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Federico Faggin is the Third Laureate of the Global IT Award of the RA president



Federico Faggin is the Third Laureate of the Global IT Award of the RA President. On November 22 Serzh Sargsyan handed the GIT Award to the "father of microprocessors". See p.p. 2, 7, 8, 11

HIGHLIGHT

People's Artist of the Republic of Armenia Flora Martirosyan passed away

People's Artist of the Republic of Armenia Flora Martirosyan died in the United States of America. The reason of the death was the difficulties that arouse after her gall-bladder was operated on. Flora Martirosyan was the founder of Komitas International Musical School, "Artists for Peace" Charity Organization and the initiator of the cultural movement "Never Again".

Flora Martirosyan was born in Gyumri on February 5, 1957.

The Editorial Staff of "Noyan Tapan" expresses the condolences to the family and relatives of the singer.

Armenia: Growing likelihood of single presidential candidate's nomination by three political forces representing parliamentary minority

By David Petrosyan

The parliamentary faction of the opposition Armenian National Congress (ANC) has prepared a package of legislative amendments to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Armenia, the Law on the State Register of the Population, and the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia.

Based on the experience of the national elections held in recent years, the proposed amendments should minimize the likelihood of election rigging and manipulations. The matter concerns first of all the voter lists. The submitted proposals should deprive the Central Election Commission (CEC) and the election commissions at lower levels of the opportunity to manipulate the number

of voters. As is generally known, the number of the voters included in the lists exceeds the real number of the voters residing in the country by 500,000-700,000. By a strange coincidence, since 2003 the number of the voters has been increasing, despite a high level of migration from the country. It is these half a million votes that regularly "vote" for the Armenian "party in power" - the Republican Party of Armenia (RPA), its coalitional partners, and incumbent President and incumbent Prime Minister in the parliamentary and presidential elections.

Besides, the submitted package of legislative amendments is aimed at minimizing falsifications during voting of conscripts and preventing multiple voting by the

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Armenian Opposition Leader Visits Baku

Opposition leader Raffi Hovannisian on November 22 called on Azerbaijan to recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as an independent state during what was a rare visit to Baku by an Armenian politician.

Hovannisian, who leads the opposition Zharangutyun (Heritage) party, arrived in the Azerbaijani capital to take part in and address the International Conference of Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) held there.

Speaking to Azerbaijani journalists during the forum, he insisted that the universal principle of territorial integrity of states does not entitle Azerbaijan to regaining control over Karabakh.

"I think the territorial integrity of all states should be respected, including the territorial integrity of the Mountainous Karabakh Republic," Hovannisian said. "They are all new states. Azerbaijan is a new state. And I think that in the post-Soviet space it is still under question what is the extent of the ter-



ritorial integrity of the states in the region."

"It is very clear to me that whether old or new, recognized or not, the Republic of Mountainous Karabakh has a right of recognition. Azerbaijan would do very well to be the first to recognize. I understand that's a difficult issue," he said, according to Azerbaijani news agencies.

Hovannisian's party, which is represented in Armenia's parliament, has for years been pressing the Armenian government to formally recognize the disputed ter-

ritory. It generally favors a hard line on the unresolved conflict with Azerbaijan.

The Heritage leader, who was born in the United States and relocated to Armenia in 1990, called for "dialogue and communication" between the conflicting parties in Baku. "That's why I've come here," he said, adding, "We have to overcome xenophobia. We have to overcome the name-calling. We have to overcome this machoism that a lot of us have."

According to a Heritage statement
continued on page 2

NKR President calls on mediators to bring back Azerbaijan to constructive path



President of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Bako Sahakyan received on November 22 the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group Robert Bradtke (U.S.), Igor Popov (Russia), Jacques Faure (France) and accompanying them officials who arrived in Stepanakert the day before.

The issues related to the Karabakh conflict settlement and the latest regional developments were discussed during the meeting.

Bako Sahakyan called unacceptable glorification of a criminal who axed an Armenian officer, politicization of humanitarian issues, militaristic and terrorist rhetoric of Azerbaijan, adding this was one of the most serious blows to the peace process.

President Sahakyan urged to undertake appropriate measures to

bring Azerbaijan to constructive path.

President Sahakyan once again underlined that official Stepanakert stands for peaceful settlement of the conflict, restoration of the full format of talks under the auspices of the OSCE Minsk Group.

Bako Sahakyan reiterated his position that the conflict settlement would be possible only when real facts are taken into consideration, when efforts are focused on the causes rather than consequences, noting that any attempt to return to the past is doomed to failure.

NKR foreign minister Karen Mirzoyan, personal representative of the OSCE chairman-in-office, Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk, other officials were present at the meeting.

Estonia's Ambassador presents credentials to Armenian FM



On November 22 Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian received the newly appointed Ambassador of Estonia to Armenia (residence in Tbilisi) Priit Turk on the occasion of presenting the copies of his credentials.

Welcoming the newly appointed Ambassador on the occasion of the appointment, Minister Nalbandian expressed confidence that during his mission the Armenian-Estonian relations would be further developed, and assured that the Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs would always support the Ambassador's initiatives aimed at the strengthening of the cooperation between the two countries.

The Minister expressed satisfaction with the regular contacts and cooperation between the foreign ministries of the two countries.

Expressing gratitude for the reception and wishes, Ambassador Turk mentioned that he would spare no efforts to develop and expand the relations between the two countries.

During the meeting the sides touched upon the issues related to the development of cooperation in the spheres of political dialogue, inter-parliamentary cooperation, trade and economy, education, science and culture, including other spheres.

The interlocutors exchanged views on the ongoing interaction in the frames of the cooperation between Armenia and the European Union.

President Serzh Sargsyan received Federico Faggin

On November 22, President Serzh Sargsyan received the Honorary President of Synaptics Company Federico Faggin, who was awarded the Presidential Award 2012 for the global contribution to the area of Information Technologies.

The meeting was followed by the reception held at the Presidential Palace in honor of Mr. Federico Faggin and Mrs. Elvia Faggin. At the reception, the Chairman of the Executive Council of the Committee of the Global Information Technologies (GIT) Hovik Musayelyan presented the process of selecting the winners while the Co-Chairman of the Award Committee Rich Goldman in his speech spoke about the idea and mission behind the RA Presidential Award and introduced the awardee, Mr. Federico Faggin.

At the award ceremony, President Serzh Sargsyan made a statement.

Remarks by the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan at the reception held on the occasion of bestowing the Global Award of the President of the Republic of Armenia for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT to Federico Faggin

Distinguished Mr. Faggin, Mrs. Faggin,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am glad to greet in Yerevan the Honorary President of Synaptics, a brilliant engineer Mr. Federico Faggin.

Extending warm welcome to the eminent guests of our country is a pleasant duty for the Head of State. Yet the nice and easy part of it ends right there, to be followed by the political discussions, usually conducted behind the closed doors.

However, this is not the case today. Our guest is a great scientist, whose visit is triggered by the recognition of his creative achievements. Today, in Yerevan Mr. Federico Faggin is being awarded with our Prize that is granted in recognition of his global and outstanding contribution to humanity in the area of Information Technologies.

Mr. Faggin is well-known for his numerous innovative ideas. But his name has been forever engraved in gold into the history of the Information Technologies for designing the first microprocessor and leading the works on its development.

This Award is an extraordinary

input by the Republic of Armenia to the development of the global IT area. With this Prize, we pay tribute to Mr. Faggin and all his colleagues for making knowledge accessible everywhere in the world through the information technologies. Computers and the internet truly contribute to the advancement of the entire humankind, enhancing the spread of knowledge and, therefore, development and prosperity.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In recent years Armenia has registered considerable progress in the area of information and digital technologies. This Award is aimed at fostering that development even further and, most importantly, at focusing the attention of our young people at the broad opportunities provided by the area of information and digital technologies. We have already been doing it and we will continue doing it, thus attempting to reveal creative talents of our children from the youngest age.

I am confident that it is the right path to promote Armenia's development. Only through the best education we provide to our children we will be able to ensure Armenia's rightful place not only in the region but also in the world.

Some of our neighbors lose no opportunity to chatter about their desire to isolate us, to leave us out of the projects, which are expected to bring economic development. But in reality, it is their society that is being isolated. They are disseminating war and xenophobia. They are restricting freedom of speech and information. They perceive internet and social networks only as means to spread hatred, lies and futile bragging - and all that is not very far from axing a sleeping person. The time will show to whom that harm is done and what exactly is being ruined through these khan-like policies.

We are building Armenia's future

through bringing up a well-educated new generation, and its achievement of professional excellence. The Armenia of tomorrow will be a much better place than it is today, and that new Armenia will be created through all those investments which we are making today in our greatest asset - our people. We are glorifying brilliant individuals like Mr. Faggin as role models for our children, examples of how one should live and work.

The Tumo Center for Creative Technologies has been functioning for just about more than a year. Today that Center is remarkably expanding and broadening its activities, engaging more and more children. At the Center conditions have been established for children to receive special training and education. I attach great importance to the fact that our children have this opportunity to display their talents regardless of their families' social standing.

This is just the beginning of our long journey towards the development of the information and digital technologies. Our progress and development in this area will be steadfast and upward.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Distinguished Mr. Faggin,

We are getting ready to take leading positions in the IT area with due contribution of our talented people and assistance of our friends. I am confident that you, Mr. Faggin, will always be by our side throughout that journey.

I once again congratulate you on receiving this Award. I am happy that you are here, with us. I also hope that during this brief visit you will be able to familiarize with our country and our culture.. As for us, we are always happy to meet again with our friends and are waiting for their new visits keeping our hearts warm.

I once again congratulate you and wish you all the best.



Armenian Opposition Leader visits Baku

From page 1

ment issued on Wednesday, Hovannisian was initially reluctant to travel to Baku because of the recent release and glorification by the Azerbaijani government of an Azerbaijani army officer who axe-murdered an Armenian colleague in Hungary in 2004. The statement said the ICAPP leadership "agreed to offer him a secure and equal opportunity to address" the two-day conference.

Hovannisian was also asked in Baku about the fate of the hundreds of thousands of Azerbaijanis displaced by the Karabakh conflict. He replied that "all refugees in the region" should be able to return to their "ancestral homelands."

"That refers to Armenians and to Azerbaijanis," Hovannisian said. "That refers to Azerbaijan, to the republic of Mountainous Karabakh, to Armenia, to Turkey. I think that there should be a mul-

tilateral return."

"But to secure that return we need a new environment that is based on good faith and confidence building, and not releasing convicted axe-murderers and not ruining cemeteries and especially at the presidential level talking about neighboring countries in a derogatory way. That won't help anything," he added in a clear jibe at Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev.

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Opposition Party mulls female presidential candidate

A major Armenian opposition party is considering nominating the first-ever female presidential candidate in the country's history, it was confirmed on November 19.

Press reports in recent days have said that Anush Sedrakyan, deputy chairwoman of the Free Democrats party, could stand as a candidate in the Armenian presidential election due in February.

Sedrakyan did not deny those reports, saying that the matter is being discussed by the party leadership. "These discussions are laying the groundwork for new public attitudes," she told RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am). Armenia's political elite needs a "generation change," she said.

Sedrakyan insisted that a woman can do well in Armenia's male-dominated political arena. "In practical terms, our society is not quite man-centered because Armenian women bear fundamental responsibility, and those who have responsibility must also have equal rights," she said.

Artak Davtyan, a senior law-



Armenia - Anush Sedrakyan (L) and other leaders of the Free Democrats open a party congress in Yerevan, 16Mar2012.

maker from the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA), welcomed the possibility of a female candidate in the intensifying presidential race. "That would be a quite good gesture addressed to the entire political scene," he said.

The Free Democrats are represented in Armenia's current 131-member parliament, elected in May, by two deputies. They won those seats after forming an electoral alliance with another opposi-

tion party, Zharangutyun (Heritage). The alliance, which got 5 percent of the vote in the May elections, effectively fell apart last month.

The talk of Sedrakyan's nomination is a further indication that the Free Democrats will not support Zharangutyun leader Raffi Hovannisian's presidential bid. Hovannisian officially announced his participation in the presidential ballot on November 2.

Political forces show sincere interest in changing the ruling system, Levon Zurabyan says

The Coordinator of the Armenian National Congress Levon Zurabyan said today that the main political forces of Armenia show "sincere interest in breaking and changing" the current ruling system.

The ANC coordinator noted that the political consultations with Dashnaktsutyun, PAP and Heritage indicate that there were some common grounds for cooperation among these forces.

"The political forces are interested in getting rid of the

regime. It's a different thing to what extent they can release themselves of some restrictions", said Levon Zurabyan to the journalists.

According to him, there is still a possibility of cooperation among the political forces now and the ANC is going to use it to the fullest.

"Nobody gave us a promise of loyalty and the one shouldn't expect it on the political field", noted Levon Zurabyan.



The Armenian Minister of Foreign Affairs visited the United Arab Emirates

On November 20 with the meeting with the UAE Federal National Council Speaker Mohammed Ahmed Al Murr, Edward Nalbandian started his visit to Abu Dhabi.

Welcoming the Armenian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the UAE Federal National Council Speaker expressed satisfaction with the established friendly relationship between the two countries and expressed confidence that the visit of the Armenian Minister of Foreign Affairs would contribute to the further strengthening of cooperation.

Edward Nalbandian and Mohammed Ahmed Al Murr exchanged views on the expansion of Armenia-UAE interaction, particularly stressed the importance of the intensification of inter-parliamentary ties.

The sides discussed a number of regional and global issues.

In Abu Dhabi Edward Nalbandian had talks with the UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahayan.

The Foreign Ministers of Armenia and the UAE noted with satisfaction the dynamic development of the bilateral relations and agreed upon the dates of holding the first session of the inter-governmental commission, intensification of consultations between the MFAs, expansion of legal framework, development of economic cooperation and the steps undertaken towards the promotion of economic and cultural exchanges.

The two mutually stressed the importance to open UAE's Embassy in Yerevan.

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs

of Armenia and the UAE had a thorough talk on global agenda issue, the increase of a tension in and around Gaza Strip and the situation in Syria. Edward Nalbandian presented his Emirate counterpart the efforts exerted by Armenia and the international community towards the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue.

Ministers Edward Nalbandian and Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahayan touched upon the cooperation in the international platforms and supporting of each other's candidacies.

After the meeting, the Ministers signed an inter-governmental agreement on the air communications aimed at the regulation of air communications between the two countries.

Edward Nalbandian's meeting with the UAE's Minister of Foreign Trade Sheikh Lubna Al-Qasimi was devoted to the development of trade and economic cooperation between Armenia and the UAE.

Minister Al-Qasimi remembered with warmth his visit to Armenia and mentioned with satisfaction that the agreements reached during that visit have been already implemented.

The interlocutors discussed the activities carried out towards the creation of Intergovernmental commission for economic cooperation, and had a thorough talk on the issues related to the increase of the export volume of agricultural products from Armenia to the UAE.

In the same day Edward Nalbandian in the Armenian Embassy in Abu Dhabi had a meeting with the representatives of the Armenian community of the UA.

Ruling Party blocs parliament debate on opposition bill

The pro-government majority in Armenia's parliament on November 21 prevented a planned debate on an opposition bill which is meant to foster the proper conduct of next February's presidential election.

The parliament leadership scheduled the debate after it was formally demanded by more than 40 deputies representing the Armenian National Congress (ANC), the author of the bill, and other minority factions.

Deputies from the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) and its junior partner in the governing coalition, Rule of Law, boy-

cotted the session to ensure that it does not make a quorum. Only 46 members of the 131-seat National Assembly showed up for the debate.

Levon Zurabyan, the ANC parliamentary leader, denounced the RPA boycott as unconstitutional. "The Article 70 of the Armenian constitution explicitly gives the opposition the right to initiate a debate on an issue even if the parliamentary majority is against it," Zurabyan told journalists. "What the Republican Party did today is a violation of the constitution."

Armen Rustamyan, a leader of the opposition Armenian

Revolutionary Federation (Dashnaktsutyun), also criticized the disruption, saying that he will report the matter to the parliament's Ethics Committee.

Galust Sahakyan, the leader of the RPA parliamentary faction, defended his party's actions. He said the parliamentary majority had a legitimate right to decide the parliament agenda.

The RPA warned that it will thwart the debate immediately after the ANC unveiled last week a raft of legal amendments which it says would complicate vote rigging.

Armenian Tycoon signals presidential bid

Businessman Gagik Tsarukyan and his Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) gave on November 21 more indications that he will challenge President Serzh Sargsyan the upcoming presidential election.

Tsarukyan said he has already decided how the PAP, which is the country's second most important parliamentary force, will participate in the election due in February.

"I personally have already made a decision," he told the Zham.am publication. "But since our electoral legislation allows me not to publicize it [for the time being] I am taking advantage of that possibility."

The tycoon added that he had been in no rush to clarify his election-related stance also because of "hearing views and proposals of partner parties."

According to Naira Zohrabyan, a top aide to Tsarukyan, the long-awaited decision will be announced in the next few days. "The [PAP] Political Council will publicize its decision in the coming days," Zohrabyan told



RFE/RL's Armenian service. "We must understand that Gagik Tsarukyan's personal decision is also important," she said.

Both Zohrabyan and another senior PAP figure, former Foreign Minister Vartan Oskanian, stressed that the dominant view among the party's members is that Tsarukyan should run for president. Writing on his Facebook page, Oskanian said the possibility of his own presidential candidacy has also been discussed by the

PAP chapters in recent weeks.

Neither the tycoon nor his close associates specified whether this means that the PAP will not back Sargsyan for reelection and will field its own presidential candidate instead.

Tsarukyan and his party have been reluctant to endorse the incumbent president's reelection plans despite facing strong government pressure over the past year. The PAP underlined that stance when it withdrew from Armenia's governing coalition in June.

Armenian National Assembly has to contribute to bringing Armenian and EU legislations in line, Traian Hristea says

Head of the European Union Delegation to Armenia, Ambassador Traian Hristea said on November 19 that "the Armenian National Assembly has to contribute to bringing Armenian and EU legislations given the new Eastern Partnership Action Plan and Association Agreement".

Traian Hristea said this during the conference-discussion initiated by the Armenian delegation of the Armenia-EU Parliamentary Cooperation Committee of the Armenian National Assembly.

According to the Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia, the steps toward closer relations with the EU are obvious. According to him, it bears witness to the fact that the negotiations are proceeding in the right path and it's necessary to continue reforms in Armenia.

Co-Chair of Armenia-EU Parliamentary Cooperation



Committee Samvel Farmanyan noted in his turn that the discussion aimed to listen to the standpoints of the civil society and the executive power on the items on the next agenda of the Committee.

"The MPs are sincerely willing to listen to the standpoints, proposals and new ideas of the civil society and get acquainted to the new approaches of the government", said Samvel Farmanyan. The coming session of Armenia-EU Parliamentary Cooperation Committee will be held in Brussels on November 28-29.

Aliyev Says 'Armenian Lobby is Our Main Enemy'

BAKU-The "Armenian Lobby is our main enemy," said Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev on November 17 during a reception marking the 20th anniversary of the ruling New Azerbaijan Party (YAP).

"I have repeatedly said and I want to repeat it in the open that the Armenian lobby is our enemy. This is because Armenia, as a country, is of no importance. In fact, it is a colony, an outpost; a territory governed from abroad which was artificially created in ancient Azerbaijani lands," said Aliyev who is also the chairman of YAP.

"The Armenian lobby is our main enemy and we are the main enemy for them. In fact, the source of our enmity with them is their enmity with us. Second is anti-Azerbaijani center, structures and circles infected with Islamophobia. Unfortunately, their number is



growing all the time," added Aliyev.

"The growth in their number was manifested during the elections held in some countries. The results of elections make the growth of the rating of Islamophobia forces clear. The young, dynamically developing, independent and modern Muslim country- Azerbaijan - has become a problem for them since it does not fit their stereotypes. Their stereotypes seek to show Muslims in the world as a backward nation and people," said Aliyev.

Deputy Minister Sh. Kocharyan's answer to the question of Reuters news agency

Question:

Please comment the statement of the President of Azerbaijan during the ceremony dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the "Yeni Azerbaijan" party, claiming that "Armenia is an outpost run from abroad, a territory artificially created on ancient Azerbaijani lands" and that "the Armenian lobby is our main enemy."

Answer:

With such a racist ideology, such unbridled distortion of history and ridiculous territorial claims towards the neighboring states, Azerbaijan could have had a chance to survive only in the early middle ages. However, Azerbaijan



first appeared on the political map only in 1918.

Baku has not yet perceived that the power of a modern state is founded on the love towards its people and not on the pathologic hatred towards the indigenous peoples of the region and their historical and cultural heritage.

Sheriff Baca Visits Martyrs' Monument

MONTEBELLO-Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca visited the Montebello Armenian Genocide Martyrs' Monument earlier this month, laid a wreath and paid respect to the memory of the 1.5 million Armenian victims of the Armenian Genocide.

After prayers at the memorial, Baca laid a wreath and commemorated Genocide victims. Montebello Armenian community leaders and clergy were also present at the event.

"The memorial behind me is significant because the memories are required in all Holocaust activities throughout the world. In this particular case, this is the first of the greatest of the genocides in the history of mankind; the Armenian society that was slaughtered between 1915 and 1921. So the tribute today is because of the holiness of life and that the Armenian - American society requires justice," said Baca after the brief ceremony.

Baca also urged the government of Turkey to "put forth a serious attempt to reconcile the loss."

"Now... there is a need to discuss what is justice in circumstances that happened close to a hundred years ago," said Baca. "So I am confident that until that happens, the significance of the loss and the lack of justice will continue to burn in the hearts and minds of Armenian-Americans and Armenians throughout the world."

After paying respects at the



Montebello Martyrs Monument, Baca joined the community for lunch at the Armenian Center, where various issues of concern to the community were discussed.

Weeks prior to Baca's visit to the Armenian Genocide monument, Baca met with a delegation of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation Western US Central Committee at its headquarters in Glendale.

During the more than two-hour

meeting with Baca, challenges facing Los Angeles County as well as issues pertaining to the Armenian-American community were discussed in great length.

The Central Committee conveyed its position and concerns regarding the sheriff's recent efforts to engage in normalization of Armenian-Turkish relations. Baca demonstrated his understanding about the Central Committee's concerns and expectations.

California is likely to recognize NKR independence

The California State Senate in Sacramento held the first ever reception for a delegation from the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic headed by NKR National Assembly Speaker Ashot Ghulyan. The event was organized by California Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian and Member of the State Senate Kevin De León. In attendance were also representatives of the Berkley, San Francisco, Davis and California Universities, heads of international trade agencies, members of the local Armenian community.

The NKR Speaker briefed the attendees on the economic situation of Artsakh, its foreign policy agenda and the existing problems. Ashot Ghulyan spoke about the current state of settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, which does not move forward because of Azerbaijan's non-constructive posture.

The Speaker urged the officials of the country, which cherishes human rights and democratic values, to support the Caucasian countries that share the same values.

Senator Kevin De León voiced hope that through active work it would be possible to reach recognition of the right of



NKR people to self-determination.

"There is a great likelihood that the California State Senate will recognize the independence of NKR. We'll probably visit Artsakh to see and learn about the country. This will take place in the coming year within the framework of a visit to Armenia," he said.

Associate Professor at San Francisco University Richard Callahan, who observed the presidential elections in Artsakh, said

"the electoral processes in Nagorno-Karabakh were organized in compliance with international standards."

"I was impressed by the transparency of the electoral process. Many international observers and journalists were freely following the elections. I'm glad I had a chance to see the democratic path that country has chosen," the Professor said.

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- ♦ **683. Argishti street**, Glendel Hills, 14/10, 35.4sqm, newly built, euro repaired, gas in the building, permanent water, beautiful view of ravine. Price 45.000USD
- ♦ **667. Nalbandyan street**, 7/5, 48sqm, 1room changed into two, excellent state, euro repaired, AC, lift. Price-86.000USD
- ♦ **684. Mashtoc avenue**, 5/4, 37.4 sq.m., 1 room, stone building, a need to repair, old tiles, no water and gas, balcony looks at the avenue. Price: 70.000 USD
- ♦ **69. Khajaznuni street**. 9/2, habituated. 50.6 sq.m, 1 room, capially repaired, euro windows, Ariston, permanent hot and cold water, no balcony. Price: 52.000 USD
- ♦ **645. Baghramyan Street**, 5/1, 48 sq/m, newly repaired, iron door, euro windows, doors, AC, cabin, water tank. Price: 72.000USD

2 ROOMS

- ♦ **1579** Krtu str. 17/11, 100 sq.m, newly built, 2 rooms, euro repaired, furnished, not inhabited, swimming-pool, tennis court, view to canyon.Price: 270.000 USD
- ♦ **1560** Northern Ave., 10/3 130 sq.m, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, climate control, parking, windows looking to the Northern Avenue, exploitation rent 28.000 AMD. Price: 400.000 USD
- ♦ **1445. Sayat-Nova street**. 5/4, 73 sq.m. 2 rooms, stone building, capially repaired, furnished, h-3 m. Price: 150 000 USD
- ♦ **1467. Mashtoc av**. 8/5 81sq.m.2 made 3 , stone , special project , old but repaired, always running hot and cold water, looking at the Sun. Price 125.000\$
- ♦ **1440. North Avenue**, 3rd floor, 110sqm, 1 bedroom, newly built, euro repaired, furniture, parking, h-3m, spanish tiles, permanent hot and cold water, heating system. Price 350.000USD
- ♦ **1459. Baghramyan Avenue**. 5/3, 55 sq.m., 2 rooms, capially repaired, h-3.8 m, balcony, iron door, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, furniture and techniques. Price: 49. 000.000 AMD
- ♦ **1458. Bryusov street**. 9/8, 68 sq.m., 2 rooms, normal state, Baxi system, Czech tiles, showcases, wood doors and parquet. Price 75.000 USD
- ♦ **1469 Tumanyan st.** 4/3 50sq.m. 2 rooms, repaired, furnished. Price 47.5mln. AM dram
- ♦ **1357. Pushkin street**, 8/6 floor, 77 sq.m., 2 rooms, newly built, furniture, techniques. Price 165000\$

3 ROOMS

- ♦ **2682** Aram Str. 13/6 187sq.m, newly built,4 rooms, 3 bedrooms, drywall, buckle,2 open balconies, beautiful view. 2 garages, view to garden. Price: 1sq.m 574 000 AMD
- ♦ **2676** Amiryan Str. 16/12 259 sq.m, 4 rooms, 3 bedrooms,N-3 meters, capially euro repaired,view to yard, concrete floor, heating system, water, gas, AC, underground parking, separate furnished kitchen Price: 550.000 AMD % included
- ♦ **2674** Qeru Str, 17/3 103 sq.m, 3 rooms, 2 bedrooms,N-3U meters, elite building, 2 bathrooms, swimming-pool, tennis court,parking(not included in the price) heating, gas, water, AC, sold with and without furniture Price: without furniture 160000 USD with furniture 175000 USD
- ♦ **2474. Koryun Street**. 5/3, 100 sq.m., 3 turned into 4, euro repair , euro windows, permanent gas, balcony, 2 AC, opportunity. Price 160.000 USD
- ♦ **2454. Moskovyan str.**, 5/2, 180sqm, normal state, 3 bedrooms, lavatory, permanent water, gas. Price 370.000USD
- ♦ **2453. Koryun str.**, 6/4, 100sqm, 4 rooms, euro repaired, 2 lavatories. Price negotiable
- ♦ **2429. Ekmalyan street**, 10/9, 178sqm, 3bedrooms, 3lavatories, capially repaired, AC, parking. Price-360.000USD
- ♦ **2393. Moskovyan street**, 5/3. 110 sq.m., euro repair, logha balcony 17 sq.m., permanent hot and cold water, cube 700 l, electric heating system, natural gas, Ariston, 2AC, satellite. Price: 400 000 USD
- ♦ **2335. Mashtots Avenue**. 4/4, 95 sq.m., 3 rooms, 2 bedrooms, stone building, euro repaire, euro doors and windows, open balcony, permanent hot and cold water, concrete cover, beech parquetry, h 3 m, closed attic. Price 125000 USD
- ♦ **2348. Abovyan Street**, 4/2, 177.8 sq/m, euro repaired, conreted, laminate furniture in the bedroom, cupboards in the kitchen, tiled, Baxi system, Price: 250000 USD preliminary
- ♦ **2395. North Avenue**. 130 sq.m., newly built, h-3 m, a view to Abovyan street. Price: 1 sq.m.-1600 USD

PREMISES

- ♦ **1710. Sayat - Nova str.**, 1st floor, 420sqm, 2 rooms, 2 lavatories, entrance from street. Price 1.000.000USD

- ♦ **1727. Baghramyan str.**, 2 storied, 230sqm, capially repaired, entrance from street, garage. Price 350.000USD
- ♦ **1725. Hanrapetutyan str.**, 1storied, 171sqm, 2 entrances, capially repaired, permanent hot and cold water. Price 500.000USD
- ♦ **1703. Northern Avenue**, 9/7, 66sqm, cap- itally repaired, heating, lavatory, 30000AMD service rent, view to Teryan street. Price 220,000USD
- ♦ **1553. Kasyan street**. 170sq.m., working fashion saloon, large windows, facade-15m, 1room+foyer, h=2.80 m, cellar 30 sq.m. Price 500 000 USD preliminary
- ♦ **1598. Nairy Zaryan street**, 180 sq.m., 1st floor, a working restaurant, hall-100 sq.m. 1st line, repaired, tonir. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **1383. Nalbandian St**, cellar + 1 story, 30 sq. m. cellar, 90 sq. m. story, Euro repair, hall, kitchen, lavatory, 24-hour hot and cols water, gas supply, suitable for a bar or restaurant. Price: 512.000USD
- ♦ **1603. North avenue**, 159 sq.m., 1st floor. Entrance on ground floor also, construction is in process, suitable for a shop. Price: 1 sq.m. 10 000 USD
- ♦ **1588. Tigran Mec street**, 256 sq.m, 5/1.2 , trade area, stone building, euro repair, 1st floor trade area - 210 sq.m., 2nd floor 46 sq.m. residential Area. Price: 600 000 USD

LANDS

- ♦ **1756 H. Qochar str**. 1000 sq m, 2-storey brick building - 1200 sq m, old repaired. Price: 1.200.000 preliminary
- ♦ **2122. Davitashen**, 1800sqm, water, gas, electricity, possible to sell separately 600sqm, 1200sqm. Price-150USD per sqm.
- ♦ **1869. Cascade**, 720 sq.m, 1st line, permission for construction, suitable for a new building or a business. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **2121. Centre**, land-1338sqm, 1100 sqm has permission for building. Price-2million USD
- ♦ **2107 Monument**, 2400sqm, permission for building, 2 projects to build 3 storied building, possibility of water, gas, electricity, beautiful view of city and Ararat. Price-500USD per sqm.
- ♦ **1939. Kotayk region**, Aghavnadzor district. Land 5000 sq.m., suitable for building a resort place. Price negotiable
- ♦ **2011. Proshyan street**. Land 400 sq.m. for building a house, privatized, 2nd line/ near the garden/. Price 1 sq.m. beginning from 700 USD
- ♦ **2013. Cascade**. Land 1000 sq.m. For public construction needs, First line, gas, water and electricity possibilities. Price for 1 sq.m. 580 USD
- ♦ **2028. District of Erebuni**, Arin-Berd street. Land 2 acr. With a 2 storied partially built building, water, electricity plastered.h=4.20m. Price 1 sq.m, 50 USD
- ♦ **1402. Hr. Kochar St**, 1,100 sq. m, personal plot, front -25 m, privatized, empty, possibility for building communications. Price negotiable.
- ♦ **1351. Monument**, 2,000 sq. m, privatized, front - 17 m, APZ permission, for social purposes: suitable for a restaurant, hotel. Price negotiable.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦ **2725. Nork-Marash**, building - 733.25sqm, land-620sqm, semi-basement +2floors, euro repaired, semi-basement is sport room, sauna, summer room, pool, fireplace, 1st floor- sitting room, 1 bedroom, cabinet, kitchen, lavatory, 2nd floor - 4 bedrooms, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Spanish tiles, 2 AC. Price - 500.000USD
- ♦ **3348. Blur, Barbyusi**. 3 floors, land - 800 sq.m, building-700 sq.m, capially repaired, climate control. Price: 1.5 million USD
- ♦ **3059. Vahagan community**, total-1500sqm, building-280sqm, 2.5 storied, newly built, not lived in, 1st floor-living room-44sqm, kitchen, family room-24sqm, 2nd floor-3bed-rooms, 3 lavatories, garage for 2 cars, cellar, security system, possible to sell with furniture. Price 490.000\$.
- ♦ **3210 Aygestan community**. 2 stories, land: 480 sq.m, building: 310 sq.m, 1st floor is not repaired, garage, 2nd floor: repaired, kitchen, lavatory-tiled, permanent hot and cold water, Baxi system, a place for barbeque, garden, trees Price: 270.000 USD
- ♦ **3292. Arabkir**, 2 floors, land - 1200 sq.m, building - 340 sq.m, 4 rooms, newly built, repaired, euro windows and doors, sauna, 2 swimming-pools, 5 bathrooms, permanent hot and cold water, heating system, Jacuzzi, fire-place, laundry room, cameras, 2 satellites, garage for 2 cars, basement, fruitful garden, brick fence. Price: 1.2 million USD
- ♦ **3313 Blur, H. Emin**, 3 floors, land - 550 sq.m, building - 450 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished, 6 bedrooms. Price: 1 600 000 USD
- ♦ **2916. Ashtarak highway**, village Nazrvan. 3 storied building. Land 3500 sq.m., building 760 sq.m., euro repair, 3 tiled lavatories, a sauna, billiard, permanent hot and cold water, gas, heating system, garden, pool, garage.The building is ramparted. Price 50000 USD

NEWLY BUILT

- ♦ **74. Cascade, Verin Antarayin**. electricity,

water, gas, euro window, drywall, no exploitation fees, parking - 15.000 USD. 136-315 sq m.



- 1 sq m - 1200 USD
- ♦ **107. Monument, Verin Antarayin**. inhabited, 8th floor cockloft, gas, window, street view - 1 sq m -1000 USD, city looking - 1 sq m -1500 USD, parking - 4 million preliminary, price: started from 40 sq m
- ♦ **100. Leo str**. half basement parking, 1st floor - shops, 2nd floor - office spaces, elevator, equipped kitchen, central heating, water, height - 2.80 m, beautiful view, will be ready to for use at the end of 2013. 60-300 sq m. 16 floors
- ♦ **87. Sayat-Nova street**, newly built building Given to the operation in December 2012. Climate control, gas, the fasad sector has 3 bedrooms-188 sq.m, 199 sq.m, 1 sq.m- 1900 USD, 2 bedrooms have a beautiful sight- 117 sq.m, 120 sq.m, 124 sq.m, 1 sq.m-1700 USD Price: 1 sq.m- 1900-1700 USD
- ♦ **93. Kievyan street**, newly built building Given to the operation in October 2011, gajats, windows, exterior doors, h -3, 15 m, gas supply, the second floor has a parking lot, parking is possible for sale. Price 12 000 USD possible with mortgage, for 13 years term
- ♦ **94. Masiv**. Newly built, , coupling, 8 flats, in each cottege 4 flats, totall-2000 sq.m, each flat has 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 210 sq.m., parking: 80 sq.m. Price: 160 000 USD

FOR RENT

1 ROOMS

- ♦ **1005. Lalayanc str.**, 11/5, 1room changed into 2, euro repaired, furniture, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique. Price 600USD per month, 40USD per day
- ♦ **853. Amiryan street**, 10/7. 1 turned into 2, 50 sq.m., euro repair, Italian furniture, bed, utensil, techniques, permanent water, gas, antenna, Baxy system. Price 700 USD, 50 USD per day

2 ROOMS

- ♦ **2037. Baghramyan str.**, 5/2, 60sqm, 1 bedroom, euro repaired, modern furniture, spanish tiles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, baxi, AC, technique. Price 100USD per day
- ♦ **2189 Vardanants str**, 24/12, 1 bedroom, newly built, 90 sqm, repaired, furnished, with elevator. Price: 450 000 AMD
- ♦ **1961. Tumanian street**, 4/2, 86sq.m., 1 bedroom, Euro repair, Euro windows, Furnished, permanent hot and cold water. Price: 1200 USD, 1day: 70USD
- ♦ **2186 Buzand str**, 7th floor, 2 rooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, equipped, internet, security system, permanent hot and cold water, gas, heating system, underground parking, beautiful view. Price: 900 USD, 20 000 AMD per day.
- ♦ **2099. Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 2 rooms, all the conveniences, repaired, furnished, water, gas, Baxi heating system, AC, washing machine. Price: 220.000 AMD, per day - 50\$

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦ **2021** Teryan Str, building 8, 9/8,9 4 bedrooms, newly built, 245 sq.m, capially repaired, euro doors and windows, not inhabited,3 bathrooms, 2 halls, heating system. Preliminary price: 3500 USD
- ♦ **2043** Saryan Str., 24 appt 8/2 3 bedrooms,147 sq.m, 2 bathrooms, tiled floors, AC, heating system. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦ **2005. Northern Ave.**, 8/8, 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, parking. Price: 2200 USD
- ♦ **1998 Buzand Str.**, 9/6 3 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, water, gas, heating, view to Republic Square, parking, no service fee. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **2008 Komitas, Vagharshyan Str.**, 7/3, 3 bedrooms, newly built, capially repaired, furnished, heating, 2 bathrooms. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1739. Pushkin str**. 6/5, 3 bedrooms, newly built, capially repaired,2 bathrooms, parking, price: 1600 USD
- ♦ **1723. Northern Ave**. 8/4. 3 bedrooms, 170 sq.m., 3 bedrooms,3 bathrooms, newly built, repaired, furnished , open kitchen, Falkon system. Price: 2000 USD

- ♦ **1942. Teryan str.**, 4/2. 3 bedrooms, 120 sq.m, repaired, furnished kitchen, washing machine, AC, 2 bathrooms, open balcony. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦ **942. Teryan str**. 4/3. 2 bedrooms, 130 sq.m, concrete, Hgt. 3.50, loggia-2, tile/ital., renovation. Price: 1500 USD
- ♦ **1969.** Amiryan str, 12/11. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 180 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed, climate control. Price: 1700 USD
- ♦ **1967. Pushkin str.**, 8/6. 2 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1966. Ekmalyan str.**, 10/5. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 170 sq.m, capially repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed. Price: 1300 USD
- ♦ **1951. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad**. /13, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 122 sq.m, capially repaired, 2 bathrooms, furnished, heating system, climate control, usage fee included. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1950. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad**. /8, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 163 sq.m, capially repaired, 2 bathrooms, furnished, heating system, climate control, open balcony, view to the garden, usage fee included. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **1137. Moskovyan str.**, 6/1, 2 bedrooms, lavatory, pool, normal state, furnished, technique, DVD, AC, permanent hot and cold water. Price 1100USD, possible daily rent.
- ♦ **1790. Byuzand street**, close to Abovyan st., 7/5, newly built, 2bedrooms, euro repaired, 2 balconies, furnished, baxi, technique, 2 lavatories, garage. Price 1600USD per month.
- ♦ **1793. Teryan street**. 260 sq.m, 3 bedrooms, 3 lavatories, capital repair, climat control, parking, unfurnished (possible to furnish), newly built



- Price: 3500 USD
- ♦ **1564. Tumanyan street**, 7/4. 110 sq.m., euro repaire, 2 lavatories, Spanish tyles, permanent hot and cold water, gas, Baxi system, satellite, modern furniture, techniques, garage. Price 1200 USD.
- ♦ **1720. Amiryan Street.**, 18/10, 2 bedrooms, 190 sq/m, newly built, euro windows, permanent hot and cold water, gas, central heating, 2 open balcony, nice view to the city, possible with or without furniture, parking for 3 cars. Price 3000USD per month negotiable, for long term - 6 months and more.

PRIVATE HOUSES

- ♦ **1191 Aygestan**, 2 floors, land 350-400 sqm, building - 270 sqm, 1sr floor - living-room, kitchen, study. 2-nd floor - 4 bedrooms, bathroom, storage room, partly furnished, summer garden, garage, swimming- pool. Starting Price: 3500 USD.
- ♦ **1218. Cascade, freeway**. 3700 sq m, 3 floors brick building - 1490 sq m, capially repaired, walls - otto chento, 5 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, heating, gas, Price: 12.00 USD
- ♦ **999. Aygedzor 1st lane, Land** -1000 sqm, basement + 2 floors' 310 sqm, capially repaired, 4 bedrooms, living room, hall, 4 bathrooms, new furniture, equipped, 3 AC, Baxi, sauna, swimming-pool, house garden, barbeque equipment. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1094. Noy black**, 2 storied building - 400sqm, garden, permanent hot and cold water, furniture, technique, 1 lavatory, gas. Price 2000USD
- ♦ **1095. Aygestan**, 1 storied building - 105sqm, 3bedrooms newly built repaired, furniture, technique 1 lavatory, garden. Price 1000USD per month, 100USD per day.
- ♦ **1096. Blur**, 4 storied building, each floor-160sqm, total-400sqm, euro repaired, 1st floor- garage, sport room, swimming pool, 4 bedrooms, summer kitchen, 3 lavatories, capially repaired, furnished, gas, permanent hot and cold water. Price 4000USD
- ♦ **1152. Baghramyan**, 3 floors, land - 800 sq.m, each floor - 200 sq.m, 10 rooms, 7 bathrooms, newly capially repaired, furnished, equipped, AC, 3 TV, heating system, garage. Price: 3000 USD
- ♦ **1197. Blur str**, 2 floors, land -779 sqm, building-720 sqm, first floor from the yard, basement on the street side, swimming-pool, sauna, living room, 1st floor - hall, study, dining room, 2 bathrooms, 2ond floor -4 bedrooms, 1 study, 4 bathrooms, barn, no furniture. Price 8000 USD
- ♦ **1096. Blur**, Qeru, 5 floors, each floor 160 sqm, land-400 sqm, euro repaired,1st floor-gym, garage, 3rd floor-4 bedrooms, open balcony, nice view, summer kitchen, fireplace, swimming-pool, 5 bathrooms, Jacuzzi. Price: 4000 USD
- ♦ **211. Ajgedzor**. 2 storied, 3 bedrooms, permanent water, capially repaired, beutifull view. Price: 1300-1500 USD

- ♦ **721. Blur Qery street**, land 150 sq.m., 2 stories+ a cellar, 200 sq.m., newly built, telephone, refrigerator, washing machine, 3 bedrooms, garage, 2 lavatories, a pool, camin, permanent hot and cold water, a cellar is used as a sport hall. Price : 3000 USD
- ♦ **1117. Aygestan**, land-420 sq.m., building 646 sq.m., 3 storied, 4 bedrooms, open kitchen, euro repair, new tiles, furnished, techniques. Price" 5000 USD
- ♦ **1195. Nork**, Armenakyan str, 4 floors, land - 2000 sqm, building-520 sqm, capially repaired, furnished, basement, 1st floor-1 living room, study, kitchen, bathroom, living room, swimming-pool, sauna, 2nd floor - 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3rd floor - open balcony, 1 bedroom, bathroom, gym, garden. Price: negotiable
- ♦ **1142. Djrevej**, Bagrevand community. 3 storied, land-1000 sq.m., building-700 sq.m., 1st floor-cellar, pantry, playing room, kitchen, lavatory, 2nd floor- a big hall, kitchen, dining room, 4 bedrooms, 3rd floor- resting room, 1 bedroom repaired, each bedroom has its lavatory, no furniture/ can be furnished, if necessary/garage for 2 cars, parquet, Spanish tiles. Price: 4 000 USD.
- ♦ **1114. Gulakyan Str. in parallel with Baghramyan Str**. 3 storied building 500 sq.m., euro repair, 1st floor: sauna, a pool, kitchen, 2nd floor: kitchen, dining room, 3rd floor 3 bedrooms, lavatories in each floor. Price: 3300 USD
- ♦ **1190. Aygestan str**, 3 floors, capially repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1203. Blur**, H. Emin str, 3 floors, land - 550 sqm, building-450 sqm, capially repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 6000 USD.
- ♦ **1219. Monument**, Aram Cholakyan str, 3 floors, land - 800 sqm, building - 300 sqm, newly capially repaired, partly furnished, euro windows and doors, 1st floor - 2 rooms, garage, 2nd floor - 1 bedroom, 2 rooms, 2 kitchens, 2 bathroom, 3rd floor- 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, water, gas, heating system. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1085. Aygestan distriect**. 2 storied stone building, land 500 sq.m., each floor 12 X 14, 3 bedrooms, a cabinet, 3 lavatories, a cellar, a sauna, kitchen with cupboards, Baxi system, AC. Price 3000 USD
- ♦ **1139. Komitas, Sundukyan street**, 2 stories, stone building, land : 700 sq.m, each floor 185 sq.m, 4 bedrooms, cellar 185 sq.m, , capital repair, Baxi system, swimming pool, a place for barbeque, 2 lavatories, garden, 1 cabinet. Price: 3000 USD
- ♦ **333. Nork**, 3 storied, 250sq.m, euro repair, 4 bedrooms, 7 lavatory, permanent hot and cold water, central heating, natural gas, garden, pool. Price negotiable.
- ♦ **1014. Norq Marash district**. 2 storied, a cellar, capially repaired, land 567sq.m., building 551 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 1 cabinet, furnished, a heating system. Price 2500 USD primary.
- ♦ **1076. Nork**, 2 storied, 220 sq.m., euro repair, in the 1st floor 2 rooms, kitchen, lavatory, in the second floor, separate entrance, open kitchen, 3 bedrooms, lavatory, furnished, view to city, garage, garden. Price: 2000USD
- ♦ **990. In Monument, Papazian street**, 2 storied stone building + half-cellar, has mansard,5bedrooms, 2 kitchens, 2bathrooms, laundry, permanent hot and cold water, gas, plot of land 250sq.m, the size of whole construction is 370 sq.m. Price 2500USD

PREMISES

- ♦ **1694. Komitas, H. Qochar str**, newly built, vitrines, front 20 m, 196 sq m, Price: 3500 USD
- ♦ **1693. Malatia-Sebastia**, 4rh floor., repaired, stone building, 2 entries, no artificial walls separating the territory, climate control, 2 elevators, storage space at the ground floor, parking, two-sided parking in the street. 1200 sq.m. Price: 10.000 USD
- ♦ **1525. Hanrapetutyan street**, 1st floor, 3steps up, h-3.20m, repaired, 1 large hall+3 rooms, 2 entrances, kithen, lavatory. Price 1400USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1526. Byuzand street**, 5/semi-basement, 170sqm, 4-5 step down. cellar-50sqm, has 6 rooms, the largest is 30sqm, 2 entrances, 2 lavatories, 6 windows from street side. Price 2000USD per month, negotiable.
- ♦ **1528. North Avenue**, 9/1, 2 floors, total area 159sqm, 1st floor-66sqm, 2nd floor 93sqm, newly built, euro repaired, has the entrance from the street, security system, heating system. Price 7500USD per month.
- ♦ **1482. North Avenue**, 210 sq.m., 1st floor, with 2 floors, h=8m. Price 10.000 USD
- ♦ **1408. Zarobyany street**, parallel to Baghramyan, 2 storied, 300sq.m.construction, 600 sq.m. land, in a first floor hall and kitchen, in a second floor 5 rooms, bathroom, open balcony, capital euro repair, gas, baxi system, permanent hot and cold water, telephone, garage, fruit garden. Price: Negotiable.
- ♦ **1438. Komitas**, 6 floors, cellar, mansard. Each floor is 120 sq.m., hasa need for cosmet-ic repair, walls are plastered, floor is leveled, hanging ceilings, permanent hot and cold water, gas, parking for 15 cars. Price: Negotiable
- ♦ **1462. Teryan street**, 3 stored, capital repaired, AC, capital repaired, parking, 800sq. Price: 10.000USD

Armenia: Growing likelihood of single presidential candidate's nomination...

From page 1

same person.

All the parliamentary factions, not making part of the ruling majority - the matter concerns Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP), ARF-Dashnaksutyun, and the Heritage /Free Democrats factions - have agreed to the submitted package of legislative amendments. In the past, during work of the parliaments of previous convocations, deputies of these factions made similar proposals, which have now been included in the abovementioned consolidated legislative proposals of the ANC.

To discuss its proposals in the parliament, the ANC faction availed itself of Article 70 of the RA Constitution that allows the parliamentary minority to convene a special session of the parliament. For this purpose, signatures of at least one third of the parliament members, that is, 44 deputies are required. An extraordinary session or sitting of the parliament is held by the agenda and timetable, specified by the initiator.

With the support of the PAP, the ARF-Dashnaksutyun, and the Heritage/Free Democrats factions, the ANC faction has managed to collect 48 signatures of the MPs. Besides, the submitted legislative amendments have been endorsed by a number of authoritative NGOs of Armenia.

It should be noted that it was in the parliament (at the time it consisted of 190 members) of the

1995-1999 term of legislature that the parliamentary minority for the last time succeeded in collecting signatures of a third of the MPs in order to call a special session. At that time, in the summer of 1998, there was a sharp debate in the political and social circles, as well as in the press regarding the privatization order of the Yerevan Brandy Company. The minority secured signatures of a third of deputies. However, the second Armenian President Robert Kocharyan did not fulfill his constitutional obligation, failing to convoke an extraordinary sitting of the parliament.

14 years later the parliamentary minority has again succeeded in collecting a third of signatures of the deputies, but this time the extraordinary sitting did not take place due to the absence of a quorum. The parliamentary majority's deputies from the RPA and the Rule of Law factions did not show up for the extraordinary sitting scheduled for November 21, although Article 6, Part 1, Clause A (The Obligations of a Deputy) of the Rules of Procedure of the RA National Assembly states that a deputy must participate in the sittings of the parliament.

Thus, the matter is that the parliamentary majority ignores the minority's rights enshrined in the Constitution. At the time of writing this article, there was still some uncertainty as to what the parliamentary minority would do regarding the issue of calling an

extraordinary sitting by the agenda, which was suggested by the minority itself. In particular, it is still not clear whether the ANC faction intends to organize collection of deputies' signatures under an appeal to the Constitutional Court of Armenia, demanding that a decision obligating the parliamentary majority to comply with Article 70 of the Constitution be adopted. We should remind the reader that in order to appeal to the Constitutional Court, the respective lawsuit shall bear signatures of one fifth of the parliament deputies. In fact, the matter is whether the parliamentary majority intends to comply with the requirements of the Constitution.

However, apart from a purely legal aspect, this story also has a political connotation, which indicates that:

- i) The ruling majority is unwilling to promote the creation of favorable conditions for holding a free and fair presidential election, that is to say, as usual, the ruling majority stakes on administrative resource, bribery of voters, and support from criminal structures;

- ii) the ruling majority, which controls no less than 74 seats in the National Assembly, has proved unprepared to maintain its stand concerning the submitted legislative amendments. In addition, the majority was apparently afraid of the debate, even though the ANC and its partners were

ready to make compromises with the ruling majority over the submitted draft laws;

Indeed, in case of any (even most unfavorable) course of discussion of the legislative amendments presented by the extra-coalition forces, the ANC and the Rule of Law factions could have blocked them by a majority of their votes. It seems reasonable to assume that their nonparticipation in the extraordinary sitting of the parliament by the opposition-suggested agenda has to do with the fact that the parliamentary majority is not confident of cohesion of its ranks when the matter concerns the submitted legislative changes. This assumption is based on the fact that 6 deputies of the ruling coalition did not support the demand of the Prosecutor General's Office to strip former Foreign Minister Vartan Oskanian of his deputy immunity;

- iii) the rapid establishment of closer ties among the three extra-coalition forces: the PAP, the ANC, and the ARF-Dashnaksutyun - is obvious. The successful inter-party consultations between them bear evidence of this. After each round of the consultations, the participating sides made statements to the effect that they accept the idea of fielding a single candidate.

We should point out the circumstance that on November 21 - the day when the special session of the parliament was scheduled to take place on the demand of the

extra-coalition forces, BHK leader Gagik Tsarukyan made a remarkable statement to the effect that for himself, he already took a decision related to the upcoming presidential election. True, he did not voice that decision; he did not declare his intention of running in the upcoming presidential election. Nonetheless, he declared that he will spend the time left before the nomination of candidates "hearing the opinions of the ANC members and partners in the political field".

One day before G. Tsarukyan's statement, the coordinator and head of the ANC faction Levon Zurabyan made a remarkable statement that the cooperation with the PAP is acceptable to the opposition whose objective is to get rid of President Serzh Sargsyan. In particular, L. Zurabyan said that "it is necessary to get rid of the Serzh Sargsyan regime. If there is a chance of such unification, why should we miss it? Nobody gave us a guarantee of fidelity; we are just trying to reach an agreement and to do what the people expect us to do. If we succeed, it will be a good thing, if we fail - we will continue by our own efforts".

The aforesaid shows that the nomination a single presidential candidate by the PAP, the ANC, and, most probably, the ARF-Dashnaksutyun is a very likely scenario of developments in Armenia.



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*There are so many places in the world where you
can spend your money ...
Give us a chance to spend it on you
unforgettable trip!*

"Spirit in Motion" ~ an evening of ballet



Sireliner,

I am Rudolf Kharatian, the artistic director of the National Ballet of Armenia and the founder of Ballet 2021, a foundation whose mission is to support the development of the art of ballet in Armenia.

On December 1, 2012, the foundation will launch its activities with "Spirit in Motion" ~ an evening of ballet with leading dancers of the Armenian National Opera and Ballet Theatre. The program will include jewels of the classical repertoire, as well as contemporary favourites, by renowned choreographers including Arthur St-Leon, Marius Petipa and Yuri Grigorovitch.

Please join us - and help spread the word! - in celebration and support of the art of ballet in Armenia. I look forward to seeing you at the Sundukyan Theatre!



What: "Spirit in Motion" ~ an evening of ballet

When: December 1, 2012 at 19h00

Where: Sundukyan National Academic Theatre

*Tickets on sale at the Sundukyan Theatre box office - 52 76 70, 52 57 72, 077 36 87 01
For information, call (+374 1) 561 280, (+374 93) 452 472, ballet2021@gmail.com*



Dr Federico Faggin, the 2012 Global IT Award Laureate:

"Wow, Armenia, a Cradle of Civilization!"

Legendary "father of microprocessors" warns: only renewed commitment to love and respect will save the mankind

By Gourgen James Khazhakian
Chief correspondent

In accordance with a Decree of President of Armenia **Serzh Sargsyan** Dr **Federico Faggin**, Chairman Emeritus of Synaptics, Inc., President of Federico and Elvia Faggin Foundation has been awarded with the 2012 Global Award of the President of the Republic of Armenia for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT.

Federico Faggin was born in Vicenza, Italy in 1941 and graduated from the Technical Institute "A. Rossi" of Vicenza in 1960. Working for Olivetti, he co-designed and built a small experimental electronic computer in 1961, at the age of 19. During 1961-1965 he studied physics at the University of Padua, Italy. In 1967 Faggin joined SGS-Fairchild where he developed SGS's first MOS (metal oxide semiconductor) process technology and designed their first two commercial MOS integrated circuits (ICs).

In Feb. 1968 Faggin joined Fairchild Semiconductor R&D Lab in Palo Alto, California, where he led the development of the MOS Silicon Gate Technology and designed the world's first commercial IC with silicon gate, the Fairchild 3708. Notably, the Silicon Gate Technology was adopted worldwide and laid the foundation for all contemporary ICs.

Mr Faggin worked for Intel Corporation from 1970 to 1974. In 1970-71 he led the design and development of the 4004, the world's first microprocessor, and the other 3 chips of the MCS-4 product family. In 1971-72, Faggin led the development of the 8008, the world's first 8-bit microprocessor. He also architected and led the development of the Intel 8080 and the Intel 4040 microprocessors. Faggin was Department Manager of Intel's Research and Development Group from 1973 to 1974.

In 1974 Faggin co-founded Zilog, Inc., the first company entirely dedicated to the emergent microprocessors and microcontrollers market. At Zilog Dr Faggin conceived, architected and led the development of the Z80 microprocessor, one of the most successful microprocessors ever produced, still in high volume production in 2012.

In 1982, Faggin co-founded Cygnet Technologies, Inc., which developed the first personal integrated voice and data communication product. In 1986 Faggin co-founded Synaptics, Inc., which developed the early touchpads now universally used in notebook computers and mobile devices. From Jan. 1999 until Nov. 2008 he served as Chairman of the Board, and he is now Chairman Emeritus.

From 2003 to 2008 Faggin was President, CEO and Director of Foveon, Inc., a company that developed a breakthrough technology for image sensors.

Dr Faggin is now President of Federico and Elvia Faggin Foundation, a non-profit organiza-

tion dedicated to the scientific study of consciousness.

Global Award of the President of the Republic of Armenia for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT

To remind, on July 6th, 2009, RA President **Serzh Sargsyan** issued a Decree establishing a

At the Genocide Memorial: "...Mankind Can Never Forget the Horror that Hatred Can Cause..."

Traditionally, the very first place such dignitaries visit is 1915 Armenian Genocide Victims Memorial in Tsitsernakaberd.

So on November 20, just after a breakfast hosted by the US

memory of the Armenian Genocide victims by Federico Faggin, Chairman Emeritus of Synaptics, Inc., President of Federico and Elvia Faggin Foundation, 2012 Laureate of the Global Award of the President of the Republic of Armenia for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT 20.11.2012".

"I am saddened obviously, but,



President Sargsyan: "...We are glorifying brilliant individuals like Mr Faggin as role models for our children, examples of how one should live and work"

Global Award of the President of the Republic of Armenia for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT (Global IT Award). The Global IT Award annually honors an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to humanity through advancing the world of IT. The Award highlights Armenia on the world IT map as a growing high-tech destination.

Inaugurated in 2009, the Global IT Award is granted on an annual basis to an individual whose internationally acclaimed contributions to IT have resulted in near-revolutionary or revolutionary developments that have positively impacted or hold the potential to positively impact the humanity. The contributions may be in the technological, educational, organizational, or financial areas.

Previous Laureates of the Award were retired CEO/Chairman of the Board of Intel Corporation



Dr Hovik Musayelyan: "Hi-tech/ICT of Armenia provides country's competitiveness in the world"

Ambassador to Armenia H.E. **John Heffern**, Mr and Mrs Faggins laid flowers to the Eternal Flame. As it befits, after they were guided through expositions of the Genocide Museum-Institute.

...A couple of extracts from Dr Faggin's impressions he put in the Guestbook:

"... All this is to remember what happened so that mankind can never forget the horror that hatred can cause..."

also I have a hope that the documentation [at the Armenian Genocide Museum - Institute] which kept alive memory [of the victims], will make people moving away from hatred and go to love each other and life..."

-Before coming to Armenia, have you heard about the Armenian Genocide?

-Yes, indeed, but that is nothing compared with seeing these documents personally, to imagine the real scale of the tragedy, of the atrocities which were committed. It's so shocking, but at the same time I'm also glad that I have seen all these documents, because only through seeing them yourself, i.e. having direct experience, you can have a real sense of what really happened...



At the Armenian Genocide Memorial: "...Mankind can never forget the horror that hatred can cause..."

Dr **Craig Barrett** and Co-Founder of Apple Computer, Inc. **Steve Wozniak**, received the Global IT Award from the RA President Serzh Sargsyan in 2010 and 2011 respectively. (The Highlights covered both events extensively). The Sponsor of the Award is VivaCell-MTS (thru Hayastan All-Armenian Fund).

On Nov. 19 Dr Faggin, accompanied by Mrs **Elvia Faggin**, arrived in Armenia, to receive GIT Award.

...I hope that lessons of history that this Memorial teaches will help the process of conversation from hatred to love and compassion..."

Elvia Faggin told your correspondent, "...I am very impressed... If the Genocide committed against Armenians is not recognized, it can happen with anyone of us, any country, so it's a duty for all of us to know about it..."

Dr Federico Faggin, naturally, planted a tree, and a special plaque was set there, with inscription "In

At the VivaCell-MTS Headquarters: News Conference and a Lecture for ICT Community and Society Reps

"Wow, Armenia, a Cradle of Civilization!"

On Wednesday November 21 Dr Federico Faggin was hosted at VivaCell-MTS headquarters.

First, a press conference was held there.

The Event was opened by the host, **Ralph Yirikian**, General Manager of VivaCell-MTS, the Sponsor of the GIT Award. After welcoming Dr Faggin and Mrs Elvia Faggin, Mr Yirikian gave floor to **Hovik Musayelyan**, Director of Synopsys Armenia CJSC, and Chairman of the Executive Board of GIT Award Committee. Dr Musayelyan reminded briefly the idea and history of the Award stating that they have had a great sense of responsibility as they should met, in his words, "a quite high benchmark". Hovik Musayelyan said that about a decade ago ICT was declared by the RA leadership a priority, 'cause, in his words, it was evident that our country's competitive advantages were right in the ICT area, and since that time the sector has seen obvious achievements accompanied by noteworthy events.

"And it seems that we have succeeded in this sense," said Dr Musayelyan, and in this connection reminded that the first and the second Laureates of the Award were real luminaries, legends of the hi-tech/ IT world Dr Craig R. Barrett and Steve Wozniak.

"Today, we are proud to host Dr Federico Faggin, an author of numerous innovations in the area of IT, a world recognized authority in microelectronics," stated Dr Musayelyan.

"... This is not just a celebration of some of the greatest luminaries in hi-tech, like Dr Federico Faggin, this is a celebration of Armenia, this Award is Armenia's trump card to the world," said **Rich Goldman**, VP of Synopsys, Inc., CEO of Synopsys Armenia, Co-Chairman of GIT Award Committee.

"The fact that such luminaries come to Armenia to share their experiences with us, for them to discover Armenia, for them to see what's happening in technology in Armenia, is a very significant thing... And through publicity about this Award, others as well will discover Armenia, and they will see Armenia is a good place for them to come..."

Dr Federico Faggin said that for him it was "a real pleasure to visit Armenia for the first time." He said he already had visited the major sites, including [Viasphere] Technopark, which, in his words, "shows tremendous progress since it has started in 2000 and has been creating a technological hub for hi-tech industry in Armenia" and. "...I was very impressed as this was a great start."

During his conversation with representatives of companies working in Technopark, the world-renowned engineer and scientist felt "a big will and a big capacity in Armenia to get to the forefront in some specific sectors of the world high/information technology".

"I'm really honored with this Award of Armenia's President, and now Armenia is in discovery for me," concluded Dr Faggin.

So, when the time for questions from mass media has come, The Highlights correspondent asked a question which anyone could have asked: What was Dr Faggin's very first thought when he just learned

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Dr Federico Faggin, the 2012 Global IT Award Laureate: "Wow, Armenia, a Cradle of Civilization!"

Legendary "father of microprocessors" warns: only renewed commitment to love and respect will save the mankind

From page 7

that he has been nominated for the Armenian GIT Award?

The answer was: "Wow! Armenia!"

"Why?" goes on your tireless correspondent.

words about our Homeland's good future or making Armenia known in the world in various fields, but unfortunately, there are many who are only speaking about doing something, and there are few who prefer doing and not speaking about it much. VivaCell-MTS has

followed by a Dr Faggin's lecture-presentation on the future of informatics in the modern world.

...To say that it was an interesting and informative and attracted a round of questions, comments, as well as applause, is to say (almost) nothing: take a look at the range of

the Natl Academy of Science, Professor **Ara Avetisyan** told during a brief chat with your correspondent (who is a SEUA alumnus, by the way). "In addition to the encyclopedic scientific knowledge I felt a real kindness..."

So after the last statement of the

Faggins were warmly received, as it befits Armenians, at the State Engineering University of Armenia where Federico Faggin, "in recognition of outstanding contribution to the ICT and on the occasion of the visit to SEUA", was granted the degree of SEUA Honorary Doctor.



The GIT third Laureate hosted at the VivaCell-MTS. From left to right: Ralph Yirikian, Dr Faggin, Dr Rich Goldman, Dr Hovik Musayelyan

"Because Armenia is a cradle of civilization."

[Grazie, signore Faggin! These words, we believe, could be a very good impetus for today's Armenians' brains, this millennia old legacy, isn't it so?]

"Definitely, my wife Elvia and I were excited, so here we are, and we decided to stay three more days after the GIT Award ceremony, - to see the Country's major sites, i.e., "to discover" Armenia", said Dr Faggin.

And the next question by your author was addressed to other participants of news conference and was the following: "One of the missions of the GIT Award, in the RA President Serzh Sargsyan's words put in the Booklet was "raising Armenia's rating as of a country that declared IT a priority sector for the development of its economy". So, today, after having already the third GIT Laureate, do we have notable results observed in that sense?"

As Rich Goldman said, the Global IT Award of the RA President and the ArmTech Congress held under the auspices of the RA Prime Minister, are their efforts to promote knowledge-based economy in Armenia. Dr Goldman advised your correspondent to get answer to this question after seeing the results of the fifth ArmTech Congress to be held at Stanford University (CA, USA) on December 10-11.

Dr Musayelyan agreed with Dr Goldman in terms of visible outcomes of GIT Award, ArmTech and the other measures and events they have been organizing within last years, adding that they expect "formation of a good technological platform to summarize what have been done, and what should be done in the future" at the ArmTech 2012.

In response to another question by yours truly whether they expect the presence of the three Laureates of the GIT Award, Dr Barrett, Mr Wozniak and Dr Faggin at the fifth ArmTech, Dr Musayelyan said that all three Laureates are, in his words, "members of the Club of Friends of Armenia", so regardless their physical presence, their presence will be felt at the Congress.

Taking the advantage of the occasion, Hovik Musayelyan once again thanked Ralph Yirikian for VivaCell-MTS's sponsorship of the Award.

In turn, Mr Yirikian made a statement which attracted attention of all the gathered: "We often hear

been supporting the Global IT Award as it is an excellent tool for positioning Armenia on the world map as a country rating high in the sphere of hi-tech. We see that Armenia has a huge unrealized potential for national achievements in the sphere of high technologies, and for the economic growth, as its outcome. Any serious project cannot be a one-time thing, it should be

presentation chapter headlines: "The Future of Computer Science", "Classical Computers", "Cognitive Computers", i.e. computers capable of "understanding", "The Future of Information Technology", "Internet of Things", "Driveless Cars", and the conclusion of the presentation was that "the information revolution will continue to shape our society in deeper ways than the indus-

great scientist establishment of the Federico and Elvia Faggin Foundation aimed at scientifically studying the consciousness, doesn't seem like a mere coincidence, not at all.

I would be so risky to make an exact citation from Dr Faggin's lecture at VivaCell-MTS - it seems it sounds like "The consciousness is a property of the nature..."



Engineering University Rector Ara Avetisyan and newly bred SEUA Hon. Doctor Federico Faggin with spouse Elvia



continuous. And we will continue to support this Project which is a bridge connecting our country to the [technologically] developed countries, as well as the other programs aimed at making true all of the words/ good wishes to see our Hayrenik (Homeland) developed and so having good future".

When asked by a lady partici-

trial revolution: our way of life will irreversibly change as we discover that information processing and consciousness are central to life, giving birth to the fourth societal revolution".

And a very philosophical statement reflects all the humanism of Federico Faggin, the man and the thinker: "Humanity is entering a

And, as an honorable clergyman, Fr **Mesrop Aramyan** was in the audience, your humble servant "provoked" a discussion between the scientist who has always been trying to understand everything, and a servant of God, who stated that "the consciousness is of divine nature".

After awarding ceremony Dr Faggin held a presentation, this time entitled "How Much Life is Left in Moore's Law?" which amazed even prominent scientists attending the lecture.

Here you author would put another citation from the Professor Avetisyan: "Dr Faggin ingeniously demonstrated to us a synergy of an engineering, the so-called "traditional" natural disciplines, such as physics, chemistry etc plus new branches of science emerging at their junction which gives us absolutely new, one could say, unexpected solutions. Each of the slides shown by Dr Faggin contained ideas for a number of dissertations..."

...So, we saw a Scientist, mighty and rich, who, I might point out, at the same time is ready to share his encyclopedic knowledge with really everybody, from a fellow professor to a freshman student, with kindness and generosity.

I'd dare to say that we saw today a real **Maestro** of the applied science."

Well, if you can, phrase it better. In turn, "Maestro" Faggin was impressed by the number of "talented people with excellent ideas" he has met in Armenia. Asked by a lady reporter to assess the hi-tech industry of Armenia, Dr Faggin repeated a statement he made a day before meeting the reps of hi-tech/ICT community: "Armenia is a developing country, and has good chances to be at the forefront of the specific sectors of the world industry". (In a chat with reporters Hovik Musayelyan named among those "specific sectors", first of all, micro-electronics.)

And after applause from the audience which turned into ovation, your correspondent asked Dr Faggin if he will come back to Armenia for a series of lectures, - for a longer time?

The answer from the great scientist sounded like the following: "In this atmosphere of friendship and warmth, is it possible to give any other answer than "yes"?!"

...Looking to Ms Elvia Faggin, yours truly recollected the following words: "Behind any great man always is a great woman..."

Professor Avetisyan seemed to have read my thoughts when he said to Mrs Faggin at the University door: "Take care our University Doctor, as this is a woman who takes care of the Genius..."



Federico and Elvia Faggins "discovering Armenia"...

pant of the meeting which was the most memorable one among numerous awards Dr Faggin has received within his long career, the third Laureate of GIT Award said, "Perhaps the National Medal of Technology and Innovation that I have received two years ago from President Obama."

And the news conference was

critical period of its evolution. Only through a renewed commitment to respect and love life in all its forms will this transition conclude happily."

(Looking ahead, yours truly would like to refer to what the Rector of State Engineering University of Armenia (SEUA, Polytechnic), Associate Member of

Federico Faggin Becomes Honorary Doctor of the Polytechnic

Rector Ara Avetisyan: "...We Saw a Maestro of the Applied Science, Mighty and at the Same Time Kind and Generous..."

So the next day Dr and Mrs

Cont. on page 11

PM to head the Armenian delegation of "ArmTech Congress 2012"

Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan will head the Armenian delegation of "ArmTech Congress 2012" due to be held in the Silicon Valley (USA) on December 10-11.

Armenian Minister of Economy Tigran Davtyan said this on November 22 noting that the fifth annual ArmTech Congress will be held in the Stanford University.

"The congress will be dedicated to Armenia's economy and issues of high technologies development", said Tigran Davtyan.

The congress is expected to host about 150 participants and 40 of them - from Armenia. According to Tigran Davtyan, "ArmTech Congress 2012" will host top representatives of major transnational organizations - IBM, Intel, Microsoft and others.

"I think we'll manage to sign at least 3-4 agreements during the



congress and they will present the investments in Armenia and activity initiatives. As a result of the agreements, considerable activities and production will unfold throughout Armenia. We also expect bilateral meetings and discussions", said the Minister of Economy.

"Development of high technologies in Armenia is very

important for us. We have already made huge success but we should create a high tech economy to continue the successes. Bringing "ArmTech" to Stanford, we expect to have serious discussions aimed at developing the high-tech sphere. The organization of this congress is a very big achievement for us", added Synopsis Armenia CEO Reach Goldman.

Canadian company is willing to provide Armenian space program with financial support

Armenian Minister of Transport and Communication Gagik Beglaryan hosted Mag Iskander President of "MDA Information System" on November 20 who visited Armenia on the invitation of Beglaryan. As the information department of the Ministry of Transport and Communication informed, MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates (MDA) projects focus on the exploration, sustainable development and management of the Earth's resources and the monitoring of the environment. MDA is a world leader in the utilization of remote sensing data from aircraft and satellites and is the largest commercial provider of enhanced satellite imagery.

During the meeting Armenian Minister presented the space program of the Republic of Armenia,



according to which it is supposed to create satellite broadcasting for Armenia. The Minister informed that about the current level of the works carried out in the framework of the program.

Mag Iskander President of "MDA Information System" expressed his interest over the Armenian space program and

highlighted his readiness to comprehensively participate in the implementation of it. It was mainly noted that the company might assure the financial support for the program. Mag Iskander also expressed his gratitude for the invitation and warm reception and hoped to host Armenian Minister in Canada in near future.

SME Development Council Reviews Tax Law Amendments

Chaired by Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan, the SME Development Council held an extraordinary meeting in the Office of Government.

The Council discussed the impact of tax law amendments on SME environment. In this context, the Prime Minister said, "You may know that a new legislative package is being discussed in an effort to improve the tax laws applicable to small and medium businesses. We have tried to include such provisions as are consistent with the wishes and needs of small and medium-sized businesses and should better the business environment and tax administration. On the agenda are those key points included in this legislation."

Deputy Minister of Finance Suren Karayan and Deputy Head of State Revenue Committee Vakhtang Mirumian provided details of the following amended laws: "On Turnover Tax," "On Value Added Tax," "On Profit Tax," "On Income Tax," "On Taxes," "On the Use of Cash-registers," "On Organizing and Conducting Inspections," "On Operational Intelligence Activity," "On Accounting," "On Mineral Resources," "On Licensing," "On State Duty," "On Environmental Payments," "On Road Fees," "On Public Utility Regulatory Fees," "On Excise Tax," "On Cash-register Transactions," "On Trade



and Services," "On tax and mandatory social security payments of benefits." The meeting also discussed amendments to the Customs Code. The heads of non-governmental organizations representing the interests of SMEs expressed satisfaction at the proposed package of amendments and made some comments.

Summarizing the meeting, the Prime Minister said that the proposed changes imply legislative adjustments aimed at easing the tax burden, reducing red tape and facilitating SME activities. The Prime Minister told the representatives of the agencies concerned to discuss with NGOs the proposals made during the meeting in order to submit a finalized version of the package.

"Telethon 2012" raised donations and pledges of USD 21 million 422, 477



The "Hayastan" All-Armenian Fund's 15th annual Telethon raised donations and pledges of USD 21 million 422, 477. It was on air from Los Angeles for 12 hours. The Telethon was held under the slogan "Our Village," Telethon 2012 aimed to raise support for constructing community centers in villages throughout Armenia and Artsakh, as well as providing urgent relief to the Syrian-Armenian community.

This year, fundraisers have been held in the United States, Canada (Montreal and Toronto), France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Greece,

Sweden, Great Britain, Austria, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, and Russia (Moscow). Funds raised through all 2012 events have been added to the proceeds of the Telethon, and the grand total was announced prior to the conclusion of the event.

It has been already 20 years that the "Hayastan" All-Armenian Fund's raises funds via the Armenians worldwide for the realization of the needs of socio-economic importance in Armenia and Artsakh. Last year the "Hayastan" All-Armenian Fund announced USD 12,286,478 worth donations and pledges raised at its Telethon 2011.

Government takes drastic steps to improve business environment

A Cabinet sitting was held on November 22, chaired by Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan.

Opening the meeting, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Armenia, the Prime Minister congratulated banking sector staff on their professional holiday and wished them every success.

The Executive approved a set of amendments to the law "On trade and services" and 15 other legal acts in a bid to operate drastic improvement of the business environment, strengthen the country's economic security, improve the system of taxation of small and medium businesses, create equal conditions for competition and so on.

"As a whole, it refers to the betterment of the business climate. Emphasis is placed on small and medium-size businesses to create favorable conditions. In particular, a turnover tax is introduced exempting small and medium-size businesses from income tax and value added tax. As result, 13 types of tax returns are banned to form a simpler system of tax administration. This was long awaited in the business circles," the Premier noted.

Minister of Economy Tigran Davtyan reported his ministry's compliance with tax obligations and growth-oriented performance (questions N10).

Given the current situation in Syria, bearing in mind that the safety of about 100,000 Armenians living is in danger, the government is taking urgent measures to ensure the safety of our compatriots and organize their return to the homeland.

The Executive decided to exempt

from the payment of AMD 65 thousand-worth State duty required to deliver or replace a valid foreign passport for such foreign citizens of Armenian origin or Armenian citizens as may be facing an emergency situation in the country of their permanent residence.

The government approved an action plan for the founding of an export credit agency as a credit insurance company.

Export credit insurance as a practical solution to the government's export-oriented policy is a tool to benefit a large number of beneficiaries, exporters. At the next stage of development, the newly formed entity will grow into a self-financing system operational on a commercial basis, as evidenced by the European countries' experience.

With another decision the government authorized the Museum of History of Armenia to extend the "temporary export" customs regime up till December 9, 2015 for a cross-stone exported to Italy that has been on display in a public square next to Braski museum of Rome for about 10 months now.

The meeting agreed to the proposal on signing a cooperation agreement between the governments of Armenia and the Kingdom of Spain in the field of tourism.

The meeting passed two decisions to endorse the proposals on signing relevant arrangements between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Chile on abolition of visa requirement for diplomatic and official passports, as well as on cultural cooperation.

News from VivaCell-MTS

VivaCell-MTS Career Development Program presented at Education and Career EXPO 2012

On November 14 VivaCell-MTS informed that the Company's Career Development Program was presented at Education and Career EXPO 2012.

In the scope of the Career Development Program various projects are being implemented directed to students, professors, schoolchildren and, in general, to the development of the educational sphere.

During the 4 years of the Career Development Program about 64 lectures for more than 5000 students were delivered by the General Manager of VivaCell-MTS, Memorandum of Understanding was signed with approximately 37 higher educational institutions, 26 Open Doors sessions were organized for more than 450 students and schoolchildren from Yerevan and the regions, 6 VivaCell-MTS School sessions were held in the premises of the Company, more than 250 students were hosted for internship in VivaCell-MTS respective units, 200 students benefit from the Education Fund program, about 29 universities were equipped with computed auditoriums with new PCs, printers, interactive boards, laser projectors, internet access and other modern equipments.

VivaCell-MTS is one of those few companies where the people with special needs and their problems are given special attention and care. Nowadays there are over 37 people with special needs working with the Company, and the attitude to them can't be described other than respect, dignity, equity, and humility.

"VivaCell-MTS has developed a unique Program of Career Development aimed at helping students combine theory with practice, develop and use skills in a real working environment. This way we are trying to share with the younger generation the extensive pull of practical knowledge developed in the course of our activities, which will help them self-realize in the Motherland, stay and create value for the own country", said VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian** at the opening ceremony of the Expo.

The Education and Career EXPO 2012 was held from November 14 to 16 in the Yerevan Computer Research and Development Institute (Mergelyan Institute). The aim of the Expo is to provide information to schoolchildren and students regarding the whole spectrum of modern educational approaches and techniques, encourage creating new business relationship schemes between educational institutions, inform about most demanded specializa-



tions in the labor market, organize meetings between employers and job seekers, encourage state, private and public sectors to come up with new educational initiatives.

VivaCell-MTS is also the general information sponsor of the Expo.

Database for Digital Resources website is launched

On November 16 Armenia's leading telecom operator announced hosting the presentation of the database for Digital Resources website (<http://lib.armedu.am>) at the headquarters of the Company. The website was created with financial support by VivaCell-MTS.

Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia **Armen Ashotyan**, VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**, as well as representatives of organizations implementing programs in the spheres of education, information, and communication participated in the event.

The creation of electronic learn-

ing resources is aimed at providing continuous development in introducing IT technologies in the sphere of education, providing rich electronic content and creating a shared platform of learning and teaching resources.

The website rooms classified educational, learning, and teaching electronic resources of various levels in an array of disciplines, making those resources available to educators, teachers/instructors, students

and other users.

"Knowledge, besides being an instrument for the development of a person, is a symbol of responsibility. Each person educates himself to be useful for the environment and his/her country. I want to believe that the 'Database for Digital Resources' will serve its goal and will become a good tool for research without consuming much time", noted VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

National Center for Learning Technologies State Non-Profit Organization implements programs of introducing information and communication technologies in the schools of Armenia.

Now the turn of Armenia's leading telecom operator's novelties has come...

Package of services "BlackBerry Social" for prepaid subscribers

On November 20 VivaCell-MTS introduced the "BlackBerry Social" - a package of Internet and social net-

working services for prepaid subscribers designed especially for young people. By subscribing to the package, one will get:

- **A BlackBerry® e-mail address** (XXXXXXXX@vivacell.blackberry.com): the subscriber will receive the messages sent to this address in real time and will be able to carry on all his/her correspondence directly from the smartphone.



- **Instant messaging via BlackBerry® Messenger**, as well as Windows Live Messenger, Google Talk and ICQ applications specially developed for BlackBerry® smartphones
- **Social networking** via Facebook, Flickr Photo Uploader and MySpace applications specially developed for BlackBerry® smartphones
- **Embedded Internet**

"BlackBerry Social" package can be activated for on a day, week or month. In case there is sufficient amount on the subscriber's account by the end of the subscription, the service will be automatically prolonged, otherwise it will be deactivated.

To activate or deactivate the "BlackBerry Social", or to get information about it, one needs to send the corresponding command.

New BlackBerry offers available to VivaCell-MTS subscribers

On November 23 VivaCell-MTS, Armenia's leading telecom operator company, informed that now VivaCell-MTS customers in Armenia will be able to avail of the

new BlackBerry® Social service plan, which is being introduced as part of a number of new BlackBerry service plans on offer from VivaCell-MTS.

The new service plan recognizes the growing number of people who enjoy using social networks in Armenia. The BlackBerry Social service plan enables customers to stay connected with their contacts on social networks from their BlackBerry® smartphone, offering

unlimited access across a number of platforms including Facebook®, Twitter® and Flickr™. Customers can conveniently send status updates to their friends, tag pictures and much more. Customers can also instantly message their contacts on BlackBerry® Messenger (BBM™), one of the largest mobile social networks with 60 million customers around the world.

"We are excited to bring the new BlackBerry Social plan to our technology-savvy customers who are active on social networks. With the new plan, along with our other BlackBerry service offerings, we are certain customers will enjoy the freedom to stay connected wherever they are and access the information they want while on the go, whether for personal or business use," said VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

VivaCell-MTS currently offers a range of BlackBerry smartphones at its 66 stores across Armenia to meet the diverse needs of its growing and increasingly social customers.

BlackBerry, RIM, Research In Motion and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited.

"The Fifth ArmTech Will Bring Armenia's Hi-Tech/IT to the Higher Level"

Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan will lead the Armenian delegation to the Congress to be held in Silicon Valley on Dec.10-11



By **Gourgen James Khazhakian**
Chief correspondent

Armenian Minister of Economy **Tigran Davtyan** informed mass media reps on participation of RA PM Sargsyan at the ArmTech Congress 2012 during a news conference held on November 22 at the RA Ministry of Economy, pointing out that the fifth annual Congress will be held in such a prestigious place as Stanford University.

"The Congress will be dedicated to the issues of economic development of Armenia - in general and the development of high technologies - in particular", said Tigran Davtyan.

The Congress is expected to host about 150 participants, and 40 of them - from Armenia. According to Minister Davtyan, in ArmTech Congress 2012 top reps of major transnational organizations such as IBM, Intel, Microsoft and others will participate.

Naturally, during the Congress. *"Within the framework of the Congress we'll have not only meetings and discussions",* said the Minister of Economy adding that they hope to have at least 3-4 agreements signed and they will about the investments in Armenia and activity initiatives which, in turn, would lead



to creation of new jobs in our country. (As The Highlights has got knew from a source, in particular, a document will be signed with Intel).

Tigran Davtyan said they expected also bilateral meetings with the world IT giants top management. *"Our team has worked hard, as it was not an easy thing, - to organize such a Forum abroad Armenia, especially in the heart of the world hi-tech, Silicon Valley",* he said. Taking this advantage, Minister Davtyan thanked members of the Congress Organizing Committee, first of all **Tony Moroyan**, and also **Rich Goldman** and **Bagrat Yengibaryan**, as well as expressed the Government's acknowledgement to the private hi-tech/IT sector and

USAID(EDMC) for their financial and organizational support.

RA Economy Minister also informed the journalists that they are to open Armenia Rep Office at the Silicon Valley in the days of ArmTech. The Chairman and CEO of Viasphere International, Inc., Co-Founder/Co-Chairman of ArmTech Congress, a veteran (since mid-60s) of Silicon Valley Anthony (Tony) Moroyan agreed that the organization of such a conference in Silicon Valley is of a certain importance. Mr Moroyan stated: *"This is a good opportunity for the participants to organize discussions and negotiations and find partners as well as new options for investments."*

He, in particular, reminded the

gathered three major goals of ArmTech:

- a) Presenting the world Armenia's hi-tech/IT;
- b) Creating PanArmenian network of relevant professionals;
- c) Attracting investments to Armenia.

"Development of high technologies in Armenia is very important for us. We have already made huge success but we should create a high tech economy to continue the successes. Bringing ArmTech to Stanford, we expect to have serious discussions aimed at developing the high tech sphere. The organization of this Congress is a very big achievement for us", added Synopsys Armenia CEO, Co-Founder/Co-Chairman of ArmTech Congress Rich Goldman. *"We believe the fifth ArmTech will bring Armenia's hi-tech/IT to the higher level",* he said.

Director of Enterprise Incubator Foundation (EIF) Bagrat Yengibaryan stressed that the time has told it was right decision to hold ArmTech every second time in Silicon Valley as many companies working there and having poor information not only on Armenia, but also on the whole South Caucasus region, have a good opportunity to enrich

their knowledge. He said their partners in the USA did their very best to convince the management of Stanford University to hold ArmTech there, as it is a really exceptional case when a country presentation is being held there.

The Highlights correspondent asked Mr Minister the following question (looking to his watches, which is, to note, a product of Armenian hi-tech industry): *"...Well, just in a couple of hours President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan will hand RA President's annual Global IT Award to 'father of microprocessors' Dr Federico Faggin (see also p.p.1,2,7,8 of this issue) ...D'you expect participation of the three Laureates of the Award in the ArmTech 2012?"*

And the Chief of the Congress Organizing Committee Tigran Davtyan responded as: *"It's very symbolic that our meeting with our colleagues, distinguished mass media reps on the ArmTech coincided with the solemn handing of the Presidential GIT Award as one of the major goals of the both is to focus world's attention to our country's hi-tech...Yes, we expect the Laureates of the Award in December in Stanford..."*

Well, good luck ArmTech 2012!

Dr Federico Faggin, the 2012 Global IT Award Laureate: "Wow, Armenia, a Cradle of Civilization!"

Legendary "father of microprocessors" warns: only renewed commitment to love and respect will save the mankind

From page 8

The Culmination: The Awarding Ceremony

In the evening of the same day, November 22 President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan and Mrs **Rita Sargsyan** received Dr Federico Faggin and Ms Elvia Faggin.

During his tete-a-tete conversation with the Armenian President Dr Faggin said it was a big honor to him to receive the Award and shared with the Head of the State his impressions he has got from the "ancient land of Armenia, a cradle of civilization."

And after that, at the Ceremony Hall of the Presidential Palace, President Sargsyan awarded the Laureate with the Gold Medal and the Trophy of the Global IT Award.

(On page 2 The Highlights readers can find a full text of the speech of President Sargsyan, and below we put its essential extracts).

"...Mr Faggin is well-known for his numerous innovative ideas. But his name has been forever engraved in gold into the history of the Information Technologies for designing the first microprocessor and leading the works on its development.

This Award is an extraordinary input by the Republic of Armenia to the development of the global IT area. With this Award, we pay tribute to Mr Faggin and all his colleagues for making knowledge accessible everywhere in the world through the information technologies. Computers and the internet truly contribute to the advancement of the entire humankind, enhancing the spread of knowledge and, therefore, development and prosperity...

...In recent years Armenia has registered considerable progress in the area of information and digital technologies. This Award is aimed at fostering that development even further and, most importantly, at focusing the attention of our young people at the broad opportunities provided by the area of information and digital technologies. We have already been doing it and we will continue doing it, thus attempting to reveal creative talents of our children from the youngest age.

... Only through the best education we provide to our children we will be able to ensure Armenia's

rightful place not only in the region but also in the world.

Some of our neighbors lose no opportunity to chatter about their desire to isolate us, to leave us out of the projects, which are expected to bring economic development. But in reality, it is their society that is being isolated. They are disseminating war and xenophobia. They are restricting freedom of speech and information. They perceive internet and social networks only as means to spread hatred, lies and futile bragging - and all that is not very far from axing a sleeping person. The time will show to whom that harm is done and what exactly is being ruined through these khan-like policies.

We are building Armenia's future through bringing up a well-educated new generation, and its achievement of professional excellence. The Armenia of tomorrow will be a much better place than it is today, and that new Armenia will be created through all those investments which we are making today in our greatest asset - our people. We are glorifying brilliant individuals like Mr Faggin as role models for our children, examples of how one should live and work.

...Today that (Tumo) Center (for Creative Technologies) is remarkably expanding and broadening its activities, engaging more and more children...

...This is just the beginning of our long journey towards the development of the information and digital technologies...

...We are getting ready to take leading positions in the IT area with due contribution of our talented people and assistance of our friends. I am confident that you, Mr Faggin, will always be by our side throughout that journey..."

To note, before the awarding ceremony GIT Award Committee Co-Chairman Dr Rich Goldman reminded the guests the idea and the history of the Award, and introduced briefly merits of the Laureate.

And Committee's Executive Board Chairman Dr Hovik Musayelyan had a speech key points of which you might find below.

"...Today we do homage to a person who has made a significant contribution to the sphere of high

technologies - Dr Federico Faggin, whose role in the development of the global information technology industry is of great importance.

About ten years ago the Armenian Government proclaimed the information technology industry a priority sector of Armenia's economy - a sector that contributes to technological innovation and higher productivity in the country. Having rich scientific and educational traditions and highly professional cadres, Armenia has attracted many internationally recognized companies engaged in the technological sphere. Scientific-research and production centers of a number of high-tech companies from Europe, Russia, and the United States currently operate in Armenia. Using state-of-the-art technology and devices, these companies produce intellectual products and services, offering new advanced solutions to business



Your correspondent interviewing Dr Faggin

problems as well.

Today the IT industry is Armenia's most dynamically developing sector with the greatest surplus value. The past few years have seen a 20-25% growth of the IT sector whose share in GDP amounts to about 2%, which is comparable with indices of many developed countries. The achievements are obvious. The Armenian President's annual awards to the best students of the IT are noteworthy; this is a splendid initiative to acknowledge the best ones and also to encourage and inspire the new generation to choose the IT sector. The International Microelectronics Olympiad - an event that Armenia hosts every year - has attracted a record number of participants this year: the winners of Olympiads from 13 countries arrived in Armenia to compete in the final stage. The

annual hi-tech ArmTech Congress, so far held twice in the Silicon Valley, is a shining example of efficient cooperation between the Government and the private sector. It is a remarkable achievement for a small country like Armenia to organize such a representative Congress that has already become the country's technological brand, during which the platform of the Armenian IT industry's development is formed, and it should be noted that this year's ArmTech Congress is scheduled to take place in about three weeks in the Silicon Valley, at the Stanford University, under auspices of the Armenian Prime Minister. DigiTec 2012 International Expo, too, was quite interesting in terms of its content....

...Exactly three years ago the Armenian President signed the Decree on the establishment of the Annual Global Award of the President of the Republic of Armenia for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity through IT (the Global IT Award). An Award Committee and an International Selection Panel were established...

...Funding of these internationally famous Awards is provided by VivaCell-MTS Company, for which we are very grateful...

I'd like also to thank the President's Staff and Hayastan All-Armenian Fund for cooperation and support.

The selection of the first winners was a rather responsible task for both the Award Committee and the Selection Panel... As you know, the former Chairman of the Board of Intel Corporation Craig Barrett was the first person to receive the Global IT Award two years ago. In 2011, the Global IT Award was given to the co-founder of Apple Computer Inc. Steve Wozniak...

...We are convinced that years later we will record that owing to the Award, the brightest and most reputable representatives of the world's scientific-educational and business communities have come to Armenia after becoming the Award Laureates, and they have brought a modern hi-tech culture with them and helped improve Armenia's image worldwide as a country relying on knowledge and intellect. Armenia's competitive advantages are closely related to the IT sector, and our country has all the neces-

sary prerequisites and resources for becoming a regional center and an important player."

Dr Faggin thanked the RA President and GIT Award Committee members and stressed once again it was a big honor for him to receive the GIT Award. He also held a brief lecture on the evolution of the microelectronics.

...At the dinner in honor of Dr Faggin, Mrs Faggin told yours truly that she visited many times Mekhitarist Congregation at the San Lazzaro Island in Venice, in particular, she was amazed by the library there, but, for a some time, she did not know that it was an Armenian library. She knew well Professor of University of Padua **Antonia Arslan** but she did not know Dr Arslan was of the Armenian descent before reading her world famous bestseller "The Lark Farm" (which is a story of an Armenian family which escaped Genocide in 1915 and found a shelter in Italy; -the book became a base for an excellent movie by Taviani Bros.).

Dr Faggin liked Armenian churches, namely St Gayaneh, so much: "You know, we found many similarities between our Italian churches, Romanic ones, and Armenian churches, - the same straight lines, amazing simplicity and modesty".

...So please remember your promise, dear Dr Faggin, given to an impressive and venerable academic crowd at the Polytechnic University, and come back soon.

P.S. Well, we The Highlights have been covering GIT Award since its establishment, in a detailed way... No doubt, its success is obvious, and we wish all who is in charge, to keep the benchmark high, and, even, to raise it, if possible indeed.

At the same time it should be noted that enjoying presence and communication with the luminaries such as Craig Barrett, Steve Wozniak, Federico Faggin and future GIT Award Laureates should not be "monopoly" of us the citizens of Capital City of Yerevan.

Why do not bring them to Marzes of Armenia, or Karabakh...

Photos by Zaven Khachikyan and courtesy of Synopsys Armenia

Sassounian: Azerbaijan's Consul in Los Angeles Needs to Learn How to Use a Laptop



By Harut Sassounian

A funny thing happened to the consul general of Azerbaijan last week on his way to make an audio-visual presentation at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council.

Nasimi Aghayev stepped up to the podium, turned on his fancy laptop, and proudly urged the audience to watch scenes of Azerbaijan on a large screen on the wall. To his horror, nothing but a frozen partial image appeared on the overhanging screen. The consul's aides and the World Affairs Council's president rushed to the stage and began pushing all sorts of buttons on the laptop, as the guests waited impatiently. Yet, not only was Aghayev unable to showcase his native land, he wasn't even able to present his speech, because the text was locked up in his uncooperative laptop.

In desperation, the Azeri diplomat began speaking off the cuff, after pulling a piece of paper from his pocket, on which he had scribbled some notes. This was the inaus-

picious start of an evening that was intended to show off Azerbaijan's impressive advances and dazzle the audience with high-tech gadgets.

The consul general appeared agitated throughout the lecture. Perhaps he was unaccustomed to speaking before such an august gathering, or perhaps he was nervous because there were "representatives of the Armenian Diaspora in this room," including myself and a handful of Armenians.

Aghayev talked at length about Armenia "occupying" a part of his country's territory, a reference to the liberation of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabagh). Calling this conflict "Azerbaijan's top problem," he expressed his chagrin that "1 million Azeris today are refugees." However, he failed to explain why a government with billions of dollars in oil revenue would allow such a large number of its citizens to live in abject poverty for over 20 years.

Imitating the Turkish regime, the consul general made a serious gaffe by referring to the Armenian Genocide as a "so-called genocide." Is it wise for Azeri officials to insult

Armenians by denying the genocide, at a time when they have their hands full with the Artsakh conflict? Why would Azerbaijan's leaders want to complicate matters by associating themselves with Turkey's denialism and further antagonize Armenians, making them less likely to sit with them at the peace table?

Aghayev's remarks completely ignored the massive violation of the human rights of Azeri citizens, including those of ethnic minorities, as he falsely described Azerbaijan as a land of "religious and ethnic tolerance." He went on to engage in gross historical revisionism by forgetting the massacres of Armenians in Sumgait and Baku, and claiming that Armenians enjoyed their full freedom in Soviet Azerbaijan. He also described Muslim Azerbaijan as "one of the earliest nations to accept Christianity, in 313 AD!"

After several pre-arranged questions from some in the audience on how "tolerant" Azerbaijan is to "Mountain Jews" and the great relationship it enjoys with Israel, the World Affairs Council president cautiously avoided giving me the

chance to pose a question. Fortunately, two other Armenians, Aroutin Hartounian, the president of Unified Young Armenians, and Garo Ghazarian, the chairman of the Armenian Bar Association, were granted the opportunity to ask questions. The two Armenians raised the issue of Ramil Safarov, an axe-wielding Azeri soldier who killed a sleeping Armenian officer during a NATO training course in Hungary. After the Hungarian government released Safarov from prison prematurely and extradited him to Azerbaijan this year, Aliyev pardoned and glorified the axe-murderer. Foolishly contradicting his president, the Azeri consul general stated that Azerbaijan "does not condone" Safarov's crime.

Aghayev's appearance before the World Affairs Council raises some troubling questions: Why did the Council take the unusual step of inviting a lowly consul general to offer "a competing view" to the one presented by Armenian Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian at the same venue, on Sept. 24? One wonders what inducement Azerbaijan

offered to the World Affairs Council to secure a presentation by a junior diplomat, possibly undermining the reputation of this prestigious organization.

Days later, when Aghayev's lecture was posted on the Azeri Consulate's website, the laptop glitches were carefully eliminated from the heavily edited video; the 48-minute speech and question and answer period were reduced to just 15 minutes.

The incident with the consul general's laptop is symptomatic of a much larger problem for Azerbaijan: The country's leaders have spent billions of dollars to acquire a massive amount of advanced military hardware. But, if they don't know which button to push, the sophisticated weaponry will be as useless as Aghayev's laptop!

Rather than labeling the Armenian Diaspora as Azerbaijan's "main enemy," President Aliyev should be more worried about his diplomats who cannot use a laptop. Incompetent officials are more of a liability for Azerbaijan than the Armenian "enemy"!

Syrian-Armenian filmmaker Avo Kaprealian detained

Syria-Syrian-Armenian filmmaker AvoKaprealian has been detained by Syrian authorities, his friends in Aleppo have confirmed.

Witnesses say he was last seen with two of his colleagues with a camera in a public park in Aleppo. He was working on a new film about the humanitarian crisis caused by the Syrian conflict.

AvoKaprealian was born in Aleppo in 1985. He studied at the Haigazian Armenian Elementary School, then at the Karen Jeppe Armenian College. He graduated from the University of Damascus with a degree in theater and cinema, and worked in various film productions there for a few years before moving back to Aleppo and teaching art and theater at the Akkad Institute. He managed the first public cinema club in the city



with a group of friends, and was recognized as one of the most notable filmmakers in the new wave of young artists in Syria.

Kaprealian participated in the 9th Golden Apricot Yerevan International Film Festival last July with his short film, "Two Steps Too Close," which was dedicated to legendary Armenian director ArdavaztPeleshian. Kaprealian's films have always tackled humani-

tarian issues; his latest film, about disabled people in Aleppo, wasn't screened publicly because of the turmoil that envelopped the city, especially during the last four months.

Kaprealian's family and friends are adamantly pursuing his release. His friends have created a Facebook page calling for his release, while Armenian artists are circulating a petition.

The exhibition of the Armenian treasures launched in the British Library

A display of Armenian treasures is on show in the Ritblat Treasures Gallery of The British Library until the end of January 2013. It is dedicated to the 500th anniversary of Armenian printing, the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Armenia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and the designation of Yerevan as 2012-2013 World Book Capital. As reports "Armenpress" citing the official website of the British Library, a number of magnificent manuscripts and rare specimen of the earliest Armenian printed books are introduced at the exhibition. Printing in Armenia began in 1512 in Venice, spreading to other European cities, the Near and Middle East and India in the centuries that followed. Printing itself was introduced in Armenia in 1771.



The elections of the new Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem will be held in January

The elections of the new patriarch of Jerusalem will be held in the Armenian Patriarchate on January 23-25. The Vicar of the Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem Archbishop Aris Shirvanyan announced this in a conversation with "Armenpress". Archbishop Aris Shirvanyan stated: "As you know the funerals of the deceased Patriarch are over now and 40 days after his death, the election of the new patriarch must be held. Notwithstanding this does not mean that the elections must be convened right in the 41st day, hence the Armenian Patriarchate of Jerusalem has decided to fix the date of the elections on January 23, 24 and 25."

Secret ballot is held at the council, where 5 candidacies are involved and after the second votes one of these 5 will become patriarch.

On October 12 Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem Archbishop Torkom Manoukyan passed away. He was a chairman of "Religion in American Life" Council. He also



was a member of the council of directors of "Call of Conscience" foundation. He was the author of more than 20 monographs including three books of poetry, a study on Armenian Devine Liturgy,

books dedicated to the Armenian Genocide and detailed guide to the holy sites of Jerusalem. Also the deceased Patriarch was a prominent expert on Komitas.

SP Filmmaker Tells Story of 'Armenian Anne Frank'

SP Filmmaker Tells Story of 'Armenian Anne Frank'

South Pasadena resident Kay Mouradian will screen her documentary, My Mother's Voice, at the Egyptian Theater on Dec. 1.

When Kay Mouradian was growing up in Boston, she didn't pay much attention to her mother's tragic tales about losing family members to the genocide of 1915. She just wanted to be like other American kids.

As an adult, the South Pasadena filmmaker believes it is her duty to give voice to her mother, as well as the millions who were slaughtered during World War 1. Mouradian's documentary, My Mother's Voice, will screen at the Egyptian Theater at 1 p.m. on Dec. 1.

Mouradian tells the story of Flora Munushian and depicts events endured by the Turkish Armenian community during the early 1900s. Munushian lost her family to the 1915 genocide, and

lived an early life reminiscent of an "Armenian Anne Frank," Mouradian has said.

My Mother's Voice was one of the films nominated for the 2012 ARPA film festival in Los Angeles, and in October was awarded Honorable Mention at the 2012 Pomegranate Film Festival in Toronto.

The documentary's description from the festival:

Armenians lost an incredibly vibrant, successful, and valuable gene pool of 1.5 million people as a result of the 1915 Genocide. This short film is one young girl's poignant story, that of fourteen-year-old Flora Munushian, an epic chapter in Armenian history. An Armenian Anne Frank in an earlier generation, Flora's incredible story honors her people with dignity and teaches about the spirit of hope, love, and justice. Flora's voice is that of all the victims and survivors of the Armenian Genocide, a story that must not be forgotten.

SP Filmmaker Tells Story of 'Armenian Anne Frank'

Jesus was born years earlier than thought, claims Pope

The entire Christian calendar is based on a miscalculation, the Pope has declared, as he claims in a new book that Jesus was born several years earlier than commonly believed.

The 'mistake' was made by a sixth century monk known as Dionysius Exiguus or in English Dennis the Small, the 85-year-old pontiff claims in the book 'Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives', published on Wednesday.

"The calculation of the beginning of our calendar - based on the birth of Jesus - was made by Dionysius Exiguus, who made a mistake in his calculations by several years," the Pope writes in the book, which went on sale around the world with an initial print run of a million copies.

"The actual date of Jesus's birth was several years before."

The assertion that the Christian calendar is based on a false premise is not new - many historians believe that Christ was born sometime between 7BC and 2BC.

But the fact that doubts over one of the keystones of Christian tradition have been raised by the leader of the world's one billion Catholics is striking.

Dennis the Small, who was born in Eastern Europe, is credited with being the "inventor" of the modern calendar and the concept of the Anno Domini era.

He drew up the new system in part to distance it from the calendar in use at the time, which was based on the years since the reign of the Roman emperor Diocletian.

The emperor had persecuted Christians, so there was good reason to expunge him from the new dating system in favour of one inspired by the birth of Christ.

The monk's calendar became widely accepted in Europe after it was

adopted by the Venerable Bede, the historian-monk, to date the events that he recounted in his Ecclesiastical History of the English People, which he completed in AD 731.

But exactly how Dennis calculated the year of Christ's birth is not clear and the Pope's claim that he made a mistake is a view shared by many scholars.

The Bible does not specify a date for the birth of Christ. The monk instead appears to have based his calculations on vague references to Jesus's age at the start of his ministry and the fact that he was baptised in the reign of the emperor Tiberius.

Christ's birth date is not the only controversy raised by the Pope in his new book - he also said that contrary to the traditional Nativity scene, there were no oxen, donkeys or other animals at Jesus's birth.

He also weighs in on the debate over Christ's birthplace, rejecting arguments by some scholars that he was born in Nazareth rather than Bethlehem.

John Barton, Professor of the Interpretation of the Holy Scripture at Oriel College, Oxford University, said most academics agreed with the Pope that the Christian calendar was wrong and that Jesus was born several years earlier than commonly thought, probably between 6BC and 4BC.

"There is no reference to when he was born in the Bible - all we know is that he was born in the reign of Herod the Great, who died before 1AD," he told The Daily Telegraph. "It's been surmised for a very long time that Jesus was born before 1AD - no one knows for sure."

The idea that Christ was born on Dec 25 also has no basis in historical fact. "We don't even know which season he was born in. The whole idea of celebrating his birth during the darkest part of the year is probably linked to pagan traditions and the winter solstice."

Myths about the Future that Could Ruin Your Life

From Issue # 42

As social psychologist Heidi Grant Halvorson puts it:

When people indulge a little too much in their fantasies about the future, daydreaming rather than thinking about the obstacles that stand in the way of making their desired future actually happen, it saps their motivation and energy. So it's important to not spend too much of your time thinking ONLY about how great the future will be - you've got to couple that with thoughts about how the work will get done.

Certain people are doomed to suffer

You might not think of prejudice as being a prediction about the future, but it is. Often, we believe that it's okay to persecute certain groups of people because they're marked for a terrible fate no matter what we do, says Di Tommaso. The most obvious example is the belief that some people are bound to go to Hell and suffer eternal torment, which can be used to justify discriminating against them in the present. But this principle is applied in lots of cases. As Di Tommaso puts it:

Declarative statements about the future have a nasty way of being applied to the present. For example, they are often used to create or maintain a social climate that legitimates policies such as dehumanisation and exclusion by assimilation or elimination.

So unpleasant predictions about the fate of certain groups of people aren't just nasty, they can help make life worse for those groups in the present.

The apocalypse is coming soon. Or a revolution is coming soon.

Okay, so it could well be true that the world will end in 2012, or the Singularity will come along and change everything next month. But neither of these outcomes is all that likely. And the more time you spend imagining that something huge will come out of the blue and change the world, the less time you're spending actually taking positive action.

Di Tommaso has studied apocalyptic ideas - his next book is called *The Architecture of Apocalypticism* - and he says that the old-school Biblical apocalypse is similar to Marxist ideas that the Revolution is coming soon. These sorts of ideas stem from the belief that "the world is a terrible place and the end is coming soon." But believing that a huge global change will come, no matter what any of us does individually, is an example of having a "Daddy complex," says Di Tommaso. The world's problems are too serious to offload responsibility like that. And Di Tommaso warns: "any notion of history that axiomatically includes a fixed future tends to limit human potential."

Believing that there's some huge event coming that will change everything "is an example of having what psychologists call an 'external locus of control,'" says Halvorson, author of *Succeed: How We Can Reach Our Goals*. She

explains:

In other words, you feel that things will happen to you, rather than that you will make them happen. It may be nice on some level to not feel responsible for your own future, but in general it leaves people disengaged, helpless and less likely to take action. Believing that you are in control of what happens to you (for the most part) makes you happier, healthier (literally - as in fewer illnesses and faster recoveries), and more effective.

Some of us grow up feeling like we're helpless - and believing that a huge future is bearing down on us can only make those feelings worse. But cognitive behavioral therapy "is remarkably effective at helping people to rewrite their assumptions about the way the world works" and gain more agency, says Halvorson.

Di Tommaso also suggests trying to reason with people who believe in apocalyptic predictions:

Doomsday predictions represent the logical end of a series of propositions. Changing the input might change the output. Is it reasonable to suppose that history revolves around one's self or special group? Is it reasonable to think that modern, critical, scientific rationality works everywhere, except when it conflicts with one's special faith in a belief system? Is it reasonable to believe that despite a 100% past failure rate, the next doomsday prediction will be accurate?



ARMENIAN POETRY

Hovhannes Tumanyan

(1869 -1923)

The Ancient Blessing (1887)

'Neath a hazel's green, gathered in a ring
Sat the men of age, who had known life's sting.
They sat them around,
Stooped on the ground,
For feasting and song,
This ven'erable throng,
Our fathers, the aged, our seniors, the sage
Honoured for their age.

With uncovered heads we three of us stood;
We were school friends good,
Just three village lads, spirited and lighthearted.
Our hands on our chests in humbleness lay
As in voices strong we enlivened the throng
With song after song.

At the songs of joy of our childhood world
The gray Tamada his moustaches twirled,
Then each filled his cup to the very brim
And stood up with him.

This blessing they spoke "Live long, lads, live happy,
Not as we lived in our day!"

Peace to your bones, our fathers who moaned!
The ills that you bore we also have known,
And now, in moments of joy or distress,
When children we bless,



Zodiac Weekly Forecast

Aries (Mar. 20--Apr. 19) :

Your warrior self is front and center during this period. The best use of this energy is on behalf of the Greater Good or for another person who needs a champion. Use that energy with thoughtful intentionality. Your reflexes may be off kilter. Ground your adrenalin rush with heavy exercise.

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

Venus, your ruling planet, has entered the 7th house of relationships. She brings improvements in clientele, social life, and partnerships. It is possible that you will be considering the possibility of taking your primary relationship to the next level of commitment. It is a very good time to heal relationship wounds.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

This Mercury retrograde experience is occurring in the territory of health, coworkers, tenants, employees, and pets. You may have found it very hard to progress with your diet and exercise program. As Mercury shifts into forward gear at the end of the week, activities in these areas of life will improve.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21) :

Early in Nov. we experienced a new moon eclipse in your 5th house of children/play/love affairs. Next week there is a full moon eclipse in your 12th (hidden) house. You are somehow caught between the need to play, be open, and a deeper need to keep your secrets to yourself. It may feel tumultuous, but the intensity will decrease during December.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

You may be surprised to discover something about yourself or your money/debts that you have been avoiding. We are all in denial sometimes. Don't waste time on a guilt trip. Now that you know, it is time to face the facts and collect the threads of a solution. This is not a good time to have a sexual encounter with someone unknown to you.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

This Mercury retrograde has been focused specifically on communications, neighbors, siblings, and others who are in your daily environment. Your car might have needed attention. As the retrograde energy shifts directions you will be less likely to have problems with communications and can move forward with greater ease.

Libra (Sep. 23--Oct. 22) :

Events of this week trigger your sense of compassion and draw you into the desire to assist in the healing of another. As you live into this experience, you will discover that having compassion also heals you. Your spirit is lifted. Don't ignore the call.

Scorpio (Oct. 23--Nov. 21)

Plan to work and play alone during this period. You likely will be feeling restless and generally tense. Your patience could be short and you might say things you'll wish you hadn't. You have a desire to break free from restraints. If that inner warrior overtakes your thoughts, use it to help someone who needs your courage.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 --Dec. 20) :

The sun returns "home" to your sign this week. You likely will find it to be energizing. Now is the time to focus on new plans for this next year of your life. Take a fresh look at where you want to direct your energy. It is likely that you are making travel plans.

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

Drive and use tools carefully this week. You may be subject to accident. You might be feeling that now is the time to take a plunge related to family, home, or other property. Take one step back. Let the intensity cool off for a week and see if that is what you really need to do.

Aquarius (Jan. 20--Feb. 17) :

Ignore the water cooler talk. People just want to gossip this week. In general they are agitated and want you to join the bandwagon. This wastes a lot of energy. Keep your eyes on your direction in life and don't allow distractions. It is possible that a new business acquaintance will become a long term friend.

Pisces (Feb. 18--Mar. 19) :

Developments in your career or life direction may cause you to feel ineffective this week. Don't allow this one experience to alter your self definition. You are an intuitive person who can almost always assist others to feel better. But you cannot accomplish this goal if the Other does not want to feel better.

HUMOR

Deserted Island Genie

Three guys are stuck on a deserted island, when one of them finds a lamp on the beach. He picks it up and gives it a little rub and a genie pops out. The genie looks at the three guys and says: "I normally give three wishes, but since there are three of you, I will grant each of you one wish."

Well, the first guy is sick and tired of being on the island, so he wishes to go back home. POOF!!! He disappears. The second one said he, too, is tired of the island, and wishes to go home. POOF!!! He too disappears. The genie then turns to the last guy and asks him what his wish is.

"Gee," he says, "I'm awfully lonely here by myself. I wish my friends were still here!"

Quote of the week



If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced.

Vincent Van Gogh

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

MEZZO

classic house club

CLUBS

MEZZO CLASSIC HOUSE CLUB

28 Isahakyan Street

November 26 at 21:30

"Nuance" EthnoJazz

November 27 at 21:30

CHIGAPO & THE GENIUSES Band

November 28, 29 at 21:30

The REINCARNATION Orchestra

THE CLUB

40 Tumanyan Street

Every Monday at 19:00

Tea Master invites to tasting Chinese teas

Every Tuesday at 20:00

Film Screening

Every Friday at 21:00

Bard Club

STOP MUSIC CLUB

November 30 at 21:00

Nairi. Hard Rock

CAFESJIAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Cascade Complex

November 28 at 20:00

Treasury of British-American Music

Narine Ananikyan, mezzo-soprano

Margarit Sargsyan, piano

November 30 at 20:00

Music Cascade: Armenian Jazz Band

NAREGATSI ART INSTITUTE

Vardanants 16/1

November 26 at 19:00

Book Presentation and Discussion

November 27 at 19:00

Polish Film Year In darkness drama/ 2011/ 114 min.

Dir: Agnieszka Holland Screening with Armenian subtitles

November 28 at 17:00

Wednesday Film Night Series

The Armenian Bread Russia-Germany/documentary/2011/47 min.

CONCERTS

ARAM KHACHATURIAN CONCERT HALL

Mashtots avenue 16

November 30 at 19:00

Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra Artistic Director and Principal Conductor:

Eduard Topchjan

Soloist: Alexander Kaganovsky, cello (Switzerland)

Conductor: Harutyun Arzumanyan

Program: 1. Sibelius: Valse Triste 2. Elgar: Cello Concerto 3. Schumann: Manfred Overture

4. Sibelius: En Saga (Premiere)

December 1 at 19:00

NCOA & Richard Galliano The first cord of the cultural winter... Gala concert dedicated to the half-century jubilee of the National Chamber Orchestra of Armenia. Honored guest of the evening: legendary accordionist Richard

Galliano

ARNO BABAJANYAN CONCERT HALL

Kh. Abovyan Street. 2

November 30 at 20:00

Love with song & wings

December 1 at 19:00

Liana Zurabyan Poetry Center is 1 year old

Poetry reading: Liana Zurabyan With participation of the center's members Beloved artists will bring their congratulations

THEATRES

G. SUNDUKIAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

Grigor Lusavorich st., house 6

November 26 at 19:00

Taxi Driver in Love

Comedy

Author: Ray Cooney

Translation and adaptation: Levon Mutafyan Staging: Suren Safaryan Costume Design: Hasmik Aghayan

Cast: David Tadevosyan Anna Harutyunyan Rozi Avetisova Andranik Etemezyan Mary Grigoryan Sargis Hakobyan

November 27 at 19:00

No Comment

November 29 at 19:00

Irrevocable future

December 1 at 19:00

Spirit in Motion

Ballet 2021 Foundation presents an evening of classical and contemporary ballet

November 27 at 19:00

November 29 at 19:00

December 1 at 19:00

Spirit in Motion

Ballet 2021 Foundation presents an evening of classical and contemporary ballet

YEREVAN STATE PANTOMIME THEATRE

November 29 at 19:00

Sonnet N90

H. TUMANIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

Sayat-Nova av., house 4

November 27 at 19:00

Operation Nemesis

November 28 at 19:00

The Winged One

November 29 at 19:30

Aunt from Paris

December 1, 2 at 19:00

Madagascar. Puppet Show

STATE MUSICAL CHAMBER THEATER

Proshyan 1, Blind Alley 1

November 30 at 19:00

Sexual Chaos in the Hotel

Author: Ray Cooney

YEREVAN STATE CHAMBER THEATER

Mashtots avenue 58

November 28, 29 at 19:00

Albania+.

Pessimistic Comedy. Author and director of the play: Ara Yernjakyan

November 30 at 19:00

It Doesn't Matter With Whom

Comedy in 1 act

November 29 at 19:00

Morgan's In-Law

Author: Alexander

Shirvanzade Comedy in 2 acts

November 30 at 19:00

Rich Girl Can't Be Ugly

December 2 at 13:00

New Year Circus Fireworks

HAMAZGAYIN THEATRE

Amiryan Street 26

November 30 at 19:00

Broad Issue

H. MALYAN THEATER OF FILM ACTORS



Original "Butterflies Are Free" by Leonard Gershe. Director Lusine Yernjakyan

STATE THEATER OF MUSICAL COMEDY AFTER H. PARONYAN

V. Sargsyan 7

November 28 at 19:00

Napoleon Korkotyan

Author: Derenik

Demirchyan

Vardanants 18 Street

November 26 at 19:00

Train Stories

Musical-dance performance based on 6 stories by William Samyan.

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