

Armenian Interests

August 23, 2026

Issue #923

News & Events of the Armenian Community

In This Issue:

- [The spirit of volunteerism and commitment that keeps the Armenian Radio Hour of NJ alive](#)
- [AMAA to Hold 107th Annual Meeting Banquet Honoring Two Distinguished Leaders](#)
- [Jack Antreassian: A Life Given to the Community](#)
- [Vicki Shoghag Hovanessian: We are weaving a safety net for our people. We are ensuring that the Armenian spirit remains vibrant, resilient, and enduring](#)
- [Poetry presented by Mrs. Zarmine Boghosian](#)
- [This week's videos from PAREV-TV](#)
- [Current news from around the world](#)
- [Directory](#)
- [Calendar of Events](#)
- [Advertisers & Supporters](#)
- [Editorial volunteer staff of Armenian Interests](#)
- [Volunteers of ARHNJ](#)

The spirit of volunteerism and commitment that keeps the Armenian Radio Hour of NJ alive



Anoush Gulian

Summer is a time to relax, refresh, and prepare for the new work and school year, which for many begins after Labor Day weekend. The last days of August are often among the busiest for vacations and some well-deserved last-minute rest and relaxation.

Such was the case for many of the volunteers of the Armenian Radio Hour of New Jersey, who serve the community in an exemplary way. Some traveled to Armenia, others to Europe, while still others headed down to the shore to spend time with family and friends. With several regular volunteers away at the same time, however, the Sunday program, which airs from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., still had to go on. That is when the reserve volunteers were called upon to step in.

These reserve volunteers are individuals who were once more regularly

involved with the weekly program but, because of careers, family responsibilities, and the demands of life, are no longer able to participate every Sunday. Yet they remain willing to help whenever they are needed. This is an important asset for any organization that occasionally finds itself short of manpower.

Anoush Gulian was one of those reserve volunteers who stepped up and saved the day. Her bilingual background in Armenian and English made her a perfect fit. She skillfully navigated the technical aspects of the program, conducted interviews, and shared important information with listeners.

Anoush's contribution was so impressive that, Rafi Krikorian, who manages the radio website, called the station to thank her for her dedication and for stepping in to help with the program. His call was a wonderful acknowledgment of the spirit of volunteerism and commitment that keeps the Armenian Radio Hour alive.

This is truly a fine example of the dedication and



Anoush Gulian with Hagop Deshoyan

community spirit that have sustained the Armenian Radio Hour of New Jersey for nearly 48 years. The program's continuing success is made possible by volunteers who give their time, talent, and energy—and by those who are always ready to step in when they are needed.

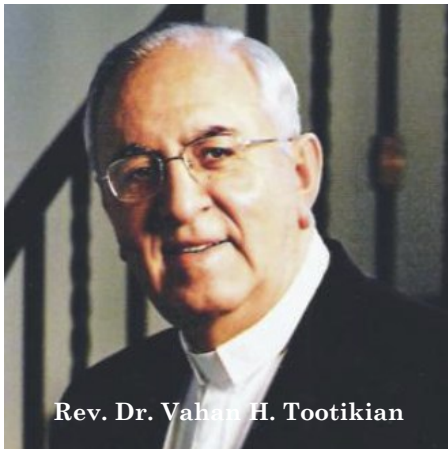
Thank you, Anoush, and thank you to all the volunteers who continue to serve our community. Your willingness to jump in and help ensures that the Armenian Radio Hour will continue its important volunteer service to the community for many years to come. The program's continuing success is made possible by volunteers who give their time, talent, and energy—and by those who are always ready to step in when they are needed.

Headline News



Armenian Interests

AMAA to Hold 107th Annual Meeting Banquet Honoring Two Distinguished Leaders



Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian

Paramus, NJ—The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) will host its 107th Annual Meeting Banquet on Saturday, October 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Teaneck Marriott at Glenpointe, Teaneck, NJ.

The evening's theme, "**Celebrating Our Lasting Impact on Generations**," reflects the AMAA's enduring commitment to serving the Armenian community through Evangelism, Education, and Humanitarianism.

"Our theme, *Celebrating Our Lasting Impact on Generations*, reflects the mission of the AMAA and the lives of this year's honorees," said Serge D. Buchakjian, AMAA CEO/Executive Director. "Their dedication has touched countless lives and will continue to inspire future generations."

The Banquet will be Co-Chaired by Lucienne Aynilian and Anita Buchakjian, whose dedication and leadership have helped to make this

evening a meaningful celebration of faithful service and lasting impact.

The Banquet will honor two distinguished individuals whose decades of dedicated and faithful service have significantly strengthened the Armenian community:

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, former Executive Director of the Armenian Evangelical World Council.

former Treasurer of the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

"As we gather for our 107th Annual Meeting Banquet in October, we are honored to recognize two exceptional individuals whose faithful leadership and unwavering commitment have strengthened the Armenian Evangelical community for decades," said Gary R. Phillips, Esq., President of the AMAA. "The honorees, Rev. Dr. Tootikian and Dr. Helvacian have each left an enduring legacy through their service, and we are privileged to celebrate their remarkable contributions."

Honoree Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian of Royal Oak, MI, served as Executive Director of the Armenian Evangelical World Council for more than 25 years. A respected Armenian-American scholar, theologian, author, and church leader, he has devoted his life to ministry, theological education, and Armenian Christian literature.

Rev. Dr. Tootikian is a graduate of the Near East School of Theology and the American University of Beirut. He pursued advanced graduate studies at Hartford Seminary, Harvard Divinity School, and Andover Newton

Theological Seminary, earning two master's degrees and a Doctor of Ministry degree cum laude.

He served as Pastor of Armenian Evangelical churches in Syria and Egypt before continuing his pastoral ministry in several Armenian Evangelical churches throughout the United States. He is the author of over 50 books and currently is the Minister Emeritus of the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit.

Rev. Dr. Tootikian is married to Rosette Tootikian and has three married children, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Honoree Nurhan Helvacian, Ph.D. of Englewood Cliffs, NJ, has faithfully served as Treasurer of the AMAA for the past 10 years. Throughout his distinguished professional career, he has combined expertise in economics,



Nurhan Helvacian Ph.D

research, and financial management with dedicated service to the Armenian Evangelical community.

Continued on next page

AMAA

Continued from previous page

Dr. Helvacian earned a Bachelor of Business Administration, cum laude, from Bernard M. Baruch College of the City University of New York and a Ph.D. in Economics from The Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

His professional experience includes serving as Adjunct Professor of Economics at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Principal of MNH Consulting, Director of Research and Chief Economist for the National Council on Compensation Insurance, Manager of Economics at IBM Corporation, and leadership positions involving economic consulting and statistical analysis. He has authored numerous publications in economics and related professional fields.

In addition to his service as AMAA Treasurer, Dr. Helvacian has served the Association as Chairman of the

Budget and Finance Committee and as a member of the Investment, Personnel, and Scholarship Committees. He also served on the AMAA Board of Directors from 2006 to 2025. His broader church service includes serving as Treasurer of the Armenian Evangelical World Council and Treasurer of the Telfeyan Evangelical Fund. He is a member of the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ.

Dr. Helvacian is married to Dr. Celeste Telfeyan Helvacian, and together they have two daughters and three grandchildren.

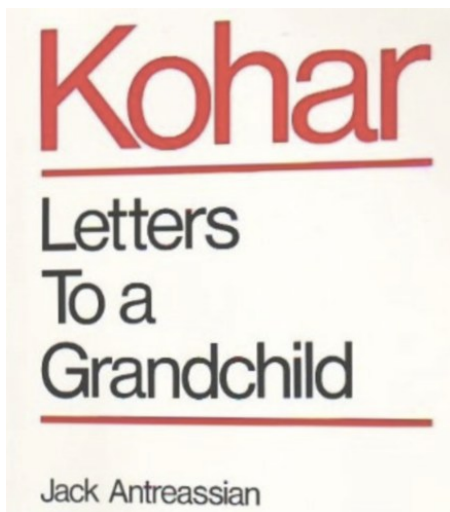
Adding to the evening's celebration, guests will also enjoy a special performance by **Zulal**, the acclaimed New York-based Armenian-American a cappella trio featuring **Teni Apelian, Yeraz Markarian, and Anaïs Tekerian**.

"Planning this year's Banquet has been both a privilege and a joy," said Banquet Co-Chairs Lucienne Aynilian and Anita Buchakjian. "We look forward to welcoming members, friends, and supporters for an evening of fellowship as we honor two outstanding leaders whose faith, vision, and service have made a lasting difference in our community."

The AMAA warmly invites members, friends, and supporters to join this memorable evening of fellowship, recognition, and inspiration as it celebrates the faithful service and enduring legacy of these two distinguished leaders.

For additional information about the 107th Annual Meeting Banquet, please contact the AMAA Headquarters in Paramus, NJ at 201.265.2607 or visit amaa.org/events.

Jack Antreassian: A Life Given to the Community (1920 - 2009)



There are people who serve a community because it is their profession, people who serve because they are asked, and there are those

rare individuals for whom service is simply a way of life. Jack Antreassian belonged to the last and rarest category.

He gave his life to the Armenian community—not for recognition, position, or reward, but because he believed in the importance of Armenian identity, culture, literature, and institutions. He saw what needed to be done and did it. He never seemed to ask, "Is this my job?" His question was simply, "Does this need to be done?"

That quality was at the heart of the man.

Born in Constantinople in 1920, Jack and his family eventually found refuge in New York after the persecution and violence that had driven them from their homeland. In 1943, while on

furlough from his three-year service in the Air Force, he married Alice Eksouzian. Together they built a family and a life in Flushing, Queens, where they raised their two children, Michael and Elise.

But Jack's life was never confined to his home or his profession. He possessed an extraordinary passion for literature, poetry, and the Armenian cultural heritage. He became a translator, author, editor, community activist, and leader. Yet none of those titles adequately describes what he really was: a person who believed that culture and community survive only when people are willing to devote themselves to them.

Continued on next page

Jack Antreassian

Continued from previous page

He served as editor of the *Armenian Mirror-Spectator* and, for more than a decade, as editor of the AGBU's *Ararat Quarterly Magazine*. His editorial vision was not merely to preserve Armenian culture, but to challenge the community to engage it in a living and meaningful way.

In the special tenth-anniversary issue of *Ararat*, reflecting on the magazine's original hopes, Jack wrote that they had assumed the Armenian community would provide "a solid base for a potential formidable circulation"—a community whose attachment to its art and culture was legendary. Then came the blunt conclusion: "It proved to be no more than that."

That was Jack. He did not mumble, soften his convictions, or avoid uncomfortable truths.

He continued:

"We wanted to do away with the arrangements in which Armenians were talking only to Armenians, telling each other what most of them already knew and apparently few of them wanted to hear it again... We must change with growth, learn from experience, and adapt to its environment, with only the spirit and quality remaining clear and constant."

Those words reveal something fundamental about him. Jack was not interested in preserving Armenian identity by putting it behind glass. He believed Armenian culture had to live, grow, engage, and contribute. He wanted Armenians to know their heritage—but also to bring that heritage into conversation with the larger world.

His leadership extended well beyond publishing. He served as executive director of the Armenian General Benevolent Union and later held an executive position at the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America. In both institutions he brought imagination, energy, and a willingness to do

whatever the work required.

He also understood that a community is built not only through organizations, but through people.

Under his leadership, the Armenian public was introduced to important national and international figures, among them Aram Khachaturian, Rouben Mamoulian, Michael Arlen, William Saroyan, and Ben Bagdikian. He understood that bringing such people into the Armenian community could broaden its horizons and strengthen its place in American life.

But perhaps the most important thing Jack gave the community cannot be listed on a résumé.

He gave people his attention.

He had a remarkable and unassuming charisma. He could relate to all kinds of people, meet them wherever they happened to be in their lives, and make them feel that they had a place in the larger community. He understood instinctively that every individual could contribute something to the greater good. That belief was infectious.

He was also courageous, direct, and sharp-minded. He was a courageous sharpshooter, but his courage was not limited to the range or to the uniform he once wore. He had the courage to speak plainly, to challenge complacency, and to call a spade a spade when others might have preferred silence.

And yet, for all that strength, he was not a man consumed by his own importance.

That may be his greatest legacy.

Jack never seemed to keep score. He did not serve so that someone would later say that he had served. He did not do good deeds in anticipation of gratitude. He simply believed that if something was worthwhile, it was worth doing—and if the community needed it, someone had to do it.

He died in New York on July 4, 2009, at the age of 89, after a long and distinguished life. He left behind Alice, their children Michael and Elise, family, friends, colleagues, readers, and a community that had benefited from his work in ways both visible and unseen.

Toward the end of his life, Jack said:

"I have lived a long, happy life. I would be a fool to complain now that I have to leave it. What a lucky man I have been...."

He was indeed a lucky man.

But perhaps luckier were those who knew him.

Luckier were those who read the books he translated, the publications he edited, and the words he wrote. Luckier were those who encountered him in the institutions he served. Luckier were those whom he encouraged, challenged, introduced, listened to, or simply helped when something needed to be done.

Jack Antreassian's greatest contribution was not any single book, position, publication, or accomplishment. It was the example of a life given generously to a people and a culture he loved.

He asked for little and gave much.

He left the Armenian-American community stronger, more literate, more connected, and more conscious of its responsibilities than he found it.

And he did so without ever asking, "What's in it for me?"

That is why remembering Jack is not simply an act of remembrance.

It is an act of gratitude.

Vicki Shoghag Hovanessian: We are weaving a safety net for our people. We are ensuring that the Armenian spirit remains vibrant, resilient, and enduring



(Mrs. Vicki Shoghag Hovanessian was honored as 'Woman of the Year' by the Knights and Daughters of Vartan at the 108th Annual Grand Convocation in Philadelphia. The following is her speech)

Good evening, everyone.

To stand among the Knights and Daughters of Vartan is a profound honor. When I look around this room, I see the living heartbeat of our community—the stewards of our history, and the architects of our future.

I have long lived by a quote from the poet Edward Guest: Somebody said, 'It can't be done'; but she with a smile replied, 'Why not?'

To me, that "Why not" is the spark of benevolence. It is the bridge between the words "We wish," and the reality of "We did."

We see this spirit in your work, Knights and Daughters of Vartan, every day. You do not simply attend to the needs of the present; you build for generations to come. Whether it is your inspiration and preservation of our spiritual home, St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral; or your Economic Sustainable Program that provides micro-grants to refugees of Artsakh; or your support of the Fuller Housing Project in Armenia; Every year celebrating the Commemoration of April 24 at Times Square!!!—your

work is the practical application of love in its purest form.

Our selfless dedication is not about building more structures; it is about building a sense of belonging. In my case, this has involved working to realize the 70-year-old dream of the AGBU Center in Chicago; AGBU Sissag H. Varjabedian Saturday Armenian School in Chicago, or to ensure that the ARMENIA exhibition graced the Metropolitan Museum of Art after efforts were made by others for the last 20 years ; or to rescue St. Nersess Seminary when it was in danger of closing its doors.

All of our personal and collective efforts have this in common: we are weaving a safety net for our people. We are ensuring that the Armenian spirit remains vibrant, resilient, and enduring.

I saw the power of this shared vision most vividly in 1996—and I want to share the story with you tonight, because it involves a dear figure from this city of Philadelphia: the late, distinguished trial lawyer, Arsen Hanamirian.

It happened while I was seeking funds at a critical time for St. Nersess Seminary, when it was in danger of closing down. I was in Miami, as part of the first Pontifical Visit to America by His Holiness Karekin the First, the Catholicos of All Armenians. Someone advised me to approach Mr. Hanamirian for funds—and though we were strangers to each other, Arsen recognized me because he had read of my diverse fund raising activities in the now defunct Armenian Reporter Newspaper. What he wanted most of all was to simply meet with His Holiness—which I gladly arranged. And after leaving that meeting, on the spot, Arsen pledged \$400,000 for St.

Nersess Seminary and couple of months later another \$50,000 for the renovation of the swimming pool of the Seminary. All for the benefit of St. Nersess Seminary from the Charles Garabed Trust Fund of which he was the Executor.

Today, I fondly recall his NOBLE act as a testament to what can happen when a person of character decides to turn a vision into reality. Mr. Hanamirian didn't just provide funds; he gave a future to our Seminary. He proved that when we trust in one another's integrity, the "impossible" becomes possible.

I am deeply humbled by this recognition tonight—and I want to say that I share this honor with my late husband, Dr. Raffy Hovanessian: a proud Knight of Vartan himself from Chicago's Avarayr Lodge. His spirit of optimistic philanthropy continues to guide me. And in that same spirit, my greatest satisfaction comes from contributing to the greater strength of our community.

So let us keep building, keep serving, and keep asking with a smile: "Why not?"

I salute the Knights and Daughters of Vartan, for your selfless dedication to our homeland and our communities here in the United States. Congratulations to Avak Dirouhi Lily Sarkissian for being elected for a second term. I congratulate her for her visionary leadership. Thank you again for this precious honor.

Let me conclude my remarks with words I know you all hold dear:

God Bless the United States of America.

Poetry presented by Mrs. Zarmine Boghosian

Մեր Գրական Աշխարհի Ծաղկաստանն
 ♥♥♥ **Through the Orchards of Armenian**
Language & Poetry ♥♥♥ Aug /21-22/2026
 Presented by: Zarmine Boghosian

Ա Բ Գ

Դուկտ. Նուպար Պերպերեանի խօսքերը յիշենք-
 «Մենք կը հաւատանք ո՛չ միայն
 քննադատութեան, այլ նո՛յնիսկ ինքնա-
 քննադատութեան ոյժին, զոր կը նկա-տենք
 յառաջդիմութեան գլխաւոր ազ-դակը». կամ...
 մտածե՛ր էք բնաւ, թէ ինչ կրնայ պատահիլ...
 «Երբ սփիւռքահայ մամուլը դադրի...», կամ...
 «Սփիւռ-քահայութեան թանգարան մը հիմնենք
 Երեւանի մէջ»:

Ա Բ Գ

ՍԱՏՈՒԱԾԱԾԻՆ

Զարեհ Խրախունի

Սպասեցէ՛ք. . Այգիները մշակուին
 Սպասեցէք – որթատունկերը մեծնան,
 Ով որ երբէք բան չէ տնկած պարտէզին մէջ ա՛ն թող
 վախճայ իմ անցքէս
 Ես ձեր մայրն եմ ոսկերէր
 Ու կ'աշխատիմ աշխատողին ի նպաստ
 Սպասեցէք- խաղողները կազմուին Սպասեցէք-
 ողկոյզները հասունանան
 Դուք գիտէք որ ազդիւնները որդիներուն
 ակռաները կը հարեն
 Ես ձեր մայրն եմ ոսկեշող
 Երբ կը ցաթեմ՝ կ'եփեմ, կ'այրեմ, կը սաթեմ. .
 Սպասեցէք – հատիկները անուշնան
 Չըլլայ չըլլայ՝ որ հատ մ'ուտէք զիս չտօնած,
 անուններս չիշած
 Ես ձեր մայրն եմ ոսկեմատ
 Կ'ուզեմ օրհնէքս ալ ճաշակէք անոնց հետ
 Սպասեցէք – այգեստանները կ'թուին ... Այս
 եղանակն այնքան անուշ է ո՛րքան ուշ է ժամանակը
 կեանքին
 Ես ձեր մայրն եմ ոսկեվառ
 Կ'ուզեմ երկնէլ ու երգով տալ ամէն ինչ. . .
 Սպասեցէք – հնձանները լիանան
 Վստահ եղէք՝ տակաւ կարաս պիտի ճաթին այս
 ցնծութեան գինիէն –
 Ես ձեր մայրն եմ ոսկեհամ
 Կ'ուզեմ խայտաք, ինձմով միայն գինովնաք. . . .
 Արթօ Ճիւմպիւշեան-

Zareh Khrahooni-9-8-1996

Ա Բ Գ

Համօ Սահեան- «Ես հասկանում եմ այն հային,
 որ պարծենում է նրանով, որ լաւ գիտի ռուսերէն:
 Բայց չեմ կարող հասկանալ այն հային, ով գլուխ
 է գովում այն բանի համար, որ չգիտի հայերէն:

Իսկ չէ՞ որ պետք է ամաչի...

ՄԱՐԴ ԻՆՔԸ ԼԵՅՈՒՆ Է :

Ա Բ Գ

ԵՐԲ ԱԻԵԼԻ ՃԵՐԱՆԱՄ

Այան Ճէքսըն- թրգմ. Զարմինէ Պօղոսեան

Որքան կը մեծնամ

Այնքան աւելի շատ կը կարծեմ
 Որ մենք ընդամենը մէկ րոպէ ունինք ապրելու,
 Աւելի լաւ է ապրիլ, երբ տակաւին հոս ենք
 Որովհետեւ այն թարթելու չափ կարճ է
 Եւ որքան մեծնանք...
 Աւելի ճիշտ է անդրադառնալ թէ՛
 Մարդիկն են, որ կը սիրես, Ոչ թէ փողն ու իրերը-
 Մարդիկն են, որ ձեզ հարուստ կը դարձնեն... Եւ
 եթէ պատահի որ գտնուի

երիտասարդութեան աղբիւրը

Ես ոչ մէկ կաթիլ պիտի ուզէի խմել,
 եւ այդ ճշմարտութիւն է ... Չուարճալի է, թէ ինչ կը
 զգաս... Ես արդէն հասած եմ կեանքիս լաւագոյն
 տարիներուն

Որքան մեծնամ-Այնքան քիչ ընկերներ ունիմ

Բայց մեզի շատ բան պետք չէ, Երբ մեր
 ունեցածները- Միշտ մեր թիկունքին են
Եւ որքան մեծնամ-Այդքան աւելի լաւ եմ ես,
 Հասկնալու, թէ ե՛րբ պետք է տալ
 Իսկ երբ պարզապէս բնա՛ւ հոգ չընել...
 Եւ եթէ գտնուի երիտասարդանալու աղբիւրը
 Պիտի չուզէի ոչ մէկ կաթիլ խմել անկէ,
 Եւ ասիկա ճշմարտութիւն է
 Չուարճալի է, զգալ որ ես հասած եմ

իմ լաւագոյն տարիներուն

Որքան տարիքս յառաջանայ

Ես դեմ չեմ բոլոր այն տողերուն, այն
 Բոլոր ժամանակներէն որ ինծի ծիծաղ

եւ լաց պատճառած են

Յուշանուէրներ կամ իմ ապրած օրերուս

փոքրիկ յուշեր փոխանցած են

Որքան տարիքս կը յառաջանայ. Այնքան երկար
 կ'աղօթեմ--Չեմ գիտեր ինչո՞ւ, կ'ենթադրեմ, Որ ես
 աւելի շատ բան ունիմ ըսելիք-- Եւ որքան կը մեծնամ
 Աւելի շնորհակալ կը զգամ

Կեանքիս համար, որ ունեցած եմ,

Նաեւ այդ ամբողջ կեանքին համար,

Որ տակաւին կ'ապրիմ: ZKB

Ա Բ Գ

We Armenia



WELCOME TO PAREV-TV

We invite you to watch videos produced by PAREV-TV which cover current Armenian life. These videos are unique and serve to inform and educate the Armenian public. You may find our entire collection of videos archived at www.ArmenianRadioNJ.net

Go to our [Parev-TV channel](#) on YouTube to watch all our videos

THANK YOU

To all our supporters of
Armenian Radio Hour of NJ
Armenian Interests E-Newsletter
Parev-TV

Current News from Around the World



Armenian Interests

Armenia's police to launch cyber laboratory



Armenia's four main police services are now fully operational, but police reforms remain an ongoing process, with the Interior Ministry continuing to monitor their effectiveness and further develop their capabilities, Acting Deputy Interior Minister Armen Mkrtchyan said.

He announced at a press conference that the Police will soon launch a cyber laboratory, given that many types of crime are rapidly moving online.

"From the perspective of organizational, legal, and structural reforms, the Police is developing along four pillar directions. On November 1 of last year, the final pillar—the Police Guard—was established and began operating at full capacity. When forming the Guard, we paid great attention to the training of the personnel joining the structure, because the Guard is primarily responsible for maintaining public order and ensuring public safety. This particularly concerns the handling of public assemblies. There are always sensitive issues involved, such as the use of enforcement measures or the proportionality of the use of force," Mkrtchyan said.

Among the training processes, he highlighted the establishment of a unified standard for the use of force, which was approved simultaneously with the formation of the Guard. According to Mkrtchyan, this is an important methodological document establishing procedures that are followed not only by Guard personnel but also by officers of other Police services, making it possible to ensure uniform and precise conduct by the Police in all situations.

Police Guard officers also carry out daily patrols, as a result of which hundreds of cases of illegal activity have been detected, including crimes committed in public spaces, hooliganism, and drug-related offenses.

"The Patrol Service also continues to develop and demonstrate its effectiveness not only in the field of road safety but also in detecting crimes, especially since a significant share of crimes are detected by patrol officers. One of the most important functions of the Patrol Service is the prevention of traffic accidents. For 2.5 years now, the number of deaths resulting from traffic accidents has been declining, which is a major achievement. The Water Patrol Service, for its part, is also fully operational, ensuring the overall condition of the Lake Sevan ecosystem within the scope of its authority and making significant detections," Mkrtchyan added.

The Criminal Police, for its part, focuses on detecting and combating serious, particularly serious, and organized crimes. Mkrtchyan said the Criminal Police should develop its

capabilities in the digital sphere, given that many types of crime are rapidly moving online. This sphere should also be viewed as an area where the Police need to "patrol," preventing and detecting crimes.

"The Police must also use digital and technological tools to detect crimes; therefore, we will have a cyber laboratory in the near future. This will be the hub and infrastructure that will provide significant opportunities for effectively combating cybercrime. International cooperation is also important in this regard. One of the important areas in the fight against organized crime is combating drug trafficking. The law enforcement system is particularly focused on detecting large shipments; therefore, we need to combine our efforts to uncover the chains involved in drug trafficking and production," the Acting Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs said.

He added that community policing, as an important pillar service, maintains constant contact with communities and is therefore aware of risky and problematic situations that could escalate into more dangerous acts and become crimes.

"Through the early prevention of such cases and proper guidance, we should be able to achieve comprehensive crime prevention through the work of community police," the Acting Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs said.

Pashinyan says Armenia is seeing growing repatriation trends



Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan on Wednesday hosted participants of iGorts, the Diaspora fellowship program that invites professionals to work in Armenia's public sector.

During the meeting, the prime minister noted that Armenia has recently been witnessing certain repatriation and immigration trends, according to a readout.

In 2025, the number of Armenian citizens who returned to Armenia exceeded the number of citizens who left the country by more than 8,000. Pashinyan highlighted that people are returning to Armenia, purchasing real estate, making investments and seeking to build their lives in Armenia. "Unlike in 2014 and even in 2019-2020, repatriation trends are becoming more pronounced today, including thanks to the peace agenda and established peace, because this is also a factor that we must certainly take into account," Pashinyan said.

The prime minister said that the iGorts program is part of this process and expressed hope that it would become a more practical and reliable mechanism for returning to Armenia.

Commenting on his recent decision to

involve graduates of the world's top 200 universities in Armenia's public administration system, Pashinyan said he had already made several appointments and that more appointments are expected in the near future. The prime minister said that some of the appointees first became aware of the opportunity to work in Armenia's public administration system through the iGorts program.

"We are now increasingly focused on our understanding of the present and future of the Republic of Armenia, which we have formulated through the ideology of Real Armenia. If we were to formulate this ideology in one sentence, it is about the fact that the meaning and significance of the existence of the Republic of Armenia as a state is to ensure the security and well-being of its citizens, their freedom, and the preservation and development of their identity within the internationally recognized territory of the Republic of Armenia," the prime minister said.

Pashinyan said that ideas and ideologies in Armenia have traditionally been formulated by elites and imposed on society and the people. He said that the ideology of Real Armenia was formulated as a result of the transition from that ideology and was also implemented rapidly. "I am

now convinced that the immigration process will be institutionalized, because today Armenia is governed according to a logic and ideology that was not imposed on the people by elites, but imposed on the governing force by the people. Therefore, I believe this is a new situation in our history that opens up limitless horizons for our state," the prime minister said, emphasizing the importance and necessity of moving forward with the opportunities these horizons provide.

In this context, Pashinyan added that these valuable repatriation processes are not accidental. "I hope that, including by reformatting relations between Armenia and the Diaspora, we will also be able to develop this logic and truly make Armenia a state that develops and whose population grows primarily through repatriation and, of course, through the implementation of the demographic strategy. The human potential that will be involved in implementing this plan and strategy has a very important role here. The iGorts program is a system for connecting with that potential and meeting these people, which I hope will become increasingly effective over time."

Acting High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs Zareh Sinanyan thanked the prime minister for hosting the sixth group of program participants and presented details about the program. It was noted that 68-70% of participants from the previous five years have remained in Armenia, while 15% of them continue to work in the public sector.

There are 45 participants in the 2026 program. They have arrived from Sweden, Spain, Russia, Norway, Hungary, France, Jordan, Belarus, Brazil, Argentina, Iran and Austria.

Pashinyan to receive Hessian Peace Prize



Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan is being awarded the Hessian Peace Prize for his efforts to promote peace in the South Caucasus, the Landtag of Hesse, the unicameral parliament of the German state of Hesse, has announced.

The award recognizes Pashinyan's continued efforts to establish democratic institutions in Armenia and bring the country closer to the European Union. As one of the leaders of the 2018 Velvet Revolution, Pashinyan paved the way for parliamentary elections and has since, as prime minister, led the country toward peace and closer ties with Europe, the announcement reads.

At the same time, with the support of the United States, he succeeded in adopting a peace declaration with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev in August 2025. He also secured the initialing of the "Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and Inter-State Relations between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan."

The award ceremony will take place on September 18 in Wiesbaden.

Hessian Landtag President Astrid Wallmann, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hessian Peace Prize, said the award highlights a country that has been undergoing a continuous process of democratic reforms and rapprochement with European partners since 2018.

"The lasting establishment of stability and peace in the region provides an important foundation for expanding and deepening these efforts," Wallmann said. She added that awarding the Hessian Peace Prize to Pashinyan recognizes progress in the peace process with the neighboring state and sends a visible signal in favor of understanding and the development of nonviolent approaches to conflict resolution.

Prof. Dr. Nicole Deitelhoff, a member of the Board of Trustees and a member of the executive board of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF), said the award recognizes Pashinyan's consistent commitment to nonviolence in one of the most deeply entrenched conflicts in the post-Soviet space.

"Both his political rise during the nonviolent Velvet Revolution of 2018 and his approach to resolving relations with Azerbaijan have been shaped by the goal of preventing the further spread of violence and avoiding military escalation," Deitelhoff said.

Karl Starzacher, former president of the Hessian Landtag, chairman of the Hessian Peace Prize Board of Trustees and former state minister, said Pashinyan's political course was particularly deserving of the peace

prize.

"Instead of relying on rhetorical or military escalation, he relies on diplomacy, international mediation and political negotiations," Starzacher said, adding that Pashinyan's policy is aimed less at achieving short-term goals and more at gradually expanding political space.

About the Hessian Peace Prize

The prize, endowed with €25,000, has been awarded by the Albert Osswald Foundation since 1994. It recognizes efforts to end wars, violence or conflicts involving the threat of violence, preventive measures, strategies for avoiding violent conflicts, and contributions to international understanding.

The prize was established by former Hesse Prime Minister Albert Osswald and his family. The Board of Trustees includes representatives of Germany's leading peace research institutes, who advise on the awarding of the prize.

The award was suspended in 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic. In subsequent years, winners were recognized for the preceding year. This year's award covers the 2025 and 2026 prize years, after which awards will again be given for the current year. The prize money will be awarded only once for this double year.

**Please send any information related to
Armenian Interests
e-newsletter to:**

TalinKupelian@gmail.com

Armenian Government to Rebuild Rail Link with Turkey



The Armenian government has taken the first step towards rebuilding a section of Armenia's Russian-run railway network leading to its closed border with Turkey, Infrastructure Minister Davit Khudatian said on Monday.

Khudatian revealed that the government has called an international tender for designing the 21-kilometer section that runs from Gyumri to the border. It has been disused and has fallen into disrepair since the early 1990s.

Russia's state-owned railway monopoly Russian Railways (RZhD) runs the network under a 30-year management contract signed with

Yerevan in 2008. Citing progress made towards the restoration of Armenia's transport links with Turkey and Azerbaijan, Prime Minister Nikol Pashinian repeatedly urged RZhD late last year to repair this and another railway section leading to Azerbaijan.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Overchuk indicated its readiness to do that on February 12. Pashinian declared the next day that he wants to end the Russian management of the Armenian railways. He claimed that it discourages Turkey and Azerbaijan from using a much larger section of Armenian territory for transit purposes in the near future. Moscow has since repeatedly rejected Pashinian's demands to cede its management rights to another foreign country or company.

As tensions between the two estranged allies rose further late last month, Pashinian threatened to take legal action to strip RZhD of those rights or to charge the Russian operator as much as \$2 billion annually for them. He

walked backed on the threats two weeks later following stern warnings from Russian officials.

Khudatian's statement is a further indication that Yerevan wants to exclude the Russians from the planned reconstruction of the Gyumri-Akhurik section. Pashinian said in May that it will be financed by his government.

Khudatian also told journalists that later this year the government will call a separate tender for the construction itself, which will require an estimated \$15 million in funding. He gave no concrete dates for its start and competition.

The Turkish section of the Armenia-Turkey railway is also in need of reconstruction. The mayor of the Turkish border town of Akyaka told RFE/RL's Armenian Service last that month reconstruction work on the Turkish side has already begun and will be completed within two or three months.

Armenia to provide medical treatment for Gaza children



The Armenian government will facilitate the transfer of children with serious health conditions from Gaza and organize the necessary medical care for them at Armenian healthcare facilities.

The Cabinet approved an additional AMD 16.7 million in funding for the Ministry of Health for this purpose.

According to the justification for the decision, the Ministry of Health has expressed its readiness and is currently working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the World Health Organization to transfer up to 10 children with serious health conditions from the Gaza Strip to Armenia and arrange the necessary medical care for them at Armenian healthcare facilities.

Following a preliminary assessment of the children's health conditions, seven of the 11 patients considered were

selected as candidates for treatment in Armenia. However, only three of the seven families agreed to the arrangement under which they would be hosted in Armenia with a maximum of one accompanying person.

News that the Armenian government was working with the World Health Organization (WHO) to organize the treatment of children from Gaza in Armenian hospitals was first made public at a UN Security Council open debate on the situation in the Middle East earlier this year.

Armenian Citizens' Children May Be Barred from Attending Armenian Schools in Istanbul



Inspectors from Turkey's Ministry of Education have begun conducting inspections at Armenian schools in Istanbul, with similar inspections expected to take place at Greek and Jewish minority schools.

According to reports, inspectors have informed Armenian school administrators that they will no longer be permitted to enroll students who

are citizens of Armenia and have reportedly advised that such students be transferred to Turkish public schools, Ermenihaber reported.

Under regulations adopted in 2012, foreign-national children were permitted to attend national minority schools as "guest students," although they were not entitled to receive graduation certificates.

The reported attempt to abruptly end a practice that has been in effect for approximately 14 years has caused serious concern within the Armenian community and among human rights advocates.

The Association for Human Rights and

Solidarity with the Oppressed, known as MAZLUMDER, is currently examining possible violations of the educational rights of students who are citizens of Armenia.

MAZLUMDER told the Istanbul-based Armenian weekly Agos that it is seeking meetings with civil society organizations, educational institutions, relevant government authorities and families affected by the decision.

The development is considered particularly significant because it comes amid the ongoing normalization process between Armenia and Turkey.

Syunik Airport in Kapan the country's third international airport, after Yerevan's Zvartnots and Gyumri's Shirak



Syunik Airport is currently providing a fast air connection between

Yerevan and Armenia's southern Syunik province, with the journey taking about an hour. The airport, however, is looking beyond domestic flights, with discussions underway to enable international service and potentially make Syunik Airport in Kapan the country's third international airport, after Yerevan's Zvartnots and Gyumri's Shirak.

Syunik Airport currently operates exclusively domestic flights. With its existing resources and staff, it has the capacity to serve up to 50 passengers

per hour.

Demand for the flights is high and tickets sell out relatively quickly.

The \$55 one-way ticket price may seem high to some, but according to the airport director, the fare can be kept at this level thanks to a subsidy provided by the Zangezur Copper Molybdenum Combine, one of the country's largest corporate taxpayers, which operates a mine in Syunik province.

Although air connectivity currently has primarily a social significance for Kapan, another potential direction is being considered as part of discussions about the airport's future: international flights.

During the Soviet period, Syunik

Airport's runway was 1,450 meters long. After reconstruction, when it reopened in 2023, the runway was extended to 1,750 meters, giving Syunik Airport the ability to accommodate larger aircraft.

While the airport cannot currently become a viable business project when operating domestic flights, there is potential for this to change with international flights.

Today, the Yerevan-Kapan flight is one of the fastest ways to travel between Yerevan and Syunik province. But reaching Kapan by air is not only a way to save time; it is also a unique journey during which passengers can admire Armenia's landscapes, particularly the unparalleled beauty of Syunik.

Armenian top general, India's Defense Secretary exchange new cooperation framework document



Defense Minister Suren Papikyan held a meeting in Yerevan on Monday with India's Defense Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh. Papikyan lauded the course of cooperation between the two countries.

The meeting discussed issues related to Armenia-India cooperation in the defense sector, including military-technical cooperation. The sides also addressed issues related to regional



and international security. India's Ambassador to Armenia Nilakshi Saha Sinha also attended the meeting.

Defense Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh arrived in Armenia on an official visit on August 16.

The Indian Defense Ministry said in a

statement earlier that during the visit, he will engage with the Armenian leadership to chart the course of future India-Armenia defense and strategic cooperation.

The Chief of the General Staff of the Armenian Armed Forces and First Deputy Minister of Defense, Lieutenant General Edward Asryan, met with India's Defense Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh. The meeting focused on issues related to Armenia-India defense cooperation.

As part of a previously reached agreement, the sides exchanged a document establishing a new framework for cooperation between the General Staffs of the armed forces of the two countries.

Armenia prepares to introduce e-gate systems at border crossings



Armenia's Minister of Internal Affairs Arpine Sargsyan, accompanied by Deputy Director of the National Security Service Davit Sanamyan, visited Zvartnots Airport to inspect preparations for the introduction of e-gate automated systems.

The officials were presented with the infrastructure solutions required for the installation, launch and maintenance of the e-gate systems, the ministry said in a press release.

Alongside the use of biometric passports, e-gate (electronic gate) automated systems are planned to be introduced at Armenia's border crossing points.

An e-gate is an automated, contactless border-crossing system that will allow travelers to cross the border quickly without the intervention of a border guard by scanning their passports. It will automatically identify individuals, speed up border control and reduce waiting times.

Issues related to the stages of implementation, organization of the work, and ensuring the conditions necessary for the efficient and uninterrupted operation of the e-gate systems were also discussed.

Later that day, the Minister of Internal Affairs visited one of Yerevan's

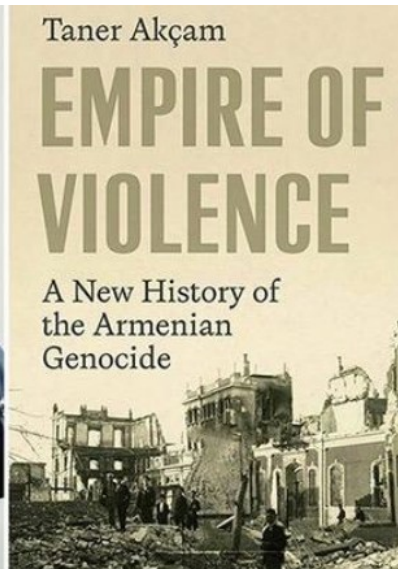
shopping malls to inspect the construction and technical outfitting of an office of the Ministry's Migration and Citizenship Service, which is nearing completion.

The need to maintain quality standards in the construction work and complete it within the established deadlines was emphasized.

The minister issued additional instructions aimed at ensuring the office's effective operation.

The design and logistical solutions for the offices being built by HayPass are based on the "one-stop shop" principle, which will help reduce queues and overcrowding, administrative complications, and significantly save citizens' time.

Taner Akçam Announces Book on the “New History of the Armenian Genocide”



Historian and sociologist Taner Akçam has announced that his new book, “Empire of Violence: A New History of the Armenian Genocide,” will be published in January 2027.

“I began working on the Armenian Genocide in 1991. Easy to say – more than thirty-five years! Over those long years: books, articles, conferences, and a new generation of young scholars...

Perhaps, in all that time, I have managed to move one small stone in an enormous rock face. And I decided to bring together in one book what I had learned over more than thirty-five years of research. The result is “Empire of Violence: A New History of the Armenian Genocide.”

Of course, I could not address every subject. But I have tried to tell the

story of the period from 1878 through the 1930s through what I hope is a new understanding of historical continuity. In doing so, I have also tried to place the Armenian experience within a broader history of violence, giving attention not only to Armenians but also to Greeks and Assyrians.

The book presents a great deal of new and little-known evidence concerning the Hamidian period, the 1909 Adana massacres, the years 1914-1918, and their aftermath. I think I can comfortably say that what has emerged is indeed “a new history” of the Armenian Genocide.

The work of a younger generation of scholars, and the new findings they have brought to the field, also occupies a very special place in the book.

The book will be published by Princeton University Press, one of the most prestigious academic presses in the United States,” Akçam said.

Armenia’s exports to EU countries rise over 80%

Armenian exports to European Union countries exceeded \$516 million in January-June 2026, more than 80% higher than the approximately \$287 million recorded during the same period last year, according to government figures.

Exports to the EU in the first half of 2026 also increased by more than 71% compared with the same period in 2017, when exports totaled approximately \$301 million.



Yerevan schools to rearrange schedule for October COP17

Schools in Yerevan will change their schedule this autumn due to the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17), which will be held in the capital.

Classes will not be held in Yerevan schools during the week of the event to avoid traffic congestion.

To make up for the missed school days, schools across the capital will operate on a six-day schedule for five consecutive weeks, starting September 15, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports said.

As a result, students will have a two-week autumn break in October instead of the usual one-week break.

The 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on



Biological Diversity (COP17) will take

place in Yerevan from October 19 to 30, 2026.

Silicon Mountains 2026 Technology Summit and Expo to Be Held in Yerevan



The Silicon Mountains 2026 technology summit, one of Armenia's major technology events of the year, will take place in Yerevan on November 3-4 in an expanded format.

Organized by the Union of Advanced Technology Enterprises with the support of Armenia's Ministry of High-Tech Industry, the two-day event will, for the first time, combine the

traditional Silicon Mountains summit with a large-scale technology exhibition.

The opening day, November 3, will feature a summit titled "Invest in Innovation," focusing on financing innovation, the semiconductor industry, and prospects for developing engineering solutions.

The keynote speaker will be the recipient of Armenia's 2026 State Award for Global Contribution to High Technology. Dozens of international experts and industry leaders are also expected to participate.

The International Microelectronics Olympiad, bringing together leading participants from more than 13

countries, will also conclude on the same day.

On November 4, the International Microelectronics Forum will open, focusing on chip design, research, and talent development.

A technology exhibition will run alongside the forum, featuring approximately 50 booths representing Armenian and international companies. Free exhibition space will also be provided to 12 promising startups.

The program will additionally include thematic workshops and B2B meetings aimed at strengthening professional and business ties.

14-year-old Armenian chess player defeats Magnus Carlsen in Titled Tuesday tournament

A 14-year-old FIDE Master and Armenian chess player, Tigran Hambarzumyan, defeated the world's top-rated player, Magnus Carlsen, in the Titled Tuesday online chess tournament held on August 18, the Armenian Chess Federation said in a press release.

Titled Tuesday is an online rapid chess tournament hosted by Chess.com, featuring players with FIDE and national chess titles. The tournament is played in an 11-round Swiss-system format, with 5 minutes per player and no increment.



Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

(Sundays 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.)

WSOU 89.5 FM

Sounds Like What You Need Right Now

You're on the go and we're going with you!
WSOU 89.5 FM is here to keep you company
on your commute, in the office, at school, the gym, or wherever.

Listen to us on



DIRECTORY

The following are addresses where Armenian gatherings are frequently held
This is NOT a list of Armenian organizations or churches
We will be glad to list additional addresses

AGBU

55 East 59th Street
New York, NY 10022
212-319-6383
Email: agbuny@agbu.org
www.agbu.org

Diocese of the Armenian Church

630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016
212-686-0710

Prelacy of the Armenian Church

138 East 39th Street,
New York, NY 10016
212-689-7810

Saint Illuminator Armenian Cathedral

221 East 27th. Street,
New York, NY 10016
212-689-5880

Armenian Presbyterian Church

140 Forest Avenue,
Paramus, NJ 07652
201-265-8585

St. Leon Armenian Church

12-61 Saddle River Rd
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
201-791-2862

Sts Vartanantz Armenian Church

461 Bergen Boulevard
Ridgefield, NJ 07657
201-943-2950

St Stepanos Armenian Apostolic Church

1184 Ocean Avenue
Elberon, New Jersey 07740
Phone 732-229-3661 Fax 732-229-3857

Holy Cross Armenian Church

318 27th Street,
Union City, NJ 07087
201-864-2480

Hovnanian School

817 River Road
New Milford, NJ 07646
201-967-5940
www.hovnanianschools.org

Sacred Heart Armenian Catholic Church

155 Long Hill Road
Little Falls, NJ 07424
Tel: 973-890-0447

St. Thomas Armenian Church

Route 9W-E Clinton Avenue
Tenafly, NJ 07670
201-567-5446

St. Mary Armenian Church

200 W. Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, NJ 07039
973-533-9794

St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church

38-65 234 Street
Douglaston, NY 11363
718-224-2275

Ararat Youth and Conference Center

6944 S.R. 32
Greenville, NY 12083
212-686-0710, x120
www.araratcener.org

St. Nersess Armenian Seminary

486 Bedford Road
Armonk, NY 10504
914-273-0200
info@stnersess.edu www.stnersess.edu

Armenian Network of America-NY Region

P.O. Box 205
Bible School Park, NY 13737
(617) 688-2741
newyorkregion@armnet.org www.armnet.org

Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs

209-15 Horace Harding Expressway
Bayside, New York 11364
718-225-0235
www.holy-martyrs.org

Armenian Evangelical Church of New York

152 E 34th St.
New York, NY 10016
Tel: (212) 685-3177

St. Vartan Armenian Cathedral

630 2nd Ave
New York, NY 10016
(212) 686-0710

St. Gregory the Enlightener Armenian Church

1131 North Street
White Plains, NY 10605
Tel. (914) 428-2595

Tekayan Cultural Association-Greater NY

560 Sylvan Avenue
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632
Email: tekeyannjny@gmail.com

Calendar of Events



Armenian Interests

To be included in our Calendar of Events,
please provide us with your non-profit organization's event, date and
location along with a contact name and telephone number

Please e-mail your submissions to:

Talin Kupelian - TalinKupelian@gmail.com

or

Vartan Abdo - VartanAbdo@optonline.net

We reserve the right to accept or reject submissions
not in accordance with our service

We also reserve the right to edit and modify all copies submitted

*****Armenian Interests & Armenian Radio Policy*****

Due to the heavy volume of flyers/announcements we receive weekly, our policy is:

- ◆ Flyers will be posted NO EARLIER than 3 months prior to event date
- ◆ Announcements on the radio program will be made NO EARLIER than 3 months prior to event date
- ◆ Prior to the 3 month limit, your event will be listed in the "Save the Date" section of our events page with a link to your website/email for 6 months (9 months total)
- ◆ The only exception to this policy are cruises and travel (we will post those in our "Save the Date" section up to 12 months in advance, with flyers posted 6 months prior to departure & announcements made 6 months prior to departure)

*The Armenian Radio and Armenian Interests newsletter mission is to promote
Armenian cultural/educational/social functions run by non-profit organizations*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ [September 12, 2026 - Holy Martyrs Armenian Festival](#)
- ◆ [September 12, 2026 - Kirikian Armenian School opening day](#)
- ◆ [September 12, 2026 - Kirikian Armenian School Toddler Program](#)
- ◆ [September 22, 2026 - AMAA childcare benefit evening](#)
- ◆ [September 25, 2026 - St. Thomas Cultural Committee present Steak & Cigar Night](#)
- ◆ [September 27, 2026 - Tekeyan Cultural Association - Masterpieces for Piano Trio](#)
- ◆ [October 14, 2026 - St. Mary Armenian Church Women's Guild Tricky Tray Dinner](#)
- ◆ [November 6, 2026 - Baikar Newspaper 10th anniversary celebration at St. Leon Church](#)
- ◆ [November 22, 2026 - Lilit Pipoyan live in concert at St. Mary Armenian Church](#)

SAVE THE DATE FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- ◆ [January 16, 2027 - Armenian Heritage Cruise](#)
- ◆ [April 10, 2027 - Hovnanian School's 50th anniversary gala](#)

Armenian Radio Hour of NJ

(Sundays 2:00 - 4:00 P.M.)

WSOU 89.5 FM

Sounds Like What You Need Right Now

You're on the go and we're going with you!
WSOU 89.5 FM is here to keep you company
on your commute, in the office, at school, the gym, or wherever.

Listen to us on



Armenia Way FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
12PM - 7PM **RAIN OR SHINE**



Youth
ZONE
GAME TRUCK

HYE
MARKET

VENDORS

**AUCTION &
RAFFLE**

LIVE
ARMENIAN
Music

FEATURING
**RUBEN
VOSKANIAN**

**CULTURAL
PERFORMANCES**

AUTHENTIC
Armenian
FOOD & DESSERTS



Armenian Church of the Holy Martyrs
209-15 Horace Harding Expwy
Bayside, NY 11364

HOLY-MARTYRS.ORG 718-225-0235



**SCAN TO
VOLUNTEER**

**2026-2027
ADMISSION
OPEN**

FIRST DAY

St. Thomas Armenian Church's
Kirikian
ARMENIAN SATURDAY SCHOOL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH, 9:00 AM

School Hours 9:00 AM - 1:15 PM

Toddlers, Nursery to 7th Grade, Ages 2 ½ - 12

REGISTER ONLINE

Բարի Գալուստ



**ENROLL
NOW**

**NEW: SPECIAL ½ HOUR ARMENIAN CONVERSATION
CLASS WITH SPECIALIZED TEACHER**



ONLINE REGISTRATION

[https://form.jotform.com/
212505583429154](https://form.jotform.com/212505583429154)

ONLINE PAYMENT

venmo@kirikianarmenianschool
(last 4 of cell - 3203)

CONTACTS

Ani@lacapan.com or
Talar@sarafian1.com

SOCIAL MEDIA

[https://www.facebook/
kirikianarmenianschool](https://www.facebook.com/kirikianarmenianschool)

www.armenianschoolstthomas.com

CURRICULUM

Armenian Reading, Writing, Conversation, Literature, History, Geography for Upper Grades, Religion, Dance, Badarak Hymns, Folk Songs, Arts & Crafts, Parties & Talent Shows

PROGRAMS

Special Toddler Program, Armenian Conversation
½ Hour Each Saturday, Chess

SPECIAL EVENTS

Armenia's Independence, Armenian Genocide, Easter Communion & Breakfast, Armenian Christmas, *Paregentahn* Party & Fair, *Hantes* & Graduation

FACILITIES

Classrooms, Computer Lab, Library, Church Sanctuary, Playground, Stage/Halls

174 Essex Drive | Corner of 9W & E. Clinton Avenue | Tenafly, NJ 07670 | (201) 567-5446

St. Thomas Armenian Church's
KIRIKIAN ARMENIAN SATURDAY SCHOOL

TODDLER PROGRAM

FOR **2½** YEAR-OLDS BY SEPTEMBER 1ST



ԽՕՍԻՆՔ ՀԱՅԵՐԵՆ ՈՒ ԵՐԳԵՆՔ ՀԱՅԵՐԵՆ



Indoor &
outdoor play



Developmentally
appropriate
curriculum



Play-based
learning



Բարի Գալուստ

2 ½ Year-Olds By September 1st • Optional Flexible Schedule • Rich Curriculum Includes Musical Instruments, Lots of Leg and Body Movement with Armenian Music, Blowing Bubbles and Much More • Singing • Fun Activities and Holiday Parties

Dual Language • Two Adult Armenian & English-Speaking Teachers • Strengthen Armenian Sense of Identity • Intro to Armenian Culture Through Play • Develop Sense of Belonging • Grow Up with Armenian Friends • Warm Nurturing Atmosphere In Small Groups

ENROLL NOW

INFO CONTACTS

Ani Capan at ani@lacapan.com or
Talar Sarafian at talar@sarafian1.com

<https://www.facebook/kirikianarmenianschool>
www.armenianschoolstthomas.com

174 Essex Drive | Corner of 9W & E. Clinton Avenue | Tenafly, NJ 07670 | (201) 567-5446



SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

AMAA NY/NJ Child Care Committee
Cordially Invites You to Join Us

CHILDCARE BENEFIT
EVENING

Dinner | Guest Speaker | Silent Auction

An evening dedicated to restoring
hope for children in need.

FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST

John Bilezikian, M.D.

World Renowned Endocrinologist
Columbia University

Sanzari's New Bridge Inn
NEW MILFORD, NJ

More Details To Follow



St. Thomas Armenian Church

Cultural Committee presents the
6th annual

STEAK & CIGAR NIGHT

September 25, 2026
7:30 pm

Donation \$125 pp by Sept.15th,
\$140 pp After Sept. 15th.
Includes Succulent Boneless Rib-Eye Steak,
Steakhouse Sides, and Cigars.
Cash Bar. No Walk-Ins.

For more info contact
Talar Sarafian at 201-240-8541 or
Diana Bourghol at 201-805-6721 or
visit the church's website:
www.stthomasarmenianchurch.com

174 Essex Drive, Tenafly, NJ 07675 | 201-567-5446



SCAN ME

Tekeyan Cultural Association Greater New York
in collaboration with the Armenian Radio Hour
of New Jersey presents



ROMANTIC SOUL: MASTERPIECES FOR PIANO TRIO

Featuring works by
*Khachaturian, Mendelssohn,
Naregatsi, Babajanian
and others*



**TANYA
GABRIELIAN**
piano



**ANI
KALAYJIAN**
cello



**ERIC
SILBERGER**
violin

Sunday, September 27, 2026

4PM

West Side Presbyterian Church
6 S Monroe St, Ridgewood, NJ 07450

Tickets \$75, \$50, \$40



Please send any information related to
Armenian Interests
e-newsletter to:

TalinKupelian@gmail.com

ST. MARY
ARMENIAN CHURCH

WOMEN'S GUILD
TRICKY TRAY DINNER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026
6 – 9 PM

Il Tulipano
1131 Pompton Avenue
Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

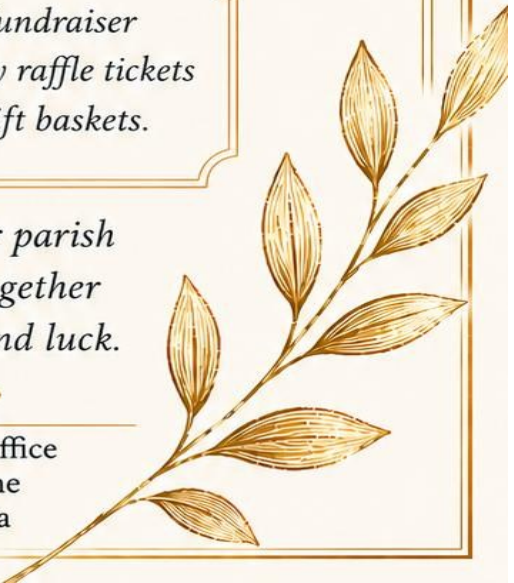
PLEASE RSVP TO
Barbara
at shishkabarb@optonline.net
by October 7

*Please join us in supporting our parish fundraiser
by purchasing an event ticket and Tricky Tray raffle tickets
for a chance to win one of our beautiful gift baskets.*

*Your support helps strengthen our parish
while bringing our community together
for an evening of fellowship, fun and luck.*

• \$85 PER PERSON •

For questions, please contact Church Office
at (973) 533-9794 or email to Roxanne
(rrpan2003@yahoo.com) or Angelica
(angledl2010@gmail.com)





BAIKAR WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

SAVE *the* DATE

10TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026



ST LEON CHURCH HALL
FAIRLAWN, NEW JERSEY

Details to follow!

THANK YOU FOR 10 YEARS OF
SUPPORT, TRUST, AND COMMUNITY.



LILIT PIROYAN

Armenian Singer/Songwriter

LIVE IN CONCERT

*A Special Afternoon of
Music and Culture*

 Sunday, November 22, 2026,
at 1 PM

 Saint Mary Armenian Church
Toufayan Hall
200 West Mount Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, NJ 07039

 Ticket: \$40

 Hospitality

For tickets, please call
the Church Office at
(973) 533-9794



Please send any information related to
Armenian Interests
e-newsletter to:

TalinKupelian@gmail.com



www.ArmenianHeritageCruise.com

ARMENIAN HERITAGE CRUISE[®]

JANUARY 16-23, 2027

Meet our 2027 ENTERTAINERS

Hamazkayin Ani
DANCE COMPANY

FROM CALIFORNIA



DJ Barko
EASTERN USA

Hye Kami
EASTERN USA



Armen Asayan
CANADA



Nersik & Arabo Ispiryan
ARMENIA



LEAVING FROM MIAMI
JANUARY 16, 2027

- 📍 Roatán HONDURAS
- 📍 Costa Maya MEXICO
- 📍 Cozumel MEXICO
- 📍 Ocean Cay BAHAMAS

book early! and secure your spot!



2027

RATES START AT...

PER PERSON BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY.
INCLUDES GOVERNMENT AND PORT TAXES.

INTERIOR CABIN



\$1,327

OCEANVIEW



\$1,597

BALCONY CABIN



\$1,952

YACHT CLUB



\$5,037

RESERVE YOUR CABIN WITH A DEPOSIT OF \$250
PER PERSON REFUNDABLE BY JULY 31, 2026

Contact TravelGroup at
561-447-0750 x102
866-447-0750 x102
ahc@travelgroupint.com
to book your cruise today!

TRAVELGROUP
INTERNATIONAL



www.armenianheritagecruise.com



SAVE *the* DATE

APRIL 10, 2027

Advertisers

Advertise your business in our newsletter

Consultations and requests to showcase personal advertisements
can be handled through contacting Talin Kupelian

All advertisements from sponsors are appreciated as they help us move forward

Please email your business card (2"x3.5") in JPG format to
TalinKupelian@gmail.com



Math Center of South Orange

59 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, NJ 07079

Prof. Vartan Abdo

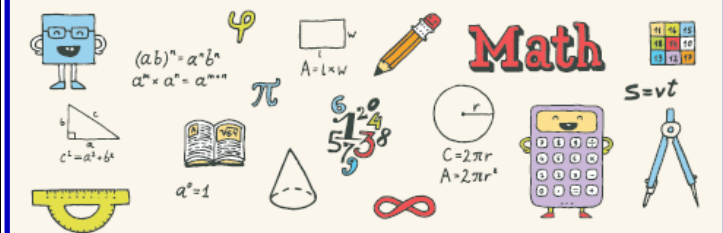
Algebra - Geometry - PreCalculus - Calculus ++

One-on-One, Small Groups, & Zoom Tutoring Sessions

High-school & College Level

Phone: (973) - 763 - 4447

Email: MathCenter@optonline.net



Math Tutoring by Talin K

TalinKupelian@gmail.com

201.873.6226

DIRAN JEBEJIAN
PHOTOGRAPHY

T: 201.370.1444 E: DIRAN@JEBEJIAN.COM
JEBEJIANIMAGES.COM

Toros Kapoian, MD
Nephrology

1 Diamond Hill Road, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922
T 908.277.8649 F 908.277.8808

6 Brighton Road, Clifton, NJ 07012
T 973.433.9384 Ext. 6 F 908.277.8808

summithealth.com



KABCO
BENEFITS GROUP LTD

DICKRAN KABARAJIAN | CLU

V 631 424 0627 F 877 389 4025

DKABARAJIAN@KABCOBENEFITS.COM

Your Home for Insurance Solutions, Individual & Group Health
Medicare, Life, Disability, Long Term Care, Business & Home Ins.
www.kabcobenefits.com



ColumbiaDoctors

Ani Nalbandian, MD, MS

Assistant Professor of Medicine

Cardiology, Cardiac Intensive Care & Cardiac Amyloidosis

Milstein Family Heart Center

173 Ft. Washington Ave, 4th Floor, Suite 606

New York, NY 10032

212-305-3702 212-342-5584 Fax

www.columbiacardiology.org

NewYork-Presbyterian
Columbia University Medical Center

Advertisement Section

Consultations and requests to showcase personal advertisements can be handled through Talin Kupelian. All advertisements from Sponsors are appreciated as they help us move forward. **Email:** TalinKupelian@gmail.com

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

**Your
Advertisement
in this Box**

Armenian Interests Editorial Board



Vartan Abdo
Director



Talin Kupelian
*Managing Editor
Design & Layout*



Rafi Krikorian
*Email Distribution
Website Manager*

**We are on
Facebook, Twitter & iHeart
We are wherever you are
Armenian Radio Hour NJ**

**Interested in receiving a copy of
ARMENIAN INTERESTS?**

**Simply go to
www.Armenianradionj.net
and click the
subscribe button**

**Listen to the
Armenian Radio Hour NJ
Every Sunday on
WSOU 89.5FM
2:00-4:00PM**

Armenian Interests e-newsletter serves all Armenian non-profit organizations and churches. We gladly post all flyers and press releases submitted by officers of the organization. Information makes us all a better and healthier community.

We request that the information be sent to us two weeks in advance, so that we can serve the community better.
(Please read our policy in the [Calendar of Events](#) section)

**Please email all submissions to:
TalinKupelian@gmail.com**

Thank you!

**This newsletter was prepared with the highest attention to accuracy and detail
We apologize for any unintentional omission or accidental misprint**

We thank all our readers for their continuous support and contribution to *Armenian Interests*

OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

RADIO NEWSLETTER



Vartan Abdo
Founder & Director



Talin Kupelian
Managing & Layout Editor
Armenian Interests Newsletter



Rafi Krikorian
Website/Email Manager



Haig Kupelian
News in Armenian



Serge Panossian
Chief Technical Engineer



Lori Kupelian
Video Production & Editor



Florence Avakian
News in English



Seta Jebejian - Cultural
Temker yev Tebker



Zarmine Boghosian
Literary Segment



Hagop Dishoyan
Engineer Announcer
Tech Manager & IT



Mihran Maldjian
Engineer Announcer



Nubar Nalbandian
Engineer announcer



Kayla Bajakejian
Engineer announcer



Greg Varjabedian
Engineer announcer



Isabel Vartanian
Engineer announcer

Alumni Senior Volunteers who are always willing and able to assist:
Taleen Babayan, Diran Jebejian, Katya Kupelian, Anush Gulian,
Nora Janikian, Nareg Panossian, Armen Panossian