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### Alexander HaMocdon Meleh Yavan – Alexander the Macedonian, King of Greece

By Moses K. Konstantinis

p. President of the Central Board of Jewish Communities of Greece

Sources of Torah (the Jewish Bible, Old Testament) and Talmud (Jewish Oral Law and rabbinical decrees) prove that Greece is correct opposing the name of Macedonia for the state of Skopje. The following statements of Mr. Moses K. Konstantinis, p. President of the Central Board of Jewish Communities of Greece were made in 1992 and published in the Greek and Israeli press.



After the division of the former Democracy of Yugoslavia to a series of independent small states it has been created the question of the naming of the State of Skopje that is asking to be recognized under the name of Macedonia.

Greece does not object to the recognition of this State, that she wants to help materially in every way, but she cannot accept the name Macedonia which since antiquity is related to a plainly Greek region.

Jewish religion and philology constitute the unquestionable witnesses of the ancient ethnological character of Macedonians as Greeks.

Noticeably the prophets Daniel (chap. 8, 1-22 chap. 2, para. 39 1-13, 26-28, 31, 38 chap. 7, 2-7) Isaiah chap. 19, 20 chap. 19, 23 Joel chap. 3, v. 6, Jeremy, Habacoup chap. 2, v. 5 and the books of the Maccabeus (1st book chap. 1, v. 1 & 10 chap. 6 v. 2, II 8, 20 III 8) include explicit elements for the Greek character of Macedonia.

These very same notions have been supported by the contemporary professors Yigal Yadin (archaeologist, Jerusalem University), George Box (professor of Old Testament, London University), Yacov Messorer (numismatist of the Jerusalem Museum), Erich Graetz (historian Breslau University).

Besides these the Talmud in relating the friendly meeting between Alexander the Great and the High Priest Simon the Just, on the former's entry into Jerusalem in the year 333 BC., refers to him as Alexander HaMocdon Meleh Yavan – Alexander the Macedonian, King of Greece.

Similar references can be found in Talmud in the books "Seder Hadorot" as well as "Megilat Taanit". Moreover Jewish historians like

- a) Flavius Josephus makes reference to the Greeks of Macedonia and to Greece or Macedonia, sometimes using the one term and sometimes the other, clearly regarding the Macedonians as Greeks and the Greeks as Macedonians (Antiquities of the Jews book 11 para. 337, 109, 148, 286, 184 book 8 para. 61, 95, 100, 154, 312 book 10 para. 273 book 12 para. 322 & 414 where he includes these Macedonian kings together with Antiochus the Great in the conquest of the Greek world by the Romans since he regards Macedonia as a Greek province).
- b) Philo of Alexandria refers to the Macedonian King Alexander whom he identifies with the Greeks.
- c) Maimonides according to whom "thanks to the conquest of Judea by the Greek-Macedonian dynasty the Greek learning was transplanted there and contributed to making Hellenism and Judaism acquainted with one another and to the creation of a new philosophical and religious synthesis which opened up new paths and gave new directions to human civilization.
  - d) Many well known rabbis.



In conclusion we mark Henry's Kissinger characteristic statement at the Management of Europe meeting (Paris, June 1992) "I believe that Greece is right to have objections and I agree with Athens. The reason is that I know history, which is not the case for most of the others, including most of the Government and government officials in Washington. The strength of the side of Greece is its history".

We lined up all the above data so as to prove you the legitimacy of the Greek aspects as far as it concerns the Greek character of Macedonia.

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### WHY WE, GREEKS, HAVE FAILED

By Nikos Konstandaras

Even though we had discussed it at length, and agreed that it was necessary, the impending agreement on Greece's debt reduction forces us to ask: How is it possible that Greece is bankrupt? How did we make such a mess of things that Greek citizens will have to pay back huge loans for many, many years while laboring under the shadow of insolvency, while all Greeks abroad -- whether migrants, businessmen, students or tourists -- will have to deal with the suspicions of others, repeatedly trying to explain the reasons for this national failure? If we do not correct our mistakes, we will never get out of this trap.



The reasons for our failure are known. Anyone who was frightened by the dominant mentality of minimal effort, who saw the decades of mismanagement, could tell that bankruptcy was unavoidable. And yet this country is so rich in culture, natural beauty and human talent that it took many mistakes over a great length of time to get to today's tragedy. So what do we do now?

In the next weeks, Lucas Papademos's government will negotiate with representatives of our partners and creditors to decide on reforms aimed at making our economy more competitive, regardless of whether our debt has been reduced by then. But, however much we reduce the price of labor, that is not our economy's major problem. Greece does not produce enough goods to be able to escape the debt trap by making production cheaper -- and we could never compete with cheaper countries anyhow. Our only way out is through our culture -- precisely that culture that was neglected and abused for so many years. We did not invest in our antiquity, in producing unique agricultural products, in creating international centers of learning and in taking the lead on issues of democracy and human rights. We did not set out regulations for the use of land nor did we compile a land register, so that we could invest responsibly in our country's natural beauty and so create wealth. We allowed things to drag on, in a mist of "fruitful chaos" in which all could do as they pleased. This nurtured corruption and injustice.

Indicative of how we squandered our cultural legacy is an EU report drawn up in 2003 which shows that culture and the production and sale of cultural products contributed a mere 1 percent to Greece's GDP, when the EU average was 2.6 percent; in Italy and Spain, with similar cultural riches, the figure was 2.3 percent, while in France it was 3.4 percent. Consider how many billions of euros we would have gathered if we had made reasonable use of our heritage.

But we did not make use of our history, nor of our land's beauty, nor of new technologies and methods in production, energy, services and farming. Easy money not only kept us from making the difficult effort to create, but it also undermined every such effort and fortified every obstacle to development. When we built new museums but did not staff them with enough guards to keep them open, when archaeological sites were closed by strikes, we pretended not to see. When we trampled on the principles of hard work, of spending wisely, of upholding the law and of making careful use of our resources, we thought we were cleverer than our ancestors. When society became a battlefield of rival political clients, most of us chose one side or the other, while few railed against the system itself. We spoke about justice and development but we tolerated the selective rule of law and got hooked on easy money. We borrowed to pay wages and pensions, we borrowed to pay interest, we borrowed so that we would not work, so that we would not think.

Nevertheless, the past years were not all wasted. We possess a large number of university graduates, excellent researchers, hardworking entrepreneurs and talented workers in all fields -- in Greece and abroad. In 2011, in the midst of crisis, Greece was in 29th place on the UN Development Program's Human Development Index. However much our society may frighten us with its selective memory and explosions of populism, it has deep democratic roots and fine principles. We can see this in the help that various groups (state, church, municipal and private) provide to the homeless, the sick, the poor. While the rest of us sit at home or at work, worrying about how the crisis will affect us, small groups are out in the cold, standing by their fellow human beings. They are flashes of civilization that show the road ahead.

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- 1.To applaud the achienvements of our ethnic group
- 2.To support the ideas of the Hellenic-Christian tradition
  - 3.To promote the preservation of the Greek lunguage
  - 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 cvommunity
  - 7.To advance the just causes of Hellenism.
- 8. To promote the ideals Greece has given to humanity.

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### HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012 LIFE'S HANDBOOK 2012

### Health:

- 1. Drink plenty of water.
- 2. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a beggar.
- 3. Eat more foods that grow on trees and plants and eat less food that is manufactured in plants & has to be killed, bled, cured, aged, smoked, fried, or frozen
  - 4. Live with the 3 E's Energy, Enthusiasm and Empathy.
  - 5. Make time to pray.
  - 6. Play more games. Feed the birds. Plant flowers or vegetables- even in a pot.
  - 7. Read more books than you did in 2011.
  - 8. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day.
  - 9. Sleep for 7 hours.
- 10. Take a 10-30 minutes walk daily. And while you walk, smile & notice your surroundings, changes in nature every day, & listen to the birds.

#### Personality.

- 11. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about. Each person has their place in the scheme of life.
- 12. Don't have negative thoughts of things you cannot control. Instead invest your energy in the positive present moment do what you can to make the world around you better.
- 13. Don't over do. Keep your limits. Physically, spiritually, financially or emotionally. Be humble.
  - 14. Don't take yourself too seriously. No one else does.
  - 15. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip.
  - 16. Dream more while you are awake.
  - 17. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
- 18. Forget issues of the past. Don't remind your partner with his/her mistakes of the past. Don't blame your parents for every problem you have. That will ruin your present. We choose actions & reactions when we become adults.

#### Happiness.

- 19. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. Don't hate others. It's easier to understand and move on.
- 20. Make peace with your past so it won't spoil the present. Yesterday is gone and you have a limited number of tomorrows.
- 21. No one is in charge of your happiness except you. It's your choice to feel happy or miserable, anger or joy, frustration or acceptance, jealousy or peace, shame or pride.
- 22. Realize that life is a school and you are here to learn. Problems are simply part of the curriculum that appear and fade away like algebra class but the lessons you learn will last a lifetime.
  - 23. Smile and laugh more.
  - 24. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.

#### Society:

- 25. Call your family often.
- 26. Each day give something good to others.
- 27. Forgive everyone for everything.
- 28. Spend time with people over the age of 70 and under the age of 6
- 29. Try to make at least three people smile each day.
- 30. What other people think of you is none of your business.
- 31. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.

### 32. Do the right thing!

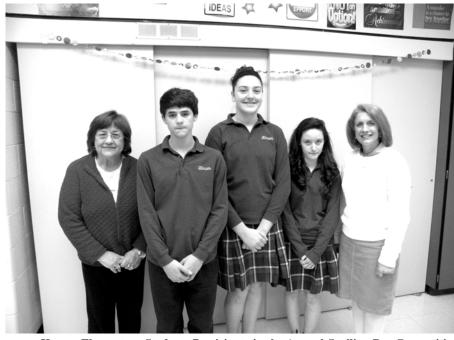
- 33. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
- 34. God heals everything.
- 35. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
- 36. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
- 37. The best is yet to come.
- 38. When you awake alive in the morning, thank God for it.
- 39. Your inner most is always happy. So, be happy.

## Koraes Elementary School Participates in Annual Science Fair Competition!

Students from Koraes Elementary School, affiliated with SS Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Palos Hills, participated on Wednesday January 25, 2012 in the school's annual science fair competition. The science projects in grades kindergarten through fourth grade were group presentations and the fifth through eighth grade students presented their projects for judging.



Christina Cuevas and Mina Baniewicz first place 5th grade.



Koraes Elementary Students Participate in the Annual Spelling Bee Competition On Tuesday January 24, 2012, eighteen junior high students at Koraes Elementary School, affiliated with SS Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Palos Hills, participated in the annual spelling bee competition sponsored by Commonwealth Edison. Our first place winner, eighth grade student, Antonia Pappas, will compete in the regional spelling bee competition on February 7, 2012. pictured from left to right, Mrs. Bess Shizas (junior high language/literature arts teacher), Nick Simadis (third place winner), Antonia Pappas (first place), Grace Davenport (second place), and Mrs. Mary Zaharis (principal)

## Do You Need Divorce Insurance?

We've all heard of pre-nups, but this is a little different. A company out of North Carolina is now selling "divorce insurance."



That's right. According to Wed-Lock.com's website: "The casualty insurance is designed to provide financial assistance in the form of cash to cover the costs of a divorce, such as legal proceedings or setting up a new apartment or house."

Completely crazy? Well, maybe not. My friend's difficult divorce cost her over fifty grand in lawyer fees alone. And with the statistical probability of divorce being a lot higher than, say, fire or flood-divorce consultant Nany Fagan, MFT of TheDivorce-HelpClinic.com says it might not be a bad idea to consider

at least some kind of fund, if not actual insurance. "Divorce brings out the worst in people," she says. "It's common for the higher earning spouse to block (or limit) financial access from the partner, making it an unpredicted hardship."



Syria crisis: Arab League fails to stem conflict

After more than 10 months and 5,000 deaths, an end to the crisis ravaging Syria remains a distant prospect. The only sure thing is that in the coming months, many more people will die violent deaths as the conflict becomes increasingly desperate and ugly. There is no visible way towards a resolution of the struggle between a regime determined to cling to power, and a revolt which long ago passed the point of no return. In the regional domain, the Arab League's latest proposals have been rejected out of hand by Damascus, and dubbed "unachievable" by opposition activists.



Director Angelopoulos dies after accident while filming Award-winning Greek director Theodoros Angelopoulos died late on Tuesday several hours after being involved in an accident while shooting his latest film in Athens.

The respected filmmaker had been with his crew in the area of Drapetsona, near Piraeus when he was hit by a motorcycle on Tuesday evening. The accident occurred when Angelopoulos, 76, attempted to cross a busy road. Initial reports suggested that a policeman was riding the motorbike but this has not been confirmed. He was taken to the hospital, where he was treated in an intensive care unit but succumbed to his serious injuries several hours later.



Dr. Peter J. Panton, a graduate of the Brown University School of Medicine, is certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology, a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, and former president of the Chicago Ophthalmological Society.

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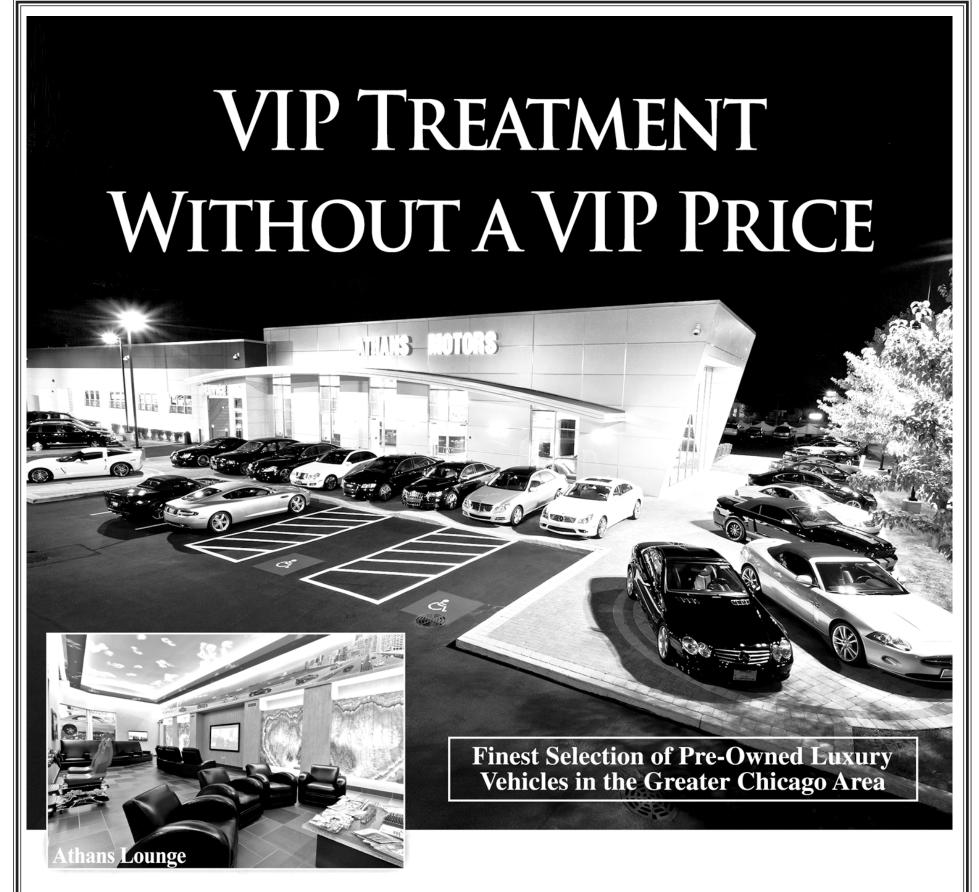
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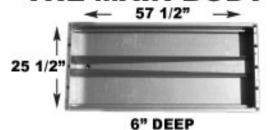
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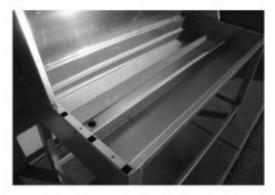
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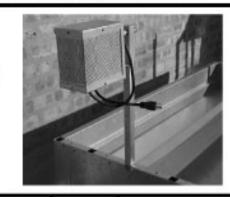
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### NEWS FROM GREECE

## After vote, Greece faces pressing timetable

Debt deal's approval in Parliament triggers political developments

Parliament's approval early Monday of the terms of a new bailout for Greece appeared to have paved the way for Athens to receive more loans from the eurozone and the International Monetary Fund but the political fallout from the vote led to the confirmation that the interim government will not serve beyond April and may have sped up the process for electing a new PASOK leader.

Government spokesman Pantelis Kapsis confirmed that Prime Minister Lucas Papademos's coalition government will keep to the commitment made when it was formed in November, which will see elections called as soon as Greece's eurozone partners approve a new loan package of at least 130 billion euros and the bond restructuring process is completed.

"The bond swap will be concluded in March," said Kapsis. "Elections will be held in April."

Greece faces a tight schedule over the next few weeks in order to secure the bailout and the haircut, or private sector involvement (PSI), before March 20, when two Greek bonds worth 14.5 billion euros mature. Without further loans, Athens faces the prospect of a default.

Eurozone finance ministers are due to meet on Wednesday, by which time Greece will also have to detail how it will make 325 million euros of savings on top of some 3 billion that it has already agreed with the troika of the IMF, European Commission and European Central Bank. The other demand that the Eurogroup made last week is that coalition leaders George Papandreou of PASOK and New Democracy's Antonis Samaras provide written commitments that their parties will stick to the agreed program after the general elections.

Sources told Kathimerini that Finance Minister Evangelos Venizelos has supplied the two leaders with the letters that they need to sign.

Should the Eurogroup give the green light for a new bailout, the PSI deal will be announced by the end of the week and bondholders will be given roughly two weeks to accept the offer made by Athens. Venizelos has said that a deal needs to be concluded by February 17.

This week the troika is also due to produce a report on Greece's debt sustainability, which European policymakers will use to decide whether they need to increase the loans to Greece or whether other measures need to be taken. A final decision is expected at the European Union leaders' summit on March 1 and 2.

In the meantime, the fact that the bailout vote led to 22 PASOK deputies and 21 ND lawmakers being expelled from their parliamentary groups is likely to hasten political developments. Sources said that the process of electing a new PASOK leader is to be hastened, with the vote possibly taking place this week.

Venizelos is the favorite to take over from Papandreou but may step down as finance minister afterward. It is for this reason that Papademos might hold off conducting a reshuffle. In any case, the prime minister is only expected to name a replacement for Transport Minister Makis Voridis, who quit last week, rather than conduct an extensive shake-up.

### Officials take stock of riot damage; politicians ask for calm

Municipal workers the day after the riots started sweeping up piles of rubble and broken glass caused by the widespread rioting and looting that broke out during an anti-austerity demonstration that was hijacked by self-styled anarchists.

The smell of tear gas hung in the air as city officials sought to assess the damage wreaked on dozens of shops and buildings by arsonists and vandals.

The police said 74 people had been arrested, with another 92 briefly detained in spot inspections, and that 104 officers had been injured in the riots. The ambulance service said dozens of people had been injured.

Around 45 buildings, nine of which are listed, including two cinemas, banks and cafes, were seriously damaged in arson attacks. About 150 stores were vandalized and looted.

The Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry said the damage to was worth "tens of millions of euros." "Most will probably never open again," it said of the affected businesses.

Angry Athenians were to hold a candlelight vigil outside the gutted premises of the historic Attikon cinema last night to protest the tactics of a few hundred rioters who ruined a large and peaceful demonstration.

Claiming that the riots were part "an organized plan," Citizens' Protection Minister Christos Papoutsis called for "self-restraint and calm at a difficult time for the country." "The sacrifices being made by the people and the measures being taken by the government create the conditions for intense social unrest," he said. "For this reason we must all be calm, serious and responsible. The situation also requires citizens to participate. No one can achieve anything on their own."

The leader of conservative New Democracy Antonis Samaras was harsher in his assessment. "They wrecked the city. They wrecked businesses. They intentionally chose traditional buildings and burned them," he said. "These scumbags should be aware that when the time comes, I will pull off their hoods."

### vote alters correlation of powers in parliament

Sunday's February 12 heated vote in parliament on the new Memorandum, that ratifies an agreement reached with the troika for a 130 billlion euros and a a package of heavy austerity measures accompanying it, has radically altered the correlation of political powers in the 300-member unicameral House, with the former rulling PASOK party and its predecessor in the government New Democracy (ND) having fallen to 131 MPs from 160 elected in the 2009 general elections for PASOK, and to 62 MPs for ND from 91 in the 2009 elections.

PASOK and ND, together with Popular Orthodox Rally (LAOS), are the three parties the government of prime minister Lucas Papademos The two mainstream parties lost several MPs who either resigned their posts or declared themselves Independents in the process leading to Sunday's vote,, while PASOK expelled 22 MPs and ND expelled 21 MPs who voted against the bill on Sunday.

Meanwhile LAOS -- whose leader George Karatzaferis announced on Friday, just two days before the critical vote that his party will vote against the austerity measures but will not withdraw his four ministers from the coalition Cabinet -- expelled two of the ministers who defied the party line and voted in favour.

The Independents in the House now number 63, making them the second largest grouping in the Greek parliament. The new parliamentary blueprint on Monday morning is PASOK with 131 seats, ND with 62 seats, LAOS with 14 seats, the Communist Party of Greece (KKE) with 21 seats, the Coalition of the Radical Left (SYRIZA parliamentary alliance) with 9 seats, and 63 Independents. Heated vote alters correlation of powers in Greek parliament



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## The Stranger

A few years after I was born, my Dad met a stranger who was new to our small town. From the beginning, Dad was fascinated with this enchanting newcomer and soon invited him to live with our family. The stranger was quickly accepted and was around from then on.

As I grew up, I never questioned his place in my family. In my young mind, he had a special niche. My parents were complementary instructors: Mom taught me good from evil, and Dad taught me to obey. But the stranger... he was our storyteller. He would keep us spellbound for hours on end with adventures, mysteries and comedies.

If I wanted to know anything about politics, history or science, he always knew the answers about the past, understood the present and even seemed able to predict the future! He took my family to the first major league ball game. He made me laugh, and he made me cry. The stranger never stopped talking, but Dad didn't seem to mind.

Sometimes, Mom would get up quietly while the rest of us were shushing each other to listen to what he had to say, and she would go to the kitchen for peace and quiet.

(I wonder now if she ever prayed for the stranger to leave.)

Dad ruled our household with certain moral convictions, but the stranger never felt obligated to honor them. Profanity, for example, was not allowed in our home - not from us, our friends or any visitors. Our long time visitor, however, got away with four-letter words that burned my ears and made my dad squirm and my mother blush.

My Dad didn't permit the liberal use of alcohol but the stranger encouraged us to try it on a regular basis. He made cigarettes look cool, cigars manly, and pipes distinguished. He talked freely (much too freely!) about sex. His comments were sometimes blatant, sometimes suggestive, and generally embarrassing.

I now know that my early concepts about relationships were influenced strongly by the stranger. Time after time, he opposed the values of my parents, yet he was seldom rebuked... And NEVER asked to leave.

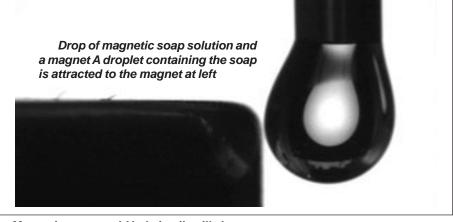
More than fifty years have passed since the stranger moved in with our family. He has blended right in and is not nearly as fascinating as he was at first. Still, if you could walk into my parents' den today, you would still find him sitting over in his corner, waiting for someone to listen to him talk and watch him draw his pictures.

His name?.... We just call him 'TV.'

### Pictures of the world



A nesting site for dinosaur eggs found in South Africa is 100 million years older than the previous oldest site. Palaeontologists found 10 separate nests, each containing clutches of up to 34 eggs measuring 6-7cm. The fossils are of the prosauropod Massospondylus, a relative of the long-necked sauropods such as Diplodocus. The 190-million-year-old finds also included embryonic dinosaur skeletons, and are described in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.



Magnetic soap could help in oil spill clean-ups

An international team of scientists has demonstrated the first soap that responds to magnets. This means the soap and the materials that it dissolves can be removed easily by applying a magnetic field. Experts say that with further development, it could find applications in cleaning up oil spills and waste water. It is similar to ordinary soap, but the atoms of iron help form tiny particles that are easily removed magnetically. Soap is made of long molecules with ends that behave differently: One end of the molecule is attracted to water and the other is repelled by it. Drop of magnetic soap solution and a magnet A droplet containing the soap is attracted to the magnet at left The "detergent" action of soap comes from its ability to attach to oily, grimy surfaces, with the "water-hating" end breaking up molecules at that surface. The soap molecules then gather up into droplets in which all the "water-loving" ends face outward.

### First Installment Property Tax Bills Due March 1, 2012

Pappas encourages residents to pay online during winter season. Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas said today that the 2011 First Installment property tax bills are due March 1, 2012. Pappas encourages paying online at cookcountytreasurer.com to avoid traveling during the winter season.

Payments received after the March 1, 2012, due date will be charged a 1.5 percent penalty per month. Property owners can pay:

- \* Online at cookcountytreasurer.com, from a checking or savings account
- \* At more than 400 Chase Bank locations in Chicagoland \* From an account at some 200 participat-
- ing community banks
  \* By mail with a postmark no later than

March 1, 2012

\* At the Cook County Treasurer's Office

located in downtown Chicago

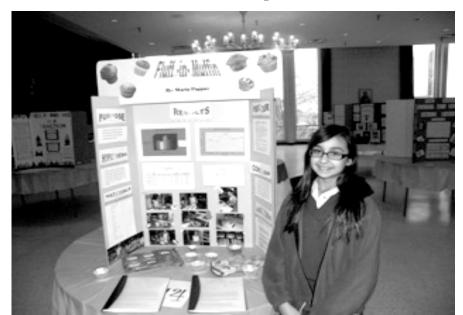
"Paying online allows you to sit at a computer and avoid traveling through winter weather," Pappas said. "Your fingers do the walking, but you don't."

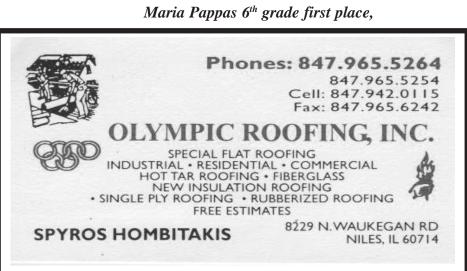
Partial payments are accepted. All forms of payment require taxpayers to reference their 14-digit Property Index Number (PIN) located at the top of each tax bill.

Many property owners have their taxes paid from an escrow account managed by mortgage lenders. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the lender pays on the correct PIN before the due date.

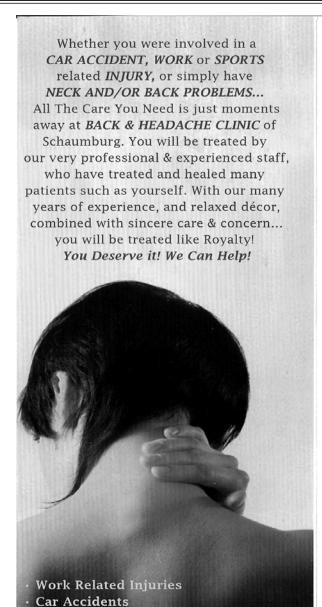
Taxpayers can call 312.443.5100 for information in English, Polish and Spanish.

## Koraes Elementary School Participates in Annual Science Fair Competition!













### HOURS

Mon: 10 am - 7 pm Tue: 10 am - 2 pm Wed: 10 am - 7 pm Thu: 10 am - 7 pm Fri: 10 am - 7 pm Sat & Sun Closed

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office:

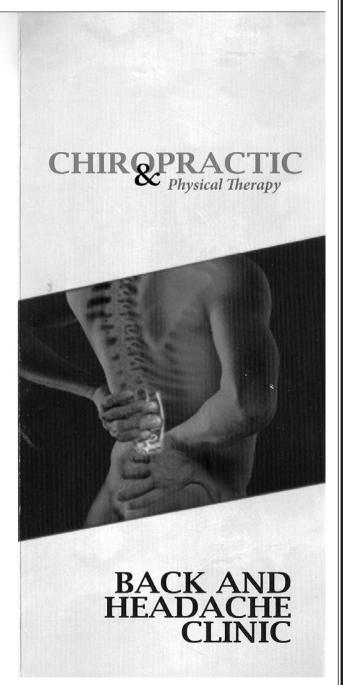
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