American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association



AHEPAVoice

The John G. Thevos District 5







Brian with AHEPA



AHEPA Veteran Brothers George Burlotos, Elias Horiates and George Karatzia

District 5- New Jersey and Delaware



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AHEPA Voice



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Old Tappan, NJ 07675
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limillas@msn.com

District Lodge

AHEPA

GovernorG	eorge N. Petrakakis
Lt. GovernorZenon Christodoulou	
Secretary	Jimmy Rozanitis
Treasurer	Steven Marmarou
Marshall	George Pappas
Warden	Bob Fourniades
Athletic Advisor	Asteris Fanikos
Sons Advisor	Ted Vittas, PDG

DOP

Governor	lza Velez
Lt. Governor	Dina Fanikos
Secretary	Joann Szela
Treasure	Demi Thomas
Marshall	Pattie Chysostome
Advisor	Karen Knicos

Publication Board

PSG Philip Vogis, Business Mgr.

BOT Lee Millas, Editor

PDG Ted Vittas

BOT Vassos Chrysanthou

PDG Chris Diamantoukos

PSG John Mehos

PDG George Righos

PDG Costas Sedereas

District & National Websites

AHEPA National

www.ahepa.org

Daughters of Penelope National

www.daughtersofpenelope.org/

AHEPA District 5

www.ahepadistrict5.org

Sons of Pericles

www.sonsofpericles.com

Maids of Athena

www.maidsofathena.org



Message from the Editor

Lee J. Millas

A TIME FOR REFLECTION

The year 2016 has come and gone so quickly that one would think there was not enough time in the year to accomplish anything. Yet, a quick reflection on what was actually accomplished, clearly proves what an outstanding year we just witnessed. To Review, District 5 was honored with the election of Andy Zachariades as the first Supreme President in over 40 years and he was joined by George Horiates as Supreme Counselor, Chris Diamantoukos Supreme Governor and Lee Millas and Vassos Chrysanthou on the Board of Trustees. Additionally, Nick Apostolou was elected Supreme President of the Sons of Pericles. District 5 has a right to be proud in offering great leadership to Ahepa nationally. However, it does not end there. For the first time ever, our district was the choice to host the Supreme Ahepa Convention in July of 2018. The site will be Harrahs Casino and Convention Center in Atlantic City, NJ. You will all be hearing more this coming year, as it will be a major event for us all.

Also, at this past convention in Las Vegas, and under the leadership of George Karatzia and the Holmdel Ahepa Chapter, a presentation was made to have a program to train K9's for Veterans into a national Ahepa project. The program was accepted and is now not only a source of pride for our district, but an outstanding example of fulfilling our civic responsibilities.

In addition, I would like to thank a few who, this year and previous years, continued to do the behind the scenes work that keeps our district running. A sincere thank you to Vassos Chrysanthou and Steve Lioumis for their dedication and work on the District Scholarship Program. Also to Phil Vogis as Business Manager of this magazine and finally to George Righos for what he does to make the Charter School in Wilmington a success that is admired throughout Ahepa.

There were many other events this year that we could mention; however, let us just say that 2016 was indeed a good year and we can look forward to even a better one in 2017.

Lee J. Millas, Editor



Message from the Business Manager

Philip Vogis

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to take this opportunity to <u>thank</u> all of you for your cooperation and assistance in making the AHEPA Voice this year the number one magazine in the AHEPA domain. We will continue to bring you the latest articles from the District Lodge and the Chapters in District #5 NJ/DE. I also would like to <u>thank</u> all the advertisers that have continued to support our magazine, and I encourage all of our readers to support their businesses. The Publications Board, the Editor Lee Millas and I, would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a "Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year"

Fraternally,

Brother Philip Vogis PSG R3



Message from the District Governor

George N. Petrakakis

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

I pray each of you had a most Blessed and Joyous Christmas, and wish you and your families a New Year filled with lots of peace, love, health, happiness and success.

The October 1st, 2016 AHEPA Family Leadership Seminar and Workshop was a resounding success with forty Brothers representing thirteen chapters, and thirty-two DOP representing nine chapters. An enormous thank you to the New Brunswick AHEPA Family for a superb job as always in hosting this magnificent event.

Many thanks to all the AHEPA and DOP Chapters for their gracious hospitality and generosity extended to the District Lodge during our visitations and installation of officers which included the following chapters: Trenton, Roseland, Paramus, New Brunswick, Randolph, Wyckoff, Tenafly, Holmdel, Clifton, Toms River, Camden, Wilmington, Vineland and Asbury Park. We've had many "firsts" here in District 5 this past fall including but not limited to the following: milestone chapter anniversary celebrations, the Jersey City DOP 80th, the Tenafly AHEPA 85th, and the Jersey City AHEPA 90th; the AHEPA District 5 participation and laying a wreath at the Veterans Day Ceremony at the New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial; the graduation of Warrior Brian and K9 AHEPA at the K9s for Warriors Training Center in Florida; the 10th Anniversary of the renowned miracle Wilmington AHEPA Odyssey Charter School; the highly successful Inaugural Hellenic History Tournament hosted by the Camden AHEPA Chapter with ten teams participating; a continuing humanitarian effort with District-wide blood drives thus far hosted by the Camden and Wyckoff AHEPA Chapters; the monumental accomplishment of providing over \$1M in grants by the 5th District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation, Inc., Gala; the establishment of the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors as a National AHEPA Project with the Holmdel AHEPA Chapter administering this admirable program and the recent establishment as a 501C3; AHEPA Chapters such as New Brunswick, Trenton and Tenafly honoring veterans; the Holmdel AHEPA Comedy Night Fund Raiser for Special Olympics; etc.

I'm enthused to report the rejuvenation of the Asbury Park AHEPA Chapter. Election of Officers were on December 12th, 2016 and the District Lodge shall install the officers on January 23rd, 2017. We wish them much continued success in all their endeavors.

The Annual St. Basil Academy Christmas Pageant was held on December 10th, 2016 despite the horrendous weather conditions. "The show must go on" as they say on Broadway, and the children did a marvelous job offering their gift of the Christmas program. This year the AHEPA District 5 supported the "St. Basil Academy Music Program" to assist in providing music lessons for the children. More to come on the List Serve and Facebook regarding the SBA Music Program "wish list." Our June 2017 contribution shall support the "SBA Continuing Education Program."

My personal thank you to all the AHEPA and DOP Chapter invitations for their Annual Thanksgiving and Christmas Celebrations. Unable to accept each one, I did however join the Brothers and Sisters at the following: New Brunswick AHEPA Family Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations, the Holmdel AHEPA Christmas Dinner, the Roseland, and the Wilmington AHEPA Family Christmas celebrations.

I anticipate having various AHEPA Family District-Wide bone marrow drives during the spring, in another great humanitarian effort to help people. Interested chapters are asked to contact me.

The February 4th, 2017 AHEPA Workshop will be dedicated to "Strategic Planning." This long awaited foundational event which requires the input of all members for the Good of Our Order, and especially the Good of AHEPA District 5, is open and ALL Brother AHEPANS are strongly encouraged to attend. A huge thank you to the Wyckoff AHEPA Chapter for hosting the workshop.

This year two new events will set the foundation to become highly successful, well attended and respected:

The first is the Toms River AHEPA Family Benefit Comedy Night on April 22nd, 2017 featuring Jim Dailakis. Proceeds to benefit the AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors program.

The second will be AHEPA's Service Dogs for Warriors participation in the Freehold, NJ Memorial Day Parade; the oldest and largest such parade in Western Monmouth County, with an average of more than 70 units participating each year. The parade features many military units, veterans groups, bands, fire departments, EMS squads, youth groups, custom designed floats and civilian units.

(Continued on page 24)

HONORING OUR VETERANS



George Karatzia PDG and DG George N. Petrakakis Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, Holmdel, NJ



AHEPA Veterans Day Wreath





Gold Family Memorial in Honor and Loving Memory of Lt. Dennis W. Zilinski II, Vietnam Veterans' Memorial, Holmdel, NJ



Ramapo Chapter #453

9/11/2001: 15 Years Later,

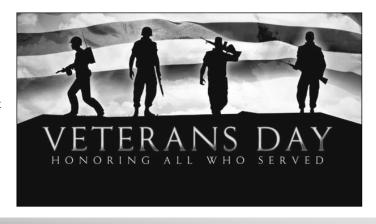
The Brothers of the Ramapo Chapter #453 We Will Never Forget 9/11/2001

United we stand remembering, honoring and paying respect to all the Greek Americans and all others that were lost in the World Trade Center.

May their memory be eternal.



Ramapo Chapter made a donation to VetCenter in Bloomfield for their annual Christmas Party



HONORING OUR VETERANS



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT; Dennis and Marion Zelinsky, Lee Milas, George Karatzia, Sgt. Randy Dexter, Iraqi Veteran, his with his 2 daughters, Shari Duval, President of K9s for warriors.







Bergen Knights and the Philoptochos of St John the Theologian honoring Veterans during liturgy and a breakfast on November 12, 2016



550 Dogs Rescued*



272 WARRIORS RESCUED.*

*As of December 2016 from www.k9sforwarriors.org

AHEPA District 5 Governor Visits K9s for Warriors

District Governor George N. Petrakakis recently visited the K9s for Warriors HQ located in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida and was provided a complete campus tour by Becca Melesky, Associate Director, Resource Development, and USMC veteran.

Brother George also had the opportunity to meet the service dogs already trained, each waiting to be partnered with their warrior suffering from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and / or military sexual trauma (MST) as a result of military service post 9/11.

This unique program has had a very high success rate, saving lives of combat veterans; as well as dogs, whereas 95% of the canines come from rescue shelters or are owner surrendered from throughout the country.

Additionally, the warriors go through a three-week, in-house recovery program with their new service dog; and three, warriors receive impactful peer support throughout all phases of our entire program.

I had the pleasure of being introduced to K9 Slider, service dog in training.

Below is the link to the blog about Slider:

https://slidingintoservice.wordpress.com/2016/06/21/why-raise-a-service-dog/





Photos taken from Sliding Into Service

District News

AHEPA D5 Kicks-Off Youth Mentoring Program

IF YOU HAVE A
DESIRE TO
SHARE AND HELP
OUR KIDS....
JUST DO IT !!

Have you noticed that the Brothers within your chapter are talented and successful people? Have you noticed that other chapters are equally blessed to have many talented and successful people? How is a Brother able to flourish so? It most likely started with some caring guidance from parents, insights from teachers, lots of personal perseverance from the individual and lots of "don't give-up" internal drive. Even though our youth today is looking for similar head-start assistance, it is important to note that we are living in a totally different work environment. What better gift can we share with our youth than our personal experiences and knowledge through the AHEPA D5 Youth Mentoring Program. For all Brothers who have what it takes to put some personal time, effort and passion into guiding interested youth in order to give them a strong competitive edge, you will be happy to hear that we have made this a super easy process for both you and the kids. It doesn't matter if you are in

law enforcement, military, technical, professional, management, medical, entertainment...anything. If you have a desire to share and help our kids....just do it!!

The first step is to download the Youth Mentoring Resources spreadsheet from our D5 website http://www.ahepadistrict5.org/projects/ and save it to your local disk or flash drive. Next fill-in your basic contact information and then the relevant educational and job experience details in the provided fields. Once the spreadsheet is fully completed it will need to be emailed to our Administrator who will upload it into our secure database. Now, you just have to wait for someone who is interested in your line of work, to contact you for a call or meeting, at which their parents will be present. Depending on the level of interest shown by the youth, you can then suggest a follow-up session or even a meeting at your work location where they can see exactly what your job entails and how it is done and if it is something that is encouraging and exciting to them as a career option or target. This of course is up to you and the kids with their parents to decide on what the next step will be, if any.

The bottom line, is that AHEPA has talent, and we have heart, so let's share this with our youth to help them jump onto the fast track and into the best matched program that will produce shining starts of our kids. Before we close this overview, I think it is worth mentioning that talent is not limited to the force behind AHEPA. The Daughters of Penelope are also blessed with talented membership. As such, as of the recently held 2016 District-5 Leadership Workshop that was led by our Brother District Governor George N. Petrakakis, the Youth Mentoring program was expanded to include the talents of the DOP. Interested in seeing the sample template that was completed by our friend "Jack Lordopoulos", just check out the image below. With your help, this program is going to be great accomplishment for our District, and something that is showing signs of be destined to be an AHEPA National program!!

Submitted by: Evans John Program Owner

President- Thomas Jefferson #280





Left: Blood Drive Organizers Dr. Isa Velez of Daughters of Penelope and Dr. Elias Iliadis of Ahepa Chapter 69 and St Thomas Church Parish Council. Right: Dr. Velez and Donors Ahepan Nick Kostiou, Gus Cheston and DOP member Barbara Cheston

DOP District 5 Governor-Dr. Isa Velez, Nike 230 Chapter and brother Dr. Elias Iliades, Chapter 69 Warden,head the St. Thomas, Cherry Hill, N. J., DISTRICT 5 BLOOD DRIVE on November 30th, 2016. The AHEPA Family is being proactive in leading the Blood Drive Project to raise the amount of banked blood to be available for our communities across New Jersey and Delaware. Parishioners and community members were invited to show their "Philotemo" and love of humanity by donating blood to the American Red Cross for those in need.

Though a rainy Wednesday evening, 23 love filled people came to St Irene's church hall and 14 were eligible to donate. Over the last 5 years, over 75 units have been donated to American Red cross and "deposited" for the needs of our community.



Cherry Hill residents donate at Ahepa Family Blood Drive

District News

AHEPA D5 Solves the Identity Crisis problem.

We all know of the distinguished history of AHEPA, and the many wonderful accomplishments produced over the years, but when it comes time to give someone the 30 second elevator pitch or to present an easy to ready visual for passers-by that is eye-catching and presents an easy to read, nicely formatted and quickly absorbed image that says it all...introducing the AHEPA D5 Achievement Board.

Since its introduction last year to the District Lodge and again at the 2016 District-5 Leadership Workshop, the Achievement Board was unanimously accepted as a key component to support the Public Relations Committee spread the word about who we are and what we do. After seeing these incredible efforts and the outstanding results that are a result of AHEPA Brothers coming together to support these worthwhile causes, how can anyone not feel energized to jump in to do their part. As updates to figures or new initiatives are deemed to be newsworthy, updated images will be created and distributed.

Brother District Governor George N. Petrakakis has plans to have the Achievement Board printed as a glossy image on foam core board at a print shop (like the one owned and operated by our Brother District Lt. Governor Zenon Christodoulou), and sent to each Chapter, or taken during a Chapter visit, to be presented to the Chapter President and have it displayed proudly on their community bulletin board. We hope you like it and will support this program.

Submitted by: Evans John Program Owner

President- Thomas Jefferson #280

PDG'S CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

The Past District Governors of District No. 5 got together for their annual Christmas Party. The Mastoris Diner in Bordentown, NJ was again the site of this event where a fine dinner was served and all the brothers were able to enjoy the fellowship and brotherhood of Ahepa. Although Santa Clause didnot make a personal

stop, he did in fact, leave some gifts for all the PDG's that behaved themselves during the year.



Executive Director Basil Mossaides, Vice Chairman Lee J. Millas and Chairman of the Board Nicholas Karacostas with then Republican National Chairman Reince Priebus, who has been selected to serve as Chief of Staff in President elect Donald J. Trump's administration. Priebus was born 1972 in Dover, New Jersey and the family moved to Green Bay, Wisconsin when he was 7 years old. His father was German and mother Dimitra is of Greek Descent and he is a Greek Orthodox Christian.

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Bergen Knights Chapter Update

AHEPA Chapter #285

During the past few months, our local chapter has been involved in several functions. In September, we hosted our 4th annual Charity Car show with great success. Once again, we manage to raise funds to donate \$1500 to Alex's Lemonade Stand (a charity for children's cancer), and \$750 to Habitat for Humanity. This event, held on the third Saturday of September has become a huge

attraction and a well anticipated event for the community of St John the Theologian and the town of Tenafly, NJ. On November 4th, our Chapter celebrated their 85 year anniversary at The Graycliff, in Moonachie, NJ. It was a well attended evening with good food and music. A great time was had by all. We were also honored to have in attendance The Supreme President of AHEPA, Mr. Andrew Zahariades and several other members from the Supreme and District Lodge.

On Sunday, November 12, our Chapter assisted the Philoptochos of St John the Theologian, to host a light breakfast, after the Divine Liturgy, to honor our Veteran's. We were honored to have in attendance our District Governor, George N. Petrakakis. The festivities were meant to introduce the Veterans to the community and say Thank You for their service to our country. The event was highlighted when the District Governor, Rev. Fr Panagiotis Zougras and I, honored our Veterans by giving them the AHEPA Veterans Pin. The Veterans were very appreciative by our gesture.



Our Chapter also sponsored two teams, of three High School students, to compete in our AHEPA District No. 5's inaugural Hellenic History tournament. Both of the teams represented our chapter and church well. We were ecstatic to hear that one of our teams, named Apteros Niki came in FIRST PLACE! We are equally proud of our second team, named Plato's Philosophers, who came in third, losing by one point in the semifinals. We wish to congratulate both of our teams for a job well done and would like to thank the PTO/MC of St John the Theologian for helping us sponsor one the teams and Mr& Ms Mark Melis for sponsoring the second team. We also want to congratulate our brothers of District 5 and



Cherry Hill for this very innovative idea and for being great hosts. Our students and their parents had a great time, were thoroughly impressed and are eagerly awaiting next year's tournament. In the coming months we plan on hosting a Super Bowl party and a Sunday Brunch to help raise fund for our charities and student scholarships.

Thank you

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Healthy Happy New Year 2017!

Respectfully Submitted,

Demetrios Bayiokos

President Bergen Knights

Chapter # 285





Ramapo Chapter Update

The Ramapo Chapter of Ahepa #453, has been quite busy.

We made donations to the VetCenter in Bloomfield for their annual December Christmas Dinner, which will provide dinner to many of the local combat veterans and families. Also, we donated funds to the Hellenic Relief Foundation to assist the families in Greece, who were hardest hit in this economic crisis. Lastly, we donated to help the Wyckoff Reformed Church repair the cemetery tombstones that were vandalized earlier this year.

The District 5 Cancer foundation Gala was a success and we had a great turnout of over 200. Several Chapter brothers were in attendance for this event where the Foundation attained their goal of one-millionth dollar to cancer research. Also, the brothers are working on the Hall and kitchen Renovations, the upcoming Smoker event, the BMW Car Raffle, local outreach, and numerous

other activities.

We hosted a blood drive right after the Church service on December 11th. There is a desperate need for blood in the Tristate area so this was an important event for the region.

We hope you all had a Blessed Merry Christmas with loved ones and friends and a successful New Year











The Brothers of the Ramapo Chapter #453

We Will Never Forget 9/11/2001

The Brothers of the Ramapo Chapter 453
District 5 New Jersey and Delaware held a memorial service to honor those that were killed during the destruction of the twin towers at ground zero NY. Fr Bill Gikas commended the Brothers of the Ramapo Chapter and thanked the AHEPA chapter for the beautiful wreath.

Trenton Chapter Update





Left to Right: Stratos Peters, Ted Fanikos, Herbert Allen, Thomas Avgerakis, Andy Zachariades, Dino Demetriou, John Kapsimalis, John Koutsouradis (Son of George Koutsoradis)

Trenton Chapter #72 held their annual Christmas party on December 14th at St. George Greek Orthodox Church Community Center. 101 Ahepans and friends attended the event enjoying dinner and good company. After a moments silence for brothers who passed in 2016 an opening prayer was said by Rev. Father Jimmy Pavlow and then Chapter President Dino Demetriou spoke about some the year's highlights. The Supreme President Andy Zachariades was in attendance and also addressed the chapter.

Five brothers were acknowledged after being registered with the AHEPA Veterans Affairs Committee. Each of the brothers were presented with AHEPA Veteran's pins and certificates as well as Military Service Medals from the County of Mercer, State of New Jersey by the Supreme President and Chapter President. Those honored were, Ted A. Fanikos, Stratos Peters, Thomas Avgerakis, Herbert P. Allen and John Kapsimalis. Two deceased brothers were also recognized; Brother George Koutsouradis, a veteran of the 1940 "OXI" war against the Italian invasion and Brother Michael Zarafonitis veteran of the Korean War.

Brother Sotiris Vahaviolos was awarded with a 25 year pin. Lee Milas emceed the event and handed out Christmas presents to all present.

AHEPA Trenton Chapter 72 sponsored "Jingle All the Way" 3K Run/Walk" benefiting Special Olympics of NJ on Sunday Dec 4th. Chapter 72 sponsored Team Maria. Maria is the daughter of Brother John Passalaris. Brothers and their families also donated and participated in the event along with members of the Saint George Greek Orthodox Church of Hamilton, NJ. Team Maria raised in excess of \$12,000 the largest amount raised by one team in the event's eight year history. We all had a fun afternoon getting into the Christmas spirit and are glad to have been a part of such a wonderful event.





Brother John Passalaris and his daughter Maria.





Hudson Chapter Update

HUDSON HAPPENINGS

This year our Chapter Hudson #108 is celebrating our Ninetieth Anniversary and we are very proud to be celebrating something that is a first for our Chapter the elevation of Andrew C. Zachariades to Supreme President of the Order of Ahepa, Andrew was initiated in our chapter twenty five years ago and has worked very hard for the Order he loved AHEPA. He was elected chapter president, followed with his election on the District Lodge elevated to District Governor of the John G. Thevos Fifth District. He showed his determination with election to the Supreme Lodge where he served in many Supreme positions for more than one term and July of 2016 was elected to serve as our SUPREME PRESIDENT. For medical reasons I could not be at his installation but I cannot hide my pride because Andrew is like a son to me. In September our chapter welcomed him in his new position, attended by many dignitaries, to let him know how proud he has made us. On this evening he surprised me by presenting me with the AHEPA LIFETIME ACHIEVMENT AWARD which I will always cherish. On October 16, 2016, the Church Archon Weekend he was presented with the OFFIKION, ARCHON KASTRINSIOS of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the largest award for a layman of our Holy Church.

Andrew we know you will do a wonderful job as SPREME PRESIDENT and want to wish you happiness KAI SE ANOTERA.

Recently, our DOP Icarius #48 and our chapter joined together to celebrate Christmas with a Christmas Party attended by our Supreme President and his lovely wife Antoinette. He received a gift from our daughters chapter and a plaque from his chapter to show him he has made us very proud. Congratulations to the Daughters of Icarius #48 for arranging a beautiful party also attended by the District Governors of both Orders as well as chapter members from Icarius #48 and Hudson #108.

In closing we would like to wish everyone a Healthy and Happy New Year.



John Mehos receiving his lifetime achievement award



Chapter President Matsikoudis getting the 90th anniversary certificate for Hudson 108.

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Holmdel Chapter Update



President

Demetri Orfanitopoulos-bottom right

Vice President

Steve Bontales (top left)

Treasurer

John Kalafatides (top right)

Secretary

Tom Protentis (top Middle)

AHEPA District 5 Governor

George N. Petrakakis (bottom left)



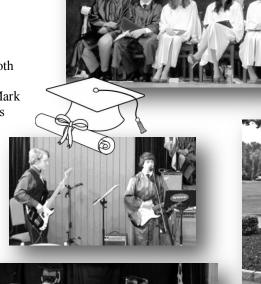
Holmdel AHEPA Chapter Officers with DG

Ahepa Family Visits St. Basil Academy

June 2016 St. Basil Academy Commencement Exercises where graduates were honored.

DG Sister Isa and George N. Petrakakis represented both Orders and presented each graduate with a gift card in recognition for their scholastic achievement. Brother Mark Mellis of Tenafly AHEPA Bergen Knights Chapter was also present.









Inaugural AHEPA Mid-Atlantic Hellenic History Tournament

Camden Chapter 69, N and District 5 hosted the inaugural AHEPA Hellenic History Tournament on November 19, 2016. The 10 team tournament was comprised of teams throughout Districts 4 and 5. It attracted ten teams with thirty participants from all

over the Greater Philadelphia area and Northern New Jersey. The annual tournament now in its eighth year is also hosted in Connecticut and Chicago. Now in three cities, it continues to grow and attract Greek-Americans and PhilHellenes to a trivia contest that helps them learn about Greek history.

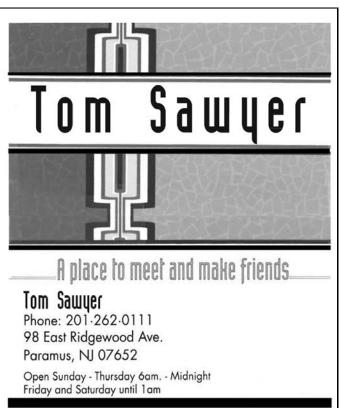
"The premise of this event is how do we keep our youth plugged into Hellenism for as long as possible. We've already seen that many of our young children don't speak Greek. The obvious answer for me was, make sure they know their Greek history", explained creator Nicholas Nikas

The premise of this
event is how do we
keep our youth
plugged into Hellenism
for as long as possible.

The contest is a trivia contest similar to jeopardy (tv show). Except here, we have teams of three. The multiple-choice questions are displayed on a projector screen and read by a moderator. The questions cover history that includes "Ancient," "Middle," and "Modern" Greek history and all the questions are drawn out of a book that is provided to the students when they register for the competition. Teams advance based on answering the most questions correctly, and the final two teams in the competition are awarded the \$3,000 first-place and \$500 second-place scholarship prizes. Family and friends are encouraged to attend the competition and watch their teams compete as the event is a family affair.

The event, with over 120 attendees, was made possible by AHEPA District 5 lodge treasurer Steve Marmarou, who chaired the

event. He was assisted by fellow lodge members Jimmy Rozanitis, George Pappas and by Bob Fourniades of Holmdel. Additionally, PDG and District Athletic Director Asteris Fanikos was able to get Seton Hall Law School to lend equipment for the Tournament







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Dinner & Comedy to Support Local Organizations

The AHEPA Family of Ocean County, NJ is Excited to Support their Student Scholarships, The Lt. Dennis Zilinski II Memorial Fund and K-9 For Warriors

TOMS RIVER, NJ – The AHEPA Family of Ocean County is excited to announce first annual "Night at The Coliseum" Comedy Night, featuring a comedy act by comedian Jim Dailakis. Jim has been touring the USA and the world for the last 15 years headlining in major comedy clubs including Caroline's, Standup New York, Broadway and The Laugh Factory in New York City. He's performed at The Borgata in Atlantic City and in 44 of the United States.

Included with the performance admission is a "Dinner buffet" with a cash "Wine & Beer Bar" and Greek Pastry to further support the cause several raffles are planned. The doors open at 6:30pm, on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church Hall, Toms River, NJ.

The AHEPAN Family of Ocean County, which consist of the AHEPAN's and the Daughters of Penelope. Who are an internationally recognized non-profit community service organization that consists of districts and local chapters throughout the United States, Canada and Greece. Their mission includes providing philanthropy, education, civic responsibility, family and individual excellence to their local communities. Throughout the year, they hold many fundraisers to raise funds for national and local scholarship programs as well as contribute monetary funds to many local non-profit organizations.

"The proceeds from this benefit will go to both our scholarship program and the AHEPA Service Dogs For Warriors in partnership with the, Lt. Dennis Zilinski II Memorial Fund and K-9 For Warriors. AHEPA Service Dogs For Warriors, Lt. Dennis Zilinski II Memorial Fund and K-9 For Warriors provides service canines to warriors suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disability, traumatic brain injury and trauma because of military service post 9/11. "This event is important because it helps us raise money for great causes nationally and locally". "We're proud to not only raise funds for these important organizations but to also have fun, not to mention a few laughs as we come together as a community." said Karen Marousis, President of the Daughters of Penelope Chapter 374 (AHEPA Family).

Join us for a great night filled with good food, laughter, and support for our students, the Lt. Dennis Zilinski II Memorial Fund and K-9 For Warriors". To purchase tickets, visit ahepafamily@ticketleap.com or. ahepafamilytomsrivernj@gmail.com. Tickets are \$65.00 - \$85.00 and 95.00. To donate, email ahepafamilytomsrivernj@gmail.com or call 732-691-0161.

Run with Dennis http://runwithdennis.org/ St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church http://www.stbarbaranj.org/ Jim Dailakis https://www.stbarbaranj.org/ Jim Dailakis https://www.stbarbaranj.org/





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Patritha Chapter #317 of Wyckoff



In an initiation ceremony held by the Patritha Chapter #317 of Wyckoff, NJ two young men joined the Son of Pericles.

Matt Cann (4th from the left) and Alexander Bedoya (3rd from left) were initiated by the officers of the Patritha Chapter.

Alexander Bedoya is the grandson of Brother Phillip Vogis, PSG, Matt Cann is the grandson of Brother Andrew Boulos.

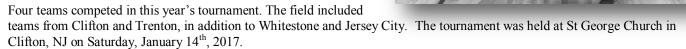


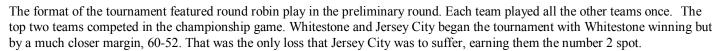
Whitestone NY Wins the 2017 District 5 Sons of Pericles Basketball Tournament

Clearly showing that they are the Champions, the AHEPA team of Whitestone, NY won the Sons of Pericles District 5 Basketball Tournament by completing a perfect 4-0 winning streak.

In the finals, Whitestone defeated their closest rival, a team from Jersey City. Whitestone bested a depleted Jersey City team in the final, 62-42. Whitestone relied on quick ball

movement and pinpoint shooting to make for an unbeatable combination. Leading Whitestone in the final was Peter Papastefanou who scored 25 points and was Dimitri Douvres with 21. The team's core has played together for many years, traveling throughout the country to play. Leading Jersey City was Dimitri Logothetis who scored 22 in the final.







However, in what almost was the biggest upset of the tournament, Whitestone eked out a one-point win 58-57 against the Clifton team, trailing for most of their game but coming back to win.

In what turned out to be the consolation game a young Trenton team made their debut by besting Clifton 59-39 to take the third spot.

The Sons of Pericles, the Junior Order of AHEPA is open to young men from 14-27. They hold regional AHEPA tournaments throughout the country. The top teams will compete in a tournament to be held at the Supreme Convention in Orlando, Florida this July.



THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE FIFTH DISTRICT EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC. ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOK COLLECTION INITATIVE

The Daughters of Penelope Fifth District Education Foundation, Inc. is partnering up with the Odyssey Charter School, which is located in Wilmington, Delaware, founded by the Order of AHEPA, Wilmington Chapter #95.

A Brief History of the Odyssey Charter School:

On February 21, 2004 the Order of AHEPA, Wilmington #95 voted unanimously to start a charter school in Delaware and provide funding for this endeavor. The Odyssey Charter School (OCS), a public charter school opened its doors as Delaware's first mathematics and 2nd language (Greek) elementary in August of 2006, with four Kindergarten classes, two First Grade and one Second Grade classes filled with 140 children selected by a lottery. The school continued to grow, as the children moved up a grade level so did the school. The initial intent of the School was to create an elementary school of excellence with grades K to 5, and then have the children transfer to public school. However, the parents of students had visions of their children staying through their primary and secondary education years in the same school. In the meantime, the numbers of students aspiring to attend OCS was increasing every year with a waiting line increasing exponentially. Thus the Middle School opened in 2012 and the High School just opened this past August. A detailed History of the School will be provided to chapters through the mail.

Purpose of this Initiative:

The Odyssey Charter School Library Book Collection Initiative is a great opportunity for the Daughters of Penelope of District 5 to encourage reading, provide educational assistance within our own district and promote the Daughters of Penelope of District 5. The Foundation is seeking donations of gently used books for the Elementary, Middle and High School of the Odyssey Charter School. Please be mindful we will not accept damaged books, please insure that they are clean, no writing inside and that there are no torn pages.

The librarians have provided the Foundation with a book wish list. On behalf of the School we ask that you do not send your book donations to the School, as there is a very specific process that we must follow. As well, space is limited at the Schools Libraries. The Foundation will have to catalogue all books and provide pertinent information about each book. The school librarians will then decide which books they will accept for their libraries. Any books not chosen they will sell to a local used book store that they work with for credit towards books of their choice. Each book that is selected will have a sticker stating that the book was donated from the Daughters of Penelope of District 5. This is not a limited timed project as the Foundation will continue with this endeavor as long we can keep providing books for the

School. Please review the provided list and contact one of the members of the Foundation to schedule a pickup of the books you would like to donate.

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DOP Icarius Chapter # 48

Celebrates 80th Anniversary



December 15th - Jersey City DOP Icarius Chapter # 48, President Evelyn Vardakis PDG welcomes DOP District 5 Governor Isa Velez M.D. and AHEPA District 5 Governor George N. Petrakakis to their 80th Anniversary celebration and Christmas Dinner.





ODYSSEY CHARTER SCHOOL BOOK WISH LIST

The reading levels for the books are K-High School

~ 3 Sets of completed Encyclopedias (the librarians utilize them for a lesson on different types of research)

~Dictionaries — Children's Story Books - K-5th grade

~Chapter Books ages 7-1

~Non-Fiction Books K-5th, 6th-8th and 9th-12th

Biographies Autobiographies

History

Science Travel

Poetry

Cookbooks

Health

Sports

Little House (on the Prairie) Series ~Fiction books for Young Adults

Science Fiction
Mysteries

Historical Fiction

Mythology

Historical Romance (Wuthering Heights, Moby

Dick, Pride & Prejudice) Other Examples of Fiction The Catcher in the Rye The Fault in Our Stars A Study in Charlotte

The Love That Split the World

The Lifeboat Clique

~Fiction Reading Series Book for all different ages

(some examples)

Magic Tree House Series

Anna Hibiscus Series

Encyclopedia Brown Boy Detective Series

Judy Moody Series

Baby Sitters Club Series

Ann of Green Gables Series

Harry Potter Series Percy Jackson &

~Chapter books ages 7-1

the Olympians Series The Twilight Series

The Lord of the Rings Series

~Magazines

(do not have to be current) National Geographic

Time

Newsweek

Bloomberg

Business Week

Popular Science

Forbes

Discover Magazine

Cooking

Health related magazines

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Look Back



Year 1926. The Mother Lodge of the Order of Sons of Pericles of Manchester, N. H. Chapter #1: (seated) A. Hasiotis, P. Kourides, C. Korcoulis, P. Clainos, W. Vasiliou; (standing) W. Chaloge, G. Papagiotas, W. Hasiotis, and G. Houliaris.



AHEPA members visit the boardwalk in Atlantic City for the annual Greek Oxi Day parade 1997. The traditional march along the board was hosted for some 10 along the boardwalk. Oxi Day on October 28 commemorates the anniversary when former military general and Prime Minister Ioannis Metaxas said, "No" to an ultimatum made by Benito Mussolini to allow Italian forces to occupy strategic locations in Greece or otherwise face war back in 1940. (Photo from Cosmos Philly's Photo blog section: http://cosmosphilly.com/camera/)



Sammy Thomas PDG, 2015 Testimonial Dinner. The Fez Sammy is wearing is from his father who was District Governor of NY District 6.



AHEPA FEZ probably from the 1970's or 80's. As you can see, it is well labeled as belonging to AHEPA and bears the updated logo and symbols of the group. It is blue with a white tassel to emulate the traditional colors of Greece. Otherwise, the fez is relatively plain and done in embroidery with a patch. This style of fez was the most prevalent in the later years.

FEZ of the AHEPA Supreme Treasurer of the Order of AHEPA.

This hat probably dates from 1975 or later.



Testimonial Dinner for PDG Brother Chris Mantzavinos, November 17, 1985 at The Landmark Inn, Woodbridge, NJ.

D5 DG Brother Costas Sidereas presents Brother Chris a plaque.



Red AHEPA Fez Red felt, white and blue tassel. District Governor's fez, for years 1962-1963, District 6 (NY State). Embroidered emblem of the association shows grey bird carrying blue Greek cross, crossed swords behind, encircled by laurel wreath of victory. Blue and white tassel is held to band simply by a string.



AHEPA District 5: 2nd OXI Day Commemoration at Ellis Island

On Saturday, October 15th we commemorated the 76th Anniversary of OXI Day. It was truly a unique event as we celebrated our immigrant experience and Greece's resistance to Nazi tyranny.

We were overwhelmed by the rich history of Ellis Island as we celebrated the history of our forefathers. On behalf of Hudson County Chapter, President Bill Matsikoudis welcomed all the attendees and thanked everyone for their support in remembering this day. District Governors George N. Petrakakis and Isa Velez both addressed everyone with moving words as to the importance of the holiday and the AHEPA Family. As Supreme Governor Chris Diamountoukos provided his moving remarks

to the attendees. Lectures were presented as to the "Importance of OXI Day in the Modern World"; as well as the "Greek Immigrant Experience: Our Odyssey to America." A copy of the power point lecture is attached. Following the lectures, we visited the museum and toured the grounds.

It was a wonderful event and we would like to thank the Hudson County Chapter for having the inspiration in establishing this event and being our host. Next year, we are scheduled as well and plan on visiting both Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. Please save the date!

Fraternally,

Lt. Governor Zenon Christodoulou and

Asteris Fanikos, PDG





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Our Departed Brothers &



Brother Rev. Fr. Dionysios Marketos fell asleep in the Lord on November 20, 2016. We send our love and prayers to the entire family for God's comfort and peace upon them.

We pray for the repose of his soul.

+ May his memory be eternal

George Koutsouradis, 99, of Hamilton, passed away on Friday, November 18, 2016 at Compassionate Care Hospice at RWJUH at Hamilton. Born in Samsun, Greece, a coastal town in the north of Turkey and belonging to the geographical region of Pontou, George was a veteran of the Greek Army, serving during World War II, and came to the United States in 1948.

He started in the restaurant business in 1950 as a short order cook with Trionfetis in Chambersburg for 15 years, then was a night manager for Town and Country Diner in Bordentown for 10 years, and then a host for Mastoris Diner in Bordentown; he retired in 1985. George was a member of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Hamilton, and AHEPA. He was past president of the St. George Senior Citizens Club and served on the board of trustees for 30 years of service.

Son of the late John and Eleanor Demetriades Koutsouradis, husband of the late Kathryn Zahariou Koutsouradis, and brother of the late Virginia Murilos, he is survived by a daughter, Anna Fountakis of Greece; a son and daughter-in-law, John and Magdalene Koutsouradis of Yardville; seven grandchildren; six great grandchildren; his sister, Carolina Yiannakakides of Greece; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. George loved his family, friends, and the church with all his heart, and he was grateful to receive such an outpouring of love in his final days.



Loukas Pallis, 59, of Ledgewood, passed away Friday, December 30, 2016 at Morristown Memorial Hospital.

Loukas was born in Analipsis, Greece, and was raised in Dover, in 2002 he lived in Naples, Florida and later resided in Ledgewood.

He was a member of St. Andrews Greek Orthodox Church, Randolph and was a member of AHEPA #300. Loukas was a successful Entrepreneur who owned and operated several businesses in New Jersey and Florida. He was an avid golfer and fisherman.

Loukas is survived by this three children Spyridon, Elpytha Pallis and Maryssa Pallis all of Florida, his four sisters Paris Pallis of Succasunna,

Irene Ferenc of Mt. Arlington, Nia Huber of PA and Denise Pallis of Ledgewood. He is predeceased by his brother Van in 2015.

Harry Andrew Panagos, 87, of Berkeley Heights, NJ fell asleep in the Lord on August 25, 2016.

"Beloved husband, father and Papou"

Harry was born in Youngstown, Ohio to Andrew and Angeline Panagos, immigrants from Patras, Greece. He served in the US Army in Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart. He spent 45 years on Wall Street and was a founder and innovator in the mortgagebacked securities marketplace.

Harry was a loving husband for 61 years to Kay, and brother to Helen, proud father of Susan Russon (Manuel), Gregory Panagos, and Pamela Holland (Joe). His greatest joy was to spend time with his grandchildren, Samantha, Alyssa, Alessandra, Anna, Charlotte, George and Harry.

A devoted member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Harry served on the Parish Council for 30 years and twice as President. For over 40 years he was the "emcee" of the Sights & Sounds Youth Arts Festival, a great basketball coach, and was honored as both Father and Grandfather of the Year. Harry was a lifelong Tigers fan and founder of the legendary ROMEOs.



Nicholas E. Tsaptsinos (son of Ernie and Soula Tsaptsinos, and brother of Anthony) fell asleep in the Lord on November 7th, 2016. We send our love and prayers to the entire family for God's comfort and peace upon them.

+ May his memory be eternal



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Heartfelt Thank Yous

Dear Mr. Fink,

I would like to thank you, the AHEPA scholarship committee, and all the members of the Ramapo Chapter for awarding me with the AHEPA scholarship. It is truly a great honor to receive this award and it will help me to pursue my education at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) while always being proud of and respectful of my Hellenic heritage which has guided me through my life to date and will continue to do so for the rest of my life.

Thank you all very much.

Sincerely,

Christian Tsadilas

Dear President Fink & fellow Ahepans,

Thank you for awarding me a generous scholarship and more importantly believing in me to carry forward the honorable values and ideals of AHEPA.

I will be attending the University of Rochester in September majoring in Political Science, in addition, I will be playing on the football team. I can't think of a better way to follow in the footsteps of two core Hellenistic principles; sports and politics.

Thank you once again for your generosity and continued success to AHEPA Ramapo Chapter.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Pirsos

PRESIDENT'S EULOGY TO GEORGE KOUTSOURADIS

My earliest memory of George is seeing him at church, always seated a few rows from the front on the right side facing the iconastasi. He always looked sharp and what made an impression on me was how straight he stood. Many years have passed since then and George became a friend and a brother, although it seems almost inappropriate to call someone of his years and stature "Brother". I saw him more as a beloved uncle.

I will miss getting lessons from him in backgammon even though it's not easy getting beaten by someone whose brain is supposed to be slowing down. I'm a pretty competitive guy but, honestly, somehow it didn't feel right when I would manage, probably by luck, to take a game here and there; such is the respect I have for George.

On my way home from church on Sunday, I had to stop at the supermarket and I met a friend with whom I shared the news of George's passing and she mentioned how sweet he was. At yesterday's Trisagion service Father Jimmy used the same word to describe George. It's something that I have heard many times over. The modern-day Saint, Paisios of the Holy Mountain, taught that there are two kinds of people -those who are like flies who, even if they are surrounded by beauty, will ignore it and seek to find dirt to abide in. The other kind are like bees who will only seek out what is beautiful and sweet and ignore all else. He would challenge people who came to see him and would begin to talk about this person or that person, by asking them which kind of person he or she was. I never heard George say a bad word against anyone. If anyone was clearly like a bee it was George. Sweetness was something that obviously emanated from him and people saw it and felt it.

A man of great faith does not fear death and this was evident when I visited him a week ago, He was cheerful and smiling, happy to see friends and family. He quietly said, in a matter of fact way, "It's cancer, but God is great" without even a hint of sadness or fear.

Recently George got to share with us more than what many of us knew about him. His life was filled with many hardships, yet he was one of the happiest people I've met.

We owe George a debt of gratitude for what he has sacrificed for the Motherland, for our community and for AHEPA. Let us learn from his example and let us keep his memory alive.

May the memory of our beloved Brother George be eternal.

Fraternally,

Dino Demetriou

President

Trenton AHEPA Chapter #72



AHEPA Fights Cancer

FIFTH DISTRICT AHEPA CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION **MARCHED TO A MILLION!**

ANTOINETTE MAROUSIS-ZACHARIADES

The AHEPA family's commitment to support public health and medical research initiatives is wide-ranging and well-documented. Most notable is the AHEPA's family work to raise awareness and funds to find a cure for Thalassemia (Cooley's Anemia), a genetic blood disease affecting persons of Mediterranean descent. However, in recent years, the AHEPA family also has made significant strides in its support for cancer research.



Foundation Chairwoman Antoinette Zachariades, wife of Supreme President Andrew C. Zachariades, presents \$20,000 donation to Rutgers Cancer Institute

The Fifth District AHEPA Cancer Research Foundation, Inc. "Marched to a Million" at its 27th Annual Fall Gala, November 5, 2016, Edison, N.J., where it celebrated the cumulative awarding of \$1 million in grants to researchers working to find a cure for cancer. The gala also honored individual doctors and researchers who are at the forefront of cancer research. "The Foundation is extremely honored to be working with topnotch cancer research institutions and doctors who are among the best in their respective fields," Foundation

Chairman Antoinette Marousis-Zachariades said. The Foundation presented its first grant of \$5,000 to Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia September 16, 1990. Since, the Foundation has awarded eighty-four research grants to various institutions for cancer research in the states of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware to hit the \$1 million mark in grant-giving. At the gala, Marousis-Zachariades and Foundation Vice Chairman Christos Prentzas presented the 2016 research grants to the doctors.

(Continued from page 5)

All these events and more lead up to the June 23-25, 2017 Annual AHEPA Family District 5 Convention hosted by the Perth Amboy AHEPA Raritan Chapter #288 which was reactivated March 1, 2015 after being dormant for twenty years. We are confident this huge undertaking will be a resounding success, and invite and encourage ALL AHEPA Family members to make your room reservations early; plan to stay overnight Friday and Saturday, and attend the Divine Liturgy as a 'FAMILY," as we all once did decades ago.

The convention theme appropriately is "As goes five, so goes the nation."

And finally, the AHEPA District Lodge is working to produce a fabulous AHEPA Family Weekend in Asbury Park, NJ. Stay tuned for more details...

In closing, I look very much forward to seeing all my Brothers and Sisters during my travels the second half of my term; and commend each of you for your hard work, tireless efforts, unwayering fortitude, passion and enthusiasm to continue undertaking the remarkable grassroots work. God Bless each of you for the exceptional work you do, keep it up, and may HE provide you the knowledge, wisdom and understanding to continue your extraordinary efforts in all your endeavors for the Good of the Order, and for the Good of District 5.

Fraternally,

George N. Petrakakis

AHEPA District 5 Governor

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AHEPA Hospital Relief Project

HISTORY:

The main function of the AHEPA Hospital Committee is to source medical equipment for two Greek hospitals: Evangelismos in Athens and AHEPA in Thessaloniki.

2013: AHEPA Canada Foundation raised funds and donated much needed medical equipment to Evangellsmos Hospital in Athens.

2015: AHEPA Hospital Committee (thanks to Br. Vogis) received a generous donation of medical equipment from a New York area hospital and shipped them to The AHEPA Hospital in Thessaloniki.

We are currently in negotiations with a hospital in Ottawa to donate hospital beds. Specs have been sent to Alfred Barich and we are waiting for him to confirm.



WHAT WE NEED:

Medical Equipment and Supplies

- * Equipment should be no more than 10 years old.
- * Make, model, and manufacturer must be specified to ensure that the equipment can be serviced In Greece.
- * Hospital needs to agree to accept the equipment before donation confirmation.

URGENT Equipment from AHEPA HOSPITAL Thessaloniki:

- Digital angiography * Digital angiography system
- Ultrasound machine with triplex (Radiology)
- Surgical microscope (Neurosurgery)
- Full HD endoscopy unit
- Ultrasound video endoscope for the upper digestive.
- Fluoroscopic .Wheel digital C-ARM machine for cardiac and vascular applications. The system must have image quality for visualization of small catheters and stents and should be capable of prolonged observation times
- Digital mammography system
- Portable ventilator for the IRD
- Endoscopic tower OLYMPUS

URGENT Equipment from Evangellsmos Hospital:

- CT unit
- US unit
- EEG unit for epilepsy
- Lithotripter unit
- US heart unit
- MRI-CT-PET unit
- Laptops



New: We have negotiated an agreement with IOCC that will allow us to save on shipments from New York.

Chair- Ahepa Hospital Committee

George Vassilas georgevassilas@gmail.com 788-872-2600

Vice-Chairman

Philip Vogis PSG R3pvogis@verizon.net

Ahepa Hospital Committee

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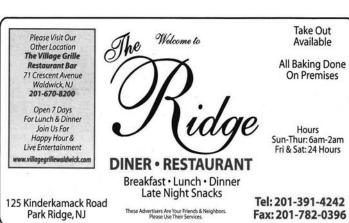
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Tentative Schedule of Events

FRIDAY - June 23rd

- ~Registration Beginning at 5:00 PM
- ~Convention Opening 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM
- ~Texas Hold 'Em hosted by Holmdel AHEPA Chapter 8:00 PM to 11:00 PM

SATURDAY - June 24th

- ~Registration 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- ~Continental Breakfast 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM
- ~General Business Sessions 9:00 AM to 12 Noon
- ~Daughters of Penelope Luncheon 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

- ~Scholarships & Awards to be given by AHEPA & Daughters of Penelope
- ~General Business Sessions 1:30 to 5:00 PM
- ~Installation of New District Lodge 5:00 PM
- ~GRAND BANQUET Dinner 6:00 PM

SUNDAY - June 25th

- ~Church Services St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Perth Amboy, NJ
- ~Farewell Luncheon Church Hall following Service





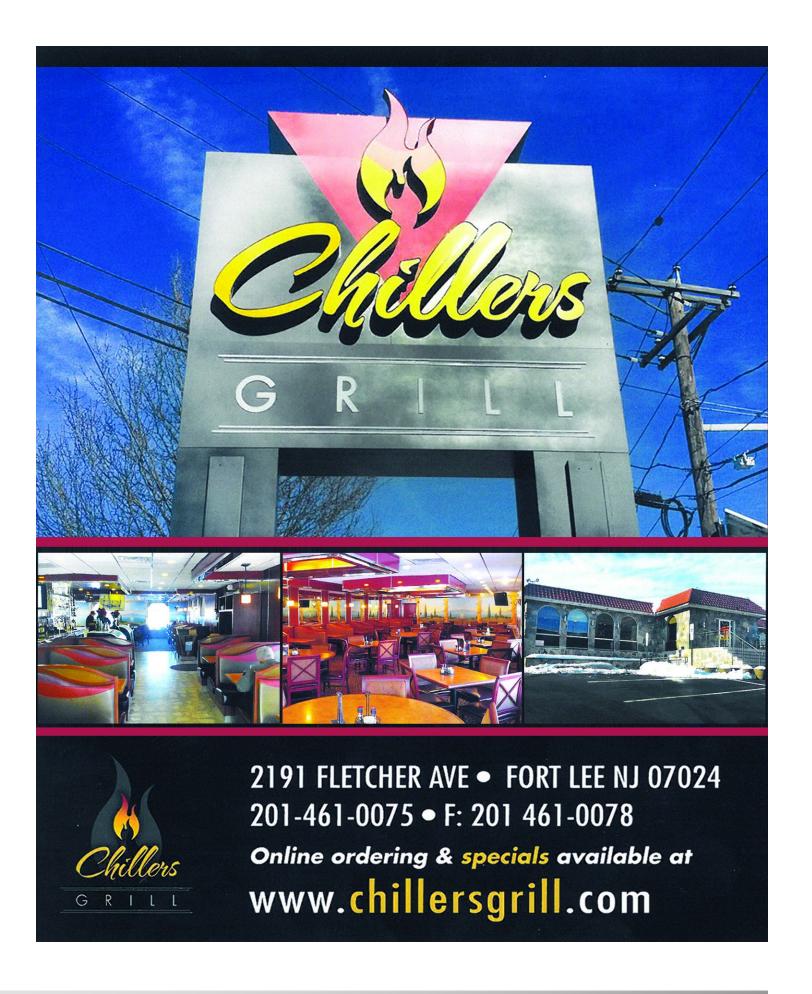




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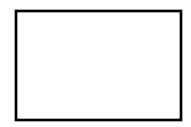
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