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HIGHLIGHTS

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National Assembly's 5th convocation holds first session

HIGHLIGHT



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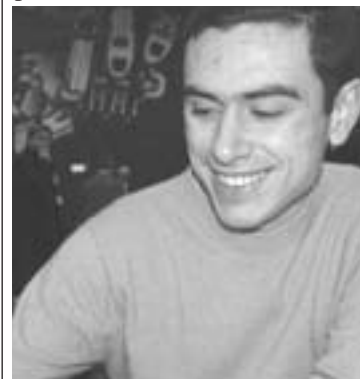
President Serzh Sargsyan, Catholicos of All Armenians Garegin II, Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan and government officials take part in the session, May 31, 2012

Armenian GM wins Chicago Open

Armenian Grandmaster (GM) Gabriel Sargissian is declared winner of the chess open being held in Chicago, USA. The Armenian GM scored 7 points out of a possible 9 and led the overall standings.

The chess players who took 2nd to 9th spots tallied 6.5 points apiece.

GM Varuzhan Hakobian ended the tournament with 5.5 points.



First post-election changes in power

by David Petrosyan

The leader of the Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) Gagik Tsarukyan on May 24 made a statement to the effect that the PAP led by him, which had received 450 thousand votes in the last parliamentary elections, has no constitutional possibility to form a government and implement its pre-election programs. In view of this, the PAP does not consider it expedient to participate in the formation of a coalition government.

At the same time it was stated that the PAP will continue to play a significant role in the political life of Armenia and adhere to a strictly constructive and reasonable position.

Interestingly, Gagik Tsarukyan's statement started with the words ("Brothers and Sisters!") was similar to those in Joseph Stalin's address to the Soviet people after Nazi Germany had invaded the USSR.

So the second largest parliamen-

tary faction having 36 mandates has made a crucial (for itself) decision not to become part of the ruling parliamentary majority and the government formed by it.

One can assume from the words of G. Tsarukyan that based on the number of votes received by it, the PAP wanted equitable partnership with the Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) and demanded the post of prime minister or parliamentary speaker, rather than the nth number of ministerial portfolios. Yet the RPA and its leader, Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan did not yield to the demands of the PAP and are now forming a ruling coalition only with Orinats Yerkir (Country of Law) Party. Besides, Gagik Tsarukyan's statement finally denounced the memorandum of 17 February 2011, in which the parties that signed this document (PAP, RPA, and Country of Law Party) undertook the obligation to endorse candidate Serzh Sargsyan in the next

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Armenian President wishes lawmakers effective work

Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan said on May 31 that he intended to work with all political forces "in an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation."

The President addressed the first session of the Armenian National Assembly of the fifth convocation.

"My impressions from election meetings are still fresh. People elected us because they believed us and pinned their hopes on us. I want us to work so that nobody ever regretted his/her choice and that we lived up to their expectations," the President said.

"I am happy that all political forces represented in the National Assembly of previous convocation again received mandates and I congratulate the Armenian National Congress for entering the parliament," said Serzh Sargsyan.

"There are political figures here who have and had different viewpoints on various issues. Yes, there



will be discussions. The discussions might be even sharp. We will sometimes understand each other, sometimes not. The most important goals are those for the sake of which we get engaged in political discussions. The ways we choose to achieve our goals are also vital," the President of Armenia said.

"Yes, the ends never justify the means. Even the best goal reached incorrectly will not bring good in the end. We have much to learn, and, unfortunately we have to learn on our mistakes, and I would like to hope that we will make fewer mistakes in the future," Serzh Sargsyan concluded.

The government of Armenia resigns

Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan and all members of his cabinet tendered their resignations on May 31 to clear the way for the formation of a new government as a result of the May 6 parliamentary elections.

Sargsyan cited relevant provisions of Armenia's constitution as he announced the decision at a weekly cabinet meeting. "In the meantime, we are obliged to continue to perform our duties until the formation of a new government," he told ministers.

Under the constitution, President Serzh Sargsyan has ten days to appoint a new prime minister. The new government must be formed within the following 20 days.

Tigran Sargsyan is widely expected to be reappointed as premier, even though the president and other senior members of the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) have made no public statements to that effect yet.

There is more uncertainty over the composition of the next cabinet. Officials have so far said only that it will consist of members of the RPA and the Orinats Yerkir, a junior partner in the outgoing ruling coalition.

Serzh Sargsyan and Orinats Yerkir leader Artur Baghdasarian signed a new coalition agreement late on Wednesday. The document



reaffirms Orinats Yerkir's support for the incumbent president's reelection plans but says nothing about how many ministerial portfolios Baghdasarian's party will now have. It has been represented in the current cabinet by three ministers.

The Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP), the third member of the outgoing coalition, decided not to join the new government following the parliamentary elections in which it finished second.

"I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our colleagues for the five-year joint work. I want to wish everyone success and good health," Urban Development Minister Vardan Vardanian, one of the four cabinet members representing the PAP, told fellow ministers.

"For my part, I want to thank our colleagues from the Prosperous Armenia Party who have carried the heavy burden of the government together with us during these years," replied Tigran Sargsyan.

President of Armenia and EU envoy discuss realization of reforms in Armenia supported by EU

President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan received on May 3 the EU Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia Philippe Lefort.

The sides stated with satisfaction that bilateral relations have recorded a significant progress in recent years. They also paid importance to Armenia-EU political dialogue and mutual visits on high level. On this ground, the President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy's upcoming visit will be an important part of Armenia-EU mutual cooperation process.

The President and the EU offi-



cial also touched upon the realization of the reforms in Armenia supported by the EU.

Lefort said that the EU is interested in development of Armenia and the South Caucasus and desires to support the region and reinforce mutual trust between the states.

Edward Nalbandian receives Special Representative of OSCE Chairman-in-Office for South Caucasus

Foreign Minister of Armenia Edward Nalbandyan received Patrick Murphy, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office for the South Caucasus. As foreign Affairs Ministry press service reports, Minister Nalbandian and Ambassador Murphy had a detailed talk about ways of Nagorno Karabakh conflict settle-

ment.

In that regard Armenia's FM drew attention to the Azerbaijani steps threatening the regional security and stability, as well as to the Azerbaijani war rhetoric, armaments race, and regular instigations at the line of contact.

Patrick Murphy, for his part, noted that the OSCE Irish chairmanship stands up for the efforts of OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs directed toward peaceful settlement of the conflict and backs the initiatives aimed at relaxing the tension at the line of contact. The interlocutors also referred to agenda issues of the upcoming visit of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office to South Caucasus.



Top U.S. Senator visits Armenia

Senator Dick Durbin, a Democratic leader in the U.S. Congress, visited Armenia on June 1 for talks with the country's top leaders that reportedly focused on regional security.

Durbin, who is currently the Senate majority whip, held separate meetings with President Serzh Sargsyan and Foreign Minister Edward Nalbandian. He was also scheduled to meet Armenian female politicians and civic activists involved in Turkish-Armenian cross-border programs funded by the United States.

"The president and the U.S. senator discussed issues relating to the development of U.S.-Armenian relations and current affairs and challenges in the region," Sargsyan's press office said in a statement. It gave no details.

A separate statement by the Armenian Foreign Ministry said Nalbandian praised Durbin for his desire to "familiarize himself with Armenia's approaches to regional issues." Nalbandian also briefed him on recent developments in the



Nagorno-Karabakh peace process.

As well as being the second-highest ranking member of the upper house of the Congress, Durbin is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He also sits on its Subcommittee on European Affairs.

Both Sargsyan and Nalbandian were reported to thank the Illinois senator for supporting congressional draft resolutions that refer to the 1915 Armenian massacres in Ottoman Turkey as genocide.

The Armenian president also commended "Armenia's friends in the U.S. Senate" for advocating financial and other assistance to his country which he said had had a "great significance for Armenia's development."

The U.S. Embassy in Yerevan said earlier in the day that "domestic issues" would also be on the agenda of Durbin's talks. The official Armenian sources reported no such discussions, however.

azatutyun.am

Prominent Turkish publisher Ragip Zarakolu receives Armenian state award

Ragip Zarakolu, prominent Turkish human rights campaigner and book publisher, received an Armenian state award on May 29 for what President Serzh Sargsyan called a "remarkable contribution" to international recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

Zarakolu was among more than two dozen mostly Armenian scientists, writers and artists chosen for annual presidential awards given by President.

He arrived in Armenia with his wife and daughter to accept the prize less than two months after being released from prison pending trial on controversial charges of aiding the outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) in Turkey.

"His activities have been an exceptional mission," Sargsyan said at the awards ceremony held in the presidential palace in Yerevan. "His struggle for conveying historical truth to the Turkish society is a brilliant example of high civic stance and courage."

"Your presence here and acceptance of this prize today is also an act of courage," he told Zarakolu.

In his speech at the ceremony, Zarakolu reaffirmed his belief that the Armenian Genocide should be acknowledged by modern-day Turkey. "Turkey must accept historical truth," he said. "Only in this way can Turkey regain its self-respect."

"My generation knew what happened and tried to conceal it. However, the younger generation had to believe this lie under certain conditions, which is even worse. Koran says 'Give up telling lies first and always speak the truth,'" the Turkish publisher said. According to him, Turkey has gone blind and deaf.

"My country has turned into a



cemetery of the dumb," the Turkish intellectual stated adding that as the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide approaches, Turkey should come to understand that recognizing and apologizing for it had become a precondition for establishment of democratic society in the country.

"Even after Turkey apologizes and compensates [Armenians,] Armenians and Turks can't be as before," he said. "But we can look to the future together."

Zarakolu, 63, rose to prominence in the 1970s as a newspaper columnist and editor highlighting human rights abuses committed in Turkey. He was twice imprisoned by military governments in Ankara before founding, together with other prominent Turks, the Human Rights Association of Turkey in 1986.

Around that time, Belge began publishing books on taboo subjects such as the Armenian Genocide. Belge has since translated into Turkish more than a dozen books

by Diaspora Armenian authors challenging the official Turkish version of the 1915 events.

At least two of those translations landed Zarakolu in court. A Turkish court ruled in June 2008 that the publication of one of those books insulted "the institutions of the Turkish Republic." The publisher received a suspended five-month prison sentence.

Zarakolu was again arrested by the Turkish police in October last year for "knowingly aiding and abetting a terrorist organization" together with dozens of other Turks. If convicted, he will face up to 15 years in prison. The European Union and international human rights groups have expressed serious concern over the case.

Zarakolu was honored at the Armenian National Library during his previous trip to Yerevan in February 2011. Its director, Davit Sargsyan, handed a medal to the publisher, praising his decades-long activism and thanking him for donating dozens of books.

CEC hands the mandates: Prosperous Armenia announced it will not have places in the new Government

As it was scheduled before on May 30 the official ceremony of the handing mandates of the deputies took place at the Central Electoral Commission.

As Armenian media informs, Armenian Republican Party (RPA) arrived with almost whole staff. Many members of the Prosperous Armenia, the Rule of Law and the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) did not attend the ceremony.

The Armenian National Congress (ANC) and the Heritage parties seem to boycott the ceremony.

First, the majority system elected deputies were handed the mandates. Elected deputy of the first electoral territory Ruben Hayrapetyan got the mandate the first.

The Representative of the Prosperous Armenia party Naira Zohrabyan informed the journalists during the briefing that Gagik

Tsarukyan will be the leader of the their fraction. N. Zohrabyan will be the secretary of the faction. Vice chairman of the Prosperous Armenia party Samvel Balasanyan announced that their party will not have any places in the newly-creating Government.

The RPA member Galust Sahakyan said it was a pity the opposition did not attend the ceremony.

Hovik Abrahamyan elected National Assembly speaker



At the first session of National Assembly of the 5th convocation of Armenia in secret ballot Hovik Abrahamyan who had been nominated by the Republican Party of

Armenia has been elected the Chairman of National Assembly by the majority of the deputies' votes. The Ad-hoc Accounting Committee of the National

Assembly recorded that in the voting took part 110 deputies. 102 deputies voted for Hovik Abrahamyan's candidature and 4 deputies voted against.

The newly elected speaker thanked the Armenian President, the Republican Party of Armenia and all parliament members.

"Today we have a potential that will allow realizing our programs and justifying the hopes of the people," Hovik Abrahamyan said.

Speaking to reporters after the voting, the newly elected speaker expressed regret that two of the opposition partners - the Armenian National Congress (ANC) and the Heritage - did not attend the new parliament's first session.

"It's a pity that our colleagues - the ANC and Heritage - are not here, but I will arrange our future work in atmosphere of mutual consent," he said.

Vartan Oskanian: Prosperous Armenia Party to continue being an alternative to incumbent power

The Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) will continue being an alternative to the incumbent power, i.e. to the ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA), Vartan Oskanian, ex-foreign minister of Armenia, member of the PAP, told journalists in Yerevan on May 30.

He said that during the election campaign the PAP promised its voters to introduce changes in the political, economic and social spheres, and it will be committed to its course. The PAP will continue implementing its programs and supporting the laws passed by the Parliament if they meet the citizens' interests. But if these laws run

counter to the PAP's views and infringe the interests of the society, the PAP will offer resistance by all lawful methods.

Oskanian said that the PAP would act only constructively. He thinks that the RPA and the PAP have formed no coalition as their election programs had serious discrepancies.

To recall, Leader of the Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) Gagik Tsarukyan disseminated a statement on May 24 saying that the PAP considers it unreasonable creating a ruling coalition with the Republican Party of Armenia. "During my meetings with voters I

had always said that I pursue no personal goals in politics. Moreover, I have always been ready for losses to preserve the people's trust. The PAP received over half a million of votes during the elections. Those people voted in favor of the PAP as they trust in us and demand real visible changes in the country's social and economic life. The election outcome does not give the Prosperous Armenia a constitutional opportunity to form the government to implement its programs. Therefore, I state that the PAP does not consider it reasonable to participate in formation of the government," Tsarukyan said in his statement.

Eduard Sharmazanov and Hermine Naghdalyan have been elected Vice Presidents of National Assembly

Eduard Sharmazanov and Hermine Naghdalyan from the RPA have been elected Vice Presidents of the National Assembly of Armenia. President of the Ad-hoc Accounting Committee of the National Assembly Rafik Grigoryan presented the results of the elections. 120 deputies took part in the voting from which 91

deputies voted for Eduard Sharmazanov and 11 against.

Rafik Grigoryan informed that for Hermine Naghdalyan voted 85 deputies and 10 were against. 3 ballots were declared invalid.

After being elected the Vice Presidents of the National Assembly thanked their colleagues for high trust.



ANC faction not to attend the National Assembly first session

The parliamentary faction of the Armenian National Congress (ANC) stated on May 30 that it would not attend the National Assembly first session on May 31

"On May 31, the first day of the first session, the newly elected parliament will solemnly gather at the NA Session Hall. The majority of this parliament was not elected by the Armenian people. It illegally obtained its mandates by means of election bribes, intimidation of people and large-scale recurrent voting. Incumbent President Serzh Sargsyan, who was not elected in

free and fair elections either, will greet the National Assembly that day.

The parliamentary faction of the Armenian National Congress will not attend the first session as a sign of protest against the crimes committed by Serzh Sargsyan's regime.

At the same time, we assure that we will actively participate in the works of the National Assembly and will do everything possible to serve the NA rostrum to the victory of the democratic movement."

Forecasts on presidential race in Armenia

The key intrigue for upcoming months is going to be whether the Prosperous Armenia Party (PAP) will offer own candidate for the presidential elections or will support the incumbent President and head of ruling Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) Serzh Sargsyan,



political scientist Hmayak Hovhannisyan told the journalists on June 1.

He offers three options. First, the PAP will support Sargsyan: this is possible only in case if the President includes the party's anti-crisis program into his own, the PAP forms the government based on national agreement and appoints a 'powerful figure' as PM. The second option: the PAP offers Vartan

Oskanian's candidacy. And the third and tough option is offering Armenia's second President Robert Kocharyan's candidacy.

As for the other powers, the Heritage will offer the party head Raffi Hovhannisyan's candidacy, while the issue of the opposition the Armenian National Congress (ANC) on offering the bloc head Levon Ter-Petrosian is still to be decided.

Uruguay will have Armenian Minister

President of Uruguay Jose Mujica has removed from the office of Minister of tourism and sport of the country Ector Lescano and appointed in that office Armenian Lillian Keshishian who held the post of Vice Minister before that.

Radio Liberty reports that Keshishian who has also been deputy of the country's Parliament will become the first Armenian who reaches such a high post and becomes member of the Government.

Years ago Lillian Keshishian initiated petition in order European Union demands from Turkey to recognize Armenian Genocide to begin the process of Euro integration.

Lillian Keshishian visited Armenia only once.

Ariel Cohen: Clinton's meeting South Caucasus presidents will open an opportunity to give a push for the Nagorno-Karabakh talks

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will engage in intense geopolitical discussions in the Caucasus and Turkey during her visit, the leading expert of the Heritage Foundation for Russian and Eurasian Studies and International Energy Policy, member of Trend Expert Council, Ariel Cohen said.

"Clinton will be meeting all three Caucasus presidents, which opens an opportunity to give a push for the Nagorno-Karabakh talks, stalled after almost two decades of Armenian occupation of the Azerbaijani territory," he told Trend today. "The U.S. Secretary of State should also reiterate U.S. support for Georgia territorial integrity and call to end the occupation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia," he added.

"Unfortunately, it is unlikely that Armenia and Azerbaijan would listen to Clinton's calls for an equitable resolution, which should include liberation of the occupied Azerbaijan lands on the basis of the Lisbon Declaration 1996 and Madrid principles 2007," he said.



"Another priority for the Secretary of State's visit to Baku, Azerbaijan, should be expression of support for the Caspian state and its president due to incessant Iranian terror activities and plotting," he added. "In Baku, Clinton, nevertheless should develop and discuss a program of anti-terrorism assistance to Azerbaijan, which includes train-and-equip package for the Azerbaijani security services and special forces," he added.

Azerbaijan and Armenia signed a ceasefire agreement in 1994. The co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group - Russia, France and the USA - are currently holding peace negotiations.

Jonathan Kay: A great time for a fresh look at the Armenian Genocide

This week, a Turkish court approved a criminal indictment against four former Israeli military commanders for their alleged role in the deaths of nine Turkish activists who were trying to break Israel's blockade of Hamas-run Gaza in 2010. The indictment calls for between 8,000 and 18,000 life sentences for each of the Israeli men, reports Armenpress citing The National Post.

That's a lot of life sentences - especially given last year's UN report concluding that, while Israel had used excessive force against the knife- and club-wielding Turkish jihads, the blockade itself was perfectly legal.

As an arithmetic experiment, imagine if the Israeli military had done something truly monstrous - comparable, for instance, to what the Ottoman Turks did to the Armenians during World War I and the years that followed. How many life sentences do you hand out to the killers of over a million innocent people? (Extrapolating from the flotilla indictments above, the figure I come up with is over a billion.)

Alas, those WWI-era Ottoman killers have long since given up this earthly vale of tears. Many died in their beds - unlike the Armenian men and women who perished from exposure or starvation, clutching their children's bodies, during their forced marches through the Anatolian hinterlands.

As it happens, a new book on this historical episode - The Young Turks' Crime Against Humanity: The Armenian Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing in the Ottoman Empire, by Clark University professor Taner Akcam - landed in my mailbox a

few months back. According to the publishers, Princeton University Press, Akcam is the first scholar of Turkish origin to publicly acknowledge the Armenian Genocide.

Till now, Akcam's work has been taboo in Turkey. But given the recent flotilla indictments, it would seem the Turks are exhibiting a newfound zeal for litigating the crimes of the past. What better time to crack open Akcam's book?

The first theme that jumps out from The Young Turks' Crime Against Humanity is the obsessive zeal with which the Turks of the early 20th-century sorted the Anatolian population by religion and ethnicity. Christians - Greek and Armenian alike - were singled out for special scrutiny. But even non-Turk Muslims were seen as suspect. Millions of Kurds, for instance, were ethnically cleansed from certain regions in a bid to weaken their political claims - a legacy of persecution that continues to this day.

"In order to reform the Kurdish element and transform it into a constructive entity, it is necessary to immediately displace and send [Kurds] to the assigned places in Anatolia," reads one 1916 telegram cited by Akcam. "In the place of resettlement, the sheikhs, leaders and mullahs will be separated from the rest of the tribe and sent to different districts ... to places where they will be unable to maintain relations with other members."

The overarching demographic goal of the Ottoman Turks prior to WWI was what Akcam calls "the 5% to 10% rule": Officials sought to cleanse each region of the country such that resettled non-Turk groups

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Karabakh conflict is nearing its melting point - American expert

The frozen Karabakh conflict is nearing its melting point, said Wayne Merry, Senior Fellow for Europe and Eurasia at the American Foreign Policy Council.

In his interview with Azerbaijani Turan news agency, Merry said there are warning signs of renewed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

According to him, resumption of the conflict is inevitable. He said the problem is there is no military balance but rather an asymmetry between Armenian defensive advantages and Azerbaijani military buildup.

The political analyst considers that new war will be more destructive than the first one. The physical parameters of a new conflict would extend beyond Karabakh.

Asked about the position of U.S. and Russia, Merry said neither of the states will openly support any of the conflicting parties. Only Russia has potential for direct pressure on Baku and Yerevan, he said adding that Moscow and Washington will seek through political means to bring a conflict to a rapid end.



The Azerbaijani agency says that Washington is concerned over possible war in the South Caucasus. Next week, Washington DC-based Kennan Institute will hold a panel debate to seek an answer on question "How dangerous is the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and what can be done to avoid another open conflict?"

Congressman Adam Schiff Discusses Foreign Aid to Armenia and Artsakh for Fiscal Year 2013: interview

In a recent interview with the Armenian Council of America (ACA), Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) discussed the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2013 and its impact on foreign assistance to the Republic of Armenia and to Nagorno-Karabakh. The following is a transcript of the interview:

ACA: Congressman, thank you for taking the time to speak with us today. Can you briefly discuss the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill and how it will guarantee foreign aid to Armenia. Will that also include Nagorno-Karabakh?

Congressman Schiff: Sure and the answer is Yes. We were successful in maintaining a strong level of support for Armenia. Most of the foreign aid is being cut this year as a result of our diminished budget resources and foreign aid took a bigger cut than most of the other parts of the U.S. budget. But nonetheless, we were able to maintain the same level of funding for Armenia of about \$40 million in the economic support funds. This was a very good victory.

In the case of Nagorno-Karabakh we were even more successful. In the past, we have allocated funding only to see the State Department not use much of the funding that we have provided. This year, we included language requiring the State Department to invest at least \$5 million in helping with some of the humanitarian concerns in Artsakh and that was incorporated in the Bill and that more than doubles assistance to Nagorno-Karabakh.

Finally, we followed up on a meeting I had with the President of the Republic of Georgia where I raised the issue of some of the Armenian enclaves in that country and the needs of the Armenian community there. He expressed a willingness to work with us and make sure to use the resources that we're helping provide to improve the quality of life in those areas. This is now



Congressman Adam Schiff with ACA representatives Chris Garsevanian and Sevak Khatchadorian

reflected in the State Department and Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill where we have language requiring the Millennium Challenge Corporation and USAID to assess the situation in those communities and develop an aid plan to help those areas. So in each of the three areas we focused on, we were very successful.

ACA: What would you say to those who are opponents of foreign aid to Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh?

CS: Foreign assistance is a very small part of our budget. Most people think it represents 10 percent or 15 percent of our budget, but it's a tiny fraction of that and I think it is very important. It is in the highest ideals of the country that we help those that are less fortunate. It is also in our national security interest that we don't allow countries to become stateless, potential havens for terrorism. So I think that the American people have always been supportive. It is much more difficult in strife economic times where there are a lot of pressing needs at home, but this is why it is a very small portion of our budget but I think an important one.

ACA: Being a long-time friend of the Armenian-American community and advocate for Armenian Causes, what will you do to ensure that Armenia will receive an adequate sum of foreign assistance?

CS: I have been working with the Armenian community and some

of the leader organizations to try to impress upon my colleagues in congress the importance of moving forward with the language! we have included in the Foreign Operations Bill. It certainly is a bigger challenge than any one person or any one member of Congress, but we have a pretty good team assembled. The Armenian Diaspora has been very effective in making sure their voices are heard through an incredible grass-roots campaign, reaching out, calling Members, faxing them and I hope they will do the same when it comes to the Conference Committee. But through this joint effort, we can work and fight for the best resources available.

ACA: Congressman, do you have any last thoughts or messages that you would like to convey to the Armenian-American community?

CS: We have had a very important success this session with the passage of the Church's Resolution in the House which calls on Turkey to observe human rights and restore and return confiscated church properties to the Armenian church and that passed with a strong, bipartisan vote. We are very pleased to have that legislative success, as well as the good progress we are making on the aid picture.

I appreciate the friendship and good counsel and advice I get from the community. It's really a pleasure to work and to represent the community and I enjoy that very much.



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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, capitally repaired, euro windows, Ariston, permanent hot and cold water, no balcony. Price: 52.000 USD
- ♦ **645. Baghramyán Street**, 5/1, 48 sq/m, newly repaired, iron door, euro windows, doors, AC, cabin, water tank. Price: 72.000USD

2 ROOMS

- ♦ **1445. Sayat-Nova street**, 5/4, 73 sq.m. 2 rooms, stone building, capitally 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. Baghramyán Avenue**, 5/3, 55 sq.m., 2 rooms, capitally 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

- ♦ **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, capitally 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. Baghramyán str.**, 2 storied, 230sqm, capitally repaired, entrance from street, garage. Price 350.000USD
- ♦ **1725. Hanrapetutyán str.**, 1storied, 171sqm, 2 entrances, capitally repaired, permanent hot and cold water. Price 500.000USD
- ♦ **1703. Northern Avenue**, 9/7, 66sqm, capitally repaired, heating, lavatory, 3000AMD service rent, view to Teryan street. Price 220,000USD
- ♦ **1553. Kasyan street**, 170sq.m., working fashion saloon, large windows, facade-15m, 1room-foye, 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 colds 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.
- ♦ **2033. Tsakhkadzor**, New Quarter, 600 sq.m., 1st line, asphalted road, premises, designed for construction of residential house, with all communal conveniences. Price: 120 USD for 1 sq.m.
- ♦ **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, fire-place, 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
- ♦ **3063. Komitas A.** Avetisyan street, 3storied+cellar, total-500sqm, 3 bedrooms, 3 lavatories, capitally repaired, cabinet, possible to sell with furniture. Price-negotiable
- ♦ **3059. Vahagni community**, total-1500sqm, building-280sqm, 2.5 storied, newly built, not lived in, 1st floor-living room-44sqm, kitchen, family room-24sqm, 2nd floor-3bedrooms, 3 lavatories, garage for 2 cars, cellar, security system, possible to sell with furniture. Price-negotiable.
- ♦ **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
- ♦ **3105. Cascade, Antartain**. 4 stories, land 1800 sq.m., building 1000 sq.m., newly built, need of cosmetic repair, windows, permanent hot and cold water, heating system, 4 bedrooms, ramparted, solar lamps, security system, cameras, external lighting. Price: 1. 300.000 USD
- ♦ **3054. Blur, Kharkovyan street**. 3 storied building, land 400 sq.m., building 450 sq.m., new, euro repair, ramparted, 4 bedrooms, 5 lavatories inside, 2 lavatories outside, Baxi system. Price 800 000 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, total-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

- ♦ **1031. Byuzand street**. 1 room, 34 sq.m, capitally repair, newly built, furniture, techniques, heating, AC, cabin. Price 600 USD
- ♦ **1009. Teryan str.**, 4/3, 1room changed into 2, 50sqm, euro repaired, furnished, permanent hot and cold water, gas, AC, spanish tiles, technique, ariston heating system. Price 800USD per month, 60USD per day
- ♦ **1057. Argishti str.**, 14/9, 1 room, furnished, heating system, permanent hot and cold water, AC
- ♦ **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

- ♦ **2064. Aygedzor**, 7/1, 2 rooms, 60 sq .m, capital repair, euro windows, Baxi system, AC, heating floor, camera, cabin. Price 800 USD
- ♦ **2037. Baghramyán 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
- ♦ **2022. Amiryan street**, 4/3, 74 sq.m., 2 turned into 3, newly repaired, Spanish tiles, jakoozi, permanent hot and cold water, furniture, techniques. Price 1500 USD, 1 day 100 USD
- ♦ **2057. Sayat-Nova**. 11/4, 2 turned into 3, 78 sq.m., capitally repaired, Baxi system, furniture, techniques, AC, satellite. Price: 1 day- 80 USD, a month- 900 USD
- ♦ **1961. Tumanian street**, 4/2, 86sq.m., 1 bedroom, Euro repair, Euro windows, Furnished, permanent hot and cold water. Price: 1200 USD, 1day: 70USD
- ♦ **115. Buzand str. Building 7, /near Republic Square/, 9/4, 75 sq.m, 2 rooms, newly built, capitally and euro repaired, furnished, equipped, permanent water, gas, heating system, AC, open balcony. Price: 1100 USD long-term, 1500 USD short-term.**
- ♦ **2108. Amiryán str. /City center/, 2 rooms, AC, washing machine, TV, refrigerator, satellite, bed sheets, utensil, all the conveniences. Price: 600 USD , 60 USD per day**
- ♦ **2099. Sayat-Nova Ave.**, 12/6, 2 rooms, all the conveniences, repaired, furnished, water, gas, Baxi heating system, AC, washing machine. Price: 550 USD

3 ROOMS AND MORE

- ♦ **1739. Pushkin str**. 6/5, 3 bedrooms, newly built, capitally 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. Teryán str.**, 4/2. 3 bedrooms, 120 sq.m, repaired, furnished kitchen, washing machine, AC, 2 bathrooms, open balcony. Price: 1200 USD
- ♦ **942. Teryán 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, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed, climate control. Price: 1700 USD
- ♦ **1970. Vazgen Sargsyan str.**, 10/8. 2 bedrooms, newly built., 150 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, climate control. Price: 2500 USD
- ♦ **1967. Pushkin str.**, 8/6. 2 bedrooms, newly built, 130 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished. Price: 2000 USD
- ♦ **1966. Ekmalyan str.**, 10/5. 3 bedrooms, newly built, 170 sq.m, capitally repaired, furnished, 2 bathrooms, Baxi heating system installed. Price: 1300 USD
- ♦ **1951. Buzand/Mashtots crossroad.** /13, 2 bedrooms, newly built, 122 sq.m, capitally 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, capitally 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.
- ♦ **1787. Koghbaci street**, 13/6, 2bedrooms, newly built, euro repaired, furnished, 2 lavatories, central heating. Price 1700USD per month, 100USD per day.
- ♦ **1793. Teryán 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. Amirian 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

- ♦ **1218. Cascade, freeway**. 3700 sq m, 3 floors brick building - 1490 sq m, capitally 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, capitally 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 block**, 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, capitally repaired, furnished, gas, permanent hot and cold water. Price 4000USD
- ♦ **455. Norq**, 3 storied building-150sqm, total -600sqm, 3bedrooms, lavatory, capitally repaired, furnished, technique, gas, permanent hot and cold water. Price 2000USD
- ♦ **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, capitally 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, capitally 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 street**. 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, capitally repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 5000 USD
- ♦ **1203. Blur**, H. Emin str, 3 floors, land - 550 sqm, building-450 sqm, capitally repaired, furnished. Starting Price: 6000 USD.
- ♦ **1219. Monument**, Aram Cholakyan str, 3 floors, land - 800 sqm, building - 300 sqm, newly capitally 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 district**. 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 Marsh district**. 2 storied, a cellar, capitally 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. Hanrapetutyán 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. Zarobyán street**, parallel to Baghramyán, 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 cosmetic repair, walls are plastered, floor is leveled, hanging ceilings, permanent hot and cold water, gas, parking for 15 cars. Price: Negotiable
- ♦ **1462. Teryán street**, 3 stored, capital repaired, AC, capital repaired, parking, 800sq. Price: 10.000USD

Jonathan Kay: A great time...

From page 4

would constitute not more than one-in-20 or one-in-10 within the larger population. One way to meet this mathematical threshold was through massive, long-range population transfers.

Another strategy, implemented as World War I unfolded, was outright extermination: Cadavers didn't count toward the 5-to-10 quota.

The process by which Ottoman officials and generals used military exigencies as a pretext for annihilating large swathes of the Armenian population was complex. Readers looking for the details will find them in chapters five through eight of Ak'am's book, along with the names of the men responsible. But it is the anecdotes that stand out in a reader's memory, such as this one, quoted from a 1918 debate in the Ottoman Chamber of Deputies:

"There was a county head in the military district. He loaded the Armenians onto a casque on the pretext of sending them off to Samsun [by boat] and then dumping them into the sea. I heard that the governor [of the province of Trebizond] CemalAzmi performed this act personally ... As soon as I arrived [in Istanbul], I told the interior minister those things that I had seen and heard ... But I was unable to persuade him to take any action ... I tried over a period of perhaps three years, but it was not to be. They would claim it [had happened in] the war zone, [and] say things like this."

Almost a century later, Turkish officials still "say things like this" when confronted with evidence of



the Armenian Genocide. The country's formal position is that the Armenians endured a mere "relocation" exercise during a period when they were suspected of comprising a pro-Russian fifth-column threat. Five years ago, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Erdogan asked his government officials to use the phrase "1915 Events" to describe the Armenian Genocide - which is kind of like referring to the Jewish Holocaust as "that thing that happened in the early 1940s."

Many nations and ethnic groups whitewash their own history. Russian school textbooks underplay the crimes of Stalin. And Chinese officials are scandalized whenever someone mentions the atrocities against Falun Gong practitioners. But unlike Turkey, these nations generally do not posture as guardians of human rights and international law.

If Turkey presumes to lecture Israel or anyone else on these subjects, it could start with a frank admission of the horrors that Turks themselves perpetrated against Armenians and other minorities. Even then, the Turkish case against Israel would have little merit. But at least, it wouldn't stink of hypocrisy.

First post-election changes in power

From page 1

presidential election.

In connection with what has happened, Armenian Prime Minister Tigran Sargsyan made a statement, according to which he has deep doubts that the PAP is an opposition party. We should note that if a party has not entered the government, it formally remains an opposition party, regardless of the opinion of the head of government or the head of state.

The point is that in Armenia, opposition forces differ from each other.

For example, the electoral bloc Armenian National Congress (ANC) does not recognize (as before) the legitimacy of President Serzh Sargsyan and filed a lawsuit to the Constitutional Court, demanding that the last parliamentary elections should be declared null and void. To demonstrate its position, the ANC made a decision to boycott the first session of the parliament to be attended by the president of the country.

The position of the PAP and the ARF-Dashnaksutyun Party is different as both parties recognize the legitimacy of the incumbent president. However, it should be mentioned that the ARF-Dashnaksutyun is taking some steps in order to occupy a place in the niche of radical opposition.

As regards the PAP, most likely, this party, staying out of the ruling coalition, will occupy the niche of constructive opposition in the parliament, that is to say, while not taking part in the work of the parliamentary majority and the government, it will cooperate with them on a number of issues of mutual interest. The PAP will simultaneously cooperate with the opposition parties, too. It is incorrect to make long-range forecasts about future activities of the PAP; instead it is necessary to follow how the PAP will vote in the new parliament.

On the whole, we believe that in its decision not to become part of the ruling coalition, the PAP has some external support; first of all, the matter concerns the Russian corridors of power. Besides, the refusal of the PAP to become part of the ruling coalition shows that the party is very likely to field its own candidate in the upcoming presidential election. It is still early to tell who that candidate will be (ex-President Robert Kocharyan, ex-Foreign Minister Vartan Oskanian or Gagik Tsarukyan himself), but in the autumn there will be more clarity regarding this issue.

The political spectrum allows the RPA and the Country of Law Party to have a stable majority of at least 76 votes (RPA - 70 votes, Country of Law Party - 6 votes) against 55 votes of the political forces, which have not entered the ruling coalition. These 55 parliament deputies include: 36 deputies of the PAP, 7 deputies of the ANC, 5 deputies of the ARF-Dashnaksutyun Party, and 5 deputies of the Heritage Party. Another two deputies elected in single-mandate constituencies did not

join any of the parliamentary factions (one of them was elected with the support of the ARF-Dashnaksutyun, while the other was backed by the RPA).

In the abovementioned configuration, the parliament has become slightly more similar to a political body, and there is hope that not all legislative initiatives of the government and the parliamentary majority will be passed by the National Assembly with the same ease as they were passed in the past. Furthermore, it is not ruled out that the deputies of the PAP, the ANC, the ARF-Dashnaksutyun, and the Heritage may put forward some joint legislative initiatives. In particular, the matter concerns real reforms of the Electoral Code ahead of the presidential election and the final abandonment of the majority electoral system during parliamentary elections.

The changed configuration in the parliament, or, to be more precise, the circumstance that the PAP has not become part of the ruling coalition has created a new situation not only in the National Assembly, but also in the Council of Elders of Yerevan. As is known, based on the results of the elections to the Yerevan Council of Elders held on 31 May 2009, the RPA received 35 mandates, the PAP - 17, and the ANC - 13. Three years ago the ANC did not recognize the election results and refused to accept the mandates it had gained. Now, after the PAP's departure from power, the ANC is reconsidering its political decision made three years ago. Probably, it is expedient to do so because if the PAP faction stops cooperating with the RPA in the Yerevan Council of Elders and if the ANC accepts its mandates, then the proportion of votes in the Council of Elders will be 35 to 30 in favor of the RPA. Yet it is obvious that in case of their will and cooperation, the PAP and the ANC may exert some pressure on the decisions taken by the Yerevan Municipality, first of all, on pressing issues related to urban development, land use, nature protection, as well as on finance and credit, economic, social and other issues.

This decision of the ANC will almost certainly be criticized even within the organization itself, let alone by the "independent press", which in Armenia is controlled from one center.

Yet it is obvious that if the radical opposition starts to work in the Yerevan Council of Elders, this (on condition that the PAP stops cooperating with the RPA in the representative body of the capital city) will have a positive impact on the policy of the Municipality. As is known, the Yerevan Municipality continues to sanction countless actions damaging the public interests. These actions trigger a lot of protests, the three-month action staged by youths and Greens in the park of Mashtots Avenue being the most famous of them.

The abovementioned circumstances are most probably the first signs that the general political situa-

tion in Armenia has a chance to change, despite the fact that formally, the RPA continues to be confidently in control of power. In reality, it is obvious that the authorities are not as monolithic as they were 2-3 years ago. Apart from everything else, a number of foreign-policy problems arose and became urgent. Out of such problems facing the authorities, we should point out:

- the unexpectedly tough statement of the PACE observation mission on the parliamentary elections in Armenia. It was so tough that one of the chief "Europeans" in Yerevan, the Head of the Armenian delegation in the PACE David Harutyunian called the report of the PACE Ad-hoc Bureau on the 2012 parliamentary elections in Armenia a nonobjective report and a result of "jugglery",

- the 2011 Annual Human Rights Report of the U.S. Department of State and its section on Nagorno Karabakh and the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict. In particular, the report says that "ethnic Armenian separatists, with Armenia's support, continued to control most of the Nagorno Karabakh region of the country and seven surrounding Azerbaijani territories". The wording of the report attracted severe criticism by the U.S.-based Armenian lobbying groups and non-governmental organizations in Armenia,

- the public problems with Moscow. It was the first time in more than 20 years of interstate relations between Armenia and Russia that the newly elected master of the Kremlin did not wish to meet with President Serzh Sargsyan following the summit of the heads of CIS Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) states. Yet, Vladimir Putin had meetings with the presidents of Central Asian states and announced that he would make his first foreign trip to Belarus,

- U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's upcoming visit to Yerevan. It is already evident that she will call on the Armenian president to be "more flexible" on the issue of the Madrid Principles and to continue the normalization process of Armenian-Turkish relations within the framework of the protocols signed in Zurich on 10 October 2009. Most probably, apart from everything else, one of the main purposes of Hillary Clinton's visit to Yerevan is the desire to clarify for Washington how sincere the Armenian president and his team are in their intention to make progress toward integration with NATO and other Western structures.

Most likely, the meeting of President Serzh Sargsyan with the U.S. Secretary of State will be of great importance in terms of his further political support by Washington, first of all in the run-up to the regular presidential election in Armenia. Despite all the abovementioned problems, most probably President Sargsyan stands a good chance to get that support.



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The time has come to establish ministry of IT sector

The heads of more than 250 information technology companies have united round the idea of establishing a state government body in charge of the information and communication technology (ICT) sector - a ministry.

On May 25 these companies participated in the conference entitled "State Administration of ICT and Innovation Sectors in Armenia" held in Yerevan, during which the necessity to set up a ministry in charge of those sectors was highlighted. In particular, it is envisaged that among the ministry's functions will be coordination of such processes as the establishment and development of the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, the introduction of the industry's products in all sectors of the economy, and the formation of an information society and electronic governance. Besides, the ministry will be responsible for the development and implementation of the state policy in the sector.

In the words of Karen Vardanyan, Executive Director of the Union of Information Technology Enterprises (UITE), the main purpose of establishing a Ministry of Information Technology is "to promote the introduction of technological innovations in public administration, education, healthcare, security spheres, as well as in various branches of the economy". He noted that single and consistent control will result in unprecedented technological and innovation achievements.

Karen Vardanyan said that the ICT industry is one of the fastest developing sectors of the Armenian economy and this development is mainly conditioned by the ICT sector's unity, which also became evident at

the conference - the event once again brought together a lot of ICT companies and presented their vision with the aim of increasing the rate of the sector's development, promoting the country's business, management, and defense, and ensuring modernization in the country. According to K. Vardanyan,

ment so that the problems existing in the ICT sector will be solved. We want to live in a country, to which talented people return, rather than leave it," he stated.

The representatives of the executive body as well as of the parties and blocs represented in the RA National Assembly also

ation of structure with a lower status than a ministry and to try their best in order to implement the idea.

Director of the Nork Information and Analytical Center Hayk Chobanyan said in his speech that although some strategic documents have been signed, about 20% of the docu-

Hayk Chobanyan said.

The conference participants mentioned a number of countries such as the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Belarus, etc. where such a project has been successfully used. They spoke about the experience of Romania where a ministry of communication and information society been set up, thanks to which the country has made great progress.

When asked what role the Enterprise Incubator Foundation (EIF) plays in the project, EIF Deputy Director Ms. Zhenya Azizyan said: "The Enterprise Incubator Foundation has assumed the role of an agency for development of the ICT sector. Almost all the programs in the sphere of education are implemented on EIF's advice, not to say they are coordinated by EIF". In her words, although they have not had any problems with the ministries, experience shows that those countries, where the state acts in unity with the private sector, become the winners of the IT race.

At the conclusion of the conference, UITE Executive Director Karen Vardanyan presented the further practical steps to be taken, which are:

- to submit the problem in writing to the National Assembly so that a respective committee will be set up;

- to submit the problem in writing to the Information Technology Development Support Council (ITDSC) and the Business Forum for discussion;

- to send the document bearing the signatures of some 200 supporters, who joined the project during the collection of signatures at the conference, to the Armenian President, the Prime Minister, and the National Assembly.



attended the seminar-discussion.

Member of the ARF-Dashnaktsutyun Party Artsvik Minasyan called on those who endorse the idea of an IT ministry to disagree with the cre-

ments have been implemented.

In response to Noyan Tapan's question about the reasons for such a low index, Hayk Chobanyan replied that if those agreements had been signed by a state government body, it would have assumed the responsibility for the implementation of the programs. "This is not a demand, but a statement asking the state to bear responsibility for the development of a specific sphere of state administration. There is the respective potential in this sphere, including human, working, and intellectual potential, which commits us to carry this process to completion,"

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June 1 - The International Children's Day

Save the Children teaches kids how to protect their rights

With the assistance of several sponsors of Save the Children organization, a concert program was organized on June 1 on the occasion of the International Children's Day. During the event, both the children and the adults had the opportunity to sit down at the tables and had a conversation with the organization's members who informed the children about their rights, particularly the right to protect themselves from violence.



"Today violence exists in many forms, and we hope that our initiative will achieve its goal and our children will be secure and protected indeed," member of Save the Children organization Hasmik Melikian said.

Save the Children is implementing a program to combat violence against children. "As part of the program, we talked with parents and found out that many people do not behave properly as parents: they subject their children to violence without realizing the consequences, whereas it is quite possible to make



friends with kids so that they share their thoughts and feelings with us," the psychologist noted.

The event organizers distributed guides "Positive Parenthood", books about children's rights, flags, posters, and similar items to the parents and their children.

The International Children's Day in Cafesjian Sculpture Garden

The Cafesjian Garden, famous for its sculptures, hosted a festive event to mark the International Children's Day on June 1. "Once again the Cafesjian Center for the Arts is joining the whole world, celebrating the International Children Day. We provide our children with the opportunity to take delight in seeing works of art - by joining the open-air art groups or enjoying our fine concert program," Acting

Executive Director of the Cafesjian Center for the Arts V. Marabian said.

The children took part in entertainment programs of various art groups, while the puppet show, funny clowns, favorite characters of fairy tales, and rope dancers entertained those present.

Then several children's bands gave a performance for the small visitors. Nice surprises awaited both the adults and the



kids.

The performance of Suren Arustamian & Friends ensemble concluded the concert. At the end of the festive event, there was a spectacular display of fireworks that illuminated Yerevan's sky at 10 pm.

The event was held with the sponsorship of Mr. Gerard Cafesjian.

By Karine Gevorgyan



Date set for free trade talks between Armenia, EU

The European Union will officially open on June 19 negotiations with Armenia on a far-reaching free trade agreement that should significantly deepen the South Caucasus nation's integration with the 27-nation bloc, it was announced on Wednesday.

The Armenian and EU officials made the announcement after a regular session of a joint body dealing with commerce and other economic affairs.

The two sides plan to create a Deep and Comprehensive free Trade Area (DCFTA) as part of an "association agreement" currently being negotiated by them. The agreement stems from the EU's Eastern Partnership program covering six former Soviet republics.

The EU member states gave the final green light to formal talks with Yerevan on the DCFTA in February. The launch of those talks was delayed last year because of EU objections to a controversial mechanism for import valuation and taxation of imported alcoholic beverages applied by Armenia's customs ser-

vice. The Armenian government scrambled to meet relevant preconditions set by the EU's executive body, the European Commission.

Luc Devigne, a senior official from the Commission's Directorate General for Trade, said the government still needs to do "a lot" to secure a permanent free trade regime with the world's largest and most affluent single market. "We will keep monitoring this during the negotiations," he told reporters in Yerevan after the meeting of the EU-Armenia Subcommittee on Trade, Economic and Related Legal Issues.

"In the meeting the EU side welcomed the progress achieved so far and encouraged the Armenian side to further intensify its reform efforts," the EU Delegation in Yerevan said in a separate statement. It said the subcommittee members "shared their assessment of the latest developments" in Armenia's business environment.

The DCFTA envisages not only mutual lifting of all trade barriers but also harmonization of Armenian

economic laws and regulations with those existing in the EU. Garegin Melkonian, a deputy minister of economy who led the Armenian side at the subcommittee meeting, emphasized this fact.

"In contrast to simple free trade that we have with a number of countries, we are talking about a more comprehensive and complete package which will not only serve as a serious basis for the development of Armenia-EU ties but also stimulate processes of internal development and reforms in Armenia," Melkonian told a joint news briefing with Devigne.

"In other words, this will eventually lead us to improved economic administration and conformity with European standards," he said.

Devigne declined to speculate how long the impending DCFTA talks will last. "I'm not into the forecast business," he said. "Otherwise, I would be in a different job."

The EU official added that progress in the talks will primarily depend on Yerevan.

azatutyun.am



EU to provide grant of up to EUR 4 million for development of SME in Eastern Partnership states



The European Investment Bank (EIB) is providing a grant of up to EUR 4 million to ProCredit Holding's subsidiaries in Georgia, Armenia and Moldova, consisting of interest subsidies for the final beneficiaries, as well as credit enhancement on the loans in question.

This grant builds on the EIB's successful cooperation with the ProCredit group, which operates in

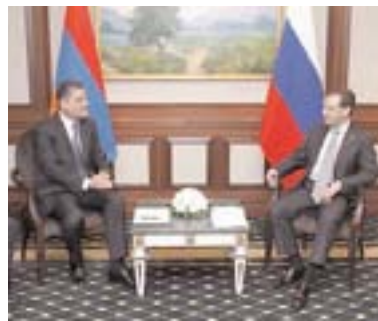
the Eastern Partnership countries. In October last year, the EIB signed credit lines totalling EUR 50 million with ProCredit's subsidiaries in Georgia, Armenia and Moldova to support smaller scale project financing in those countries. The ProCredit group consists of 21 growing banks operating in transition economies and developing countries in Eastern Europe, Latin America and Africa, press

service of the European Commission told Armenpress.

The EIB grant agreement of up to EUR 4 million with the ProCredit group was concluded under the Eastern Partnership SME Finance Facility, in the context of the EU-funded Neighbourhood Investment Facility. It will enable interest rates on loans to small and medium-sized enterprises to be subsidised. It is envisaged that the final beneficiaries of EIB loans will receive up to 10% of their loans interest-free. In addition, the 10% grant-funded loan will act as a funded-loss risk sharing cushion for the ProCredit subsidiaries.

The Grant Agreement for the Eastern Partnership SME Finance Facility was signed in Vienna today, on the occasion of the EIB Conference entitled "Eastern Partnership for Growth". This Conference covers three main topics relevant for this area: regional economic prospects and priorities, local private sector development and infrastructure for economic development.

Armenian, Russian PMs discuss economic ties



Prime Minister of Armenia Tigran Sargsyan and his colleague from Russia Dmitry Medvedev discussed the development of economic cooperation between two countries. RIA Novosti reports that the meeting took place in Ashgabad in the framework of CIS member states' Governments' heads session.

heads session.

"Our agenda is traditional, nevertheless we can discuss each theme connected to the development of economic and humanitarian relations between Russia and Armenia" said Medvedev opening the meeting.

In his turn, Tigran Sargsyan recalled that Armenia attaches particular importance to the development of relations with Russia. Russia is a number one strategic partner for Armenia, he said underscoring the economic aspect.

"Russian investments in Armenia make 60%," he said adding that Yerevan is interested in deepening of cooperation.

The Government of the Republic of Armenia not to face foreign debt servicing problems



Armenia's external debt is stable and no problems concerning the servicing will occur. Vache Gabrielyan Minister of Finance of the Republic of Armenia at the session of the Executive body held on May 31 dwelled on the project of

strategy dept management.

At the same time in accordance with the strategy index internal transportation volume is scheduled to increase in the deficit structure. Regardless the fact that the state debt's absolute index has inclination to grow, the GDP- state dept will have either stabilize or decline trend" the Minister noted adding the debt serving problems will not emerge.

The current debt of the Government in 2012 will make 177, 7 billion AMD, 2013- 208,3 billion AMD, 2014 -207, 3 billion AMD, 2015- 213,2 billion AMD.

Voluntary funded pension system is already available for the Armenian Citizens

The Voluntary funded pension (pension deposit) which is a component of multi pillar pension system is already available in Armenia. It is still offered by Converse Bank. This was announced during "The Custodian of Pension Assets and the Investment Policy of Pension Fund" discussion by the board member of CBA, Aharon Chilingaryan. He said that pension funds will be formed, and the company for supervising will be established as well.

According to Armenpress, USAID funded Pension and Labor Market Reform Project assists in creating a financially stable pension system in Armenia, which will provide dignified pensions and secured old ages. One of its aim is to strengthen Armenian Government

capacity to complete the implementation and investment of new multi pillar pension system.

Senior securities market expert Robert Strahota evaluated positively the Armenian Governments efforts toward the investment of multi pillar pension system.

Anyone can apply for the voluntary funded pension component, regardless the age. The mandatory funded pension component will be in force since 1st of January, 2014.

The first funded payment the employees should execute till 20th of May, 2014. The mandatory funded amount will be 10% of person's basic income, 5% of which will be paid by himself, the other 5% will be transferred to the person's pension individual account number from the state budget.



Nasser Kazeminy: The Armenian Dream is Meaningful

Prominent American Tycoon and Philanthropist Meets Armenian President, Prime Minister, Catholicos and Receives Pedagogical University's Doctoral Title

By Gourgen James Khazhakian
Chief correspondent

Last week, on the invitation from the RA President **Serzh Sargsyan** **Nasser J. Kazeminy**, Chairman of the US National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO) visited Armenia.

The National Ethnic Coalition (NECO) was founded by tycoon William Denis Fugazy Sr. in 1986. NECO continues to support new education initiatives and cutting-edge medical research endeavors, partners with humanitarian organizations nationally and internationally, celebrates the diversity, achievements and progress of all ethnic backgrounds, promotes tolerance and cultural awareness. The creation of NECO was based on the conviction of its founders that the diversity of the American people is what makes this nation great. Its mission is to honor and preserve this diversity and to foster tolerance, respect and understanding among religious and ethnic groups.

Together with two small children and a salary advance of \$250 from his new employer, Mr Kazeminy (an ethnic Iranian) relocated from England to the United States in 1969, - to design and implement a worldwide logistics and management information system.

Today, four decades later, Nasser Kazeminy's achievements are amazing: he is Chairman of NJK Holding Corporation, a privately held investment company founded and owned by him. Between 1980 and 2007, he started and acquired a number of privately held businesses. Many of these businesses have been merged or sold to public companies or remain part of his portfolio. Mr. Kazeminy's entrepreneurial leadership has led to the creation of more than 200,000 jobs in a number of industries worldwide. Over 20,000 employees have been directly employed by businesses under Mr. Kazeminy's control.

Philanthropic activities contributed to Mr Kazeminy winning the *Ellis Island Medal of Honor* in 1995 and in 2002 the *American Legend Award*, being inducted with dignitaries including **President George Bush**, **New York Governor George Pataki** and **New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani**.

Notably, Nasser Kazeminy was inducted into the Knights of Malta in 2006.

Let's remind that on September 23 2011 RA President Serzh Sargsyan, when on working visit in the USA, in the New York Ellis Island was awarded by Nasser Kazeminy Ellis Island Medal of Honor, - for his investment in the deepening of cooperation between the US and Armenia as well as for activities aimed at strengthening peace in South Caucasus.

And on May 29 President Serzh Sargsyan and the First Lady **Rita Sargsyan** received Mr and Mrs Kazeminy at the Presidential Palace. The President of Armenia hailed activities of the Organization headed by Nasser Kazeminy and expressed hope that humanitarian and benevolent works carried out under the auspices of the Organization and personally Nasser Kazeminy will be prolific in Armenia too. The Chairman of NECO shared with President Sargsyan his impressions of visiting a number of educational, cultural and health care establishments, and noted that he was greatly impressed with the high qualifications of the Armenian specialists and works implemented in different institutions.

He informed that, for instance, at the Nork-Marash Medical Center he attended the ceremony of signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the Gift of Life International Association and the Medical Center, according to which this Center with the up-to-date equipment and high class specialists will also be treating children from the Middle East with heart conditions. The financing of their treatment will be carried out

zeminy as somebody who achieved the exceptional success thanks to his talent and hard work, and made true the symbolic "American Dream".

"You have the largest contribution in social charitable activities which is based on the idea that a young person can reach up real success due to his/her assiduous work and education. We are happy and proud to live with a person like you in the same world, and we are especially glad to meet

At the end of the day, what is the most important, is the willingness to work; just follow the call of your heart".

Chancellor of the Pedagogical University Professor Rouben K. Mirzakhanyan conferred Nasser J. Kazeminy the title of the ASPU Honorary Doctor and granted him the highest University Award, the Khachatur Abovyan Gold Medal.

The great businessman and philanthropist was especially impressed

right at Ellis Island recognizing the Armenian Genocide and we've been doing everything we can to make sure this will never be repeated again, and we'll continue to do so".

Asked by your author to give details on his meeting with the President Serzh Sargsyan held a day before, Nasser Kazeminy said: *"I feel you have the most amazing leader. In such a short term of time he has managed to establish a great relationship with the countries and make sure that moved Armenia to a center position the world to recognize."*

He has done a great deal for immigration, for education, he cares for you, all the students and teachers.

Not only him, but his wife is a fantastic humanitarian, - she takes care of the children that have cancer. Our organization recognized Mr Sargsyan as the first President outside the

United States to receive the prestigious Medal of Honor of Ellis Island and the very first President ever to receive this Award outside the US. This Medal has been also received by six American Presidents, as well as 98 great Armenian-Americans that they have reached The American Dream - they all have done a great job for America, they all have contributed to Armenia, they all have been living in religion, and they all have contributed to humanity.

...In fact, they are the best of the best. In 26 years we have issued just over 1800 medals to all our recipients.

...And when you think about that - 98 people out of 1600 (living recipients) compared with 308 mln other people (the US population), you Armenia are a country of only 3 mln population, - that is the greatest privilege and honor for Armenia to say you have the best of the best".

Few secrets of his tremendous success were "revealed" by a man, who, in the words of our TV colleague, succeeded to turn a billionaire having only USD 250 as a seed capital:

Never take "no" for an answer; - as an amazing example Mr Kazeminy told a story how he, many years ago, when was just 26 year old, being refused by an officer of the US Consulate General for an entry visa, did not give up, demanded for "The Boss", i.e. the Consul General, and, after all, convinced him to give a US entry visa.

Believe in your family, believe in your religion;

Success is relative;

You do not have to be a billionaire to make a kid happy or to help a sick man...

"...Give, give, give!!! Giving is healing!"

And ... *"I consider success for your Professor Mirzakhanyan that he manages 15 thousand foot soldiers that would help tomorrow's world".*

Mr Kazeminy called the title of the ASPU Honorary Doctor a "fantastic" one and stressed he was very grateful to the University's Chancellor.

Acknowledgement:
Diana Markosyan, ASPU PR Manager



Ellis Island, NY, 23.09.2011



Mr and Mrs Kazeminy received by President Sargsyan and Mrs Rita Sargsyan, Yerevan, 29.05.2012



With the RA PM Tigran Sargsyan

through the mentioned above International Association. According to Nasser Kazeminy, Armenia can become a regional hub on this and some other directions.

Nasser Kazeminy and his spouse were received also by the RA Prime

Minister **Tigran Sargsyan**, and they referred to the reforms and programs in Armenia's education system, in particular, to cooperation between NECO and Armenia's State Pedagogical University whose Chairman of the Board is Dr Sargsyan.

Notably, issues of the international recognition of the Armenian Genocide was also touched upon. PM Tigran Sargsyan expressed gratitude for the cooperation and wished Nasser Kazeminy success in his further activity.



Congratulations! Kazeminy The Hon Doctor of the Pedagogical University.



"Never give up!"



The guest of honor with the ASPU Chancellor Prof Ruben Mirzakhanyan

Minister **Tigran Sargsyan**, and they referred to the reforms and programs in Armenia's education system, in particular, to cooperation between NECO and Armenia's State Pedagogical University whose Chairman of the Board is Dr Sargsyan.

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Mr Kazeminy was received by the Catholicos of All Armenians **Garegin II** as well.

During his stay in Armenia, at the RA Ministry of Diaspora, Nasser Kazeminy was awarded the Ministry's Gold Medal by the Minister **Hranush Hakobyan** - *"for fostering tolerance, respect and understanding between religious and ethnic groups, promoting diversity and cultural awareness in the United States and for celebrating the achievements and progress of people of all ethnic backgrounds, including Armenian-Americans"*.

However, we believe that the most informal event during which a prominent American businessman, public figure and philanthropist shared his insight with us the Armenians took place on May 30 when Mr and Mrs Kazeminy (and people accompanying them in their visit to Armenia) paid a visit to the Armenian State Pedagogical University after Khachatur Abovyan.

The guests were welcomed solemnly by the Pedagogical University brass band, which created a very special holiday mood among all those present.

The ASPU Chancellor, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor **Rouben K. Mirzakhanyan** greeted the prominent foreign guest and his wife, and later on characterized Nasser Ka-

he had spent four exciting days in Armenia.

Further on, Nasser Kazeminy told those present the story of how he settled down in the USA, how he got employed by one of the best com-



Interviewing Dr Kazeminy... (Your author far right)

puter companies of the time and how he expanded his business.

Moreover, paying the due significance to the role of education, the NECO Chairman also mentioned, *"It was of the great importance for me to meet the lecturers and students of the Pedagogical as it is education that can bring in competition to the labour market, and in order to be compatible, one needs to be well educated"*.

Likewise, Kazeminy observed that the quality education was in the basis of his success due to which he fulfilled his "American Dream".

"Upon visiting Armenia I got assured that you are a nation of talent. You Armenians, may also make true your Armenian Dream, but, before fulfilling it, you need to, first of all, understand, what your Motherland needs. Armenian Dream is quite significant and meaningful; you believe in God, you have talent, history which will favour the realisation of your Armenian dream. You have everything in your country", he said.

Additionally, Kazeminy advised, *"You do not need to create hundreds of companies, millions of workplaces."*

of colleagues interviewed Nasser Kazeminy just after these fiery dances, right at the same stage. Below you might find his answers and comments:

"I am so happy about the mount of culture that exists in your country. But more than anything I'm delighted about young people that you have...how enthusiastic they are, how energetic they are, and, (importantly), how religious they are. Because if you believe in God, you believe in your country..."

You've got a tremendous amount of talent...I think you should start a program (titled) "Armenia Has Talent"...It should not be any other country, (but) you should have..."

On the feelings he had when visiting the Armenian Genocide 1915 Memorial: *"... That was another time in life that I felt really saddened, and, yet, I felt that the Armenian people have so much courage and fortitude, and they've done such a great job, and they have to make sure that everybody, every children, not only in Armenia, but everywhere, all over the world, people would never forget what happened here, so it can never be repeated again."*

As the Chairman of the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations of the United States, (I must say) that we have come up with the plague

Congratulations!

As The Highlights honorable readers could notice, within years we have been covering actively Armenia-Lebanon issues (which we believe a quite understandable due to a whole number of reasons), - being in close and permanent contact with the Embassy of Lebanon in Yerevan since its opening. And we have got that Mr **Ara Khachaturian**, 40, a Lebanese Armenian, has recently been appointed Charge d' Affaires of the Republic of Lebanon to the Republic of Armenia and has already started his posting in Yerevan. We congratulate Mr Khachaturian, his family members and the staff of the Lebanese Embassy and would dare to say that such an assignment symbolizes in the best way good old relations between our two peoples.

"New Names" Second Intl Festival of Young Musician Performers: The Amazing and Touching Performances

"VivaCell-MTS was the only who replied our request to help..."



**By Gourgen
James Khazhakian**
Chief correspondent

...On the 29th day of May your author was in rush to interview an overseas very-VIP, in 14³⁰, so I had really no time to cover solemn opening of the 2nd Intl. Festival of Young Musicians "New Names" being held under the high patronage of the First Lady of Armenia **Rita Sargsyan** and organized by "Armenian New Names" Program (founded and headed by the President of the Association of Cultural Workers of Armenia, the RA Honored Worker of Culture **Silva Mekinyan**) with support from the RA Ministry of Culture and Yerevan City Hall with VivaCell-MTS as its General Sponsor for the second year in a row.

However... Sorry, dear very-very VIP, but after the very first performance, - I. Berkovich's Piano concert in C Major by seven (!!!) year-old **Dmitry Ishkanov** (Russia, studying at Malta by now) it became absolutely clear to me that I could not be able to leave this, let me run ahead, - as usual, really AMAZING and TOUCHING event.

The more - the better - 10 year-old **Andrey Kurbet** (Armenia) with his J.S. Bach's Piano concert performance, **Davit Hakobyan**, 16, of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic, with Vivaldi's "Summer", 10 year old **Olga Benditskaya** (Russia) with a piece of Vivaldi's Flute concert made ABSOLUTELY EVERYBODY in the Komitas Chamber Music Hall - including the first row Guests of Honor - the RA Minister of Culture **Hasmik Poghosyan** (who, in spite of being in sorrow for her father, a prominent public figure and a scientist historian Prof. Stepan K. Poghosyan's very recent untimely passing away (Mrs Minister, please accept our deep condolence), proved to be able to attend the event), General Manager of VivaCell-MTS, Armenia's leading telecommunications operator, General Sponsor of the "New Names" Fest **Ralph Yirikian**, the spouse of the Armenia's PM **Gohar Sargsyan**, the spouse of the Defense Minister **Ruzanna Khachatryan-Ohanyan**, the spouse of the Foreign Minister **Natalya Nalbandyan** and even a 92 year old Patriarch of the Armenian contemporary classical Music **Edward M. Mirzoyan** to applaud standing...

"Bravo, bis!" - that was irresistible demand from the amazed listeners. But that round of applaud turned to a real ovation after fiery performance of Khachatur Avetisyan's (of blessed memory) -very special, we could say even, a unique - "Perpetuum Mobile" for kanon (an Armenian traditional string instrument, an analogue of slide guitar) and orchestra by **Narek Kazazyan**.

To note, quite recently a talented Armenian kanon player has got the 2nd Prize at the Classical Eurovision Contest held in Vienna.



Ralph Yirikian handing valuable prize to the youngest participant Dmitry Ishkanov, 7

... Though the Festival is an international one, but, nevertheless, it was a kind of surprise for your author to notice among the listeners a young nice looking girl with "Asiatic" eyes - that was violinist **Miri Yoo** of South Korea who is a student at the Moscow



Probably, that was the youngest grateful listener...

State Conservatory's Central School. She said she was really happy to be among the performers of the Festival.

... When 12 year old **Diana Adanyan** commenced to play Sarasate's "Carmen Fantasy", your author, a gentleman of venerable age (and not only myself), was very close to start to dance spontaneously...

But right next performance by **Maneh Galoyan** (who was horn and bred in a destroyed by the Earthquake '88 City of Gyumri) the Great Arno Babajanyan's (absolutely FANTASTIC) "Vocalise" written specially for the INCOMPARABLE singer **Lusineh Zakaryan** reminded to your's truly (as the-then 21 year old listener) inauguration of "Vocalise" held in 1983 right at the same stage, of the Chamber Music Hall, by our universally beloved Lusineh...

I was sad not because this brilliant thing written in the best traditions of our INCOMPARABLE medieval

sharakans (spiritual monophonic songs) reminded me the long suffering history of us the Armenians, but, first of all, because soon after that performance both the Great Composer and the Great Singer have passed away...

...But the Driving Force of the Festival, Founder of the "New Names" Program (which was established yet in 1989 - !), Armenia's Honored Worker of Culture, ex-First Deputy



Narek Kazazyan, kanon

Minister of Culture of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic, a really tireless devotee of the Armenian art and culture, Silva Mekinyan was so wise that the Festival opening concert was ended by a joyful and funny number (which could be seemed laying out of

able support as not only the Minister but also as a "friend", President of the "Gevorg Momjian" Foundation Mr **Romen Kozmoyan** supporting the «New Names» Program since its creation, and indeed Ralph Yirikian, GM of VivaCell-MTS, General Sponsor of the Festival. "We appealed to many for (financial) support, but it was only Mr Yirikian who replied immediately and who's one of the most beloved



Raffi Arto with his "Cherokee Boogie"

men in the entire Armenia", said Mrs Mekinyan.

"It's crucial to have new names and developments in the sphere of performing art. By sponsoring New Names Festival, VivaCell-MTS re-confirms its commitment to support



The Guests of Honor: Gohar Sargsyan (right) and Ruzanna Khachatryan-Ohanyan

the frames of the so-called «serious», i.e. classical music) - **Raffi Arto** from France, 11, «blasted» the Hall with its own «Cherokee Boogie»- good old rock'n'roll.

...To say that everybody both at



and.... "Ralph Yirikian was the only (of many) who replied our request to help..."

the stage and in the Hall were excited means to say nothing as yours truly noticed tears in the eyes of many.

Mrs Mekinyan thanked the Minister Hasmik Poghosyan for invaluable

young performers, encourage their diligence, as well as dedication to art. The Festival allows providing another stage to young performers in order to help them reveal and develop their artistic skills. This is especially important in the performing art, where new talents are not easily forged, and much time and effort have to be devoted. We hope that some of those young people will be able to turn a new page in the performing art", commented VivaCell-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian.

Talking to your author, Mr Yirikian added that it is of crucial importance that many of these young musicians will represent OUR HAYRENIQ ARMENIA at the international stage as it befits a people having MILLENNIA OLD RICHEST CULTURE.

This year over forty talented young musicians up to 18 years old from different countries (Armenia, Georgia, France, Russia, Malta, Uzbekistan, Korea) are invited to partici-

pate in the Festival.

The concerts were to take place on May 29 - June 1 together with the Armenian State Philharmonic Orchestra (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor **Edward Topchyan**) and the Armenian State Chamber Orchestra (Artistic Director and Principal Conductor **Vahan Martirosyan**). Most participants are laureates of international and national competitions and

festivals, winners of scholarships of different funds, and have performed on the most famous stages of the world.

To note, the agenda of the Festival included a cultural program for the participants (visits to the Lake Sevan, Holy Etchmiadzin and other cultural monuments).

In her brief interview with The Highlights Natalya Nalbandyan (who attended the Concert with her mother) said that she was very impressed from the performance as well as geography of the Festival participants.

"When I see such talented young people, it makes me really optimistic in terms of our Country's future, and we all must spare no effort to help to grow such kind of brilliant kids as they glorify Armenia in the world", said Mrs Nalbandyan (an ethnic Russian Lady - in fluent Armenian).

"I've loved actually all the performances, but I was really touched by mere seven year old kid Dmitry Ishkanov, and our Narek Kazazian who was Armenia's pride at the recent Classical Eurovision Contest in Vienna, really amazed me", she continued. She also said she was glad for the fact that within the frames of this International Festival children from foreign countries receive good opportunity to make their cultural exchange with their Armenian coevals.

Taking the advantage of this occasion, your author asked Natalya Nalbandyan, as the Founding President of "Welcome to Armenia" NGO uniting the spouses of foreign diplomats and aimed at familiarizing them with the Armenian culture, traditions, language, to tell a couple of words on the near plans of the "Welcome to Armenia".

Mrs Nalbandyan told your correspondent that they were to visit one of the Maternity Houses in Yerevan on June 1st marked as the International Children's Day, - to congratulate mothers of the newly born babies. Mrs Nalbandyan also said that due to their support renovation of the Yerevan No.1. School of the Arts after Martiros Saryan was completed recently.

Photos by the author

Gyumri Gets within VivaCell-MTS' Focus of Attention Again

New prospects open up for students of the State Economic University of Armenia, Gyumri branch

On May 30 VivaCell-MTS announced its efforts in meeting the willingness of the State Economic University of Armenia, Gyumri branch, to prepare competitive professionals.

According to officials of Armenia's leading telecom operator, the success or the failure of any university can be judged against the market want of the specialists it prepares. It is the market that sets the benchmark of competitiveness among professionals. VivaCell-MTS' readiness to support in introducing modern-day teaching methods in the system of education, is in the interests of both the universities and the employers.

The advanced technologies of

learning now available to the future economists in Gyumri will be crucial for their career perspectives. The tremendous information flow that the IT and the Internet bring will provide plenty of teaching material for professors and instructors as well.

Ahead of the procedures that the University needs to undergo to integrate into the European system of education, Armenia's leading telecommunications operator equips one of the university auditoriums into a lab with 10 computers with Internet access, providing it with a 3G router working

within "Home-Zone Turbo" package, laser printer, switchers and other devices. The university will also have Wi-Fi corner. The interactive blackboard with a projector stands out of



the list of the provided equipment for its helpfulness in the organization of the learning process. The blackboard is a remarkable tool for teachers to fully manage significant information flows and the teaching course in general. The blackboard also helps in getting maximum knowledge within a relatively short period of time.

"The Gyumri Economic University is the fourth among those 29 institutions of higher education, which have been included in our educational lab project. The conditions created to provide high quality university education are important

in our effort to support progressive students. The modern-day methods of advanced education will help them keep up with the pace of the scientific and technical advances, shorten the distances and cooperate with the leading universities elsewhere. We stand by your side and we will stay there in future," underlined VivaCell-MTS General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

The State Economic University of Armenia in Gyumri knows the value of innovations in providing quality education and preparation of market competitive professionals. That is the reason VivaCell-MTS partnership with the university can be called a success, the Company's officials said.

Stepanakert will soon have opera theatre

Leader of the opera preparation department of Yerevan Komitas State Conservatory, professor Hovhannes Hovhannisyán and leader of the conductors' department of the Conservatory, conductor, professor Hovhannes Mirzoyan met journalists on May 30. They announced during the press-conference that opera theatre will be established in Artsakh, Stepanakert, soon. According to the speakers they launched this initiative with assistance of the Artsakh Ministry of Culture.

H. Hovhannisyán noted that the idea existed since 2000. They performed opera performances in the Stepanakert Square in 2000 and they were amazed with the interest which Artsakh residents showed towards the performance. Then they again staged some performance in other scenes but the latter were not appropriate for the operas.

Conservatory professor also informed that the opera theatre

will be in the current Drama theatre's building which needs to be restored. The scene will give opportunity to present opera performances and also to play some studio works.

Another speaker of the press-conference Hovhannes Mirzoyan considers that there is lack of human resources. But as he has added if there is wish the professionals can be sent to get education abroad.

"Artsakh gives not only great Generals but also perfect artists. They must have opportunity to express themselves".

According to Hovhannes Hovhannisyán the constructions of the building are not started yet but the project already exists and the sponsor is also found.

"I think we will manage in 1-2 years. The building will be ready in 2.5 years", the professor is sure.

The speakers also informed that they used to organize open-air performances before.



Joyce Philibosian Stein receives 2012 Ellis Island Medal of Honor

Joyce Philibosian Stein, an ex-officio member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) Board of Directors, Co-Chair of the AMAA National Orphan and Child Care Committee, Trustee of the Stephen Philibosian Foundation and ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees for Haigazian University, was honored on May 12 by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO), sponsors of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor was presented to Mrs. Stein on Ellis Island, where 12 million immigrants entered the United States from 1892 to 1954.

Each year since 1986, NECO has honored the nation's diverse past by sponsoring the Ellis Island Medals of Honor. The Medals of Honor pay tribute to the ancestry groups that comprise America's unique cultural mosaic. The Medals are presented on Ellis Island, in a dramatic ceremony, to American citizens from across the country for their outstanding contributions to their communities, their nation and the world.

Past Ellis Island Medal of Honor recipients include six Presidents of the United States, Nobel Prize winners, athletes, entertainers, and leaders of industry, education, the arts, government, media and others whose work has made a lasting impact on humanity. They are awarded to outstanding American citizens, from all walks of life, who have distinguished themselves through their significant contributions to this country. The Ellis Island

Medal of Honor ranks among the nation's most prestigious awards. The United States Senate and House of Representatives have officially recognized the Medals of Honor, and each year the recipients are listed in the Congressional Record. To date, over 1,800 American citizens have received Ellis Island Medals of Honor.

Stein is the daughter of the late SirpuhePhilibosian Conte and Stephen Philibosian, a philan-

University of Pennsylvania. She also holds an honorary degree from Haigazian University (LLD). She lived in St. Andrew's Scotland while her husband, Joe, attended St. Mary's College. She now resides with her husband in Indian Wells, CA. In keeping with her father's legacy, Mrs. Stein has wholeheartedly supported the AMAA and Haigazian University in leadership positions. Among her many other contributions to philanthropic causes, she served as a volunteer and major fundraiser for the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia and as Chair of the "Daisy Day" Fund, when President Dwight Eisenhower was the Honorary Chairman. She has also served as a member of the Support Committee of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Her husband, Joe, represents AMAA in the United Armenian Fund and is involved in numerous other Armenian organizations and projects. Her daughter, Stephanie Landes, is a current member of the AMAA Board of Directors and her daughter, Tina Segel, is a member of Haigazian University Board of Directors. She also actively serves on the LA Child and Orphan Committee and has sponsored the annual Luncheon and Fashion Show. Mrs. Stein is actively involved in the lives of her six grandchildren.

"The AMAA congratulates Joyce on this very prestigious award," said Levon Filian, Executive Director of the AMAA. "Joyce is a true leader who puts her heart and soul into each and every project to make the world a little better than how she found it."



thropist, entrepreneur and a co-founder of Haigazian University in Beirut, Lebanon. Both having crossed the Ellis Island threshold, would be amazed to know their daughter was awarded this medal of honor. They were true Americans who in that spirit encouraged the very American pursuits of giving of oneself.

Stein was born in New York City and attended Colby/Sawyer College, Southern Methodist University and graduated from the

APARTMENT FOR RENT

A comfortable, western style apartment in the center of the city. The second floor of the nice private house with a separate entrance from the street. The apartment has a dining room, two bedrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom and two balconies. It has a heating system, permanent cold and hot water, TV satellite, air conditioners and other facilities. A nice view to Mount Ararat. The house has a nice garden.

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DID YOU KNOW?



Heading by
Marina Harutiunyan
marina@nt.am
Comments are
welcomed!

What Your Nails Say
About Your Health

Hold that polish! Or at least give your nails a good look before you paint them. Your fingernails and toenails are like 20 mini-mirrors to the state of your overall health. Changes throughout the body that are otherwise invisible can sometimes be first seen in the nails, says dermatologist Amy Newburger, a senior attending physician at St. Luke's - Roosevelt Medical Consortium in New York City.

Fingernails tend to give more reliable clues than toenails, given the wear and tear of walking, tight shoes, and slower foot circulation over time, which can obscure toenail changes. But check both hands and feet -- the first of the following nine nail clues explains why.

Clue 1: A black line

Look for: A black discoloration that's a straight vertical line or streak and grows from the nail bed, usually on a single nail. About 75 percent of cases involve the big toe or the thumb, according to a review in the British Journal of Dermatology. Especially worrisome: a discoloration that's increasing or that's wider at the lower part of the nail than the tip. "That tells you that whatever is producing the pigment is producing more of it," says Newburger.

Also beware when the skin below the nail is deeply pigmented as well, says podiatrist Jane Andersen of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, a spokeswoman for the American Podiatric Medical Association.

What it might mean: Melanoma, the deadliest form of cancer. People with darker skin are more vulnerable than Caucasians to subungual melanoma (melanoma of the nail bed), but darker-skinned races also have more dark lines in nails that are benign, according to a 2004 report in American Family Physician.

Next steps: Always have a doctor check out a suspicious black line on the nail quickly because of the high skin can-

cer risk. A black line on the nail may also be caused by a harmless mole or an injury. A biopsy can confirm melanoma.

Clue 2: Small vertical red lines

Look for: Red (or sometimes brownish red) streaks in the nail. "They look like blood or dried blood," Anderson says. These are known as "splinter hemorrhages" because they look like a splinter but are caused by bleeding (hemorrhage) under the fingernail or toenail. They run



in the same direction as nail growth.

What it might mean: Heart trouble. The "splinters" are caused by tiny clots that damage the small capillaries beneath the nail. They're associated with an infection of the heart valves known as endocarditis. Don't panic if you see one, though: Sometimes an ordinary injury to the nail can cause a splinter hemorrhage.

Next steps: No treatment is needed for the splinter hemorrhage itself. A doctor can evaluate and treat the underlying cause if it's heart-related.

Clue 3: Wide, "clubbed" nails

Look for: Uniformly widened fingertips or toes -- they appear to bulge out beyond the last knuckle -- where the nails have widened, too, so that they curve down and appear to wrap around the tips

of the finger like an upside-down spoon. (Normal nails are narrower than their base fingers.) These extra-wide nails are called "clubbed" nails.

What it might mean: Clubbed nails are a common sign of pulmonary (lung) disease, Newburger says. Although the nails' odd shape develops over many months to years, people are often unaware of the underlying condition, which can include lung cancer.

Next steps: If you haven't had a physical exam lately, consider one, especially if you have other symptoms such as coughing or shortness of breath.

Clue 4: Spoon-like depressions

Look for: Nail beds that have little dips in them, an effect called koilonychia, or "spooning." "If you put your hand flat on the table, the spooned nails look like they could each hold liquid," Newburger says. The nails will also be unusually pale or stay whitish for more than a minute after you press gently on one. (Normally it would turn white for a second or two before returning to its original pinkish color.) The moons at the base of the nails may look particularly white.

What it might mean: Iron-deficiency anemia. Spooning can also be seen in the nails of people with hemochromatosis, or "iron overload disease," a condition usually caused by a defective gene that leads to too much iron being absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract. Other symptoms for both conditions can include fatigue and lack of energy, or they may be symptomless.

Next steps: A complete blood count can diagnose anemia, and a physical exam might pinpoint the cause of iron problems. Iron supplements and dietary changes are often prescribed as first-line treatments for anemia.

continued on next issue

ARMENIAN POETRY

Diana Der-Hovanesian
SHIFTING THE SUN

When your father dies, say the Irish
you lose your umbrella against bad weather.
May his sun be your light, say the Armenians.

When your father dies, say the Welsh
you sink a foot deeper into the earth.
May you inherit his light, say the Armenians

When your father dies, say the Canadians
you run out of excuses.
May you inherit his sun, say the Armenians.

When your father dies, say the Indians
he comes back as the thunder.
May you inherit his light, say the Armenians.

When your father dies, say the Russians,
he takes your childhood with him.
May you inherit his light say the Armenians.

When your father dies, say the British,
you join his club you vowed you wouldn't.
May you inherit his sun, say the Armenians.

When your father dies, say the Armenians,
your sun shifts forever
and you walk in his light.



Zodiac Weekly Forecast

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

It may be difficult to find common ground with partners, authorities, or significant others in your life during this period. You have a desire to express yourself and the "other" seems to be recalcitrant. Don't turn this into a power play or a long term resentment. That will not be good for your health. Tone down your anger a notch or two and say your piece. Then let it go..

Taurus (Apr. 20--May 19):

You will have many opportunities to engage socially with multiple friends and associates. This may come at a time when you naturally gravitate toward your introverted side. So it might seem way too much now, but here it is. Whatever develops harkens back to new beginnings of 2004.

Gemini (May 20 -- June 20) :

You may be easily angered on the 30th. Don't accelerate yourself into an accident. Beyond Thursday the pace and the company are positive and welcome. This is a good week to be social or to focus your attention on a project that requires detail.

Cancer (June 21--Jul y 21) :

The Full Moon on June 4 shines a light on your daily routines. Circumstances at work may be in a state of flux, otherwise called a "zoo." The state of your health is prominent. Good or bad depends upon how you have been caring for yourself. A new seed is planted in your unconscious that will begin to develop slowly toward materialization in your life.

Leo (July 22 --Aug. 21):

This promises to be an unusual week. Your attention is drawn toward your community at large. People from the past may be traveling through once again. Be alert to changes in the character of these folks that have occurred since your last encounter.

Virgo (Aug 22--Sep. 22) :

You may feel somewhat edgy and irritable this week. Parts of your mind are scattered into so many corners that it is hard to pull everything together. Your boundaries are being attacked, probably at work. This may have been happening for a few months. Now is the time to let people know they can't walk on you anymore.

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

An incredibly bright light is thrown into your 9th house territory. That sector includes legal activity, publishing, higher education, the internet, philosophy, church and travel. Any one or more of these interests is likely to be noted by the Powers that Be. As long as you have maintained good ethics, these events should go well.

Scorpio (Oct. 23--Nov. 21) :

Pace yourself. This is liable to be a long and challenging week. People and things may get on your nerves. You will feel better if you let things go. It may be nearly impossible to move forward right now. Use your energy to tread water and lighten up.

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

There will be a full moon eclipse in your sign on June 4 at 7:12 am EDT. In the days surrounding this eclipse something important will be illuminated. How can you develop an individual identity that is authentic while simultaneously maintaining a personally rewarding relationship?

Capricorn (Dec 21 -- Jan 19) :

This is an excellent time to pursue any activity that requires your mental concentration. The Goats are not always able to sit still enough to learn theoretical information, but right now there is a good window. Contracts and written communications, along with travel, have go signals. Use caution with physical activities.

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

Your ability to concentrate upon projects that require management of details is strong. If you focus your mind on a mentally challenging project that can have an identifiable outcome, things will move smoothly. If, instead, you focus on heavy physical labor, you must have additional help. You are subject to back and muscle strain.

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

One of your planetary rulers, Neptune, turns retrograde this week. This suggests that one or more anxieties will go underground for a few months and you will actually feel better than before. You know that sometimes your imagination is just too potent and you react to it as though it were the real thing.

HUMOR

Where are we going?

An American man, a Russian man, and an African man were all up in a hot-air balloon together. After a few minutes, the Russian man put his hand down through the clouds. "Aaah!" he said. "We're right over my homeland." "How can you tell?" asked the American. "I can feel the cold air." he replied. A few hours later the African man put his hand through the clouds. "Aah we're right over my homeland." he said. "How do you know that?" asked the Russian. "I can feel the heat of the desert." Several more hours later the American put his hand through the clouds. "Aah, we're right over New York." The Russian and the African were amazed. "How do you know all of that?" they exclaimed. The American pulled his hand up. "My watch is missing."

Quote of the week



The man who has no
imagination has no wings.

Muhammad Ali

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

Enjoy your leisure

MEZZO

classic house club

CLUBS

MEZZO CLASSIC HOUSE CLUB

June 7 at 9:30 p.m.
"Nuance " EthnoJazz
June 8 at 9:30 p.m.
"Imagine" Band
June 9 at 9:30 p.m.
"Crossroads" Blues Band
June 10 at 9:30 p.m.
"Impression" Band
June 11 at 9:30 p.m.
"Marina and City Project"
Band
June 12 at 9:30 p.m.
"Upstairs" Band
June 16 at 9:30 p.m.
Chigapo & The Geniuses Band

STOP MUSIC CLUB

June 9 at 9 p.m.
Hayard Rock
June 11 at 9 p.m.
An Gordonach

ULIKHANYAN CLUB

June 8, 15 at 9 p.m.
Suren Arustamyan Blues Band
June 10, 17 at 9 p.m.
Spanish Day
June 11 at 9 p.m.
Club Day
June 14 at 9 p.m.
Rak & Roll

MALKHAS JAZZ CLUB

June 11 at 9 p.m.
Group Remino and Forsh
June 12 at 9 p.m.
Jazz quartet (Soloist Zara)
June 13 at 9 p.m.
Crossroads Blues Band (Soloist Amiryan Misho)
June 14 at 9 p.m.
Jazz Trio (Soloist Aghvan)

THE CLUB

June 8 at 9 p.m.
Bard Club
June 11 at 9 p.m.
Tea Master invites to tasting chinese teas

June 12 at 8 p.m.
Film Screening

METRO MUSIC PUB

June 14 at 8 p.m.
Crayfish Day

YANKEE PUB

June 8 at 8 p.m.
Salsa

BARD CLUB

June 8, 15 at 9 p.m.
Bard Club

ARMENIAN CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY EXPERIMENTAL ART

June 12- 30 at 6 p.m.
"Remote Sensing" A Group
Exhibition of Contemporary



Art from Italy
June 21 at 7 p.m.
Rusty Pumpkin 4 +, Rusty Teenagers, Rusty Pumpkin
Annual Alternative Media Festival

CAFESJIAN MUSEUM PARK

June 8- 11
Open-air reading festival

THEATRES

STATE MARIONETTE THEATRE

Play for kids

June 9 at 12:30, 2 p.m. 3:30 p.m.
King Chakh-Chakh

SUNDUKYAN NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

June 9 at 5 p.m.
" We Support You" Charity Concert
June 13 at 7 p.m.
A Streetcar Named Desire

H. TUMANYAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

June 7 at 7 p.m.
Cherchez la femme

Premiere
By Aldo Nikolai
Lead roles by Varuzhan Manukyan, Tamara Petrosyan, Narek Duryan
Staging, music and adaptation by Narek Duryan
Producer:
Kristine Hovhannisyan
June 6 at 1 p.m.
Alice in Wonderland
June 7 at 11 a.m., at 1 p.m.

Alice in Wonderland
June 9 at 12:00, 2 p.m.
Alice in Wonderland
June 10 at 12:00 p.m.
Three Piglets

HENRIK MALYAN THEATRE

June 11 at 7p.m.
The Physiology of Race
June 22, 23 at 7 p.m.
The Marriage
June 25 at 7 p.m.

the Mountains)
June 9 at 7 p.m.
The Maniac
June 10 at 7 p.m.
I will get married with American

CONCERT HALLS

ARAM KHACHATURIAN CONCERT HALL

June 6-13
Aram Khachaturian



Stories in Train
June 29 at 7 p.m.
Violent communists
June 30 at 7 p.m.
Fairytale

H. PARONYAN STATE THEATRE OF MUSICAL COMEDY

June 8 at 7 p.m.
Rich Girl Can't Be Ugly
June 9 at 7 p.m.
The Flatterer
June 13 at 7 p.m.
Die first, then I'll love you
June 14 at 7 p.m.
You Can't Get Rid Of Me
June 15 at 7 p.m.
Love Stir

YEREVAN STATE CHAMBER THEATRE

June 8 at 7 p.m.
Gentlemen, Everything is Collapsing but We Can Still Live and Have Fun
June 9, 16 at 7 p.m.
Royal Concert
June 14 at 7 p.m.
It Doesn't Matter With Whom
June 10 at 7 p.m.
Neron

K. STANISLAVSKI STATE RUSSIAN DRAMA THEATRE

June 8 at 7 p.m
Abanamat (Once We Lived in

International Competition.
Violin
June 13 at 7 p.m.
Closing ceremony, concert
June 8 at 7 p.m.
Alexander Hulshoff with APO Program:
Elgar: Pomp & Circumstance and Cello Concerto
Shostakovich: Symphony No.5

DEAF AND DUMB COMPLEX (Northern Ave.)
June 10 at 12:00 - 4:30 p.m.
(semifinal)
at 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. (final)
Armenian Street Dance Contest
8 groups and more than 100 participants from Armenia and Georgia will compete in various nominations of Street Dance.
Solo dancers, duets and groups will participate in the contest, the former two competing with the "Battle" principle, not even knowing what music will be chosen by the DJ.
Besides, an amusing show is envisaged within the program, including a complete history of street dance performed live by dance masters and more.



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