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Alexi Giannoulias
to get to Obama?

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OF ATLAS MARITIME:
A SUCCESS STORY BUILT
ON PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS



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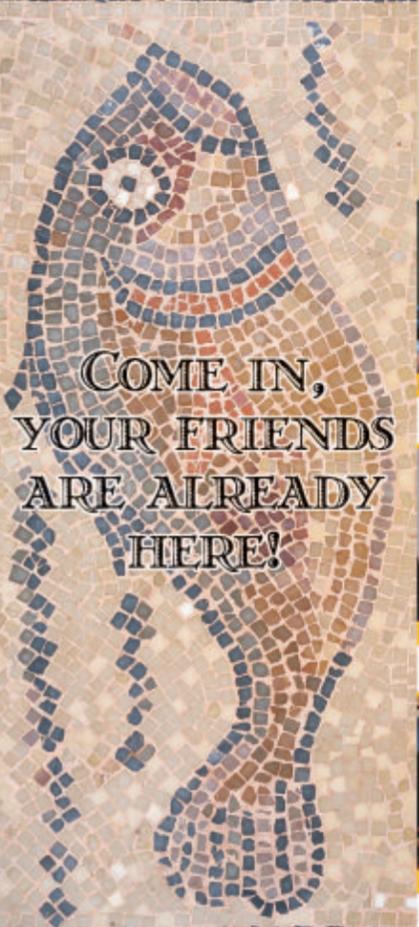
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LEON AND PHILIMON PATITSAS OF ATLAS MARITIME:
A SUCCESS STORY BUILT ON PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS

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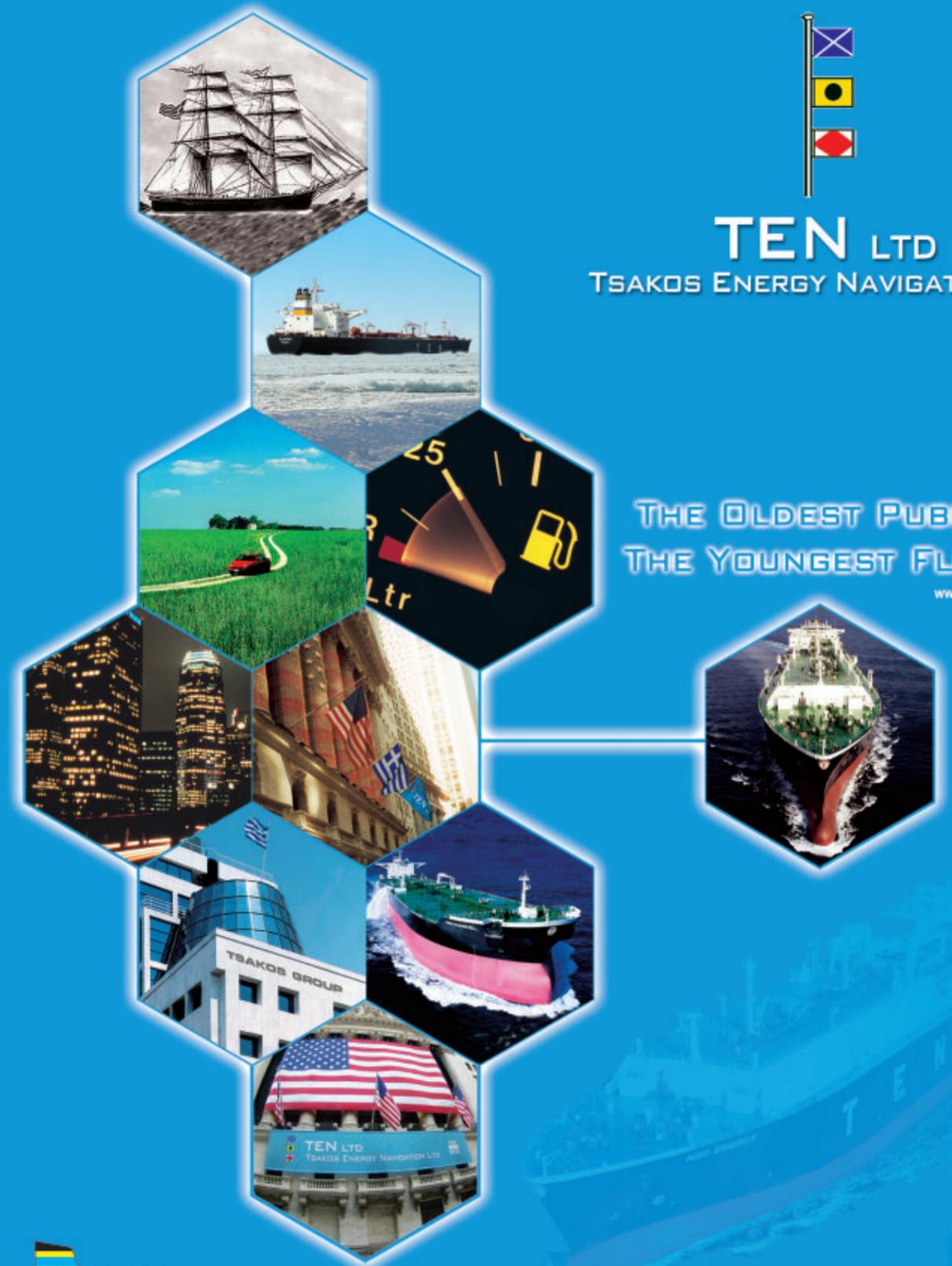
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Greece rising from the ashes

A friend of mine who just came back from Greece and does business there often tells me that the country has been rocked this time around with the financial crisis and that people are desperate and restless and that there seems to be no hope for the country rising from the ashes this time around.

Sound familiar?

When wasn't Greece in its long history not facing yet another dire crisis that threatened its very survival? When weren't Greeks in Greece, and those forever voyaging around the world, not perpetually restless like all Greeks, which made them the true descendants of Odysseus? When wasn't the country written off yet again as nothing but a backwater—after its long servitude to the Ottomans of four hundred years, after enduring the fall of its dreams in Constantinople, and its subjugation to the Germans, and its own civil war, and a junta that made it a repressive state—only to rise once again and once again become prosperous and reclaim its title as one of the most desirable and coveted spots to visit in the world?

What Greek in his right mind can imagine Greece, and the Greek people, not merely enduring, but fighting to their last breath (because that's the way Greeks are made and OXI and the annals of Marathon and the last stand at Thermopylae can attest to that), and while as often fighting with each other, recognizing their true kinship deep down and never forgetting the dream that is Greece and the distinction that it means to be Greek?

Every Greek is fiercely proud and with good reason. What country, however small, holds such a huge sway over the culture and thought of the world? What other nationality of people, however small in number, hold such prominence in whatever country they inhabit and particularly in America?

Do we ever give up? OXI. Do we ever stop trying? OXI. Do we ever stop dreaming? OXI. Greece will endure because we need it to endure and because a world without the thought of Greece and all it represents would be unthinkable. It would be a world without freedom, without reason, with darkness instead of light, with despair instead of hope, and with fear instead of the valor that advances us as a people and truly fulfills us as the human race.

Can we go back and stand to live in a world stripped of all freedom and hope, as the "barbarians" once lived in before the Greeks showed them the light, and then fought with reckless courage to preserve that light against the hosts of superstition and repression that tried to snuff it out?

Greece is everyone's birthright, now more than ever as new attacks to our freedom and thought and culture threaten to subsume our world. Greece cannot be dismissed as a mere country, and certainly not as the backwater my friend mourned about. Greece is everyone's ideal of what the human race can be and losing all hope of its survival is losing the hope of the legacy it brought to all of us: a world with the freedom to dream and to hope.

That is the legacy of Greece and that is truly universal.

Dimitri C. Michalakis



FROM THE EDITOR



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Reading behind the lines:

Did the system fight Alexi in order to get to Obama?

By Dimitri G. Soultogiannis

Alexi Giannoulis' defeat in these elections was a great loss for the White House and President Barack Obama himself as the Illinois Senate seat, held by Democrats up until now, was the one that launched him to the Oval office two years ago. But has anyone ever questioned the negativity and at times the direct and harsh attacks of the local and national media as well as the greater political system against a young, upcoming politician with great ideas, work ethic, willing to work hard in order to bring change to his state, senate and country? Let's take a closer look into what was said, written and published about fellow Greek American, Alexi Giannoulis. It seems like he had to work really hard to drug his name out of the mud and prove himself every day, during every step of the campaign process, in Illinois and around the country. The latest attack ad in the Illinois Senate race beat a well-worn path. Republican Congressman Mark Kirk

accused Democratic opponent Alexi Giannoulis of lending money to mobsters when he was a senior loan officer at his family's now-defunct bank and branded Giannoulis as a tax-and-spend liberal. It also accused Giannoulis of mismanaging oversight of a college savings program as state treasurer. Here's the text of the ad, which is titled "You must be kidding": What do you call someone who lent \$20 million to convicted felons and mobsters? Senior Loan Officer... Alexi Giannoulis. What do you call a man who lost \$73 million in our kids' college savings? State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulis. What do you call someone who wants the government to spend more, and raise your taxes to pay for it? Senator Alexi Giannoulis? You must be kidding. Again, these accusations are nothing new.

In June, PolitiFact looked into a Kirk ad that claimed, "At his father's bank, Alexi made tens of millions in risky loans to convicted mobsters. Then, the bank collapsed." We rated that claim half true. The loans-to-mobsters claim is slightly different this time around, but we think you'll get the gist of things if you read that previous PolitiFact item. In this item, we'll explore the claim that as State Treasurer Giannoulis "lost \$73 million in our kids' college savings." When he was running to be Illinois State Treasurer, Giannoulis promised to revitalize the state's 529 colleges savings plan, called Bright Start. But a year after taking office in 2007, one of the funds in the program -- one that was supposed to be relatively conservative -- took a nosedive, losing more than 35 percent of its value. The bond market took a beating in 2008 with the collapse of the housing market. Lots of people lost a lot of money on investments. But the fund in question did much worse than its peers. That the fund lost big is undisputed, but what's murkier is whether it's fair to tag Giannoulis with responsibility for some, all, or any, of those losses.

First, a bit of background and context: The fund in question here is the Core Plus Fixed Income Strategy Fund, a fund managed by Oppenheimer Funds Inc. that was supposed to provide a conservative investment option for parents whose children were close to college age. The fund represented about 15 percent of the money invested in Bright Start. In April 2009, Morningstar, an investment research firm, called Oppenheimer Funds "the poster child for how badly some 529 players went awry in 2008." The Core Plus

fund "lost more than 35 percent in 2008 due to management's bets on non-agency mortgages. In particular, management gained exposure to the battered commercial mortgage-backed securities market through derivatives that had a leveraging effect on the fund, amplifying losses," according to the Morningstar report. Non-agency mortgages are mortgages that are not backed by the government. Giannoulis has consistently blamed Oppenheimer managers for the losses -- as did Kirk back in October 2009. But an October 13, 2010, Chicago Tribune story by reporters Jeff Coen and Todd Lightly raises new questions about Giannoulis' culpability.

According to the story, "Documents and e-mails recently obtained by the Tribune under the state's open records law show the rookie treasurer and his staff were concerned early on about the aggressive move by Oppenheimer Funds Inc. in what was supposed to be a more conservative fund in the Bright Start program. "But at each turn Giannoulis stuck with the firm's strategy, even as the housing market soured and losses accelerated," the article said. In an interview with the Tribune, Giannoulis "reiterated that he was one of the first officials to confront Oppenheimer about the losses. He said he stayed the course based on advice from Oppenheimer managers, his own staff and an outside financial consultant." Financial analysts interviewed for the story noted that the "volatility of the market in 2008 caught many financial professionals off-guard" and that, among the many states with similar funds managed by Oppenheimer, "none reacted faster than Illinois." Together with the state attorney general, Giannoulis' office helped get a \$77 million settlement from Oppenheimer -- recovering about half the estimated \$150 million in losses suffered by the fund. And in December 2008, Giannoulis' office directed all new contributions to the fund to U.S. Treasury bonds. By then, the Tribune story notes, "Core Plus had lost 38 percent of its value for the year. Over the same period, other funds of its type showed about a 5 percent return."

In his interview with the Tribune, Giannoulis said, "It breaks my heart to hear that people have lost money in any fund. But what took place with the markets was devastating to a lot of individuals and a lot of businesses." Giannoulis' campaign further notes that in June, Kiplinger's named Bright Start among the top five college savings programs in the country, praising the index portfolios of mostly Vanguard funds for charging "rock bottom fees. Again, there's no dispute that the Core Plus fund lost \$73 million, which likely caused a great hardship for many parents whose children were just about to enter college. And as State Treasurer, it was Giannoulis' job to oversee the Bright Start program. It's less clear, though, that it's accurate to claim Giannoulis lost that money. Yes, the Tribune story suggests Giannoulis had concerns early on about the aggressive investment strategy in the fund - but that he opted to stick with the firm's strategy on the advice of Oppenheimer managers and an outside consultant. But analysts also credited Illinois with reacting more quickly to the issues than other states, and Giannoulis helped get a settlement with Oppenheimer to recoup half the losses. There's a lot of context to consider here on both sides of the equation. Having done that, we rate the ad's claim half true.

And this was just one ad. There were more ads and stories that directly attacked Alexi Giannoulis. There were all aiming for Alexi's loss in this election with the clear intension of hurting Barack Obama while stealing the Illinois senate seat away from the Democrats. Any and all of you who were part of it enjoy your new Senator. As an American citizen, I hope and pray he does well for the state, the nation, our future...



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Investing Opportunities amid uncertainty

By John P. Calamos Sr.

Investment Front



“The curse of me and my nation is that we always think that things can be bettered by immediate action of some sort, any sort, rather than no sort.”
– Plato

In this season of elections, it is our belief that we can expect the new Congress and policy makers in Washington, D.C. – as well as lawmakers on the local level – to cause changes of some sort in the very near future that impact tax rates, reform of the healthcare and the financial sectors, and the questionable policy of continuing to print money to support a sluggish economy. We don't know exactly how each of those changes will impact our families, our businesses, and our money. Combine all of that uncertainty with continued stock market volatility and it appears there are more questions than answers for investors.

The good news is that we believe there is still reason to be optimistic about certain investment opportunities. I don't think there will be a double dip recession, although growth will be slow. Whatever the outcome this November election, financial market volatility will continue in this uncertain economic environment. Investors must remember that the financial markets are forward looking; therefore favorable financial markets will lead favorable economic data. In addition, looking back in history the best environment in which to invest has been when the economy was not doing well. 1982, for example, had the worst GDP numbers since WWII and the worst unemployment rate since WWII. Recently, we received a report that current auto sales were the worst since August of 1982. To put this in perspective, in August of 1982 began one of the best bull markets in history and it came as a surprise -without any announcements by the media or other experts. So despite current volatility, we still believe the flipside of volatility is opportunity.

The way we believe many investors can get comfortable with investing in today's markets is to focus on the valuation of companies and their future prospects. We believe valuations of stocks in many different types of businesses are very compelling today. For example, growth companies with more of a global footprint are as undervalued as I have seen in more than twenty years, relative to the rest of the market. The reason is that the market is very unwilling to forecast beyond the next quarter, therefore a company's future prospects are not priced into the current level of stock prices. We feel this provides some excellent opportunities.

On the other side of the investment spectrum, we believe the bond market seems risky as interest rates have plummeted to historically low levels. With the uncertainty in the economy there has been a flight to safety that has caused many investors to sit on the sidelines in cash or bonds - even at these very low interest rates. However, the risk of reflation (increasing inflation due to a monetary policy) should not be ignored. The quantitative easing policy that the Fed is pursuing combined with the tremendous amount of federal debt is causing a loss in confidence of the U.S. dollar. These two factors also increase the risk that future inflation may occur. The increasing prices of commodities reflect this concern, as currencies around the world attempt to adjust. The additional concern of a trade war developing also adds to the uncertainty and volatility of the financial markets. So what some investors don't realize is that the safety of bonds could be in jeopardy if inflation were to occur.

We believe there are opportunities in this period similar to other periods in the past, but there is a difference today. I have been investing since 1970, but more than ever before I believe it's time for U.S. investors to think more globally. This means that investors should take an increasingly more global look at opportunities – because those opportunities do exist. By thinking beyond the borders of our country, globalization provides ways to put money to work in other countries that are experiencing more rapidly growing economies. Our focus, even in our U.S. portfolios, is to find companies that generate a significant portion of their revenue from global markets and not simply the United States.

We are seeing attractive values in the global stock markets, particularly in developing or so-called emerging markets, like China or India, where the expansion of the middle class is dynamic. Their countries need to build roads, buildings and factories while their residents are buying up lifestyle and technology products. The burgeoning middle class - and the efforts of the poor to become middle class - will likely drive the global growth trend for years to come. In addition, technology and a worldwide trend toward economic freedom now make it easier than ever before to research companies around the world and to take advantage of those investment opportunities. It does not necessarily mean investing directly in those markets that tend to be volatile, but finding companies that derive most of their revenue from those growing economies. Large growth companies around the world can give investors a means to participate in the trend of increasing global middle class consumption. It is our belief that this trend will only be stronger in the coming years.

In our opinion, opportunities are particularly compelling among growth-style stocks that should increase in value with this middle class growth. More specifically, we like large, multi-national companies that have customers in many countries. What this means is that the location of a company's headquarters is not nearly as important as the places in which that company does business.

We see encouraging signs that the global economy is improving, with a better balance between what people are saving and how much they are spending on goods and services.

The progress of emerging nations represents a significant opportunity for companies and investors all around the world. In our opinion, emerging market stocks have caught momentum and are priced for continued success. That said, we remain cautious. Although we do not believe emerging market stocks represent a bubble at this time, they can be more volatile than those from established economies and can present a greater risk to investors. The return for taking that risk, however, can be noteworthy.

One way we have found to dampen the volatility of emerging markets is through the use of convertible securities. We're seeing increasing issuance of convertible securities outside the United States as growth in those areas continues to be strong. The use of convertibles securities is a means by which companies can access capital to expand their business.

The decision to include global growth investments, including those from emerging markets, can be a natural evolution for certain investors seeking new sources of returns. We believe that companies participating in the growth of the middle class and its increase in worldwide consumption can present a timely and welcome choice for investors, regardless of what changes may come from Washington in the months to come.

John P. Calamos, Sr. is the Chairman, CEO and Co-Chief Investment Officer of Calamos Investments. He is the author of “Convertible Securities, the Latest Instruments, Portfolio Strategies and Valuation Analysis.” To comment or ask a question about this article, you can contact John at jpcsr@calamos.com.

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Happy Thanksgiving to all!

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From left, Jim Dimitriou, PSP, Peter Triantafyllos, SG, Michael Goulis, John Christopher, Father Michael Courey, George Stavros, Tom Stratos, John Kopatsis, DG, Kosta Frangudis, Dimitri Frangudis, Sean Guiterras, Billy Fotopoulos, Alexander Farrow and John Deferios



Veteran Honorees: John Christopher, Father Michael Courey (accepting for his deceased father, Fr. Michael Courey, Sr), George Stavros and Tom Stratos

Sons Officers: Sean Guiterras (Treasurer); Billy Fotopoulos (Secretary), Dimitri Frangudis (Board), Kostas Frangudis (Maid's Liaison), Michael Goulis (President) - (not pictured), Joey Skarzenski, Sons Supreme Governor and Jimmy Skarzenski member of the Board

SONS OF PERICLES #20 HONOR OXI IN CALIFORNIA

By Joanna Xipa

AHEPA's Sons of Pericles District 20, Chapter 426, in Southern California had its annual "OXI" Day Luncheon Celebration on Sunday, October 31st, 2010, after church services at St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church in Redondo Beach, CA. It was a thrill to see more than 200 people attend this year and help raise \$1000 towards the St. Katherine's Hellenic Library, in memory of Dr. Theodore

Markellos, past President & Vice President of South Bay AHEPA Chapter 426. The Library will provide for the surrounding community the resources they need to propagate our Hellenic Heritage onto future generations.

A special Veterans Presentation was lead by Mr. Tom Stratos who introduced two guest speakers. Mr. John Christopher talked about his World War II service in the British RAF (Royal Air Force) and Mr. George Stavros talked about his World War II experience

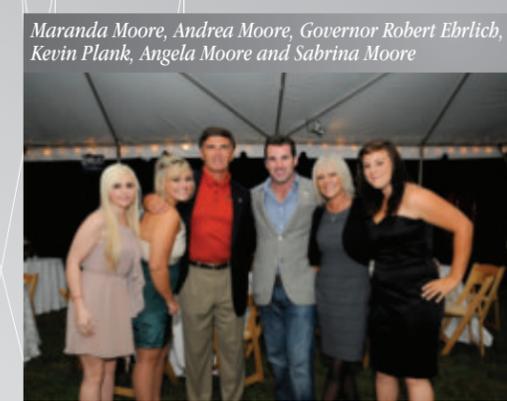
with the 5th Army. Mr. Tom Stratos presented the annual "Veteran of the Year" Award to Fr. Courey for his father's service in the war. In addition, Peter Vasilion, past Sons of Pericles President, presented a video on the history of OXI and the events around October 28th. Sons Supreme Governor, Joey Skarzenski, was the Master of Ceremonies for the event. Ahepan Peter Loukatos prepared the wonderful luncheon for all to enjoy!



Governor Robert Ehrlich, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ehrlich, Sr. (the Governor's parents) with Aris Melissaratos, Kendel Ehrlich, and Lt. Governor Candidate Mary Kane



Alex Karas entertaining the guests



Maranda Moore, Andrea Moore, Governor Robert Ehrlich, Kevin Plank, Angela Moore and Sabrina Moore

Greek Americans Hold Reception for Governor Ehrlich

Aris Melissaratos held recently a reception in honor of former Maryland Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. and Lieutenant Governor Candidate Mary Kane at his spectacular Green Mount Farm Estate. The event was attended by over 200 people and included a diverse mixture of guests, including many dedicated and potential new supporters, with an appropriate representation of the Greek-American community and the various other constituencies that have supported Aris and Gov. Ehrlich in their hugely successful first term. Aris served as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development from 2003 through 2006 and, with the leadership of Gov. Ehrlich, was able to coordinate Maryland's successful win in the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. Through the coordination of Maryland's entire Capitol Hill

Delegation, Maryland was able to gain 60,000 jobs at a rate of 10,000 jobs per year starting in 2010.

Another major achievement was bringing the State's unemployment level to 3.3% in June of 2006, with 9 of Maryland's 23 jurisdictions achieving unemployment levels under 3%; a huge success that is in sharp contrast to Maryland's current situation and a big reason why the former Governor is bullish about winning back his old seat.

Aris Melissaratos is an untiring supporter of Gov. Ehrlich's 'more jobs/less taxes' agenda and, for that reason, attracted this large number of supporters to attend the event and contribute to the re-election campaign. Aris thanks all the attendees and Gov. Ehrlich for giving them a reason to celebrate.



Former Congresswoman Helen Bentley is acknowledged by the guests

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LEON AND PHILIMON PATITSAS OF ATLAS MARITIME:

A SUCCESS STORY BUILT ON PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS

By Margarita Vartholomeou



After visiting them at their company's headquarters, I was amazed and touched at the same time how two young, successful and intelligent businessmen consider family values so important, admitting that we could go on living with the bare essentials, when our heart is full of pure, genuine and real love.

I left the office of Atlas Maritime that afternoon very satisfied and touched. Both Leon and Philimon Patitsas as well as Mrs Marigo Laimou-Patitsa and her husband were very welcoming and hospitable. Living in a money-driven society, in times of corruption, it is really encouraging to find these two young successful businessmen with solid character, high educational and social standards, cohesion, clarity and integrity.

Leon Patitsas founded Atlas Maritime in 2004, and since then, the company has significantly. Today Atlas owns a fleet of 6 modern Aframax tankers, built in the world's best shipyards. Mr. Patitsas, Atlas' CEO, made some astute decisions by selling the bulk carriers and the VLGC at very good levels, and by securing time charters for the majority of the fleet. From 2000 to 2004, he was the Principal of Strength Shipping, and under his leadership he renewed the fleet and established a more corporate culture, promoted safety and environmental awareness and made the business more efficient and cost effective. Prior to that, he worked



PHOTO: G. PAVLIDIS

for UBP, a Swiss bank based in New York, and was on the team that invested the bank assets into hedge funds. Leon Patitsas is a member on the Board of Directors of the Union of Greek Ship Owners. He was born in London and he is a British citizen.

Philimon Patitsas has studied Economics and Philosophy in Boston. He founded an information technology company at a young age, with the aim to introduce computer networks and systems in shipping management and ships. He has over 20 years experience in Shipping and he served as a deck officer on board a vessel. Phil, as friends call him, has traveled extensively around the world and he has supervised the construction of many new ships in South Korea (Hyundai) and Japan. He is responsible of identifying investment opportunities, developing new relationships with shipyards, charterers, and financial institutions and also for nurturing existing relationships with long-standing industry contacts.



The Patitsas family, Spyridon, Leon, Philimon and Marigo

What are the prospects for the Greek economy? How serious is the situation and how is it going to affect the maritime industry, since Greece has the largest fleet in the world?

Philimon Patitsas: The situation is quite serious. Of course we all have to agree that the European Union along with the IMF will support Greece in order to help stabilize the crisis that we are going through at the moment. We are optimistic about Greece due to the fact that we have been through wars and many crisis several times in the past and effective solutions have been given. Now it is a great opportunity for Greece to reform itself completely. It might also be a wake up call for everybody here in Greece to change this mentality of corruption in the public sector and generally speaking at all levels of our lives. Also, productivity can and should be increased. This is also a great opportunity for politicians to revise their ideas and make Greece a competitive place for investors to invest like Singapore for example, while trying to utilize the Greece's young work force that is well educated and willing to work hard in order to improve the financial status of the country.

Luckily, the maritime industry will not be greatly affected. We believe that the Greek shipping has built one of the strongest forces in the world due to the fact that the government has not interfered a lot and also because it is an international business and the counterparts are usually international companies and investors. Consequently the premier spirit has been flourished because it has not been regulated by the Greek government. The solution is also in incentives.

You studied and you also worked in the US and yet you left and went back to Greece. Are you happy with that decision?

Leon Patitsas: I was born in 1976, in London, and came to Greece when I was six months old. I grew up in Greece, attended Moraitis High School after I went to Campion from where I graduated in 1993. After that, I went to Tufts where I studied Mechanical Engineer, I sailed in a vessel for six months and got to know the shipping world from a closer distance. It was that time when I realized the difficulties people faced by working too far from their families, their country of origin, their friends, generally speaking their loved ones. It was that time when I realized these people were deprived of the simple pleasures of life, they are confined and they have to work too hard in order to earn their own living. Then I

appreciated more what I have in life and I became more grateful to God for that. These circumstances also gave me the incentive to try harder in order to do things on my own since I was given the chance to have a better life. Later, I went to New York and worked for UBP in the Rockefeller Center. After I returned back to Greece, with the help of my family we formed Atlas Maritime, the old company of our grandfather captain Leon Laimos and in 2000 we bought some more vessels such as bulk carriers and gradually started growing the company buying tankers as well. In 2007 we took the strategic decision to sell dry bulks, because we thought that it would be also good for us. We are very optimistic about the future and we would like to grow further.

Do you miss America? What are the moments that you become more nostalgic about?

Philimon Patitsas: As a graduate of MIT, I am very ambitious. I adore the culture and the fast way things can be done in the United States. It is also a country of opportunities, which enables you to develop. If you go there with nothing and you are determined to work hard and you are really worth it and accomplish things - you will succeed. This is a great incentive for people. That is also the reason why people work harder in the U.S they are professional, productive, disciplined, with methodology and determination. The rest of the world is trying to copy the management practices in America in order to develop the same particular platform, the exact opposite with Greece, where there is too much prejudice and not meritocracy and you have to be the "cousin of the cousin" of particular people, in order to go ahead with your career. Here in Greece, we also have to concentrate on educating the people not only the bare knowledge, but socially as well in order to behave better. And the most important, is to convict all the people, who are corrupted and steal and send them to jail, even the politicians, if we have to. In the U.S. there are rules and regulations. Yes, indeed I miss America a lot and I am very nostalgic about it.

Are you going back to the US often?

Leon Patitsas: We visit the U.S frequently, 4-5 times a year - our tankers are based there. We have an uncle there who has six children and has a wonderful family. I say that you have to stay where your love is. If your love is here, you have to stay here. The love of your life gives you always the motive to achieve higher goals and accomplish things. But the truth is that the love of your life follows you everywhere you go. Anyway, for the time being, we will stay here.

Do you plan to expand to the US?

Philimon Patitsas: Like we said before, we go to the U.S. quite often. We have our tankers there. New York is the financial capital of the world and the place to be, we might consider to go there one day. The situation in Greece is peculiar. There are a lot of demonstrations, the government has taken severe measures, people are complaining, petrol costs, lower income, high taxes, we do not know what might happen. It is always good to keep our options open.

What do you think of the state of the American economy? What's the feedback you get from home and what was your personal assessment last time you were here?

Leon Patitsas: They have to take action fast. President Obama has to adopt fiscal and monetary policies and packages that would save the public. There are a lot of reforms needed in the financial sector. The government is trying to correct mistakes from the past. We are certain that catharsis will come and scandals will be diminished. The U.S. economy is on the right track.

This past summer you got married not only to a very beautiful woman, but also one of the hottest TV personalities in Greece. Tell us how you met your wife and what are your future plans?

Leon Patitsas: I met Marieta in Zappion and after a couple of months we met again at a party. I fell in love with her, not only her beauty, but also her character, mind and personality as well. She is logical, smart and has a great sense of humor. She is serious, sweet and a very nice person. We would like to have a family and children. At the end of the day, the most important of all is that whatever we are building in Atlas, we have a vision to create a legacy and the vision is one day to pass on this legacy to the next generation. Family and traditions are very important to us. My dream is to have my own children, or my grandchildren, manage to build a strong relationship with all of them, and to tell them that this is our tradition, our legacy, this is what we created, and to give them incentives to go ahead and continue. It is very crucial to diffuse this passion from one generation to another.

Do you visit Lefkada often? Did you take your wife there?

Leon Patitsas: Lefkada is our dearest place. Our father is from there and we have been there quite a few times, especially to Porto Katsiki with Marieta. Windsurfing in Vasiliki, doing several water sports, snorkeling, hiking and swimming in the waterfalls is just a few of the things we enjoy there. Yes, we like the place a lot. Also our mother's place is Oinousses, where our grandfather Leon Laimos was born. We also like this place a lot. And as you may realize we come from the western side as well as the eastern side of Greece.

What message would you send to our fellow Greek-Americans?

Philimon Patitsas: For me it is very important and I would recommend to those, who have families there and raise children, to teach them to speak Greek and to keep their traditions, the Greek-Orthodox religion, to maintain the Greek identity, the dances, the Greek anxious spirit, culture, food etc. I would also suggest to speak to their children about the Greek philosophers, teach them to respect others, and try to bring them to Greece every summer and expose them to the Greek culture, because they have to get close to their roots, not because we want their money to be invested here, but due to the fact that it is crucial for all of us not to lose our Greek identity. I am sure that there are many, but I know an American-Greek, Mr. Maurice Gritzalis, who is the SAE of America Youth President. He is very young but he is doing great work for all the Diaspora.

Dimitri Soutogiannis contributed to this interview.



Atlas Maritime family photo. Front row, from left are, Philimon Patitsas, Marigo Laimou-Patitsas (mom), Leon Patitsas and Spyridon Patitsas (father)

From Leon Patitsas and Marieta Chrousala wedding. Left to right are, Mr. Thanassis Chrousalas, Mrs. Marigo Laimou-Patitsas, Mr. Philimon Patitsas, the couple, Leon Patitsas and Marieta Chrousala, Mr. Spyridon Patitsas and Mrs. Aglaia Chrousala





Justin Bozonelis and Elena Stavrakas

Sophocles Zoullas speaking to the young professionals



Stavroula Kotrosios, Elena Stavrakas and a friend



Chrissy Zapantis, guest, George Zapantis, Taso Pardalis (Secretary HACC), Sophocles Zoullas (Honoree), Demos Lorentzos, Calliope Lappas, John Stratakis (Chairman HACC), Maria Pardalis, Katerina Makris, Peter Antiaris, Stamatis Gbikas (Executive Director HACC), Andy Adamidis and Chrs Ioannides.



Calliope Lappas and Peter Antiaris announcing the HACCYP's new radio show on our very own Radioneo.us. The guests voted by ballot for the show's name: Radio Neolea!



Demetra Efstathiou (right) with friends



Nicoletta Canaras and Katbryn Canaras

The Hellenic American Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals (HACCYP) hosted their annual Gala

The Hellenic American Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals (HACCYP) hosted their annual Gala on October 15, 2010 at New York City's Pierre Hotel, in conjunction with their parent organization's 62nd Annual Dinner Dance. This year's honoree was the inspirational and widely admired Sophocles Zoullas, President and CEO of Eagle Bulk Shipping Inc., the largest US based owner of Handymax dry bulk vessels. Zoullas made sure to make his way to the young professional's gala and spoke eloquently about the importance of being a Greek-American and how it was their responsibility to help rescue Greece in its time of need. The HACCYP gala has proven to be the Greek-American crème de la crème event of the year, drawing in more than 200 attendees.

This elite group of young professionals are not all business, especially when it comes to having a good time. The dance floor was completely packed all night. How could it not be when entertainment included a special live performance by one of their favorite singers, Yanni Papastefanou, who was accompanied

by DJ Bobby Karounos. The high energy crowd attracted the attention of the chamber's dinner dance and soon its attendees were dancing and mingling with the young professionals. The celebration continued at Ammos Estiatorio where an after party was held.

HACCYP was formed a little over 3 years ago and serves as the first and leading Greek American Young Professionals organization in the country. The group has over 1,500 members and organizes monthly networking events at different venues throughout Manhattan. Their next event will be held at the celebrity studded New York City hotspot "Juliet Supper Club" located at 539 West 21st Street in NYC on November 18, 2010 at 7:00 pm. Admission is free and all are welcomed to attend.

For more information on this event and on becoming a member of the HACC Young Professionals, contact HellenicAmerican@Gmail.com or join the group on Facebook.

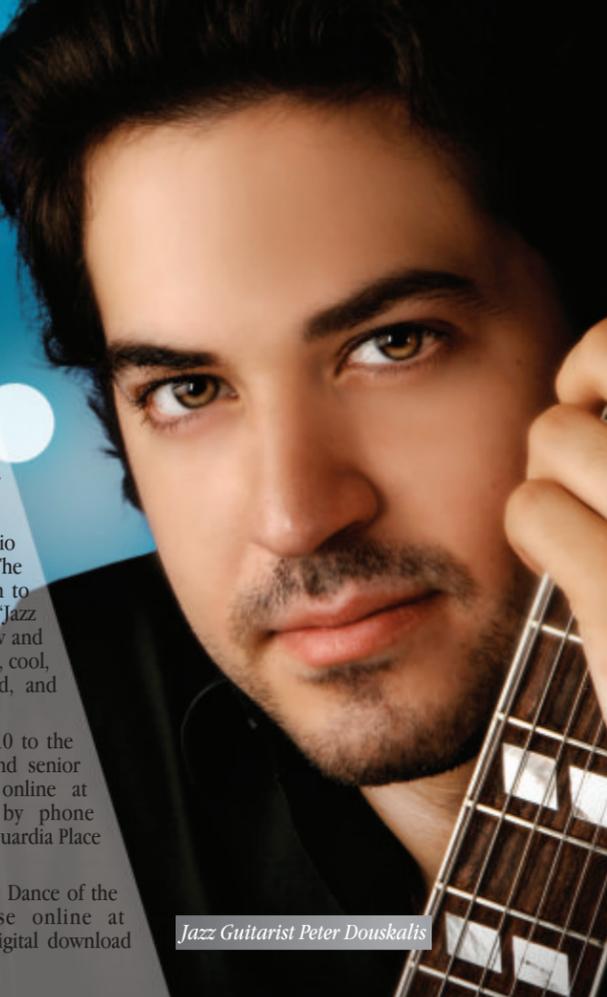
JAZZ GUITARIST PETER DOUSKALIS PERFORMS IN NEW YORK

Peter Douskalis, a jazz guitarist from the Lindemann. He is also a composer and has written Washington DC area living now in Astoria, will be material for his own performance as well as being performing with the NYU Music ED Jazz Ensemble commissioned by various high schools and the at New York University on Friday, December 3rd at George Washington University for theatrical music. 7:30 pm. The show will take place at the Frederick Loewe Theatre on NYU main Washington Square where he often tries to imitate the sound of the campus. Peter has released a solo jazz guitar album titled "The Dance of the Sea" on independent record label Shenandoah Records. He is a Gibson artist and holds corporate product sponsorships with GHS Strings, Rocktron, and Acoustic Image Amplifiers.

Douskalis began playing guitar at a young age and was influenced by his father. His father, who is a mathematician, is an amateur guitar player that would often rehearse with his work band in the basement of their Virginia home. Once Douskalis picked up the guitar he couldn't put it down and was bound to become a professional musician. Douskalis is a host of the JazzCity radio program with Stefanie Sintakis on Radio NEO. The program airs live every Sunday from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and features jazz music of all styles. "Jazz with no limitations" is the motto of the show and features music from the big band era, bebop, cool, funk, jazz influenced house music, world, and much more.

Douskalis came to New York in August of 2009 to attend New York University for a Masters Degree in Music Education. He, however, was already familiar with the area because his parents used to live in Astoria where they met. Naturally, when Peter decided to come to New York he wanted to live within the Greek community in Astoria.

Douskalis also has a BM in Jazz Studies from the Conservatory of Shenandoah University. He has played with jazz legends Chuck Redd, Bob Cranshaw, Houston Person, Mickey Roker, and Tamir Hendelman, as well as trumpeter Jens Douskalis' solo jazz guitar CD "The Dance of the Sea" is available for purchase online at www.peterdouskalis.com or by digital download on iTunes.



Jazz Guitarist Peter Douskalis

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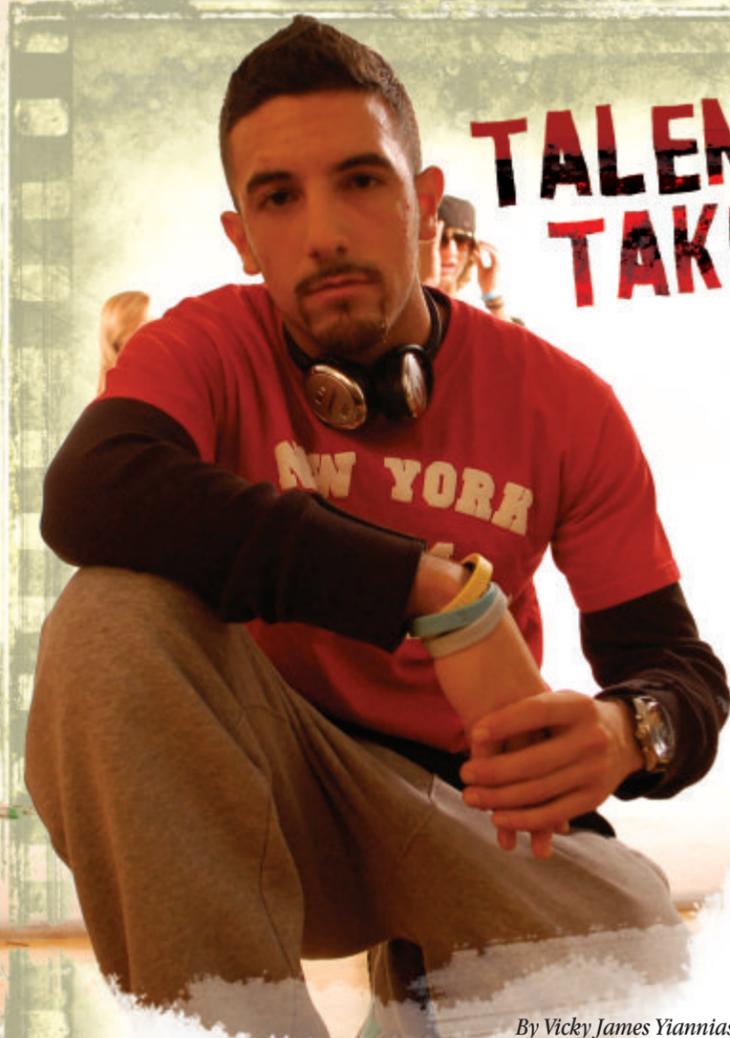
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TALENTED TEENS TAKE OVER



By Vicky James Yiannias

If you're a filmmaker and no longer a teenager, step aside.

Judging from the reception of three films by Greek American teens shown in a new special teenage filmmaker section of the Hellenic American Chamber of Commerce's Fifth Annual New York Greek American Film Festival (October 22-30) talented teens are taking over.

The Annual No Limits Teen Video Showcase, spearheaded by Angelike Contis with the aim of encouraging more young Greek Americans to express themselves through film, was received with great audience enthusiasm at the Festival's Gala Screening of *The Island* at the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in Astoria on October 23. "Each one of these people is very, very talented," said Festival Director, Jimmy DeMetro at the screening. "It's so exciting to see these kids coming up with very, very smart movies." The Festival and the National Herald sponsored the teen film project.

The teen films were *Aroma*, by Michael Kontaxis, 16, a clever comedy about the lengths some people will go to get their hands on good cookies (with animated paximadia); *Don't Be a Liar: Mafia Stories Part II*, by Dennis Latos, 18, the opening, in Italian with English subtitles, to a Mafia/noir feature in which a Mafioso confronts and accuses his henchman; and *De Nada*, a comedy about a texting conspiracy, by Gracie Brett, 13, "a moment of comic relief in which I try to explain the process, in a comedic way, of learning a new language, and the struggles between the younger generation and technology, like cell phones, getting in the way."

All three films, in the classic -- and usually necessary -- style of independent filmmaking, feature relatives or friends.

Interviews with the three filmmakers revealed the astonishing information that these films were by no means their first filmmaking efforts. All three have made numerous films and even won awards, and the earliest starting age was seven.

"Since *Aroma* I've made about 10 short films, varying in genre and length says Michael Kontaxis, a second generation Greek American from Palm Springs, CA, and a senior at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA, who shot his first movie at seven. *Aroma*, his "first attempt at telling a story," was written, shot, and edited in half a day for a 24-hour film festival sponsored by Apple. His list of awards includes 9 awards such Best Up and Coming Director (*Aroma*), Best Screenplay, Best High School Film, Best Picture for several other films. Currently he is working on his "most difficult and most ambitious project to date, a 30-minute short film called *Smartie Pants*, which he wrote and filmed over the summer and is now editing so it will "hit the festival circuit this Thanksgiving."

Second generation Greek American Dennis Latos, a Flushing native and a freshman at Emerson College in Boston, who made his first film (a war film on the island of Kephallonia) when he was eight, has completed two main films -- *Mafia Stories* and *Our Next Door Neighbor* a short film/documentary "that talks about poverty in New York City and our failure to address it or act upon it" -- 15-20 short videos, and two music videos. Latos is currently working on two films, *Mafia Stories Part II* and a still untitled first feature he is starting to shoot this month.

Fourth generation Greek American, Gracie Brett, of Bel Air, MD an eighth-grader who began making films in the fifth grade, tips the scales at 50 short and 3 longer films. She is currently working on a feature called *Super*, about teenage super heroes, and writing the scripts for a comedy spy movie and a musical about a girl whose only wish is to become famous.

The passion of all three for making films is palpable. "I truly do love filmmaking more than anything, and hope to never give my passion up," says Gracie Brett, "*De Nada* is certainly not my last film. I have ambitions to become a director in the future."

"I love making films. This is my dream job and something I was destined to do. Becoming a Hollywood film director is my ultimate and most important goal and means the world to me," says Dennis Latos. "I'm tenacious and will never, ever, give up. I want to be one of the few Greek-American Hollywood film directors that makes a name for himself and can give back to the huge Greek community." Latos is currently working on two films, *Mafia Stories Part II* and his still untitled first feature, starting to shoot this month.

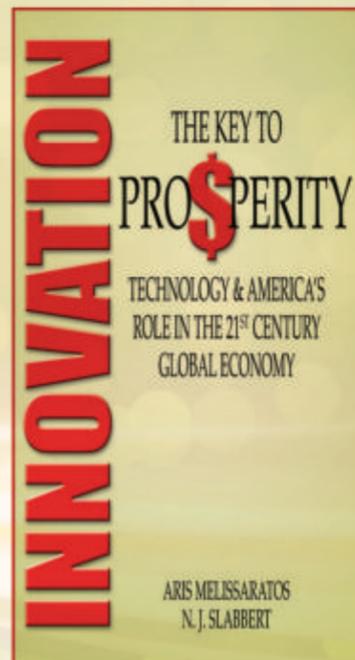
And the filmmakers already have strict standards. Latos confesses that as a filmmaker he is never satisfied. "There is always room to make something better and better and better," he says, and although Michael Kontaxis is eager to experiment with new genres and new styles he has one unbreakable rule: the movie must remain "pure". "If I can't show it to my spiritual father without feeling somewhat ashamed, I've failed. I particularly like when my short films end with a character's decision to be morally upright, correcting the error of his ways moving into the future."

What factors played a role in Angelike Contis's teen film choices? "I think the different voices are very interesting. *Aroma*'s director, Michael Kontaxis, is amazing in the structure and technical merit of his film, the sophistication of expression, even though he was just 12-13 when he made it. He has a very sharp sense of humor and artistic vision." Gracie Brett, says Contis, who casts her cousins in *De Nada*, is "very much a filmmaker of tomorrow. From the time she got her camera 2 years ago, she's made 50 youtube films." Contis observes that although it may not be immediately obvious on the first viewing of *De Nada*, "an interesting questioning of why we need to learn Greek" came through for her on the second viewing. "It's extinct" one little girl says of the language. With some polishing, Gracie can express herself more and more, says Contis. "And finally, Dennis Latos bowled me over with his enthusiasm and drive. He was the first to apply and is a film student who shows here his grasp of a particular genre, Mafia/noire. It was kind of cool too, that this intro to a future film is in Italian with English subtitles."

"We're definitely planning already on having The Annual No Limits Teen Video Showcase again for next year's festival," says Contis.



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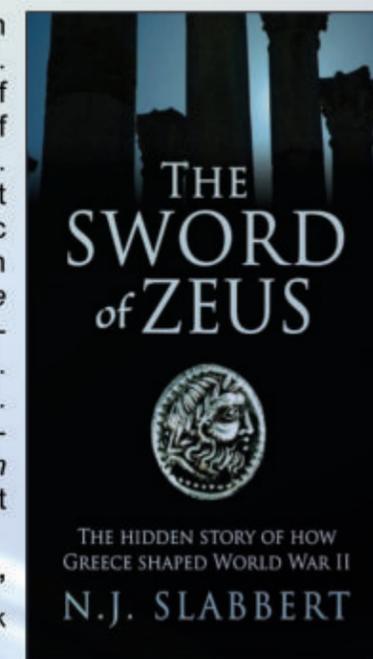
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Stephen Cherpelis, Fr. Paul Palesty and Peter J. Pappas, Sr.

HANAC honors Nick Karacostas and the new generation

HANAC (Hellenic American Neighborhood Action Committee) recently held its 38th Annual Gala at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in NYC, honoring Nicholas A. Karacostas, Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, with the "Man of the Year" award. Alexis Christoforous of Market Watch emceed the event and Bishop Andonios of Phassiane offered the benediction. It was a splendid evening that brought together notable members of our community to celebrate another year of HANAC's public service and to honor the new generation of Greek Americans who are carrying the torch to new heights in the person of a young lawyer who started as a member and rose all the way up to the AHEPA's supreme presidency. By receiving the award, Karacostas joined a coveted group of remarkable people such as the late Archbishop Iakovos, John Sununu, George Paraskevaides, and the honoree's uncle Philip Christopher and aunt Fannie Petallides-Holiday, who attended the evening and did a moving introduction.

"This evening we are here to celebrate and congratulate HANAC's 2010 'Man of the Year', Nicholas Karacostas, a brilliant attorney and the Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, for his outstanding leadership, his achievements and unwavering commitment to give back to his community," Evangeline Douris, the organization's Chairman of the Board stated in her remarks. She went ahead to thank all the participants and all people that make possible HANAC's mission.

The organization was founded in 1972 to serve the needs of vulnerable populations throughout New York City. Its mission is to develop and administer the operation of essential social services including youth, senior and immigrant services, employment and education programs, counseling and affordable housing, for the betterment of the community. HANAC presently sponsors over 40 programs located in 17 sites throughout the four boroughs. With an affiliate, Home Services Systems, Inc., we serve over 30,000 clients annually and employ a staff of 2750.

Nicholas A. Karacostas, is senior vice president of Arch Insurance Group, New York City. Prior to this position, Nick was serving as Vice President of Litigation Management and Vendor Services since October 2002 when he joined Arch. Before that, he worked at Zurich North America in various capacities from May 1996 – October 2002. His positions included Director of Claims Marketing and Customer Service, Director of Staff Counsel Customer Service, and Senior Trial Counsel. Before joining Zurich, Nick served four years as Trial Attorney for General Accident Insurance, Co., and two years as Special Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of New York.

He holds a J.D. degree from the City University of New York Law School and a B.A. degree from New York University. He is currently in his second term as the Supreme President of the Order of AHEPA, the largest and oldest association of American citizens of Greek heritage and countless Philhellenes. Nick has also served the Order as Supreme Vice-President and on its Board of Directors and he played soccer with the Pancyprian Association of America, Inc. He is a member of the Board of HANAC, Inc., and Chairman of its subsidiary, Home Services Systems.

Nick resides in Bayside, N.Y. with his wife Anna and daughters Georgia and Andreana.

PHOTOS: ETA PRESS



Lianne Lazetera, Sanford J. Schlesinger, Margo Catsimatidis, John Catsimatidis



Fani Petallides-Holiday



Last year's honoree Hercules Handjjs

Mr. Spiro Voutsinas, Sofia Stroumbakis, Stelios Stroumbakis, Sofia Milionis, Maria Pagoulatou



Evangeline Douris receiving NEO's October framed cover from Demetrios Rhompotis

Left to right: Dr. Ilona Polak, Evangeline Douris, John Gigos, Gina Gigos, Anna Karacostas, Nicholas Karacostas



Savas Konstantinides and guests



Daphne Konstantinides in the white, Despina Konstantinides in the black

Alexis Christoforous, Nick Karakostas, Nicole Petallides

by Peter Shakalis



Now May be the Time to Consider Occupancy Needs...

In spite of those who would believe that the real estate office market will do a double dip or revert back to 2009 conditions, the time for commercial office tenants to begin to evaluate occupancy needs and secure long term lease commitments is now. While this may appear self serving, the market has opportunities that many in the industry never thought would be available just prior to the melt down of 2008. Today for example, the average effective rent per square foot in Manhattan (adjusting for landlord concessions) is the same as it was in 2000!

Negotiating an attractively priced deal is only part of the benefit in today's market. Landlords are offering to build out the tenants required office installation, and pre-built office units ready for occupancy are back in vogue, and have been for a while. Office space expansion, contraction and cancellation options within the building are all on the negotiating table. Landlord takeovers of existing tenant obligations, reduced yearly rent escalations, and tenant-friendly sublease clauses are as well.

While the market by most measures is recovering slowly and may take much of 2011 before we see strong sustained growth, many indicators and recent deals suggest that there is positive momentum in the market - that the worst, finally, is past. Increased property sales for example, a good barometer for fundamentals in the market, is poised to double over 2009's level to over \$4 billion in volume while the average sales price per square foot increased to \$450 from \$333 per square foot in 2009. REITs and foreign buyers are back in the market, accounting for two thirds of all sales in 2010.

Foreclosures of commercial office buildings, which many anticipated, have not materialized. Many banks rather than foreclosing on delinquent loans have instead extended them, thereby not having to write them off at substantial losses which would sully their balance sheets (otherwise known as 'extend and pretend'). Rather, the decision in many cases has been to hold on and wait for the values to rebound with the market. One result of this policy has been that large funds, both domestic and foreign which were poised to buy distressed property, have very little product available to choose from.

The report on the leasing side is compelling as well. Availability rates (the percentage of vacant space and space that can be made available for lease) are holding steady or declining for the Midtown North, Midtown and Midtown South markets, with Midtown South the strongest at an 11.1 percent availability and a vacancy factor of just 5.5 percent. By way of comparison, typically once the availability rate gets below 10 percent, landlords begin to raise rents and cut back on tenant work. While Downtown remains the weakest market, with an availability rate of over 16 percent, the activity level has remained ahead of 2009. With the availability of large blocks of space and competitive prices, many tenants are considering a relocation to this market; Condé Nast; American Media; Bank of America; The Daily News and others.

Alas the one consideration that most affects the market is employment. Thankfully this has remained positive with a total of 53,000 jobs added since the end of 2009. Data now indicates that the stabilization and recovery in the city's economy has been earlier and more robust than projected last year. In fact the decline in employment has been smaller than in the two previous recessions, and less than the US as a whole.

Unlike last year when short term leases prevailed, now may be the time to take the long view on occupancy needs.

Peter Shakalis is a Director at FirstService Williams Real Estate psbakalis@fsvre.com



THE NEW GENERATION of DOCTORS

Name: Nicholas C. Kaloudis, M.D. F.A.C.E.
Position: Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism

Where were you born and where did you grow up?

I was born and raised in New York.

Who or what were the main influences in your life?

Starting from my immediate family who provided me with a loving, caring, and spiritual upbringing. Growing up and learning about our true faith, especially the lives and examples set by our 20 Holy Unmercenary Doctors were very important. These Saints Anargyroi, who were the physicians and healers of the Orthodox Church, definitely paved the road within my heart, to learn to be of service to people.

Why did you become a doctor?

I am very sensitive towards the pain and suffering of our fellow humans. Helping others was innate even as a child. The internal gratification achieved when helping and giving myself to my patients is truly priceless. There is nothing else that fulfills my soul more than being of service and dedicating my life towards treating others. There is also a strong familial genetic predisposition for the medical field. I have many cousins here in the U.S. and in Greece, currently practicing medicine. Even when tracing back through my family tree, physicians were present as early as five generations ago.

As a new generation doctor, how do you evaluate the state of health care in the US?

It is truly unfortunate, the way that this country had once set the example, and was looked highly upon, regarding medical care, is now upon the verge of forming a system where the quality of medical care offered to patients will be limited and "factory-like". It is a shame that there are hidden agendas that the U.S government wants to accomplish in the face of these new health plans. They are working closely with the monstrous HMO's, looking to shape the medical field in a way that will benefit them, and only them. The victims will be surely the patients first, and doctors to follow.

If you were a patient, what would the ideal doctor look to you like?

The ideal doctor is simply one who believes that being a physician is a gift given to you from God and thus is a service you provide for your patient. Being a doctor should not be regarded as a "job", but as a blessing.

Has your Hellenic heritage influenced your professional conduct and in what ways?

Life is one; body and soul, mind and heart constitute the totality of life. The Hellenic civilization, music, philosophy, art, language, dance and literature has always been infused and informed by religious thought and belief; which

was spiritual growth. The term "Greek" is inseparably interwoven with Orthodoxy. The two are one. Greek education, as the embodiment and crucible of Greek civilization, is holistic, an all encompassing principle that expresses the totality of our Hellenic heritage. Our paradosis (heritage) is what preserves the unity of our people and secures our identity. When a people forget their heritage, they lose their memory and disappear from history. Today's Greeks are the latest link in a long strong chain. Thus, being a Greek of Orthodox faith has influenced my conduct as a person, to lead by examples of: love, empathy, sensitivity, education, and moral character.

As a successful American you could and perhaps have joined major organizations that are focused more on mainstream society. Why HMS?

This Greek-American medical fraternity leads through actions and great works. Medical conferences and symposiums, scholarships for medical students of Greek descent, medical supplies, books, equipment, journals, and clothing, have been sent to Greece, Serbia, Georgia and Albania, a medical student exchange program between the U.S. and Greece, dinner lecture events and gala affairs as well. But the main goal of this organization is to continue our Greek ideals of education, pride, and honor. HMS has unified Greek American physicians from the NY metropolitan area. Strength comes from unity.

What qualities do you most admire or value in others?

Humbleness, faith, hope, forgiveness and patience. Also what is known as the best quality of all, Love.

Where would you like to be in your professional and personal life 20 years from now?

God willing, I will still be of service to my patients, offering medical care and empathy towards their health problems, regardless of the poor state of health care that this country will probably be in. Personally, I would love to have my other half and children surrounding me and giving them what I was given by my wonderful and caring parents and sister.

What is your idea of happiness?

Happiness is inward. It is a heart attitude. Therefore, it starts inside and goes outside. True happiness comes from seeking as close a relationship with your fellow human as possible. Therefore as we see our brother, we see God. So, happiness for me is based on God and not on circumstance or selfish desires and acquisitions. True happiness, true joy, is simply God's love and God's gifts.

The Hellenic Medical Society of New York (HMS) has its origins in the Greek-American Medical Fraternity, an entity co-founded by the renowned physician George N. Papanicolaou during the First World War. This organization officially registered with the New York State authorities in 1920.

Our mother has been a God's gift to us

Aglaia Bornozi (1925 - 2010)



She left us after struggling with cancer for 40 years. She was born on 1st October, 1925, in Volos, Greece, where her father, Constantine Domenikiotis, was a tobacco merchant with significant commercial activities. In 1950 she married our father, lawyer John Bornozis, and had two children, us, Nicolas and Olga-Eugenia. She lived in Volos until 1985 when she moved to Athens.

She distinguished herself for her contribution not only to her family, whose reins she took over completely after the death of our father in 1972, but also to society as a whole. She spoke fluent French and English, and in 1972 she succeeded our father in the position of Honorary Consul of Sweden in Volos and was an active member of the Association of Greek Consuls.

June, 1994, she was honoured again, receiving the medal "Royal Order of the Northern Star" of the Knights of the Order of Vasa from the King of Sweden Karl Gustav. Friends and colleagues will always remember her as a thoughtful and dynamic person, with a strong will to succeed, patient and compassionate, with deep sensitivities and many skills; they will remember a highly intelligent person radiating energy and activity at multiple levels. Aglaia Bornozi was very attached to her family, and was in fact its driving force – she participated actively and decisively in the development of her children's company, Capital Link. Until 2008 she consistently attended all of Capital Link's conferences in Athens, London and New York and was literally their inspiration.

At that time there was significant Swedish commercial activity going through the port of Volos. On 24th July, 1984 she was honoured for her work as Consul with the medal "First Class of the Royal Order of the Polar Star" and on 6th

Everyone who knew her will remember her with love and admiration for her thirst for life and creation, for her inexhaustible vigour, for her humanity and kindness, her expansive thinking, for her courage in the face of her illness and any adversity in life, and for her deep and unwavering faith in its positive aspects.

Long live her memory. May she rest in peace.

Nicolas and Olga Bornozi

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Team Daphne: from left, Joann Davison, Karla Valdes, Jessica Sanchez, Mrs. Sanchez, Anastasios Photopoulos DDS, Daphne 29 Past President Sister Cathy Photopoulos, Sister Dora Koumoutakis, Past District Governor Sister Laurie Sahines, and Sister Andrea Photopoulos posing for our official group shot



Nea, Andrea Photopoulos, Karla Valdes and Cathy Photopoulos getting ready to head over to the park



...and we're off! Team Daphne begins making their strides

Daughter's of Penelope Daphne #29 Help Save Lives Against Breast Cancer



We did it! What a great feeling. Time to celebrate with some healthy snacks and water. yea!

The weather was partly cloudy with a chance of showers, but that did not stop Team Daphne from participating in the 5K "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk". Dressed in their blue and white Daughter's of Penelope shirts and a lot of pink of course, members of the San Jose Daphne #29 Chapter along with supportive friends walked proudly for the cause. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Team Daphne walked to represent not only their organization, but in honor of all Greeks who have been affected by this horrible disease. The event took place in downtown San Jose at Guadalupe River Park and was very well organized and well done. Large white tents and a main stage covered the grassy areas of the park to form a pink and white "Village of Hope". Within the village were different stations including health education, a store, healthy snacks and on stage a live band that kept the crowd excited and motivated. Outside the village, participants were cheered on and guided throughout the walk by volunteers of all ages. Everyone walking had somehow been affected by breast cancer in their life and wore stickers with names of people that they walked in honor or in memory of. An emotional morning for sure, but a positive one and it felt good to be making a difference and raising awareness. All in all, it was a huge success and with all the other festivities of the Halloween weekend, (especially with the San Francisco Giants winning the World Series, Woohoo!) it was nice to see such a good turnout.

According to the American Cancer Society "the chance of a woman having invasive breast cancer some time during her life is a little less than 1 in 8. The chance of dying from breast cancer is about 1 in 35. Breast cancer death rates have been going down. This is probably the result of finding the cancer earlier and better treatment. Right now there are more than 2 1/2 million breast cancer survivors in the United States. As of today, November 1st Making Strides Against Breast Cancer has raised \$573,152.24 to help save lives. Please see what you can do to support this program and help raise awareness about breast cancer in your community. Let's make a difference together. Visit www.cancer.org and search "Making Strides".

THE GREEKS OF TRIESTE



By Alexander Billinis



St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Trieste, Italy

At the top of the Adriatic Sea, literally hemmed in by the crags of the Alps, which rise, at a clutch-burning grade from its port, lies the city of Trieste, in, but somehow not of, Italy. For nearly seven hundred years, the city served as the Austrian Empire's key commercial port, the outlet of Central Europe to the Mediterranean and beyond. Like the Austrian Empire itself, Trieste became a mosaic of nationalities.

In this goulash of ethnicities, Greeks formed a key element. As the perennial maritime people, it was natural that Greeks would form a major, perhaps controlling, part of the shipping community. In the Austrian Empire, however, the Greek merchant community involved in overland trade with the Ottoman Empire was equally important. Here in Trieste the Austrian Greeks' two key activities came together and several Greek houses grew to prominence and, in some cases, became members of the Austrian nobility.

The Balkan Orthodox, primarily Greeks and Serbs, settled here in various waves. The Austrian Emperor Karl IV proclaimed an edict granting the city the coveted status as a Free and Royal City in 1719, which the Triestines exploited to great commercial advantage. With the Treaty of Passarowitz in 1717, Austrian Empire was finally at peace with the Ottoman Empire after nearly a century of war, and trade between the two neighboring states, by land and sea, naturally fell on the shoulders of the Orthodox subjects of the Ottoman Empire, the maritime Greeks and the land-bound Serbs. These two nationalities controlled the bulk of the growing trade between the two empires.

Greeks and Serbs flocked to Trieste, but were obviously concerned about guarding their religious identity in a fiercely Catholic realm. Fortunately, Austrian Empress Maria Theresa granted religious toleration in 1751, setting the stage for Orthodox religious institutions. The Triestine Orthodox community rightfully reveres Maria Theresa for her religious tolerance. I have found a similar reverence for her in Sombor, the Serbian city we now call home, as this part of Serbia had been under Austrian control and Maria Theresa also bestowed upon Sombor the coveted status of "Free and Royal City."

chose "to stamp their identity architecturally in the midst of a baroque Austro-Italian city."

The merchant and maritime activities, under a multinational society governed by a relatively benevolent absolute monarchy, provided an atmosphere in which the Greeks thrived. The "business" of these Greeks, to paraphrase President Coolidge famous quote, "was business." Trading companies, shipping, and maritime insurance all had a large Greek participation, but intellectual and artistic endowments were also important to this socially prominent community, which, at its height, in the late nineteenth century, numbered five thousand.

Living prosperously in an environment both Mediterranean and Central European, Trieste's Greeks inexorably assimilated with their fellow citizens. Some followed the Austrians and Hungarians back to their home countries after the Austro-Hungarian Empire was dismembered in 1918, and the Italians took over. The Italians actively encouraged assimilation. Today the Greek community numbers several hundred, assimilated to a considerable degree, yet maintaining their faith and their links with their homeland at the bottom of Adriatic. Unlike Greek communities in Germany, America, and Australia, there is little impetus for Greeks to immigrate to Trieste (though, with current economic conditions, this may change), but the Serbian community has grown by several thousand as a result of the dismemberment of Yugoslavia.

Trieste's Greek community is similar to other long-established Greek communities outside of Greece. Geography dictated that Trieste and other Italian and Austrian cities would be natural magnets for Greek and other Balkan immigrants. These hardy souls, forerunners of later immigrants, sought both the greater freedoms available in the West and the economic opportunities. Over the course of time, their own success pulled them into the larger societies in which they lived. In these pages, we have visited the Greeks of Venice, of Southern Italy, and of Hungary. We will visit other communities, mapping their transition from Diaspora to assimilation. It is, to a great extent, our story. Every time I visit the remnants of a Greek community a shadow of its former size, I feel both sadness, and comfort that their descendents, for the most part, still remain vibrant members of the countries they call their homes. In many ways, these vanishing communities may be the fate of our own, if we fail to nourish our roots repeatedly and in all generations.

Alexander Billinis has spent a decade in international banking in the US and Europe, most recently in London. He is particularly interested in Greece's economic and cultural position in the Balkans. He has worked with companies invested in the Balkans, and is writing a travel-historical book about the post-Byzantine states of modern Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania.

WITHOUT BORDERS * HELLENES WITHOUT BORDERS * HELLENES WITHOUT BORDERS

WITHOUT BORDERS * HELLENES WITHOUT BORDERS * HELLENES WITHOUT BORDERS

Greeks in Support of Dan Donovan



Dr. Gergis, Dan Donovan, Stavros Bakousis and Magdy Kheir



Demetra Vasilakos, Giota Vasilakos, Dan Donovan, Tasos Vasilakos, Nadia Drogaris, Eleftheria Ikouta and Stavros Bakousis



Nestor Makarikakis, Magdy Kheir, Stelios Makarikakis, Matthew Mirones, Nick Konstandinos and Stavros Bakousis

Greek Americans from Staten Island and Brooklyn gathered in support of Richmond County District Attorney Dan Donovan who was running for New York Attorney General in the latest election. The fund raiser was organized by Stavros Bakousis and Dr Gergis and took place at Mr. Bakousis' restaurant, the Woodrow Diner, at 655 Rossville Ave. in Staten Island New York. Dan Donovan, who lost the race and failed to become New York Attorney General, made remarks outlining his plans while thanked all participants for their support. He also spoke highly about the Greek American community and its accomplishments.



Dan Donovan and George Playittis



Eleftheria Ikouta, Dan Donovan, Demetra Vasilakos and Lisa

In closing, Mr. Bakousis thanked everyone for showing up and taking part in the political process, underlying how important it is for the community to be more active when it comes to both local and national politics.

Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. was elected Richmond County District Attorney in November 2003, becoming the first Republican elected District Attorney in New York City in over fifty years. He was overwhelmingly re-elected in 2007 with nearly 70% of the vote, with the endorsement of the Republican, Conservative and Independence parties.

A native Staten Islander, Dan Donovan was educated in local schools and attended St. John's University (Staten Island Campus) where he earned a BA in Criminal Justice. He later attended the Fordham University School of Law as an evening student where he was a member of the Fordham Law Review and earned his JD, with honors, in 1988. True to his modest upbringing, Dan paid his own way through college and law school, working various jobs and learning the true value of hard work and determination.

Prior to being elected District Attorney, Donovan began his career as a prosecutor serving eight years under Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau where he prosecuted major narcotics cases throughout the city and served as senior trial counsel. After leaving Morgenthau's office, Donovan began serving his native Staten Island in 1996 as Chief of Staff to then Borough President Guy V. Molinari. In January 2002, Mr. Donovan was appointed Deputy Borough President, serving under Borough President James P. Molinaro.



Dan Donovan and Stavros Bakousis



Marisa Jaques, Stefanie Laterva and Anna Giordano



Tasos Vasilakos, Demetra Vasilakos and friends



Matthew Mirones, Dan Donovan, Vaggelis Xenakis, Argos and Stavros Bakousis

Capital Link Holds Annual Forum on Greek Economy

Capital Link will hold its 12th Annual Forum, titled Reforming Greece: Opportunities and Challenges, on Thursday, December 2, 2010, at the Metropolitan Club (1 East, 60th Street) in New York City. The expected attendance for the Forum is 800+ attendees. Mr. Haris Pampoukis, the Minister of State to the Prime Minister of Greece and Mr. Dominic Cerutti, President and Deputy Chief Executive Officer of NYSE Euronext will be the Keynote Speakers at the luncheon. On Friday, December 3rd, following a formal reception celebrating "Greek Day at NYSE", the Minister and the Greek Delegation will ring the Closing Bell at the New York Stock Exchange, an event of unique visibility throughout the world.

Nikolas Tsakos greets Greek Minister of Economy, Competitiveness and Maritime Affairs Louka Katseli at last year's Capital Link Investing in Greece Forum in New York.



With a successful track record of 12 years, Capital Link's Greek Forum is an institution that fosters closer relations between the investment communities of Greece and the United States. The global business and investment community regards it as a key platform that provides a complete and comprehensive overview of developments in Greece.

In these difficult times the need for extroversion and reliable communication to the global investment community is an absolute necessity. The Forum will update the business and investment community on the progress achieved in reforming the Greek economy and on the outlook for business and investment opportunities in the country and the wider region. It will highlight recent government and private sector initiatives in attracting foreign direct investment to Greece.

The Forum will provide updates on Government economic plans, policies and objectives, the capital markets and stock exchange and the main sectors of business activity, such as shipping, energy, banking, telecommunications, real estate etc., complemented by individual company presentations. In parallel, there will be a roadshow by listed companies on the Athens Exchange through a series of one-on-one meetings with institutional investors and analysts.

The Forum is traditionally organized by Capital Link in cooperation with the New York Stock Exchange, in addition to major global investment banks, the support of the Athens Exchange and several other U.S. and international organizations. Continuing with the tradition of prior years, the Forum is under the auspices of the Ministry of Regional Development and Competitiveness of Greece.

For more information the website address is www.capitallink.com

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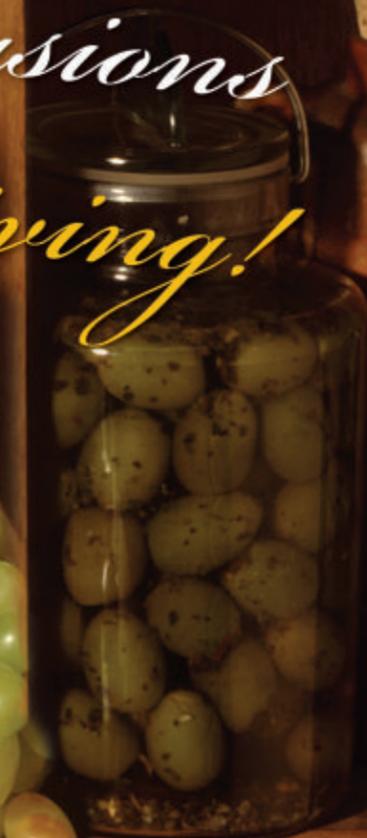
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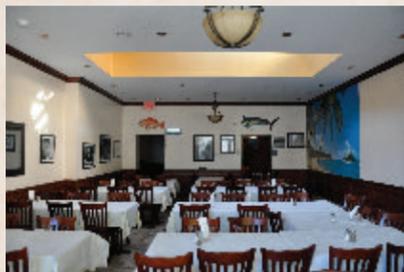


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A COLUMN DEVOTED TO MAKING GREEK FOOD EASY

By Maria A. Pardalis

Apple Baklava

Crisp-apple weather, spiced pumpkin pie, colorful autumnal weekends, cozy-time meals with our loved ones, Thanksgiving Day — there are so many reasons I adore November! Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays and also the most celebrated one in the United States. It's a time to share, to give, to be grateful for all that we have and to eat!

A bounty of traditional Thanksgiving food graces the tables of nearly every

household despite your background, nationality, religion, or color. You may especially want to adhere to convention when it comes to dessert; who doesn't like warm apple or pumpkin pie served a la mode? Pie might be the rustic pinnacle of the home cook's art, but it is also very ordinary. Why not spark your guests' sweet tooth and serve something unique and delicious for dessert this year?

In the spirit of the holiday, I created a Greek inspired dessert that will please even the pickiest of eaters, Apple Baklava. It combines the familiar aromas of Thanksgiving with the traditional sweet flavors of classical Hellenic baking and pairs beautifully with ice cream.



Prep Time: 20 minutes

Bake Time: 50 to 60 minutes



Ingredients:

~For the baklava~

- 17 sheets of phyllo dough
- 6 Granny Smith or Golden Delicious apples
- 1 cup almonds, sliced and toasted
- 1 cup walnuts, chopped and toasted
- 1 cup unsalted butter, melted
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 tablespoon granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon light brown sugar

~For the syrup~

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup water
- ½ cup honey
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 5 cloves
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

Preparation

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Peel, core and thinly slice apples. Saute apples and 1 tablespoon lemon juice in a non-stick pan over medium high heat for 6 to 8 minutes or until water evaporates. Another option is to place apples under the broiler for 3 to 5 minutes or until lightly browned.
2. Place apples in a large bowl and mix in sugars, spices, toasted nuts, and 1 tablespoon lemon juice. Toss until well blended and set aside.
3. Grease a 13 by 9 inch metal baking pan with butter. Place 1 phyllo sheet on top and lightly brush with butter. Repeat with 5 more pieces of phyllo, brushing each with butter (keep remaining sheets covered with a damp towel until ready for use).
4. Spread ½ of the apple mixture evenly over buttered phyllo. Top apple mixture with 3 more phyllo sheets, each lightly brushed with butter. Spread remaining apple mixture on top. Repeat layered with 6 more phyllo sheets brushed with butter.
5. Using a sharp knife, cut baklava lengthwise into 1 ½ inch wide strips, then cut diagonally at 2 inch intervals to make diamonds. You can also cut the baklava into squares if this is easier. Bake baklava for about an hour or until golden brown and crisp.
6. While baklava is baking, make the syrup. Add water, sugar, honey, lemon juice, cloves and cinnamon stick into a saucepan and bring to a slight boil. Stir until ingredients completely dissolve. Chill at least 1 hour.
7. Pour syrup over baked baklava and set aside to cool for a few hours or allow to soak overnight. Serve warm or at room temperature with vanilla or cinnamon ice cream.



Did you
know...

that November 17 is national "Baklava Day"?

Kali Orexi!!

PRINCE ALEXANDER AND PRINCESS AIKATERINI OF SERBIA CELEBRATED 25TH ANNIVERSARY

By Margarita Vartolomeou

Prince Alexander II and the Greek-born Princess Aikaterini of Serbia celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary at their home in Belgrade, along with their children Peter, Philip, Alexander, Mrs. Alison Andrews, Mr. David Andrews and his wife Dr. Aggeliki Margariti-Andrews, with their son Alexander. Among the special guests were King Constantinos and Queen Anna-Maria, former of Greece, King Symeon and Queen Margarita, former of Bulgaria, King Michael, former of Romania, Princess Irini of Greece, Princess Margarita and Prince Radu of Romania, Prince Guillaume and Princess Sibilla of Luxembourg, Princess Margarita of Baden, Princess Isabella of Lichtenstein, Princess Ira von Furstenberg and a considerable number of other members of the European royalty. Also in attendance were Mrs. Betty Roumelioti, sister of Princess Aikaterini, with her husband George and their children.

Archbishop of Serbia Irinej officiated mass in the small church within the palace. On the eve of the anniversary, all guests attended a lavish banquet and the next day they enjoyed a spectacular cruise along the Danube River. Guests were delighted by the warm hospitality and by Belgrade, a place that most of them were visiting for the first time.

Prince Alexander II and Princess Aikaterini got married in 1985 at the Church of Hagios Savvas in London. Their best men were King Konstantinos, former of Greece, and Princess Tomislav. The hosts were delighted and grateful that so many friends from all over the world came to Serbia and shared with them those unforgettable moments. The two day events were organized the Davlas and Partners PR firm, based in Athens.



Maira and Nikos Tsavlis

Mrs. Della Rounik

Princess of Serbia Aikaterini and Prince Alexander II with Mr. Nikos Nanopoulos and Mrs. Rodi Kratsa

From left, Mrs. Fleur Potamianou, Mr. Stefanakis, Mr. David and Mrs. Nanta Geroulanou

Lila Empirikou, Antigoni Davla, Elena Davla, David Andrews and Angeliki Margariti

King Constantinos and Queen Anna-Maria with Prince Alexander

From left, Prince Alexander II of Serbia, Queen Margarita of Bulgaria, Princess Aikaterini of Serbia and King Symeon of Bulgaria

Prince Petros, Georgios Davlas, Prince Alexander and Prince Pbilippos

The anniversary cake

The White Palace in Belgrade

The banquet

The happy couple, Nikolaos and Tatiana

The bride, Tatiana Blatnik, entering the church

The groom's parents, King Constantinos and Queen Anna Maria, former of the Hellenes

Queen Sophia of Spain

Constantinos & Christiana Kaisaris

Crown Princes, Felipe & Leticia of Spain

Pericles & Katerina Panagopoulos

Vardis and Marianna Vardinogiannis

Friends of Tatiana Blatnik

Princes, Pavlos & Marie Chantal and their children

ROYAL WEDDING IN GREECE

By Margarita Vartolomeou

Prince Nikolaos of Greece and Tatiana Blatnik got married this past August at the Ayios Nikolaos Cathedral, in Spetses Island, Greece.

According to the Associated Press, "Blatnik, 29, arrived in a horse-drawn carriage and waved to a crowd of well wishers gathered outside." The 40-year-old Nikolaos arrived by "Afroessa," the family yacht. On the guest list were royals from around the world who convened to celebrate the happy couple's union. The groom's parents, King Constantinos and Queen Anna Maria, former of the Hellenes, Queen Sophia of Spain, Crown Prince Felipe of Spain and his wife Princess Leticia were among the members of the royalty at the wedding. Tatiana's dress was designed by Angel Sanchez. Best men were the brothers of Nikolaos, Pavlos and Philippos, the three brothers of Tatiana, Boris, Igor and Attilios, and Nikolaos' close friend Nasos Thanopoulos. Metropolitan Bishop Efraim officiated.

The total number of guests, according to official estimates, is 370. Half of them were from Greece. The measures of protections undertaken were high. The historic Cathedral of Ayios Nikolaos was built in 1800, at the place where the revolution against the Ottomans started, before any other Greek island revolted. The belfry is considered to be of exceptional artistic value and for the wedding was decorated with flowers and fruits from the Greek soil. Two big Greek flags were placed on both sides of the entrance to the church. The wedding reception was held at the Koutsis Estate of Spetses.

WEST COAST BEAT



BY JOANNA XIPA



En Vogue Philoptobos members: Fr. Andrew Scordalakis, Angie Georggin, Christine Tradas, Alexandra Mouzas, Jan Hicks Manos, Dr. Marianne Mc Donald, Jeannette Rigopoulos and GeorgeMarinos



Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church, Mrs. Jeanette Rigopoulos of Sts Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, and Dr. Marianne McDonald, a Civic Recipient. The award sculpture itself is the Nike of Samothrace, symbolic of the spirit of victory, was commissioned this year to a local artist Catherine Yermanos.

The afternoon also included an amazing fashion show, with couture by famous names from around the world, but delighted to see Greek-American designers featured like the highly, award winning



En Vogue winners, Jan Hicks Manos, Marianne MacDonald, Jeannette Rigopoulos and George Marinos

James Galanos, who's work is characterized by exacting craftsmanship, particularly in the extensive use of hand beading, full, loose dresses and chiffon coats over simple sheaths, and extensive use of silk fabrics. Cypriot-born designer George Georgiou, was also featured at the show. The San Francisco apparel entrepreneur with a world-wide chain of boutiques prides his collection focusing on the feminine figure, with European-inspired style reflecting up-to-date color trends, fabrics, and contemporary styling, while providing beautiful designer clothing at ready-to-wear prices.

SAN DIEGO PHILOPTOCHOS EN VOGUE GALA EVENT

This past October, The Harbor Island Grand Foyer of the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina was transformed into a bazaar of hand-made, mouth-watering Greek sweets, one-of-a-kind finds and cheerful entertainment. There were over 320 people in attendance, socializing with old and new friends, enjoying the shopping opportunities, a live auction of unique gifts and a chance to win the Konstantino Treasures bracelet valued over at \$2,800.

They were there to celebrate a day of philanthropy, fine wine, fine food, fashion and inspiration! The ladies at the Philoptochos Society "Anthousa" in San Diego, CA, were the creators of this marvelous event.

Their namesake, Anthousa, was the mother of St. John Chrysostom. She was widowed at an early age and devoted herself to the service of God, Christ, and Church. Her love for Christ led her to become one of the first ladies of Antioch to organize the early Christian philanthropies. The Anthousa Chapter of St. Spyridon devotes itself to similar philanthropies.

The ceremonies presided in the ballroom listening to the inspiring words and honoring the philanthropic contributions of four outstanding San Diegans chosen to receive the 2010 Anthousa Award, the chapter's highest honor. The winners were Mrs. Jan Hicks Manos of St. Gregory of Nyssa Greek Orthodox Church, Mr. George Marinos of St.

The generosity of their guests and contributors supported their beneficiaries: The Armed Services YMCA, The Children's Foundation of America and the Philoptochos ministries so that they may continue to perform their best during this challenging economic era. The first Philoptochos (meaning friend of those in need) was organized in New York City in 1902. Today's Philoptochos is a national non-profit organization officially chartered in 1931, comprised of approximately 480 chapters and 28,000 members. It is the largest Christian women's charitable organization in the western hemisphere.



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OXI Day and ...OXI Clean!

Sometimes there is a funny aspect to serious matters and such is the case of the various "OXI" celebrations held in Greek schools throughout the country to commemorate the resistance of the Greek people to the invasion of the Fascist Italian forces, a campaign that started in the early hours of October 28, 1940, when the Ambassador of Fascist Italy to Athens, Count Grazzi, went to Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas' home and demanded that Greece allow Italy to occupy certain parts of the country for security reasons. It was three in the morning and Metaxas, notorious for his toughness, did not hesitate to answer "OXI!" the Greek word for "No!" Actually, what he said really meant "well, let's go to war", but in essence he and the Greek people, even the ones who suffered under his rule, said no to the invading Fascists, as they continued the struggle on the Greek mountains and big cities even after the Nazi Germans occupied the country. Modern day historians tend to attribute "OXI" to the Greek people alone, taking away its "copyrights" from Ioannis Metaxas, as the official story had it for decades (actually, other historians have come up with a different version of the events, saying that Metaxas said no, because he was upset with Grazzi coming to his home at three in the morning without calling first and waking him up!). Whatever the reason for saying no was,

the fact remains that when Metaxas (not to be confused with the famous throughout the world brandy) was faced with the imminent invasion by a much superior in terms of numbers and equipment foe, did not waver, did not think twice, nor he called the king or for a ministers' council. He had the guts to tell the Italian fascist the only answer that any self respected leader could give. American author N.J. Slabbert has come up with a book, "The Sword of Zeus" - sponsored by Baltimore based entrepreneur and innovator Aris Melissaratos - in which he makes the case that Greece's initial victory and ensuing resistance, was the catalyst for the defeat of the Axis powers.

Regardless, when non Greeks or less informed American Greeks see the flyers or posters saluting or promoting the OXI Day celebrations, they mistakenly think that either the name sake detergent (OXI Clean) is sponsoring the event or its cleaning virtues are celebrated! Now, that could imply that we are late in discovering the virtues of cleaning in



general and by that I mean any kind of dirt (but that's a different story)!

Not that it is something serious, but it wouldn't hurt that for the sake of the many who can't read Greek, next time organizers, please write OHI, which is closer to the actual pronunciation of the word, instead of OXI. If you however, continue the practice, at least call OXI Clean and either ask for sponsorship or threaten them with a lawsuit for attempting to steal another piece of our glorious past! Then, wash your anger away with a Greek ...cognac and a piece of our very Greek feta (the word is originally ... Italian)!

See you in December...

DEMETRIOS RHOMPOTIS
dondemetrio@neomagazine.com

NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS

ZORBA THE GREEK

Director Antonis Diamantis

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THE ODYSSEY, Presented by The Readers of Homer at 92nd Street Y

After a year spent on an extraordinary journey to the four corners of the world, the international literary organization The Readers of Homer returns home with a unique all-night event at 92nd Street Y in New York City, on November 27, 2010.

In the splendor of 92Y's Buitenvoerter Hall, fortified by mulled wine and Homeric fare, 200 participants of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities, will gather to read, one after the other, through the night, Homer's great poem. The pre-assigned segments may be offered in English, ancient or Modern Greek, or in any language of the reader's choice, while the acclaimed English translation by Stanley Lombardo will be projected on a giant screen. Students, teachers, professionals from all fields, children and parents, are invited to experience – as participants or audience members – the life changing pleasures of reading poetry aloud.

At the onset of the evening, the renowned ancient Greek music ensemble Lyravlos, under the direction of Panagiotis Stefos, will offer a brief concert followed by interludes at the end of each Rhapsody. Throughout the night, the Odyssey will be echoed by contemporary dance pieces performed by the notable Choreo Teatro Company, under the direction of choreographer Irina Constantine Poulos and set to original music by the Slovenian group Silence. With the rising of the sun, the event will close with Four Meditations on War, a musical piece scored for bass-baritone and string quartet, conducted by composer Mark Latham. Created during some of the bleakest days of the war in Iraq, the composition reflects the complexity of this foremost Homeric theme, war, and all that arises from it: courage, cowardice, beauty, fertility, heroism, love.

The Ministry of Culture of Greece has now officially placed the 27/11 marathon reading of the Odyssey under its aegis—which is a first considering it is a US-based organization and the event takes place outside Greece.

The Odyssey presented at 92nd Street Y is under the auspices of the Consulate General of Greece in New York, the Friends of the Library of Alexandria, Bard College and Fordham College at Rose Hill; and is supported by the Andres Mata Foundation, the Greek Theatre Foundation and Travel Dynamics International (list in development). All proceeds of the event will benefit the national and international programs of The Readers of Homer. The objectives of the organization include the revival of public reading, the recognition of the eternal immediacy of Homer, the honoring of the international translators of his epics, the offering of a multilayered audiovisual experience to the public, as well as learning and socialization opportunities to thousands of participants. Under the direction of Founder Prof. Kathryn Hohlwein and actor/producer Yannis Simonides, and with the support of a multi-talented group of colleagues, the Readers of Homer have recently presented extremely successful Homeric celebrations in the USA, Egypt, Uruguay, Greece, Italy and Turkey, and seek support in order to respond to an increasing number of invitations worldwide.

For participation and additional information:

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www.choreotheatro.org
www.lyravlos.gr



The Readers of Homer at the Medieval Castle of Kos, August 2010



Yannis Simonides and Prof. Kathryn Hohlwein with the Minister of Education of Uruguay, Maria Simón and the Director of the Maria Tsakos Foundation, Margarita Larriera



In Montevideo, the Ambassador of Italy reads the Odyssey in Italian and Greek



A student reads Homer in Arabic at the Library of Alexandria



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