

national hellenic FREE PRESS

VOL. 36

NO. 38(2-3)

CHICAGO, IL.

JULY-AUGUST,

Deliverance and Victory

Part 6
By: Louis A. Palivos

So how does a demonized, (δαιμονιζόμενος) daimonizomenos person get delivered from the affliction of evil spirit(s)? The methods are different for Believers and Unbelievers. As stated previously in Article 4, the Orthodox Church has the prayers of St. Chrysostom and St. Basil that a Priest prays over a person; the Catholic Church has the Rite of Exorcism prayed by a Priest; and in the Protestant Churches, there are various methods used by Ministers who do Deliverance. Here are seven steps to deliverance used by Frank and Ida Mae Hammond, both reposed. These "steps" were also used by Don W. Basham, reposed, and Derik Prince, reposed.

1. Honesty.

"I acknowledge my sin unto thee, and my iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord: and He forgives the iniquity of my sins." Ps. 32:5. "Search me, O God and know my heart: try me and know my thoughts. And see if there be any wicked ways in me and lead me in the way everlasting." Ps. 139:23-24.

2. Humility.

This involves recognition that one is dependent upon God and His provisions for deliverance. "God resisted the proud, but gives grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will free from you." James 4:6-7 It also involves a complete openness with God's Servant ministering the deliverance. "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed." James 6:16.

3. Repentance.

Repentance is a determined turning away from sin and Satan. One must hate all evil in his life and fall out of agreement with it. "Can two walk together, except that they be agreed?" Amos 3:3. A person must loathe his/her sins. "And there you shall remember your ways, and all your doings, wherein you have been defiled; and you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils that you have committed." Ezek. 20:43.

4. Renunciation.

Renunciation is the forsaking of evil. Renunciation is action resulting from repentance. "When he (John the Baptist) saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, 'O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come. BRING FORTH FRUITS THEREFORE MEET FOR REPENTANCE.'" Matt. 1:7-8 For example, if one repents of lust, he must destroy the pornographic materials. If one has repented of religious error he/she must completely renounce it by destroying all literature and items associated with that error. "And many that believed came, and confessed and showed their deeds. Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together and burned them before all men; and they counted the price of them, and found it was fifty thousand pieces of silver." Acts 19:18-19 Renunciation means a clean break with Satan and all his works.

5. Forgiveness.

God freely forgives all who confess their sins and ask forgiveness through his Son. I John 1:9. He expects us to forgive all others who have ever wronged us in any way. "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; But if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Mark 6:14-15. Willingness to forgive is absolutely essential to deliverance. See Matt. 13:21-35. No Deliverance Minister can affect deliverance unless the candidate has met God's conditions.

6. Prayer.

Ask God to deliver you and set you free in the name of Jesus. "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be delivered." Joel 2:32

7. Warfare.

Prayer and warfare are two separate and distinct activities. Prayer is toward God and warfare is toward the enemy. The warfare against demon powers is not fleshly, but spiritual.

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God,

(continued p.2)

G20: Trump and Putin debate US election hack at first meeting



*Media caption Trump to Putin: "It's an honour to be with you"
Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin have discussed the alleged Russian hacking of last year's US presidential election during their first meeting.*

US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson described the exchanges as "robust". Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Mr Trump had accepted Mr Putin's assertions that his country was not responsible. But Mr Tillerson said it was not clear whether the two countries would ever come to an agreement on what happened. "I think the president is rightly focused on how do we move forward from something that may be an intractable disagreement at this point," he added.

The US and Russian presidents held their first face-to-face talks on the sidelines of the G20 summit in the German city of Hamburg, which is being held amid sometimes violent protests. Other topics discussed during their meeting - which lasted nearly two-and-a-quarter hours, longer than originally planned - included the war in Syria, terrorism and cybersecurity.

"The president opened the meeting with President Putin by raising the concerns of the American people regarding Russian interference in the 2016 election," Mr Tillerson, part of the US delegation, told reporters afterwards.

"They had a very robust and lengthy exchange on the subject. The president pressed President Putin on more than one occasion regarding Russian involvement. "President Putin denied such involvement, as I think he has done in the past."

Mr Tillerson said the two leaders had "connected very quickly", adding: "There was a very clear positive chemistry between the two. There are so many issues on the table... Just about everything got touched upon... Neither one of them wanted to stop.

"I believe they even sent in the First Lady [Melania Trump] at one point to see if she could get us out of there, but that didn't work either... We did another hour. Clearly she failed!" Mr Lavrov said: "President Trump said he heard clear statements... that Russian authorities did not intervene [in the US election], and he accepted these declarations." Mr Tillerson was asked as he was leaving the news conference if this was accurate, but declined to answer.

Earlier, as the talks began in front of the media before going into private

(continued p.2)

NATIONAL HELLENIC FREE PRESS

PUBLISHER
SOTIRIS REKOUMIS

EDITOR
DENISE REKOUMIS

LAYOUTS
JOHN REKOUMIS
CONTRIBUTORS

DR. STAVROS BASSEAS, JOHN REKOUMIS,
DENISE REKOUMIS, DR JORDAN TSOLAKIDIS,
CHRIS MERENTITIS DR. LOUIS PALIVOS

THE PLATFORM OF THE GREEK PRESS

- 1.To applaud the achievements of our ethnic group
- 2.To support the ideas of the Hellenic-Christian tradition
- 3.To promote the preservation of the Greek language
- 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.

Deliverance and Victory

Part 6

By: Louis A. Palivos

(From page 1)

that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Eph.6:10-17.

Also, "for though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ." II Cor. 10:3-5

Use the weapons of submission to God, the blood of Jesus Christ, the Word of God, and your testimony as a Believer. See James 4:1-11; Also, "They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death." Rev. 12:11. Identify the spirits, address them directly by name in a commanding voice, and in faith command them to go in the name of Jesus Christ. Enter the battle with a determination and assurance of victory. Christ cannot fail! He is the Deliverer!¹

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils." Mk. 16:17.

"Then the 70 returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your Name (Jesus).'" Lk. 10:17

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Lk. 10:19

"The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and MY DELIVERER." Ps. 18:2

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." James 4:8

Unbelievers, as well, call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Joel 3:32, repent, confess your sins, renounce your sins, follow the above steps and be obedient to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lastly, the common thread in deliverance, whether done in the Orthodox Church or the Catholic Church or the Protestant Churches, is the authority of the "Mind of the Church", the authority of the Holy Bible, the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ, a person's will in synergy (συνεργία) synergia, with the Holy Spirit to repent, to confess his or her sins, to renounce evil and to forgive others.

Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me, Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me, Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me. Onward Soldier!

1. Frank and Ida Mae Hammond, *Pigs in the Parlor*, Impact Books, Inc. 1973-2016.

G20: Trump and Putin debate US election hack at first meeting

(From page 1)

session, Mr Trump told Mr Putin: "It's an honour to be with you." Mr Putin replied: "I'm delighted to meet you personally." Mr Trump added: "Putin and I have been discussing various things, and I think it's going very well."

"We've had some very, very good talks. We're going to have a talk now and obviously that will continue. We look forward to a lot of very positive things happening for Russia, for the United States and for everybody concerned." Mr Putin, via a translator, said that while they had previously spoken by phone, that would never be as good as meeting face to face.

The two men had staked out opposing views on major international issues in the run-up to the summit: On Thursday, Mr Trump used a speech in the Polish capital Warsaw to call on Russia to stop "destabilising" Ukraine and other countries, and "join the community of responsible nations"

Setting out his own G20 agenda in German financial newspaper *Handelsblatt*, Mr Putin called for US-led sanctions on his country, imposed in response to Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014, to be lifted. Mr Putin also argued strongly in favour of the Paris climate agreement, saying it was a "secure basis for long-term climate regulation" and Russia wanted to make a "comprehensive contribution to its implementation" President Trump has taken the US out of the Paris agreement. Based on the tone and the results of the US-Russia discussions, this meeting is being lauded here in Moscow as a breakthrough. The head of the Russian parliament's foreign affairs committee predicted it would "stop the rot in US-Russian relations".

Essentially, Vladimir Putin has got what Vladimir Putin wanted: a US president who is focused not on confrontation but on mutually beneficial co-operation; as American leader who is not going to sit there for two hours lecturing his Russian counterpart on democracy, but instead do deals with him. And there were several agreements: to co-operate in Syria, over Ukraine, and in the area of cyber security. The Kremlin will see all of this as a first step towards a bigger goal: much wider co-operation with America and the scrapping of Western sanctions.

But remember - Donald Trump is under intense pressure back home over his team's alleged links to Moscow. It's far from certain he'll be able to deliver what Russia wants.

Climate change and trade are set to dominate the rest of the two-day G20 meeting, taking place amid clashes between protesters and police in the streets outside the venue that have left dozens injured. A huge police operation is trying to keep demonstrators - who are protesting against the presence of Mr Trump and Mr Putin, climate change and global wealth inequalities - well away from the summit venue, and water cannon have been deployed. The US First Lady was at one point unable to leave her hotel in Hamburg because of the protests. Mrs Trump had been due to take part in an excursion with other leaders' spouses, but her spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said: "The Hamburg police could not give us clearance to leave." Mrs Trump herself tweeted about her concern for those injured in the protests. The G20 (Group of Twenty) is a summit for 19 countries, both developed and developing, plus the EU.

Exports jump in May, but so does trade deficit



Greek exports posted an impressive increase in May, growing 25.3 percent compared to May 2016 to reach 2.56 billion euros including fuel products and ship values. However, the trade deficit posted a concerning rise, as in the first five months of the year it amounted to 10 billion euros, compared with 8 billion in the same period of 2016, according to official data released on Friday. Almost all export categories recorded an increase, with olive oil being the sole exception due to low production. The comparison is favored by the drop recorded in May 2016, amounting to 11.6 percent in relation to May 2015. A large portion of Greek enterprises has turned to exports in order to offset their losses from the drop in domestic consumption. But the growth in imports illustrates the considerable deficit mainly in raw materials that manufacturing companies are forced to import for their operations.

**ΛΥΣΤΕ ΤΟ ΠΡΟΒΛΗΜΑ ΤΩΝ "ΠΑΡΑΣΙΤΩΝ" ΣΤΑ
ΡΑΔΙΟΦΩΝΙΚΑ ΜΑΣ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ. ΑΚΟΥΣΤΕ
ΜΑΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΚΟΜΠΙΟΥΤΕΡ ΣΑΣ ΠΕΝΤΑΚΑΘΑΡΑ
ΚΑΙ ΜΑΛΙΣΤΑ 24 ΩΡΕΣ ΤΟ 24ΩΡΟ
Η ΑΠΟ ΤΟ 99.1 FM
WWW.THECHICAGOGREEKHOURS.CO**

G20 summit: Deadlock on climate change 'broken' in Hamburg



Dozens of protesters were detained after setting fire to vehicles and barricades in Hamburg overnight

Deadlock over climate change between the US and the other nations at the G20 summit appears to have been broken. The BBC understands a compromise final closing text has been agreed at the second day of their meeting in Hamburg. According to an EU official, the text acknowledges President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the Paris climate agreement without undermining the commitment of other countries.

Negotiators worked through the night in an attempt to reach a compromise on the wording of the summit statement. Meanwhile leaders have held separate talks. President Donald Trump met British PM Theresa May, and said a US-UK trade deal would be signed soon.

The host, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, held a working breakfast with Presidents Putin of Russia and Macron of France. On Friday had described the first day of talks as "very difficult". But early on Saturday, an EU official told Reuters news agency: "The outcome is good. We have a communiqué. There is just one outstanding issue on climate." He added that the statement included a pledge to "fight protectionism"

Mr Trump, after his morning meeting with Ms May, said he expected a "very powerful" trade deal between the two countries "very quickly".

For many hours, draft versions of the summit conclusions were causing deep concern to most G20 members. On climate change, it was effectively a G19 plus the United States.

Part of the final text will apparently recognise Donald Trump's rejection of the global Paris agreement to limit rising temperatures. But language the US was insisting on, which seemed to endorse the use of coal and oil long into the future, has now apparently reached a form others can tolerate, because they are not directly associated with it.

While this deadlock has apparently been resolved, it reflects a very divisive summit in which the rest of the world has been struggling to come to terms with the US president's "America first" policy: his suspicion or rejection of the whole concept of worldwide agreements designed to encourage free trade as well as collective action against global warming. There have been large protests on the streets of Hamburg, with demonstrators and armed police clashing into the early hours of Saturday. Demonstrators - who were protesting against the presence of Mr Trump and Mr Putin, climate change and global wealth inequalities - set fire to vehicles and barricades, threw rocks at officers and looted shops.

Media caption Police fired water cannon as anti-G20 protesters lit fires At one point, police chased protesters across rooftops while officers on the streets used water cannon on protesters. Nearly 200 police officers were injured during the protests. Dozens of protesters have been detained.

Tsipras hails public hospital workers after successful operation



Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras on Saturday tweeted his thanks to staff at the capital's Eugeneideio hospital following a successful hernia operation.

"Special thanks to the doctors and nursing staff who, despite the difficulties they face, remain on the front line of duty," Tsipras wrote on his Twitter account. In a separate tweet on Saturday, Tsipras wrote that "public hospitals deserve our trust and support more than anything else because that is where the most remarkable, dynamic staff serve."

According to a statement released by Tsipras's office, the operation was a scheduled one.

UN chief in bid to nudge rival sides on Cyprus closer



Officials at the Cyprus Conference in Crans-Montana, Switzerland, Thursday (from left to right): Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu, Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, Turkish-Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci, UK European Affairs Minister Alan Duncan, Greek Foreign Minister Nikos Kotzias and European Union foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini. The UN chief returned to the Swiss resort Thursday in a bid to break the deadlock in reunification talks between Greek and Turkish Cypriots.



ATHEX: Energy stocks fuel index rise

The benchmark at Athinon Avenue kept edging upward on Thursday during a session when stock market heavyweight banks saw the limelight stolen by energy large-caps.

The Athens Exchange (ATHEX) general index closed at 843.25 points, adding 0.23 percent to Wednesday's 841.34 points. The large-cap FTSE-26 index contracted 0.06 percent to 2,187.14 points and banks shrank 1.03 percent.

In total 68 stocks rose, 54 fell and 24 stayed put.

Turnover reached 91.6 million euros, against Wednesday's 78.8 million.

The general index of the Cyprus Stock Exchange in Nicosia advanced 0.64 percent to 76.52 points.



Mayors seek road map for rehiring trash collectors

The Union of Municipalities and Communities of Greece (KEDE) on Thursday called on Interior Minister Panos Skourletis to issue a "road map" to all local authorities to ensure that municipal workers on short-term contracts facing expiry are rehired. "Every day that he delays in responding, more and more workers lose their jobs," KEDE said in a statement that included eight questions for Skourletis about the process of their rehiring. Earlier Skourletis told Parliament that the government will bring legislation to the House in the fall that would offer a "solution in keeping with the Constitution and European directives." The tensions came amid rumors of possible fresh strike action by municipal sanitation workers, whose walkouts last month left thousands of tons of garbage festering on the streets of Athens and other cities.

THE FAMOUS "GIDA PARTY" FOR THE "ΧΑΜΟΓΕΛΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΙΔΙΟΥ"



This year the Editor missed the "Γίδα" party, an annual gathering where few goats are consumed to support "το χαμόγελο του παιδιού" στην Ελλάδα.



About fifty or so octogenarians gathered and enjoyed the famous boiled "gida" or "Giosa" the kind of meat we grew up with and recently the Greeks "rediscovered"

Schaeuble says Greek governments to blame for pension cuts



German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble has insisted in an interview that successive Greek governments were to blame for the pension cuts that have been enforced in Greece.

The German minister stressed in an interview with Ta Nea newspaper on Saturday that the Greek governments are the ones that decided the mix of policies needed to achieve the country's targets. He also said that the International Monetary Fund will never be involved again in a program to rescue a European country.

Referring to his Greek counterpart Euclid Tsakalotos, he said they communicate frequently, while he dismissed his flamboyant predecessor Yianis Varoufakis as someone he no longer can "take seriously."



5505 Rue Fullum,
Montréal, QC, H2G 2H5

Toll Free: 1-800-363-9310
Tel.: 1-514-523-2186
Fax.: (514) 523 - 9974
info@mellofoodsusa.com
www.mellofoodsusa.com



Montreal
Smoked Meat

NOW AVAILABLE
IN THE USA

USDA & CANADIAN BEEF

ANGELOS STANGOS

PASOK leader calls for creation of new center-left political movement



Democratic Alignment and PASOK leader Fofi Gennimata has called for the creation of a new center-left political movement, whose leader will be elected directly by the people in a vote in October.

Speaking on the first day of the Democratic Alignment congress on Friday evening at the Peace and Friendship Stadium in southern Athens, she also urged other center-left parties to join forces to have the new movement up and running by the end of the year.

Gennimata also denounced Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and accused him of “monumental populism and demagoguery that weakened the values of the left.” She went on to say that Tsipras “betrayed the confidence of progressive citizens who entrusted him with power.”

A booby-trapped country

All of the most recent public opinion polls that have been conducted in Greece appear to support what analysts have been saying, that New Democracy will quite likely win the next general election, whenever it will be called. The most recent poll, conducted by the University of Macedonia, indicates that the lead New Democracy has over SYRIZA has grown further.

It has SYRIZ at 15 percent support, while New Democracy is up to 33 percent. What these kinds of numbers indicate is that there is a greater likelihood the conservatives could even win by enough to govern alone, without having to form a coalition with another party. If, however, ND did have to find a coalition partner, recent public opinion polls suggest that partner should be none other than the Democratic Alignment party.



Many more things can be said about what could happen in the following elections. No matter what is said, or what predictions are made at this point, however, they will probably be premature. The very same pollsters who conduct such surveys remind us at every opportunity – of course so that they can provide cover for themselves against criticism – that they are a snapshot of the people’s voting intentions at the moment they are conducted. It is therefore too early to make assessments and analysis about elections that may not happen for another 15 months, as it appears the government intends to complete its mandate in full – of course, without excluding the possibility of general elections happening sooner than that.

With that in mind, the large lead that New Democracy has over SYRIZA in the opinion polls indicate could be narrower when elections do indeed happen. The governing party appears determined to deliver a strong pre-election fight, which will cause extreme polarization. It is already preparing in every way it can. There are plenty of clues indicating this every day. The amendment brought to Parliament to stop the strike by the union representing municipal workers POE-OTA is an indication of its direction. The amendment is essentially a promise to fill permanent positions without age limits, while guaranteeing that the privatization of garbage collection will not be allowed.

What’s most important though, is that the current government is booby-trapping the country with external promises (to the creditors) while at the same time conducting its internal decisions and lawmaking with the view of its most likely defeat in the next elections. It will do anything it can to make it more difficult for the next government to survive.

What’s most important though, is that the current government is booby-trapping the country with external promises (to the creditors) while at the same time conducting its internal decisions and lawmaking with the view of its most likely defeat in the next elections. It will do anything it can to make it more difficult for the next government to survive.



Founded by Peter Parthenis Sr. in 1974 and still family-owned today, Grecian Delight Foods is proud of its rich Greek heritage. We manufacture and market top quality authentic Greek and specialty Mediterranean foods for the foodservice and retail industries. From the best gyro meats to Greek yogurt, hummus and fine pastries, people rely on Grecian Delight Foods’ commitment to provide superior products made from the finest ingredients.

Grecian Delight Foods is always looking for candidates who strengthen our ability to grow and maintain the high standards of our customers. Our success is base on superior performance, competitive strategies, professional integrity, quality products and our people. We remain steeped in Greek tradition and encourage you to inquire about career opportunities. Please email your resume to jadelman@greciandelight.com

Ask for Grecian Delight Foods at your favorite Chicago restaurants and grocery stores!



**GYROS • HUMMUS • SPREADS • GREEK YOGURT • PITA • FLATBREADS
SHAWARMA • FALAFEL • MOUSAKA • PASTICHIO • BAKLAVA • AND MORE
847-364-1010 • www.greciandelight.com**

Ivanka Trump takes Donald Trump seat at G20 leaders' table



Ms Trump accompanied her father to earlier sessions before sitting in for him later

In an unusual move Ivanka Trump briefly took her father Donald's seat at a summit of world leaders on Saturday. The US president had stepped away for a meeting with the Indonesian leader during the G20 meeting. Ms Trump is an adviser to her father, but a leader's absence is usually covered by high-ranking officials. We could recall no similar precedent. There has been widespread criticism on social media.

Mr Trump returned a short while later to retake his seat between the British prime minister and the Chinese president. Ms Trump did not seem to make any major contribution to the session on African migration and health during her father's absence. Some users highlighted that Ms Trump is unelected, or questioned her credentials - as a fashion brand owner - to sit at such a senior diplomatic meeting.

Ms Trump had joined her father for an earlier G20 event on Saturday on women's entrepreneurship and finance, along with German chancellor Angela Merkel and Christine Lagarde, director of the International Monetary Fund. All three women had previously appeared together on a panel during the G20 women's summit in Berlin in April.

At that appearance she defended her father as a "tremendous champion of supporting families and enabling them to thrive".



Media Contact: Tom Gannon
Office of President Mariyana T. Spyropoulos
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
(312) 751-5650; GannonT@MWRD.org

President Spyropoulos Honors Science Fair Winners at MWRD



MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos (right) with Amalia Petropoulos (center) during MWRD's annual Science Fair Awards Ceremony. Amalia Petropoulos is a freshman student at Mather High School in Chicago, Illinois. Her project was titled "Smelly Energy"

Ifantis Dental Care

John Ifantis, DDS, PC

9251 Waukegan Rd. Morton Grove, IL 60053

(847)663-0003

All that is good begins with a SMILE.

At Ifantis Dental Care, **your smile is our top priority!** Dr. Ifantis and his entire team of dental professionals is dedicated to providing you with the personalized, quality care that you deserve. When you visit Ifantis Dental Care you will experience all that modern dentistry has to offer, in one location. The dental care we provide includes a comprehensive list of general, restorative, cosmetic, orthodontic and periodontal services to meet the needs of the whole family, at an affordable price. Our goal is to assist each patient in achieving and maintaining long term dental health and a beautiful smile. Some of the services we provide include:

- Exams & Cleanings
- Extractions
- Fillings
- Root Canal Therapy
- Dental Implants
- Crowns & Bridges
- Braces
- Invisalign "clear braces"
- Veneers
- Teeth whitening
- Partial & Full Dentures
- Neuromuscular (jaw joint) treatment
- Snoring & Sleep Apnea treatment



Flexible financing options and easy pay plans are available.

We cordially invite you to call for more information- (847) 663-0003 or send an email to whitenyourteethom@gmail.com

Visit us to find out why are patients refer us to their friends and family!

GREEK NEWS

Dampening expectations, IMF insists debt must be made sustainable

The head of the International Monetary Fund's mission in Greece, Delia Velculescu, dampened expectations Wednesday that the end of the Greek saga is in sight, saying, "We're not there yet."

Speaking at a conference organized by the Economist in Athens Wednesday, the Romanian economist insisted Greece cannot be expected to achieve the primary budgetary surplus goals set by its creditors.

She said the IMF continues to believe that it will not be able to achieve surpluses of over 1.5 percent in the long run, nor to attain growth figures of more than 1 percent.

She said it was simply unrealistic to believe that Greece can achieve a budget surplus, after debt and interest payments, of 3.5 percent of annual GDP.

Moreover, reflecting the chasm between the IMF and European lenders, Velculescu said they should focus instead on making Greece's debt more sustainable – a condition set by the IMF for it to join the Greek program.

However, European lenders insisted that Greece will be on course to regain access to international markets next year and to solidify its public finances but that it must proceed in earnest to implement reforms it has agreed with its international creditors.

"Greece is entering the final year of the program with a real opportunity to regain market access and actually end the program on schedule in August next year," said the European Commission's head of mission for Greece, Declan Costello.

On a more cautious note, the European Stability Mechanism's mission chief for Greece, Nicola Giammarioli, said Athens must implement the reforms and that legislating change is not enough. "We are half way," he said. The cautious optimism of European creditors – stems from the June 15 Eurogroup deal stipulating the implementation of further austerity by Greece in exchange for fresh loans to meet its debt payments this year.

Moreover, falling bond yields since the agreement suggest that investors would consider lending to Greece again, prompting European creditors to predict that it could tap bond markets by the end of the year. For his part, Greece's Alternate Finance Minister Giorgos Houliarakis said it was essential for the country to take ownership of the program it agreed to at the Eurogroup.

New Democracy leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis, however, slammed the government over the huge delays in securing the Eurogroup deal, which was also a far cry from the target sets by Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras. He added that Greece's debt in 2014 was sustainable and that predictions for economic growth were positive but that this soon changed due to the government's signing of a third bailout.

Noor 1 convict testifies over alleged pressure

Former shipowner Efthymis Yiannousakis, who is serving a life sentence for drug trafficking, testified on Wednesday for more than three hours before an investigating magistrate in connection with the 2014 Noor 1 heroin-smuggling case.

Yiannousakis, who has claimed to have come under pressure to implicate

shipowner Vangelis Marinakis in the affair, was moved from Attica's Korydallos Prison to a Piraeus court amid tight security. He is to reappear in court Thursday in connection with his legal action against a coast guard officer and a prosecutor who he claims pressed him to implicate Marinakis.

ND seeks probe into minister's alleged link to drug convict



The government remained in defensive mode Thursday as the main opposition New Democracy submitted a request for a special parliamentary committee to investigate allegations by a convicted drug smuggler that Defense Minister Panos Kammenos tried to pressure him into testifying against a prominent businessman.

The petition, signed by the conservative opposition party's entire parliamentary group, also called for the probe to investigate claims by Makis Yiannousakis – who is serving a life sentence in connection to a huge shipment of heroin made by the Noor 1 cargo ship in 2014 – implicating a coast guard investigator and other state officials in efforts to link shipowner Vangelis Marinakis to the case.

The petition called for the investigative committee to examine the allegations against Kammenos and the possible involvement of other government officials, as well as whether there is a case for obstruction of justice, trying to influence the course of justice and abuse of power.

Shortly before the submission of the petition, ND's parliamentary spokesman Vassilis Kikilias spoke of "a scandalous affair" that the government allegedly tried to cover up. He noted that neither Shipping Minister Panayiotis Kouroubliis nor Hellenic Coast Guard Chief Vice Admiral Stamatios Raptis have ordered an investigation into the alleged involvement of coast guard official Panayiotis Christoforidis in the affair. ND appeared confident that its proposal would enjoy the backing of other parties.

However, the government's opposition to the initiative was clear Thursday when the head of Parliament's transparency and ethics committee, Tasia Christodouloupoulou, rejected a call by centrist Potami MP Spyros Lykoudis for Kammenos to explain himself before the panel. Christodouloupoulou said the request was "abstract and inadequate."

In a related development, ND

repeated its call for a parliamentary investigation into the government's activities in the first half of 2015 that led to the imposition of capital controls in Greece following a report in Kathimerini with additional details about former finance minister Yanis Varoufakis's plans for a parallel currency as elucidated by Varoufakis's ex-adviser Glenn Kim.

Hoteliers to discuss overtaxation with PM



The overtaxation of tourism and the absence of clear zoning in the sector are deterring investors from entering the field in Greece, in spite of the interest recorded in new business plans by domestic and foreign groups, according to the president of the Greek Tourism Confederation (SETE), Yiannis Retsos.

The SETE chief qualifies the possibility of a new tax on overnight stays at accommodation units as of January 1, 2018 as a threat to Greek tourism. Overtaxation will be among the hot topics discussed during SETE's visit to the prime minister's office, probably on Thursday, and Retsos says that if the new tax is imposed it will lead to an average rate hike of 5-6 percent. In the case of smaller units the hike may amount to as much as 10 percent.

If applied, the new tax will amount to 4 euros per night for five-star hotels, 3 euros/night at four-star units, 1.50 euros/night for the three-star establishments and 0.50 euros/night for one- and two-star accommodation, as well as rooms to let.

Hoteliers estimate that a large part of the industry will choose to absorb the tax itself in order to survive in the increasingly competitive international environment.

Gov't seeks new way to evaluate civil servants



The Administrative Reform Ministry is seeking a new way to conduct assessments of the country's civil servants, one of a barrage of reforms demanded by Greece's international creditors, as the implementation of the current system is being stymied by the public sector workers' union, ADEDY, and the municipal employees' union, POE-OTA.

According to the commitments that have been made by the leftist-led government as part of the country's third international bailout, the assessment of Greece's civil servants should have been completed at the end of last month.


In fact the whole process is said to be up in the air, sources say, because most ministries and state agencies have yet to submit their reports to the Administrative Reform Ministry.

According to sources, the problem is not rooted in the reluctance of most civil servants to participate in the assessment but rather in the refusal of their superiors to oversee the procedure, a stance that ADEDY and POE-OTA have encouraged.

Administrative Reform Minister Olga Gerovassili, who recently held fruitless talks with ADEDY representatives about the issue, is expected in the coming days to make a new attempt to address the deadlock which is said to have displeased Greece's creditors.

Only a few public sector entities, notably the Tourism Ministry, have completed the assessment of all their staff and submitted the required reports.

THE LAW OFFICE OF GEORGE C. XAMPLAS • 25 E WASHINGTON ST, SUITE 700, CHICAGO, IL 60602 • (312) 345-0510



Xamplas

Helping our clients navigate the labyrinth of Greek law

- GREEK REAL ESTATE
- GREEK TAX ISSUES

- GREEK INHERITANCE & WILLS
- IMMIGRATION & PASSPORT

- POWER OF ATTORNEY
- GREEK BUSINESS LAW

www.xamplaslaw.com



HARBOR OF GRACE

I am writing to express my gratitude to Father Demetrios Treantafeles who has undertaken the spiritual ministry, and to the committed employees and volunteers who embrace all those seeking healing and loving support in the welcoming arms of the Greek American Rehabilitation Care Centre (Rehabilitation Centre) in Wheeling, Illinois. Reflecting on the history of this institution, I wish to express my admiration to those individuals who faithfully and diligently made their dream of this elders' Centre come true, for they undertook a journey of hope and healing that honors the human heart!

In April of 2017, I witnessed my mother's slow deterioration at a local hospital. She was near death, according to medical predictions, and we gathered around her bedside to keep vigil over her. Before this time, she had been a resident of the Rehabilitation Centre for several years. Even though I knew her positive feelings about her stay there, during what we all thought were the last days of life in the hospital, she continuously expressed gratitude and longing for her familiar surroundings. She quietly spoke about her bible study and the comforting memories she had with Fr. Treantafeles. She breathlessly whispered, "Pou eine to spitaki mou kai o Pater Treantafeles na akouso ta logia tou akomi mia fora."



"Where is my little home where I can hear the words of Fr. Treantafeles one more time?"

Listening to my mother's last wishes, I felt like becoming her mouth to express gratitude to the people that meant so much to her. She seemed to have grabbed from the lips of Fr. Treantafeles something that kept her going: "H Panagia mas, H Mitera tou Theou mas. H Mannoula mas." "The Blessed Virgin, the Mother of God, our Mother." She repeatedly whispered looking for somewhere to hold on.

And in the night, when I was kissing her good night, she usually gazed toward the window sill where the icon of Panagia, a gift from Fr. Treantafeles, was placed. Her pale face was enlightened and her strength seemed to revisit her as she faintly asked: "Na po kai kalinikta stin Mannoula mas." "Let me say goodnight to our Mother." My mother has been legally blind for the last 6-7 years, and was unable to distinguish even where the icon stood, but out of instinct and faith she had sensed the right direction. She moved her head slowly around the little tubes of oxygen, and she pointed out what she wished to hold. I saw her trembling hands holding the icon and I saw her lips kiss it over and over again with faith and reverence...whispering her prayer not far from what she had heard from Fr. Treantafeles's mouth: "Eleison me Mannoula tou Theou mas kai eleison ta paidakia mou." "Have mercy upon me, Mother of our God, and have mercy upon my children."

Reflecting on her past stay at the Rehabilitation Centre, where my mother attended bible study perhaps for the first time of her life, I recalled my mother's enthusiasm about waiting for Wednesdays when she could hear something that she would carry for the rest of her day with sweetness. The limitation of her sight did not restrict her from being nourished by the warmth of faith and hope with such boundless care. The church at the Rehabilitation Centre offered to the residents not only a testament of faith and Holy Communion, but also, through the unconditional love and commitment of Fr. Treantafeles, a sense of belonging, and the refreshing reminder of acceptance and security.

My mother remained at the hospital for almost a month due to the severity of her condition. To everyone's surprise, however, she slowly improved. When she was a little stronger, at her request, she returned to the Rehabilitation Centre where she felt most at home and at peace. Her health did not promise much, but the warm-hearted embrace of all those people who work and manage the facility seemed to revitalize her. I witnessed tears of joy and cheer as familiar faces lovingly welcomed her when she arrived that day to her "spitaki," her little home. My mother laughed and talked with each person who entered her room to welcome her back home, calling each one by name as she usually did. She somehow managed to recognize each of them – perhaps by voice or demeanor or the vague shadows she could see. Yes, she felt content!

Eventually, as my mother began to recover, I promised her that even if I had to carry her, wheel chair or not, I will take her downstairs to join what she nostalgically whispered about at the hospital — her beloved bible study where Fr. Treantafeles nourished her heart every Wednesday with the sweetness of the Word of God. I recalled many times when she shared what she learned about a particular Saint or an ecclesiastical event, and proudly she would relate what Fr. Treantafeles told them about the significance of that celebration. It warmed my heart to see my mother speaking with her dramatic gestures, clearing relishing her experience!

At one point at the hospital, while my mother was battling with her passage to the other side, I felt like she needed to find some serenity. I sought out Fr. Treantafeles, hoping for a few words of encouragement for her or perhaps a visit. I was concerned about imposing on him, however, because, despite his advanced age and his own medical issues, Fr. Treantafeles took on many

responsibilities in addition to his ministry at the chapel of the Rehabilitation Centre. He did not hesitate for a moment when he heard the call from his spiritual "child." Fr. Treantafeles found a way to be there for her, and it was transformative. The visit left her with a serene face, something I witnessed as I entered her room that day. I sensed the peace of her soul and the abundance of her contentment. I recognized what a vital impact the words she had heard in that little chapel had left on her — like drops of water in the desert of her suffering and her struggle to breathe.

And now, being next to my mother in that little chapel, where Fr. Treantafeles was chanting with such reverence even at his advanced age and failing health, we felt we could transcend our own physical and emotional limitations. I was moved to be a part of this elderly group where each one offered his or her unique voice, both in and out of tune, as they joyfully connected with the spirit around them. Their wheel chairs did not limit them from joining in prayer, their aching disabilities did not hold them back from making the sign of the cross with such unshakable faith, their dusty memories did not fade as they picked up the melodies they had once heard in their villages across oceans where their church had been their beacon to paradise. They looked like they were trying to retrieve the echoes and pictures of that time, as their lips humbly sang with the sweetness of a child who was just given a special treat.

And when Father related to them his own childhood and his early experiences regarding the church and his faith, all of his listeners, whether of sound mind or not, looked on in awe and bewilderment. And even if some napped at some point, which sometimes they did, it was their way of declaring the serenity of that moment as suitable for rest. They often reminded me of lost children who finally discerned a beloved figure from their past and resisted letting go.



While the Greek folk songs began with Father's coaching, all could feel the waves of joy and revitalized voices eagerly following. Even those who did not relate to the culture seemed to awaken with feelings of nostalgia. These elderly faces were traveling to the places where they grew up, to the traditions they learned from their own parents or grandparents. They seemed like dreamers in the valley across the mountain...just a little distance from where their sweet, little home stood. Perhaps they could even hear the rhythmic bells ringing from the chapel across the hill. They had already returned to where they came from...their beloved horgio, their village, to their own story of their past where faith had been instilled in them...pictures and images that will never leave their hearts.

When they heard their name called, each one seemed startled as if coming back from a momentary trip. Fr. Treantafeles was calling each one by their name, encouraging them to talk or to exchange their experiences, anything from breakfast that day to their hobbies....all with tender humor. They felt his fatherly tapping on their shoulders as they looked at him and kissed his hand with reverence and gladness. It was not difficult to see the spiritual transparency between them, and they eagerly awaited it every week. They knew the day and the time...they already had drawn the picture. And when his humor prepared them for the finale of the day's teachings, they all awaited that too, this last treat — like the last few brush strokes of a precious work of art.

"Idomen to fos to alithinon...." Fr. Treantafeles was ending his biblical session, while his flock was still looking on, as the sheep at its shepherd, chanting along...hoping for another similar return. And their trembling lips accompanied each other in these last few notes, as their shepherd showered them with blessings and embraced them all with his compassionate gaze.

All the wheel chairs strolled by the faithful and dedicated volunteers and employees as the session was over. All were leaving for their floor, but Fr. Treantafeles often stayed behind sitting in the corner of the room with close eyes. Perhaps he was praying for all his children, as he called them, or maybe he had to catch his breath before taking on the rest of his day.

Visiting all the floors at the Rehabilitation Centre, Fr. Treantafeles spoke to each and every one there, residents or employees, with fatherly care and unceasing energy. He always had words of comfort and courage to share. His tireless disposition hid how he himself must have felt due to his own failing health. He still had strength though and seemed to have a mission that nothing could stop. Devoted to his task and promise as a follower of Christ, he was steadfast in the face of obstacles and difficulties; he did his duty...he endured because he loved with Christ's love.

"Now also when I am old and gray headed, O God, do not forsake me. Until I declare Your strength to this generation Your power to everyone who is to come." PSALM 17:18.

Selma Contos, Northfield, IL