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GREEK TRIBUNE

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

Steve Georganas to nominate for Adelaide

Last week the Australian Labor Party State Executive opened nominations for Federal preselections in South Australia.

"As a life-long resident of Mile End, now in the seat of Adelaide following the recent Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) redistribution, I will be seeking preselection for the seat of Adelaide", Mr Georganas said.

The redistribution that was finalised last month, split the old seat of Hindmarsh between Boothby, Adelaide and Port Adelaide.

"Adelaide absorbed a large part of my local community in the Western Suburbs.

"I am very pleased to hear that my good friend and colleague, Mark Butler, will nominate through the same ALP processes for the new seat of Hindmarsh - a seat that Mark now lives in following the same AEC redistribution".

"I look forward to following the party processes for preselection and,

if successful, I will ask the people of Adelaide for their support at the next federal election.

Steve Georganas said that Adelaide has been well served by the current retiring Member, Kate Ellis MP.

"If I am selected by the party as the candidate, I will work with the community that I love, to see Adelaide thrive.

"My priorities will continue to be jobs, building on economic gains in the South Australian economy and ensuring that we have education, health, environment and aged care at the centre of Adelaide's priorities.

"I will also keep advocating for issues that are important to the local community, including airport noise which has been a part of my DNA as a resident of Mile End. I will continue the fight to keep the curfew for the residents of Cowandilla, Richmond, Mile End, North Adelaide, Medindie, Walkerville and Prospect, just to name a few", Mr Georganas said.

Message by the Leader of the Opposition Bill Shorten MP

To the Greek community of Australia,

All Australians have seen the devastating wildfires in Greece and all of us are sending our love and sympathy to every community and individual affected.

Our nation knows only too well the terrible toll that fires can inflict on homes and human life. We mourn for the dead and we offer our heartfelt condolences to all those who have lost a loved one. Αιώνια η μνήμη

And to the people who have escaped with their lives but face the hard task of rebuilding from the ashes, we wish them the strength and courage to start again.

The Greek people are compassionate souls who are there for each other in hard times and while I know your whole nation will feel a sense of loss, I also understand that you will rally around those who need it most.

Australia feels a special affinity with Greece. My home town of Melbourne is blessed with a large, diverse, passionate and hard-working Greek community who have enriched our society and our country. In this sad time our hearts go out to all Greek Australians, particularly those who have been affected through the loss of family and friends in this tragedy.

The Australian Labor Party also fully supports any moves by the Australian Government to provide aid and assistance to Greece as it deals with this terrible event, and we encourage the Government to look at all means with which it can contribute to recovery efforts. Whatever we can do to assist Greece at this time of loss, we must and we should do.

Yours sincerely
Bill Shorten
MP Leader of the Opposition

TERRIBLE TOLL Unprecedented fire devastation

RESCUE crews are still searching through charred homes and cars for those still missing after the deadliest wildfires to hit Greece in decades decimated coastal areas near Athens, killing about 100 people and sending thousands fleeing.

A satellite map of the area revealed the scale of the fire damage, showing that more than half the 12,760 acres affected, were residential areas.

With many people still unaccounted for, a harrowing account emerged from the head of the Greek forestry federation, George Papadias, who said firefighters had focused their resources on a separate fire to the west of Athens, leaving the East Attica coast exposed. The two fires were fanned by gale-force winds of up to 100km/h that hampered firefighting efforts.

He had been in the village of Kokkino Limanaki, on the southern edge of Mati when the fire struck. It was like a horror movie, he said, with injured and elderly pleading for help, and not being in a position to do anything.

The bodies of the twin nine-year-old girls Vassiliki and Sofia Philippopoulou, who were missing with their grandparents near Mati, were identified yesterday through a DNA test.

In another moving story, some 26 men, women and children made it almost as far as the gated staircase leading down to the Greek coastline and the safety of water. In the end, they simply couldn't see it. Their charred bodies were discovered at a villa at the seaside resort of Mati, 40 kilometres northeast of Athens. They were huddled together in small groups, "perhaps families, friends or strangers, entwined in a last attempt to protect themselves as they tried to reach the sea", he said.

Rafina Mayor Evangelos Bournous says one in four houses have been completely destroyed by the fire, while 50% more have been partially damaged.

The mayor defended the role of the military, arguing that if the army had not been able to stop the fire spreading, it would have razed the entire area.

Illegal house construction blamed
Greek Defence Minister Panos Kammenos



Many of the victims died in their cars trying to escape the deadly forest fires near Athens

has told the BBC illegal construction contributed to one of the country's worst-ever wildfire disasters. He said building by residents between wooded areas was a "crime" that had resulted in blocking escape routes.

Mr Kammenos was confronted by angry locals as he visited devastated areas.

Flags across Greece were flying at half-staff after prime minister Alexis Tsipras declared three days of national mourning for the victims.

According to the mayor of Marathon, Ilias Psinakis, around 3000 homes have been destroyed by the blaze at the seaside resorts of Mati and Rafina. One of them was his own.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull "Australia stands ready to assist"

In a statement sent to the Greek Tribune, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said he was deeply saddened to learn of the fires in Greece in recent days that have led to a significant loss of life and devastation. My thoughts and those of the Australian people are with the people of Greece at this tragic time.

"Australia and Greece share a special relationship nurtured by strong family and community ties. Hundreds of thousands of Australians

are of Greek descent. Many of them will have loved ones in Greece who may have been affected by the fires. A tragedy that affects Greece also affects Australia.

"In times like these, friends come together in support of one another. We know only too well the terrible impact these fires can have on communities and families. I have written to Prime Minister Tsipras sending our condolences and offering support. Australia stands ready to assist you and the people of Greece to respond to this disaster, including through sharing our firefighting expertise", Mr Turnbull concluded.

Cyprus Government offers 10 million euro

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus has decided to offer financial aid worth 10 million euro for the victims of the deadly forest fires in Greece. It also appealed to the business world and the public at large to make contributions and encouraged community groups to host events to raise more funds for the victims.

The total amount to be raised, will be allocated to specific projects for the relief and the support of the victims after consultation with the Greek Government.

Australian Cypriots remember 1974 coup and invasion

Cypriot communities in Australia have held events to condemn the military coup and the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in the summer of 1974.

Members of the Cypriot diaspora, representatives of the Greek communities in Australia, organizations and friends of Cyprus attended the events.

On Sunday 15 July, the Justice for Cyprus Committee (SEKA) in conjunction with the Cyprus Community of SA held a wreath laying ceremony at the Community's Memorial in Welland, attended by representatives of the South Australian Government and Opposition as

well as many community leaders.

Speakers at the event were, David Pisoni MP representing the Premier Stephen Marshall, Tom Koutsantonis representing the Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas, Steve Georganas representing the Leader of the Federal Opposition, Mayor of Charles Sturt Council Angela Evans the Greek Consul General Andreas Gouras and the Cyprus Community President Andreas Evdokiou.

Also in attendance, were, Bishop Nikandros of Doryleion, Liberal MLC Jing Lee, Labor MLC Irene Pnevmatikos and Labor MP Jayne Stinson, GOCSA President

Bill Gonis, Archdiocesan inter-communal President Con Dalas, Pan Macedonian President Evan Tsiaparis, the Secretary of the Federation of Greek Orthodox Communities of Australia Demetris Dimopoulos and many representatives of local Greek community associations.

On Wednesday 18 July, as part of the commemorative events, the Cypriot Community of SA welcomed a Cyprus Government delegation headed by Averoff Neophytou leader of the ruling party of Cyprus "Democratic Rally" and Deputy Minister for Shipping Natasha Pliidou.



Steve Georganas MP and, left, SEKA Chairman Peter Ppiros

Community public meeting on Greek fires

The Greek Orthodox Community of SA has announced that it's working towards a partnership with local Greek associations to establish a Community Relief Fund in support of the fire affected areas, the President Mr Bill Gonis has said in a statement last week.

The proceeds of this Disaster Fund aims to support communities across the Rafina region and areas where the fires have destroyed everything in their path. An account, has been opened at the Bank of Sydney for members of the South Australian public to donate money to those affected communities in Greece (Bank of Sydney - Greek Orthodox Community of SA - Community Relief Fund - BSB 942501 -

Community Life



The Delegation from Cyprus headed by Mr Averoff Neophytou visited the SA Parliament and met with Irene Pnevmatikos MLC of the ALP. The delegation was accompanied by Andrew Evdokiou and Peter Ppiros

Account Number 1401561). Another account will open this week at the Delphi Bank.

A number of other initiatives

are also being planned in addition to the Relief Fund, including a Radiothon, a musical concert, raffles, a film night and other events.

The Greek Orthodox Community of SA will hold a public meeting on Monday 30 July at 7.00pm at the Olympic Hall and has called on community associations' representatives, politicians and business people to come and discuss ideas on how the fund-raising campaign will proceed. A co-ordinating committee will be elected to oversee the whole process and ensure that the funds will reach their destination, that is the victims of the tragic event and ensure they are put into good use for the benefit of the affected communities.

The Greek Orthodox Community of SA expresses its condolences to the families of the victims and its support and solidarity to all those who have been affected by the horrific fire. More details will be announced shortly by the GOCSA.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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Cultural, social and political events in South Australia

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LEFT: On Sunday 15 July, the Justice for Cyprus Committee (SEKA) and the Cyprus Community of SA held a wreath laying ceremony at the memorial at the Cyprus Community's premises at Welland, attended by representatives of the South Australian Government and Opposition and community leaders. The event opened with speeches from the President of the Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou, Minister David Pisoni, Labor MP Tom Koutsantonis, Greek Consul Andreas Gouras and the Mayor of Charles Sturt Angela Evans.



LEFT: At the wreath laying ceremony for Cyprus, were, from left, Bill Gonis of GOCSA, Charles Sturt Mayor Angela Evans, Jayne Stinson MP and Greek Consul General Andreas Gouras



Justice for Cyprus Committee Chairman Peter Ppiros, PanMacedonian President Evan Tsiaparis, Chris Ioannou, Minister David Pisoni and Archdiocesan Intercommunal Council President Con Dalas



The two photos above are from the visit of the Cypriot Government delegation, headed by Mr Averoff Neophytou, leader of the Democratic Rally Party and Natasha Pilidou Deputy Minister for Shipping. Left, the delegation with Steve Georganas MP and right, with Jing Lee MLC and Legislative Council President Andrew MacLachlan. The delegation is accompanied by the Cyprus Community President Andrew Evdokiou and SEKA Chairman Peter Ppiros



LEFT: Frank Pangalo MLC, Norman Suller SAMEAC Chairman, Julian Stefani former MLC, Bishop Nikandros, Steve Georganas MP, Iakovos Digenis on behalf of Mark Buttler MP, and Zakos Partou of the Aradippou association at the Cyprus Community reception for the Cypriot Government delegation. **RIGHT:** Greek Consul Andreas Gouras, Cypriot High Commissioner Martha Mavromatis and Deputy Minister Natasha Pilidou



GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF SA WELFARE SERVICES

282 Waymouth Street, Adelaide SA 5000 - T: (08) 7088 0500

Stop Elder Abuse

The SA Elder Abuse Prevention Phone Line is part of a broader campaign to increase public awareness of Elder Abuse, help the community to recognise the signs, and let people know where to go for support and information.

Callers to 1800 372 310 can obtain information and advice about financial abuse such as misuse of finances; psychological abuse such as threatening, bullying or intimidating behaviour, and social abuse such as restricting an older person's activities or social contacts.

Funded by Office for the Ageing, SA Health the Phone Line is a valuable community resource. After speaking with the Phone Line operator callers have reported feeling more confident to take steps to help themselves, or to help an older person they know.

Call 1800 372 310 to help stop Elder Abuse. Telephone interpreting can be arranged.

Further information is also available at: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/stopelderabuse



GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

We invite you to the GOCSA Schools

Annual Dance on

Saturday, 25th August 2018, at 7.00pm. at the Olympic Hall, 288 Franklin Street.

The theme being : Old Greek Films/Theatre

Enjoy student's presentations, delicious food, traditional Greek music and dancing.

Chance to win a fantastic door prize.

Compliments of the Greek Women's Society.

For Bookings :

Tel: (08)8231 4307

Email :

h1mot@gocsa.org.au

Tickets : \$10.00

Students : Free

Tickets can be purchased from teachers or at the door.



LETTER

65th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice

Dear Editor

Sixty-five years ago, the armistice ending three years of fighting on the Korean peninsula was signed.

Within days of the invasion of South Korea by North Korean forces on 25 June 1950, the United Nations (UN) Security Council had the support of 21 member nations to defend South Korea, including Australia.

The Royal Australian Navy and the Royal Australian Air Force committed forces to the United Nations effort in Korea within a week of the war's beginning, Australian ground troops arrived in September 1950. The armistice was signed on 27 July 1953, the last troops did not leave Korean shores until August 1957.

Approximately 18,000 Australian service personnel served in Korea between 1950 and 1957, including Army and Royal Australian Air Force nurses. Australia suffered some 1,500 casualties, including over 350 who lost their lives, and 30 who were taken prisoner. More than 40 Australians are still listed as missing in action.

The Korean War marked the first collective UN military action and Australian sailors, soldiers and airmen won international respect for their courage,

endurance and combat skills.

Sadly, looking back on the Korean War, one Australian soldier remarked that 'most Australians of the Korean War regard themselves as the forgotten veterans of a forgotten war'.

In this, the final year of the Anzac Centenary, it is my sincere hope these words are no longer true and that the men and women who bravely served in the Korean War know that Australia honours their service.

Each year on 27 July we observe Korean Veterans' Day and I encourage everyone to honour the service and sacrifice of those who served in the Korean War so they know they are not forgotten.

I will also have the honour of attending the commemorative service for the 65th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice on Anzac Parade in Canberra to meet with and thank veterans of the war and their families.

I encourage those in the community to attend the service or watch it live on the Department of Veterans' Affairs Facebook page.

Lest we forget.

**The Hon Darren Chester MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs**

NEW FILM

All Ships Ahead for Lisner and Erskine

Filming has begun on the feature film **Heart of Fury** based on the last two years of warrior poet Lord George Byron's life, including the Greek war of Independence.

Director/actor Derek Erskine will play the coveted role of Byron, a role he has been preparing for many years after playing him on stage. Naomi Lisner will play Margarita Cogni wife of a Venetian baker whom Byron had a tempestuous relationship with and together they will co-produce.

The other cast includes Don Bridges, Antonios Baxevanidis, Loraine Fabb, Mardi Edge, Jana Wilkes, Albert Goikhman, George Donikian, Georgia Chrysoptomou, Nicole Edwards, John Mc Cullough, Vanessa Moltzen and Clara Francesca Pagone.

Lisner describes her business partner Erskine as work horse. I am constantly inspired by his work ethic and natural talent. Derek not only

directs, but he writes, produces, acts, is a gifted artist and is part of the musical group ZuluMonk.

Lisner is no slouch either. She was recently in US as the only Australian to have a feature screen play represented at the prestigious film festival Twister Alley in Oklahoma.

Lisner has almost completed the sequel and is unsure at this stage whether to turn it into a TV series.

Lisner has plans for a romantic comedy called **Twenty Last Summers**. The idea was inspired after a phone conversation with dynamic Sydney businesswoman Deborah Travers. It was just something she said to me innocently in conversation. Writers are like bower birds, we take from everywhere.

Meanwhile her short film **Hannah Rosenthal** has won several awards worldwide including recently winning the Gold Kahuna Award at the Honolulu International.

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