

# NATIONAL HELLENIC FREE PRESS GREEK AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

VOL. 26

NO. 309

CHICAGO, IL.

JUNE, 2010

## THE HELLENIC STATE FINANCES

### What Are The Options?

The elections of 2009 will stand as a milestone in the long and historic course of Greece. The ruling party was replaced with a large majority by the opposition, on expected change. The fact that disturbed Greece and the international market was the apocalyptic state of the financial deficit of Greece; a huge debt and an equally huge budget deficit, the largest on both among the states of the European Union. Greece was walking with a fast pace toward bankruptcy. The rotten infrastructure of Greece showed in its whole majesty. The national debt over 120% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and the budget more than 14.6 % in the red when a decision of the EU was not to exceed the 3%

Apparently this huge national deficit together with a budget deficit was not the result of a few years of economic mismanagement. But simply it reached a point that could not be covered with any accounting innovations any more. There were not any more margins left to continue the present policy of State welfare with inability to respond to its international obligation. With that inability we arrived at the dreadful present apocalypse. The State is sinking and needs more loans to pay the old loans. This became the starting point for the new government, an uphill struggle to secure new loans.



The central focus of the efforts of the new prime minister was not only the finding of new funds, which became obvious when those loans were found, but they did not become available right away. It was the lack of confidence of the EU State members that Greece is not going to conform to the terms of the new loans and will initiate all measures necessary to fulfill its obligations. The complete lack of confidence toward Greece and its people was the biggest obstacle that ought to be by-passed by the new government. The government's effort for binary loans and the issue of State bonds with normal market interests did not find any takers. Whatever bonds it managed to sell in a free market it paid extraordinary high interests above one hundred percent compared to German bonds which are considered a benchmark. As a result of this lack of confidence toward Greece, especially from Germany who was refusing to participate in a European rescue plan for a long time it created an international turbulence.

Finally the Euro States of the EU reached an agreement on a rescue plan and the mechanism to implement it. The decision to call on IMF concluded the deal. Moreover after the decision to provide Greece with a \$140 million loan, and because the financial markets continued to take a negative position toward Greece the European National Bank opened a credit line of one trillion dollars in support of any State in the Euro Zone.

The International Monetary Fund is a well organized bank with clear rules and especially a

good follow up for the faithful applications of any agreement. The IMF participation in the economic stimulus package to Greece by 30% demands a reduction in the budget deficit from the present of 14.6% to around 3% by 2014. Now the question is, Greece with its economic depression, and a limited economic activity together with lack of investments at a significant scale, how is it expected within three years to achieve this reduction? Would Greece be able to achieve such a goal under the existing economic conditions and the present state structure of market and administration?

The government is declaring that it will restructure not only the economy but the whole public sector. Public Institutions, Government Services, Pension Funds, and all the public services are included in the expected restructuring. Here comes to mind another question. How confident the government itself is in finding an understanding and more so cooperation from the public and especially the organized section of labor and the government employees for the tough economic measures in process which in the long term would be beneficial to the citizens? The lending states have their doubts if the promised reconstruction will take place in order to recover and pay back its debt and in general Greece to stand on its own feet?

Evidently any amount of money no matter how large will not be sufficient if the present policies continue to be applied by an administration which neither proceeds to restructure itself nor is applying the general principles of political economy, and continues with the existing system that created the economic collapse in the first place.

The necessary fundamental restructuring processes as are demanded by the lenders cannot be achieved by legislation only. The citizens must be motivated and must cooperate in the new process. An open and transparent administration is the only remaining remedy after all these years of officially degraded corrupt state of affairs. Yet motivation now is not enough unless the people see structural changes from which economic benefits will be derived.

Hopefully the outstanding programs forced on the government by the EU together with the stimulus package will restart the economy on a positive track. But unless there would be some foreign investment at a significant scale the market will continue to stagnate and there is not better motivation than employment. Greece's biggest industry, tourism, suffers from expensive prices and unpredictable labor force. Perhaps a larger scale privatization with changes in the labor laws may encourage investments and increase the tourist traffic bringing also desirable market stability. It may also bring calmness to social environments and reduce the number of general strikes that do not seem to produce any good to anybody.

The government should move much faster to alleviate market conditions. The lack of general market policies allows for those overblown invoices between merchants and farmers or importer for example, creating an unacceptable market pricing for goods and services. At the present stage, strict application  
(Continue p. 3)

## Saint Constantine and Helen Church Celebrates its Feastday and Young People are Tonsured as Readers

Once again this year the Greek Orthodox Church of Saints Constantine and Helen in Palos Hills, IL celebrated its annual feastday with much joy and fervour in prayer to the Lord.



Traditional service of the Artoclasia (Blessing of the Loaves)

Saint Constantine is remembered as the first Roman Emperor to put an end to persecution of the Christian faithful and to adopt Christianity as the religion of the empire. His mother, Saint Helen, is attributed with having found the Holy Cross upon which Jesus was crucified and for building numerous churches and monasteries throughout the Holy Land. These saints are commemorated each year in the Orthodox Church on May 21<sup>st</sup>.



Candidates Helen Irene Jonas, Dionysios Piskopos, Anthony Jonas, Byron Stylianos Tsokolas, Constantine Tsarouhis, and George Vinihakis hear the inspired words of His Grace Bishop Demetrios

Beginning with the service of Great Vespers on Thursday evening, May 20th, the Parish hosted over ten visiting clergy from throughout the six state Metropolis of Chicago presided over by His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos. As part of this rich liturgical experience, the offering was made of the Blessing of the Five Loaves more commonly known as the Service of Artoclasia.



Tonsuring of Anthony Jonas

This remembrance brings to mind the Lord's multiplication of the loaves in the wilderness and calls upon God to bestow His bountiful blessings upon those making the offering, those for whom the offering is made and ultimately for the good of the community. (Continued p. 3)



## NATIONAL HELLENIC FREE PRESS

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- 4.To encourage all worthy Community causes
- 5 To assist all the Greek-American fraternal, cultural patriotic and religious organizations
- 6.To install Americanism in the Greek-American community
- 7.To advance the just causes of Hellenism.
8. To promote the ideals Greece has given to humanity.

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## ENTERTAINMENT LIVE

By Denise Rekoumis

### Movie News

"Movie-based games seem like they're destined to fail," says Jason Katz, story supervisor for Pixar's latest animated film, "Toy Story 3." "It's like putting a giraffe in human clothes."

But Pixar's collaboration with Avalanche Software on the "Toy Story 3" video game, released this week by Disney Inter-



active, demonstrates a fresh approach to the typically dreadful movie tie-in. Like most offerings in the genre, the game includes an interactive retelling of the film's plot. But Avalanche has also taken Buzz, Woody and the rest of the cast and put them in an open-world playground, called the Toy Box, that feels even truer to the spirit of the franchise.

The Toy Box, in which supporting characters like Hamm the Piggy Bank, Rex the Dinosaur and Slinky Dog help build a thriving Wild West town, "embraces how a kid plays," Katz says.

"Avalanche didn't try to remake the movie," he says. "Instead, they riffed off the movie."

The game studio was on board early in the production of "Toy Story 3." "They saw the first pitch in 2007, when we were still fleshing it out," Katz says. "They could always plug in and see where we were at, and while we were actively improving the story we could give them hot-off-the-presses adjustments. It was very fluid."

Even with all the give-and-take, Katz was confident from the start that Avalanche's designers had the right idea. "We saw the enthusiasm they brought to the project," he says. "They were making a game like we make movies."

### Houswives News

Dina Manzo shocked fans Monday night when she announced she is leaving the Bravo hit *The Real Housewives of New Jersey* — and in the new *Us Weekly* (out Wednesday) she opens up exclusively about her shocking decision.

"I would say 99.9 percent is because of Danielle [Staub], but the other .1 percent was drama created by her," she tells *Us Weekly*. For Manzo, the final straw came on the May 31 episode (taped last year), when Staub, 47, trailed by an ex-con bodyguard, showed up at the Manzo-owned catering hall *The Brownstone* for a charity event and caused a ruckus that ended with Staub's escort hurling a gay slur at Manzo's nephew.

"That whole night at *The Brownstone* just put me over the edge," Manzo, 38, tells *Us Weekly*. "Danielle became all we ever talked about! I wanted to film some fun stuff. I thought I signed on for a nice family show and it really turned in a different direction."

Staub, she adds, "will make up whatever lie she can to hurt you, and it's dangerous. Who wants to be associated with that?"

### Jersey Shore News

Forget gym, tan, laundry. Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino is adding rap to his routine.

The breakout star of MTV's *Jersey Shore* has collaborated with Grammy-winning Fatman Scoop, DJ Class and The Disco Fries to release "The Situation Rap."

This isn't the first time Sorrentino has parlayed his 15 minutes of fame into a new

venture. The 27-year-old has modeled with Bar Rafaeli, starred in a Vitamin Water ad with the Mets' David Wright, was guest correspondent on the Grammys red carpet, and is launching his own fragrance.

### Celebrity News

How are wedding plans going for Valerie Bertinelli (who, at age 50, recently got engaged to businessman Tom Vitale)?

"He's planning it — I have nothing to do with it!" she told *UsMagazine.com* Monday at the premiere of her new TV Land comedy *Hot in Cleveland*. "I just have to find a dress!"

She said they're still "deciding" if they want a big or small wedding.

Added Bertinelli, "We may end up eloping because we just can't decide on the guest list!"

Also, the always outspoken Megan Fox told *Access Hollywood* that she sees marriage in the future with boyfriend Brian Austin Green.

"I've been in this relationship for so long and I love [Brian] so much and of course [marriage is] in the future somewhere," she told *Access'* guest correspondent Qudus at the "Jonah Hex" junket on Sunday in LA. "I'm not closed to that idea."

Despite her penchant for rebelling, Megan said she wants to keep it traditional when it comes to her possible nuptials to the former "90210" star.

"I just think, if you're going to [get married,] if you're going to be with someone and make a commitment, it's good to tell the universe, to say I'm committing to this person and making them my family," she explained. "I think there's something respectable about that and if we were to do it, it would be for ourselves. It wouldn't be for society."

### Local News

A woman who had acid thrown on her was in critical condition this morning, police said. A man was in custody.

The incident took place in a residence in the 5300 block of South Kostner Avenue in the West Elsdon neighborhood on the Southwest Side.

A call came in to police at 7:18 a.m. about a man throwing acid on the woman, said Police News Affairs Officer Laura Kubiak.

The woman was taken by Chicago Fire Department paramedics to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn in critical condition, Kubiak said.

The relationship between the man and woman was not known.

### And

A woman died after suffering multiple stab wounds at her west suburban Brookfield home. An unidentified woman of an unidentified age was stabbed multiple times at her home on the 3300 block of Arthur Avenue in Brookfield, according to a spokesman for the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office. She was pronounced dead at 5:15 p.m. Monday at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood.

One person was arrested without incident on the Southwest Side Monday afternoon in connection with an investigation into the death of the woman, who was a former Chicago Public Schools teacher.

Chicago police assisted Brookfield police in taking a suspect into custody in the 7000 block of West Archer Avenue, according to police News Affairs Officer Hector Alfaro. The person was arrested without incident about 5:30 p.m. Monday.

The Berkeley Suburban Life reported Monday that Marilyn Fay, 65, was a retired Chicago Public Schools teacher and part-time Brookfield Library employee and police found her body in her home at 1:30 p.m. after police went there to check on her well-being.

The Berkeley Suburban Life reported that police were questioning two people, a 30-year-old Brookfield man and a 23-year-old Arlington Heights woman, in connection with her death and the two — who were apprehended at a Chicago motel after Fay's vehicle was found nearby — were acquaintances of Fay.



## THE HELLENIC STATE FINANCES

### What Are The Options?

of the law must be coupled with public outcasting of those found in violation of the law.

The lack of competitiveness which is a hindrance to the advance of the economy if let it continue will lead Greece eventually to bankruptcy. Greece is moving increasingly into a service economy which depends on well educated and trained labor. The EU must be considered a market area available to Greeks but the Greeks themselves must be prepared to take advantage of it by education but also by learning foreign languages. Otherwise Greece is doomed to go into recession and an increased deficit which will throw Greece as a State into an unknown path with severe consequences.

The present stimulus package is only a very temporary solution. It is almost parallel to the state of the Ottoman Empire of the late nineteenth century when more and more borrow-

ings without any restructuring to cover expenses, created the name "the sick man of Europe" and drove the empire into destruction. It would be an unfortunate circumstance if the Greek citizens angry from their economic predicament condemn the government in the expected 2013 elections, if indeed the government lasts till then, and repeats the history of Greek policies of the early twentieth century. Perhaps a reduction in the number of parliament representations may also help not only financially but a smaller parliament may bring in the elite from the population to legislate for a restructured Greece and bring in the so desirable transparency.

**Jordan Tsolakides Ph.D.**

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## Samaria Gorge on Crete, one of the longest gorges in Europe



The world-famous Samaria Gorge on the southern Aegean island of Crete is one of the longest gorges in Europe. The gorge has opened for the public, with entry permitted throughout the entire length of the main footpath, from Xyloskalo to Aghia Roumeli. The Samaria Gorge, a national park in Chania prefecture in southwest Crete and a major tourist attraction of the island, was created by a small river running between the Lefka Ori (White Mountains) and Mt. Volakias. The 16 kilometer-long gorge starts at an altitude of 1,250 meters at the northern entrance in the settlement of Omalos (Xyloskalo) and ending at the shores of the Libyan Sea in Aghia Roumeli. The actual walk through the Samaria National Park is 13 kilometers long, but the trekker has to walk another three kilometers to Aghia Roumeli from the park exit, making the hike 16 kilometers. The most famous part of the gorge is the "Iron Gates" stretch, where the sides of the gorge close in to a width of only four meters and soar to a height of 500 meters. The gorge became a national park in 1962, chiefly as a refuge for the rare "kri-kri" Cretan goat, which is largely restricted to the park and an islet just off the shore of Aghia Marina. There are several other endemic species in the gorge and surrounding area, as well as many other species of flowers and birds.

## Economic figures to be inspected

IMF, EC and ECB officials visit ministries, as it emerges previous government didn't heed crisis warning. It emerged yesterday that the International Monetary Fund had warned the previous government last spring that drastic action was needed to avoid an economic crisis. Meanwhile, officials from the IMF, the European Commission and the European Central Bank are due to conduct checks today at ministries in Athens to see whether Greece is meeting its economic targets.

The foreign officials will check to see if there is any danger that a series of factors, such as hospital debts, companies' value-added tax returns, the funding of the social security fund or the imbalanced budgets of public utilities could lead to Greece failing to make the savings it needs to. Another inspection is due at the end of the month, when Greece will receive 9 billion euros in loans from its eurozone partners and the IMF, which will be the second tranche of the 110-billion euro package it signed up to earlier this year. This week's visit comes after Sunday's Kathimerini revealed that the IMF had warned the New Democracy government last spring, in a special note known as an "early warning exercise," that the Greek economy was heading for disaster. The IMF expressed concern about Greece's plummeting competitiveness and its pronounced fiscal imbalances, even though at that stage the true size of Greece's deficit was not known. The Fund called on the government to take immediate action to rectify the situation and warned that the Greek bond spreads would soar and the country would pay a high cost to borrow on international markets.

Under the premiership of Costas Karamanlis, the conservative administration did not take any remedial steps. In fact, in his campaign for the October general elections, Karamanlis only went as far as promising to freeze public sector wages and trim government spending.

Karamanlis had earlier ruled out the possibility of holding general elections at the same time as European Parliament elections in June, despite concern about the state of the economy.

## Saint Constantine and Helen Church Celebrates its Feastday and Young People are Tonsured as Readers

(Continued from p. 1) At the conclusion of the service, His Grace Bishop Demetrios of Mokissos, tonsured 12 young people as readers in the Holy Orthodox Church. The candidates were brought forward facing the royal doors, where His Grace read a prayer over them that they may study the words of Holy Scripture with greater zeal and application.



Group Photos of those Tonsured with their Families

The candidates tonsured were: Athanasios Argires, Antonios Batson, Fotios Gianakakis, Alexander Haralampopoulos, Anthony Jonas, Helen Irene Jonas, Dionysios Piskopos, Athanasios Stamatoukos, Constantine Tsarouhis, Byron Stylianos Tsokolas, George Vinihakis, Yianni Zigras

A reception was sponsored by the parish's Saint Helen's Philoptochos Society in the Pierre DeMets Auditorium following the Great Vespers celebration.

The next morning the Hierarchical celebration of the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom was officiated by His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos. At the conclusion of this service, His Eminence was greeted by three students dressed in traditional Greek costumes from the Koraes Elemen-



Presentation of Flowers to His Eminence Metropolitan Iakovos of Chicago. L-R: Andrianna Jonas, Student Council President; Maria Pappas; Nicolette Chialdikas; Fr. Byron Papanikolaou; Fr. Panteleimon Dalianis; Fr. Nicholas W. Jonas, Pastor; Tom De Medeiros, Pastoral Assistant

tary School which is operated by the Parish and is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary.

For further information about any activity at Saints Constantine and Helen Church, please contact the Church office at 708-974-3400 or visit our website at [www.stconstantinehelen.org](http://www.stconstantinehelen.org). Pastor of the Parish is Fr. Nicholas W. Jonas, Protosphyter of the community is Fr. Byron Papanikolaou, assisted by Presbyter Fr. Panteleimon Dalianis. President of the Parish Council is Mr. John Arvanetes.

# CHICAGO SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL CHORUS OF NAFPAKTOS

## JUNE 20, 2010 • 6:00 pm

### Copernicus Theater

5216 West Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630

The Chicago Athens Sister Cities proudly presents the internationally acclaimed Chorus of Nafpaktos in concert, on Sunday, June 20, 2010 at 6:00 pm. and urges all members of the Greek American Community to attend this event. The concert will be held at the Copernicus Center, 5216 W. Lawrence Ave. in Chicago. All proceeds benefit "The Runners" Sculpture. The Chorus of Nafpaktos was established in 1987 and consists of 60 singers. Under the musical direction of distinguished Bulgarian maestro Todor Kabakchiev, the choir is at the forefront of promoting Greek culture through music. The choir's repertoire includes Renaissance, Baroque, Classic, and Church music as well as music from contemporary Greek composers such as Mikis Theodorakis, Manos Hatzidakis, Manos Loizos and others.



## Groom: Dan Kaminski Bride: Meghan Valerio

An old friend got married on the 29th of May this year. He and I grew up together in the suburbs, then he left for New York after college to work for various investment firms. When he met Meghan, he discovered a different take on happiness, he said, one that's quite amazing. The lavish wedding took place in Morristown, New Jersey—a quaint, colonial town surrounded by full oaks. And from the beginning, the ceremony was performed differently than other weddings—at least the ones I've been to—from the vows to the amazingly stocked hors d'oeuvre buffet. It was richer and genuinely lively. And as the wedding died down, around 2 in the morning, and everybody's feet were tired, Dan pulled a few of us aside and said, "best day of my life." And he meant it. JOHN S. REKOUMIS



*Meghan and her mother, joy, pride and happiness mixed.*



*Groom: Dan Kaminski Bride: Meghan Valerio: "a different take of happiness"*



*Dan and Meghan: may their happiness last for ever*



*The newly wed's first dance as husband and wife*



*Dan's sister Melanie and her boyfriend Willis share the newly wed's happiness*



*The groom's friends from L to R. Justin Bates, Ryan Caturan, Sean Schochet, Andy Gramza, Lee Muench, Husein Noorani*



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# NEWS FROM GREECE

## PM: Greece not at risk of default

Prime Minister George Papandreou, speaking in an interview with the Austrian newspaper "Der Standard", underlined the abandonment of the mismanagement of the previous government and the economy's full restructuring as a duty and the need to invest in human capital and for the existence of a social state.

Papandreou stressed that Greece is no longer in danger of bankruptcy and called on Europe to invest for its growth and in order to obtain resources to enact monetary exchange taxes and to proceed with the issuing of Euro-bonds.

Referring to the need for boosting competitiveness, the prime minister said that Greece has products for specialised markets, it can play an important role in tourism, agriculture and in the renewable energy sources sector.

Papandreou also said that "the government has done everything to prevent the threat of the danger of their losing their job, their pension and the euro with which the Greeks have been living over the past eight months, who are being shocked by rumours and fears."

The prime minister's interview is accompanied by his biography and a photo of himself and information on Greece's economic state.

## Samaras blasts gov't shipping policy

Main opposition New Democracy (ND) president Antonis Samaras sharply criticised the government's policy in the all-important shipping sector, during a visit to the biennial international shipping exhibition "Posidonia 2010"

taking place in Piraeus.

Samaras stressed that the shipping sector is a national asset, and criticised the government's abolition of the independent merchant marine industry and plans to life cabotage restrictions.

## No reason for worry

Finance Minister George Papaconstantinou said that if additional measures prove necessary "then we will not have done our job, and we will all be judged for that", in an interview appearing in the Sunday edition of RealNews newspaper.

Although nothing has been won yet, we are progressing well and, the more we proceed at these rates, there is no reason for worry," he added.

Papaconstantinou further said he is "more optimistic than ever" on the course of the euro in general while, on Greece's course to the second tranche of the EU-IMF support mechanism loan due to be disbursed in September, he stressed that "we have no reasons to worry, so long as our program is being materialised at today's pace, and with success".

## Leap into the void'

Tsipras: Renewalists' withdrawal from SYRIZA a 'leap into the void' Coalition of the Radical Left (SYRIZA) parliamentary alliance leader Alexis Tsipras severely criticised the withdrawal of four renewalist MPs from the alliance, in an interview appearing in the Sunday edition of Ethnos newspaper. Tsipras, whose own

party, the Coalition of the Left, Movements and Ecology (Synaspismos), heads the SYRIZA alliance, criticised the move as a "leap into the void" by the four renewalists, who were elected to parliament on the SYRIZA ticket.

Four MPs from the renewalist wing of the Coalition of the Radical Left (SYRIZA) parliamentary alliance on Wednesday withdrew from



the SYRIZA coalition, and declared themselves Independent MPs.

Up to then SYRIZA parliamentary rapporteur Fotis Kouvelis, Nikos Tsoukalis, Thanassis Leventis and Grigoris Psarianos submitted their resignations from the alliance during a meeting of the SYRIZA parliamentary group and sent a letter to parliament president Philippos Petsalnikos informing him of their decision and announcing that they will remain in parliament as Independent MPs.

"In any event, we will not engage in a

war of attrition. Their course will be judged by life itself, as will the stance of all of us be judged," Tsipras said.

"You don't abandon your home because the people next door are making noise. Unless you have somewhere better to go, but I don't think so. The future will see," he added.

He also said that the voters had backed SYRIZA on the basis of what it was at the time of the elections, with the different viewpoints and different political tendencies it encompassed.

## 'Myrtis: Face to face with the past': Reconstructed 430 BC Athenian girl's face



"Myrtis: Face to face with the past", a photography exhibition of the ground-breaking reconstruction of the face of a young Athenian girl that lived some 2,500 years ago, is currently on display at Athens' 'Eleftherios Venizelos' International Airport (AIA), through the end of December.

The airport exhibition succeeds the first presentation of the reconstruction of the young Athenian's face at the New Acropolis Museum and at the Goulandris Museum of Natural History.

In 1994-95, during the excavation works for the Athens Metro construction, a mass grave with 150 bodies was discovered in the Keramikos area, where the ancient cemetery of Athens was located. The remains were found to be dating from around 430-426 B.C., the time of the Athens plague. It was then decided to carry DNA tests on the skeletal material aiming to identify the pathogenic factor of the deadly epidemic, which was found to have been typhoid fever. Among the bones, a skull of an 11-year-old girl was discovered; the young Athenian was named "Myrtis" by the archaeologists. The excellent condition of the skull inspired a scientific team of odontologists headed by Assistant Professor at the University of Athens, Manolis Papagrigorakis, to reconstruct the girl's face.

After 2,500 years, Myrtis has been "reborn". This exhibition brings out the great significance of the use of technology, and of interdisciplinary collaboration in many different fields of research, such as archaeology, medicine, anthropology, and forensic science. Greek and European scientists, technicians and artists, shared their knowledge and expertise, to get as close as possible to the real face of Myrtis.

The exhibition consists of 3 sections: the first section presents the excavation at Keramikos, the second displays medical research in Greece for the identification of the pathogenic factor that caused the plague of Athens, applying the methodology of French Professors of the University of Marseille, and the third section portrays the reconstruction of the face of Myrtis.

The exhibition will travel to other destinations, such as the Archaeological Museum of Volos, the Cultural Institution of the Piraeus Group, as well as to the U.S.A. where it will be displayed at the University of Missouri.

The exhibition will be on display through end-December at the airport's Arrivals Level, open to all airport visitors on a 24-hour basis.



# GREEK ISLANDS

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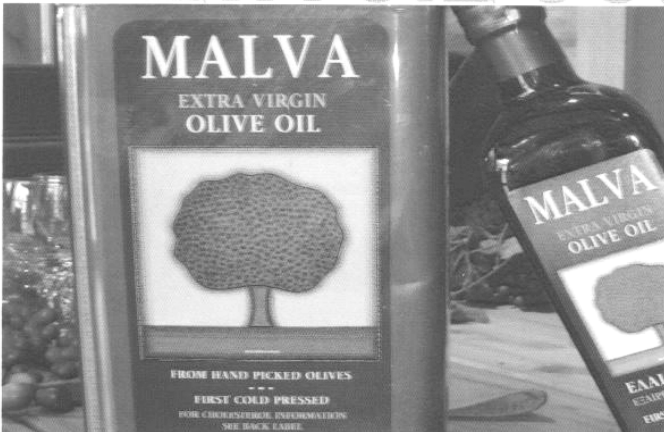
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## PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS: DVD Release Party!

**June 29, 2010 – NEW DATE 3:30 – 6:30 pm**  
**Adults: \$5, Children under 12 FREE**

The National Hellenic Museum invites you to attend a DVD Release Party for the film, Percy Jackson and the Olympians: the Lightning Thief, Tuesday, June 29, 3:30 – 6:30 pm. Come meet the gods and goddesses of Mt. Olympus and you might win Percy Jackson DVDs or merchandise. There will be games, crafts, and fun for the whole family. Guests who dress as their favorite film character or god or goddess of ancient Greece will receive a 10% discount in the Museum gift store. Refreshments include lotus cakes and nectar of the gods, but guests are encouraged to keep careful track of time so they don't mistakenly spend years at the Lotus Casino!

The event is held in conjunction with the world-premiere exhibit, Percy Jackson and the Olympians: A Look Inside the Lightning Thief, running June 3 – September 4, 2010. The exhibition showcases authentic artifacts from the Twentieth Century Fox film, Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief, displayed in settings inspired by the timeless mythology of ancient Greece. Visitors to the exhibit have the opportunity to get an up-close and personal look at some of their favorite props

from the film, and can test their knowledge of the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece at the "Lotus Casino."

Entrance is to the event is free with museum admission (\$5). Children under 12 are admitted free. For more information, please visit [www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org](http://www.nationalhellenicmuseum.org). The National Hellenic Museum is located at 801 W. Adams Streets, 4th Floor, at the corner of Adams and Halsted Streets. The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 4 pm and Saturday from 11 am – 4 pm. The museum is closed on Sunday and Monday.

Antonia Callas / Marketing and Media Relations Manager. National Hellenic Museum / The newest thing in ancient history. 801 West Adams Street, Suite 400 / Chicago, IL 60607.

**T 312.655.1234 ext. 24**

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

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## Cancer link to common heart drugs

*A class of drugs commonly used to treat heart problems has been linked with a "modestly" increased risk of cancer.*

*Analysis of published data from all trials of angiotensin-receptor blockers (ARBs) found one extra case of cancer for every 105 patients treated.*

*The US researchers said the evidence from nine trials should prompt drug regulators to investigate.*

*But they advised people not to stop taking the drugs, but to see their doctors if concerned.*

*The results are published in The Lancet Oncology. ARBs are mainly prescribed for conditions such as high blood pressure and heart failure. They are used by millions of people worldwide.*

### Cancer

*In 2003, a trial of one of the drugs found an increased risk of death from cancer but it was unclear if that was a significant finding.*

*In the latest analysis, researchers looked at all publicly available data and found information on lung, prostate and breast cancer for 68,000 patients, new cancer diagnoses for 61,000 patients, and cancer deaths for 93,000 patients.*

*Overall, they found that taking ARBs was associated with a significantly increased likelihood of a new cancer diagnosis compared with taking a dummy pill or other heart medications (7.2% vs 6.0%). When looking at specific types of cancer, they found that only lung cancer was significantly higher in those taking ARBs.*

### Continue reading the main story

*If people taking medication are worried about possible side effects, I recommend they discuss this with their GP. Dr Tim Chico University of Sheffield*  
*And there was no real difference in cancer deaths although the researchers point out that may be because patients were not assessed for long enough.*

*It is not clear why ARBs may increase cancer risk but some animal studies suggest there may be a*

*link with blood vessel growth in tumours.*

*Although the increased risk found is a modest one, study leader Dr Ilke Sipahi, from The University Hospitals Case Medical Center in Cleveland, said because the drugs are so widely used, it potentially adds up to a lot of extra cancers.*

*He said before anyone acts on the findings, drug regulators, who have access to far more detailed information, need to look closely at factors such as age, smoking history and duration of use to clarify the risk.*

*More calculation is also needed on whether some ARBs are linked with a higher risk than others, he added.*

*"My message for the patients who are currently on ARBs is they should not stop taking these medications on their own because they have beneficial effects.*

*"They need to make a decision with their physicians about the potential risks and whether they need to switch."*

### Benefits

*Judy O'Sullivan, senior cardiac nurse at the British Heart Foundation, agreed that further investigation was needed before any conclusions could be drawn.*

*"The benefits of taking the drug are well established and it remains an effective treatment for many of the 2.6 million people in the UK living with coronary heart disease."*

*Dr Tim Chico, deputy director of the NIHR Cardiovascular Biomedical Research Unit at the University of Sheffield, stressed that the study did not prove a link but that drugs like ARBs which lower blood pressure save lives.*

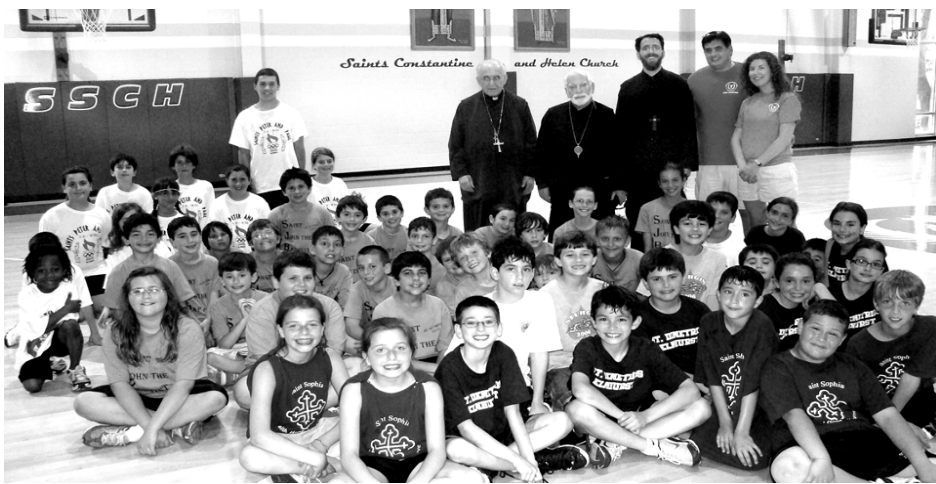
*"If people taking medication are worried about possible side effects, I recommend they discuss this with their GP."*

## 29th Annual Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Jr. Olympics

### A Weekend of Christian Athletic Fellowship

On May 28-30, nearly two thousand youngsters representing thirty-three parishes, ages 7-18 participated in the 29th Annual Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago Junior Olympics. Parishes from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa, and Minnesota were all represented

ferent sports on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, including basketball, volleyball, swimming, soccer, tennis, softball, track and field, 10K run, chess, checkers, backgammon, bowling, wrestling, table tennis and more. Approximately eight hundred medals were awarded.



during this joyous event of Christian Athletic Fellowship.

The Junior Olympics were hosted, once again, by the community of SS. Constantine and Helen in Palos Hills, Illinois. With the assistance of over 150 volunteers, the 29th annual Junior Olympics was another success. Glory

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy celebrated on Sunday the announcing of the winners of the Olympic scholarships took place which saw four very worthy young people, namely Evangelos Theodoropoulos and Anastasia (Tasia) Malliaras of Sts. Constantine and Helen Church,



be to God!

The Opening Ceremonies were held early on May 29th and God truly shined brightly in the spirit of the participants and spectators gathered. It was a fabulous sight to see all 33 parish teams enter the field proudly holding their colors and sharing in the spirit of Christian fellowship and competition. His Eminence Metro-

Polos Hills, IL, and Emily Kolyvas and Polixeni Kapsalis of St. Spyridon Church, Palos Heights, IL who each received \$500.00 scholarships.

Planning for the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Junior Olympics will begin towards the early portion of 2011. For more information regarding the Metropolis of Chicago Junior Olympics, contact your local Greek



politan Iakovos of Chicago officially began the Olympics with prayer and his blessings. The ceremonies featured many of the traditions of the ancient Olympic games, an Archery exhibition commemorating our veterans for Memorial Day, and concluding with the lighting of the torch saluted by fireworks and music and balloons.

Participants competed in several dif-

Orthodox Parish or Mr. Chris Avramopoulos, Director of Registration at 773-626-5400 or Mr. Tom De Medeiros, Director of Publicity and Volunteers, Mr. Jim Stavrou, Director of Operations or Fr. Nicholas Jonas, Spiritual Advisor, at 708-974-3400. Also visit us on the web at [www.stconstantinehelen.org/jrolympics.html](http://www.stconstantinehelen.org/jrolympics.html) for picture galleries and more information. SS. Constantine and Helen Church is located at 11025 S. Roberts Road, Palos Hills, Illinois

[www.thechicagogreekhours.com](http://www.thechicagogreekhours.com)

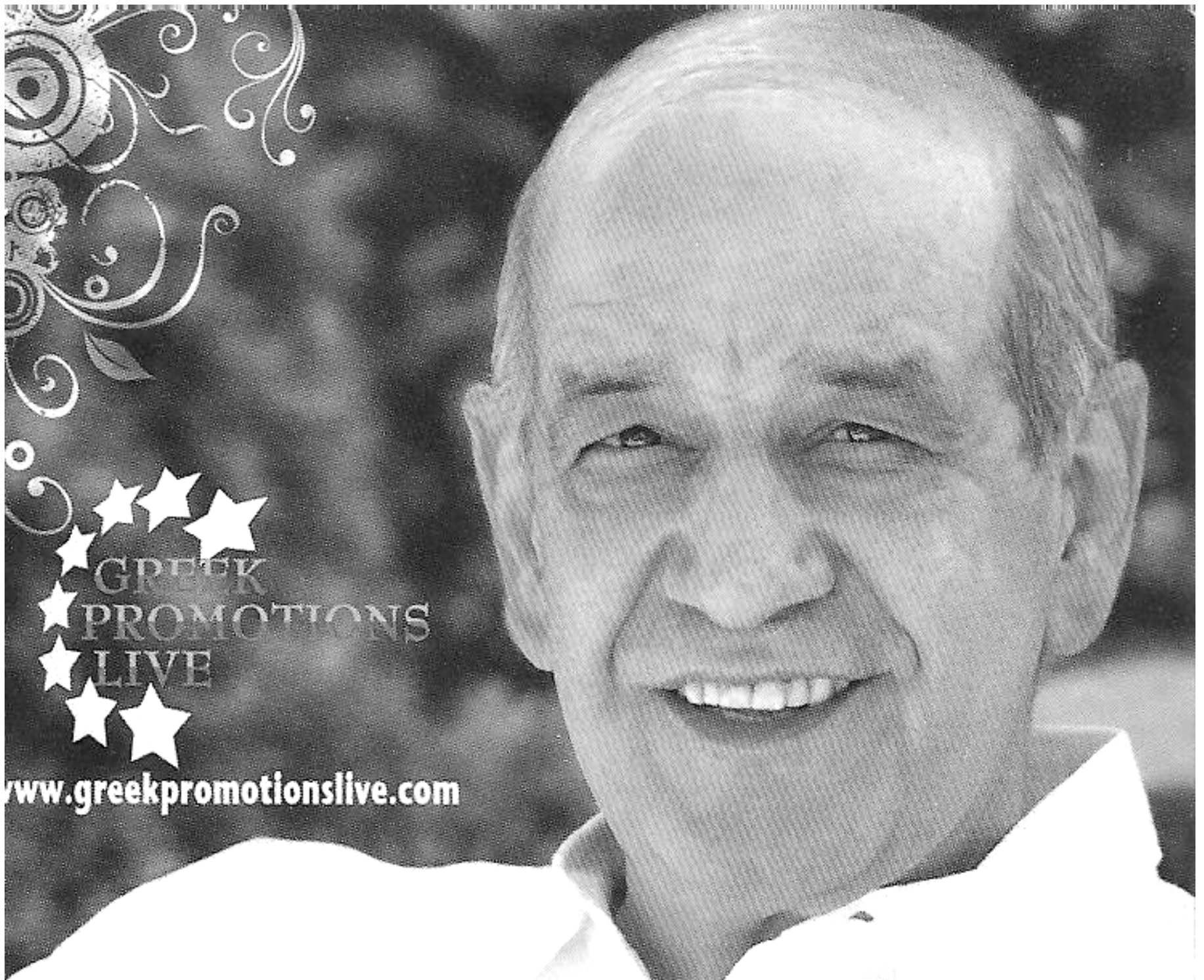
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