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# GREEK TRIBUNE

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## CURRENT AFFAIRS

### New \$5 billion future drought fund to help farmers

Helping farmers prepare for future droughts will be the focus of a new multi-billion-dollar fund that Prime Minister Scott Morrison unveiled last week.

The \$5-billion Future Drought Fund will be announced at a national drought summit, which brings together state and federal governments, weather experts, farm lobbyists and charities, in Canberra.

The Federal Government will initially commit \$3.9 billion to the fund, which will reach \$5 billion by 2028.

But only \$100 million will be available each year from 2020, with that money being allocated by a board of guardians.

"This funding will support farmers and their local communities when it's not raining," Prime Minister Scott Morrison said.

"It guarantees drought support for the men and women who drive our nation."

Legislation to create the fund will have to pass the Parliament before it can be created.

Provided that happens, the interest gathered from the fund will go towards water infrastructure and drought resilience projects.

The focus will be on farmers, non-government organisations and communities to future-proof themselves to better handle droughts.

Money will be for community services, research, adoption of technology and infrastructure that supports long-term sus-

tainability.

Money for the drought fund, which is modelled on the Medical Research Future Fund, will come from the Building Australia Fund, which has sat dormant since the 2014-15 financial year.

With a focus on future-proofing, it means the fund will sit separate to existing projects and funding that helps farmers when they are in drought.

"The challenges of drought vary from farm to farm, district to district, town to town and we continually need to adapt and build capacity," Mr Morrison said.

#### SA Farmers must get their fair share

"The Marshall Government must confirm that South Australian farmers who are experiencing drought will get their fair share of \$5 billion in funding, announced by the Federal Government".

Shadow Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Eddie Hughes welcomed the funding package but said he was disappointed it could not be accessed until 2020.

"Previously the Federal Government and Marshall Government have overlooked South Australian farmers in drought affected communities.

"In August, the Federal Liberal Government announced it was giving millions of dollars in drought assistance funding to 60 councils in New South Wales and Queensland, while South Australia missed out he said.

## Greek President: 'OXI Day' inspires the Struggle Against Fascism

"The great 'NO' uttered by Greece on October 28, 1940, remains forever current and must inspire the struggle to defend the European edifice against those 'nostalgic' for Fascism and Nazism", the President of the Hellenic Republic Prokopis Pavlopoulos said on Sunday in Thessaloniki, where he attended the October 28 military parade with his Italian counterpart, Sergio Mattarella.

"History has proven, with irresistible evidence, that the great 'NO' of the Greek people on October 28, 1940 was – and still remains, on extremely instructive and current terms – a great 'YES' to freedom and democracy. And it is precisely this instructive topicality that must inspire us, above all, in the struggle to defend the European edifice



against the extremely dangerous conglomerations of racist populism that undermine, openly and directly, its foundations and its global mission," Pavlopoulos said after the parade (photo).

Italian President Sergio Mattarella's presence in Thessaloniki was a supreme symbol of this struggle to

defend Europe', he added, indicating that Greece and Italy are "leaving behind those things that divided us in the past but, having learned from the bitter experience of Fascism and its criminal collaboration with Nazism, we are stating our determination to fight against all such formations," Pavlopoulos said.

## Cyprus talks to resume

Talks to reunite the divided island of Cyprus are set to resume from the point where they stopped last year. The previous round of talks, which were held in the Swiss town of Crans Montana, halted in July 2017.

The leaders of the two communities, Nicos Anastasiades and Mustafa Akinci, held their first meeting yesterday. In a joint statement released by the United Nations in Cyprus after their meeting, the two leaders announced that the Lefka/Aplici and Deryneia crossing points will open on November 12.

Yesterday Anastasiades received a declaration from unions, political parties and social institutions from the island's two communities, the Greek Cypriots and the Turkish Cypriots.

The collapse of last years' UN peace talks fostered mistrust between the two sides, as it had been viewed as one of their last chances to bring a viable solution to the island's issue. However, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a recent report to the Security Council that a peace deal to reunify Cyprus remains feasible.

## Adelaide Greek Film Festival continues to grow

A record crowd attended the opening of the 25th Delphi Bank Greek Film Festival, presented by the Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. in Adelaide on Thursday 11th of October at Palace Nova Cinemas.

The highly acclaimed cultural event made its big return this year with "The Last Note", as the opening film.

Directed by Pantelis Voulagris, 'The Last Note' brings to the big screen the true events of the execution of 200 resistance fighters and Communists on May 1st 1944 in Greece during the German occupation.

Acting, cinematography and story line, all were successfully put together to produce an impressive film.

The Opening Night of the Festival was just as impressive though.

The Palace Nova cinemas reception area had all Greek elements going, combined with the Greek Orthodox Community's familiar hospitality.

Hundreds of cinema goers, parliamentary representatives, artists and other members of

the wider community filled the area enjoying a variety of mezedes and wines while catching up with the latest cultural chatter.

During the official part of the opening night, the President of the Greek Community Mr Bill Gonis said the there's no better way to celebrate Greek cinema in South Australia than hosting the Greek Film Festival.

Mr John Tsoutsikos, Manager of Delphi Bank which sponsors the Film Festival, praised the Greek Communities in general for making the Festival a reality for the last 25 years.

"For 25 years, organisers of the Greek communities around Australia have brought together the best of Hellenic film for us to enjoy.

And you – our audience, family and friends have gathered year after year to celebrate the organisers, the filmmakers and the Hellenic stories," he said.

Other official guests that attended the Opening Night were the Hon Tony Tarzia MP, Speaker of the House of Assembly, The Hon



Members of the GOCSA Dance Academy welcomed guests at the Greek Film Festival opening 2018

Irene Pnevmatikos, Member of the Legislative Council, Ms Connie Bonaros from SA Best, the Consul General of Greece in South Australia Hon Andreas Konstantinos Gouras and Ms Jayne Stinson, Member for Badcoe.

The 25th Greek Film Festival concluded on October 14th and featured another four films, including 'Jamaica' by Andreas Morfonios.

## Sikh council candidate victim of racist attack

A Port Augusta City Council nominee says a social media video targeting his race is the first time he has experienced racism in the local community.

Sunny Singh, the owner of a taxi company and founder of the city's Sikh church, was the subject of a video posted to a national trucking Facebook page.

The video shows a man in a truck directing racial slurs at a life-sized cut-out made from one of

Mr Singh's election placards, which is eventually run over by the truck.

Port Augusta mayor Sam Johnson said he was shocked by the violence and racism in the video.

"Absolutely appalled, gutted, outrageous – in today's society, what would possess anyone to do that? Clearly a lot of effort was put into that," Mr Johnson said.

South Australian police are aware of the video and are investigating.

## Odyssey's cultural journey has begun

"The more you celebrate your culture, the better the community gets"

This is how the South Australian Government saluted the opening of the 13th Hellenic Cultural Festival on Friday October 5 at Olympic Hall.

Being the ultimate Hellenic cultural event that marks the beginning of "Greektober", the official opening drew hundreds of art enthusiasts as well as philhellenes from the wider community.

The Olympic Hall in its usual glory, projecting the 88 year-long history of the Greek Community, wore the colours of Hellenic culture. It is a love affair unchanged in time.

The Olympic Hall is also home to this year's Odyssey Art Exhibition, until the end of the Festival in early November.

The official part marked the beginning of the Festival featuring speeches from official guests, music and dance performances and award presentations.

Mr Sam Duluk, Member for Waite who represented the Premier of South Australia the Hon Steven Marshall praised the Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. for its love and devotion to the celebration of culture.

"We are thankful that not only you celebrate but you share your amazing culture with us," said Mr

## Community Life



At the opening of the Odyssey Festival, were, amongst others, Mayor of Adelaide Martin Haese, Greek Consul Andreas Gouras and Ms Laura Adzanku on behalf of the Chair of SAMEAC Mr Norman Schueler

Duluk.

"The Hellenic culture is not only an indispensable but a necessary part of our life here in South Australia," he added.

Both the Leader of the Opposition in South Australia Mr Peter Malinauskas and the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Mr Martin Haese made similar comments.

"You're a fine example of preserving and promoting your culture to the younger generations and to us as a consequence," Mr Malinauskas said.

The official opening continued with a music presentation by members of local band 'Meraki

& Friends', under the direction of ethnomusicologist Demeter Tsounis.

This music presentation was enhanced by members of the Community's Dance Academy who accompanied the songs performed by the band.

But all the anticipation was built for the acclaimed Odyssey Art Prize Awards Presentation which every year announces three winners.

Dozens of local artists presented a number of art pieces, depicting this year's theme "Cultural Destinations".

Oil on canvas, sea shells, clay,

charcoal on canvas, all forms and materials were used with imagination to produce an impressive art work.

However, only three of them ticked all the boxes for the judges who admittedly had a hard time deciding for the top three.

Judges Russell Leonard, Julie Reed Henderson and Mark Warren agreed that "Lefkothea", a watercolour painting by Ioanna Touloumtzoglou.

The second prize went to Nikolaos Tsatsaronis for his work "Kastellorizo" and the third prize to Desma Kastanos for her piece "Santorini".

The soiree featured more elements of Hellenic culture with live music by 'Meraki & Friends' and a variety of favourite delicacies.

Other official guests who attended the official opening included The Hon Irene Pnevmatikos, Member for the Legislative Council, Mr Steve Georganas, Federal Member for Hindmarsh, Mr John Tariner, Mayor of West Torrens, Ms Angela Evans, Mayor of Charles Sturt, The Hon Andreas Gouras, Consul General of Greece in South Australia and Ms Laura Adzanku on behalf of the Chair of SAMEAC Mr Norman Schueler.

It is reminded that the Hellenic Odyssey Festival will run until the 3rd of November where a tribute concert to Greece's most acclaimed composer Mikis Theodorakis has been scheduled as the grand finale.

## GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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## 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 Consul General of Greece in South Australia Andreas Gouras, the President of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA Bill Gonis and Sam Duluk MP on behalf of Premier Stephen Marshall attend the launch of the 13th Odyssey Festival on 5 October at Olympic Hall



General Secretary of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA Dimitri Dimopoulos, Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas and Mayoral Candidate for the Council of West Torrens Arthur Mangos at the launch of the Odyssey Festival



At the opening of the Greek Film Festival at the NOVA Cinema, were amongst others Connie Bonaros MLC, the Greek Counsel General Andreas Gouras, Irene Pnevmatikos MLC, Delphi Bank Manager John Tsoutsikos, Speaker Vince Tarzia MP and Mrs Tarzia, GOCSA President Bill Gonis, GOCSA Vice President Peter Ppiros, Jayne Stinson MP and members of GOCSA Dance Academy

### VASSO APOSTOLOPOULOS

## World-class researcher says 'Efharisto' to Greek community

Victoria University's new acting Vice-President of Research is optimistic that the cancer-fighting vaccines she has spent decades developing will soon be routinely administered to cancer sufferers.

"That is my dream," said Professor Vasso Apostolopoulos. "We are getting closer all the time to finding viable, achievable ways to fight cancer and other diseases."

But Dr Apostolopoulos says her important work would not have been possible without major contributions and support from Australia's Greek community.

"Much of my research has relied on the Greek

community really getting behind me," she said at a public lecture yesterday that brought members of Australia's Greek and scientific communities together at Melbourne's impressive Hellenic Museum.

"If it wasn't for their important fundraising events and donations towards my research over the years, we wouldn't be at the stage with the vaccines we're at."

Dr Apostolopoulos developed the world's first breast cancer and ovarian cancer vaccines in the 1990s, which are both now in the commercialisation stage.

Her research focuses on immunotherapy, systems that harness the power of

the body's immune system to identify and destroy cancer cells. She has received more than 100 honours and awards worldwide (including an award for global achievement last month from the president of Greece), published more than 300 papers and books, and is inventor of 17 patents.

Dr Apostolopoulos said her grandfather's early death from a brain tumour prompted her interest in researching cancer when she began university.

She describes her revolutionary work as "platform technology" that also offers hope in treating and preventing pancreatic, colon, and lung cancer, as well as multiple sclerosis, by "educating" the body's

immune system to improve its own defences.

Dr Apostolopoulos came to Victoria University four years ago from the Austin and Burnet Research Institutes, after working around the world including at Oxford University and the Scripps Institute in San Diego.

She said she chose to work at VU because of its welcoming culture and the growing opportunities in Melbourne's west, where she was born and continues to live.

A \$1.2 billion hospital announced recently for VU's Footscray Park Campus is a welcome bonus, and will help make the region a global research centre, she added.

## Translations a clear win for community

For people who don't speak English as a first language, everyday interactions can be daunting. Sometimes, speaking to someone who understands makes all the difference.

With approximately six percent of the department of Human Services customers needing an interpreter, we provide free translating and interpreting services to help make information accessible to everyone.

Danni Bowerman is a translations booking officer with the department and is based in Sydney. She says people might not be aware of the range of language services available for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

"We offer interpreting services both on site and over the phone, as well as the translation of documents required to make a claim with us," Danni said.

"We also provide assistance to Indigenous customers who speak limited or no English."

We have interpreting services in over 230 languages, including AUSLAN and other sign

languages.

"These customers come to us seeking help and support," Danni said.

"The services we provide help us to communicate and interact with customers. It also helps us assess their eligibility for payments."

To assist customers, the department has translated information available on its website in 69 different languages. This helps to ensure that everyone can find the information they need.

"It's very fulfilling to be able to help our more vulnerable customers, who might not feel so confident speaking, reading or writing in English," Danni said.

She also encourages customers not to be afraid to ask for an interpreter or a translation service if they need it.

"Many customers don't know that we provide these language services," she said.

"They might be hesitant to ask for the help, or they might think they need to pay for the service, which they don't."

"Our language services are available to any customers who need them."

## A Tribute to Mikis Theodorakis

Mikis Theodorakis (PhD, B.Mus.Hons.), is the most influential and prolific of all Greek composers. Born in 1925 he began composing at the age 17 years. He studied music at the Athens Conservatorium and the Paris Conservatoire with Olivier Messiaen and was recognised as a modern composer of the western classical tradition.

He has composed symphonies, operas (Medea, Elektra), cantatas (State of Siege), oratorios (Axion Esti), sacred music, chamber music, theatre music, ballet music (Antigone), film scores (Zorba The Greek, Serpico), and 100s of beautiful song cycles (Epitaphios, Omiros, Mauthausen) set to the poetry of Greek and international writers such as Ritsos, Seferis, Elytis, Lorca, Behan and Neruda, which depict the everyday human experience. His compositions draw upon western music and his love of Greek Byzantine, folk and urban music.

Theodorakis has achieved many awards and honorary doctorates. He has recorded hundreds of albums and has toured the world performing his symphonic and Greek popular music (Laika) which he dedicates to the causes of democracy, freedom from tyranny, social justice, disadvantaged communities and the environment, to name a few.

The Greek Orthodox Community SA Inc is proud to present a 14-member fine music orchestra under the Musical Direction of Dr Demeter Tsounis

(PhD, B.Mus.Hons.), with arrangements by Dr. Tsounis.

This orchestra features virtuoso bouzouki-player Angelo Avramakis (Melbourne), many Music Graduates of the Elder Conservatorium and the exquisite voices of Tassos Bouyessis (State Opera, Australian Three Tenors), Anthea Sidiropoulos (Melbourne, Pearl Janis Joplin Show), Vasilis Ioannides (Harama, Notes) and Johanna Saltis (Themelia, Meraki).

This unique concert dedicated to Mikis Theodorakis and his Greek popular songs is not to be missed. Come take a cultural journey to the centre of modern Greek music.

The Tribute to Mikis

Theodorakis Orchestra: MUSICAL ARRANGER & DIRECTOR: Demeter Tsounis

VOCALS: Tassos Bouyessis

Anthea Sidiropoulos

Vasilis Ioannides

Johanna Saltis

BOUZOUKI: Angelo Avramakis (Melbourne)

VIOLIN: Mary Raptis

CELLO: Margaret Carney

FLUTE: Anastasia Asteriou

CLARINET: Alexander Ioakim

PIANO: Demeter Tsounis

GUITAR: Joshua Tsounis

Steve Papadopoulos

BASS: Paul Jankovic

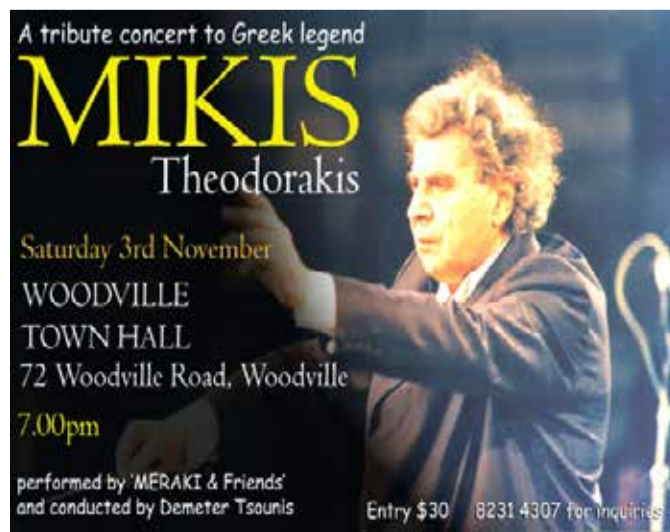
PERCUSSION: Con Dalas

Woodville Town Hall, 72

Woodville Rd, Woodville

Tickets \$30 GOCSA

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### GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF SA WELFARE SERVICES

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#### 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/stoppelderabuse