

Holy and Great Council Moving Forward; Patriarch Arrives



St. Demetrios Graduation photo- Saint Demetrios High School in Astoria Celebrates its Senior Class

Class of 2016 Salutatorian Julia Kokkosis, who received the Three Hierarchs Award, addressed her fellow graduates at the St. Demetrios High School graduation on June 10, noting the knowledge of religion, moral values, and love of the Greek language instilled by the school. Graduations for the William Spyropoulos Day School and the Stephen and Areti Cherpelis Greek Afternoon School also took place at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Shrine Church, Flushing on June 10 and 11.

NJHF Honors Spireas, Siamboulis, & Sweeney

By Demetris Tsakas

MOONACHIE, NJ – The Hellenic Federation of New Jersey, at its Sixth Annual Awards Banquet on June 13 in Moonachie, NJ, presented the Alexander the Great Award to

Dr. Spiro Spireas, Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Sigmapharm Laboratories; Pan Gregorian Enterprises President George Siamboulis; and New Jersey Senate President and avid Philhellene, Senator

Stephen Sweeney.

Next Generation Initiative Advisory Board Chairman Nikitas Tampakis spoke about the Federation's efforts to attract the younger generation, noting the seven student unions active in the Greek Independence Parade, and that this year for the first time, scholarships totaling \$10,000 were awarded to Maria Xarhakis, Maria-Eleni Nikolaidou, Ilias Pappas and Andreas Savvas.

Organizational Committee

head Panos Stavrianidis praised the Federation's founders and its leaders today, emphasizing that the Greek-American community of New Jersey continues to be increasingly represented each year at the New York parade.

Greek Consul General Konstantinos Koutras reminded that the Federation and community as a whole is obligated to honor its roots and to promote the Greek language and religion, which are the main components

of the Greek character. He praised the honorees for their significant initiatives and devotion to the Greek community. "The new generation should look up to these men as their role models."

Congressman Frank Pallone (NJ), also a Philhellene, spoke of Senator Sweeney's efforts to advocate Hellenic causes.

Federation President Savas Tsivicos expressed his satisfaction

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Bartholomew Makes Last-Minute Request, but Russians and Other Churches not Attending

By Theodore Kalmoukos

CRETE, GREECE – The Orthodox Church from throughout the world will gather for a historic Holy and Great Council (also called the Great Synod) on Crete, scheduled at press time from June 19 through 27, to witness its unity and strength speaking with one voice and one heart, despite attempts made by some Local Orthodox Churches to postpone it.

Specifically, the Churches of Bulgaria, Russia, Georgia, and Antioch decided not to participate in the Synod, invoking reasons about the texts and documents and also the ongoing dispute between the ancient and historic Patriarchates of Antioch and Jerusalem over the issue of the canonical and ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Archdiocese of Qatar, established some three years ago by the Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

Calls from the Patriarchates of Bulgaria and Moscow to His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to postpone the Synod for a later date went unanswered simply because all the Prelates of the Local Orthodox Churches had agreed and signed the preconcliar documents.

Patriarch Bartholomew, who will preside, arrived on Crete on June 15. More representatives from self-governing Orthodox Churches from around the world were arriving at press time. Agenda items have been under discussion for more than 50 years by Inter-Orthodox Preparatory Commissions and Pan-Orthodox Preconcliar Conferences.

In preparation for the Council, Bartholomew convened a Synaxis of Primates of the Orthodox Autocephalous Churches at the Orthodox Centre of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Chambeys, Geneva, from January 21

to 28. For months now, a Small Synaxis of the Primates has been scheduled for June 17th as well.

The agenda items are: 1) The mission of the Orthodox Church in the contemporary world; 2) The Orthodox diaspora; 3) Autonomy and the manner of its proclamation; 4) The sacrament of marriage and its impediments; 5) The importance of fasting and its observance today; and 6) The relationship of the Orthodox Church with the rest of the Christian world.

On June 15, Bartholomew made a last-minute plea inviting all the Churches to participate. He was warmly greeted at the airport by His Eminence Archbishop Irineos of Crete and members of the Holy Synod of the Semi-Autonomous Church of Crete, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs of Greece Ioannis Amanatidis, the Mayor of Chania Tasos Vamboukas, and other local civil, army and police authorities.

THE PATRIARCH'S WORDS

The patriarch said in a welcoming ceremony at the Chania

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Scaros on Fox Discusses the Election, and New Book

TNH Staff

NEW YORK – TNH Executive Editor Constantinos E. Scaros, who also writes a regular political column for the newspaper, appeared on the Fox News Channel on June 11 to discuss the presidential election.

Weekend edition host Arthel Neville primarily focused on Scaros' latest book, Grumpy Old Party: 20 Tips on How the Republicans Can Shed Their Anger, Reclaim Their Respectability, and Win Back the White House.

She began by asking Scaros about Tip 3: Credibility Trumps Quantity, and whether Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump measures up. "I began writing the book after the 2012 election," Scaros replied, and explained that it was a criticism to Republicans criticizing President Obama about the slightest, pettiest details. "Nit-picking," instead of concentrating on substantive issues. Scaros conceded that to this point, Trump does not follow the tip, but that in many ways he is "the exception to the rule."

Neville then asked Scaros about Tip 7: Don't "Latinify" the Message Artificially. "Donald Trump does this very well, because Donald Trump does not pander to Latinos," Scaros said, pointing out that given all the backlash Trump received for questioning the impartiality of Judge Gonzalo Curiel, who is of Mexican descent, Trump did so not solely based on Curiel's heritage, but also because of the pro-Latino organizations to which he belongs. "The real racists," Scaros

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The 10th Annual LA Greek Film Festival's Solid Lineup

By Vasilis Papoutsis

LOS ANGELES, CA – The tenth anniversary of the Los Angeles Greek Film Festival (LAGFF) was celebrated in front of a sold-out crowd at the historic Egyptian theater in Hollywood.

Following the screening of Christopher Papakaliatis' acclaimed film Worlds Apart, the Honorary Orpheus Award was

presented to Fox Filmed Entertainment Chairman Jim Gianopulos and to Academy Award Winner J.K. Simmons in a ceremony hosted by Mena Suvari.

Greek Deputy Minister of Tourism Elena Kountoura came from Athens to attend the festival and to promote Greece as an ideal production locale for American film companies. New this year was the arrival from Athens of the Gastronomy Days-Athens International Culinary Film Festival that highlights Greek cuisine and presented a live cooking demonstration by Chef Marisa Churchill.

The festival screened a total of 56 films, 24 of those were North American premieres. Opening night started with a live performance from Greek singing star Alexia Vassiliou and Grammy-nominated KCRW DJ Chris Douridas was the closing party DJ.

The opening night film was Tasos Boulmetis' Mythopathy, Notias is the Greek title, his first film since his groundbreaking Politiki Kouzina.

The movie follows the adventures of a university student during the 1970s and 1980s in Greece after the return of Democracy following the overthrow of the military junta. The film navigates the hero's coming of age as he embarks in the art of filmmaking, love and politics. Along the way the protagonist loses what he loves most and has to adopt and overcome that reality. Director Boulmetis was very happy with the audience reception at the festival: "the LAGFF is a very important institution. It is vital to have a forum that promotes Greek Cinema in the entertainment capital of the world. We received excellent treatment from everyone involved."

An Australian/New Zealand co-production, Alex & Eve chronicles the challenges facing a couple with different religious backgrounds. Alex is a handsome and shy Greek Orthodox man who falls in love with Eve, a successful lawyer from a Lebanese Muslim family. Both families furiously oppose the union as their children try to distance themselves by ignoring their feelings. Preceding

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Ribbon-Cutting at the New Krinos Facility in the Bronx— New York City Economic Development Corporation President Maria Torres-Springer and Krinos CEO and Chairman Eric Moschallaidis at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand opening of the new Krinos facility in the Bronx. The \$26 million, state-of-the-art facility is 100,000 square feet and decorated with vibrant murals on the exterior walls.

Krinos Opens New Facility in Bronx

By Eleni Sakellis

BRONX – The largest importer, distributor, and manufacturer of Greek, Mediterranean, and Middle Eastern specialty foods, Krinos Foods opened its new facility in the Bronx on June 15.

Two days earlier, TNH toured the facility and spoke with Krinos Chairman Eric Moschallaidis. The state-of-the-art facility in the Tremont section of the Bronx is an impressive structure. At 100,000 square feet, the facility cost \$25 million and will serve as the new corporate headquarters, manufacturing operation, and distribution center for the company. The Long Island City plant, in use since 1981, was technologically out of date and no longer large enough for the growing company. Moschallaidis noted that many suggested the company

should move to New Jersey, but he was adamant about staying in New York. "We're a New York company," Moschallaidis remarked. The 2.5 acres in the Bronx is an ideal location with direct access to the Cross-Bronx Expressway. The energy efficient lighting and HVAC systems, and 1,743 solar panels generating 70% of the new facility's power are among the green elements of the facility. The solar panel installation is one of the ten largest in New York City. The power generated, 566.475 kilowatts annually, is enough to power 65 residential homes a year. With 55 trees planted on and off-site, Krinos is also helping to create more green space in the community.

Moschallaidis said "the new facility is a significant milestone for Krinos as we continue to lead within the Mediterranean

specialty foods market. The new building and systems will improve and streamline our production and distribution. I am proud of what we've built and am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for our company."

Krinos will employ 100 employees in the Bronx when they are at full capacity. A cutting-edge warehouse management system will increase the efficiency of shipping and minimize out of stocks. The manufacturing operation housing production lines for packing jars, tubs, and bags features new equipment and machinery, including a German-designed plastic cup sealing machine, the first of its kind in the United States. Visually striking murals on the exterior walls of the building by the

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Economy of Greece to Grow Again

TNH Staff

ATHENS – The Bank of Greece has backed international forecasts that Greece's economy will return to growth next year and is urging bailout lenders to act swiftly to ease the country's debt load.

In a report published June 14, the central bank said Greece is expected to emerge from a mild recession to grow 2.5 percent next year — close to forecasts of 2.7 percent growth made by the European Commission and the International Monetary Fund.

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PHOTOS: TNH/COSTAS BEI

Krinos CEO and Chairman Eric Moschlauidis spoke to The National Herald about the new, state of the art facility featuring cutting edge technology in the Bronx on June 13. Krinos Chairman Eric Moschlauidis and The National Herald publisher/editor Antonis Diamataris view the vibrant murals on the exterior of the new Krinos facility in the Bronx on June 13. The massive warehouse at the new Krinos facility in the Bronx features cutting technology to maximize efficiency with a bin and barcode system to streamline distribution.



Krinos Grand Opening of its New State-of-the-Art Facility in the Bronx

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world-renowned Victor Matthews on the East wall, Moscow-based artist Misha Most on the North wall, and Kenny Scharf on the West wall deco-

rate the facility and also beautify the neighborhood with vibrant color and dynamic imagery. Moschlauidis highlighted the fact that the company did not want to simply "build a box," but also connect with the

community.

Being a part of the community is important to Krinos, and honoring the history, however sad, led the company to place a plaque on the Northwest corner of the building, to commemo-

rate the six firefighters who perished on April 4, 1956 due to a wall collapse of the previous structure. The ceremony to mark the 60th anniversary of the tragedy was held on April 4 and included the dedication of

the plaque in honor of the fallen firefighters. The lot was vacant for nearly thirty years until the new facility was built.

Famed British-Indian author Salman Rushdie, an avid art collector and fan of Matthews, vis-

ited the facility on June 12 to see the artist's latest work. Most flew in from Moscow to paint the mural on the north wall of the Krinos facility, his first piece ever in New York.

Attorneys Lycoyannis and Estis Make Sense of NY Law about Airbnb Rentals

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dwelling on a short-term basis can converge with tourists seeking to avoid exorbitant hotel fees. Naturally, the attorneys explain, a tourist haven like New York City is tailor-made for Airbnb. The only problem is, in many cases, such "landlord-tenant" transactions are in apparent violation of the law.

The most prevalent law they cite is New York City's Multiple Dwelling Law (MDL) §4(8)(a), which defines a "multiple dwelling" as any residential building with three or more apartments, and which prohibits occupation for less than 30 consecutive days.

Because the majority (72% between 2010 and 2014, the attorneys wrote in the Journal) of would-be vacations do not last a month or longer, those seeking to rent all or part of a NYC apartment for a few days or a couple of weeks defy what the MDL mandates.

Estis and Lycoyannis identify two exceptions to the law: 1) if the "permanent occupant" (owner or tenant) continues to occupy the unit simultaneously; and 2) if the occupant is away for personal reasons – such as

vacation or medical treatment – and so long as there is no monetary compensation provided. It would seem, then, that New Yorkers who are out of town for a few days who allow, say, friends or relatives to stay in their apartments for free during that time, do not violate that section of the MDL.

But that probably doesn't allow NYC occupants to apartment-swap, Lycoyannis told TNH.

Suppose, for instance, that a Greek-American family living in a Manhattan apartment decides to visit Greece, while their cousins on Samos would like to come to New York. By apartment swapping, Lycoyannis explains, that rather than paying for lodging at their respective destinations, both families would use each other's residences as a "de facto hotel," thereby saving money. While it is not certain that MDL prohibits apartment swapping as such – there is no current case pending about this – Lycoyannis can envision how a court might interpret the law in a way that defines free lodging as "monetary compensation." It sounds like a "close call," he told TNH.

In any case, even the excep-



ROSENBERG & ESTIS

Estis Lycoyannis: Attorneys Warren Estis (L) and Alexander Lycoyannis.

tion regarding the occupant remaining on the premises while the visitor is there does not apply in the case of rent-controlled apartments, because the law is designed to prohibit occupiers of apartments with rent subsidized considerably below market value from profiting by charging high rents to roommates.

OTHER VIOLATIONS

Estis and Lycoyannis also site provisions that require tenants

to obtain the landlord's consent before offering use of their apartments, which is usually not the case in an Airbnb transaction. Moreover, there is the New York City Fire Code to consider.

"Residential apartment buildings are usually not constructed to the heightened standards that the New York City Fire Code requires with respect to hotels," the attorneys write. "While residential apartment buildings are con-

structed to house non-transient permanent residents who will presumably acquire a familiarity with their surroundings that will allow them to vacate quickly in the event of a fire or other emergency, hotels, by nature, are populated by transient guests without such familiarity.

"Thus, the fire code requires that hotels be constructed with certain additional safeguards not present in residential apartment

buildings, such as, for example, photoluminescent exit path markings for exits and stairwells, the posting on every hotel room entrance door of diagrams showing the route to two stairwells or other means of egress, and the provision of portable fire extinguishers."

CRACKDOWN?

Both articles are very clear in their explanations, and written with ample information for legal professionals, yet in language simple enough to render them reader-friendly to the layperson.

It is not clear how much of a focus there will be to put an end to the abuse of New York's laws by would-be Airbnb users. It is also difficult to determine whether such a crackdown might be more or less prevalent than, say, rented units whose condition violations provisions of the Board of Health, or which, in violation of federal immigration law, involve illegal aliens.

Nonetheless, Attorneys Estis and Lycoyannis through their articles provide very useful information about an industry that in a world of explosive technological breakthroughs and a stagnant economy in which every penny counts, understandably continues to thrive.