of the world's most prestigious research institutions and universities. What was the initial motivation for creating it?

**NP:** The motivation for creating our first non-profit organization, Magic Always Happens, Inc., in New Jersey was the same as with the motivation to create our second non-profit organization, Magic Always Happens Cyprus, in Cyprus. Having completed my postdoctoral studies, and having followed up with my 2-year long (additional) specialization training at the University of Massachusetts in Boston, in Infant Parent Mental Health, I felt ready to embark on a fruitful journey with colleagues and friends that would bring positive change in our World. A journey that would enable all of the luminary experts I met at Harvard, and other universities and research institutions around the World, who truly wished to help us contribute in the field of autism, in particular. These experts include people who have devised the latest best practices in diverse scientific fields such as psychotherapy, occupational therapy, architecture, biochemistry, psychiatry, education, nutrition, physical education, molecular biology, etc.

**TNH:** On October 27 you will be presenting the book Autism 360 Degrees at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Piscataway under the auspices of the Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus in New York, Alexis Phedonos-Vadet. Can you give us more details about it?

**NP:** Our book Autism 360 Degrees constitutes the epitome of our research and overall work on best practices – to date! This book literally contains the works of many of the luminary experts we have with us (Think Tank) who practice, conduct research, publish, and guide all research and other centers around the world as to the way forward in their respective fields of expertise/therapies. What is truly unique in reference to this book is that, based on our thesis and worldview, a '360' approach is established when looking at autism – when experiencing the world through an autistic person's mind, and while applying



Dr. Neophytos (Neo) Papanephytou.

the latest best practices available to us.

This book is a real breakthrough as scientists around the globe may now begin to understand that nutrition, architecture, sound-proofing, light-monitoring, and gardening, for example, are as important as other elements needed for treatment such as psychotherapy, occupational, speech or other therapies. We have managed to show the need, the effectiveness and the necessity of having all experts come from all fields of education, medicine, research, etc. together. The autistic person and their family remain in the center of our efforts. The creation of our (model) International Center for Excellence – as we have been proposing since 2013 to UMASS/Boston and to the Yale Child Study Center (both for NY and Cyprus) is in our crosshairs! All of our efforts are also geared toward this achievement.

The event taking place on October 27 in Piscataway, NJ is significant. It is the first presentation of this extremely important book following its publication. In a way, we had to present our first 'Autism360' book in New Jersey as this State is the 'birthplace' of our non-profit. It was also important to welcome colleagues, friends, and the public in a venue that is appropriate in the metaphorical sense as well. Caring, consideration and love

toward our fellow human beings is emphasized in every religion, let alone the Greek Orthodox religion.

The fact that H.E. the Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus in New York took this event under his wing in the most formal fashion speaks volumes. In a way, this is a follow-up event to the first event we had organized at the Consulate in New York in 2015 (though at that time we had not been formed as a formal non-profit organization). During that event we had the great fortune of having the former minister of health, Dr. Philipos Patsalis, with us. He, as well as three luminary experts, addressed the attendees. At the time, we also had the honor of having the support of the late TB Brazelton, MD, Emeritus Harvard Professor of Pediatrics for our efforts. Berry, sadly, passed away at the age of 99 last year.

There had been many formal events that took place along the years. On this particular occasion we remain grateful and thankful to Consul General Phedonos-Vadet, for placing this event under his auspices. We are also thankful to AHEPA Monroe Chapter 75 for sponsoring and supporting this event. We anticipate people will honor us with their presence as they have the chance to meet with the editors, and some of the contributing authors; a brief reception will fol-

low. This event welcomes all and there is free admission!

**TNH:** Please tell us about the 4th annual International Conference on Autism Treatment and Research that you are organizing in Cyprus in November.

**NP:** Our 4th Annual Cyprus International Conference on Autism (Education, Therapy) Treatment and Research will be taking place in Limassol (Venue: Curium Palace Hotel) November 16-17, 2019. Everyone may obtain further details including registration through the conference-specific website: [www.Autism360CY.com](http://www.Autism360CY.com)

During our fourth international conference we will be hosting a few luminary experts who will present their work, research and applied best practices. Parents, people on the spectrum, therapists, doctors, teachers, nurses, colleagues, friends, and the general public will benefit from attending. Information is always presented in the most understandable way in order for anyone to be able to understand, process, contribute and convey – hopefully to generalize the transfer of knowledge earned.

We must emphasize the fact that these international authorities on autism who attend our conferences are traveling to join

us without any honorarium offered. They are also interested to meet with families and autistic people in consultation, at no cost to the people on the spectrum! This has been an ongoing concern and a primary goal for our non-profit – to offer the opportunity to people to meet with the experts coming from around the world in consultation – at no cost to the family or the autistic individual. We hope to see many friends and participants take advantage of this kind offer on the part of our luminary experts!

**TNH:** What else are you currently working on?

**NP:** We are already working on our next publication and we expect that the year 2020 will render another book of extreme scientific substance. Many authors, researchers, doctors and other experts have already committed to this new publication. We invite others to join us of course, and as always, we remain open to any potential future collaboration. People may reach us via email at [neo@MagicAlwaysHappens.org](mailto:neo@MagicAlwaysHappens.org) or cell +646-439-0714 (USA) and +99 739 847 (CY). Our two websites include a lot of information and they remain a great source to many: [www.MagicAlwaysHappens.org](http://www.MagicAlwaysHappens.org) & [www.Autism360CY.com](http://www.Autism360CY.com)



**The Embassy of Greece in Washington, DC Presents Zeus the Mighty on Nov. 2**

The Embassy of Greece is once again giving children the opportunity to explore the magic of Ancient Greek Culture, by presenting the brand-new Nat Geo Kids fiction book and multimedia series Zeus the Mighty, where Greek mythology meets a tiny hamster with a thirst for power. The event takes place on Saturday, Nov. 2, 11 AM-12:30 PM at the Embassy of Greece, 2217 Massachusetts Ave. NW in Washington, DC.

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# Calamos Co-hosts 12th Annual Econ. Forecast

By TNH Staff

NAPERVILLE, IL – The Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce (NACC) and Calamos Investments will co-host the 12th Annual Economic Forecast from 4-7 PM on October 30 at Hotel Arista in Naperville, IL. The program features a panel of local and national financial experts, including John P. Calamos Sr., Founder, Chairman and Global Chief Investment Officer at Calamos Investments, who will share insight and analyses of market conditions for the coming year and giving attendees the information they need to better prepare and manage their business.

"Fears of slowing global growth, escalating trade tensions, falling rates across the world, concerns that the Federal Reserve may be less responsive than required, and mounting political uncertainty set the stage for continued market



volatility," says Calamos. "however there are opportunities amid the volatility, so expect them to be in the spotlight at this year's Forecast event."

Financial expert Terry Savage will return as session moderator. A best-selling author, regular guest on CNN and CBS, and a Chicago Tribune columnist, Savage helps consumers make sense of the markets and the economy.

"Terry does an exceptional job of working with panelists to dispense the information that is important to the future of business," said NACC President and CEO Nicki Anderson.

Joining Calamos on the expert panel are Gus Faucher,

Chief Economist for the PNC Financial Services Group, and Caroline L. Harris, Vice President, Tax Policy & Chief Tax Policy Counselor for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation.

"Every year we look forward to the insight and expertise that Mr. Calamos and other elite panelists bring to the table," said Anderson. "This event is one of the most anticipated with our chamber members simply because we have revered experts identifying how the future economy will impact our businesses, locally and globally."

Hotel Arista is located at CITYGATE, 2139 CityGate Lane

in Naperville. Check-in and cocktails will begin at 4 PM the program will start promptly at 4:30 PM. To purchase group or individual tickets, and for more information visit <https://naper.cc/economicforecast2019>

Calamos Investments LLC is a diversified global investment firm offering innovative investment strategies including U.S. growth equity, global equity, convertible, multi-asset and alternatives. The firm offers strategies through separately managed portfolios, mutual funds, closed-end funds, private funds and UCITS funds. Clients include major corporations, pension funds, endowments, foundations and individuals, as well as the consultants and financial advisors who serve them. Headquartered in the Chicago metropolitan area, the firm also has offices in London, New York, San Francisco and the Miami area. For more information visit [www.calamos.com](http://www.calamos.com).

# Goldman Sachs VP Arrested for Insider Trading

Continued from page 1

on the situation regarding Mr. Cohen. Protecting client confidential information is our highest internal priority and we condemn this alleged behavior," Euronews reported adding that Cohen's lawyer did not respond at press time to a request for comment.

George Nikas, 54, a Greek citizen is also named in the SEC complaint, Euronews reported, adding that he has homes in

New York and Athens and owns the GRK Fresh restaurant chain with locations in Manhattan among others. Nikas' lawyer was not available for comment at press time.

"The complaint says the pair participated in a scheme that netted Nikas at least \$2.6 million in illicit profits by trading shares in two companies" and "Cohen passed on non-public corporate deal information to an unnamed trader who in turn gave it to Nikas who used it to

illegally trade securities, the SEC said," Euronews reported, noting that "Cohen got cash in exchange for information he gave the trader."

The trader and Nikas "realized millions of dollars in illicit gains from trading the securities of at least two different public companies – Syngenta AG and Buffalo Wild Wings Inc – in advance of news that these companies had been targeted for acquisition," the SEC said, Euronews reported.

Nikas allegedly "profited from buying Syngenta securities in 2015 after first being passed information about Monsanto Co's proposal to acquire it and later about ChemChina's interest," the SEC said, Euronews reported.

Additional trades were prompted in October 2017 after "Cohen passed along that Arby's Restaurant Group was interested in acquiring Buffalo Wild Wings," the SEC said, Euronews reported.

# Archbishop Elpidophoros Reports on the Church

Continued from page 1

transparency, a lack of funds, and, yes, a lack of trust. We are addressing these challenges head-on, but it requires a long-term solution, not a short-term fix."

The Archbishop also said that "it is critical that we maintain our Christian and Hellenic values, traditions, culture, and mission, while ensuring that the Archdiocese's administration, operations, communications and ministries function as a modern, transparent and contemporary church, meeting the needs of our faithful." He went to emphasize that "what we genuinely want and need for our Archdiocese is transparency, accountability, and responsibility" and he added that "we all know the problems of our present circumstances and are well aware of the issues that occurred in the past. For this reason, I ask you – rather, I need you – to be committed to speaking up, speaking out, and speaking the truth in love. We must be honest with each other about the state of our Church. Silence on these grave issues is neither respectful nor useful. You are all here because you are leaders, and leaders must communicate. I expect nothing less from all of you, for we have much work to accomplish. But this is no time for pessimism. Our sights must be fixed on the future, a future that can be glorious for our Holy Orthodox Faith and our Archdiocese."

The Archbishop also emphasized that, "we are all members of one Holy Archdiocese of America. We are not divided into metropolises, and parishes, and departments, and organizations, and institutions. This is a false and worldly view that misunderstands the very nature of the Church. Rather, we are apportioned for service through all of these organs of the Church that I just mentioned. We are not and can never be divided. Just as the Breaking of the Holy Eucharist does not divide the Lord Jesus Christ, but apporions Him so that all may partake of the "Banquet of Faith," as the Holy Chrysostom says, we all have our roles and positions and vocations. But the Archdiocese is One! As the Charter from our Holy Mother Church states: "The Archdiocese, being the Eparchy of the Ecumenical Throne in the United States of America, is one indivisible entity in its entirety." (Article 3, para. a).

Speaking about Holy Cross School of Theology the Archbishop said that "I will be frank with you: our School has been sinking for a long time. I saw it myself when I taught there fifteen years ago. What is the American expression? "Kicking the can down the road." No real solutions to the current problems, but rather mortgaging the future of the clergy by virtually bankrupting the School, and ignoring the requirements of the academic accreditation agencies



ABOVE: Archbishop Elpidophoros delivers his keynote address at the first Archdiocesan Council meeting under his presidency. BELOW: The members of the Archdiocesan Council giving a standing ovation to His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros at the conclusion of his speech.



as if they were predatory lenders. I cannot tell you the shock that I felt when I learned how close we had come to losing our accreditation and our ability to even grant a degree. I say these things not in a pessimistic manner, but in a spirit of truth, concern, and love, with much hope for the future of our

School." He added that "nothing is more essential to our equipment than our Seminary, our preparatory school to ready the future generations of priests and lay leaders. We must elevate and build it up our School from its present circumstances to ensure that such dereliction never oc-

curs again." The Archbishop also emphasized that "we need to be clear-eyed about these things. Just look at the Archdiocese Registry statistics over the past twenty years; every category is falling, except funerals. But we can never accept to be a Church that is dying off."

The new Vice Chairman of the Archdiocesan Council John Catsimatidis delivers his greetings to the members of the Council.



## GOINGS ON...

### THRU DECEMBER 14

BEDFORD, NY – A Whole World, and art exhibition at Atelier Omios, 11-15 Court Rd Suite 13, runs to December 14. The exhibition title comes from one of the abstract paintings selected for the exhibit, a vast composition measuring nearly eighteen feet wide. This centerpiece of the new exhibition will hang amid an array of other stunning works depicting everything from the four seasons, fashion, to equestrians and Formula 1 racers. More information is available by phone: 914-764-2223 and online: [atelieromios.com](http://atelieromios.com).

### OCTOBER 19-28

MANHATTAN – The Loukoumi Foundation invites you to Make a Difference Week with several events, including a Mediterranean Tasting with Chef Maria Loi & Friends at the New York Athletic Club, 180 Central Park South in Manhattan, on October 28. Please visit [www.loukoumifoundation.org](http://www.loukoumifoundation.org) for details.

### OCTOBER 20-26

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – San Francisco Greek Film Festival runs October 20-26, beginning with the Opening Night film Olympia, the documentary feature on Olympia Dukakis, screening on Sunday, October 20. The Closing Night film is the poignant dramatic comedy Smuggling Hendrix, screening on Saturday, October 26 at Dolby Cinema at 1275 Market. Following the formal Closing Night, there will be a Bonus Screening on Sunday, October 27, at Delancey Street Screening Room, 600 The Embarcadero. For more info, the full program of film screenings, and tickets, visit the SFGFF website: [grfilm.com](http://grfilm.com).

### OCTOBER 25

MANHATTAN – HANAC invites you to its 47th Annual Gala honoring Nikitas Drakotos, President, M&N Management Corp., and Maria Pedemonte, Volunteer of the Year, at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 80 Columbus Circle in Manhattan, Friday, Oct. 25. Please visit [www.hanac.org](http://www.hanac.org) for tickets.

### OCTOBER 27

PISCATAWAY, NJ – Magic Always Happens, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to help raise international awareness for autism, hosts the book presentation for Autism 360 Degrees on Sunday, Oct. 27, 6 PM, at the Cultural Center of St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 1101 River Road in Piscataway. The editors and contributing authors will discuss the book, the nonprofit organization and its goal to create a Center of Excellence in Cyprus. The event is held under the auspices of the Consul General of the Republic of Cyprus in New York Alexis Phedonos-Vadet and is sponsored by AHEPA Monroe Chapter 75. A reception will follow. More information is available by phone: 732-463-1642 and online: [magicalwayshappens.org](http://magicalwayshappens.org).

LOS ANGELES – The UCLA Stavros Niarchos Foundation Center for the Study of Hellenic Culture presents a lecture by renowned author Artemis Cooper on Patrick Leigh Fermor: The Man and the Legend on Sunday, Oct. 27, 3-5 PM, at UCLA's Royce Hall, 10745 Dickson Court in Los Angeles, with a reception to follow on the Royce 306 Balcony. The event is sponsored by the Peter J. and Caroline B. Caloyeras Endowment for the Arts. More information is available online: [hellenic.ucla.edu](http://hellenic.ucla.edu).

### OCTOBER 28

MANHATTAN – The Eastern Mediterranean Business Culture Alliance (EMBCA) invites you to OXI Day (October, 28, 1940): The Turning Point of WW2, on the 80th Anniversary of the start of the war, Monday, Oct. 28, 6 PM, at the 3 West Club, 3 W. 51st Str. in Midtown Manhattan. More info available online: [embcac.com](http://embcac.com).

### OCTOBER 29

MANHATTAN – The Manhattan Chapters of the AHEPA Family, AHEPA-Delphi #25 and Daughters of Penelope-Evryklea #36, invite you to their Joint Monthly Social & Networking event at Kellari Taverna in Manhattan on Tuesday, Oct. 29, 6 PM. All existing members and those interested in becoming members are invited to attend. Please contact [ahepa25.delphinyc@gmail.com](mailto:ahepa25.delphinyc@gmail.com) for details.

### NOVEMBER 1

MANHATTAN – The Hellenic Lawyers Association invites you to its 2019 Annual Gala at The Pierre, 2 East 61st Street in Manhattan on Nov. 1, 7 PM. More information is available online: [hlany.org](http://hlany.org).

### NOVEMBER 1-3

MANHATTAN – For three performances only, Cyprus New York Productions presents Kalinichta Margarita (Goodnight Margarita) at St. Demetrios and St. George Church, 103rd Street and Lexington Avenue in Manhattan. The play tells the true story of teacher Margarita Perdikari from Ioannina, Greece, during the occupation in World War II. The production is under the auspices of the Consulate General of Greece in New York in collaboration with the Greek Division of Ronald McDonald House. Tickets are now available online via brownpaper tickets. Performances are Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2, 7:30 PM; and Sunday, Nov. 3, 5:30 PM. Featuring a stellar cast: Anna Tsoukala, Theodora Loukas, Stavros Markalas, Theodore Petropoulos, Diodoros Pagoudis, Christiana Kandilioti, Chrysi Sylaidi, Tasos Karydis, Ariadne Panagopoulou, Angelo Niakas, Chrisanthos Petsilas, Phyto Stratis, Evangeline Zoulas, and Angela Tsamasirou in the title role of Margarita Perdikari. More information is available by phone: 646-595-7303 and online: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4419201>.

NORTH MIAMI, FL – The Greek Orthodox Church of Annunciation, 12250 N.W. 2nd Avenue in North Miami, holds its annual Greek Festival November 1-3. Enjoy authentic Greek foods and pastries, church tours, live Greek music and traditional dance performances as well as games for the kids. More information is available by phone: 305-681-1061 and online: [annunciationmiami.org](http://annunciationmiami.org).

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

# Markou Global Presents Event on Childhood Obesity

By Eleni Sakellis

ASTORIA – An informative event, Our Children Today and Obesity, was presented by Markou Global Legal Group on October 19 at the Archdiocesan Hellenic Cultural Center in Astoria with community members of all ages in attendance. Maria Markou, Esq., the Founder and President of Markou Global Legal Group, gave the welcoming remarks at the event and served as the Emcee, introducing the eminent speakers, presenting awards, and moderating a Q&A session which followed the presentation.

The event opened with a musical interlude presented by Mike Papapavlou, the Guitar Guide Guru, and one of his students, 15 year-old Christopher Gentekos, performing a few popular songs on guitar.

Markou then introduced the first speaker, educator and psychotherapist Maria Deltouzou, whose presentation titled Our Children Today and Obesity, lent its name to the entire event, focused on the most recent information available in studies concerning the issue, its effect on children's health and psychological well-being, as well as the family's role in dealing with childhood obesity. Slides highlighted the troubling statistics for children in the United States, Greece, and internationally as the sedentary lifestyle and fast food have spread throughout the world.

Pediatrician and childhood obesity specialist Dr. Demetrios Markouizos spoke about the guidelines for nutrition and healthy habits for children from newborns through adolescence which every parent should follow and instill in their children in his presentation entitled Healthy Choices. Dr. Markouizos also noted the health benefits of the Mediterranean Diet, pointing out that it is not only a diet, but a lifestyle in which food plays a vital role, but so does daily physical activity and eating together as a family. Limiting screen time for children and getting enough sleep were also noted as vital for helping maintain healthy weight throughout childhood and into adolescence and adulthood.

Clinical nutritionist and dietitian Irene Nicolaides presented The Role of Diet in Childhood Obesity, noting the health risks associated with obesity and



Following the presentation, a commemorative photo was taken with educator Eleftheria Oikouta, center, who was honored for her contributions to education and to the community.



Evangelia Tsavaris and Maria Markou presented an award to Dr. Demetrios Markouizos for all his contributions to the community.

also focusing on what foods everyone should be eating for optimum health. Slides and a short video also highlighted Nicolaides' presentation and gave a clear idea of the food groups as well as the best choices for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks. She also pointed out the need for limiting screen time for children and getting plenty of exercise during the day which will help children with getting enough sleep during the night.

After the Q&A session with the audience, Markou invited

Evangelia Tsavaris, longtime administrator for the Hellenic Medical Society of New York, to the stage to present Dr. Markouizos with an award for all his efforts and contributions to the community. Among his many charitable contributions to the local community and in Greece, it was noted that Dr. Markouizos donated equipment to the health center on the island of Patmos, where his wife Aphrodite is from. He said, "our roots are in Greece, we should never forget our roots."

The teachers in attendance

were then called upon to stand up and be recognized as Eleftheria Oikouta was presented with the Athena Award for her lifetime achievement as an educator. Educator and Panypran Choir Artistic and Music Director Phyto Stratis and all the teachers joined her and Markou onstage. Oikouta accepted the award on behalf of all the teachers of the community, her colleagues, who work so tirelessly for the community's children. She

thanked her son, her colleagues, Timoleon Kokkinos who was also present, and Maria Markou for all her contributions to the community.

Konstantinos Lambropoulos, the curator and organizer of the event, as well as Markou's husband thanked everyone for their support, and especially thanked his wife who he said brought him back to Hellenism. He noted that the community needs to be more unified and events like the evening's presentation bring people together and that is the true meaning of global for

Markou Global, its outreach to the community.

At the conclusion of the event, Markou Global presented gifts, a schoolbag filled with

school supplies, as well as a healthy snack, an apple, to each of the children present.

A reception followed with food from Dionysos restaurant.

## SMALL TAKES

Community

### Psomi Will Bring Tampa The Stuff of Greek Food

TNH Staff

On Nov. 8, the North Hyde Park neighborhood of Tampa will have a lot of bread, in the form of Psomi, the Greek word for that but in the form of a restaurant by the same name, at 701 N. Howard Ave., right down the street from Cass Street Deli.

There will be bread, of course, as Psomi, said Creative Loafing, will offer artisan breads and pastries (as well as tzatziki) made fresh in-house said the review, which added that it will be an upscale, fast-casual joint reminiscent of St. Pete's Baba with a blue and white decor – Psomi has a few less evil eyes though.

Inside, Psomi will have table and booth seating, with large photos of Greece decorating the walls. The patio has table and couch seating with large stone fixtures complete with a fireplace so Greeks and Hellenophiles and the hungry will feel right at home.

Psomi recently hosted its friends and family dinner, and photos of the coming menu shared on Instagram featured dishes like grilled octopus, fried calamari, loukoumades (Greek doughnuts) and grape leaves stuffed with beef and rice among other dishes.

### Wee-ha! Houston's Greek Festival Texas-Sized

TNH Staff

With Houston's Greek-American community growing, this year's Greek festival on the grounds of Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Montrose was a big show, with 14,000 marinated souvlaki skewers, 360 pans of Greek pastichio noodle casserole, boxes full of so-sweet Greek pastries making it a food fest too.

"Everybody loves Greek food," Jeff Rushing, Chairman of the festival's organizing committee told The Houston Chronicle, saying that passion explains why it's still popular in its 53d year, attracting as many as 40,000 people.

You can thank the yiyias, the grandmothers who volunteer in the cathedral's kitchen. "The yiyias – everything is homemade," said, Rushing, who is married to a Greek-American and converted to Greek Orthodoxy, just like Tom Hanks.

"The church is the center of Greek community life in Houston; it is the hub of the activity," Father Michael Lambakis, who is the Dean of the Cathedral, told the paper, anxious to show off a newly renovated building to people at the event.

A dome was added to the church and the building was expanded 20 feet to increase capacity from 425 to 1,000. "It's almost a complete new church," Lambakis said.

### Ellada – The Band – Makes St. Augustine Greek Festival Soar

TNH Staff

What would a Greek Festival be without music, especially Greek music. So the St. Augustine event in Florida brought in the internationally famous Greek band Ellada to get the fingers snapping and feet dancing like a Zorba flash mob.

From Florida's Gulf Coast, Ellada features Leonidas on bouzouki, singer Elias Poulos and Dino Theofilos on keyboards and vocals, said the St. Augustine Record in a feature on the widely-hailed and popular event.

Elias (Poulos) Konstantinou's repertoire includes the latest hits from Greece along with popular dimotika, rembetika, and nisiotika songs, his career beginning on the knee of his father, where he sang songs for friends and relatives. Recognizing his talent, he grew as a vocalist by singing for many audiences throughout Greece, Germany, Australia, and North America. He toured with top Greek bands and settled on the west coast of Florida, the paper's feature said.

He has recorded three CD's and has written music and lyrics for singers in Greece, including Vasilis Karas. Dino Theofilos is a former member of The Fabulous Grecian Keys of Warren, Ohio, another well-known Greek-American band that relocated to the Sarasota area.



### Anti-Greek Graffiti Mars Campaign Sign

A campaign sign for Rosemary Wilson, candidate for city council in Virginia Beach, VA, was defaced by anti-Greek graffiti reading "Greek Mob". The Virginia Beach and Norfolk areas have several large Greek Orthodox parishes and the shocking act of vandalism and racism might be explained by the fact that while Wilson is not of Greek descent, she is close to the Community. After learning of the incident she said "I thought that was very offensive for someone to choose my sign to pick on a group of wonderful hardworking people who do a lot for our community," and said she was saddened that political discourse in America has sunk to such low levels.



## 52<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Modern Greek Studies Association

The MGSA's 26th Biennial Symposium will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on November 7-10, 2019

To register visit our website: <http://www.mgsa.org>

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To find out more about **Greek Studies Programs** at universities throughout the United States and Canada visit our website: <https://www.mgsa.org/programs/index.html>



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AA38/11-30

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Road 2 Success LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/26/2019. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Road 2 Success LLC, at 14 New Dorp Lane, 1st Floor, Staten Island, NY 10306. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279185/21446

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of TRANQUILITYSCAPES LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/29/2019. Office location: Nassau County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Robert Fuentes, 2964 Murdock Road, Wantagh, NY 11793. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279186/21447

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of THEE ALADIN'S GROOMING LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/18/2019. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: THEE ALADIN'S GROOMING LLC, 275 MacDougal St., Brooklyn, NY 11233. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279175/21441

## LEGAL NOTICE

High Hopes Tattoo LLC. Art. of Org. filed 10/4/19. Office in Kings Co. SSNY designated for process and shall mail to Reg. Agent: Thomas Law Firm, 175 Varick St, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Any lawful activity

279149/18796

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of CHEF METHOD LLC Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/13/2019. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: STEVEN THOMAS, 720 Pelham Rd., New Rochelle, NY 10805. Purpose: any lawful act or activity.

279139/21424

## LEGAL NOTICE

Formation of DineVite LLC filed with the Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 9/26/19. Office loc.: Nassau County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The address SSNY shall mail process to: Abed Awad, Esq., 777 Terrace Ave., Ste. 303, Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604. Purpose: Any lawful activity

279138/19735

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ANC BUILDINGS LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/04/2019. Office location: Nassau County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: FENGYU LIU, 957-975 Church Street, Baldwin, NY 11510. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279130/21421

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of DeBruin & Associates CPA's, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 9/4/2019. Office location: Nassau County, LLC formed in Wisconsin on 9/15/2012. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: 2100 Freedom Road, PO Box 207, Little Chute, WI 54140, principal business address. Wisconsin address of LLC: 2100 Freedom Road, PO Box 207, Little Chute, WI 54140. Cert. of Form. filed with New York Sec. of State, NY Dept. of State, 1 Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave, Albany, NY 12231-0001. Purpose: All lawful purposes.

279133/21425

## LEGAL NOTICE

Maura Green Design LLC. Art. of Org. filed 9/17/19. Office in NY Co. SSNY designated for process and shall mail to: Thomas Law Firm, 175 Varick St, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Any lawful activity

279127/18796

## LEGAL NOTICE

Brio Stock LLC. Art. of Org. filed 9/16/19. Office in Kings Co. SSNY designated for process and shall mail to Reg. Agent: Thomas Law Firm, 175 Varick St, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Any lawful activity

279094/18796

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of GRAND CAPE L.L.C. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/21/2019. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Abrom M. Shepard, 102 Hooker Place, Staten Island, NY 10302. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279072/21407

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of INTERNATIONALLY DIVERSIFIED REALTY LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/16/2019. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: FRANCIS BRIGANTI, 2270 E 74th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279055/21400

## LEGAL NOTICE

The Vergari Law Firm PLLC. Art. of Org. filed 9/12/19. Office in NY Co. SSNY designated for process and shall mail to Reg. Agent: Thomas Law Firm, 175 Varick St, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Law

279093/18796

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of HEARTS HELPING HANDS LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/23/2019. Office location: Nassau County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Dexter Bradley Jr., 111 Woodside Ave, Freeport, NY 11520. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279092/21415

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of ISLAND FOX HOME INSPECTIONS LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/09/2019. Office location: Nassau County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: CHRISTOPHER D. CAPORALE, 46 Buckingham Place, Lynbrook, NY 11563. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279051/21399

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Electric city consulting llc Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/09/2019. Office Location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to the LLC at: Jason Ross, 17 Winslow Rd., Whiteplains, NY 10606. Purpose: Law

279045/21394

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF THE PIGEON PACK, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/13/2019. Office Location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of the process to the LLC at: Eamon McMullen 1224 East 28th St Brooklyn, NY 11210. Purpose: Law

279042/21392

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of FARHERO LLC (DOM. LLC) Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 05/31/2019. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at: Farhero LLC, 365 Bond St C528, Brooklyn, NY 11231. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279020/21391

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of SPACE TYPE CONTINUUM LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 09/13/2019. Office location: Kings County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: LYNNE YUN, 60 E 17th St., Apt. 1G, Brooklyn, NY 11226. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279087/21412

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Credit Einstein LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 06/13/2016. Office location: Westchester County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: 15 Pratt St., Mt. Vernon, NY 10550. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

279073/21408

## LEGAL NOTICE

Ad Ops Advisors LLC. Art. of Org. filed 9/10/19. Office in NY Co. SSNY designated for process and shall mail to Reg. Agent: Thomas Law Firm, 175 Varick St, NY, NY 10014. Purpose: Any lawful activity

279022/18796

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of FILLED CONFECTIONS LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/28/2019. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Kathryn Alvir, 274 ADA Drive, 2nd Floor, Staten Island, NY 10314. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

278991/21374

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of VMS PAINTING HANDYMAN SERVICES LLC Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/15/2019. Office location: Richmond County. SSNY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC at: VMS PAINTING HANDYMAN SERVICES LLC 15 Ebony Street, Staten Island, NY 10306. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

278987/21372

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## Sophia Kokosalaki, Greek Fashion Designer, Was 46

**LONDON** – Greek fashion and jewelry designer Sophia Kokosalaki died on October 13 after a brief battle with cancer, Kathimerini reported. She was 46 years old.

Kokosalaki was born in Athens November 3, 1972 and studied literature at Athens University Between London, where she lived, her native Athens, and her beloved Crete, her parents' ancestral home, she built an international career with creative contrasts that helped her stand out on the globalized playing field of the fashion industry. Inspired by her cultural heritage the Minoan, ancient Greek, and Byzantine cultures, among others, and with a profound desire to forge her own, unconventional path, Kokosalaki became an expert in draping, enjoyed using handcrafted details, and explored the connections between fashion and architecture.

Above all, she was, in her own words, driven by "memory and emotion," Kathimerini reported. Feelings and concepts that she drew from figures like the Minoan snake goddess found their way discreetly into Kokosalaki's collections.

She created ready-to-wear collections that were embraced by women who didn't loyally follow prevalent trends and preferred individual looks that set them apart. Like the iconic "Sex and the City" character, Carrie Bradshaw, the stylistic standard-bearer of her time who wore a Sophia Kokosalaki dress in one episode.

The designer was encouraged to explore her fascination with her roots by one of her professors at Central Saint Martins in London. The academic encouraged the budding designer to delve into her visual roots and Kokosalaki did this without

falling for folklore, by interpreting the past on postmodern terms. Her talents were soon spotted by the experts, like Suzy Menkes and Sarah Mower, when Kokosalaki presented her graduate collection in 1998.

She launched her own, self-named brand but also worked with fashion houses Joseph, Ruffo Research, and Diesel Black Gold. The revival of the legendary French house Vionnet, founded by pioneer Madeleine Vionnet, was another career highlight.

Kokosalaki started becoming a household name in her native Greece during the 2004 Olympic Games after she designed the costumes for the more than 6,000 people (including singer Bjork) who appeared in the opening and closing ceremonies, on the invitation of the events' artistic director, choreographer Dimitris Papaioannou.

Later, in 2015, she designed the uniforms for Aegean Airlines cabin crews, while another collection she created for the newly revamped Astir resort in Vouliagmeni, southern Athens, was also recently unveiled.

After several years in ready-to-wear, Kokosalaki decided to take a break from this highly competitive environment. She had a daughter and turned her creative attentions to demi-fine jewelry collections that were also inspired by her cultural heritage.

She also showed an interest in contemporary art, as a hobby rather than as a collector, she said, and made sure to spend at least one month a year on Crete, Kathimerini reported.

Kokosalaki is survived by Antony Baker, her partner and the managing director of her brand, and her daughter Stelli, the New York Times reported.

## ACS Athens President, Dr. Stefanos Gialamas, 64

## TNH Staff

**ATHENS** – Dr. Stefanos Gialamas, President of American Community Schools of Athens (ACS Athens), passed away on October 18. The school released the following statement from Board of Trustees ACS Athens Chairman Suheil Sabbagh:

"It is with deep sadness and great disbelief that we announce the loss of our beloved President, Dr. Stefanos Gialamas, age 64, who passed away in his sleep, October 18, prior to his keynote speech at the Alliance for International Education (AIE) Conference in Geneva, Switzerland.

"President Gialamas had been at ACS Athens since 2005. Under his leadership, ACS Athens became a world-class premier international school guided by ethos and an institution in continuous pursuit of ex-



COURTESY OF ACS ATHENS

In this file photo, the late Dr. Stefanos Gialamas, President of the American Community Schools of Athens, with Ideagen Global Chairman and CEO George Anthony Sifakis.

cellence.

"A visionary of education and a lifelong learner, Stefanos Gialamas believed in serving humanity and was a mentor to

many individuals that came across his path. He will always be remembered for his inspiring and exemplary leadership, for his love of children and of those

## Memory Eternal for Police Chief Charles C. Chronopoulos

**TYNGSBORO, MA** – Chief Charles C. Chronopoulos, 87 of Brooksville Florida, formerly of Tyngsboro, MA passed away Saturday, October 12, 2019 at the HPH Hospice Care Center with his loving wife by his side.

He was born August 1, 1932 in Boston and came to Brooksville in 2004 from Tyngsboro, MA. He grew up in Allston, MA near Braves field where his love of baseball was born. As a result of his frequent visits to Braves Field and interaction with the players, he became bat boy for the Boston Braves Organization for 10 years. He was signed to play pro ball for the Boston Braves, then was drafted and signed up for the United States Marine Corps.

He served as Sergeant with the Military Police until his discharge in 1955.

He met his wife Caroline, also serving in the United States Marine Corps, and they married in 1955. Charlie suffered a severe ankle injury while playing ball for the U.S. Marine team and was unable to continue his baseball career with the Braves organization after his discharge. They finally settled in Tyngsboro in 1956 where they raised their three children. Charlie began his Massachusetts law enforcement career at the Billerica House of Correction, and then joined the Tyngsboro Police Dept. as a patrolman. He progressed through the ranks to become the Chief of Police and proudly served the

Town of Tyngsboro until his retirement in 1997.

He is predeceased in death by his parents who immigrated from Greece, Chronis Chronopoulos and Sophia (Karathanasi), and brothers, Christopher Chronopoulos, and Theodore Chronopoulos.

He is survived by his loving wife, Caroline Maxine Chronopoulos (Culp); his daughter, Charlene C. Chevalier (Brooksville, FL); his Sons, Charles C. Chronopoulos and wife Sandra (Hattensburg) of St. Petersburg, FL; Christopher C. Chronopoulos and wife Nina (Betz) of Nashua, NH; his beloved grand-children, Aimee Lynn Chevalier (Brooksville, FL); Charles Christos

Chronopoulos and his wife Corinne (Erickson) of Peterborough, NH; Joshua Taylor Chronopoulos and his wife Kristine (Costello) of Raleigh, NC; Chelsea Lynn Chronopoulos of Red Bank, NJ; and Ashley Caroline Chronopoulos of Virginia Beach, VA.; and his beloved great-grandsons, Alexander Michael Chevalier and Counsel Lawrence Chronopoulos.

He has several nieces and nephews who have been a large part of his life and were always very special to him.

His funeral service on Tuesday, Oct. 22 at Saint Philip Greek Orthodox Church in Nashua, NH with interment at NH State Veterans Cemetery, Boscawen, NH.

## DEATH NOTICES

■ **AGATHOS, NIKOS**  
PUTNAM, CT (from the Norwich Bulletin, published on Oct. 15) – Nikos Agathos, 81, of Putnam, passed away Monday, October 14 at Manchester Memorial Hospital in Manchester. Nikos was born in Kanakades, Kerkira, Greece on October 14, 1938, son of the late Spiro and Andromachi (Revis) Agathos. He served in the Greek Army. He was married to Stella (Moumouris) Agathos for sixty years. Nikos immigrated to the United States in 1966. He was the owner and operator of Center Pizza in Putnam for twenty years. Nikos was an avid sports fan. Besides his wife Stella he is survived by two children, Spiros Agathos and Anna Agathos, both of Putnam, his brother Jimmy Agathos of Danielson and sister Olga Revis of Greece and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother George Agathos. A calling hour was held on Friday, October 18 followed by a funeral service at The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 80 Water Street, Danielson. In lieu of flowers donations in his memory may be made to The Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church.

■ **DAGIANTIS, WILLIAM**  
AURORA, IL (from the Aurora Beacon News on Oct. 18) – William Dagiantis, 53, of Aurora, passed away Wednesday, October 16 at Presence Mercy Center. He was born April 26, 1966 in Levidi, Greece, the son of Dena (Ziazias) Dagiantis and the late Stelios Dagiantis. Bill worked for many years at Comcast Media Company as a supervisor. Bill is survived by his mother, Dena (Ziazias) Dagiantis; sister, Kathy (Alex) Koustas; his niece, Dina (Spiros) Alikakos; his grandnephew, Demetri Alikakos; his grandniece, Maria Alikakos; his

special friend, Annette Way; his uncle James Dagiantis and many cousins in the United States and in Greece. Funeral services were held October 21, at St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church.

■ **GATZOGIANNIS, ELIAS**  
GRAFTON, MA (from the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, published on Oct. 19) – Elias E. 'Louie' Gatzogiannis, 88, a longtime Grafton resident, passed away surrounded by his loving family on Friday, October 18. Elias was born in Lia, Greece, the eldest of eight children, of Evangelos and Anastasia (Koukas) Gatzogiannis. Elias immigrated to the United States in Worcester at the age of 19. Five years later, he married the "love of his life" Gramamy 'GIGI' Mantopoulos. They were happily married for 64 years. Elias and Gramamy settled first in Worcester, later building their family home in North Grafton where they raised their family and enjoyed many years of happiness. Elias began his employed years as a baker for the Table Talk Pie company. He then realized his dream of owning his own business by founding Westside Pizza in Worcester, Athol House of Pizza in Athol, and finally the Grafton House of Pizza where he served the public and made many friends and longtime loyal customers. He is survived by his large, devoted family and friends who loved him dearly, his wife Gigi, his four children, Marianne Bellemare and her husband Barry of Paragould, Arkansas, Stephanie Ganas and her husband Stavros of Shrewsbury, Anastasia Gatzogiannis of North Grafton and Thomas Gatzogiannis and his wife Denise of Shrewsbury; five grandchildren who lovingly called him Papou, Spyridon Ganas and his wife Helen, Michael Ganas and his wife

Melissa, Alexis Singh and her husband Daniel, John-Elias Gatzogiannis and his girlfriend Dominique, Andrew Gatzogiannis and his fiancée Haley; three great grandchildren, Lillian, Olivia and Dhylan Singh. Elias also leaves his five siblings, Demetrios 'Jimmy' Gatzogiannis of Wells, Maine, Vasiliki 'Bessie' Kyros and Ourania Stratis both of Worcester, Eleftheria Bouris of Natick and George Gatzogiannis of Orleans on Cape Cod, and two sisters who predeceased him. He also leaves many nieces, nephews and extended family members both here and in Greece. Elias was a member of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church, the Society Lioton of the United States, the Epirotic Society, the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts and the Singletary Rod and Gun Club. In Elias's life, nothing was more important than his family – they always came first. He was a delightful man who cherished being a United States citizen and loved saying God Bless America. He found joy pursuing the American dream – building his businesses, raising his family, and finding peace hunting and fishing in the great American wilderness. The funeral will be held Friday, October 25 from the funeral home with a procession to St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church. The

Reverend Chris Stamas conducted his Trisagion service at 4 PM Thursday in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Gramamy Gatzogiannis. Per his wishes, contributions will then be forwarded to the St. Panagia Church of Lia, Greece.

■ **KAKALELIS, ELENI**  
TEMPLE, PA (from the Reading Eagle Published on Oct. 19) – Eleni G. Kakalelis, 92, of Ontelaunee Township, passed away Wednesday, October 16 in Tower Health, Reading Hospital. Eleni was married for 63 loving years to Georgios O. Kakalelis. Born in Mytilini, Lesvos, Greece, she was the daughter of the late Harilaos and Athena (Allisaphou) Marmarou. Eleni is a member of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. Eleni was devoted to the Orthodox Christian Faith. Eleni enjoyed cooking, baking, sewing, and crocheting. Eleni enjoyed singing and also writing and reciting poems. Eleni loved her family very much, they were an important part of her life. Additional survivors include a daughter, Angeliki, wife of Aristides Asimakopoulos, of Ontelaunee Twp. There are two grandchildren, Panayiotis Asimakopoulos and wife, Elena, and Georgias Asimakopoulos and wife, Brittany. There are two great-grandchildren, Aristides Asimakopoulos and Eleni Asimakopoulos. There are two siblings, Anna and George; and two deceased siblings, Constantine and Ioannis. A funeral service was held on 22 at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church with Reverend Father Theodore Petrides officiating. Flowers are welcome, or memorial contributions may be made to the church at the above address.

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](mailto:classifieds@thenationalherald.com)

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## GREEK GASTRONOMY

## Lamb Meatballs and Eggplant Recipes to Enjoy

By Eleni Sakellis

Lamb is a staple of Greek cuisine, mostly for special occasions where roasted lamb is the main course. Meatballs—keftedes—can also be made with lamb instead of beef and enjoyed with vegetables as in the following recipe. Keftedes are usually fried in oil, but in this version, they are baked.

Eggplant is low in calories, with only about 30 calories per cup, and adds a meaty flavor and texture to vegetarian dishes. Providing a variety of nutrients, antioxidants, and phytonutrients, eggplant is a very good source of dietary fiber, vitamin B1, and copper, and also provides good amounts of manganese, vitamin B6, niacin, potassium, folate, and vitamin K.

## Lamb Meatballs

- 2 pounds ground lamb
- 1/3 cup fresh breadcrumbs
- 3 tablespoons Greek extra virgin olive oil
- 1 medium egg, beaten
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 small to medium onion, grated
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh mint
- A pinch of ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon Greek sea salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

Preheat oven to 450 degrees F. For the meatballs, mix all the ingredients in a large bowl. Shape into balls and place on rimmed baking sheets. Bake in the preheated oven, rotating the pans about halfway through the cooking process, until browned and cooked through, about 15-18 minutes.

## Eggplant in Tomato Sauce

- 3 tablespoons Greek extra virgin olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, sliced
- 3 fresh plum tomatoes, chopped
- 1 can (28 oz.) San Marzano tomatoes
- 2 teaspoons Greek dried oregano
- 4-5 small to medium eggplant, sliced into 1-inch pieces
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- Greek sea salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
- 1 cup crumbled feta, optional

In a large saucepan or Dutch oven, heat the oil over medium high heat and add the onion along with a dash of salt. Cook until translucent, add the garlic, the tomatoes, oregano, and a cup of water. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Bring to a boil and reduce heat to medium. Simmer until the sauce is reduced slightly, about 15 minutes. Add the eggplant and parsley and continue cooking, stirring occasionally, until the eggplant is cooked through. Serve immediately, topped with feta, if using.



## Fried Eggplant

- 2 medium eggplant, sliced about 1/2 inch thick
- 1 cup all-purpose, unbleached flour
- 1 teaspoon Greek sea salt, plus more to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

- 1 can (12 oz.) beer
- Olive oil for frying

Add 1/2 teaspoon of salt to the eggplant slices and place in a strainer over a bowl to drain the excess water for 30 minutes to an hour. Rinse with cool water, pat dry with paper towels, and set aside.

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, salt, pepper, and beer. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium high heat until it shimmers. Dip the eggplant slices one at a time and fry until golden brown on each side, careful not to crowd the pan. Serve immediately with skordalia, garlic dip.

## Skordalia

- 3 large boiled potatoes
- 6 garlic cloves, peeled
- 1/2 cup Greek extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar

In a mixing bowl, mash the potatoes with a fork. In a food processor, blend the garlic cloves with the olive oil, salt, and vinegar. A few pulses should produce a paste. Add to the mashed potatoes and stir together. Serve with fried eggplant.

## OUR BI-MONTHLY BOTANIST

## Saponaria: The Herb Nature Provides Us with Soap!

By Evropi-Sofia Dalampira

Nature truly provide us with virtually everything. And many things not provided from nature are definitely from humans inspired by nature! Our natural environment is in the wild and not in the cities - it is scientifically proven that our emotions are improved by spending time in nature. Some countries provide medical prescriptions for a vacation in the countryside or activities in the wild for mental illnesses such as depression. There, in the woods, people can discover how things in modern society are interconnected, like hygiene products such as shampoos and soaps with plants! If you are looking riversides in North America, Europe, and Asia, you could find common soapwort (*Saponaria officinalis*). The discovery of its use happened randomly when a woman was doing "laundry in the past" by the riverside and accidentally rubbed the clothes with this little perennial herb. Bubbles started to appear, and clothes were clean as never before! *Saponaria* has a great

amount of saponin substances, which do not just make bubbles but have cleaning and antiseptic properties. *Saponaria* is used for washing delicate fabrics and making pharmaceutical soaps. All parts of the plant contain 'soap ingredient' and '*Saponaria*' is derived from the word 'sapon' or σάπων, which in ancient Greek means 'sapouni' (soap). The species *officinalis* means pharmaceutical in Latin. You can boil three cups of dried *Saponaria* in 1 litre of water for 10 minutes and use it as soap water externally for helping skin problems like eczema, acne, or dry hair.

\* *The above is not medical advice but mere suggestions for improving your diet. Before reach herbal use you should consult your doctor, especially those who have health issues, are pregnant or are under the age of 6.*

Evropi-Sofia Dalampira is an Agriculturist-MSc Botany-Biology and PhD Candidate in Agricultural-Environmental Education and Science Communication.



## LITERARY REVIEW

## Theodor Kallifatides' Latest Novel, The Siege of Troy

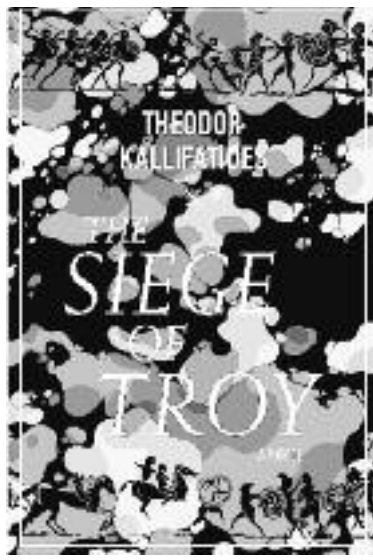
By Eleni Sakellis

Homer's epic *The Iliad* has long been a source of inspiration for writers and artists since ancient times. The huge cast of characters and the dramatic events of the bloody Trojan War fired the imagination of everyone from the ancient Greek dramatists to Greek writers of the diaspora in the present day including Theodor Kallifatides who makes his home in Sweden.

*The Siege of Troy: A Novel*, Kallifatides' excellent retelling of perhaps the world's first anti-war story offers impressive insights into Homer's work and also into Greece during the World War II German occupation. The author weaves together a moving and thoughtful epic of his own, going back and forth between WWII Greece and a teacher's recounting of Homer's *Iliad* to her students. The result is poignant, beautiful, and powerful, highlighting the humanity of the mortal heroes as the teacher distracts her students from the bombs dropping on their village while also vividly bringing to life the characters and their experience of life in an occupied village in wartime.

*The Iliad's* timeless themes, the senselessness of war and the constancy of human nature are clear in Kallifatides' novel. The gods are not quite as central to Kallifatides' retelling as they are in Homer's epic which gives greater psychological depth to the characters battling each other for Troy.

Autobiographical elements offer a level of realism to the sections of the story set during WWII



The Siege of Troy: A Novel by Theodor Kallifatides

Theodor Kallifatides reading from his book *Another Life* at the Göteborg Book Fair 2017.

that only an eyewitness to the violence and brutality could capture. It may also surprise readers that the original novel was written in Swedish. Now available in a wonderful English translation by Marlaine Delargy, *The Siege of Troy* is a must read for fans of Homer's *Iliad* and for those who have never ventured into reading the ancient epic, as well as fans of historical fiction and great writing in general.

As Kallifatides writes in the book's Afterword, "ever since high school, *The Iliad* has touched my imagination and aroused my admiration. In my



eyes, it is the strongest anti-war poem ever written."

Of his retelling of the epic, he writes, "I had absolutely no intention of trying to replace Homer. I just wanted more people to get to know him."

Kallifatides has published more than forty works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry that have been translated around the world. He was born in the village of Molaoi, in Laconia, Greece, in 1938 to Dimitrios Kallifatides, a teacher originally from Pontus, and Antonia Kyriazakou from Molaoi. In 1946, the family moved to Athens where the young Kallifatides completed high school and then studied at the Karolos Koun Art Theatre Drama School. Kallifatides immigrated in 1964 to Sweden, studying philosophy at Stockholm University where he also lectured. He began his literary career in 1969, publishing a book of poetry, though he is perhaps best known for his novels. As a translator, he has brought August Strindberg and Ingmar Bergman to Greek readers, and Giannis Ritsos and Mikis Theodorakis to Swedish ones. In 1994, he began writing in Greek as well and continues to be one of the most celebrated contemporary authors in Sweden. He has received numerous awards for his work in both Greece and Sweden.

Kallifatides' previous book, published last year in an English translation also by Delargy, *Another Life: On Memory, Language, Love, and the Passage of Time*, is a thoughtful essay on the writing life and an author's place in a changing world.

## GREEK AMERICAN STORIES

## Recovering

By Phyllis (Kiki) Sembos

Special to The National Herald

It was Sunday. The five guys at Dixon's were sitting, hot coffees in hand, donuts centering the table, discussing the robbery that had occurred in Dimos' diner Saturday. "It was one of the worst days in my life," Yiannis told the others, his coffee hand shaking. Dimos nodded. "My poor cashier is home. I gave her the day off after suffering that shock." Kipreos gave Dimos' shoulder a sympathetic pat. "I'll bet your shock was just as bad, Dimos. Worse, maybe! You should be home recuperating, too." Nodding in agreement, Dimos said, "Well, it's my second robbery! So, I can handle it a little better, emotionally, this time. But, answering all those questions, looking at so many criminal photos. That was too much! They were wearing masks! How did they expect me to identify them? But, look at Yiannis! He's still not looking

good! He came in for his free coffee and sandwich, like he does once in a while." They all looked across at Yiannis who appeared pale and withdrawn. He told them, "I'll, probably, never recover. What an experience! My worst nightmare!" George thought, it'll be a long time before the next free lunch. Then Yiannis recalled that he hadn't asked Dimos how much they got away with. Dimos told him, "thank the Lord it wasn't a busy day. But, they got away with about five hundred dollars from the register."

"FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS! Cried out Yiannis causing patrons at nearby tables to turn their heads. Lowering his voice, he said, "Kipreos is right. You should be home recovering, too."

"What happened next?" asked George. "Well, lucky for us, my cook heard the commotion and a woman's scream and he, quick, called the cops on the



inside kitchen phone. They were hustling Yiannis for his wallet at that same time. That's when he collapsed in a dead faint in one of the booths, just as the cops arrived. When the robbers

heard the sirens they beat it out the back. They got caught. But, I have to wait to claim the customers' and my money. It's evidence, or something. Yiannis revived just as the cops were

taking the robbers away. I noticed he put his hands together in prayer thanking the Lord. Right, Yiannis?" Yiannis readily agreed. "I never prayed so hard with gratitude." Looking at him with deep understanding, Kipreos pushed the donut tray closer and said with a wealth of concern. "You can have the sprinkled donut, Yiannis. You deserve it after what you've been through." Without hesitation, Yiannis reached out and picked up that last glazed donut.

"Was that the worst part, Dimos?" asked John. Giving it thought, Dimos replied, "Besides our own lives, I was grateful for the safety of my employees and customers. That's what I thanked God for. I can always make money again." Turning to Yiannis, John asked him, "Is your heart ok? Maybe you should see a doctor." Savoring each sprinkled bite like it was the first time he'd ever eaten

one and still reeling over the shock of the experience, Yiannis said, "nah! When the gun was pointed at my chest and the robber looked at me with eyes that meant business and asked, 'your wallet or your life, mister', that was the worst part."

They all looked at him in awe. John said, "You were the last person they hustled, right?" Yiannis nodded, swallowing the last of the donut. "I was sweating trying to think of a way out of it. My hands were shaking like an electric cord touched it. He pushed the gun into my chest. I had to think fast! That's when I grabbed at my chest and croaked, 'm-m-my h-h-heart' and keeled over." Dimos explained, "When the cops came in he was back on his feet in a snap." George, impressed, told him, "That faint saved your life!" Patting the pocket that held his wallet Yiannis, nodding vigorously, said with smug satisfaction, "Hey! It saved my wallet!"

## This Week in History: October 25th to 31st

**■ OCTOBER 27TH:**

On this day in 1971, Theodoros Zagorakis, the Greek footballer turned politician, was born in Athens. Zagorakis first started his career playing for Kavala – where he made 114 appearances between 1988 and 1993. In the 1992–93 season, Zagorakis left Kavala as a winter transfer to join PAOK, part of a string of star transfers made that season. He played for PAOK until December 1997, and also captained the squad in his last two seasons. He rose to become an iconic figure for the fans, as he rarely missed a league derby and often scored important goals. He then played in four clubs in the English Premier League, Italian Serie A, and the Greek Super League before serving as the captain of the Greek national football team who won the 2004 UEFA European Football Championship. After his long and prestigious career, Zagorakis became president of PAOK in 2007 and immediately started sorting through its troubled financial situation. Seven years later, Zagorakis entered politics and became a Member of European Parliament.

**■ OCTOBER 28TH:**

On this day in 1940, Greece successfully resisted Italy's attack in what was to be known as the beginning of the Greco-Italian War. Italy had annexed Albania in 1939 and tension began to grow between Italy and Greece – leading the Greeks to fortify their border with Albania. On October 26, Benito Mussolini demanded that the Greeks turn over territory to him. Ioannis Metaxas told Mussolini that under no circumstances would he agree to an Italian occupation of Greece (this event is the basis of 'OXI Day' celebrations). Mussolini decided to invade Greece – which would soon prove to be the commencement of a disastrous military campaign for Italy. Mussolini surprised everyone with the move against Greece – even Adolf Hitler. Hitler denounced the move as a major strategic blunder. According to Hitler, Mussolini should have concentrated on North Africa, continuing the advance into Egypt. Despite the warning, Mussolini moved ahead out of sheer hubris, convinced he could defeat the Greeks in a matter of days. The Greeks succeeded in pushing the Italian invaders back into Albania after just one week and the Axis power spent the next three months fighting for its life in a defensive battle.

**■ OCTOBER 29TH:**

On this day in 1969, Eleni Menegaki, the Greek TV presenter and actress, was born in Athens. Mostly known for her TV show hosting duties on a number of shows including MEGA Banca, Proinos Kafes, Kafes me tin Eleni, and most recently, Eleni, Menegaki has grown to be extremely popular throughout Greece. In 2010, Forbes ranked her as the second-most powerful and influential celebrity in Greece and top-ranked female. Menegaki was married to television program manager Giannis Latsios from 2001 to 2010 – who she had three children with. In 2015, she welcomed a daughter with businessman Mateo Pantzopoulos.



EUROKINISSI

**■ OCTOBER 30TH:**

On this day in 1930, Turkey and Greece signed a treaty of friendship – also known as the Treaty of Ankara. This treaty affirmed the boundaries between Turkey and Greece, settled the property claims of repatriated populations and established naval parity in the eastern Mediterranean. The rapprochement was due particularly to the efforts of Greek Prime Minister Eleftherios Venizelos and Turkish President Mustafa Kemal Atatürk to normalize the historically problematic relations between the two countries. Both leaders recognized the need for peace resulted in more friendly relations – Venizelos even nominated Atatürk for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1934. The Ankara Treaty also influenced Turkey's accession to the League of Nations (1932) and the establishment of the Balkan Pact (1934) in which Greece and Turkey joined Yugoslavia and Romania in a treaty of mutual assistance. Turkish-Greek relations continued without any major conflict until the Cyprus Crisis in 1954. In 1964, Turkish Prime Minister Ismet Inonu renounced the 1930 Treaty and took actions against the Greek minority.

## Dear Stavroula

*I'm Engaged, Is It 'Infidelity' to Go Out with a Colleague?*

Dear Stavroula,

I'm engaged to a good guy and we are getting ready to get married next fall. Since the beginning of our relationship, he has shown me his love in every way, and that has won me over. He supported me financially during my studies, he helped me with my studies and to get my degree, and generally there is nothing he wouldn't do for me.

Last year, I had a problem with my health and stayed in the hospital for a while. My fiancé was always by my side, bringing me food, giving me presents, taking care of me. I feel that with him I can cope with the hardships of life – I know that whatever happens to me, he will always be there for me, and I know that this is not easy to find in life, which is why I made the decision to marry him.

Some time ago, I met someone at work who showed me from the first moment that he wanted me. When I told him I was getting ready to marry, he told me that it was enough for us to be friends. Since then we talk often, he has told me many things about his life and I have told him many things as well. Some days we go out for dinner together after work and discuss various topics. He has not spoken to me about his feelings, but sometimes he touches me tenderly and constantly tells me how beautiful I am. I see him as a friend and enjoy talking to him, but I'm afraid it's not right to spend so many hours alone with him.

I feel terrible guilt because of my fiancé, even though I have done nothing with my colleague, we only talk as friends. But is it cheating to go out with another man?

Vasiliki

Dear Vasiliki,

It is not easy to define the concept of infidelity, we could say that it is the betrayal of the agreement a couple has made and how it relates to the values and principles that govern their relationship. Therefore, for some couples it might be infidelity just to have any act of love, for others it might be what you are doing.

The man who approached you at work is more experienced in relationships than you, and that's why when he shared his romantic feelings and you rejected him, he found another alternative to be close to you, asking you to be friends. Obviously, he knows that this often creates a very intense emotional bond between people of different sexes that can then very easily end in love.

And indeed, all his behavior seems to lead you in that direction. He tries to touch you, compliments you, so he approaches you in love, even though you have told him that you are engaged.

So think about what this behavior means to you. If something similar happened to your partner with a colleague, would you consider their relationship friendly? Do you find that it is based on the respect and trust that friends should have between them? Can you be sure that this person will respect the relationship you have and in a moment when you are vulnerable will he not attempt to reach out to you even more affectionately, especially since he wants you? And if he does, what will be the impact on you and your relationship?

On the other hand, you have a relationship with a man who, as you say, has supported you through all the difficult times of your life and shows you how he cares and loves you. Think about what your feelings are for this man and if you really want to live your life with him. So if you love him, are attracted to him and are happy with him, is it worth risking such a relationship for something that you don't even know what it is?

Therefore, if you want to protect your relationship with your fiancé it would be a good idea to stay away from your colleague completely and keep your relationship exclusively professional.

## Northern Epirotic Fed. of America Established

By Christodoulos Athanasatos

**WHITESTONE** – With the participation of ten Northern Epirotic associations from across the United States, the North Epirotic Federation of America (NEFA) was formally founded during the official inauguration ceremony on October 12 at Verdi's restaurant in Whitestone.

Members of the Organizing Committee, speaking to The National Herald, focused on the need for the Northern Epirots to set up their own secondary body and to have a more autonomous structure and direction in the organized Greek community of America, given their already strong presence in public affairs. As stated in the announcement, the Federation will have the task of strengthening the relations between its members, and also reaching out to the Northern Epirotic Associations in Greece.

"It is very important for us to establish a federation. Ultimately, the Northern Epirots must take their destiny into their own hands. This is not to say that they will be cut off from the other associations. We will continue our relationship with Panepirotic and the other Associations as they are. Our main goal was to unite the Northern Epirots," said Pyrros Society President Constantine Tsiouris.

For her part, President of the Himarrion Society, Anna Notis, expressed confidence that the new venture would also be supported by the new Northern Epirots, while also noting the goal of working with the Panepirotic.

"We Northern Epirots have never had our own Federation and now we have it. It will be our voice because no one else knows our problems as much as we know them. And of course we will work with Panepirotic as long as they support us, and we will fight together," said Notis, while Angelos Bolanos, who represented the Northern Epirots of Florida, said that "this is the first time in history that the Northern Epirots have their own federation."

The purpose of the Federation is to assert the rights of the Northern Epirots and to preserve the culture of Northern Epirus.

Along the way, we want the Associations from Greece to join. For us, now is the most important time to unite and all that we claim to claim together."

Professor Nikos Lygeros welcomed the founding of the North Epirotic Federation, noting that the issue should be managed with due diligence in



TNH/KOSTAS BEJ

The inaugural meeting of the Northern Epirotic Federation of America was held at Verdi's in Whitestone. BELOW: Professor Nikos Lygeros, at right, was among the speakers at the event.



all its aspects, both by the Greek government and by Hellenism.

"The fact that the Northern Epirots will have a federation specifically dealing with their issues is very good and I also consider it to be a sacred alliance with other Federations, such as the Panepirotic and Pan-Macedonian, and we can work together as a synergy to achieve results that would be unthinkable if we didn't have this synergy. Unfortunately, so far the Greek governments have not done enough work. They have

not brought up the ethnic minority in Northern Epirus...this part of the country is important. The ethnic minority is another issue," said Lygeros.

President of the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York Cleonthis Meimaroglou, President of the Pan-Macedonian Association of America Dimitris Filippidis, and Laconian Federation President Timoleon Kakouras, as well as the representatives of the various Northern Epirotic associations from across the U.S. also

gave their greetings at the event.

The speakers praised the particular significance of Northern Epirus as well as the Northern Epirots' contribution to national issues, with Filippidis noting the participation of Northern Epirus associations in the rallies and the general activism on the Macedonia name issue.

Consul General of Greece in New York Konstantinos Koutras also sent a greeting and wished all the best for the newly established NEFA.

## Settling the Wild West: John the Greek

Continued from page 1

duced none of the silver and gold that Spanish conquistadors had discovered elsewhere in the newly-conquered territories. Most of the participants in the Oñate expedition abandoned the Pueblo Indian communities, so that by 1608 only about fifty families remained.

New Mexico was not an idyllic place to live in during the 17th century. Known as tierra de Guerra (land of war), the small number of Spaniards spent much of their time defending their communities and those of the Pueblo Indians from depredations by hostile bands of nomadic Apache and Navajo Indians.

Juan Griego remained, serving as a soldier in Oñate's army at the garrison that eventually became the Villa de Santa Fe. Early 17th century documents point to the establishment of the garrison for the protection of "nuestra sancta fee catolica," (our holy Catholic faith), which became the city of Santa Fe.

The family of Juan Griego and Pascuala Bernal grew to include three sons and four daughters.

The Griego-Bernal family rose to prominence in 17th century New Mexico, especially after the marriage of their daughters to frontier soldiers from prosperous families. Juan Griego was rewarded favorably by successive New Mexico governors for his family's exemplary and loyal government and military service to the Spanish crown.

By the mid-1600s, the large and expanding Griego-Bernal clan secured their standing as among the most prominent and prosperous families of New Mexico. They owned various properties in Santa Fe, and owned and operated four estates in what is now the Española Valley, north of Santa Fe.

Griego's descendants were to become among the socially and economically dominant families of 17th century New Mexico. However, dire conditions and social unrest erupted in the



A map of El Camino Real (The Royal Road or The King's Highway) a historical trail that linked California's Spanish missions with the colonial capital, Santa Fe, now in New Mexico.

1680 Pueblo Indian uprising that forced many Spaniard families to flee north, where they persevered in thirteen years of exile from their places of birth and living.

When northern New Mexico was restored to the Spanish crown in 1692, a small number of Griego men and women returned to resettle Santa Fe, and then in the Albuquerque area beginning in 1706. The family property became known as Los Griego, which today is a neighborhood in the north valley of Albuquerque, the largest city in New Mexico.

In addition to the heroic exploits of John the Greek in early American history, his wife Pascuala has made enduring naming contributions as well.

It was customary in Spanish society for some children to adopt the mother's last name. One son – Francisco Bernal – began the Bernal lineage in the

New Mexico territory. Some family members and their descendants settled along the Rio Grande River in Bernalillo (a diminutive of Bernal), others would settle further north in Bernal, near Santa Fe. Albuquerque is located in Bernalillo County, also named for Juan Griego's son.

Juan Griego's descendants served at the Santa Fe fort, and also contributed funds to support the American colonists in the War of Independence, when Spain declared war on Great Britain in 1779.

Today, the Griego men are officially recognized by both the Sons and the Daughters of the American Revolution as patriots of the United States, in honor of their memory and their support in helping to secure the independence of the United States of America.

Juan Griego departed this life in 1631 in Santa Fe. His fam-

ily legacy has spread wide throughout the Western United States, including to one of America's most fertile and compelling landscapes, in northern California, in pursuit of greater economic opportunities.

John the Greek would be extraordinarily proud today of Mary Jane Griego, who not only is a full-time aide to Congressman John Garamendi, but also arises at 3:00 AM daily to serve hundreds of local Oliverhurst citizens some of the most exceptional breakfasts anywhere.

Thank you, Koumbare Angelo for introducing me to this spectacular facet of Hellenic Americana.

Thank you, Mary Jane, for one of the most engaging historic heritage stories I've ever heard.

And thank you, Juan Griego, "John the Greek," for setting the example centuries ago for bold, noble and rugged Greek

# Metropolitan Methodios to Send Fr. Nicholas Kastanas to Spiritual Court

By Theodore Kalmoukos

**BOSTON** – Metropolitan Methodios of Boston intends to send Fr. Nicholas Kastanas in the next few weeks to Spiritual Court. The National Herald has learned. The chronic issues of Fr. Kastanas and his long-running suspension, and the St. Athanasios parish of Arlington Massachusetts, from which he was dismissed in July of 2017 will rise again; it will be phase two and will generate even more negative publicity.

It has become known that Fr. Kastanas has filed for 'ekliton' (supreme final appeal) to Archbishop Elpidophoros as the First Ecclesiastical Authority of our



## Metropolitan Methodios

Church in America.

It is emphasized here that it is against the Canon Law of the Church for the suspension of Fr. Kastanas to continue for so long.

It is not known when the clergy who will be the members-judges of the Spiritual Court will be named by Metropolitan Methodios and when it is going to be convened. As of Saturday, October 19 Fr. Kastanas had not been notified by the Metropolis of Boston, which hasn't communicated with him for almost two and one half years.

Methodios Suspended Kastanas using as a cause the filling

of legal motion by Fr. Kastanas in the courts of the Commonwealths of Massachusetts requesting the return of his computer and personal documents and belongings, which the Metropolis took out of his office and holds in its possession, refusing to return them to Fr. Kastanas.

It is emphasized here that Fr. Kastanas does not receive a salary from anywhere, he does not have medical insurance, and he was not permitted to bless the wedding of his son a few months ago, nor attend the baptism of his grandchild.

The result of Methodios' decision to oust Fr. Kastanas in July of 2017 has been a mass

exodus of many families from the parish which was considered one of the most vibrant and most populous in the entire Archdiocese of America.

It is emphasized here that Fr. Kastanas is one of the best known, respected, and loved priests in the Greek-American Community of Boston.

When the news broke in July of 2017 there was wide press coverage by the major media outlets of Boston, electronic and print, while Metropolitan Methodios was the subject of protests and demonstrations by St. Athanasios's parishioners.

Regarding the Spiritual Court, it consists of four or more priests – judges appointed by

Methodios, who makes sure they are his own close friends so that they decide according to his will. Although he should personally preside over the Court, he usually assigns a priest to be president of the Court. He might apply do the same thing in this instance since he seems unwilling confront Fr. Kastanas face to face.

The National Herald is in a position to know the inner workings of a Spiritual Court through experience with one that was convened a few years ago in Boston comprised of 'judges' who were characterized by members of the community as "unholy jokes" and "mockeries."

# Archbishop Elpidophoros Presides over His First Meeting of Eparchial Synod

By Theodore Kalmoukos

**NEW YORK** – The Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America convened for their regular fall meeting, October 15-16, for the first time under the presidency of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America.

Metropolitan Nicholas of Detroit was absent from the meeting, where the Synod discussed and made decisions on several important issues.

An outline of the decisions of the synod can be found in the longer version of this article which appears in the online edition, [www.thenationalherald.com](http://www.thenationalherald.com).

The National Herald has learned that the atmosphere during this first Synodic meeting under Archbishop Elpidophoros was generally good, except for the first day when two hierarchs, Metropolitan Methodios of Boston and Evangelos of New Jersey, in the beginning exhibited behavior towards the Archbishop that ranged from icy to hostile – but eventually they calmed down.

The reason for their becoming behavior was the fact that the Archdiocese renovated the Synodic Room, which was only actually used twice a year for the Synodic meetings, converting it into an apartment so that Archbishop Elpidophoros can live at Archdiocesan headquarters in a dignified manner. Methodios and Evangelos argued that it is insulting to the statute of the Holy Synod to transform the Synodic Room into an apartment. Archbishop Elpidophoros, schooled them, however, by pointing out that the Statute of the Synod is one thing and the place, the room, is another. It should be noted here that since his arrival in New York in June Archbishop Elpidophoros has lived in a

small apartment at the Archdiocese since the house of the late Archbishop Iakovos, which was situated in a most prominent area of Rye, NY, at the entrance of the Country Club, and which was designated for the Archbishop of America, was sold by former Archbishop Demetrios and his administration with the consensus of the members of the Eparchial Synod, most of whom continue to be Synodic members today, and with the approval of the Archdiocesan Council. The house was sold for \$3.0 million dollars when the Real Estate Market was at its lowest point. Eight hundred thousand dollars was used for repairs to the roof of the Archdiocese and the remainder, \$2.2 million, is nowhere to be found. No accountability was ever given for how it was used and to the best of the knowledge of TNH no mention of it was made in any financial report at Clergy Laity Congresses.

One of the above mentioned hierarchs, specifically Methodios, lives in a fine house belonging to the Metropolis in the Chestnut Hill area of Boston with all expenses paid by the



**Holy Eparchial Synod during meeting of Oct 16. Left to right: Nathanael of Chicago, Gerasimos of San Francisco, Alexios of Atlanta, Methodios of Boston, Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, Isaiah of Denver, Savas of Pittsburgh, Evangelos of New Jersey, and Bishop Apostolos of Medeia, Chief Secretary.**

Metropolis. Evangelos has chosen to live in his own apartment in New York; his Metropolitan Headquarters in Westfield New

Jersey is a prominent well-furnished building and it also has living facilities.

Fr. Nicholas Kastanas whom

Metropolitan Methodios ousted from the St. Athanasios parish in Arlington, MA almost two and one half years ago and

placed in liturgical suspension, has filed for 'ekliton' (supreme final appeal) to Archbishop Elpidophoros as the First Ecclesiastical Authority of our Church in America. It is emphasized here that the continuation of the suspension of Fr. Kastanas is against the Canon Law of the Church.

It became known from the reports given to the Synod that the contributions of the Metropolis of Boston are the lowest among all the Metropolises for all of its obligations to the Archdiocese, including the monthly contributions of the parishes and its contributions to the pension fund of the clergy – and its Philoptochos didn't even send a representative to a recent meeting of the National Philoptochos of the Archdiocese.

Metropolitan Nathanael informed the Synod of the recent decision of the local Clergy Laity Congress of the Metropolis of Chicago to sell the existing Headquarters of the Metropolis, which was established decades ago and in which the late Metropolitan Iakovos lived all the years he was Metropolitan of Chicago.

# Chicago Court Continues 'Freeze' on Sale of Holy Trinity of Chicago

By Theodore Kalmoukos

**CHICAGO** – A Chicago court on Tuesday, October 15 extended the stay on the sale of the nave and buildings of the historic Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox parish of Chicago. As The National Herald had reported, the court on October 3 decided to 'freeze' the sale, reversing its decision of September 10 for the sale of the nave that had been authorized for the price of \$2.5 million dollars to the religious

organization Universal Life Church.

On the initiative of Spiros Kezios, a real estate businessman, and a group of members of the Holy Trinity parish, a lawyer was found that specializes in bankruptcies and proved to the court that the sale of the nave was illegal because it did not have the authorization of the general assembly of the Community.

On October 15 in a courtroom filled with Holy Trinity

parishioners and friends, with small copies of the Icon of the weeping All-Holy Lady of Diversey clasped in their hands, Judge Barnes heard everyone's arguments and concluded that he will review everything and issue his written decision in one week's time.

The officials and the congregants of the parish are hoping

that the Judge will rule that the sales contract is void because 2/3 of the general assembly did not approve the sale of the Church. This is the argument made by the parishioners' attorneys.

They will reach out to the bank immediately to see if they can reach an agreement and then bring it to the court's attention.

In order to do this, they need to raise a minimum of \$300,000 as soon as possible.

The faithful are saying that they believe they are in Christ's hands given the fact that the ruling happened 122 years – to the date and hour – after Holy Trinity was first chartered through the State of Illinois on October 15, 1897 at 2 PM.

# Detailed List of Candidates for Episcopacy

**NEW YORK** – The future Hierarchy of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America will be chosen from a pool of 23 celibate priests out of 650 or more priests (married), according to the official list of candidates the Archdiocese posted on its website. One of the 23, Fr. Christopher Flessoras, comes from the ranks of the married clergy and he has become a widower a few years ago.

The 23 celibate priests who have all the qualifications, meaning they are at least 35 years old; graduates of an accredited Orthodox Theological School; and have served a minimum of five years minimum in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, are the following:

**ARCHIMANDRITES**  
**V. Rev. IGNATIOS ACHLIOPTAS**  
 Current Assignment: Transfiguration of Christ Church, Mattituck, NY  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. DIONYSIOS ANAGNOSTOPOULOS**  
 Current Assignment: Holy Cross Church, Whitestone, NY  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. TIMOTHY BAKAKOS**  
 Current Assignment: Chancellor, Metropolis of Chicago

**V. Rev. VASILIOS BASSAKYROS**  
 Current Assignment: Saint John the Baptist Church, New York, NY  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. AMBROSIOS BITZIADIS (BOWERS)**  
 Current Assignment: Saint George Cathedral, Philadelphia, PA  
 Metropolis of New Jersey

**V. Rev. JOHN E. CONSTANTINE**

Current Assignment: Saint George Church, Downey, CA  
 Metropolis of San Francisco

**V. Rev. JOACHIM A. COTSONIS**  
 Current Assignment: Hellenic College/Holy Cross, Brookline, MA  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. NEKTARIOS COTTROS**  
 Current Assignment: Saint George Church, Piscataway, NJ  
 Metropolis of New Jersey

**V. Rev. DAMASKINOS V. GANAS**  
 Current Assignment: Kimisis Tis Theotokou Church, Brooklyn, NY  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. ATHANASIOS DeMEDEIROS**  
 Current Assignment: Saints Constantine & Helen Church, Palos Hills, IL  
 Metropolis of Chicago

**V. Rev. STAVROFOROS MAMAIES**  
 Current Assignment: Saint Barbara Church, Durham, NC  
 Metropolis of Atlanta

**V. Rev. CHRISTODOULOS MARGELLOS**  
 Current Assignment: Saint Nicholas Church, Oak Lawn, IL  
 Metropolis of Chicago

**V. Rev. CONSTANTINE MORALIS**  
 Current Assignment: Annunciation Cathedral, Baltimore, MD  
 Metropolis of New Jersey

**V. Rev. MAKARIOS J. NIAKAROS**  
 Current Assignment: Holy Apostles/Saints Peter &

Paul Church, Haverhill, MA  
 Metropolis of Boston

**V. Rev. GEORGE NIKAS**  
 Current Assignment: Holy Trinity Cathedral, Salt Lake City, UT  
 Metropolis of Denver

**V. Rev. CHRYSOSTOM PANOS**  
 Current Assignment: Transfiguration of Christ Church, Corona, NY  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. CHRISTODOULOS PAPADEAS**  
 Current Assignment: Unassigned

**V. Rev. NEKTARIOS PAPAZAFIROPOULOS**  
 Current Assignment: Saint Demetrios Cathedral, Astoria, NY  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. EUGENE N. PAPPAS**  
 Current Assignment: Three Hierarchs Church, Brooklyn, NY  
 Direct Archdiocesan District

**V. Rev. IAKOVOS RODITIS**  
 Current Assignment: Lay Profession (Ophthalmologist)  
 Metropolis of New Jersey

**V. Rev. NEKTARIOS SERFES**  
 Current Assignment: Saints Constantine & Helen Church, Boise, ID  
 Metropolis of Denver

**V. Rev. AGATHONIKOS WILSON**  
 Current Assignment: Saint George Cathedral, Manchester, NH  
 Metropolis of Boston

**WIDOWED:**  
**Rev. Economos CHRISTOPHER FLESORAS**  
 Current Assignment: Saint Anna Church, Roseville, CA

## Who Do You Follow?

Christ says to "Deny yourself, pick up your cross daily, and follow me," Matthew 16:24. So Jesus says we must follow Him. Did He say to follow anyone else? No. Did He say to follow any institution? No. He says clearly to follow Him only! This is a command. When Jesus gives us a command, this is just good advice for life or is it mandatory to obey? It is mandatory. Why? God is perfect. His kingdom is perfect. He is the Boss who gives commands. If you do not want to obey the Boss's commands, what do you prove? You prove you want to be the Boss instead. Can anyone go to heaven without submitting to God? Never.

So you want to go to heaven? Really? Who is your Boss? Who do you follow? Who do you listen to? Who do you obey totally? God or yourself? God or someone else? Every believer thinks they are okay with God. Every believer thinks they are going to heaven. But I do not follow what people think. I follow Jesus. I follow what He says and what He says only. I do not follow any man and what he says. So what does Jesus say? Have you ever read the Gospels to find out what He says? Jesus says not all believers go to heaven. Did you know that? He says, "Not everyone who calls me Lord, Lord will enter the kingdom of heaven only those who do the will of my Father which is in Heaven," Matthew 7:21. So there are many who call Jesus the Lord, but He says that is not enough to get into heaven. So what does it take then?

He says we must do the will of the Father. Did He say to do the will of anyone else? No. So if any man comes to you and says they are from God telling you to do things, you say to that man, "Is this the will of God the Father?" That man will obviously say yes, it is God's will. But remember, Jesus is the Lord. We must go to what Jesus says in the Gospels. Obeying everything that Jesus teaches is the will of the Father, Matthew 17:5. So if any man tells you to do something that is not found in the Gospels, not found in the perfect teachings of Jesus, why should you obey what that man says? That man may come off like he is holy too. I do not care how holy that man thinks he is. If he says I must do something that is not what Jesus says to do, I will not listen to that man. That man then proves to be a wolf! Wolves try to take you away from obeying Jesus totally. Wolves try to take you to obey them instead. That's why Jesus says, "The blind follow the blind and they both fall into the ditch," Matthew 15:14.

So remember my friends, do not trust anyone with your soul's journey to heaven. Trust Jesus. Trust what He teaches in the Gospels. Read what He teaches and obey Him. Do not trust what any man says blindly even if you think he is the holiest man on earth. The Holiest person that ever walked this earth was Jesus. So He is the only One I will listen to. He is the only One I will obey. He is the only One I will follow, nobody else. So if you have not read the New Testament, you must start immediately! Your soul could be saved from eternal suffering because of it if you read and start to obey the teachings of Jesus totally. If you go to any other source, such as another man's lips, you are trusting that man's lips instead of Perfect Jesus. Is that wise? Jesus says only the wise go to heaven, Matthew 25:1-13. So be wise my friends! Trust in Jesus' lips, not the lips of any man. Trust in what Jesus teaches, not what any man teaches. Trust in what Jesus tells you to do, not what any other man says you must do. Find out what Jesus does right now by reading the Gospels! You will be glad you did! Amen.

Joseph, Servant of God

Sent by Christ to evangelize the whole world.  
 EMAIL: [etwcmistry@outlook.com](mailto:etwcmistry@outlook.com)

## SMALL TAKES

Greece &amp; Cyprus

## Cypriot MP Asks Why Cambodian Elite Got Passports

TNH Staff

Cyprus' Golden Visa program offering residency permits and European Union passports to wealthy foreigners came under fire anew when an opposition lawmaker demanded to know why relatives and allies of Cambodia's leader were able to acquire them.

Irene Charalambides, a special representative on fighting corruption for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, said the disclosure made Cyprus the object of international "ridicule," said Reuters.

"Where does the issuance of passports stop? Until when will we stop apologizing internationally? Finally, there is a fire with the smoke," the MP for the left-wing AKEL party wrote in a Facebook posting.

"This is an international ridicule, which is not covered by any justification," she wrote.

A Reuters investigation revealed that family members and allies of Cambodia's long-time prime minister, Hun Sen used their wealth to buy foreign citizenship in EU countries.

## Former Google Exec Vranakis Named Greece's Chief Creative Officer

TNH Staff

Reaching out for talent, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis appointed the former Executive Director of Google's Creative Lab in Europe, Greek-Canadian Steve Vranakis, as Greece's Chief Creative Officer, tasked with rebranding the country's plans to overhaul technology, creativity, innovation, and sustainability.

Vranakis, known as one of the best in the business, will work with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Enterprise Greece and across numerous ministries and government organizations, said the Pappas Post which reported the appointment. He will move from London to Athens for the job.

He said his goal is to let the world know Greece is recovering, the country known for entrepreneurs in science and technology, many of whom fled during a 9 1/2-year-long economic and austerity crisis.

He worked for Google in the Middle East and Africa and was picked by Mitsotakis, the report said.

## On Flight, Tsipras Called 'Traitor' Over Macedonia Name Giveaway

TNH Staff

Former Greek premier and Radical Left SYRIZA leader Alexis Tsipras, while on a flight, was approached by Macedonia is Greece's rally organizer Giorgia Bitakou who told him, "you sold your homeland, you are a traitor and you should be in jail," for giving away the name Macedonia to the newly-named North Macedonia.

Bitakou, spokeswoman for protests in 2018 against the deal Tsipras made to change the name of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) to end a 20-year dispute, recorded herself with her phone during the confrontation, said the Sydney-based Greek City Times.

He was sitting next to Efi Achtsioglou, a member of SYRIZA and a security guard she pushed down when Bitakou asked: "Do you know Karavatis?"

"It kind of tells me something, but..." Tsipras replied. "He was a Macedonian fighter alongside Pavlos Melas," she told Tsipras

## Kotzias Says EU Should Bring in North Macedonia

TNH Staff

ATHENS – The man who fashioned the deal for the former ruling Radical Left SYRIZA that gave away the name of Macedonia to a newly-renamed North Macedonia said the European Union is making a mistake by not opening accession talks with the country.

Ex-foreign minister Nikos Kotzias, said it was "irresponsible" for the bloc's leaders not to provide a starting date for the talks even while North Macedonia – formerly the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) is battling a reputation for corruption.

"I admit I believed I had thought of all possible scenarios regarding the Prespes agreement," Kotzias tweeted about the agreement that takes its name from the lake bordering both countries where it was signed last year, ending a more than two-decade dispute, also removing Greek vetoes on what is now North Macedonia joining NATO and starting its EU hopes.

## Germany Answers Greek Demand for WWII Reparation: Nein

TNH Staff

Once again, Germany has told Greece there won't be any reparations paid for damages caused by the Nazis in World War II, repelling a request that was sent in June when the Radical Left SYRIZA was in power.

Germany's government, now under Chancellor Angela Merkel, insisted that a treaty signed in 1990 had settled the issue for good. SYRIZA sent a so-called note verbale, which was delivered by Greece's ambassador to Berlin to the German Foreign Ministry in June, asking the German government "to a negotiation for the practical satisfaction of these demands, which are of particular importance to the Greek people, as a moral and material issue."

In a diplomatic note to the Greek Ambassador, the German Foreign Ministry rejected the demand for compensation, adding that the issue is over although successive Greek governments have kept making the request.

## After Court Ruling Greek Pensioners Will Get Supplemental Boost

TNH Staff

ATHENS – Greek Labor and Social Insurance Minister Yannis Vrontsis said up to 465,000 pensioners receiving supplementary benefits would get an increase after a Council of State ruling from the county's highest administrative court.

The court last month threw out several provisions of a controversial 2016 social security reform package, passed by the previous Radical Left SYRIZA government. Vrontsis said the ministry's services were recalculating pensions, based on a ruling that held certain cuts in 2016 as unconstitutional – a development that will affect one in three benefits issued.

On average, he said that monthly supplementary pension rates will increase by 52.5 euros (\$58.55), on average, an annual increase of roughly 30 percent.

The primary beneficiaries will be pensioners who saw reductions in 2016 under a law limiting primary and supplementary benefits to a maximum of 1,300 euros (\$1,450) monthly.

## Novartis Whistleblower Forced to Accuse 10

TNH Staff

ATHENS – An alleged whistleblower who claimed 10 rival politicians of the former ruling Radical Left SYRIZA took bribes from the Swiss pharmaceutical company Novartis said he was forced to do so under pressure from corruption prosecutors.

Nikos Maniadaakis, a former Health Ministry adviser, testified before a Supreme Court prosecutor that he was squeezed by prosecutors he refused to name – it's common in Greece for charges to be made without identifying anyone.

He is one of four whistleblowers in the so-called scandal that has unraveled after none were able to produce a shred of evidence beyond their claims. One had been revealed earlier after being stopped at the international airport trying to get to Spain.

Several of the politicians targeted have sued to seek the names of their accusers that were protected under Greece's whistleblower law but Maniadaakis, said Kathimerini, testified to prosecutor Evangelos Zacharis, "I didn't see, participate in, or know of any illegal acts by politicians," recanting his own previous story.

He said was pressured to name former New Democracy leader and previous Premier Antonis Samaras, former health minister Adonis Georgiadis, and Bank of Greece Governor Yannis Stourmaras. There was no word on whether Maniadaakis would now be prosecuted for that.

Earlier this year Maniadaakis was charged with accepting bribes from the Swiss drug firm as payment for influencing Greek health policies. His lawyer, Theodoros Mandas, de-



EUROKINISSI/GIORGOS KONTARINIS

scribed his client's going from a protected witness to a defendant as "erroneous and incomprehensible."

Former ruling Radical Left SYRIZA leader Alexis Tsipras had declared his rivals were guilty of taking bribes – he has immunity from prosecution for slander – and said it was the biggest scandal in the history of the modern Greek state, but no evidence has been produced and the case has unraveled before his eyes.

SYRIZA's former alternate justice minister Dimitris Papanangelopoulos earlier angrily denied claims by a former anti-corruption prosecutor he

intervened into the alleged scandal and is being looked into for any role he may have had.

Eleni Raikou, who resigned in 2017 after complaining the former government, which then included the Independent Greeks (ANEL), pressured her over the Novartis case, presented evidence to Supreme Court deputy prosecutor Lambros Sofoulakis, looking into the case that has unraveled, with nine targets already cleared.

She told Sofoulakis that Papanangelopoulos "exploited his political power, in the manner of a pimp," to "dictate how certain important cases need to be handled" and "demanding in

## On Trial, Neo-Nazi Golden Dawn Coming Apart

TNH Staff

ATHENS – Losing a re-election bid for Parliament, its finances in disarray, and infighting and finger-pointing abounding, Greece's once-soaring ultra-extreme right Golden Dawn, accused of using neo-Nazi tactics, continued to implode during the fourth year of a trial of its hierarchy and dozens of members on charges of running a criminal gang, one accused of murder.

The trial of Golden Dawn picked up again with the testimony of former law makers MP Ilias Panagiotaros as Kathimerini said the party leaders were trying to blame members of local party organizations of wrongdoing to deflect blame from themselves.

Panagiotaros claimed that Giorgos Patelis and Ioannis Kazantzoglou, members of the Nikaia chapter in western Athens, were both ejected from after the killing of anti-fascist rapper Pavlos Fyssas in September 2013 for which another member, Giorgos Roupakias is accused.

Panagiotaros said the decision, and similar decisions following an attack on PAME Communist activists around the same time, was taken by party chief Nikos Michaloliakos without a prior meeting of the party's disciplinary committee.

Patelis had told the court, however that he had never been removed as did former lawmaker Nikos Michos who said he had urged party leaders to get rid of troublemakers but that it was never mentioned again. Asked about his description

of migrants as "subhumans," "scum" and "trash," Panagiotaros said he was only referring to migrants that commit crimes – but said that represents 99.9 percent of them in a blanket indictment.

Asked about photographs of GD members giving Nazi-style salutes, Panagiotaros said that this type of gesture was banned by the party although it was frequently shown in the media with thousands of pages of evidence indicating the party revered Hitler-style tactics.

Party leaders were trying to blame members of local party organizations of wrongdoing to deflect blame from themselves.

But in his testimony, former MP Kostas Barbarousis said that the Nazi salute "is the best there is," adding that "it has been demonized because it was used by Hitler."

The party was also jolted at the trial when Michos said Michaloliakos knew about the murder of Fyssas hours after it happened, contradicting testimony of Michaloliakos' wife that she and the party leader didn't learn of the killing until the next day although it was all over news in Greece as well as the international media.

Roupakias is out of pre-trial detention on house arrest as the trial drags on into its fourth year and expected to go on until 2020 as many defendants don't show up and aren't being compelled to attend.

Michos, who quit the party in 2017, told the court that he had never witnessed Michaloliakos ordering members to commit

crimes though, reported Kathimerini, as details of the phone calls exchanged between Michaloliakos and Yiannis Lagos, a former Piraeus Member of Parliament for the party – and now a Member of the European Parliament – said that the two men spoke shortly after Fyssas was knifed to death, allegedly by Roupakias in Keratsini, near Piraeus.

Michos also admitted that members of the Piraeus chapter were behind an attack on Egyptian fishermen in Perama in 2012

and said one of the reasons he quit was that he suspected money from some membership fees was being embezzled.

In a feature on its decline, The Guardian's Helena Smith reported it's more than a symbolic fall: the party's flag is torn, signs at its former headquarters are as broken as its once-defiant spirit when Michaloliakos was spitting fire at its enemies, its followers accused of beating migrants and being rampaging anti-semites while prosecutors said it was a criminal operation.

"The people put them in, the people threw them out," Giorgos Mavroeidis, the manager of a health-appliance shop near Golden Dawn's offices told the paper. "We got used to the rallies in the end but they were extremists to be sure," he said of the angry hordes of black-clad Golden Dawn supporters gathering like a storm cloud in the area.

some cases that criminal charges be brought at once," sources not named told Kathimerini.

He said that wasn't true. "In her letter of resignation, Mrs. Raikou didn't mention anything about me. On the contrary, she spoke about finding 28 million euros (\$30.77 million) of 'dirty' money, possibly even (given) to politicians," Papanangelopoulos said in a statement, continuing to push SYRIZA claims the scandal was real.

"A year and a half later, she invented 'Rasputin' as a distraction. Another year went by, and she dared mention my name. Everything Mrs. Raikou claims about a 'Rasputin' are lies," he added, in reference to a nickname given by witnesses to a politician they wouldn't name but claimed had meddled.

Raikou's testimony was sent to Parliament, which is conducting its own investigation into Papanangelopoulos' alleged involvement with the ruling New Democracy, which ousted SYRIZA and has a majority in the body, saying it would get to the bottom of the affair.

The former minister earlier denied everything and said there's no proof he did anything wrong, claiming that "this is an unprecedented attempt at a vengeful political persecution. The absence of any proof in the case file against me and against (former PM) Alexis Tsipras make this sordidness ridiculous."

Papanangelopoulos said the government is trying to "hide the truth" and "distract the Greek public in order to conceal the serious responsibilities not just in the Novartis scandal, but also in its investigation," but still didn't offer any evidence of any wrongdoing even now so far.

## Greece Moves to Clear Buildings of Squatters

Continued from page 1

ing the area upside down.

It started with the story of how on the early morning of August 26, dozens of asylum seekers and migrants woke up to the frightening sound of a helicopter buzzing above them to see riot police waiting outside to get them out of a building where they'd lived free for years.

After SYRIZA took power in 2015, several thousand of what is now more than 78,000 refugees and migrants seeking asylum when the European Union closed its borders to them after they'd fled their homelands and gone to Turkey as a jumping-off point before landing on Greek islands, preferred living in squats to detention centers and camps, what the report called a "dignified alternative" to the centers and camps even though the buildings may not have any services.

But police are now rapidly evicting refugees from squats to allegedly crack down on drug dealers, said OZY although the government said there's nothing alleged about as drug use and

dealing goes on openly and often out of control.

Ironically, the raids began in April when SYRIZA started cracking the whip after it got to be too much even for a government aligned with anarchist thinking after Rouvikonas attacked at will across the capital with no major arrests or prosecutions.

Greek leftists and anarchists embraced and protected the squats, vowing to guard them...

Then came Mitsotakis and the raids widened and intensified as he moved to honor his vow not to let the neighborhood be taken over, with law enforcement agencies moving out people from eight refugee squats in four separate raids over the past two months, pushing out 1000 people the report said.

"Unlike the previous government, which left refugees to migrate to new squats, New Democracy is hauling evicted refugees back to prisonlike camps and detention centers," said the report by reporter Mat Nashed.

"The new government is

pushing this myth about how bad the squats were and how great the camps are," Ioanna Manousakki-Adamopoulou, a Ph.D. candidate at the University College London, who has lived in and focused her research on the squats in Exarchia told the site.

She told the site that the truth is that the squats were self-

than 28,000 refugees and migrants in islands camps to detention centers on the mainland and not let any float around and live where they want, so that they can be tracked during asylum review processes.

It's not all on New Democracy. In March, SYRIZA ended UN housing accommodation and cash assistance for recognized refugees, according to a statement by the UN. Refugee Agency. "Squats are necessary because the state doesn't have a place to put everyone," said a Lebanese migrant who requested he be identified by his initials, A.Z.

One Syrian refugee named Mohammad, who didn't disclose his last name for fear of reprisal from authorities, noted that the police were less aggressive under the previous government. "I used to tell the police I was Syrian and they wouldn't ask me for legal papers, but now they're after us," he said, telling harrowing tales of harassment, saying the squatters preferred where they were to the camps and centers, but the option is now taken away too.

The government said it was going to move many of the more

# Greece Speeds Transfers of Island Refugees, Migrants to Mainland

TNH Staff

Overwhelmed with a surge of refugees and migrants to islands holding more than 28,000 of them, the Greek government is moving more to the mainland where detention centers and camps are holding another 50,000.

That came as the government said it would also get tougher on those who aren't eligible for asylum and keep appealing after saying it wanted to return them to Turkey — from where they had come after fleeing war and strife in their homelands — and speed sanctuary reviews.

Some 700 migrants and refugees arrived in the port of Elefsina near Athens from the island of Samos, officials said after another 120 people arrived from Lesbos at Greece's main port, Piraeus.

After a now essentially suspended swap deal between Turkey and the European Union, which closed its borders to refugees and migrants, had cut down on the arrivals there was another jump after New Democracy won July 7 snap elections, ousting the Radical Left SYRIZA.

Frustration over asylum review delays has led to frequent violence and tension in the centers and camps between ethnic groups and with riot police called in to quell the trouble, with island officials pleading



AP PHOTO/PETROS GIANNAKOURIS

**16 year-old Montaha from Aleppo, Syria, walks with her two-month-old daughter Batour after their arrival at the port of Elefsina, near Athens, on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019.**

again for aid.

In late September, a woman died in a fire in a tent in a camp on Lesbos, while a fire in an overcrowded camp in Samos forced hundreds of people into the streets this month.

"Our focus was mainly on Samos because we want things there to calm down," Migration

Ministry Secretary Manos Logothetis told Reuters with new Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis taking a hard line to deal with a flareup in the crisis.

Mitsotakis told his EU counterparts last week that the asylum law requiring refugees and migrants to seek sanctuary only in the country in which they

land — mostly Greece as they can't go to Germany first — should be reviewed.

Economic migrants will be returned to Turkey if they are not entitled to asylum, government spokesman Stelios Petsas said, with the government giving preference to those fearing for their lives after running away from wars in Syria and Afghanistan.

"If they give their money to traffickers hoping to permanently cross into Europe, they will only lose it," Petsas told reporters. "Even if they reach Greece, since they are not entitled to asylum, they will return to Turkey," he said.

"They can no longer come to Greece and apply for asylum hoping that they stay here forever, as it was the case with the previous government," Petsas said, referring to former prime minister Alexis Tsipras' administration, the report also said.

More than 12,000 people arrived in Greece in September, the highest level in the three-and-a-half years since the EU agreed to a deal with Turkey to seal the Aegean corridor to Europe, which includes a land border crossing at the Evros River as well.

Meanwhile, Greek lawmakers were giving a draft bill aimed at reducing the number of refugees and migrants trapped in the country by lengthy bureaucratic proce-

dures, said Kathimerini in a report on the worsening dilemma.

If passed, the new system would prevent appeals against negative asylum decisions that are not shown in an official brief to have legal merit, and end Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as a valid basis for an asylum claim, unless it is backed by ample medical evidence.

It would also allow asylum boards' rulings and decisions to be delivered to a legal representative of the claimant in the event that he or she cannot be located, thus allowing decisions to come into effect faster, while abolishing the right to temporary residence and work permits if a claim is rejected at the first degree, the report said, adding that movement of refugees and migrants would also be restricted.

Anyone protesting their transfer to another facility from a reception center or objecting to any other part of the system, for example, would be treated as reneging on their right to apply for asylum and claimants must stay at camps and centers.

Six organizations (Doctors Without Borders, Amnesty International, the Hellenic League for Human Rights, the Greek Council for Refugees, the Greek Forum of Migrants and Human-Rights360) criticized the legislation, particularly Article 46, which enables authorities to detain asylum seekers.

In a statement, they warned of "serious human rights violations...that will push a large number of people into a gray zone with no documents or rights," to protect people.

## Panel OK's ND Voting Scheme for Greeks Abroad

Continued from page 1

back-and-forth between parties who traditionally don't work with each other no matter how important the common ground would be as the rivalries are just too intense.

Only a couple of days before the consensus, the plan hit a roadblock over an amendment limiting the right to those out of the country for less than 30 years, which some said wasn't workable because state officials said there's no way to really determine that.

While the proposal would have prohibited those living outside Greece for more than 30 years from voting, raising questions of parity, the term limit put forward by the KKE Communists needed to help get enough votes in Parliament for the plan's passage hit a snag, said Kathimerini.

At that point, Theodorikakos suggested there shouldn't be a retroactive effect, and only apply to those who move from Greece in the future, the paper said.

While KKE spokesman Yiannis Giokas acknowledged the problem, he expected the Inte-

Theodorikakos said that the government still wants to find a way to make it easier for Greek citizens living abroad who are on the electoral rolls to be able to vote from their place of residence.

rrior Ministry to find other solutions to resolve the technical issue on its own.

Speaking after a meeting, Theodorikakos also said that the government still wants to find a way to make it easier for all Greek citizens living abroad who are on the electoral rolls to finally be able to vote from their place of residence.

The government plan would give the right to vote to diaspora Greek with a tax registration number, and that voting rights will be exercised in embassies and consulates, including a postal vote in some cases although it wasn't said if electronic voting was on the table. KKE reportedly insisted on the physical presence of voters at embassies and consulates and other venues, and rejected the right to having a postal vote.

Apparently fearing it would lose votes from the Diaspora, after a meeting of its political secretariat, the Leftists shifted position on New Democracy's plan to give full voting rights instead of only partial as SYRIZA had wanted, said Kathimerini.

SYRIZA leader Alexis Tsipras had rejected New Democracy's scheme, especially the premise that diaspora Greeks' votes should be equal to those voting in Greece, arguing that it would "distort the country's political balance."

The center-left Movement for Change (KINAL) as well as nationalist Greek Solution backed the initiative, with KKE and also MeRA25 initially supporting aspects of it with some reservations.

The MeRA25 party of former SYRIZA finance minister Yanis Varoufakis then said that it would also oppose the initiative, saying it was an attempt to "deceive" diaspora Greeks and to "violate" their voting rights.

In a written statement, the party said that its representatives had attended talks on the matter in good faith with "a great appetite for cooperation," but objecting to letting diaspora Greeks being able to cast their vote at foreign consulates but not choose specific candidates in the constituency where they are registered.

Tsipras was swayed by proposals by KKE and MeRA25, including that only diaspora Greeks who have been absent from their homeland for less than 30 years should have the right to vote, the Leftists reportedly believing there's votes in the field of Greeks who fled during a 9 1/2-year economic crisis.

# Exarchia Anarchists Furious at Airbnb, Warn Tourists

TNH Staff

**ATHENS** — Riled by the new New Democracy crackdown in the gritty, grimy, graffiti-covered neighborhood they dominate, anarchists in Exarchia are taking out their anger not only at police and other targets — and the government — but on tourists wanting an experience and using short-term rentals like Airbnb to spend their stay there.

The phenomenon has seen rent prices spike in an area where underground-style coffee shops and leftist talk predominates, pushed out long-time residents and coincided with the government making the anarchists, particularly the notorious Rouvikonas group, enemy number one.

Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said after taking office in winning July 7 snap elections, ousting the Radical Left SYRIZA to whom Exarchia is a symbol of defiance and a playground for anti-establishment groups, that he would wipe them out and stop lawlessness and violence after they paraded at will for 4 1/2 years under the Leftists' reign.

In a feature, the BBC noted that the target for anarchists is gentrification, with tourists — even with the critical cash they bring — not wanted. One door on a building was spray-painted "Evict Airbnb," the rental site that emptied other neighborhoods, especially those near the

Acropolis, of residents in favor of transient visitors.

As another warning, locks in the building of rented-out flats were jammed with nails and a statement then appeared online, the report said, with the ominous phrasing: "Instagram tourists, the cops won't save you. You are not welcome here and you are not safe here. Landlord, your door is next."

The post was shared by "Exarcheia Tourism," mocking the reason why the government welcomes the visitors even at the expense of seeing Greeks forced out of their residences for people from Shanghai to Montreal, Sydney to Cartagena, staying in a Greek anarchist neighborhood a few days.

The group's leaders, said the BBC, want to use social media to inspire direct action against gentrification — a word often repeated by Exarchia residents who are angry over the rising number of renters pouring in for a quaint time amidst types the Conservative government has stamped as defiant and even dangerous.

While Airbnb and other sites like it have seen protests in places such as New York, Lisbon, and Barcelona among others, the rage is perhaps strongest in Exarchia where anti-government forces are organized, tough, and not afraid even to tangle with riot police, let alone tourists.

In related action, mocking



EUROKINISSI

**The radical left Rouvikonas group that was allowed to run riot under the previous SYRIZA government responded to the new ND government's ongoing crackdown by storming the offices of the Health Minister and hurling red paint and flyers.**

New Democracy's mission to corral them, a Rouvikonas anarchist gang stormed into the political office of Health Minister Vassilis Kikilias and harassed his staff, leading him to respond they are cowardly and he won't

be cowed.

He went on Twitter to write: "To the Rouvikonas COWARDS who barged into my office and intimidated, threatened and bullied the staff: I WILL NOT BE TERRORIZED," adding a photo-

graph of a paint-splashed door and one of the flyers the troublemakers threw in the office, reading: "Keep your hands off public health."

There was no explanation what that meant and the attack came after Mitsotakis had squadrons of police sent in to go after drug dealers and empty abandoned buildings of squatters, with no organized response from the group.

Apart from scattering flyers, the Rouvikonas members — three men and a woman — also splashed paint and caused other damage to the office while police arrested a 23-year-old man over the incident but there's been no reports of any prosecutions of others held after similar incursions at a number of targets in Athens.

Rouvikonas members ran into the Labor Ministry earlier in October and scattered fliers with police detaining six people protesting changes to labor laws passed by the new Conservative government that makes it easier for companies to fire workers without giving notification. Previously, members who had been caught in their frequent assaults were not prosecuted.

While that was going on, the group said it would launch an official website without any report on whether the Greek police who probe the wrongful use of cyber space would be tracking them to find the IP address and their location.

# Turkey's U.S. Lobbyists Try to Bar Lifting of Cyprus Ban

Continued from page 1

Kilic's September letters urge Smith and Thornberry to drop the Cyprus language from the defense bill. The letters were distributed by Turkish lobbying firms Venable and Capitol Coun-

sel. The Senate version of the bill, which passed 86-8 in June, originally contained the provision. The language became part of the House defense bill after an amendment introduced by Reps. David Cicilline, D-R.I., and

Gus Bilirakis, R-Fla., passed 252-173 in July.

"The Republic of Cyprus has long been a key ally in the fight against terrorism and emerging threats in Europe, but for more than 25 years, this embargo has not reflected the strength and

importance of that relationship," Cicilline said after the House adapted his amendment.

Sen. Bob Menendez, from New Jersey, close to the Greek-American and Cypriot-American communities, initially pushed for the arms embargo to end as the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

With Turkey also unlawfully drilling for energy in Cypriot sovereign waters, the legitimate government there asked for the United Nations to intervene but was ignored as Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has proved unstoppable.

Lobbying disclosure firms reviewed by Al-Monitor reveal that the law firm DLA Piper met with Thornberry and Bilirakis on behalf of Greece in late 2018 as well as staffers for Cicilline and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee earlier this year.

The administration of the occupied territory of Cyprus, which only Turkey in the world recognizes, has its own lobbyist, Prime Policy Group, which the news site said had representatives meet with staffers for Menendez and Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman James Risch of Idaho earlier.

In March, after meeting Cyprus's Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikos Christodoulides who was in Washington, D.C., Menendez said that, "we are getting ever closer" to ending an arms embargo preventing the purchase of weapons.

In statement after a meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where he is a ranking member, Menendez also

said that "we are really enthused about the role Cyprus is continuously taking in exercising leadership in the region," reported Kathimerini.

"I have always had a view of lifting the arms embargo. I think we are getting ever closer and to the credit of the Cypriot government they have taken a series of actions that I think makes that move possible," he said.

That's been said before without result. In January, Christodoulides said the embargo was going to be lifted because the United States saw the "added value" of allowing Cyprus to acquire military equipment that would help enhance its capabilities to boost regional security.

The embargo was imposed in 1987 with the aim of preventing an arms buildup that would hamper diplomatic efforts to reunify divided Cyprus. The island was split along ethnic lines in 1974 when Turkey illegally invaded in the wake of a coup aimed at union with Greece.

Christodoulides said the process to lift the embargo has been set in motion in the U.S. Congress, reflecting a "positive shift" in that Washington no longer views Cyprus solely as an unsettled conflict of ethnic division.

"This is proof, if you like, of the recognition by the U.S. administration of the positive role that Cyprus plays as a pillar of stability and security in the broader region," Christodoulides said then, without that hope being realized as yet as the drama in the East Mediterranean continues to play out.

## HIDDEN GREECE

Andy Dabilis' camera captures the texture of life in today's Greece, in all its colorful variations.



TNH/ANDY DABILIS

The Gang's All Here

In a scene repeated in ouzeris, park benches, tavernas and across Greece, elderly men gather for the daily talk to solve the country's problems, this group in the western Athens neighborhood of Peristeri, at their regular hangout.

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**Publisher-Editor Vanessa Diamataris**

Assistant to the Publisher, Advertising Veta H. Diamataris Papadopoulos

Assistant Executive Editor Eleni Sakellis

Religion Editor Theodore Kalmoukos

Production Manager Chryssoula Karametros

Website Co-Editor Achilleas Kouremenos

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e-mail: english.edition@thenationalherald.com

Democritou 1 and Academias Sts, Athens, 10671, Greece  
Tel: 011.30.210.3614.598, Fax: 011.30.210.3643.776, e-mail:  
athens@ekirikas.com

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## Giannis Prepares for Fatherhood & Carrying Bucks

By Eraklis Diamataris

Never before in North American sports history have we seen a professional sports franchise systematically build their team around a Greek person or one of Greek descent prior to the reigning NBA MVP, Giannis Antetokounmpo. Here we are as the new 2019-2020 NBA season is in its infancy and the Milwaukee Bucks have given the keys of the franchise to the 'Greek Freak'. With a \$100 million contract the Bucks have let him know just how much they value his abilities on an NBA court and how much they value his image and brand off of it. To achieve their ultimate goal of winning an NBA championship, the Bucks will need to start convincing high-priced free agents to go to Milwaukee to help out Giannis.

Between his soaring dunks, his improved jump shot and his unrelenting defense, Giannis has become known as one of the good guys of the NBA, caring deeply about his Greek and Nigerian roots while also getting increasingly involved with the local Milwaukee community now that he has signed a multiyear extension and knows he will be there for some time.

It's a season unlike any other for a Greek athlete. Arguably not since the days of Pete Sampras, one of the greatest tennis players to ever pick up a racquet, has a Greek person entered their competitive season as the favorite to finish first in the rankings of their craft. This new NBA season at some point will be a landmark season for Giannis for a different reason, one that has nothing to do with basketball. Likely before Christmas, Giannis Antetokounmpo will become a father for the first time as Mariah Riddleprigger, his longtime girlfriend, is pregnant.

Being the type of man that he has shown himself to be, Giannis will be expected to experience a plethora of emotions. Having lost his own father who was only in his 50s suddenly just a few years ago, before his NBA superstardom truly took hold, one can only imagine how many times in the last two years Giannis wondered how different and how wonderful it would be to have him see the many accomplishments of his son, but also to become a grandfather soon.

On the court, the Bucks' ship sinks or sails with Giannis. Antetokounmpo's game speaks for itself on the basketball court and this season will show just how far he can carry the Bucks and how he will handle the greatest responsibility he's ever been entrusted, becoming a father. Heartfelt congratulations to a man who makes Greeks all over the world proud every day and to his girlfriend.

### PRESS CLIPPING

## The Rights and Obligations of Hellenes Abroad

By Antonis H. Diamataris\*

The souls of Hellenes abroad are rejoicing over the debate taking place in Greece about the right to vote from one's place of residence. They are pleased that a discussion is finally happening regarding their rights, and not only their obligations, to their homeland, as has been the case for decades.

It's about time.

Undoubtedly, Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis' meetings with the leaders of other political parties on the issue of voting, with most of them addressing the issue in positive terms, is tangible proof of the seriousness with which the country is dealing with this issue.

However, one would expect that this opportunity, an opportunity to make a breakthrough at the international level in our national reconstitution and to forge even closer relations between the Diaspora and the homeland, would be seized by all 300 members of our Parliament.

Wouldn't this be a shocking success that the revolutionary technological developments of our time could make possible? And would this initiative not help further restore the credibility of the political world?

I hope this opportunity will not be lost.

I also hope that some politicians will not continue to mock the intelligence of expatriates.

Because it hurts our brothers and sisters. It repels them. It provokes them.

And as a Nation, we no longer have the luxury of indulging in such indifference and insensitivity.

I was recently in Los Angeles where I had the opportunity to pray at the beautiful Church of Aghia Sophia founded by pioneering filmmaker Spyros Skouras.

There, a young immigrant from Cephalonia with pain in

his voice told me:

"But why do some politicians in our country insult us? Isn't it enough that they forced us to migrate? Are we now considered second-class Greeks too? Why should our vote differ from that of other Greeks? And why can't we vote by letter?"

Really, Why?

It is a godsend that opinion polls show that our people are in favor of Diaspora voting – overwhelmingly.

But I'm worried about the fact that while we talk about expatriates, we find it somewhat unnecessary to ask for their opinion.

And in the worst of cases, let those people indulging in insults think about what they are saying because they are being watched by Greeks on every corner of the Earth.

You see, today, in 2019, the news has no borders, as much as this may surprise some.

And let's all understand that neither Greece nor the Diaspora have the 'luxury' of continuing on separate journeys – separate from one another.

The demographics are relentless. There is also a clear need for the reconfiguration of our nation's forces.

Today this is possible. The only ones who do not seem to realize this are those who identify themselves as "progressive" but tragically seem to only be capable of looking backwards.

One has to have been living in a cave for the last few decades to not know that the distance that separates us from the Diaspora is no more than a click on our computer.

Something similar separates us from the judgment of history.

This commentary was first printed in the newspaper TA NEA on Monday, Oct. 21. Antonis H. Diamataris is Deputy Foreign Minister responsible for Hellenes Abroad

### On the Meaning of Greek Orthodox

To the Editor:

In a recent piece by Dennis Menos titled, Uniting Orthodoxy in America Should Be Our Priority, he mistakenly refers to 'Greek' in Greek Orthodox as only an ethnic designation. The 'Greek' in Greek Orthodox pertains to the Greek world that served as the rich cultural backdrop for the rise and spread of Christianity. Yes, it pertains to the Greek language, but also to Greek philosophy and Greek

culture that prevailed in the Greek world at the time. Jesus' Disciples used the Greek language and Greek philosophical terms to teach the Gospel. They also wrote the New Testament in Greek. Cyril and Methodius, two Greek brothers from Thessaloniki, Greece, Christianized the Slavs.

All Orthodox Christians are Greek Orthodox, whether they refer to themselves as Antiochian, Bulgarian, Serbian, Romanian, Russian Orthodox, etc...In other words, all Orthodox Christians are Greek Ortho-

dox, as opposed to Roman Catholic or Protestant.

Eva M. Economou-Economy  
Glenview, IL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### 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 eleni.sakellis@ekirikas.com. We reserve the right to edit letters for publication and regret that we are unable to acknowledge or return those left unpublished.



GEORGE SARAFOGLOU / SPECIAL TO THE NATIONAL HERALD

### ANALYSIS

## With Frankness, Honesty and Directness

By Theodore Kalmoukos

Presiding over his first meeting of the Archdiocesan Council and delivering the keynote speech with frankness, honesty and directness the community is not used to from its leaders, he stunned everybody.

I don't use the term 'stunned' inadvertently, nor exaggeratedly, but on the basis of the numerous telephone and e-mail messages that I received from members of the Archdiocesan Council, and also from Athens, Europe, and Constantinople. I was touched especially by the messages of the people of the new generation, men and women, who in the person of Elpidophoros find again their lost hope and optimism.

I know firsthand that there such young people who are real diamonds in the community, and who every time Archbishop Elpidophoros visits Boston they leave their jobs, they change their schedule and rush to go where he Liturgizes to see him, and receive Holy Communion from his hands. They are young people who were chased away from the Church by the local hierarchy's spiteful behavior. Now Elpidophoros, among the other chaotic things he has found after assuming office, is called upon to heal such wounds.

The promise and the decla-

ration of the Archbishop that the Opening of the Doors of the nave of St. Nicholas at the World Trade Center in Manhattan will be done on September 11, 2021, which was repeated and endorsed by the new vice chairman of the Archdiocesan Council John Catsimatidis, was the first official announcement on that chronic issue that Elpi-

**The Archbishop promised that the Opening of the Doors of the nave of St. Nicholas at the World Trade Center in Manhattan will be done on September 11, 2021.**

dophoros has inherited.

Also, the Archbishop with none of the tergiversation and hypocritical cover ups that we were used to in the past - "it's all good, everything is nice" said with boldness and sincerity that our Archdiocese "has suffered from a lack of transparency, a lack of funds and, yes, a lack of trust." He emphasized that "what we genuinely want and need for our Archdiocese is transparency, accountability, and responsibility" and he added that "we all know the problems of our present circumstances and are well aware of the issues that occurred in the

past. For this reason, I ask you - rather, I need you - to be committed to speaking up, speaking out, and speaking the truth in love. We must be honest with each other about the state of our Church." Straight talk!

Rightly and prudently he emphasized that "we are all members of one Holy Archdiocese of America. We are not divided into metropolises, and parishes, and departments, and organizations, and institutions. As the Charter from our Holy Mother Church states: "The Archdiocese, being the Eparchy of the Ecumenical Throne in the United States of America, is one indivisible entity in its entirety." (Article 3, para. a.)"

Let me say it one more time that the fragmentation caused by the system of Metropolitanates must be healed as soon as possible in order for the Archdiocese to find again its unity and dynamism. Besides that, the Metropolises cost a lot of money since every local hierarchy is totally unchecked - until now. He does whatever he wants, he spends as much as he wants, and acts as if he is 'independent'.

What was most shocking were the Archbishop's revelations about the Theological School when he said, "I will be frank with you: our School has been sinking for a long time. I saw it myself when I taught

there fifteen years ago. I cannot tell you the shock that I felt when I learned how close we had come to losing our accreditation and our ability to even grant a degree. I say these things not in a pessimistic manner, but in a spirit of truth, concern and love, with much hope for the future of our School."

Astonishing! Not that I didn't know the chaotic situation of the School - after all The National Herald made the revelations about the dire condition of the School - but the Archbishop's statements were simply a painful verification. I am certain that Elpidophoros will reorganize the School on all levels, as he did at Halki. I simply want to emphasize one more time that the appointment of a new president is extremely urgent so that the School is relieved from the presence of Methodios at least from within its walls, because the School will not find its peace as long as he is in Boston. The purge of our Church in America from the long years of pestiferous conditions and pathologies should be multi-leveled and multidimensional. After all, they are not unknown, those led our Church into its dual virtual bankruptcy, spiritual and financial. Now, it is time to act towards the reconstruction and resurrection of the Church, otherwise our historic end is lurking.

### COMMENTARY

## The Democrats Must Broaden Their Horizons

A recurring theme in this column is debunking false accusations made against the president of the United States: Trump, Obama, Bush, whoever.

Of the countless accusations hurled against Trump presented as fact, some are actually accurate (most are not). But for the sake of argument - and only for that sake - let's assume for the moment that all of them are true. That he really did describe Mexicans as "rapists" and "thugs." That he did make fun of a reporter's physical disability. That he did tell four Congresswomen to go back to the countries from which they came. That he did collude with Russia to win the 2016 election. Let's take our Trump derangement - oops, sorry, "analysis" - a step further and conclude that he is morally and mentally unfit to be president, and that the best way to save our nation is either to impeach and convict him or to invoke the 25th Amendment and oust him from office now, because he's just plain bonkers. Bad Trump. Bad, bad Trump. Fine, we got it.

Among the many others touting that message are Democratic presidential hopefuls, twelve of whom gathered for yet another debate on October 15. They barely had enough time to yell out their website address and diligently balanced their time between looking for their break-out punchline and bashing the sitting president. If these twelve are really serious about winning, would it not behoove them to broaden their horizons and reach out to the 60 million or so Republican voters, a good chunk of whom may be on the fence this time around?

Watching that debate confirmed the partisan and ideological dichotomy plaguing our nation. The Democratic version of that bubble focuses on an array of familiar themes: meeting with a single mom who can't afford medical checkups for her-

self and her children... a Guatemalan PHI (Person Here Illegally) who graduated valedictorian of her high school class and now faces the risk of deportation...farmers going broke because they can't sell their surplus of soybeans due to Trump's tariffs (Democrats don't do too well with farmers, but, hey, Iowa's the first primary contest)... the melting polar ice cap that will cause major U.S. cities to be plunged underwater by 2040...a two-income family on the campaign trail - a teacher and a truck driver - having to skip dinner twice a week in order to pay the electric bill...and so on.

**If these 12 are really serious about winning, would it not behoove them to broaden their horizons and reach out to the 60 million or so Republican voters...**

While these issues certainly merit consideration, why is it that all Democrats seem to care about is the impoverished, the unhealthy, and the disenfranchised? Is that all that American government is supposed to be - lending a helping hand to the neediest? What about all of the other issues tens of millions of Americans care about just as much, and maybe more so?

Democrat, Republican, and independent voters would all be better off if the Democratic candidates were asked the following questions at the next few debates and by reporters while on the campaign stump:

1. Our immigration system needs fixing in many areas, but let's address illegal entry and stay, specifically. How important is it to you to secure our nation's borders, tighten monitoring of

legal nonimmigrants so that they do not overstay their allotted time, place heavy sanctions on employers who hire PHIs, and enforce the existing federal law that it is a crime to enable a PHIs continued illegal status in any way?

2. The United States is the world's foremost economic, military, and political superpower. Americans gener-

ally believe that while we should not use our superior might to bully the world, we should certainly not allow ourselves to be pushed around, either. What would you do, as president, to ensure that the United States throws its weight around on the world stage as an

active force for good?

3. Even though our country remains roughly divided in half in terms of its political/ideological leanings, three of the most influential factors in Americans' lives - teachers, the media, and movies/television - remain overwhelmingly Democrat/ liberal/progressive. Even though you disagree philosophically with the Republican/conservative platform, in the interest of fairness, what would you do to ensure that it is more justly and equally represented in schools, in the press, and in our films and television shows?

4. As a follow-up, Americans' faith in the media continues to deteriorate, as reflected in poll after poll. The press seems to be increasingly biased and agenda-driven, whereas its news stories should be neutral and objective,



by CONSTANTINIOS E. SCAROS

Special to  
The National Herald

and any bias should appear only on its opinion pages. As president, what would you do to help reestablish Americans' trust in the media?

5. Despite all of the positive statistics about falling crime and cities being safe, there remain many communities and neighborhoods in the United States that are dangerous and deadly. There is simply no excuse for that in the 21st century anywhere, and particularly in the world's foremost superpower. What would you do as president to create a mindset of zero tolerance on crime, where communities and law enforcement work together to eradicate it from our streets?

6. Our political discourse in America gets uglier and uglier. There was a time not too long ago when Americans argued politics in a good-natured almost half-joking manner, much like sports fans of opposing teams do. Nowadays, however, people who support a particular candidate - regardless of political affiliation of party - are treated by others as a hateful pariah, a horrible human being deserving condemnation. Whatever happened to the days when Republican Ronald Reagan and Democrat Tip O'Neill would fight it out politically during the day then go out for a beer as friends in the evening? What would you do as president to bring America back to that mindset?

These are all questions that Democratic presidential candidates are almost never asked, and almost never discuss. And whether or not Donald Trump is president, or even exists, has nothing to do with it. It's time Democrats broaden their horizons and bring these issues to the forefront of the presidential race.

Constantinios E. Scaros' latest book, *Stop Calling Them "Immigrants,"* is available in print and Kindle formats on amazon.com.

## Greece, Cyprus, and the Betrayal of the Kurds

President Trump's abrupt withdrawal of American troops from Syria is a tragic continuation of decades-long inept American actions in the Middle East. The immediate victims are the region's Kurds, but there are ominous long-term consequences for the national security of Greece, Cyprus, and the United States.



Special to  
The National Herald  
by PROF. DAN  
GEORGAKAS

a strong supporter of Trump, also was aghast. He condemned the Turkish invasion of the Kurdish regions of Syria as unacceptable ethnic cleansing. He stated that Israel was prepared to extend humanitarian aid to the "gallant Kurdish people," but as yet, such aid has not materialized.

Domestic criticism of Trump's actions has been extensive. Several Republican senators have vigorously expressed their disapproval of Trump's decisions. More dramatically, a majority of House Republicans joined House Democrats in condemning the president's unilateral withdrawal of U.S. troops by a vote of 354-60.

The president responded to critics by imposing a trickle of trade sanctions on the Turkish state and some individuals. But he was unable to admit the gravity of his error. With the horse already out of the barn, he wrote a bizarre letter to Turkey's President Erdogan threatening to wreck the Turkish economy, not if it refused to withdraw its troops, but only if the invasion went too far. In highly undiplomatic language, he advised Erdogan. "Don't be a tough guy. Don't be a fool...I will call you later."

In one of his absurdist moments, Trump denounced the Kurds for not participating in the invasion at Normandy. More relevant might be that 'neutral' Turkey provided strategic war materials to the Nazis until the final months of World War II. So, the Turks were indirectly present at Normandy, but on the other side.

American's betrayal of the Kurds needs to be of concern to Cyprus. Turkey is determined that Cyprus will not be unified and has stated its 35,000 occupying troops will not be removed. Turkey also is demanding a share in mining the fossil fuel deposits in Cyprus's territorial waters. War ships already protect Turkish drilling operations in the area. If Turkey becomes more aggressive on mainland Cyprus or in Cypriot waters, it is far from a certainty that the United States would defend the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus.

Greece, too, is threatened by Turkey's aggressive policies. Erdogan is determined to seize some of Greece's Aegean Islands. Turkish fighter jets violate Greek airspace daily. Although Greece has excellent relations with the American government, whether the United States would defend Greece if Turkey created a military incident is questionable. Greece and Turkey are both members of NATO, but the United States and the other NATO members have taken no measures against Turkey's unacceptable provocations against a fellow member.

Abandoned by the United States and Europe, the Kurds have turned to Russia as its major military ally, have compromised with Assad, and have accepted indirect aid from Iran. This is an enormous strategic setback for the United States. Even more critical is that political forces in the Eastern Mediterranean believe the United States has become an unreliable ally.

**Prof. Georgakas is Director of the Greek American Studies Project at Queens College – CUNY and Consulting Editor of CINEASTE magazine.**

## Don't Count on Trump for Greece

Many, perhaps a plurality of Greek-Americans support President Trump, even to the point of treating him as a cult-like figure that can do no wrong. They have every right to their views for whatever reason. However, after the events of the last two weeks, I would hope none are so delusional as to believe that Trump would deter Erdogan should he provoke a crisis with Greece and Cyprus. Erdogan has achieved in Northern Syria his first step in righting the wrongs inflicted on the Ottoman Empire after WWI. He will, almost certainly, proceed to continue to restore Turkish glory. We should expect him to start by moving to control the economic riches of the Eastern Mediterranean as ordained by history, Erdogan, and God (the latter two being occasionally indistinguishable).

He has clearly laid out the next step: asserting control of the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of Greece and Cyprus currently denied him by the terms of the Law of the Sea Treaty (LOST). Turkish geologic exploration and drilling ships already operate in the Cyprus EEZ directly over proven gas deposits between Cyprus and Lebanon. Turkey refuses to recognize the Greek EEZ extending south from the Island of Kastellorizo. Turkey asserts the right to exclusive exploitation of the seabed all the way to the Egyptian EEZ. Grab a map. If Turkey's claims go unchallenged, you can say goodbye to Cypriot natural gas development and pipelines from Cyprus to Greece. So far, the United States has issued warnings even flabbier than the sanctions imposed on Turkey for slaughtering our Kurdish allies. We imposed tariffs on Turkish steel we do not buy and stopped a trade negotiation that had already stopped. In any event, we "withdrew" these sanctions after Erdogan rolled Pence and Pompeo a week later.

Let's assume one very likely scenario. A Turkish drilling ship parks itself about twenty miles south of Kastellorizo and starts drilling in what the LOST recognizes as the Greek EEZ. Athens protests to the United States and the EU who in turn protest to Ankara. The Turks keep drilling; every day they drill Greek legal rights erode. Greece threatens to remove the drilling ship by force; Turkey responds by surrounding it (and Kastellorizo) with warships and dares Greece to shoot first or accept a fait accompli. The EU gesticulates and NATO paralyzes (as always) in a dispute between two Alliance allies. We have seen this movie before; it was called "The Imia Crisis of 1996." Greek warships were a couple of hours away from striking Turkish



by AMB. PATRICK N.  
THEROS

Special to  
The National Herald

**Erdogan has achieved in Northern Syria his first step in righting the wrongs inflicted on the Ottoman Empire after WWI. He will, almost certainly, proceed to continue to restore Turkish glory.**

forces on Imia when, at the 11th hour, President Clinton telephoned Ankara and the Turks withdrew. Clinton was not the first American President to intervene to prevent the two countries from going to war. Dwight Eisenhower intervened after the 1955 Constantinople massacres. Lyndon Johnson called off a Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1964.

Does anyone seriously expect Donald Trump to force Erdogan to step back and stop drilling? Not if what just happened in Syria with the Kurds is any indication. Trump took a call from Erdogan. The next day he blindsided his entire administration

by ordering the withdrawal of U.S. troops and inviting Turkey to enter Syria and establish a 20-mile deep "security corridor" over the dead bodies of our Kurdish allies.

Greece has established a new and very strong relationship with the U.S. military. The Kurds were actually fighting side-by-side with the U.S. military. Trump tossed that relationship into the garbage can. He then derided the Kurds saying "they never fought at Normandy" and "they live in the sand."

Trump's admiration for the Turkish strongman never ceases to surprise. He apologized to Erdogan after his goons beat up demonstrators in front of the Turkish Embassy. He tried extralegal pressure on the Justice

Department to extradite a Turkish exile in the United States to Turkey. Trump insulted General Mattis, his Secretary of Defense, who resigned in disgust at Trump's decision to abandon the Kurds to the tender mercies of the Turks. Trump tried to keep the Turks in the F-35 fighter program despite the decision of the U.S. Military to expel Turkey after it bought the Russian S-400 missiles.

Trump's relationship with Erdogan rivals his bromance with Putin. But, why? Admittedly, Trump has no compunction about advancing his business interests over those of his own country. In 2016 Erdogan called

for removing Trump's name from his towers in Istanbul over Trump's anti-Muslim rhetoric; by 2019 Trump speaks glowingly of those Towers. What transpired in the meantime? Promises of more Towers? Trump seems to particularly admire Erdogan for turning a nascent Turkish democratic system into one-man rule; perhaps because he wants to learn how to do the same in the United States? Nor should we assume that Trump has any particular affection for Greek-Americans. The half-life of Greek Americans serving in the administration is about six months. Remember some guys named Priebe, Gigicos and Papadopoulos?

One's mind occasionally drifts into more sinister explanations. Erdogan's management of the Khashoggi murder in Saudi Arabia's Istanbul consulate was a masterpiece of political choreography. He exploited with genius the achievements of what most admit is Turkey's superb intelligence service. He singlehandedly torpedoed a seventy-year-old alliance between the Saudis and the United States. If the Khashoggi affair is any indication, the Turks can run circles around the Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight in the White House at digging up dirt. Perhaps, there is something on Trump or his kids...?

Erdogan must be salivating at the opportunities for his ambitions that five (or more) years of Trump as President could provide. Some of those ambitions will come at the expense of Greece and Cyprus.

**Patrick Theros served in the U.S. foreign service for 36 years. He was U.S. Ambassador to Qatar and also directed the State Department's Counterterrorism Office. He currently represents the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem in the United States.**

### LETTER FROM ATHENS

## The Crazy End of Golden Dawn Looms

Apparently unable to find any more recruits who couldn't pass its illiteracy test or name the top hate crimes in history, Greece's Neo-Nazi Golden Dawn is headed for the dustbin of history where it belongs, its finances crumbling after narrowly missing out in July 7 snap elections to get back into Parliament, the hierarchy and dozens of members in the fourth year of a trial on charges of running a criminal gang – one accused of murder – and trouble in the lifeboat.

These people are crazier than the KKK and make that gang of racists former Grand Wizard David Duke look like Patty Duke and with their ship sinking like a stone, there's finger pointing and blame being cast all around, sweet to watch as they dissolve and implode from the weight of their own bile, infighting abounding during the trial which is drawing yawns except for when Giorgos Roupakias, accused of murdering anti-Fascist hip-hop artist Pavlos Fyssas in 2013 is found guilty, taken off the house arrest where he's been watching TV and put in the slammer.

The trial picked up again with the testimony of former lawmakers MP Ilias Panagiotaros as Kathimerini said the party leaders were trying to blame members of local party organizations of wrongdoing to deflect blame from themselves.

Panagiotaros claimed that Giorgos Patelis and Ioannis Kazantzoglou, members of the

Nikaia chapter in western Athens, were both ejected from the party after the killing of Fyssas, which drew international attention and outrage.

Panagiotaros said the decision, and similar decisions following an attack on PAME Communist activists around the same time, was taken by party chief Nikos Michaloliakos without a prior meeting of the party's disciplinary committee. Patelis had told the court, however, that he had never been removed as did former law-



by ANDY  
DABILIS

Special to  
The National Herald

makers 99.9 percent of them in a blanket indictment. That's the kind of mentality we're talking about.

Entering Parliament in January 2015 – the ignominious poll that elevated the Looney Left SYRIZA to power for 4 ½ ruinous years – Golden Dawn got 6.9 percent of the vote, proving that 388,387 Greeks could be certified as equally insane as the party leaders and members.

By the July snap elections this year won by New Democracy, that fell to 2.97 percent, just below the 3 percent threshold needed to get back into Parliament where Golden Dawn lawmakers made up the peanut gallery.

At the trial, asked about photographs of members giving Nazi-style salutes, Panagiotaros said that this type of gesture was banned by the party although it was frequently shown in the media with thousands of pages of

evidence indicating the party revered Hitler-style tactics.

But testifying, former MP Kostas Barbarousis said that the Nazi salute, "is the best there is," adding "it has been demonized because it was used by Hitler."

The party was also jolted at the trial when Michos said Michaloliakos knew about the murder of Fyssas hours after it happened, contradicting testimony of Michaloliakos' wife that she and the party leader didn't learn of the killing until the next day.

In a feature on its decline, The Guardian's Helena Smith reported it's more than a symbolic fall: the party's flag is tom, signs at its former headquarters are as broken as its once-defiant spirit when Michaloliakos was spitting fire at its enemies, its followers accused of beating migrants and being rampaging anti-semites while prosecutors said it was a criminal operation. "The people put them in, the people threw them out," Giorgos Mavroeidis, the manager of a health-appliance shop near Golden Dawn's offices told the paper. "We got used to the rallies in the end but they were extremists to be sure," he said of the angry hordes of black-clad Golden Dawn supporters gathering like a storm cloud in the area.

So turn out the lights on Golden Dawn because that party is over.

[adabilis@thenationalherald.com](mailto:adabilis@thenationalherald.com)

## Rhodes – A Veritable Paradise on Earth...

By Constantine S. Sirigos

You think you know your country, and then you visit a place nobody ever told you about, and you really have to ask yourself "am I awake?" Even though every Greek knows it, Rhodes is like that, more King Arthur than Alexander the Great, more Eleanor of Aquitaine than Helen of Troy.

Rhodes' magic includes the homes of knights, magnificent castles few people know existed in Greece – in Rhodes Town it's the Palace of the Grand Masters of the Knights of St. John – the grand gothic gateways into delightful Old Town Rhodes with its wonderful twists and turns lined with shops, eateries, and watering holes, Frankish and Turkish fountains and houses of worship.

And amidst the fascinating diversity, ancient and contemporary Greece also invites and enchants with the Hellenic spirit and touch.

Oh, and the taste. The grand

variety of restaurants and food beckons everywhere. Prepared well, fresh, served by polite and friendly people in attractive venues and hotels – I must note Greece has come a long way in the customer service area. Bravo.

I did not mention the colors. Yes, the eternal blue sky and the deep blue sea we know well – but the Green! Yes, with a capital 'g' – so Green!

Cyprus, fertile and astride the Mediterranean's trade routes was always a rich place. In classical and Hellenistic times, it produced and attracted artists and architects who rivaled the mainland's best.

One stands awestruck before the silent but eloquent temple columns atop the acropolises of Rhodes Town and Lindos. The imagination runs wild trying to envisage what the renowned statue of the Sun God, the Colossus of Rhodes, looked like and where it actually stood (to paraphrase the Italian quip, "ten Greeks, ten theories). And you

can't help wondering what the sites and the undulating sea that continually kiss the fine beaches look like beneath a full moon.

The archaeological museum is excellent, drawing many foreigners, but it seems local tourism officials and venues have also created cultural events that

**Rhodes' magic includes the homes of knights, magnificent castles...**

bring visitors into contact with the island's talented youth and artists. Bravo again.

Visiting in mid-October, I was also impressed with the success of Greek tourism authorities' efforts to expand the season outside. Another bravo.

Diaspora Greeks, especially ones like me who submitted to both the strong and subtle pulls of the homeland and moved here, swell with pride when we see non-Greeks fall in love with Greece. They swoon over the

natural beauty – sun, sea, earth – the art in museums and ruins that are more glorious than the intact monuments and contemporary 'treasures' of other countries, the food that delights the palate and music that gets fingers tapping and feet moving despite having no idea what is being sung (yes, some of the most shattering rebetika lyrics have remarkably upbeat music).

Most of all, they gush over the warm welcome, our renowned philoxenia.

But we often tune out when they speak of the specific places they go to – because we only have eyes for our own villages and islands. Get over it.

I have begun to think that we Diaspora Greeks know our Ellada less well than the tourists. No bravo there. Yes, visit yiayia and pappou – but go to your friends' places too.

Greece is not close to reaching its tourism potential – not only because we don't (and we should) bring our non-Greek

friends, but because we ourselves don't know the whole country, and the delights of serendipitous strolls in places we are not familiar with, like the one when I stumbled across the 'roloi', the Clock tower of Rhodes Town, where you can climb all the way up to a commanding view – and where on clear days (it is usually a hidden menace) Turkey looms – but that is the other story of Greece's Eastern Isles we must also take more seriously.

My point is, let's not forget the rest of Greece. But let's not forget the other Greeks, either.

One of the fun and necessary things to do in places like Rhode's Old Town is to explore alleyways. Serendipity, who does not live in the guidebooks, is calling – but hers is not the only voice and face you will encounter. In tourism-enriched Rhodes, the Greek crisis lingers, making one wonder if there is adequate support from those who prosper for those left behind.

"Δεν μπορώ – I can't take it any longer" cried out a random man as I walked through Platia Athinas. From a distance he seemed unkempt, wild eyed, and carrying a filthy bag – the marks of homelessness. Maybe he was joking around – but there were other signs. Not far away I noticed a kindly old lady, apparently on a pleasant stroll. Only a stray thought of mine caused me to retrace my steps, again bringing me into contact with her, but now discerning her purpose and destination. Plastic bag in hand, she was rummaging through a garbage dumpster.

Are there adequate municipal and charitable social services in this island paradise, and should permanent residents and visitors care more? Prompted by religion or philosophy, should we Greeks and Orthodox ponder that as we tout the New Greece that seems to finally be under construction, we should care more about the people who are inevitably left behind?

## CNN Travel Features Greece's Top Villages to Visit



Kastro, Siphnos

TNH/CONSTANTINE SIRIGOS



Pyrgi, Chios



Assos, Kefalonia

### TNH Staff

**NEW YORK** – Greece is well-known as a destination for summer vacations, but there are many places to visit year-round.

CNN Travel recently published its list of the "Top Greek villages to visit" including island and mountain locations, some well-known and others perhaps not so well-known. CNN's list: Assos, Kefalonia; Chora, Folegandros; Oia, Santorini; Litochoro, Pieria; Lindos, Rhodes; Apiranthos, Naxos; Papingo, Pindos; Kalarites, Ioannina; Katastari, Zakynthos; Kastro, Siphnos; Archanes, Crete; Arnea, Halkidiki; Ano Syros, Cyclades; Pyrgi, Chios; Stemnitsa, Arcadia; and Agios Georgios Nilias, Pelion. What villages are missing from the list?



Litochoro, Pierias

## National Treasure Loss, Greece Not Marketing Olive Oil Wealth

### TNH Staff

With its world-class olive oil winning kudos and awards in contests and a country whose very symbol is the olive tree, Greek producers and governments have let the international market slip away to countries and lesser brands.

In a feature, Politico pointed to the irony of the loss, noting that famed poet and Nobel Prize winner Odysseas Elytis wrote that through the ages of occupation and setbacks that Greece would always be able to resurrect itself if it was left with only an olive, a vine, and a boat.

That hasn't helped the olive oil industry gain a foothold for a product synonymous with a country that has 170 million olive trees, ranking as third largest olive grower after Spain and Italy – which buys Greek olive oil in bulk and rebrands it as Italian.

Olive trees cover 11.6 million acres in Greece, said the site Greelia, noting that 81% of cultivated olive trees are cultivated for olive oil while the remaining 19% produce table olives, including the famed variety from Kalamata in the Peloponnese

that win worldwide acclaim.

In theory, Greece should be an olive oil superpower, said the report, noting that an unusually high percentage of Greek olive oil is the prized and coveted extra virgin but there hasn't been a concerted effort to market it around the world despite its quality.

While a good October harvest is expected after a poor season in 2018, Greek producers will still wind up selling in bulk to Italy on the cheap and see Greek olive oil suddenly called Italian, losing even the origin that could be protected and seeing it sold for big profits by Italian companies.

Just 27 percent of Greek output is labeled and branded in Greece, according to the National Bank of Greece, with Politico saying that some blame a system of agricultural cooperatives tied to political cronyism, others saying farmers don't know how to guarantee consistent quality to retailers and the new New Democracy government in no rush to fix it.

Like a steadily increasing number of Greek producers, Kolalas has taken the bold step of cutting free from the local co-

operative to bottle his own branded oil: Ev Zin, which means "live the good life" in Greek.

The traditional Greek model is that farmers, who usually only have a very small number of trees, need to pool their oil at a cooperative to accumulate the volumes required for export. But the model has fierce critics, who argue that co-ops have been irreparably tarnished by corruption.

Greek politicians have used agricultural cooperatives as a dumping ground for patronage hires to party loyalists looking to get rich off other people's work and no party, including New Democracy, seems to want to change that, limiting the ability to create high-profile brands abroad.

"This is one of the biggest curses here in Greece," Kolalas said of cooperatives. "The concept may be fine but the implementation was a disaster. Everyone wanted some of the honey. And honey here means money," as he said producers were being asked to sell at less than their cost.

Producers such as Kolalas are now pushing to cut out the middleman. He is now selling his



oil for 13.50 euros (\$15) per bottle online, and marketing it to big retailers in Athens, France, Germany and Britain, partly through dedicated online retailers.

Gaia Epicheirein, the Greek farmers' association, told the site that olive growers shouldn't give up on cooperatives but make them work better as the treasured green gold from

Greece is facing competition from inferior qualities coming out of Turkey, Tunisia, and Israel.

Vasilis Pyrgiotis, an olive oil expert at Gaia Epicheirein, said that one of the biggest failings of the Greek industry is that farmers are too individualistic. "We don't have a tendency to work together," he said. "We all believe our family, our village

has the best olive oil."

Pyrgiotis explained that big foreign buyers want guarantees of quality, at significant volumes. "This why we have to cooperate."

Vasilis Frantzolas, an olive oil consultant, said the country has been lagging far behind in the scientific and other know-how needed to persuade buyers that their product will be of a consistent quality each year.

He said that Greek bulk oil was priced at 2.40 euros (\$2.67) per kilo, compared with more than double that in Italy also because of that inability to guarantee quality year in, year out. He said he has no faith in the hopelessly "corrupted" cooperative system and is now offering his own oil-making seminars, teaching sommelier skills and inviting Italian experts to share their know-how.

Kolalas also said Greeks at home should be using olive oil as an all-purpose cooking fat, and should treat the different olives like wine grapes. "You should have different olive oils on different foods," he said. "Thassos's Throuba olive is not so good with grilled fish as a Cretan Koroneiki."

## THI Supports GreenHouse Project for Youth Entrepreneurship in Greece

### TNH Staff

**ATHENS** – The GreenHouse, created to enhance and promote Greek entrepreneurship, presented GreenHouse Sparta in cooperation with The University of Peloponnese, The Public Central Library of Sparta, and Sparta TechLab in Sparta, October 8-12.

Organized by The Hellenic Initiative (THI) in collaboration with the Alba Graduate Business School of The American College of Greece over the past six years, GreenHouse has already hosted events in six cities: Athens, Patras, Heraklion, Kalamata, Corinth, and Chalkida, having supported 442 entrepreneurs so far.

The project was also held under the auspices of the Municipality of Sparta and the Laconian Chamber and included a multitude of free-of-charge activities mainly designed for entrepreneurs, aspiring entrepreneurs, as well as university and high school students.

Attendees of Sparta's GreenHouse had the chance to participate in the two-day entrepreneurship workshop, in educational sessions on digital media use in business, as well as in open discussion forums with entrepreneurs. Prominent business persons such as Paschalis Tilellis - Plexiart, Elina Kakuru - Kakuru, and Katerina Exacoustidou - Vitabroad, shared their thoughts and experience with the event's participants, including over 50 students of the 2nd High School of Sparta and many more local stakeholders. The goal of GreenHouse Sparta was to combine Alba Graduate Business School's



**The GreenHouse, created to enhance and promote Greek entrepreneurship, presented GreenHouse Sparta in cooperation with The University of Peloponnese, The Public Central Library of Sparta, and Sparta TechLab in Sparta, October 8-12.**

equal importance. I think that knowledge and collaboration are the most valuable elements for seeking and building new business ideas. I would like to thank GreenHouse for the experience."

GreenHouse is just one of the many aspects of the Venture Garden, an entrepreneurship-educational program conducted by Alba Graduate Business School, The American College of Greece in Athens, and the American College of Thessaloniki under the auspices of The Hellenic Initiative. It has evolved into one of Greece's premier entrepreneurial educational programs, having helped over 415 ideas to grow into businesses.

George P. Stamas, President of the Board of Directors of The Hellenic Initiative, said, "The Hellenic Initiative, through its many endeavors in Greece, especially its annual Venture Fair, knows very well the talent and energy of the country's young entrepreneurs and we are committed to providing them with the knowledge, mentoring, and networking opportunities that will enable them to succeed and to soar."

Peter Poulos, THI's Executive Director, stated: "The Hellenic Initiative is very proud to support such an exemplary endeavor like GreenHouse as boosting youth Greek entrepreneurship is imperative for the Greek economy. Similar projects will eventually help higher growth rates return, addressing one of our country's major issues, the continuous loss of precious human capital."

For more information please visit the Greenhouse website.

