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Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Palos Hills, Illinois, celebrates its 100th Year Anniversary and Honors Fr. Byron Papanikolaou for 50 years of Dedication, Devotion and Love In Service to our Parish with a Gala Celebration

On October 24, 2009 SS. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church will commemorate its 100th anniversary and honor Father Byron Papanikolaou for 50 years of service with a Gala Celebration. This Gala at the Oakbrook Hills Marriott Resort in Oakbrook Hills, Illinois, will bring together the many generations that have shared so many experiences and memories with an evening of dining, dancing and reminiscing.



Anniversary Executive Committee (Top L-R): Dr. Neophytos Savide, Gala Chairperson; Fr. Nicholas W. Jonas, Pastor; Theodore Argiris, Anniversary Chairperson; Tom De Medeiros, Pastoral Assistant. (Bottom L-R): Deanne Savide, Gala Chairperson; Georgia Vouris, Anniversary Chairperson.

Faith, love and dedication are the foundation that SS. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church were built upon and the reasons that we celebrate one hundred years of an ever-thriving community. The strength and longevity of the church has been through the devotion, dedication

and perseverance of the leadership and the synergy of priests, parish council and parishioners.

The origin of the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Parish began with services being held at a rented hall at 63rd and Woodlawn Ave. It was at a meeting held on April 25, 1909, that 350 people voted to establish an independent church dedicated to Saints Constantine and Helen. The first church was built at 61st and Michigan and opened its doors in October of 1910. A fire destroyed the church on Holy Monday April 26, 1926. Holy week services were held at neighborhood churches of other Christian denominations and it was during the Easter Sunday services that the announcement that a new church would be built at the same location brought the community hope. The church has relocated twice since, 1948 to 74th and Stony Island Avenue and 1976 to 111th and Roberts Road.

In 1961, Father Byron was assigned with Presvytera Cynthia to SS. Constantine and Helen. His years of love in Christ and the parish of SS. Constantine and Helen have unified the voices of the parish and have fortified the spiritual bonds interlocking the lives of many. In 2007, the town of Palos Hills named a portion of Roberts Road in honor of Fr. Byron, showing the respect that he has earned throughout the entire community.

Fr. Byron Papanikolaou with Fr. Nicholas W. Jonas

Fifty years of dedication, devotion and love to the church and its parishioners has earned Fr. Byron a special place in the hearts of those he has ministered to.

I Only hope we find GOD again before it is too late !

The following was written by Ben Stein and recited by him on CBS Sunday Morning Commentary.

My confession:

I am a Jew, and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish. And it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautiful lit up, bejeweled trees, Christmas trees. I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are, Christmas trees.

It doesn't bother me a bit when people say, 'Merry Christmas' to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year. It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display at a key intersection near my beach house in Malibu. If people want a creche, it's just as fine with me as is the Menorah a few hundred yards away.

I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in God are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from, that America is an explicitly atheist country. I can't find it in the Constitution and I don't like it being shoved down my throat.

Or maybe I can put it another way: where did the idea come from that we should worship celebrities and we aren't allowed to worship God as we understand Him? I guess that's a sign that I'm getting old, too. But there are a lot of us who are wondering where these celebrities came from and where the America we knew went to.

In light of the many jokes we send to one another for a laugh, this is a little different: This is not intended to be a joke; it's not funny, it's intended to get you thinking.

Billy Graham's daughter was interviewed on the Early Show and Jane Clayson asked her 'How could God let something like this happen?' (regarding Hurricane Katrina).. Anne Graham gave an extremely profound and insightful response. She said, 'I believe God is deeply

saddened by this, just as we are, but for years we've been telling God to get out of our schools, to get out of our government and to get out of our lives.. And being the gentleman He is, I believe He has calmly backed out. How can we expect God to give us His blessing and His protection if we demand He leave us alone?"

In light of recent events... terrorists attack, school shootings, etc. I think it started when Madeleine Murray O'Hare (she was murdered, her body found a few years ago) complained she didn't want prayer in our schools, and we said OK. Then someone said you better not read the Bible in school. The Bible says thou shalt not kill; thou shalt not steal, and love your neighbor as yourself. And we said OK.

Then Dr. Benjamin Spock said we shouldn't spank our children when they misbehave, because their little personalities would be warped and we might damage their self-esteem (Dr. Spock's son committed suicide). We said an expert should know what he's talking about. And we said okay. Now we're asking ourselves why our children have no conscience, why they don't know right from wrong, and why it doesn't bother them to kill strangers, their classmates, and themselves..

Probably, if we think about it long and hard enough, we can figure it out. I think it has a great deal to do with 'WE REAP WHAT WE SOW.'

Funny how simple it is for people to trash God and then wonder why the world's going to hell. Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, but question what the Bible says. Funny how you can send 'jokes' through e-mail and they spread like wildfire, but when you start sending messages regarding the Lord, people think twice about sharing. Funny how lewd, crude, vulgar and obscene articles pass freely through cyberspace, but public discussion of God is suppressed in the school and workplace. I Only hope we find GOD again before it is too late ! Funny how we can be more worried about what other people think of us than what God thinks of us.

This Gala Celebration is an event that comes only once in a lifetime and we would like everyone to join us for this very special evening. There are only a limited number tickets available, please make your reservations as soon as possible.



Fr. Byron Papanikolaou with the Parish Council 1965

For more information, please contact the Church Office at (708) 974-3400 or visit www.stconstantinehelen.org

National Hellenic FREE PRESS

Publisher:

SOTIRIS REKOUNIS

EDITOR: DENISE REKOUNIS

LAYOUTS: JĪĆÍ RĂĚÏUĚŚ

CONTRIBUTORS: DR. STAVROS BASSEAS, JOHN REKOUNIS
DENISE REKOUNIS , DR. JORDAN TSOLAKIDIS, CHRIS MERENTITIS

MARYANNA SPYROPOULOS, ATTORNEY AT LAW

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4. To promote the use of the Greek Language.
5. To extend the knowledge of Hellenism, Greek culture and traditions.
6. To encourage all worthy community causes.
7. To further the just causes of the people of Greece.
8. To uphold the Greek Cypriot cause.
9. To assist all Greek-American fraternal, cultural, patriotic and religious organizatios.
10. To install Americanism in the Greek-American community.

LAW OFFICE OF MARIYANNA SPYROPOULOS



**180 N. LASALLE ST.
SUITE 1801
CHICAGO, IL. 60611**

**PHONE: (312) 456-8005
FAX: (312) 456-8006**

ENTERTAINMENT LIVE

By Denise Rekounis

The war effort by Quentin Tarantino and Brad Pitt has paid off as their history lesson "Inglourious Basterds" claimed victory at the box office with a \$37.6 million debut. "Inglourious Basterds" features Pitt and an international ensemble in a sprawling tale of Jewish commandos and a plot to take out Nazi leaders at a movie premiere during World War II.



A raging wildfire raced down a mountain slope in Greece toward the town of Marathon recently, nearing two ancient temples while despairing residents pleaded for firefighters and equipment that were nowhere to be seen. Tens of thousands of residents of Athens' northern suburbs evacuated their homes, fleeing in cars or on foot. Several houses were destroyed as the fire advanced across an area more than 31 miles (50 kilometers) wide. The Athens fire began on Mt. Penteli, which divides Athens from the Marathon plain, and has spread down both sides of the mountain.

Police were called for the second time in three months to the Hollywood Hills home of actress Lindsay Lohan on Sunday to investigate a reported burglary there, a police spokesman said. The latest call came in at about 6:30 a.m. local time, but the spokesman at the Los Angeles Police Department's Hollywood station said he had no further details, including who made the call or whether Lohan was home at the time.

Milla Jovovich has wed her "Resident Evil" director, Paul W. S. Anderson, according to People. The couple, who met in 2002 on the set of the film, reportedly tied the knot at their Los Angeles home in a sunset ceremony. Milla, 33, and Paul, 44, welcomed daughter Ever Gabo in 2006.

Despite speculation, Anna Paquin is "not pregnant," her rep confirms to Us magazine.com. Blogs have been guessing the True Blood actress is expecting after she was spotted wearing a baggy dress in Beverly Hills Wednesday. Paquin, 27, will soon get practice at being a mother, though. Her fiancé, costar Stephen Moyer, 39, is dad to Lilac, 5, and Billy, 8, from prior relationships.

The remains of a former model whose killing set off an international manhunt for a reality television star were so badly mutilated that investigators had to use the serial numbers on her breast implants to identify her. The man charged with Jasmine Fiore's murder, reality TV show contestant Ryan Alexander Jenkins, committed suicide. Her nude body had been found that morning, stuffed in a bloodstained suitcase in a trash bin in Buena Park, an Orange County city

about 20 miles southeast of Los Angeles, but authorities wouldn't be able to identify her for a few more days. Detectives tracked the serial number on the implants because they could not use fingerprints or dental records, said Farrah Emami, a spokeswoman for the Orange County district attorney's office. Run Golf Club in Vernon Hills.

The Hellenic Professional society of Illinois is hosting their Annual Kick-off party at Market (1113 w. Randolph, right by greek town on Friday September 25th. start time is 7:00 PM. Admission is \$30 for members and \$40 for non members. Upon admission you will receive one complimentary drink ticket, music and mingling will be provided!

The horror tale "The Final Destination" debuted as the No. 1 movie with \$28.3 million, according to studio estimates. The Warner Bros. sequel is the latest installment in the franchise about people stalked by death after a premonition saves them from their destined demise. "Final Destination" took over the top spot from Quentin Tarantino and Brad Pitt's World War II saga "Inglourious Basterds," which slipped to second place with \$20 million. The Weinstein Co. release raised its total to \$73.8 million after 10 days in theaters. Though Hollywood's summer season historically does not end until Labor Day, the holiday comes late this year, adding an extra week to the movie schedule and skewing comparisons to past summers.

NEW YORK NBC's "Today" show has hired someone with White House experience as a new correspondent former first daughter Jenna Bush Hager. Hager, a 27-year-old teacher in Baltimore, will contribute stories about once a month on issues like education to television's top-rated morning news show, said Jim Bell, its executive producer. The daughter of former President George W. Bush said she has always wanted to be a teacher and a writer, and has already authored two books. But she was intrigued by the idea of getting into television when Bell contacted her.

Authorities will need to conduct toxicology tests, expected to take weeks, to determine what killed celebrity disc jockey DJ AM, a medical examiner's office spokeswoman said Saturday. DJ AM, whose real name was Adam Goldstein, had openly discussed past addictions to crack cocaine, Ecstasy and other drugs. In October, MTV was to debut his reality show, "Gone Too Far," in which he and concerned families staged interventions for drug abusers. MTV hasn't said whether Goldstein's show will air.

Oasis guitarist Noel Gallagher claims "verbal and violent intimidation" led to his decision to leave the "Britpop" band. The posting says "the level of verbal and violent intimidation towards me, my family, friends and comrades has become intolerable." Gallagher offers no details about what the intimidation was, and doesn't specify who was responsible.

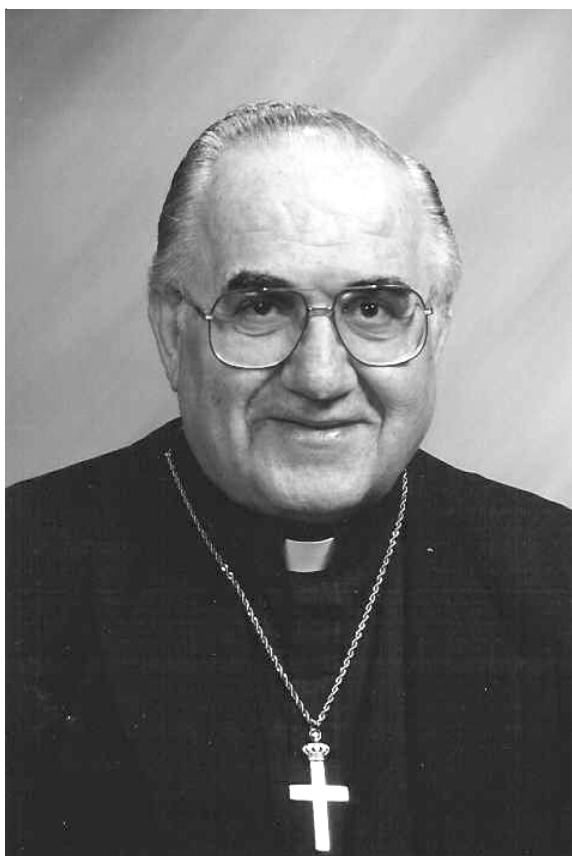
The Office's John Krasinski will walk down the aisle both on- and off-screen. Krasinski and British actress Emily Blunt (The Devil Wears Prada) are engaged, according to People. They have been dating since November 2008. The couple kept their relationship quiet, attending the 2009 SAG Awards separately and only going on low-key dates, according to the magazine.

More than a year after splitting from her husband following his affair with her best friend, Shania Twain took to her official site to tell fans she's doing great and to announce her new relationship. On Friday night, the country singer's 44th birthday, she posted a personal letter and a 15-minute video travelogue of her most memorable moments from the past year. The star split from her husband, Robert "Mutt" Lange in May 2008 after he had an affair with her longtime best friend, Marie-Anne Thiebaud, who also managed the couple's chateau in Switzerland.

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FR. BYRON STYLIANOS PAPANIKOLAOU CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE VINEYARD OF OUR LORD

Father Byron Papanikolaou was born on August 24, 1933, in Dasilion Kozani, Greece. After his elementary schooling in the village he attended two years at the legendary Tsotiliou High School and two years in the Fourth Male High School in Thessaloniki. In 1951, his family emigrated to the United States where he completed his schooling at Lincoln High School, Milwaukee, graduating in June of 1954. In September of 1954 under the spiritual guidance of Archbishop Ezekiel (then Bishop of Chicago) and Father Emmanuel Vergis, he commenced studies at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. He graduated cum laude with the degree of Master of Theology in June of 1960, and as the valedictorian of his class.



Following his marriage to Xanthippi Kassou on September 11, 1960, he was ordained to the diaconate on September 25, 1960 and then to the priesthood on October 2, 1960 by His Grace Bishop Athenagoras Kokkinakis Titular Bishop of Elaia. He was immediately assigned to the parish of Saints Constantine and Helen of Chicago as Assistant Pastor marking the beginning of his dynamic ministry. With his elevation to Pastor in 1965, Father Byron accepted the formidable responsibility and challenges arising from his growing Church community. His administrative talents were demonstrated in the completion of the Byzantine

interior of the Church edifice on the South Shore and the construction of a new School building. The most trying period of his priesthood, truly earned him the reputation of having extreme "ipomoni" (patience), came during the transitional years in the Church's relocation to Palos Hills, Illinois.

During this period of activity, Father Byron and Presvytera Xanthippi brought up three outstanding children: Sultana, now married to George Tsokolas; Evans; and Aristotle married to Konstantia Tolios. Sultana graduated from Depaul University in Chicago, Evans is a Master of Economics from the University of Chicago, and Aristotle is a Doctor of Theology from the University of Chicago, has been a professor at the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts, and is currently Associate Professor at Fordham University in New York. Six grandchildren, Thano (of blessed memory), Byron Stylianos, Athanasios, and Eleni Tsokolas and Byron Theodore and Alexander Panagiotis Papanikolaou, have extended the circle of love bringing much happiness to Father Byron and his family. For the rich, many faceted dedication and enthusiasm that he gave to the Church and for the service to the faithful, His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos elevated him to the title of Sakellarios in 1962, to the title of Oikonomos in 1967, and to Protopresbyter in 1974, the highest title that a married priest can attain. He was awarded the honor of being selected the keynote speaker at the "Priestly Ministry Lectureship" by the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts and he was presented the Cross of the Holy Sepulchre from His Beatitude Diodoros, Patriarch of Jerusalem. During the 75th Anniversary of Saints Constantine and Helen he was awarded the Medal of St. Paul and given the title of Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne by Archbishop Iakovos in 1985. His All Holiness Patriarch Demetrios during his historic visit to Chicago bestowed upon Father Byron the Cross of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

As a member of the Archdiocesan Council and serving the Metropolis of Chicago in various capacities, Father Byron continues to give his time and talents for the good of Orthodoxy. In the greater community he is known as a caring and compassionate priest who constantly visits hospitals, nursing homes, and people in need. For all this he received the title "Outstanding Partner in Philanthropy" from the Greek Foundation in 1997.

The Church of Saints Constantine and Helen is the center and cornerstone of the Koraes Day School, the Community Center, the Gymnasium, the Library, the offices, and all the conference areas. This "Miracle of Faith" is an achievement of the Greek Orthodox faithful, but all of these undertakings contain the stamp of Father Byron himself. We credit the strength and work that was and is Protopresbyter Byron Papanikolaou, the clerical "Legend" (as he was named in the New York newspaper "Ethnikos Kyrix"), as he is loved in Chicago and respected in the entire Archdiocese.

In the Greek Orthodox community of Saints Constantine and Helen beats a strong Greek heart, celebrating its one-hundredth anniversary, because it has a living Day School that holds completely lit a Greek Orthodox flame, one that remembers the generations that have passed and looks forward to the future with a feeling full of the light that shines within. Father Byron serves and assists the school in the operation tirelessly and teaches personally his Religion Class. He lives a struggle to place the Greek language in a place of prominence and appropriate cultural significance. In addition to the Koraes Day School where close to 200 children study under the guidance of 20 teachers, the community operates an Afternoon School attended by 70 children and a Sunday Church School in which over 300 children are enrolled.

In the past, Father Byron, outside of his dramatic ministry to his Church, School and Greek community, has given great contribution to society by being involved with the following organizations:

Koraes Elementary Celebrates 100 years of Faith, Family and Excellence in Education

On Monday August 31, 2009, Koraes Elementary School, affiliated with SS Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Palos Hills, began their 100th school year with prayer and the installation of the 2009/2010 student council officers. Our new student council was inaugurated by reciting the Koraes Student Council Dedication Pledge: I pledge before Jesus Christ, my God, my Savior, and my Lord, To obey His commandments, and to do His will; to live according to the teachings, Sacred Scriptures, Holy Tradition, and Canons of the Holy Orthodox Church, to practice the Sacraments life; and to commit my life to Christ, His Church, and my fellow students, of the Adamantios Koraes School, of whom I have been elected to serve. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



Mrs. Mary Zaharis (Principal), Andrianna Jonas (Student Council President), Father Byron Papanikolaou (Protopresbyter), Father Panteleimon Dalianis (Presbyter), Father Nicholas Jonas (Pastor), Mr. Tom DeMedeiros (Pastoral Assistant)



Pictured from left to right : Mr. John Arvanetes (Parish Council President), Mr. Tom DeMedeiros (Pastoral Assistant), Mrs. Mary Zaharis (Principal), Alexandra Lenz (Student Council Historian),

- Archdiocesan Council

- Greek Education Committee of the Metropolis of Chicago
- President of the Clergy Association of Chicago
- Spiritual Court of the Metropolis of Chicago
- Archdiocesan Missions Committee
- Metropolis Council
- Holy Cross Board of Trustees

A very special honor was bestowed upon Fr. Byron by the city of Palos Hills on October 28, 2007, naming the street which the Church is located, "Fr. Byron Way."

Father Byron gives speeches and dialogues in the parish of Saints Constantine and Helen, to the school, to the community, to other Greek Orthodox communities, to Greek Associations and Clerical meetings. Father Byron Papanikolaou receives respect for his unceasing commitment to the Church, the school and his service to the omogenia in general.

Father Byron has served our Lord for 50 years with works with humility, without seeking praises and he sees his ministry as what Our Lord called him forth to do. His reward comes from knowing God, devoting his life to God's Will, serving the faithful of his parish, the community at large and being thankful for his many blessings. Our Church teaches us that a priest is the living icon of Christ in the community, becoming the Christian role of piety, human kindness and philanthropy. Father Byron exemplifies all of these attributes and so much more. His gentle way draws you closer, calms your fears and restores hope. His influence is far reaching. He is a light that shines brightly in a world beseeched by darkness, a priest willing to give of himself, a humble and faithful servant. He has spent all his years devoting his life to serving Orthodoxy and the Greek people with honor to the Greek name in America and we all wish that he walks the road in the "Glory of God" and for the good of the Church.

ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΑ

SAINT DEMETRIOS CELEBRATION '09

SAINT DEMETRIOS CELEBRATION '09

Πρόγραμμα Εορταστικών Εκδηλώσεων

The Greek Orthodox Church of Saint Demetrios

893 North Church Road ~ Elmhurst ~ 630.834.7010

Friday, October 2nd / Παρασκευή, 2 Οκτωβρίου

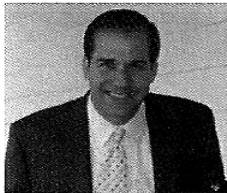
"Dionysos Dance Troupe Benefit"

An evening of Lenten mezedes, drinks, dancing and fun.

Please call Jenny Melahoures at 312.804.3321 for reservations. \$10 donation.

Thursday, October 8th / Πέμπτη, 8 Οκτωβρίου

Paraklesis to St. Demetrios 6:30p.m. / Παράκληση τού Αγ. Δημητρίου 6,30μ.μ.
followed with lecture by Dr. Philip Mamalakis.



"Saint Demetrios Meets Facebook"

*How do we help our kids navigate with technologies
that did not exist two, five, or ten years ago?*

Friday, October 16th / Παρασκευή, 16 Οκτωβρίου

Salutations to St. Demetrios 6:30p.m. / Χαιρετισμοί τού Αγ. Δημητρίου 6,30μ.μ.
followed with a Greek Movie and Lenten Dinner - \$10 donation for dinner

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΙΝΗΜΑΤΟΓΡΑΦΟΣ

«Η ΚΑΛΠΙΚΗ ΛΙΡΑ»



Wednesday, October 21st / Τετάρτη, 21 Οκτωβρίου

Sacrament of Holy Unction 5p.m. / Ιερόν Ευχέλαιον 5μ.μ.

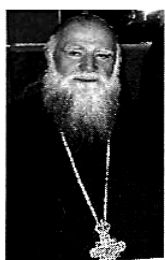
Sunday, October 25th / Κυριακή, 25 Οκτωβρίου

Hierarchical Great Vespers 7p.m. / Μέγας Αρχιερατικός Εσπερινός 7μ.μ.

Monday, October 26th / Δευτέρα, 26 Οκτωβρίου

Demetrios the Myrrhbearer / Μεγαλομάρτυρος Δημητρίου τού Μυροβλήτου
Orthros 8a.m. / Ορθρος 8π.μ.

Divine Liturgy 9:30a.m. / Θεία Λειτουργία 9:30π.μ.



Sunday, November 1st – Κυριακή, 1 Νοεμβρίου

Gala Dinner honoring Rev. Fr. Panagiotis K. Malamis

Celebrating 40 years to the Holy Priesthood and

35 years of dedicated service to the parish family of St. Demetrios

The dinner will take place at the Cotillion Banquet Ballroom in Palatine, IL.

\$50 donation for adults. \$25 donation for ages 5 to 25. Kids under 5 are complimentary.

Plant Your Roots in Greece

The Birthplace of Olympic Ideals
& Universal Spirit



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To Reverse the Loss of Greece's Forests

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Trees are a source of life, a sign of civilization. You too can contribute and help Greece become green again, the sacred land where the great pan-humanitarian values were coined. Plant a tree in your name or the name of a beloved one. Make the dream come true.

"Plant Your Roots in Greece Foundation", is a non-profit tax-exempt organization, incorporated in Washington DC.

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☐ \$1000 - A "Grove" of 100 Trees

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NEWS FROM GREECE

Finds unearthed at necropolis in Pella shed light on social status of warriors

ANA-MPA/Distinguished citizens in antiquity occupied the most privileged place even after death, based on findings unearthed during this year's archaeological digs at the ancient necropolis of Archontiko, in northern Pella prefecture, northwest of the port city of Thessaloniki.

The excavations, conducted by the 17th Ephorate of prehistoric and classical antiquities, focused on 50 tombs in the western cemetery of the ancient settlement.

Ten of the 24 tombs, dated to the Archaic



Period (580-480 BC), are believed to have belonged to aristocrat warriors. Based on the findings, the specific tombs are positioned along two paths that crossed each other, confirming that the "best" spots in pre-Classical cemeter-

ies were reserved for the tombs of the wealthy and members of the aristocrat class.

Moreover, the deceased were buried based on their social class while members of the same family were buried close to each, other forming clusters dating back to the second half of the 7th century BC (late Iron Age) and even down to the early Hellenistic era.

Based on the findings, archaeologists believe the advance of the Macedon kingdom to the Axios River region had taken place much earlier than anticipated and not after the Persian Wars, as maintained by most archeologists until recently.

More robust trading and evident prosperity comes from evidence dated to just after the reign of King Alcetas (early fifth century BC) with the population having increased access to luxury items as a result of trade relations forged with numerous states in the Mediterranean Basin. ANA-MPA/S

Karamanlis says economy must be shielded

The world economic crisis is not over yet while dangers still exist and what is important is to shield the economy by taking the proper measures in order to protect jobs and the economically weak populations, Prime Minister Costas Karamanlis said in Brussels late Thursday night.

Addressing reporters at the end of an informal European Union Summit that focused on shaping a common European position in view of the September G20 Sum-

mit, the Greek premier said that what is needed is formulating an economic strategy with perspective and realism, the stabilising of public finances and, as regards Greece in particular, the promotion of structural reforms.

Karamanlis enumerated the six basic sectors on which the EU must place emphasis: The restructuring of the credit system, the restructuring of the role of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the promotion of a responsible practice of remunerations in the sector of credit, the avoidance of protectionism in trade and the conclusion of an agreement in the Doha round, the reform in the system of representation and management of the IMF, the greater support towards poorer countries and reaching an agreement at the Copenhagen Conference next December on climate change.

Regarding the issue of climate change, Karamanlis underlined that Greece wishes the conclusion of an agreement in Copenhagen and remains steadfast on increasing efforts for the decrease of emissions worldwide. He said that Greece is in favour of reforms regarding the IMF noting however that there is no need for big changes in the organisation's board.

Regarding control of the banking system, the Greek premier said that he supported the increase in international supervision, more transparency and fixing limits regarding salaries in the credit sector.

Responding to a relevant question on main opposition PASOK leader's position on the Burgas-Alexandroupoli oil pipeline, Karamanlis said that "the country's signature cannot and must not be questioned," adding that the completion of the project of the pipeline is particularly important for national Greek interests.

PASOK leader visits IKA facilities

Main opposition PASOK leader George Papandreou said that on October 5, the day after general elections in Greece, "we will put an end to the decline of the public social security system", speaking during a visit to the IKA state social security foundation informatics center.

He charged that mismanagement, wasteful spending, corruption, lack of computerisation and arrangements favorable to banks have put IKA "in the red".

Papandreou pledged a "dignified and fair minimum pension for everyone", and a "viable social security system for everyone, and especially the young generation".

Earlier, Papandreou had visited the IKA branch in the Zographou district of Athens, where he was briefed by doctors and staff on the problems in the sector.

Privatised OA goals outlined

A new era will be inaugurated for Olympic Airlines beginning on Oct. 1 as the formerly state-run and debt-ridden air carrier will be turned over to the Marfin Investment Group (MIG) following a recent privatisation, MIG chief executive Andreas Vgenopoulos said on Thursday.

Outlining the new air carrier's business plan, the high-profile Greek business executive announced that the new OA fleet will comprise a total 21 top-of-the-line passenger jets, namely, 16 Airbus 319s and 320s, 10 Bombardier Q400s, five Bombardier Dash 100s and one ATR-42.

Vgenopoulos pledged that the new company will provide excellent service, be highly competitive and execute 65 pct of the old OA flight itinerary in accordance with provisions set by the EU. It will also claim less profitable routes and eye cooperation with a handful of international carriers that he listed off.

Conversely, he categorically ruled out the likelihood of agreeing to jointly manage OA with the Greek state and reiterated his proposal for an immediate re-nationalisation of the company if that is the wish of any new government that will take office after the Oct. 4 election.

"The goal of the new company is to be an uncontested leader in the domestic market and to occupy a leading place amongst European air carriers..."

FDIs up 165% in 2008

Foreign direct investments in Greece totaled 5.09 billion US dollars in 2008, up 165 percent compared with the previous year, UNCTAD said in its World Investment Report 2009.

The report, presented in Athens, said Greece ranked 49th, among 206 countries, in 2008, sharply improving its position from 73rd in 2007, while the United States, France, China, Britain and Russia were top in the world table.

Foreign direct investment outflows totaled 2.65 billion US dollars in 2008, down 50 pct from 2007, with Greece ranking 39th, among 158 countries, down from 37th in 2007. The US, France, Germany, Japan and UK topped the list.

FDI inflow reserves as a percentage of GDP was 10.3 pct in Greece last year, down from 17 pct in 2007, and sharply down compared with a 35.1 pct average rate in the EU. Greece ranked 57th among 206 countries. FDI outflow reserves as a percentage of GDP was 9.1 pct in 2008, down from 10.1 pct in 2007 and 44.2 pct in the EU. Greece ranked 36th among 153 countries.

UNCTAD said that mergers and acquisitions in Greece totaled 6.04 billion US dollars last year, while takeovers totaled 2.63 US dollars, with Deutsche Telekom's purchase of OTE ranking 51st globally in 2008.

Global FDI flows were negatively affected by a global financial and economic crisis last year, with inflows expected to fall from 1.7 trillion US dollars in 2008 to less than 1.2 trillion in 2009, with a recovery expected around 1.4 trillion US dollars in 2010.



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PICTURES FROM THE WORLD



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A TRIBUTE FOR
VENETTE ASKOUNIS



Venette Askounes played a major role in the settling of Greek immigrants in Chicago during the immediate post World War II years of the late 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. She worked for The Immigrants’ Protective League from the early 1930s to 1962.

She was born in Filiatra, Messinea Greece in 1909 and never forgot her Greek roots, always identifying and understanding the newcomers’ struggles when they arrived under The Displaced Persons and Refugee Relief Acts of the 1950s. Mrs. Askounes was proactive and sincere with her efforts to provide the necessary immigration, naturalization and social services to the newly arrived immigrant and those with student, visitor and medical visas. She made them feel welcomed to Chicago and provided opportunities for them to socialize by organizing events at Hull House on Halsted Street and with The Greek Committee to aid The Immigrants’ Protective League. These opportunities enabled the newcomers to be in touch with one another and remain proud of their background and the cultural fabric of the places from where they immigrated: the village, the province or the island.

Venette Askounes worked closely with organizations, professionals and non-professionals who were in need of information regarding the legal and social responsibilities for the welfare of immigrants and their families. She emphasized the importance of reuniting families. Through her work several thousand immigrants arrived in Chicago. When it was necessary for potential immigrants to arrive and there were no sponsors, housing or employment, she was resourceful in coordinating efforts with both the Greek and American business leaders, as well as community agencies to fulfill the obligations for the immigrants’ arrival. She was successful in appealing to the best instincts of the Greek people to contribute toward assisting others. Even though the Greek population began to relocate from the Greektown area to various parts of Chicago and the suburbs, most of them would return to Venette Askounes and The Immigrants’ Protective League when services were needed.

As a result of this post war era of the mass arrival of Greek immigrants to Chicago and Illinois the general population and Greektown were revitalized and experienced a renaissance. An important and historical impact was made by this Greek population, followed by their children and grandchildren with their cultural, professional, educational, entrepreneurial and religious contributions to the growth, development and progress of Chicago and Illinois. Mrs. Askounes always remained interested in the plight and needs of the immigrant until her death in November, 1994.

A tribute to the memory of Venette Askounes and her centennial year of birth and for her services to Chicago’s Greek American community will take place Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 6:00pm at The Fountain Blue Banquets, 2300 Mannheim Road, Des Plaines, Illinois. There will be a charge of \$10.00 per person for hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar will be provided.

All those who knew her or were familiar with her services, as well as the general public, are invited to attend and honor her contributions to the community. For information contact Electra Tarsinos, 847-298-4158 or George Alexopoulos, 847-498-0421.

Orthodox Charities Weekend at SS.
Consyantine and Helen Church

Palos Hills, IL – In honor of the parish’s 100th Anniversary, Orthodox Charities Weekend will be one of the first major events for the fall season sponsored by SS. Constantine and Helen Church of Palos Hills, IL. Scheduled for September 26th and 27th, the weekend will include the Parish’s annual Bike/Run/Walk-a-Thon (with the addition this year SKATING) and Blood Drive. Also various Bake Sales/fundraisers will precede this weekend to raise needed money. The funds will be distributed through “Project Diakonia”, the Parish’s 10 year old formal Social Service ministry, to the needy and especially the Children of the Hogar Raphael Ayau Orthodox Orphanage in Guatemala City, Guatemala. This past July members of the parish participated in a 2 week mission trip to the Hogar sponsored by the Orthodox Christian Mission Center.

Check-In/Registration for participants of the Bike/Run/Walk-a-Thon will begin bright and early on the morning of Saturday, September 26th at 8:00 a.m. Children ages seven through twelve will follow a route set up in the Church’s parking lot while those from the ages 13-99 will follow a course through the scenic thoroughfares of Palos Hills. Adults are urged to participate. Sponsors having made pledges to the ride-

ers, runners, walkers and skaters will contribute for every mile the participants endure or may make a flat donation. In addition to the fun of the day, participants will be treated to lunch and a free commemorative t-shirt.

Following services on Sunday, September 27th, a Blood Drive will be held in the Church’s East Room beginning at 11:30 p.m. Coordinating the Blood Drive will be Presbyteria Anastasia Jonas. The blood collected will benefit area hospitals.

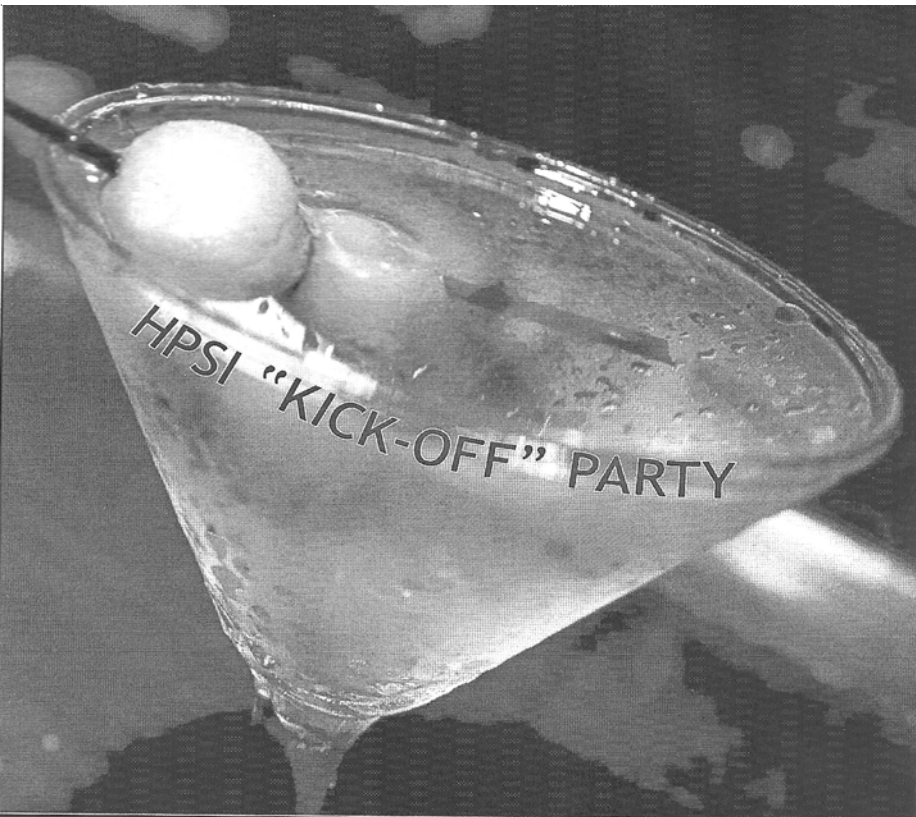
For more information regarding Orthodox Charities Weekend, to obtain a pledge sheet or to register to give blood, please contact Fr. Nicholas Jonas or Mr. Tom Demedeiros at the SS. Constantine and Helen Church office at 708-974-3400 or Presbyteria Anastasia Jonas at 708-974-2902. Both events are open to Orthodox and Non-Orthodox Parishioners and Non-Parishioners alike!

To view pictures of the trip to Guatemala visit www.stconstantinehelen.org. To learn more about the Hogar visit www.hogarraphaelayau.org or the Orthodox Christian Mission Center at www.ocmc.org.

SS. Constantine and Helen Church is located at 11025 S. Roberts Rd. Palos Hills, IL.



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