



Women reject Government's drought grants program

The Country Women's Association (CWA) has slammed the Federal Government over its drought assistance, describing the latest funding announcement as "disappointing, infuriating, insulting and disrespectful".

On Thursday, Drought Minister David Littleproud announced the Commonwealth would provide \$5 million to the CWA "to provide vouchers of up to \$500 to farming households experiencing hardship due to the drought".

The CWA said it was seeking more federal funding for its drought programs since September.

"It was a total disregard, it's disrespectful ... it would have been nice to have been consulted," national president Tanya Cameron said.

The CWA has written to the Government to say it will not be participating in

the outreach program as it is currently proposed.

It said its state branches did not support the process of administering \$500 vouchers at public events, such as barbecues or roadshows, as they understood the Government intended.

"A \$500 voucher at the outset is quite minimal in nature," CWA NSW chief executive Danica Lays said.

Narromine farmer Susie Rae said she and her husband had been forced to find off-farm work during the drought and that a voucher would not go far to help.

"You've got to understand we have a lot of expenses on a farm, so it really doesn't go that far," she said.

"It would go to bills. It would just go to the service you have done on your car or your ute, or maybe the tyres on a car."

"Café Aman" Greek Cabaret Music

As part of Festival Hellenika, Meraki Music will be presenting Café Aman, Greek Cabaret music inspired by the cosmopolitan atmosphere of early 20th century. Café Aman was a diverse repertoire of folk and urban popular music that was all the rage around the turn of the twentieth century in the cities of the Ottoman Empire - Constantinople, Smyrni, Thessaloniki, Athens.

Café Aman cabaret music was first performed in summer open air cafes and due to its popularity quickly moved to the classical music theatres and taverns of the plazas and town squares.

We know about Café Aman thanks to Athenian newspaper reports from as early as the 1870s and also to the thousands of commercial recordings made in Asia Minor, the United States and Athens in the first half of the 20th century.

The Café Aman Cabaret will be held in the 'classic' Olympic Hall of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA at 288 Franklin St, Adelaide. It will bring this passionate Greek music to life in a casual cabaret atmosphere where people can listen to the music with their favourite mezes and

beverage or get up and dance if the mood takes them. The program will include traditional Asia Minor and Aegean songs as well as those composed by major proponents of the Greek urban tradition (Spyros Peristeris, Nikos Roubanis, Tetos Dimitriadis, Apostolis Hatzichristos, Vangelis Papazoglou, Antonis 'Dalgas' Diamantidis, Kostas Skarvelis, Giannis Stamoulis, Panagiotis Toundas).

The Meraki Music ensemble will feature the magical talents of local singers and musicians: on vocals are Polixeni Arabatzis, Michael Tyllis, Vasilis Ioannidis, Sofia Dimitrakopoulou, Stamatia Dimitrakopoulou and Kostas Barlas; playing instruments are Michael Tyllis on oud and bouzouki, Mary Raptis on violin, Kostas Barlas on bouzouki, Margaret Carney on cello, Joshua Tsounis on guitar, Joachim Kalapatsonis on bass and musical director Demeter Tsounis on piano and toublerleki.

A Greek music event not to be missed. For all tickets (\$25.50) book at trybooking.com and type in Café Aman. The event is for general admission.

Olympic Hall, Saturday 16th May 2020, 8pm (doors open 7:30pm).

GREEK TRIBUNE

ABN: 52366840467

Correspondence to: The Editor, BOX 330, FULHAM GARDENS, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5024

Phone: 0408 865004

Website: www.greektribune.com.au

E-mail: info@greektribune.com.au

Tensions escalate in Cyprus waters

France further intensified its strong military presence in the Eastern Mediterranean on Wednesday, in an effort to send a clear message of military might to all those who provoke Cyprus regarding its sovereign rights in the region.

The flagship of the French Navy, aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle, escorted by six accompanying vessels and carrying a number of Rafale fighter jets, military helicopters and drones, sailed to block number eight in Cyprus' Exclusive Economic Zone.

Block 8 has come under the spotlight in the last two weeks since it is the area where Turkey's state-owned "Yavuz" drillship is blatantly violating Cyprus' continental shelf,

drilling in search for natural gas resources.

Turkey, however, is not only violating Cyprus' sovereign rights in the area but also infringes upon the rights of French and Italian energy giants "Totale" and "ENI" which have legal licenses granted by Nicosia to conduct drilling there.

Diplomatic tensions between Paris and Ankara have grown significantly over the recent period since the two nations are on opposing sides on many geopolitical developments in the broader region.

This move comes after the recent announcements by French President Macron and Greek Premier Mitsotakis that the two countries will soon work



"Charles De Gaulle", the largest aircraft carrier

toward forming a defense pact which will further strengthen the already-excellent relations between Athens and Paris.

The "Charles De Gaulle", the largest aircraft carrier in Eu-

rope, docked at the port of Limassol in Cyprus last Thursday.

Other nations involved with their fleets around the island of Cyprus are, the United States, Italy, Great Britain and Russia.

Call to address nation's domestic violence epidemic

There have been tears and anger at a Brisbane vigil for Hannah Clarke and her three children who were murdered by her estranged husband.

More than a thousand family, friends and strangers held a public memorial on Sunday evening, remembering the 31-year-old mother as a beautiful, strong woman, and her children Aaliyah, 6, Laianah, 4 and Trey, 3, as happy and joyful.

Ms Clarke's estranged husband Rowan Baxter doused her and their children with petrol and set them alight in the family car in Camp Hill on Wednesday — shocking and sickening the nation.

Supported by his father while speaking to mourners, Ms Clarke's brother Nathaniel Clarke described his sister as someone who would always put others before herself.

Queensland's Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and opposition leader Deb Frecklington joined mourners as they expressed despair about the nation's domestic violence epidemic.

"This unthinkable act of brutality took the lives of three inno-

cent children and their beautiful mother at a time they were striving for a new future," Ms Palaszczuk said.

"They were the victims of one of the most abhorrent incidents of domestic violence to have ever happened in this state.

"To Hannah's family and friends, my words simply cannot convey the devastation and the heartbreak that you must be feeling.

"You must be so proud of the heroic acts your daughter and sister displayed in horrific circumstances.

"Hannah and her children will never ever be forgotten."

Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner also expressed his despair, saying the community failed the murder victims.

"We weep for them and the evil that took their lives."

Brisbane City Hall has now set up a charitable trust called Small Steps for Hannah to help support the family money raised will also be used to raise awareness about domestic violence.

A landmark report in 2018 found one woman died every week due to the nation's domes-



Hannah Clarke and her three children recently set alight by their husband and father Rowan Baxter in Brisbane

tic violence crisis and Palaszczuk government has fast-tracked recommendations from Quentin Bryce's Not Now, Not Ever report to tackle the issue.

The ABC reported that Mr

Baxter won part custody of the children, but rejected the offer, a week before he set the family alight.

He was due to face court for allegedly breaching a domestic violence order when he died.

GOCSA to celebrate 1821 uprising

The Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. will honour for yet another year this historic day with the following scheduled events:

SUNDAY 29 MARCH 2020 at 11.00am, celebratory Doxology at the Cathedral of Archangels Michael and Gabriel, conducted by the Community's clergy. A large number of official guests have been invited to attend. 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.

After the memorial service, 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.

Community Life



Members of the Cyprus Cultural Group, exhibiting Cyprus artifacts at their festival held recently in Welland

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

International Women's Day event

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 (and non female) members to come along.

The event to celebrate International Women's Day is to be on Sunday 8 March 2020 at Olympic Hall at 7.00pm.

Guest speakers for the evening are the Hon Irene Pnevmatikos MLC, Station Officer Adrienne Clarke OAM AFSM, SA Metropolitan Fire Service and Ms Mary Patetos. Chair of the Federation of Ethnic Communities of Australia.

The theme for this year's event is "EachforEqual".

The event will feature a cultural program with the participation of Tsabica De George in a number of songs dedicated to the struggles of women for equal rights and better living conditions.

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

Ms Peggy Voulgarakis will be presenter for the evening. Admission is free. All welcome.



Cultural, social and political events in South Australia

Contact: Harri on 0484 387 818 - or email your community's news or a photo: info@greektribune.com.au



LEFT: The Cyprus Festival was held successfully on 8 and 9 February at the Welland premises of the Cyprus Community. Large crowds attended on both days. In the photo, left, are Angie and Frank Pangallo MLC, Bill Gonis President of GOCSA, Mayor of Charles Sturt Council Angela Evans and 5AA radio announcer Mathew Pantelis with his wife.



Greek Consul General George Psiachas, the newly appointed bishop Silouan of the Greek Archdiocese, Peter Photakis and Chris Ioannou at the opening of the Cyprus Festival



At the Cyprus Festival were, Mark Buttler, Mr Stefanopoulos, Chris and Irene Pnevmatikos MLC, Peter Ppiros and Charles Kapnoulas of the Australian Cyprus Federation.



Members of the Cyprus Dance Group performing at the Cyprus Festival on 8 February

RIGHT: The President of the Cyprus Community of SA Andreas Evdokiou posing for the Greek Tribune with Vasiliki, Christakis and Mihalis who came from Cyprus to entertain the Cypriot Adelaideans



LETTER
The Dud Deal of the Century

The Editor,
The so-called deal disposed of the US's mask as an "honest broker" to reveal their shameless diplomatic tokenism and bending to Israeli policy as opposed to advocating the implementation of the United Nations resolutions.

The Arab League stands with the Palestinian Authority in rejecting the deal that imposes many unrealistic preconditions before Palestinian recognition, to mention a few:

First, approving Israel's capital in Jerusalem.

Second, locating Palestine's capital outside Jerusalem in a West Bank village of Al Quds; and Third, isolating the Islamic Shrines in the Old City [Dome of the Rock and Temple Mount].

The deal's relegates 14 million people living between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea [Palestine-Israel] to an interminable, bitter struggle of divergence and hostilities.

The nine million Israeli's [64% pop.] possess 85% of the best agricultural land, water resources and infrastructure. The five million Palestinians [36% pop.] are expected to accept a state based on 15% of historic Palestine, without any sovereignty. Israel has arrogated to itself:

- The control over Palestine's security, borders, coastal waters, aquifers, electro-magnetic spectrum and airspace.

- The right to redraw the current borders to uproot and resettle potentially hundreds of thousands of Palestinians currently living in Israel as citizens into the West Bank without a right of return to their birthplace/home.

- The annexation of vast stretches of the Palestinian West Bank (under Israeli military occupation since 1967), including the illegal Jewish-only settlements in areas seized

and colonized by Israeli settlers as well as Arab East Jerusalem and Jordan Valley.

Five million Palestinians will be forcibly removed from productive northeast Israel lands to live in segregated ghettos comparable to the notorious South African apartheid Bantu homelands.

Under the plan they will have no rights or a state other than a permanent state of Apartheid. For example, Palestinians:

- Will live in enclaves surrounded by walled Israeli settlements and military garrisons in the occupied West Bank.

- Will suffer armed settler militia incursions with homes and farmlands bulldozed.

- Will be deprived of freedom of movement and subjected to repeated Israeli security checkpoints on segregated roads.

The deal, Israel's standing template to annex Palestinian lands, aims to negate the Palestinians struggle for an independent state. The consequential fracture of regional peace and cooperation will also undermine the peace and security of all Mediterranean and North Africa nations.

Australia should support Palestinians who will continue to pursue their aspirations and assert their political rights for self-determination in accord with the UN resolutions and international law.

Some 135 UN member countries recognise Palestine as an independent state.

While Australia has committed to continue to support a two state solution for Palestine in accord with the UN resolution, it is time for it to also recognise Palestine as a sovereign state.

Yours faithfully
J.K. Lesses AM JP
[Retired]
President
Greek Workers Educational Association
"PLATON" of SA

North Macedonia's Labor Minister Sacked for Using "Republic of Macedonia" Sign

The North Macedonian Parliament decided on Saturday to sack Labor Minister Rashela Mizrahi from the caretaker government of the country, after using the old and disputed name "Republic of Macedonia" during a public speech.

Sixty-two Parliamentarians voted in favor of her removal, while 26 voted against it.

Mizrahi caused widespread

condemnation in her country and provoked Athens' diplomatic anger after she decided to reinstall the old "Republic of Macedonia" sign in her Ministry a few days ago.

The former Labor Minister belongs to the right-wing VMRO party which opposed the name change of the country.

She also reportedly said that

"this is the Republic of Macedonia and we are Macedonians."

North Macedonia's Foreign Minister Nikola Dimitrov accused her of disrespecting the country's constitution and putting Skopje's Euro-Atlantic aspirations in danger.

Nikos Kotzias, Greece's ex-Foreign Minister and a signatory of the Prespa Agreement, which legally changed the

country's name to North Macedonia, called on the current Greek government to report the Minister to the United Nations.

North Macedonia is heading toward a snap general election in April, following the resignation of Zoran Zaev's government due to the failure to open negotiations for the country's entrance to the European Union.

Greek workers strike against pension cuts

Traffic in parts of the Greek capital came to a standstill on Tuesday as Greek transport workers joined a 24-hour public sector strike over pension cuts.

Buses, trolleys, trams and metro transportation was out of operation for the day. Workers from the Athens suburban railway Proastiakos and intercity trains announced they would also participate in the strikes.

Public hospitals operated on minimal staff, as the Panhellenic Federation of Public Hospitals Workers (POEDIN) also took part in the protests.

Most ferries at the ports of Piraeus, Lavrio and Rafina remained docked on Tuesday, as five seamen's unions joined the strike, led by the Panhellenic Union of Merchant Navy Seamen (PENEN).

Protesters marched onto Syntagma Square in front of the Parliament building, where the contentious legislation would be voted on by conservative MPs.

Workers' unions claim that the bill "privatizes social security and pushes thousands of young workers to seek private

superannuation cover."

They also accuse the government of reneging on a promise to rescind all austerity cuts.

"The bill is nothing less than a continuation of the austerity measures that were voted in 2010-2019 and resulted in pension cuts of 20% up to 60%," said ADEDY, the country's largest public sector union, in a statement.

The deep economic crisis within the Greek as well as the European economy, particularly within the private banking sector, drove Greece to the brink of

bankruptcy in 2010 and forced the Governments to borrow heavily from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund.

In return for billions of euros to rescue the private business sector and the banks from bankruptcy, the Greek Governments agreed to relinquish public assets such as airports, hospitals and schools and handed them over to the powerful European corporations. The Greek Governments also accepted harsh austerity reforms and severe pension cuts.

Volunteers Needed at the Greek Community

At the Greek Orthodox Community Care Services we are always looking for volunteers for our programs.

If you have some spare time and you want to provide some assistance we offer a variety of volunteer opportunities across our community care programs including:

- Volunteer Drivers to drive the Community bus or their own car
- Assist with activities or in the kitchen at

our Seniors groups

- Assist clients to attend social activities

- Assist clients with shopping

- Accompanying clients to medical appointments

- Assist with Friendly visiting

National Police clearance required. All out of pocket expenses are reimbursed.
For more information please contact Katerina Giannakis - 7088 0500.