

## 6<sup>th</sup> Armenia-Diaspora Conference kicks off in Yerevan



*The 6th Armenia-Diaspora Conference kicked off at the Sports and Concert Complex after Karen Demirchyan on September 18. According to the Ministry of Diaspora, the conference titled “Mutual Trust, Unity and Responsibility” features about 1,500 participants from 70 countries. Three plenary sittings and 16 thematic meetings will be held within the framework of the forum, which will run through September 20.*

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sworn in for  
another term**

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## Serzh Sargsyan: the Mekhitarist Congregation bridged the Armenian and Western cultures

The Press Service of RA President Serzh Sargsyan has published the President's congratulatory message on 300th Anniversary of Mekhitarist Congregation establishment on Saint Lazarus Island of Venice. The message states:

Dear Compatriots,

I congratulate you on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of a landmark historical event – Mekhitarist Congregation's establishment on Saint Lazarus Island, Venice.

Three centuries ago, Mekhitar Sebastatsi, the giant of the Armenian spiritual thought, founded an institution that would become a world-renowned spiritual, educational, literary and scientific center.

Since its inception in 1701, the Mekhitarist Congregation has played an indispensable role in the cause of preserving the Armenian identity and was to become a prominent representation of the Armenian people in the World, attracting world-renowned Armenian and foreign intellectuals with its rich cultural heritage and spiritual atmosphere.

Located at the heart of Europe, the Mekhitarist Congregation bridged the Armenian and Western cultures. The Congregation has made an exclusive contribution to the development of Armenian studies. Throughout centuries our spiritual fathers have been doing huge work in the divinely illuminated cells of the Congregation's Mother Monastery. The evidence of this are general and topical scientific dictionaries, translations, as well as other works related to religion, history, linguistics, natural sciences and economics.

Noteworthy is that while combining the scientific, cultural and spiritual heritage with amazing harmony and perfection, the Congregation has a unique museum environment. The manuscripts and records kept at the Congregation's monastic compound are not just the evidence of the wealth of the Armenian cultural heritage; they are unique



samples of global civilization.

Historicity is registered by time. All the way through its centuries-old activity, the Mekhitarist Congregation has provided the best proof of it as a means of communication between the national and the universal.

Bowing down to the selfless dedication of the Mekhitarist Congregation to the noble cause of preserving and disseminating our spiritual values, I would like to pay tribute to our spiritual fathers who managed to create educational centers, promote the Armenian language, culture and education among the younger generation.

Once again, I am proudly congratulating all of us on this emblematic jubilee, wishing the members of the Congregation long and fruitful years of creative efforts aimed at implementing Mekhitar Sebastatsi's sacred message: "Everything for Armenia and Homeland."

## President receives members of Boris Mints Institute's International Council



President Serzh Sargsyan received on September 14 the members of the International Council of the Boris Mints Institute for Strategic Solutions to Global Challenges, who together with their colleagues from the Armenian-Russian (Slavonic) University organized today a workshop referred to as "Small Transition Economies: Local Responses to Global Challenges." The President of the

Republic sent a message to the session.

Serzh Sargsyan welcomed the guests - leading experts and professors, well-known politicians and philanthropists - who are concerned about the pressing global problems and challenges and stand ready to invest their long experience and knowledge mediating fruitful consultations aimed at finding the right solutions.

Highly appreciative of the activities of the Boris Mints Institute and the Council members' dedication to this important cause, the President of Armenia pointed out that in all countries the authorities always need advice and experts' recommendations, and in this respect, Armenia is open and ready for dialogue.

Thankful for the reception, Boris Mints and other participants of the meeting noted with satisfaction that the Yerevan workshop was quite interesting and fruitful, which allowed them to listen to different opinions and views voiced by Armenian experts, scholars and professors, public officers on the prospects and strategic directions of Armenia's development.

President Sargsyan briefed the guests on the path covered since Armenia's independence, including development processes, efforts aimed at building a democratic State underpinned by strong civil society and market economy, as well as on the emerging challenges and development prospects.



## Serzh Sargsyan calls for immigration, investments from Armenian Diaspora



**Yerevan - RFE/RL**

Armenia's government will encourage ethnic Armenians living abroad to relocate to their historical homeland in an effort to address its demographic problems, President Serzh Sargsyan said on September 18.

Sargsyan urged Armenian Diaspora organizations to assist in that endeavor as he addressed hundreds of their representatives attending a government-organized conference in Yerevan. He also renewed his calls for greater Diaspora investments in the struggling Armenian economy.

"We note that demographic trends in our country are extremely concerning and result from many objective and subjective factors of the last 25 years," he said in a long speech delivered at the Sixth Armenia-Diaspora Conference. "In the coming years, our efforts will be aimed at speeding up the natural growth of Armenia's population and substantially changing the emigration-to-immigration ratio.

"We have declared that our goal is to ensure that Armenia has at least 4 million residents by 2040. Obviously we would have trouble attaining that goal only by increasing the birth rate, prolonging life

expectancy and taking other steps to improve the demographic picture."

The ambitious goal, he went on, also requires "achieving serious indicators of immigration into Armenia" in the next 25 years. "In my view, the realization of this objective will be the main subject of the next Armenia-Diaspora conferences," he said.

"I believe that we are ripe for seriously discussing the issue of organizing repatriation," declared Sargsyan.

There are an estimated 8 million to 9 million ethnic Armenians around the world. Only up to 3 million of them live in Armenia. Most of the others reside in Russia, the United States, Europe and the Middle East.

Throughout Sargsyan's nearly decade-long rule, scores of Armenia's citizens have continued to leave their country for primarily economic reasons. Opposition politicians and other critics of the Armenian government blame the emigration on what they see as the Sargsyan administration's failed economic policies and unwillingness to enforce the rule of law in the country.

Some participants of the forum were skeptical about Sargsyan's statement,

saying that the authorities in Yerevan should ease socioeconomic hardship in Armenia and stop people leaving the country before setting such demographic targets.

"I don't believe in utopias," said Stepan Hovakimian, a representative of the Armenian labor unions in Los Angeles. "I only believe in real work."

"Thirty thousand Syrian Armenians came to Armenia. How many of them stayed here?" said Vasken Kasemjian, head of the Social Democrat Hnchakian Party in Britain. "There are still problems in Gyumri. More than 25 years have passed since the [1988] earthquake but there are still homeless people there."

"Let them solve those problems before speaking of grandiose programs," he added.

In his speech, Serzh Sargsyan again called on wealthy entrepreneurs from the Diaspora to invest in Armenia. "All necessary conditions for doing that and the right business environment have been created in Armenia," he claimed.

Greater Diaspora investments in the Armenian economy have been hampered by the country's flawed business environment. While some wealthy ethnic Armenian entrepreneurs from Russia, the United States and other parts of the world have set up shop in the country, many others have been scared away by government corruption and a lack of judicial independence.

Those problems are apparently not on the agenda of the Diaspora-Armenia conference that got underway on Monday. Representatives of Armenia's main opposition groups were not invited to participate in the forum.

Nikol Pashinian, a leader of the opposition Yelk bloc, condemned the snub. "This and several other facts prove that the event is meant to be a PR stunt by Serzh Sargsyan," he claimed.

## Foreign Minister of Armenia bids farewell to Ambassador of France

Foreign Minister of Armenia Edward Nalbandyan received Jean-François Charpentier, Ambassador of France to Armenia on September 11, on the occasion of completion of his diplomatic mission in Yerevan, Press Service of the Ministry of For-

eign Affairs of RA reports.

Edward Nalbandyan highly appreciated the input of the Ambassador Charpentier in further strengthening of the privileged Armenian-French relations during his tenure.

For his significant contribution, Edward

Nalbandyan awarded Ambassador Charpentier with the Foreign Ministry's Medal of Honor.

Edward Nalbandyan wished success to the Ambassador of France in his future endeavors.

## French, German Envoys see no hurdles to EU-Armenia accord

A landmark agreement to deepen the European Union's relations with Armenia will most likely be signed as planned in November, Germany's and France's ambassadors in Yerevan said on September 12. "At the moment there are no circumstances that could hamper that process," the German envoy, Matthias Kiesler, told a joint news conference with his outgoing French counterpart, Jean-Francois Charpentier.

"I consider the new agreement a great success and believe that if signed, it will open up new and multiple opportunities for deepening EU-Armenia cooperation," added Kiesler.

Charpentier likewise said that "all prerequisites are in place" for the signing of the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) during an EU summit in Brussels slated for November 24. Armenia would thus become the first member of the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union to have such an "ambitious" deal with the EU, he said.

The CEPA, which was finalized in March, is meant to deepen the EU's political and economic relations with Armenia. It reportedly contains the main political provisions of a more far-reaching Association Agreement which the two sides nearly concluded in 2013.

President Serzh Sargsyan prevented the signing of that agreement



with his unexpected decision to seek Armenia's accession to the EEU. The move was widely attributed to Russian pressure exerted on the Armenian government.

Sargsyan dismissed late last month suggestions that the CEPA may also collapse at the last minute. "We have no reason to not sign that document," he said. The head of the EU Delegation in Yerevan, Piotr Switalski, said last week that officials in Brussels are making final preparations for the signing of the accord with Armenia at the November summit. The summit will focus on the EU's Eastern Partnership program of closer partnership with six former Soviet republics. Three of them -- Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine -- have signed Association Agreements with the EU.

## Ruling Party remains opposed to Armenia's exit from Eurasian Union

(Yerevan - RFE/RL) President Serzh Sargsyan's Republican Party (HHK) dismissed on September 12 an opposition alliance's calls for an end to Armenia's membership in the Russian-led Eurasian Economic Union (EEU).

The Yelk alliance put forward late last week a draft parliamentary statement demanding that the Armenian authorities embark on a "process" of invalidating Armenia's accession treaty with the trade bloc comprising five ex-Soviet states. The statement says that EEU membership, effective from January, 2015, has hurt the country's economy and security.

"Leaving the EEU would be fraught with very serious problems for Armenia," the HHK spokesman, Eduard Sharmazanov, told RFE/RL's Armenian service (Azatutyun.am). "It would lead to an unprecedented rise in the price of [Russian] gas. Secondly, it would change trade volumes. There are no alternative markets for products which we now sell in the EEU markets. Maybe there will be in five or ten years."

"Armenia's authorities see no need for changing the vector of Armenian foreign policy," Sharmazanov added. "We should continue deepening our relations with the EEU."

Russia is Armenia's number one trading partner, having accounted for 26 percent of its foreign trade in January-July 2017, according to official Armenian statistics. Armenian exports to Russia -- most of them foodstuffs and alcoholic beverages -- rose by almost 31 percent.

By comparison, the European Union's share in the total stood at 24.3 percent. Armenia's trade with EEU member states also grew strongly in the seven-month period.

Yelk blames the EEU for the fact that Armenia Gross Domestic Product has shrunk in U.S. dollar terms while public debt increased since 2015. The authorities in Yerevan recorded a real GDP growth of just 0.2 percent last year.

"Had we not joined the EEU that negative dynamic would have been deeper," insisted Sharmazanov.



Sharmazanov also brushed aside Yelk claims that EEU membership has not strengthened Armenia's security as evidenced by continued Russian arms sales to Azerbaijan and the April 2016 fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh.

"Armenia has received [since 2015] many modern weapons and ammunition that ensure, along with the Armenian armed forces, its security. Armenia's security system has grown stronger since we joined the EEU," said the HHK spokesman, who is also a deputy speaker of the Armenian parliament.

Russia's ambassador in Yerevan, Ivan Volynkin, also scoffed at the Yelk initiative. "If they want to come up with such an initiative, no problem, nobody is hindering them," Volynkin told reporters. "The question is how necessary it is for Armenia."

"I think that the majority of Armenia's population disagrees with that initiative because they can see the obvious advantages of Armenia's membership in the EEU," he said.

Yelk holds 9 seats in the 105-member parliament. None of the other political groups represented in the National Assembly has voiced support for its initiative.



## Switalski: We hope for peace, business likes peace and stability



dor Piotr Switalski told on September 15 at a briefing, Panorama.am reports.

According to him, Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan's Government has implemented a number of initiatives to improve the business environment.

"It concerns also custom authorities and rating authorities. I hear positive opinions from many European business companies. This is a right way but it is also necessary to find other resources. I think measures that are taken towards independence of the State legal system and fighting against corruption, are very important. States, nations compete with each other to involve investments and only very active participation and policy can bring more European investments to Armenia. We hope for peace. And, of course, business likes peace and stability", the Ambassador said.

Switalski has insured that they have firm grounds in cooperating with Armenia.

"We encourage the Armenian Government to be more active in involving for-

eign capital", the Head of the European Union Delegation to Armenia, Ambassa-

## Mark Pritchard MP appointed as British Trade Envoy to Armenia and Georgia

On September 12, the UK Prime Minister Theresa May has appointed Mr Mark Pritchard, MP, as a British Trade Envoy to Armenia and Georgia and Her Majesty's Government's commitment to a policy of commercial and business success between our respective countries. There are very many trade and investment opportunities to be realised." and Georgia.

Trade envoys are a network of parliamentarians appointed by the Prime Minister, drawn from across the political spectrum. Trade envoys engage with one or more emerging markets where substantial trade and investment opportunities have been identified by UK government. They support the drive for economic growth by building on the UK's existing relations with these markets and maximising bilateral trade.

Mr Pritchard said: "I am honoured to have been asked by the Prime Minister to be the UK's first Trade Envoy



to Georgia and Armenia. My appointment underscores the importance of in-

creasing the UK's trade and investment in Georgia."

## WB Vice President: I am confident that we can be successful in our cooperation with the Government of Armenia

Prime Minister Karen Karapetyan received a delegation headed by World Bank Vice President for Europe and Central Asia Cyril Muller on September 11, the Press Service of the RA Government reports.

Once again felicitating the participants of the meeting on the 25th anniversary of partnership between the Republic of Armenia and the World Bank, the Prime Minister highlighted the need for further development and deepening of bilateral cooperation.

Karen Karapetyan congratulated newly appointed Head of WB Armenia Office Silvie Bosoutro, wishing her productive work in our country. The head of the Armenian government expressed conviction that she would build on the already established and traditionally close ties of partnership.

Pleased with the ongoing cooperation with the Government of Armenia, Cyril Muller assessed it as effective. He noted that the World Bank wishes to further strengthen the cooperation with Armenia.

During the meeting, the WB delegation presented a report entitled "The Future of Armenia," which describes the country's problems,



capacities, advantages. Reference is made to the Government's activities.

It was noted that the WB activities program with Armenia will be elaborated based on the findings of this report. Cyril Muller emphasized that the recommendations contained in the report coincide with the Government's 2017-2022 Action Plan and Reform Agenda.

"During this time, you have demonstrated your ability to implement excellent programs, therefore, I am confident that we can be successful in our cooperation with the Government of Armenia," the WB Vice President said. A number of other issues related to bilateral cooperation were discussed at the meeting.

## The amount of commodity circulation between Armenia and the US increases



Strengthening of economic and trade ties between Armenia and the US was the priority of the US Ambassador in Armenia Richard Mills' mission in RA, the Ambassador said at the press conference organized by Armenian-American Chamber of Commerce and the Embassy of the USA in Armenia.

The Ambassador mentioned that representatives of the United States De-

partment of Commerce visited Armenia this week to present the opportunities offered by GPS system which Armenia may take advantage of.

Answering a question on the timeframe of signing of a convention for avoiding double taxation, the Ambassador said that this question was brought up by the Government of Armenia and that signing of such a convention will

be discussed if it becomes necessary for trade stimulation.

According to him, the document on double taxation adopted in 1970's is enough for the development of trade between the countries.

The Ambassador mentioned that they are waiting for the Armenian Government's arguments for the necessity of a new convention.

In turn, the first Deputy of the Minister of Economic Development and Investments of RA Garegin Melkonyan informed that the commodity circulation between Armenia and the US was \$91 mln during January-July period of 2017 which is 38% more than the index of the same period of last year.

He mentioned that thanks to the GSP tariff system commodities produced in Armenia are imported to the US with a zero interest rate and that the products that could take advantage of the system, in fact, took it for 100%.



## ANCA and Marriott Armenia make case for U.S.-Armenia Double Tax Treaty

Leading U.S. investors in Yerevan's landmark Marriott Hotel made the case this week in Washington, DC for a U.S.-Armenia Double Tax Treaty during a series of Capitol Hill and State Department meetings, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA), according to Asbarez.

"We were pleased to have this opportunity to share with U.S. legislators and our Department of State the real-world benefits of a Double Tax Treaty for U.S. investors, the Armenian economy, and – perhaps most importantly – the future growth of mutually beneficial bilateral U.S. – Armenia commercial relations," said Paul Korian, Chairman and Managing Partner of the Armenia Marriott Hotel Complex.

"By eliminating the threat of double taxation, this long overdue treaty would remove a meaningful barrier to the expansion of the U.S.-Armenia economic relationship, opening the door to a new wave of investment opportunities," said investor Peklar Pilavjian.

Among the legislators that the group spoke with on Capitol Hill were Armenian Caucus Co-Chairs Jackie Speier (D-CA) and David Trott (R-MI), senior House Foreign Affairs Committee member Brad Sherman (D-CA), who is widely respected as the leading



Congressional expert on international tax law, and U.S. Representatives Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Joseph Kennedy (D-MA) and Grace Napolitano (D-CA). Korian and Pilavjian also took part in a State Department meeting on the mutual benefits of a Double Tax Treaty.

"It's time to get this done. The absence of a working, modern tax treaty has – for far too long – deprived both U.S. and Armenian investors of a clear legal framework, creating unnecessary uncertainty that diverts investment flows and materially disadvantages businesses," said ANCA Executive

Director Aram Hamparian. "Inaction on a Double Tax Treaty, more than 25 years after Armenia's independence, sends the wrong message to potential investors and other economic stakeholders."

Following the meetings, Korian and Pilavjian talked to H1 Television's Haykaram Nahabetyan about the benefits of a U.S.-Armenia Double Tax Treaty in the ongoing efforts to expand bilateral economic ties. The group also visited with Library of Congress Armenian Specialist, Dr. Levon Avdoyan, for a first-hand view of the Libraries' over 40,000 Armenian holdings.

## Armenian pavilion named the best at "WorldFood Moscow 2017" international expo

The pavilion, created by the Development Foundation of Armenia, has been named the best during the "WorldFood Moscow 2017" International Exhibition, held from September 11-14 in Moscow. Sixteen Armenian companies represent the Armenian food industry at Moscow expo with the support of the Development Foundation of Armenia.

The organizers of "WorldFood Moscow 2017" awarded the prize to the event manager of the Marketing Department of DFA Lusine Balayan during the tasting session arranged for international buyers and distributors at the Armenian pavilion. The selection was jointly made by the expert committee and visitors of the Exhibition.

"I see this as a good marketing result achieved by our team, and consequently expect more fruitful negotiations and larger export contracts from the companies attending the Exhibition", noted the CEO of the Development Foundation of Armenia Armen Avak Avakian, who is currently in Moscow with the Armenian producers. The Armenian companies returned from the previous Exhibition with 12 export contracts with value of 570 million AMD.

The Minister of Agriculture of Armenia Ignati Arakelyan and the



Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the Russian Federation Vardan Toghanyan have also visited the Armenian pavilion. To remind, the Development Foundation of Armenia supports the local companies within the scope of the Export Promotion Strategy of the Government of RA.

## Freed Russian-Israeli blogger tells Armenians to “Hold Firm” on Karabakh

Just one day after leaving Azerbaijan, a Russian-Israeli blogger who was jailed in Baku for travelling to Nagorno-Karabakh called on Friday for continued Armenian control over the territory.

Aleksandr Lapshin also strongly denied the Azerbaijani authorities claims that he tried to commit suicide the day before receiving a pardon from President Ilham Aliyev on Monday. He said that in fact he was brutally assaulted in his prison cell.

Lapshin, who has Israeli, Russian and Ukrainian citizenships, flew from Baku to Tel Aviv on Thursday nine months after being detained in Belarus on an Azerbaijani arrest warrant. He was extradited to Azerbaijan in February.

An Azerbaijani court sentenced the 41-year-old to three years in prison in July. It said he illegally crossed Azerbaijan's internationally recognized borders when he visited Karabakh via Armenia in 2011 and 2012. Lapshin gave detailed accounts of those trips on his Rus-

sian-language travel blog.

Announcing Aliyev's decision to pardon the blogger, the authorities in Baku said that he is receiving medical assistance after he tried to kill himself in Azerbaijani custody.

“I categorically deny the official Azerbaijani lie about my suicide attempt in a Baku prison,” Lapshin wrote on his blog. He claimed that in reality he was beaten unconscious by two unknown men who burst into his prison cell on the night from Sunday to Monday.

Lapshin said he regained consciousness in a Baku hospital. He called the alleged attack a murder attempt.

In a separate Facebook post, the blogger reflected on the Karabakh conflict and made an emotional appeal to Armenians.

“I am ashamed of admitting that before I found myself in the Azerbaijani prison I sincerely believed that the Karabakh conflict is a very disputed one and should be resolved on the basis of re-

spect for Azerbaijan's national borders,” he wrote. “What an idiot I was! Already in 1988 Azerbaijan began [a campaign of] terror against Armenians in [the Azerbaijani city of] Sumgait, Baku and Karabakh.”

“Armenians, hold firm!” he said. “These people want to see you dead full stop. And if you lose Karabakh as a result of negotiations or a weakening of Armenia's position, be aware that they will come to slaughter you. Just like the Turks did 100 years ago.”

Years before his arrest, Lapshin was placed on an official Azerbaijani blacklist of several hundred non-Armenian foreigners who visited Karabakh without Baku's permission. Nevertheless, he was able to travel to Azerbaijan in June 2016 and post a series of detailed blog entries on his mixed impressions about the oil-rich country. In particular, Lapshin suggested that the Azerbaijani authorities have squandered their massive oil revenues.





## U.S. Rep. David Valadao visits Artsakh, reviews HALO Trust's de-mining efforts

Congressional Armenian Caucus Co-Chairman David Valadao (R-CA) visited Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh) on September 18, where, alongside government officials and ANCA Chairman Raffi Hamparian, he reviewed life-saving HALO Trust de-mining programs that he has helped fund as a leading member of the House Appropriations Committee, reported the Armenian National Committee of America (ANCA).

"It is great to be here on the ground, in Artsakh, with Representative Valadao, author of the ANCA-backed U.S. House amendment funding the Artsakh aid program," said ANCA Chairman Raffi Hamparian. "Witnessing firsthand America's life-saving, peace-making contribution to the future of the Republic of Artsakh is, for sure, a proud moment for all Armenian Americans."

The trip comes just two weeks after Rep. Valadao introduced an amendment, adopted by the U.S. House of Representatives, calling for continued U.S. assistance for the HALO Trust's de-mining efforts across the interior farmlands and villages of the Artsakh Republic.

The Valadao Amendment was approved by voice vote, as part of the FY 2018 foreign aid appropriation, which, in turn, is part of a broader spending measure (H.R. 3354), approved on September 14th. Congressman David Valadao was joined in supporting this bipartisan measure by House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA), House Intelligence Committee Ranking Democrat Adam Schiff (D-CA), and his fellow Armenian Caucus Co-Chairs Frank Pallone (D-NJ) and Jackie Speier (D-CA).

The decisive move was welcomed by the ANCA, which spearheaded the launch of Artsakh aid in the 1990's and has, over the past two decades, secured tens of millions of dollars in U.S. assistance to the independent republic.

During his meeting with the HALO Trust's Regional Director Ash Boddy and local leaders, portions of which were broadcast live on their Facebook page, Rep. Valadao saw first-hand the lifesaving efforts of the organization, which, over the last 16 years, has destroyed over 8,733 anti-personnel mines, 2,584 anti-tank landmines, 180,858 small arms ammunition, 12,423 cluster bombs and 48,572 other explosive items in Artsakh. The HALO Trust looks to complete Artsakh de-mining efforts by 2020.

Participating in THE HALO Trust briefing with the Congressman were Robert Avetisyan, Permanent Representative of the Artsakh Republic to the U.S. and Maria Mehranian, President of the Armenia Fund.

The visit comes a day ahead of a Congressional delegation trip to the Republic of Armenia, marking the September 21st anniversary of independence and exploring expanded bilateral economic and political cooperation. In addition to Rep. Valadao, the delegation includes fellow Congressional Armenian Caucus Co-Chairs Jackie Speier (D-CA) and Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Representatives Anna Eshoo (D-CA), Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI) and James Sensenbrenner (R-WI).

Congressman Valadao's California district is home to a vibrant Armenian American community. The ANCA of Central California has worked closely with the Congressman since his election to the California State Assembly in 2010. Shortly thereafter, he sought and won the race to represent the constituents of California's 21st Con-



gressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Valadao's family emigrated to the United States in 1969 from the Azores Islands in Portugal. Like his father, the Congressman runs a dairy farm in addition to managing over 1,000 acres of farmland in Kings and western Tulare County, on which Valadao and his family grow alfalfa, corn, and wheat as dairy feed stock.



## Gladzor University: "Second Glorious Athens"...



By  
**Gourgen  
Khazhakian**

**Chief  
Correspondent**

...It was 1984 when this author, a graduate year student, heard about solemn celebration – at the unprecedented for Soviet era – state level of the 700th anniversary of the legendary Gladzor University, a real pearl of education, science and arts of the medieval Armenia, and not only Armenia – it was not mere coincidence that Gladzor was called “Glorious Second Athens” and “Capital of Wisdom” in foreign manuscripts, the first references – since 1291. So within the scope of the events a museum dedicated to Gladzor University was opened in St.Hakob Church in the Village of Vernashen, Vayots Dzor Region, in 1984. According to a version,

ed themselves to studying and revealing of numerous intricate questions of the history and significance of this medieval Armenian educational-scientific center.

In 1970-1971 excavations were carried out in Vayots Dzor, in the surroundings of St. Stepanos Monastery on the initiative of the Chair of Archeology, Source Study and Ethnography at the Yerevan State University, under the supervision of **Igit Gharibyan**, and as a result of works, the traces of Gladzor University were found.

oratory, dialectics and other subjects. According to experts, there are many similarities between the educational programs used at Gladzor and leading European universities of the time.

Prominent Armenian theologians **David Sasnetsi**, **Grigor**, **Martiros**, **Hovhannes**, **Kirakos** and **Kiuregh** were among Professors of the University.

A miniature school there deserves special words; it was founded by famous masters such as, first of all, **Momik**, and **Hovhannes**, **Matteos** and **Toros Taronatsi** taught here. The education at Gladzor lasted for 7-8 years, and before that the students would have completed successfully a three year school for clergy - Gladzor University prepared 350 vardapet-teachers.

Notably, the University having three departments – clerical (grabar) and worldly writing, manuscript art and music and khazagitutyun (old Armenian music writing system, different to European notes – **G.Kh.**) - has had



the University was founded at Tanahat (Tanadeh) Monastery, some 5 km from here.

They say its construction started with the erection of St.Stepanos Cathedral (1273-79), center of the Tanahat Monastic Complex, that was also referred as Aghberc Monastery, Glidzor or Gaylidzor. Prominent Armenian scholars of various times such as **Gh. Alis-han**, **G. Hovsepyan**, **L. Khachik-yan**, **A. Movsisyan**, **A. Avetisyan**, **L. Khacheryan**, **P.Antabyan**, **Em. Piva-zyan**, **S. Barkhudaryan**, **A. Abrahamyan**, **A. Matevosyan** and **I. Gharibyan** dedicat-



Reliable sources said that the exam program at Gladzor University was focused on the so-called “seven liberal arts”, grammar,

its own charter, educational degrees and graduation defense systems. The subjects included as much as mythology, theology, philosophy, manuscript writing, bibliography, grammar, rhetoric, logic, arithmetics, astrology, chronology, geometry (!!! – **G.Kh.**). Gladzor was also an important center of calligraphy where hundreds of manuscripts were created.

The University’s Founder and its first Provost was a distinguished teacher **Nerses Mshetsi** Vardapet (i.e. from the City of Mush, Western Armenia temporarily occupied by Turkey – **G.Kh.**) (theology, calligraphy) who was replaced



by **Yessayi Nchetsi** (grammar, historiography, calligraphy) in 1284. After Nchetsi's passing away in 1338, the new Provost **Tiratur Kiliketsi** (calligraphy and miniature painting) moved the Gladzor University to Hermon Monastery in Vayots Dzor. Then it was moved to Vorotnavank and, finally, Tatev Monastery where the University was headed by respectively by **Hovhan Vorotnetsi** (philosophy, theology) and (the Great) **Grigor Tatevatsi** (philosophy, theology, calligraphy and miniature paintings).

In 2003 "Gladzor University" Historical-Cultural Museum-Preservation was organized exhibition of which included

English, Armenian and Russian. Ask the house next door and you may find an English-speaking guide available.

Gladzor University is said to be the first multi-faculty university, older than Oxford

um of the medieval university & schools, of Gladzor. In an old church (Surp Hagob) from the 17th century you will find reproductions of some of the finest manuscripts on science, religion, and sociology in the country. The displays are of the monasteries, their artisans and the schools that created some of the best works of bibles, religious manuscripts and Icons which are recreated in the displays. The University of Gladzor was active for over 70 years, it was created in the 12th century and was a major learning center for social-political, religious and philosophical thought in medieval Armenia. The fact that Gladzor University and its related schools were a center for the development of creative thought, shows why this museum is



and Cambridge Universities (!!! - G.Kh.)

A pleasant 1 ¼ hour walk through from Yeghegnadzor, through Gladzor and Vernashen villages, and you can continue for another hour through the mountains to arrive at Tanahat, the original site of Gladzor University. On the way get spectacular

so important to visit. It was world known and respected. The museum is a joy. We spent close to 2 hours perusing the beautiful displays. A young woman from the nearby university came from the house next door and was a wealth of information. She guided us through the exhibits and pointed out many things we would have missed or not understood. The AMD500 admission is well worth it. It is open Tuesday-Sunday 10am to 5pm. Highly recommended. See my photos that prove it is a feast for your eyes.

Tanahat Monastic Complex.

Every year the Museum accepts thousands of visitors to whom the spiritual heritage of the University is presented in foreign (Russian, English) languages. The establishment and significance propagation works of the medieval scientific-educational center are also organized merely by conducting educational projects, in which schoolchildren of different ages of the province are actively involved.

And, as usual, reviews from TripAdvisor:

Sharpie19  
Ottawa, Canada

*"Charming Museum in an Idyllic location to explore"*

Locally known as Sourp Hakob Church Museum or Gladzor University Museum, a charming display of manuscripts that reveal the history of monastic life and learning in medieval Armenia, with explanations in

views, including Ararat. Another one hour walk will take you to Sourp Khach Church, perched on a mountain top, where Mass is occasionally served. If you continue, you will end up at Malishka Village.

snellvillegirl  
S30052nellville Ga.

*"A must for Armenian Cultural History Buffs"*

North and about 5km from the city of Yeghegnadzor, is this a wonderful muse-



*Materials from ArMania.co, Armenian Heritage and 360armenia.com used when writing this publication*

*Photos from britishorthodox.org, TripAdvisor and by Rick Ney*



## Recent News from the City Hall...

Compiled by  
Gourgen Khazhakian

### Mayor Taron Margaryan awarded the members of Yerevan teams won in sport events 15.09.2017

At the City Hall Yerevan Mayor **Taron Margaryan** welcomed the families of Yerevan team taken part and won in the republican stage of "Best Sport Family - 2017" contest for the RA President's Cup, as well as the members of the team of the capital won in the sport

*so as we contribute more in the sphere. I congratulate you on behalf of Yerevan townspeople and the Municipality staff and assure that the policy adopted by us will be continued. I also believe that due to our efforts aimed at sport popularization the success of Yerevan teams in sport contests will increase",* stressed Taron Margaryan.

For upholding the sport honour of Yerevan at the republican completion for the RA President's Cup all the families participating in "Best Sport Family 2017" were awarded with Yerevan Mayor's thanksgiving diplomas and souvenirs.

to his successor, the new captain of the team **Erik Martirosyan**.

At the end of the meeting the cups won by Yerevan teams in "Best sport family 2017" and "Republican games of elderly people 2017" were passed to be kept in Yerevan City Hall.

### Solemn meeting of scientific council of Armenian-Russian University 15.09.2017

President **Serzh Sargsyan** was present at the solemn meeting of the scientific council dedicated to the 20th anniversary



contest "Republican Games of Elderly People 2017".

Greeting the guests Taron Margaryan thanked them for best presentation of Yerevan at the contest and bringing the winner's cup to Yerevan again and stressed that the main guarantee of success is the unity and will to victory of the families.

*"It has become a good tradition that Yerevan team becomes the winner in "Best Sport Family" contest for the RA President's Cup. The victory of Yerevan team in the sport games for elderly people organized for the first time was a pleasant surprise too. You are really a model for everyone and particularly for the new generation as regards healthy lifestyle promotion and increasing interest for sports. Sport sphere is always at the focus of attention of Yerevan Municipality and as a result we have had significant success in recent years. We still have a lot to do in this sphere and with your victories you encourage us*



The elderly people provided best participation at "Republican Games of Elderly People 2017" were awarded with thanksgiving diplomas too.

Yerevan Mayor's thanksgiving diplomas were also handed to the coaches and to the representative of Yerevan sport delegation **Ara Baghramyan**.

Hayk Margaryan who actively participated in the contest with his family and was the captain of Yerevan team and won't take part in the contest any more solemnly handed his captain's armband

sary of Armenian-Russian University. On the event of 20th anniversary of Armenian-Russian University foundation, for significant contribution to science and education development Serzh Sargsyan awarded a number of representatives of the university faculty with high state awards.

Before starting the solemn meeting of the council the President of the Republic accompanied by Yerevan Mayor

Taron Margaryan, the RA Minister of Education and Science, the University Rector and the RF Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Armenia walked about the premises of the University, familiarized himself with the conditions provided for modern high-quality education. The President of the Republic was also presented the process of construction of the new building of Armenia-Russian University and the University basic school "Usmunk".



## 4th annual festival "Rural life and traditions" is held in English park of Yerevan 16.09.2017

Annual festival "Rural Life and Traditions" held for the 4th time has started in Yerevan English Park. The fest has been organized by "Green Path" NGO, the RA Ministry of Agriculture and Yerevan Municipality. The farmers and rural dwellers of Armenia have the opportunity to present the agricultural products produced by them to the dwellers of the capital and numerous tourists. The RA Minister of Agriculture **Ignati Arakelyan**, Yerevan Deputy Mayor **David Ohanyan**, Yerevan Mayor's Assistant **Maria Baraghamyan**, the President of "Green Path" NGO **Nune Sarukhanyan** as well as representatives of diplomatic missions and international organizations of various countries.

*"We have been cooperating with the RA Ministry of Agriculture for a long time and with joint efforts we have implemented various programs. In particular during the harvest season we organize agricultural markets in central parts of the capital where farmers can sell their products directly to consumers and the townspeople can buy fresh agricultural products at relatively low prices",* said David Ohanyan.

Expressing gratitude to all supporters for assistance in festival organization the RA Minister of Agriculture Ignati Arakelyan attached importance to such initiatives in agricultural development.

Farmers presented diverse assortment of agricultural products: fruits, vegetables, dairy products, honey and so on. Those present had the opportunity to taste the products and to buy them at the prices lower than that of at markets.

This year the annual festival "Rural Life and Traditions" expanded its geography. Representatives of Georgia and Iran showed their products in separate pavilions. The number of tourists visited the fair significantly grew too.

*"Yerevan Municipality pays particular attention to development of event tourism, and this festival is of high importance from this point of view. Therefore this event has already taken its special*

*place in event tourism calendar",* said Yerevan Mayor's Assistant Maria Baraghamyan.

The organizers of the festival also paid much attention to organic agriculture, which has big perspectives of development in Armenia.

"Rural Life and Traditions" fest were accompanied with concert program and games for children. The event will last till evening.

## VI Pan Armenian Forum Armenia-Diaspora has started in Yerevan 18.09.2017

The solemn ceremony of opening of the VI Pan Armenian forum Armenia-Diaspora was held at the Sport and Concert Complex after K. Demirchyan. The RA President Serzh Sargsyan, Artsakh Presi-



dent **Bako Sahakyan**, All Armenian Catholicos **Garegin II** and the Catholicos of Great Cilician House **Aram I** made speeches at the event.

Yerevan Mayor Taron Margaryan was present at the ceremony of opening Armenia-Diaspora Forum together with the officials and numerous guests.

## Mayor Taron Margaryan takes part in the ceremony of opening of "Yerevan Open" international chess tournament 18.09.2017

Yerevan Mayor, the President of Yerevan Chess federation Taron Margaryan was present at the opening of the 2nd international chess tournament "Yerevan Open" at the Chess Academy of Armenia. About 150 chess players from 13 countries among which are 20 international grandmasters and 25 FIDE masters are participating in the tournament held from 18 to 27 of October.

During the opening ceremony on the event of opening of the 2nd tournament Yerevan Mayor particularly said, *"Many of you know that in our country which has rich chess traditions, all conditions have*

*been created particularly in Yerevan for discovering new names in world chess. In this context local and international tournaments and championships are organized which I am sure, contributes to chess development and promotion. Particularly during the recent years international festivals and contests, Olympiads and championships are held in Yerevan more and more often and their organization is certainly a honour for us. International chess tournaments play particular role among them. Therefore, you can be sure that Yerevan welcomes you and cordially wishes you new success in international chess tournament "Yerevan Open",* said Taron Margaryan and announced the start of "Yerevan Open".

The Vice President of Armenian Chess Federation **Smbat Lputyan** in his turn expressed gratitude to Yerevan Mayor, President of Yerevan Chess

Federation Taron Margaryan for the organization and holding of the 2nd international chess tournament "Yerevan Open".

It should be noted that the main organizer of the tournament is Yerevan Chess Federation. The tournament is held by Swiss system in 9 tours. The ceremony of opening was accompanied by festive concert.



## Recent News from Armenia's Leading Telecom Operator...

### a) Outdoor lighting system installed in Tsovak after 25 year break

Tsovak community had not had any outdoor lighting system since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Over time, all the infrastructures had worn out.

Realizing the importance of the community development, the Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets (FPWC), in cooperation with VivaCell-MTS, resolved the illumination issue of the main village streets in the frames of Alternative Energy project. As a result, 50 outdoor LED light systems have been installed, covering a 1,800 meter long area.

VivaCell-MTS General Manager Ralph Yirikian, the director of the FPWC Ruben Khachatryan, head of Tsovak community Gagik Hakobyan, and community residents attended the launching ceremony of the newly constructed energy efficient system.

*"The path we have chosen for rural infrastructure development is justified from economic, environmental and equally moral perspectives. At first glance, the program seems to be aimed merely at solving the outdoor lighting problem of communities. Yet, the long-term impact of the program spreads on a number of issues: energy efficiency, efficient management of financial resources, boosting the spirit of villagers by providing decent living conditions and improving their life quality. So, this program starts by solving the problem of outdoor lighting, but continues to contribute to the development of rural communities over the course of many years,"* said VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

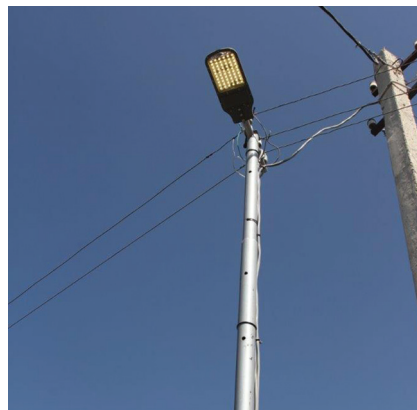
In contrast to light bulbs, LED lights are more energy efficient, durable, and can serve for a much longer period consuming 80% less electricity. Due to the introduction of environmentally friendly and energy efficient outdoor lightening system, villages curtail their financial expenditure, directing the saved amounts to the improvement of community life.

Outdoor lighting will be provided from 21:00 to 00:00 in the summer, and from 18:00 to 23:00 in the winter. On holidays, street lighting will be provided all night long.

Since 1827-1828, repatriates from Mush of Western Armenia have lived in Tsovak community. Tsovak has been famous for

its ports where oil and peat production have been transported since 1920. There is some evidence of the old village ruins and residents in the western parts of the village.

The main occupation of the 3500 villagers is small and large cattle farming, bird



farming, potato and grain crops, vegetable, and fodder cultivation.

### b) More than 50 startups have applied for the 'Seedstars' competition

Microsoft Innovation Center Armenia in partnership with VivaCell-MTS organizes the local stage of the 'Seedstars' international competition. Armenia hosts the competition already for the fourth time and more than 50 teams have submitted their applications with various innovative solutions. The analysis of startups, applied this year, shows that the IT sphere of Armenia is developing in line with international trends. 'Seedstars' is of great interest to early-stage teams, as well as mature startups with certain seed funding attracted. Most of the startups

have developed solutions with artificial intelligence and machine learning in diverse sectors, such as education, health care, fin-tech and e-commerce.

*"Some startups have developed solutions in education to offer various methods and better experience for learning coding, which is also in line with trends of international market. It is worth to mention that some applicants offer solutions with AR/VR technologies. They can be quite competitive in international market,"* mentions **Artashes Vardanyan**, the Director of Microsoft Innovation Center Armenia.

VivaCell-MTS, which is the general partner of the 'Seedstars' competition, provides continuous support for the development of local ICT sector.

*"Assisting the 'Seedstars' competition, which is unique in its format, is in accordance with the commitment of VivaCell-MTS to support Armenia's long-term development through identifying the huge potential existing among Armenian talented youth, creating favorable conditions for them to develop their creativity as well as supporting them to overcome obstacles of competitive environment and fulfilling their ideas,"* said VivaCell-MTS Founding General Manager **Ralph Yirikian**.

The application process of Seedstars Yerevan is still open, and interested startups can apply through the webpage <http://bit.ly/2vUOQns>, using the code SSW\_Yerevan\_2017. The application deadline is September 19. The local stage of the competition is organized with the support of VivaCell-MTS, the leading telecommunications operator in Armenia and the Embassy of Switzerland in Armenia.



**City Spa**, one of the founders of Aesthetic medicine in Armenia, that was established 14 years ago, is still following the main principles that were implemented since the launch: to use only clinically and scientifically approved, highly effective and safe with FDA approval products and equipments imported mainly from UK and Europe.

**Depilation:** Last year City Spa launched a very safe, painless and fast acting new machine for permanent hair removal. It is the "Primelase" produced by Cocoon Medical. The machine has an innovative



international leading brands such as ZO Skin health (Beverly Hills US), GLO therapeutics (ColoradoUS). Skin Ceuticals (US) etc.

**And that's not the all: pedicure, manicure and massage will make your day.**

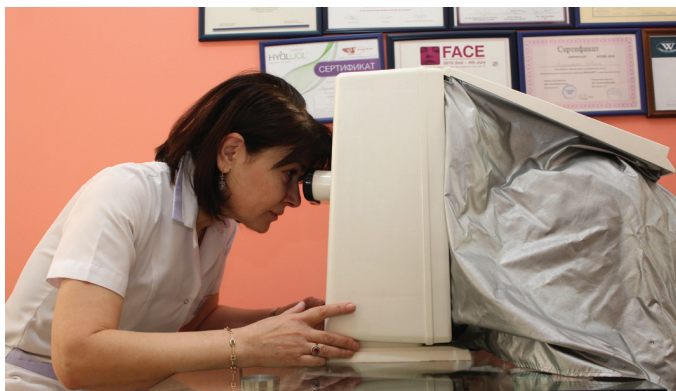
You are welcome to City Spa. The aesthetic doctor's consultations and skin diagnostics with Skin Scanner is fee. The atmosphere in City spa is full of love and peace. The pricing strategy is very flexible and discounts for good long term clients are available during whole year as well as different Gift Cards.

method (dynamic mode) which allows to treat very large areas of the body within few minutes.

**Localized fat removal:** In Armenia the first cryolipolysis method was implemented by City Spa in 2016. Cooltech is an innovative machine that acts as a none surgical liposuction, with a new method of cryolipolysis for permanent localized fat removal and body reconturing. It is safe, painless and very effective. City Spa is equipped also with the Wellshape machine for anti-cellulite treatment.



**Anti aging Facial treatments and Care:** City Spa offers the latest scientifically approved anti aging treatments and products for care. The doctors are regularly improving their qualifications in London and Paris, bringing the new inventions to Armenia. The products used in City Spa are only



**The address:**  
Baghramyan  
1st DL, 2-nd building,  
2-nd floor.

**Phone:** +374 60 536 536

**E-mail:**  
spa.city@yahoo.com

**Website:**  
www.cityspa.am

## Vietnam-Armenia diplomatic ties celebrated in Hanoi

The Vietnam-Armenia Friendship Association (VAFA) hosted a ceremony in Hanoi on September 17 to mark the 25th anniversary of Vietnam-Armenia diplomatic ties (July 14), Armenia's 26th National Day (September 21) and Vietnam's 72nd National Day (September 2), Nhan Dan Online reports.

Addressing the ceremony, VAFA President Nguyen Van Thuan highlighted the support the Government and people of Armenia has provided for Vietnam during the past struggle for national independence and territorial integrity.

Armenia also helped train thousands of Vietnamese students and apprentices, who have now become competent scientists and managers, he said, adding that this precious assistance has contributed significantly to forming an important foundation for the friendship between the two nations.



Established in 2014, VAFA has taken great efforts to maintain and develop people-to-people exchanges in the context of the growing Vietnam-Armenia relations, Thuan said.

The organisation has also worked closely with the Embassy of Armenia in Vietnam to promote cooperation among agencies and organisations from the two countries to update information on socio-economic devel-

opment and promote the images and culture of each nation.

Thuan pledged that VAFA will continue promoting the traditional friendship, thus bringing the people and the culture of the two nations closer.

For her part, Armenian Ambassador to Vietnam Raisa Vardanyan emphasised the strong development in the multifaceted cooperation between Vietnam and Armenia in recent years.

She also called on VAFA members to actively participate in joint business cooperation projects and make contributions to bilateral cooperation in culture, social affairs, economy and trade.

The Embassy of Armenia is willing to support VAFA's activities to strengthen the traditional friendship between the two countries, the ambassador promised.

## Archeological finds from 8-6th centuries BC revealed in Metsamor

Armenian-Polish working group of archeologists has restarted its excavations in Metsamor at September 1 and has already registered some results, Artsakhpress reports.

New rooms have been revealed in the municipal part of the territory, as well as graves, human skeletons, metal tools which are preliminary attributed to 8-6th centuries BC.

The archeologists try to trace the changes in the territory from the Late Bronze Age to the period of Achaemenides. According to the co-pilot of the expedition, the Head of the Institute of Archeology in the University of Warsaw, professor Krzysztof Jakubiak, Metsamor has an important role among the settlements of the Ararat Valley in this aspect.

"During the Early Iron Age Metsamor had been a city and was destroyed by the Urartians. Now graves are found, other finds are revealed, evidences of demolition are registered. They enrich our understanding of the influence of Argishti the First and the later Urartians on Metsamor", Jakubiak said.

At the moment anthropological materials are being studied, while the organic materials, such as charcoal and others, will be sent abroad for a laboratory study. It will help to date the finds correctly.

Professor Jakubiak participated in many archeological expeditions in Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Iraq. "Armenia is a country which bears Christian-European values and it is



easy to work here. My Armenian colleagues have enough experience and knowledge. Armenian people are frank and friendly", he said.

## Stefan Zweig's stories are among bestsellers in Yerevan

The 'Yerevan Bestseller' project initiated by Armenpress brings the top ten bestselling books of Yerevan every week.

Mark Aren's 'Where Wild Roses Bloom' is this week's bestselling book of Yerevan. The story describes the inner world of an Armenophobic Turkish former serviceman, when he, already an old man, finds out that his parents were Armenians. He spends the rest of his life searching for the graves of his parents and does not know that it was a misunderstanding.

Edgar Harutyunyan's 'Unfound Chamomiles' this week is ranked 2nd. This is the second book of the author.

'Collected Stories of Guy de Maupassant' is ranked 3rd in the list. It includes the author's best works. Guy de Maupassant is an author of numerous stories that depict daily life of France in the 19th century. Many of his works have been translated and published in Armenian.

Francis Scott Fitzgerald's 'The Great Gatsby' improved its position this week and is ranked 4th. It was first published in 1925, and is considered to be one of the typical works of American literature of the "jazz era".

'The Alchemist' by Brazilian writer Paulo Coelho is ranked 5th. Originally written in Portuguese, it became an international bestseller translated into some 70 languages as of 2016. An allegorical novel, The Alchemist follows a young Andalusian shepherd in his journey to Egypt, after he had a recurring dream of finding treasure there.

Oscar Wilde's 'The Picture of Dorian Gray' comes next in the bestselling list of the week. Dorian Gray is the subject of a full-length portrait in oil by Basil Hallward. Through Basil, Dorian meets Lord Henry Wotton, and is soon enthralled by the aristocrat's hedonistic worldview.

Stefan Zweig's 'Collected Stories' is ranked 7th. Zweig was an Austrian nov-

elist, playwright, journalist and biographer. At the height of his literary career, in the 1920s and 1930s, he was one of the most popular writers in the world. The book was translated by Ara Arakelyan and Margarit Arakelyan.

'Flowers for Algernon' by David Keyes is 8th. The short story, written in 1958 and first published in the April 1959 issue of The Magazine of Fantasy & Science Fiction, won the Hugo Award for Best Short Story in 1960.

Peter Stamm's novel 'Agnes' is a love story which takes place in Chicago and is told through the eyes of a narrator whose name is never given. The novel begins with the author announcing that Agnes is dead.

'The Fault in Our Stars' concludes this week's bestselling list. It is the sixth novel by author John Green, published in January 2012. The story is narrated by Hazel Grace Lancaster, a sixteen-year-old girl with cancer.



Yerevan Home Care is the first and the only one company launched in 2011 in Yerevan. The company is providing a 24/7 qualified care service to older adults, disabled people, people suffering from chronic diseases or those who need postoperative care, as well as to people with dementia.

Creating the company we concider to support many families that live abroad and have their elderly family members staying in Armenia. We succeed in supporting these families to have not only a solution of the raised problem but to have a deep feeling of satisfaction that their relatives are in good hands.

The organization's greatest wealth is educated, professional, skilled, experienced staff and people with high values and psychological knowledge.

We treat each patient with a strong sense of responsibility and show an individual approach to the families, at the same time maintaining the accepted norms and using contemporary approaches.

Taking your relative's care on our shoulders, we bring harmony between the different generations.

Apart from the professional knowledge the company pays a great attention to the human-



This type of care includes personal care aides, home care aides, and home health aides. Home health aides might also provide limited assistance with things such as taking blood pressure or offering medication reminders.

Nursing care is more related for patients after surgery, traumas, different chronic diseases

Rehabilitation service is for people who need professional rehabilitation in their recovery periods after some types of diseases and surgery. Dementia /Alzheimer /special care is for people with dementia in all stages when you worried about their safety or a health problem.

Yerevan Home Care provides all type of medical equipment that will increase the quality of life of your loved ones. (rent of the equipment is acceptable)

Transportation is a key issue for older adults and for people with temporary or permanent disabilities especially in Armenia where the streets and buildings are not adjusted for disabled people. Yerevan Home Care is providing a transportation service for people that are in wheelchairs.

#### Contacts:

Phone: +37410 546 546, +37491 403 979, +37493 401 982

E-mail: [info@yerevanhomecare.am](mailto:info@yerevanhomecare.am), [hripsime.deghdzunyan@gmail.com](mailto:hripsime.deghdzunyan@gmail.com)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/YerevanHomeCare](https://www.facebook.com/YerevanHomeCare)

Website: [www.yerevanhomecare.am](http://www.yerevanhomecare.am)

Address: Yerevan, Baghramyan 1 impasse, 2 Building, 2nd Floor



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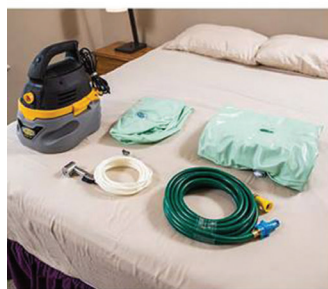
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itarian qualities of the serving staff, to their kindness, patience, attention and courteous manner.

We assure that we will be your irreplaceable assistant in helping and surrounding your relative with care and support.

We provide service to all type of patients who needs care assistance.

Personal care is for elderly people who are alone and need support in daily living, such as dressing, bathing, feeding, or meal preparation.



Անկողնային հիվանդների լուծանքի կազմակերպում իրենց իսկ անկողնում

## Zodiac Weekly Forecast



### **Aries (March 20–April 19)**

Details and nits may follow you around all week. It's a nuisance but a necessary part of accomplishing your goals at the moment. The Ram prefers to force things into place, but

occasionally they require tenacity and concentration. Action moves slowly under these conditions but it is a necessary phase of your work.



### **Taurus (April 20 – May 20)**

Follow your instincts about where you need to be, particularly if that includes a new social situation. Then give attention to whomever or whatever new enters your life. You are on schedule to find a new guide, mentor, or teacher who will help steer

you toward the next direction in your life.



### **Gemini (May 20–June 20)**

Your focus shifts to matters of home, hearth, and family. Things of the past may float up in your mind for reflection. If this occurs, ask yourself what you learned from the former experience. It probably

would help you now. Family concerns may occupy your attention. It is a good time to open important discussions with those most important to you.



### **Cancer (June 21–July 21)**

During the next couple of weeks it would serve you well to attend social gatherings and generally put yourself "out there." One or more people are likely to enter your life who help you make the connections that need

to come next. It is possible that you encounter a potential for romance or general good fortune.



### **Leo (July 22–August 21) :**

Aspects suggest that you are evaluating the outcome of something that began in the fourth quarter of 2016. It may be a relationship or a work of creativity. You are prone to have a negative point of view with this. Make an effort to see this through kinder eyes and wait a couple of weeks. Your attitude may change.



### **Virgo**

### **(August 22–September 22)**

This is a good week to bring fruition to a home improvement project that was conceived in the fall of 2016. Saturn always gives us what we deserve. If you have put work and time into your effort, you will be

rewarded. If not, you may be hit with a need to repair property.



### **Libra (Sep. 23–Oct. 22)**

You have highly favorable aspects this week. Don't stay home. Go out with friends and groups. You will be noticed and welcomed wherever you go. New people who come

into your life at this time may become teachers or guides on your next path. Or perhaps you will have the opportunity to guide others. Please read the lead paragraph.



### **Scorpio**

### **(October 23–November 21)**

Mars is one of your planetary avatars. This week it is overcoming Mercury, the communicator and message maker. Mars is prone to be too quick to strike and you may dis-

cover sharp remarks in your mind or among your friends. Remember that we often regret that which is said in haste. "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all."



### **Sagittarius**

### **(November 22–December 20)**

You have been steadily working on a new, more stable identity for the last two years. At this time one of your projects is nearly ready for its

display. You can see the result of your effort and others will notice it as well. It involves your career or direction in life and likely will give you reason to be proud.



### **Capricorn**

### **(December 21–January 19)**

You may be pestered by memories of times in which you felt you failed or somehow didn't meet expectations. Ask why you need to review this now. Is there something to be

gained here? If it is simply repetition of old fear tapes, take what you really need to remember and toss the rest away.



### **Aquarius**

### **(January 20–February 17)**

A critic is following you. This may be a voice from the past or perhaps it is you beating upon yourself. On the surface you may perceive it as your

partner's voice, but the problem for you is that old tapes cause you to believe you are not worthy. Your soul is valuable. You do not have to prove yourself "worthy" of another's judgment.



### **Pisces (February 18–March 19)**

A false accusation or a rumor about you or your partner may cause you considerable worry at this time. The probability is that it is based only upon the assumption of a third party. The reason you worry is that you

and one or more significant others are not communicating well. Concentrate on productive communications and don't carry this "fact" around in your heart.



# ARMENIA

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[Yezeguelian@aol.com](mailto:Yezeguelian@aol.com)

**Paris Office: 34 Avenue des Champs Elysees**  
**Phone: 011 33 1 43 59 66 72**  
**Yerevan Address: 8, Khorenatsi St.**



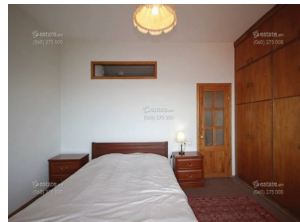
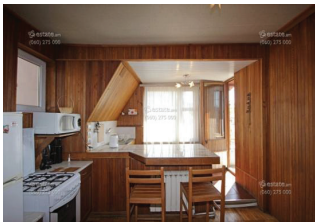
## APARTMENTS FOR RENT



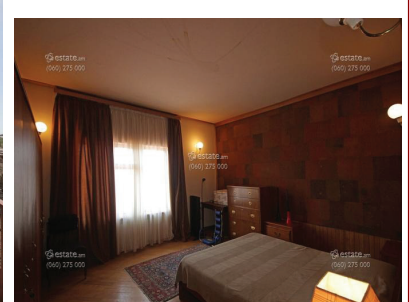
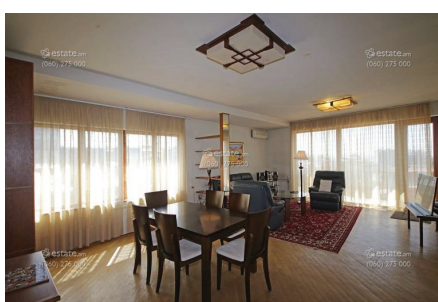
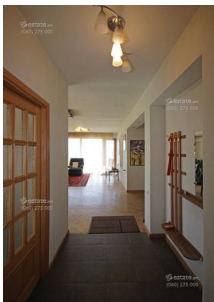
Comfortable two bedrooms apartments in the center of Yerevan, close to the hotel BASS. Each apartment is 110 sq.m., has two balconies, nice view to mount Ararat and separate entrance from the street. Both have central heating system, Wi-Fi, air conditionings, washing machines, TV sets, etc.  
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**E-mail: contact@nt.am**  
**URL: www.nt.am**  
 Address in Armenia: 28 Isahakian Str., Yerevan, 0009, RA.  
 Tel.: (+374 60) 35-11-23  
 (+374 60) 35-11-22  
 Address in France: Masion De L' Armenie, Paris 17e - 95  
 Bld. Gouvion, France.  
 Tel.: (+33) 01 43 59 66 72  
 Address in USA: 1146 E. Lexington Dr., #112, Glendale,  
 CA, USA, 91206.  
 Tel.: (+1 818) 646 10 72  
 Հասցի՝ Բասիկյան 28, Երևան, ՀՀ, 0009