



AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Action to reduce impact of burst water mains

SA Water will invest an additional \$55 million over the next four years to replace 375,000 metres of water mains across the state, with the aim of reducing the number of bursts and leaks.

The increased focus on pipe replacement will reduce the impact of water main issues on SA Water customers and the wider community.

It will also help to lessen impacts of water main incidents on commuters, through the upgrade of water mains on several main arterial roads, including Anzac Highway, Greenhill Road and Main South Road.

Up to 150 local jobs are expected to be required to carry out the expanded main

replacement programme, creating a boost to job growth in the state.

"The State Government is committed to providing a reliable water network for South Australians now and into the future", Water and River Murray Minister Ian Hunter said.

"We are focused on making smart investments to improve our infrastructure and build the state's economy through the creation of more local jobs.

"We support SA Water in its collaborative approach with other agencies - such as local councils - to ensure a minimal impact on residents and commuters when the main replacement work is carried out", he said.

Volunteer nominations now open

Organisations and community groups are encouraged to nominate an outstanding volunteer to receive a Premier's Certificate of Recognition for their contribution to the community.

Nominations are now open for the Premier's Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Volunteer Service.

This award provides an opportunity to recognise and reward the significant contributions of South Australians who selflessly donate their time, skills and energy to helping others.

South Australian-based volunteer-involving organisations and community groups are encouraged to nominate individuals or groups of their volunteers.

To be eligible for nomination, volunteers must have made a significant contribution

to the South Australian community, demonstrating leadership and an ongoing commitment to volunteering.

"South Australians have a strong tradition of volunteering their time and effort to help others. More than 920,000 volunteers contribute an estimated 1.76 million hours each week", Communities and Social Inclusion Minister Zoe Bettison said.

"I encourage organisations across SA to honour the outstanding contributions of their volunteers by nominating for the Premier's Certificate of Recognition", she said.

Nominations close 5pm on Friday 7 April 2017.

To nominate, or for more information, visit the Office for Volunteers' website at www.ofv.sa.gov.au

Greek community to celebrate International Women's Day

As women around the world are preparing to celebrate International Women's Day in March, the Greek Orthodox Community of SA is in turn organising a special event to mark this special day, inviting all female members to come along.

The event to celebrate International Women's Day is to be held on Wednesday 8 March 2017 at Olympic Hall at 7.00pm.

Guest speakers for the evening are the Hon Grace Portolesi, Chair of the South Australian Multicultural & Ethnic Affairs Commission and

Ms Vahedeh Currently from Southern Domestic Violence service.

The topic of this year's event is "Migrant Women".

The event will feature a cultural program with the participation of the Greek Orthodox Community's Choir and the recital of poems.

Guests will have the opportunity to pose questions towards the guest speakers and also to participate in the discussion that will follow.

Ms Himo Tsakalos will be presenter for the evening. Admission is free.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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Turkish Cypriot Fears are not Justified

Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci has put two preconditions to President Nicos Anastasiades before returning to the negotiating table, Turkish press reports said last week.

"The first is that President Anastasiades should state that he does not approve the decision taken by the House of Representatives regarding inclusion of the 1950 plebiscite on Cyprus' unification with Greece in the list of the days which are celebrated at the secondary education schools in the government-controlled area of the Republic," according to Anatolia News Agency.

"The second is to annul this decision," the Agency added quoting Akinci saying: "If this step is taken, we will re-evaluate the situation.

Akinci also reiterated the view that the ideal of the unification of Cyprus with Greece is "the source of all problems we experience".

Akinci left UN-brokered reunification talks in Nicosia last Thursday, but blamed Anastasiades of creating the crisis in the fragile 20-month-old process.

Fears which the Turkish Cypriots have been expressing in the past few days cannot be justified, even though the excuse to express such fears hailed from the Greek Cypriot community, Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades has said.

The president also pointed out that no Greek Cypriot political party claims or maintains that the solution to the Cyprus problem is 'enosis' union with Greece.

The President described as "wrong" in terms of timing and its objective the House decision to commemorate in schools the 1950 referendum in favour of union with Greece. The decision led the Turkish Cypriot leader to leave last week's meeting with Anastasiades, in the context of the UN peace talks.

The controversial decision, was initiated by ELAM, a small extreme right wing party with racist views and supported by 19 MPs of the five parties of the Centre while AKEL (16) voted against and Anastasiades' ruling party DISY (18) abstained. The DISY party has since reconsidered its position and it has now moved a new legislation,



President Anastasiades and the Turkish Cypriot leader M. Akinci

which will see the decision to commemorate the 1950 union with Greece referendum overridden.

UN Cyprus envoy discusses peace talks with UK Minister and US Assistant Secretary of State

The Special Adviser to the Secretary General of the UN on Cyprus, Espen Barth Eide, discussed the current state of play in the Cyprus talks with UK Minister of Europe Sir Alan Duncan, according to a post on his twitter account.

Eide spoke of a "strong UK support".

The two officials met on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference.

Eide also had "a very good meeting" with acting US Assistant Secretary of State John Heffern on recent developments and the way ahead for Cyprus talks.

Heffern wrote on his twitter account that the US is "commit-ted to doing what we can to help", thanking Eide "for all you are doing".

Turkish provocations in the Aegean

The recent spike in Turkish violations in the Aegean and provocative comments from Ankara are aimed at testing Greece's resolve, according to Greek analysts.

In what was seen as its latest transgression, Turkey dispatched its Cesme research vessel to conduct surveys on Thursday in international waters between the islands of Thasos, Samothrace and Limnos, but within the area of responsibility of the Hellenic Search and Rescue Coordination Centre.

The night before, Turkish coast guard vessels conducted patrols in the region around the Imia islets. At the same time, the Cyprus talks are being undermined over what Greeks believe is a minor detail - the decision by the Cyprus Parliament for schools to commemorate a 1950 referendum calling for union with Greece. Greeks say it is an attempt to shift attention from the funda-



The "Cesme research" vessel near the island of Lemnos

mental issues of the peace talks, namely post-settlement security and guarantees.

In response, Athens has pursued the principle of proportionality by countering the presence of Turkish military and coast guard vessels with an equivalent number of Greek ones, while embarking on a diplomatic campaign at international organizations and in major capitals.

Analysts also attribute the spike in tension to the Greek Supreme Court's refusal to

extradite the 8 Turkish servicemen that Ankara says were involved in the July coup attempt.

But they also note that it serves as a convenient pretext for Turkey to up the nationalistic rhetoric ahead of the April 16 referendum called by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in a bid to expand his powers.

Bearing this in mind, Athens should expect more tension over the next two months.

Save the Children Opens School for Refugees on Leros

ATHENS - A new educational facility called "LEDU" was opened on the island of Leros on Thursday, aiming to help around 170 refugee children integrate smoothly in Greek schools and continue their education.

The school, located in the area of Lepida, will welcome children aged six to 18 in three classrooms, where students will be taught Greek, English, mathematics, geography, computers and art. They will be taught by Greek teachers and personnel from the charity organization Save the Children. The school teaches around 80 students per day, to accommodate all the refugees enlisted in the program.

"With LEDU we strengthen the educational process of children and help them integrate in the educational system, after a long and arduous period away from classrooms," said Andreas Ring, Save the Children's Greece Humanitarian Representative.

The creation and operational costs of "LEDU" are covered by the European Union and the UNHCR, while the operation and organization of the school is managed by Save the Children.

Loucas Loizou to perform at Hilton

Greek Cypriot musician Loucas Loizou, will give five performances in Adelaide, as part of the Festival Hellenika 2017.

The performances will take place at Fedora's restaurant, Hilton hotel, 264 south road, Hilton on Friday-Saturday 3-4, Sunday 12, Friday-Saturday 17-18 March all at 7.30 pm.

Loucas Loizou said he will perform "timeless folk songs from Greece arranged for guitar and voice and at least one or two songs by M. Theodorakis, M. Hatzidakis, K.Hatzis, and D. Savopoulos.

"I will also perform some of my original songs in Greek, English and Cypriot dialect from my CD "Migrants-Metanastes". Some American traditional songs with true stories behind them made known by Nana Mouscouri", he said.

Tickets are \$25/\$20 concession and \$15 for students. Fringe Tix 1300 621 255. Some tickets will be

Community Life



Paul Demetriou, John Giorgatzis, Bill Gonis and Mrs Athanaspoulos enjoying themselves at a recent GOCSA dinner dance

GOCSA to celebrate Independence

The Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. will honour

for yet another year this historic day with the following scheduled events:

SUNDAY 26 MARCH 2017 at 11.00am, celebratory Doxology at the Cathedral of Archangels Michael

and Gabriel, conducted by his Eminence Bishop of Adelaide Chrisostom and the Community's clergy. The Executive and Supervisory Committees as well as teaching staff and students will also be present.

The celebrations will continue at the church's courtyard, in front of the war memorial, with a memorial service, poem recitals, laying of wreaths and the national anthems.

At 5.00pm in the afternoon, the Community's Greek schools will continue the celebrations with a special students event, featuring songs, poems and short sketches depicting the heroic tales of the 1821 Epos.

For the Greek Orthodox Community, the celebration of the 1821 Greek Independence is a national duty and this is why we invite all Hellenes to participate, paying tribute to those heroes who sacrificed their lives for the dignity of the Greek people and for the freedom of Greece.

The Riverland gets a new \$7.5 million agricultural research centre

The upgraded agricultural hub of the Riverland, the Loxton Research Centre, was officially opened in early February at the presence of the South Australian Premier Jay Weatherill. About 200 people attended the opening of the \$7.5 million centre which is set to boost yields, create jobs and enable the local agricultural industry to become more globally competitive. In the photo, from left, the Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasi, Premier Weatherill, Senator Anne Ruston, SA Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock and Member for Chaffey Tim Whetstone.



GREEK COMMUNITY OF MELBOURNE

Members vote in favor of Board's proposal

The Greek Tribune received the following press release from the Greek Orthodox Community of Melbourne, on their recent special general meeting:

"For the first time in the history of the Greek Community of Melbourne (GCM), 92% of the organisation's membership endorsed the Board's motion to develop the Bulleen property, an unresolved issue plaguing the organisation for many years. The vote was considered by all present, as a vote of confidence to the GCM's Board of Directors and its President Bill Papastergiadis (pictured right).

The vast majority of the members who attended the Special General Meeting (SGM), held on Sunday at the Alphington Grammar School, gave the green light to the Board to proceed with the development of the Bulleen property and the creation of the new Greek Centre on the Yarra.

According to the results of the ballot, of the 561 members who voted, 513 voted "yes" (92%), 47 "No" and one invalid.

The unprecedented historical result reflects the confidence that members have in the current Board, which has shown professionalism, dedication and hard work for the progress of both the GCM and the Greek community in general; and the true testimony of this, is the gem of Hellenism, the 15 storey new building in the CBD.

On Sunday afternoon, hundreds of members flocked to the «Andrianakos Centre», to vote for the development of the Bulleen property, which remains



undeveloped and desolate for over 30 years.

It must be noted that both the SGM and the AGM were held in a calm atmosphere, without the usual controversies and disagreements. Also, the large presence of non-members indicates the interest of the community for both the Bulleen and the GCM.

Members applauded President Mr Bill Papastergiadis and Vice Presidents Mr. Nick Koukouvitakis and Mr Theo Markos, and all those who took the floor supporting the proposal of the Board - they invited the members to approve the Board's proposal, stressing that we must not "miss this unique opportunity."

In recent weeks dozens of Greek

organisations and individuals publicly supported the Bulleen proposal.

President Bill Papastergiadis spoke about GCM's achievements during the last few years. "This is a result of hard work and good management," he said.

"During the last 6-7 years we were able to unite and change our organisation. If you put together the investment for the Greek Centre and the projects we are planning for the next few years, including \$3million for the restoration of Evangelismos and \$6m for the Alphington Grammar and the new Greek Centre on the Yarra, we are talking of a total investment of \$33m. All these projects were created because our community asks for action and not words."

Penalty rates cut by Fair Work Commission

Sunday and public holiday penalty rates will be reduced for full-time and part-time workers in the hospitality, retail and fast-food industries, the Fair Work Commission has ruled.

Key points:

* Workers will continue to receive penalties but they will be reduced

* Retailers say the decision means they can extend opening hours

The Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) said nearly half a million people, including some of the country's lowest-paid workers, would lose up to \$6,000 a year.

The commission said the cuts would lead to increased services and trading hours on public holidays and Sundays.

But it acknowledged the changes would cause hardship to some workers.

"Many of these employees earn just

enough to cover weekly living expenses," Fair Work Commission president Iain Ross said.

Sunday pay rates for full-time and part-time hospitality workers will be cut from 175 per cent of their standard wage to 150 per cent.

In retail, Sunday wages will be reduced from 200 per cent of the standard rate to 150 per cent for full-time and part-time staff.

For fast-food workers, Sunday pay for some full-time and part-time employees — classed as "level one" workers — will be cut from 150 per cent to 125 per cent.

Casual workers in the retail and fast-food industries will also see their pay cut but rates for casuals in hospitality will remain the same.

The public holiday penalty cuts will come into effect on 1 July 2017.

"Tracy" in its final stages of filming

The Tracy feature written by Cassandra Leopold, Derek Erskine and Naomi Lisner is in its final stages of filming. Tracy is 1 of 5 Australian features selected for AUSFFSG (Australian & Singapore Film festival). The festival will be held in Singapore in November. The producers Lisner & Erskine have been invited over to Singapore to represent the film and give Q and A after the screening.

There are plans for Lisner and Erskine to write the sequel Tracy 2.

The scenes with Greek icon George Donikian will be filmed in the next few weeks. George will play a familiar role of news reader. Donikian is pictured with Naomi Lisner co-writer/producer/actor in Tracy and her son Billy.

Billy has a support role and his make screen debut as Billy Farmer. Lisner's other son Jake will also be making his screen

debut as Constable Ryan Dawson.

Once Tracy is completed Lisner will direct and star in a short film she wrote for JIFF (Jewish International Film Festival) called Hannah Rosenthal.

Lisner is still looking for funding for the feature. Apparently So in which she stars opposite George Donikian, and hopes to attach an executive producer soon.

The novel she wrote is in the hands of Anthony Davall from Auspol Media who is her literary agent.

Greek director Stella Dimadis recently interviewed Lisner for an upcoming episode of a show she directs called She Shot.

She Shot is a series on channel 31 that focus's on women in film.

Dimadis is a former Vice President of WIFT Vic. Lisner still is on the board and they both support gender equality and diversity on screen.

INTERNATIONAL Women's DAY 2017

Guest speakers:
Hon Grace Portolesi
 Chair of SAMEAC
Ms Vahedeh Mansoury
 Southern Domestic Violence service

Cultural program with the participation of the COMMUNITY'S CHOIR
 Poem recitals

Wednesday 8 March 2017
 Olympic Hall, 7.00pm
 288 Franklin Street, Adelaide

Light refreshments will be served at the end of the function

FREE ENTRY Proudly presented by The Greek Orthodox Community of S.A.

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA celebrates

25TH MARCH 1821 GREEK NATIONAL DAY

Sunday 26 March 2017
 11.00am

Cathedral of Archangels
 Michael & Gabriel
 286 Franklin Street
 Adelaide

Laying of wreaths

Schools Function at
 Olympic Hall
 288 Franklin Street
 at 5:00pm