

# KARYES

# Lakonia



The Saints Taxiarhes chapel

#### News Bulletin

Issue Number 17

Summer 2018

#### THE SUMMER EVENTS SCHEDULE

The cultural movement will be rich at beautiful Karyes this summer

The Clubs and the Local Community of Karyes have been mobilized and prepared a number of events, so that the Karyates enjoy a 2018 summer full of events.

#### JULY

# Two-day events on "Karagiozis" Shadow theater



Under the auspices of the Municipality of Sparta and the Karyates Association, a two-day event on the Shadow Theater is organized on Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 July.

The program, which will be posted in detail at www.karyes.gr, will include seminaries of narrative and storytelling for adults, a storytelling show for children and adults, an educational program for acquaintance with the traditional shadow theater and of course two performances on Monday and Tuesday night.

Dimitrios Avouris, author and poet from the "Academy of Culture and Storytelling" and Mrs. Natassa Michaelides, archaeologist, museologist, guide from the Shadow Theater "The Paramythia of Karagkiozi" will have the editing of the events.

# Saturday 28 July: The annual reception in honor of the Karyates (visitors and locals)



Like every year, the Karyates Association invites all the compatriots to its annual reception at the Community Hall's event hall at **8.00 pm on Saturday, July 29, 2018.** Sweets and coffee will be served.

There is going to be a presentation of the Association's initiatives and a discussion about the village's issues.

#### "KRONIO PERASMA (CRONUS RACE)"

Eventually the efforts were not successful, so the Kronion Perasma race will not have as its starting point the village of Karyes, but that of Aghios Petros (St, Peter) as in 2017

In particular, the races that will take place on the **14**<sup>th</sup> and the **15th of July**, will be the "HERMITONION PERASSMA" (37,5km.), "THE 1ST SEMI-MARATHON OF NORTH KYNOYRIA - TANAOS" (21km.) and "TOUR OF AGHIOS PETROS" (6km.) For more information, please visit www.ultrarunning.gr and www.runningnews.gr.

# AUGUST



### Sunday 5th August: Musical night in Karyes

On **Sunday, 5 August**, a musical evening entitled "*From Grigoris Bithikotsis to Vicky Moscholiou*" will be held in the Karyes central square.

The songs will be performed by Spyridon Koutsovassilis and Irene Christofilaki and accompanied by a four-member orchestra of musicians.



ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΑΠΑΝΤΑΧΟΥ ΚΑΡΥΑΤΩΝ



# Saturday 11 August: THE KARYATES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SUMMER DANCE

The summer events will conclude, as every year, with the **annual Summer Dance of the our Association**, which will take place on Saturday, **August 11th**, also in the courtyard of the **Karyes Primary School** in Aghia Paraskevi.

All the Karyates, residents and holidaymakers are invited to have fun, saying goodbye in the summer and to renew their appointment for the next year.

We expecting you!

All the previous news bulletin are at your disposal in digital form at **WWW.KARYES.GR** 



At the WEB SITE WWW.KARYES.GR
NEWSPAPER DIGITAL ARCHIVES

Ψηφιακό Αρχείο Εφημερίδας



1986-2010

KARYATES ASSOCIATION News Bulletin- Summer 2018

#### **SOCIAL NEWS**

#### THEY PASSED AWAY

On 30 April 2018, **Aphrodite, widow of Theotoki Pitsios** 

died in Athens at the age of 87

She was born in Corfu, where while working as a court clerk she met and married Theotoki Pitsios, son of Panagiotis (Panos) and Adamantia (Diamantos) Pitsios from Karyes.

Her funeral took place in Karyes, where she was buried near her beloved husband, who had died many years ago.

Aphrodite (Titi) honored her husband's hometown and was present in all the activities of the Karyates Association with many donations.

We will remember her with love.

The Vice-President of the Karyates Association

Mrs. Annita Gleka-Prekezes

# Artemis, widow of Panteleimon Diamandouros

died in Toronto, Canada at the age of 90 and was buried in Karyes on Saturday, May 5, 2018

She was the mother of Paraskevas and George Diamandouros.

Our sincere condolences.

#### **BAPTISM**

On Sunday, May 27, 2018 in the Holy Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary (Panaghia) in Karyes, **loannis Spyr. Karygiannis** baptized his daughter.

Her name Georgia!

"Kali Christiani"!

#### **LOCAL NEWS**

#### His Eminence Metropolitan Efstathios of Monemvasia and Sparta has been declared Honorary Citizen of Sparta

Following the unanimous decision of the Municipal Council, the Municipality of Sparta declared His Eminence Metropolitan Efstathios of Monemvasia and Sparta, Honorary Citizen of Sparta. The modest ceremony took place at the Cultural Centre of Sparta "Evangelos Filippopoulos" on Tuesday, May 29, 2-18 at 12 p.m.



The declaration is a token of recognition of the Metropolitan's prominent personality, his spiritual guidance as well as his social welfare and charitable work. As noted in the relevant announcement, "from the beginning of his enthronement until now, the Metropolitan has set a brilliant example with his great work. The philanthropic institutions (the Asylum for the Incurables in Sparta, the Foundation for Disabled People in Sparta, the nursing home for the elderly in Neapolis Voion and

Elika) as well as the Home Care program, which help to solve social problems, enhance social cohesion and alleviate human pain, are all evidence of the Metropolitan's great work.

His contribution to the youth has also been of great significance as he put his utmost efforts to help in the foundation of the University and the TEI of Sparta, as well as the two nursery schools in Sparta and Monemvasia, and has established, since 1995, the student summer camps in Taygeti and the camps for disabled children in Neapolis."

A delegation of our Association headed by President of our Association Mr. Michalis Repoulis attended the event and congratulated the Metropolitan.

#### THE FUTURE OF KARYES

#### Meeting of the local producers and businessmen

A meeting of the businessmen and the producers of our village, on the initiative of the local entities (the Local Community, the Association of Karyates, the Cultural Association of Karyes, and the Sports Club "Karyatis"), took place on the ground floor of the Community Store on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 19.00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to create a complete development program for Karyes.

The coordinator of the meeting was the Secretary of the Association of Karyates, Mr. Char. Konstantopoulos, Bank Executive, who introduced the event with a speech on the contemporary challenges of the market in terms of tourism development and the production and distribution of agricultural and livestock products.

Following the speech, a discussion started between the producers and the businessmen, who were present at the meeting, on the problems they are facing. They came to the conclusion that the one-way survival is the collective effort to promote the name of Karyes as a guide for both tourism development and the standardization and promotion of the local products which are known for their high quality.

In this context, they decided to form a committee of producers and businessmen, which will launch a joint effort to promote the village of Karyes as an organized agro tourism destination.

#### Students from Augusta University, Georgia, and the University of California, Berkeley visit Karyes

On the initiative of our compatriot Mrs. Ioanna Kopsiafti, a group of university students visited our beautiful village in early June. As Ms. Kopsiafti stated:



"Greek mythology teaches students that Zeus set two eagles to fly in opposite directions around the world until they meet face to face in the sacred center. They met in Delphi and that is why it is considered to be the center of the universe – this is all until the students visit Greece accompanied by the Professor Ioanna Kopsiafti ...

Soon the myth is rejected and they realize that Karyes is actually not only the center of the universe, but moreover, the most beautiful village in the world. As a professor of Art History at the universities of Athens and Rome, I began to organize educational trips to Greece for various universities where I taught, about 15 years ago. The trips are always tailored to the group's studies, in coordination with their accompanying professors. Regardless of the students' specific points of interest, the itinerary always includes visits to the most important archaeological sites and museums. We enjoy the Greek cuisine and wine – we also learn about its importance to our civilization – because, according to an ancient wise man (allegedly Thucydides) – "the Mediterranean people began to emerge from barbarism when they learned to cultivate the vine"! Moreover, to naturally balance our food and drinks as well as to bring the students into contact with the nature, in most trips, we organize hiking adventures. Thus, despite the subject of their studies, either Art History and Classical Studies or Environmental Studies and Ecology, Sociology,

Archeology, Photography or even Human Rights and Music, to name just a few, these elements along with a visit to our beautiful village, if time permits, always consist the core of the educational program.

Students often ask: "What are we going to see? What are we going to do?" Soon, they realize that they will become village people for a day – they will drink homemade organic wine in a local cellar, enjoy their coffee under the shadow of the plane tree in the main square, taste local cheeses, eat fresh *loukoumades* (Greek donuts) topped with pure chestnut honey at the coffee shop, climb on the plane trees at Panagia and enjoy the view from the clock ... take a photo with the Caryatids ... but more than anything else, they will feel the warm hospitality of the village people and the festive atmosphere that their own presence has created and everyone enjoys.. This year, we had the pleasure of bringing students from Augusta University, Georgia. In partnership with Ms. Maria Stathaki, another *Karyatida*, Director of Foreign Programs at the University of Augusta, Georgia, in America, who was aware that students from universities such as Loyola in Chicago have been visiting the village for ten consecutive years, we decided to bring a group of students from Augusta. Along with them, a group of students from Berkeley joined us for a few days. It was the first time for both groups, but as their professors, who fell in love with our village, said: "not the last one!"

To conclude, no one wants to leave the village when the sun sets and it is time to continue our journey. At the end of the trip, I ask the students to tell me what their favorite part was – most of them do not hesitate to respond "THE VILLAGE!"



At the Stathakis House

#### **LOCAL NEWS**

#### KARYES: EASTER 2018



Holy Week and Easter were celebrated in beautiful and especially warm spring weather in Karyes this year. Many compatriots visited the village and opened their houses during these solemn days.

It only rained on Good Friday in the afternoon. It was as if nature participated in the Holy Passion that culminates on this day. The Epitaph was carried across the village from the Holy Church of Aghia Paraskevi to Rachi and to the Holy Church of Aghios Andreas in the main square. People had come to church with their umbrellas and they were puzzled as to whether the Epitaph should be carried across the village in this rain or not. When the Epitaph was brought out of the church, a miracle happened. By the time it had reached the gate of the churchyard, the rain that had been falling nonstop for four hours, stopped. Cautiously, the procession of the faithful followed the Epitaph across the village. The Epitaph was carried to the Holy Church of Aghios Andreas, where the people passed under it to express their deepest reverence and faith to Jesus Christ. Then, it entered the church and the service continued. The minute the Epitaph was in the church, not only did the rain start again, but this time it became a storm!

The following day, the weather was nice again allowing for the Resurrection Liturgy to take place in the courtyard of Aghios Andreas' Church in a devout atmosphere. Easter Sunday was celebrated with the traditional family feast on roast lamb, dancing and music until late in the evening.

#### Commemoration of Aghios Georgios

This year, as Easter was earlier, the commemoration of Aghios Georgios was celebrated on the same day, that is on Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, which was a working day and all Easter vacationers had already left the village. Nevertheless, a good number of people attended the service in the beautiful Holy Church of Aghios Georgios in "kampos".













#### **Commemoration of Aghios Konstantinos and Aghia Eleni**

As every year, this year on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, the celebrations for the commemoration of Aghios Konstantinos and Aghia Eleni took place in the Holy Church dedicated to them on the homonymous hill above Rachi. All the residents of the village, along with the elementary school students, went up the verdant hill to attend the Divine Liturgy. At the end of the service, those who celebrated their name day offered sweet treats followed by feasting on food, drinks and dance!





# The new Board of Directors of Karyes Fire Protection Unit

After the elections of the June 17, 2018 the new Council is consists of:

President: **Panaghiotis G. Mentis**Vice President: **Spyridon Sioutos**General Secretary: **Andrew G. Tsioulos**Treasurer: **John P. Koutsogiorgas** 

Members: **Dimos Lventakis, Dimitris Spiliakos** and **Michael Ardamis** Alternates members: **Achileus Sioutos, Eustathios Meleches** 

The Board Members of our Association and the editorial team of the News Bulletin wishes to all compatriots

AN ENJOYABLE SUMMER!



#### REQUEST

Those who wish to receive this news bulletin via e-mail, please inform us by sending your e-mail address at E-mail: info@karyes.gr

#### THE KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS

# "KARYES LAKONIA MEMORIAL AND CULTURAL CENTER"



#### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Karyates Association announces its intention to

#### exploit the ground floor of commercial stores

in its property building, located at Karyes Central Square, which will house the Karyes Center for the Memory and Culture.

We invite anyone interested in leasing the property to please contact us either by e-mail at info@karyes.gr, or by calling +30 6944 784563, +30 6974 720909.

The Board of Members

The motivating action of the Karyates and the friends of Karyes for the realization of the great vision of the "Memory and Culture Center of Karyes, Laconia" continues unabated. As we have stated several times, all offers will be made public in order to honor the donors and for reasons of transparency.



According to that, in the memory of Sotirios Floris there were the following donations.

05.02.2018	Robert Kindler	€ 2.000
05.02.2018	Papakonstantinoy Helen	€ 50
06.02.2018	Koumoutsou Maria	€ 50
14.02.2018	Swiser Productions	€ 200
17.02.2018	"In Sotirios memory" George	€ 100
20.02.2018	Avetisova Erin	€ 392,72
21.02.2018	Koulis Nikolaos	€ 300
23.04.2018	Kakaris-Repouli Demetra	€ 20

The members of the Board of Directors of the Karyates Association wish to thank Ms. Litsa Floris for her initiative.

#### The Trip of the Karyates Association

For the second consecutive year, our Association organized the annual trip from Athens to the beautiful village of Karyes. The program included a visit to the archaeological site of Ancient Mantineia, the Holy Church of Aghia Fotini, the Cave of Kapsia, and Kalogris Winery

#### Ancient Mantineia







The archaeological site of Ancient Mantineia is situated about 14 kilometers north of modern Tripolis in the Mantineian Plateau in Palaiopolis. Ancient Mantineia along with Tegea were the most significant cities in Arcadia for a long time. The ruins of this ancient and most important city in Arcadia, Mantineia, according to Polybius, came to light during the excavations that were conducted by the French Archaeological School between 1887 - 1889. The most important monuments on archaeological site include the Ancient Theater (the stage of which is preserved today intact), the ruins of the temples of Zeus and Hera, the Bouleftirion (Parliament) and parts of the Ancient Agora.

The excavations led by the French archaeologist Gustave Fougeres brought to light almost the whole city fortification walls with the towers and gates (there were 126 towers and 10 gates) as well as the Ancient Agora, a rectangular closed space where the city's main roads ended.

In one of them, Tegea Street, there was a large gallery with pillars, only ten of which are preserved today. The same excavations brought to light the Ancient Theater near the Agora as well as many other sculptures, and works of Praxiteles, which are kept in the National Archaeological Museum of Athens.

#### The Cave of Kapsia

The cave was discovered in 1887 by the French archaeologist Gustave Fougeres as part of his excavations in Mantineia and was explored in 1892. It is situated about 1500 m from the village of Kapsia, and only 15 km from modern Tripolis, under Mainalon Ski Center. It has a length of 380 m. The cave is very distinctive due to its rare and magnificent combination of colors, patterns and natural complexes.



#### **Kalogris Winery**

In 1980, grandfather Evangelos Kalogris donated his father's home in Kapsia, Mantineia to his grandson Evangelos Kalogris suggesting to him that he should receive visitors in the future. This is the beginning of the long journey of grandson Evangelos, who, after finishing his studies at the Athens University of Economics and Business, worked passionately to expand and renovate the house that was built in 1890, transforming it into a traditional winery of organic farming, worthy of receiving visitors and friends.

#### Holy Church of Aghia Fotini, Mantineia



The chronicle of the construction of church, which began shortly before 1970 and was completed - the exterior - in 1973, is very interesting.

The Mantinean Association was seeking an architect to build a marvelous and unique church. They chose the architect Konstantinos Papapatheodorou, a choice that even today not only seems daring, but outrageous. Nobody knows how the members of this conservative board assigned this bold plan to him in an area of such historical significance as Ancient Mantineia, and even during the Greek military dictatorship "Junta". At that time, Konstantinos Papatheodorou, a student of Dimitris Pikionis, was working for the Hellenic Ministry of Culture alongside the late Spyros Marinatos, a very prestigious position at the time. When the opportunity to build the church of Aghia Fotini in Mantineia arose, he resigned from his post in the ministry and devoted himself completely to this task, considering it a life's project. And it surely

"For me, this was a lifetime dream", he says. "When I saw the area with the makeshift shacks, the straw roofs, and the greenery, I said to myself that this was the ideal spot. It was a place surrounded by Mt. Mainalo, Mt. Artemisio, and the mountain where Hercules cleaned King Augeas' stables. It was the bareness, the poverty and the naivety that I sought through my work. This humbleness and simplicity is or at least was what we used to be us, Greeks. After all, the place of worship does not need to be elaborate."

Those who witnessed the construction of the church report that "there were times when the architect wandered around the mounds of Mantineia and others when he roamed alone in the narrow streets of Tripolis. He collected old construction materials from building materials yards and worked them with his own hands before putting them in the right place in the building that was meant to be the benchmark of his life. He was a weird man. He lived in a tent next to his structure for six months to avoid wasting valuable time as he was working there all day long, together with a few unskilled local workers." "This is the Greek-Christian culture, in other words, the Christian spirit is the continuation of the Ancient Greek. I relied on those two, the respect to the ancient world and the continuity of the ancient times, the Christian civilization. I combined them in the construction of Aghia Fotini, thus making some people believe I was a pagan. This is a mistake. There is a close relationship, in the philosophical sense, between Christianity and the ancient world. It is an attempt to find the God that isn't visible, but can be seen through his philanthropic deeds. This philosophy was followed by the Greeks in the Christian era.

The church was founded in 1970 by Bishop Theoklitos, an educated, simple, and humane person. He got very enthusiastic with the construction of the church and he spent many afternoons watching its progress. At work, I was never a slave of my plans, I developed them like the director does in a theatrical performance, and I altered them in order to give a sense of freedom to the building. Obviously, I did not exceed the limits. The exterior was completed in the fall of 1973, and in 1974, we continued with the interior, the altarpiece. In 1975, we continued with the floor mosaics. The Heroes Monument in the courtyard of the church was founded in 1976, and in 1980, we founded Jacob's Well."

#### THE KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS

# PRESERVATION AND COMPLETION OF THE CARYATIDS MONUMENT The project of the Monument should be embraced by all of us, old and new Karyates.



The motivation of all Karyates and friends of our village towards the preservation as well as the completion of the Caryatids Monument, a jewel for our village, continues unabated. As we have stated several times in the past, all donations will be announced to the public in order to honor the donors and to be fully transparent.

02.08.2017	Pitsios Afrodite	€ 50		
30.10.2017	Ardamis Stefanos	€ 20		
30.10.2017	Drakopoulos Christos	€ 300		
03.11.2017	Galanis Demetra	€ 30		
18.01.2018	Roumeliotis-Meleches Nitsa	€ 50		
23.04.2018	Valiotis Evangelos (Sparta's mayor)	€ 100		
In Papageorgiou Alexandra's memory				
18.01.2018	Vastis George	€ 50		
26.01.2018	Prekeze-Gleka Annita	€ 50		
In memory of Konstantinos Nathenas (husband of Georgia				
	Pantazopoulos)			
22 04 2010				
23.04.2018	Kakaris Aristotelis	€ 50		

Kakaris-Repouli Demetra



In Aristotelis Kostalas' memory					
05.03.2018	Tsiotsios Nikolaos	€ 120			
05.03.2018	Koumoutsos family	€ 50			
12.03.2018	Kavouriari Sofia	€ 50			
15.03.2018	Fotiadis Family	€ 30			
15.03.2018	Mermighas Stavros family	€ 30			
15.03.2018	Evangelou Bill Family	€ 30			
15.03.2018	Memrighas Nikolaos family	€ 30			
20.03.2018	Dalakouras Christos	€ 50			
20.03.2018	Dalakouras Panaghiotis	€ 50			
23.04.2018	Kakaris-Repouli Demetra	€ 20			
His wife Alexa	andra and their children offer th	e amount of €			
L.000					

His brothers Panagiotis, Ioannis and Demetrios offer the amount of € 500-.

The account number is:

23.04.2018

#### GR5601106620000066200228709

#### SYNDESMOS TON APANTACHOU KARYATON SWIFT (BIC) ETHNGRAA NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE

All contributions will be announced both on the Internet (Karyes' website, Facebook), as well as in our bulletin. We thank once again all the compatriots for their contribution.

€ 30

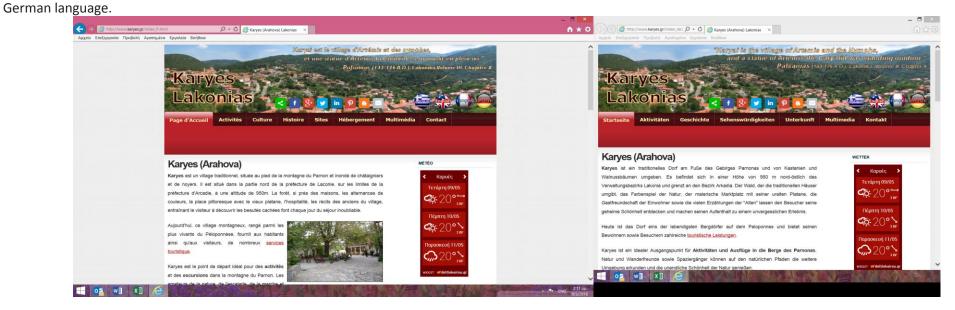
#### AND OFF WE GO!

The restoration of the statues of the Caryatids Monument as well as the statues of the Muses Thalia and Urania on the main road begins in September, following a decision of the Board of Directors of the Association of Karyates. We believe that the amount of money already collected in addition to the contributions we hope to collect during this summer, will be enough to start the restorations and complete them in a short period of time.

Meanwhile, our compatriot architect Mr. Ioannis Pan. Karachalios completed, free of charge, as a donation to the village, and handed over to the Association of Karyates the study of the construction of a path that leads from the statue of Muse Thalia to the Monument. The members of the Board of Directors of the Association are already in contact with both the Deputy Governor of Laconia and the Municipality of Sparta in order to sign the contract for its financing.

# WWW.KARYES.GR: Our site becomes multilingual

The website's management team continues the systematic voluntary effort dynamically. Our goal is to promote the beautiful village of Karyes, Laconia and to familiarize as many friends as possible with the history and traditions of this place. In this context, we have begun to post articles in French and German. At this point, we would like to extend our thanks to our exemplary compatriot's Georgios Ant. Kardaras' wife, Mrs. Elke, for the translation of a plethora of articles in the



The Association of Karyates is extending a call to our compatriots who speak other foreign languages and wish to help with this remarkable effort, to contact the team of editors at info@karyes.gr (to the attention of Ms. Margie Konstantopoulou).

#### Conductor G. Aravidis with Orchestra Simfonietta at Palaiologia 2018



On Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the musical performance "Romania is booming" took place at the ancient site of the Research Institute on Byzantine Musical Culture in Mystras. It was a musical event of memory and reflection centered on the Byzantine Musical Tradition, ecclesiastical and secular, on the occasion of the 565<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Fall of Constantinople*. The event took place at Palaiologia 2018. Orchestra Simfonietta of Athens, with conductor Giorgos Aravidis, who is the spouse of Panagiotis (Takis) Koutsogiorgas' daughter, Maria, performed works of composer D. Minakakis. A delegation of our Association headed by President Mr. Michalis Repoulis attended this exceptional event.

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#### THE "KARYATIS" SPORTS CLUB'S NEWS

#### The renovations at the former warehouse of the Agricultural Association are continuing at a good pace



As Mr. Theodoros Mentis, Chairman, Board of Directors of the Sports Club "Karyiatis" has informed us, the area will be ready for use and available to children and athletes by summer time. It has already been cleaned and painted while new windows have been installed. It is also being equipped with gymnastics training equipment.

#### The Sports Club's appeal for assistance

The Sports Club appeals to the compatriots who have the resources to assist with the completion of the project. In addition to any financial assistance, the Sports Club calls for donations of gymnastics training or any other sports training equipment, including a ping pong table. If you would like to make a donation, please call 6974-487967.

#### The works at the Athletic Center of Karyes have been completed

As shown in the photos, the works for the renovation and refurbishment of the facilities have been completed. More specifically, the grandstands at the football field have been repaired, while new fencing has been placed around the bleachers and the changing rooms, which were fully renovated. The highlight, though, of the whole project, is the provision of electric lighting in the football and basketball courts. Both of them are now lit up for anyone who would like to enjoy practice at nighttime!









#### THE KARYATES BROTHERHOODS' NEWS

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#### **CANADA: KARYES PARK SPRING OPENING**



Annual Two-Day Festival
(Panigyri) at Karyai Park
July 28, 2018 - July 29, 2018



As every year, the Karyates of Canada gathered for the "opening of the park".

On Sunday, May 27, 2018, volunteers were assembled in order to clean up the park after the end of winter. The Annual General Assembly of the Brotherhood followed, and then all attendees enjoyed a rich roast meal prepared by volunteers.





#### The inauguration of the Mystras Grand Palace Resort & Spa hotel by Dimitrios and Georgia Kaloeidi



Mr. Dimitrios and Georgia Kaloeidi, owners of the new five-star Mystras Grand Palace Resort & Spa Hotel held its official opening in the presence of the President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Prokopis Pavlopoulos, his Cypriot counterpart, Mr. Nikos Anastasiadis, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America, the Metropolitan Efstathios of Monemvasia and Sparta, and the Metropolitan Chrysostomos of Mani, in Mystras on Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The inauguration of the hotel, according to the invitation-announcement, was honored by the presence of many officials from the political, military, and business sectors, as well as people who came from all over Laconia, and not only.

Mrs. Kaloeidi stated that for many years, along with her husband, Mr. Dimitrios Kaloeidis, have shared a main concern, that is to offer to the fellow man. For this reason, they have provided their financial assistance to the construction of many schools, hospitals, charity foundations, ecclesiastical institutions, etc., in the United States of America, Greece, and Cyprus.



The President of S.A.K. at the inauguration

Their dream was to create the infrastructure in their homeland in order to financially assist the local community. To fulfill their dream, they built the Mystras Grand Palace Resort & Spa hotel that employs more than eighty people on permanent employment contracts. There are plans to extend this particular project, she continued, in the near future. Works will begin to increase the existing number of beds to more than double, thus offering work to several more people.

The inauguration was followed by a reception in the gardens and the pool of the hotel, where the guests had the opportunity to walk across and see the spaces of the hotel, which apart from the amazing rooms include two restaurants, a reception hall, a wine bar, four tennis courts, two swimming pools, a spa, a café, shops with local products and a hair salon. It is important to note that the Mystras Grand Palace Resort & Spa hotel is the first five-star hotel in Laconia.



#### KARYATES ASSOCIATION NEWS BULLETIN

QUARTERLY RUBLICATION - For information E-mail: info@karyes.gr