

---

---

# Trumbeta Shqiptare

---

---

Volume 93

June 2014

---

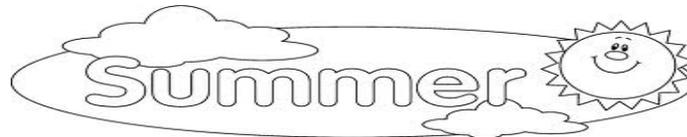
---

The Official Publication of the Albanian-American National Organization, Inc.



*“We, American citizens and Canadian citizens, of Albanian descent and others interested in Albanian-Americans, desiring to form and perpetuate a federation and promote its objectives and principles; to effect a perfect and harmonious understanding between ourselves and others, to promote the cause of good citizenship in the country in which we live; to stimulate the spirit of good fellowship and good cooperation; do hereby establish and ordain these By-Laws.”*

**Please visit us at: [www.AANO.org](http://www.AANO.org)**



---

---

## Inside This Issue:

<b>3-4</b>	President's Message
<b>4-8</b>	Chapter Activities, 68 <sup>th</sup> Convention Flyer
<b>8-14</b>	Award Winners, Social News
<b>15-17</b>	Cultural, Albanian Recipes

---

---

*Published Two Times A Year By  
The Albanian-American National Organization, Inc.  
Website: AANO.org*

**2013-2014  
NATIONAL OFFICERS & BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

<p><b><u>PRESIDENT</u></b> <b>John Lulgjuraj</b> 5601 Mariner Street, Ste. 475 Tampa, FL 33609 Home: (727) 394-8895  <a href="mailto:tsitampa@msn.com">tsitampa@msn.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>VICE PRESIDENT</u></b> <b>Nerita Veliu</b> 4231 Cambridge Crescent Drive Troy, MI 48085 Home: (248) 524-0902  <a href="mailto:neritaveliu@hotmail.com">neritaveliu@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>TREASURER</u></b> <b>Richard Rafail</b> 41 Thatcher Avenue Harrison, NY 10528 Home: (914) 843-7629  <a href="mailto:rrafail@yahoo.com">rrafail@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>SECRETARY</u></b> <b>Blerina Vila</b> 12075 Monsbrook Drive Sterling Heights, MI 48312 Home: (586) 978-4215  <a href="mailto:vilabler@msu.edu">vilabler@msu.edu</a></p>
<p><b><u>SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS</u></b> <b>Gayle Orlow</b>  Home: (631) 577-0032  <a href="mailto:gorlow@comcast.net">gorlow@comcast.net</a></p>	<p><b><u>SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING</u></b> <b>Lea Bitta</b> 616 North Thistle Lane Prospect Heights, IL 60070 Home:  <a href="mailto:e.bitta@att.net">e.bitta@att.net</a></p>	<p><b><u>TRUMBETA SHOIPTARE</u></b> <b>Linda George</b> 100 Piedmont Street Worcester, MA 01609 (508) 757-9548  <a href="mailto:lgeorge@holycross.edu">lgeorge@holycross.edu</a></p>	<p><b><u>PUBLIC RELATIONS</u></b> <b>Miray Karabulut</b> 32320 Wing Lake Road Franklin, MI 48025 Home: (248) 626-9077  <a href="mailto:miraybk@umich.edu">miraybk@umich.edu</a></p>
<p><b><u>WEBSITE</u></b> <b>Nevrus Muftari</b> 6531 Hubbard Street Garden City, MI 48135 Home: (734) 355-1222  <a href="mailto:nmuftari@hotmail.com">nmuftari@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS</u></b> <b>Paul Apostol</b> 71 Hubbs Road Ballston Lake, NY 12019 Home: (518) 877-7639 <a href="mailto:papostol@nycap.rr.com">papostol@nycap.rr.com</a> <a href="http://www.AANO.org">www.AANO.org</a></p>	<p><b><u>ALBANY</u></b> <b>Philip Christo</b> 53 Wellington Road Delmar, NY 12054 Home: (518) 439-0998  <a href="mailto:Philip982@yahoo.com">Philip982@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>BOSTON</u></b> <b>Shpresa Theodhosi</b> P.O. Box 437 Sharon, MA 02067 Home: (781) 784-9113  <a href="mailto:ss@theodhosimichael.com">sst@theodhosimichael.com</a></p>
<p><b><u>BRIDGEPORT</u></b> <b>Elsie Gartsu</b> 21 Mohawk Drive Trumbull, CT 06611 Home: (203) 261-6601  <a href="mailto:elsiegartsu@aol.com">elsiegartsu@aol.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>CHICAGO</u></b> <b>Olga Titos</b> 362 Sundance Drive Bartlett, IL 60103 Home: (630) 837-5875  <a href="mailto:olgal214@sbcglobal.net">olgal214@sbcglobal.net</a></p>	<p><b><u>CLEARWATER</u></b> <b>Metat Idrizi</b> 510 Island Way Drive Clearwater, FL 33767 Home:  <a href="mailto:metatidrizi@aol.com">metatidrizi@aol.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>DETROIT</u></b> <b>Julia Black</b> 2551 Voorheis Waterford, MI 48328 Home: (248) 682-7479  <a href="mailto:julialisablack@hotmail.com">julialisablack@hotmail.com</a></p>
<p><b><u>NEW YORK</u></b> <b>Richard Rafail</b> 41 Thatcher Avenue Harrison, NY 10528 Home: (914) 843-7629  <a href="mailto:rrafail@yahoo.com">rrafail@yahoo.com</a></p>	<p><b><u>PHILADELPHIA</u></b> <b>Paula Bendo</b> 335 Carlisle Drive Avondale, PA 19311 Home: (610) 268-0236  <a href="mailto:jamesbendo@comcast.net">jamesbendo@comcast.net</a></p>	<p><b><u>WASHINGTON</u></b> <b>Kreda Boci</b> 21913 Larchmont Way Broadlands, VA 20148 Home: (202) 215-3503  <a href="mailto:kboci@gwu.edu">kboci@gwu.edu</a></p>	<p><b><u>WORCESTER</u></b> <b>Nancy Capstick</b> 15 Ellis Drive Worcester, MA 01609 Home: (508) 753-7184  <a href="mailto:ncapstick@hotmail.com">ncapstick@hotmail.com</a></p>

Trumbeta Shqiptare is the official publication of the Albanian-American National Organization, Inc., and is distributed to members of this Organization in the United States and Canada. **THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN TRUMBETA SHQIPTARE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE A.A.N.O., INC.**



**Albanian-American**  
*National Organization*

June 2014

### *President's Message*

Greetings to all,

For many of you, a long and unusually cold winter is finally over! To help forget the record-breaking snowfalls and the cold temperatures, we have just the right remedy for you, the white sandy beaches of Naples, Florida, and you don't have to wait till August! The 68<sup>th</sup> AANO Annual Convention is right around the corner, June 27-29, 2014. Naples Beach Hotel is ready for us, the beaches are white and clean, and the water will be just right. Couple this with some wonderful Albanian music and dance, food and great entertainment all weekend, provided by the one and only, Ermira Babaliu, a true star of Albanian music, and her group, and ending the event with a fantastic cruise on Sunday evening, it will be heaven on earth, which you do not want to miss!

Please visit our web-page at [www.aano.org](http://www.aano.org) and make your reservations today.

With the great help of the Albanian community in Naples, Florida, headed by a committee organized by Al Foundos, with the help of Romeo Terezi, Dodona Roboci and others, the preparations for our 68<sup>th</sup> Convention are going well.

On behalf of the AANO Executive Board and the Board of Governors, I would like to thank each and

### *Mesazhi i Presidentit*

every one of the great people in Naples for extending their hands and their hearts to the AANO.

I would like to thank the Board and the Chapters for their hard work to organize this event. We cannot forget that all of the wonderful people are volunteers who donate their time, efforts and resources to this great organization, whose objectives are:

- Perpetuate & celebrate Albanian Traditions & Customs
- Encourage friendship & unity among all Albanian-Americans
- Educate the general populace of the majesty of being of Albanian descent
- Supporting the educational pursuits of Albanian-American youth through our Scholarship Fund

I congratulate the scholarship winners this year, wishing them much success in their academic endeavors.

Special congratulations to the recipients of the 2104 AANO Annual Awards. And we have three well-deserving winners.

The recipient of the 2014 ***“Lifetime Achievement Award”*** is ***Dr. Ferit Murad***. In 1989, Dr. Murad was the recipient of the Nobel Prize in medicine.

The recipient of the 2014 ***“Albanian of the Year Award”*** is ***Mr. Romeo Terezi***, a businessman from the Albanian community of Naples, Florida, who has made major contributions to the community for many years.

The recipient of the 2014 ***“Community Service Award”*** is ***Dr. Ardian Kraja***, a community leader in the ever-growing Albanian-American community in Tampa Bay.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you in Naples, Florida, where white sandy beaches are awaiting your arrival. We promise that you will have a fantastic time.

Me shumë respekt,

**John K. Lulgjuraj**  
**National President**

**Albanian-American National Organization, Inc.**



**The National Board wishes  
each and every one of  
our members a Happy Summer !!**



**Albanian-American**  
*National Organization*

## **CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

### **The Albany Chapter**

The Albany Chapter met and held their annual elections. Plans are in the works for a summer picnic ... always a fun time !!

### **The Clearwater Chapter**

The Clearwater Chapter has been very busy ensuring a wonderful and enjoyable 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention for all in Naples, Florida. It promises to be a spectacular weekend so if you haven't already made your reservations, please do so before the deadline date of June 13<sup>th</sup>. All the information is included in the next few pages of this issue. Come on down and join in on the fun !!



**www.AANO.ORG**

**Like us on Facebook**  
**Albanian-American National Organization, Inc.**



# 68<sup>TH</sup> AANO Annual Convention

June 27, 28, 29, 2014

Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club  
Naples, Florida



## Culture – Scholarship – Fellowship

Our youth is our future. The education of our youth is of the greatest importance. It is for this purpose the AANO Scholarship Fund was founded in 1950 to support the educational pursuits of students of Albanian descent.

The AANO is a non-religious and non-political organization established in 1946 to perpetuate and celebrate those special things that come with our Albanian heritage.



## EVENT INFORMATION

### Friday, June 27, 2014

- Board Meeting in the morning
- Albanian Cultural Room
- Hotel Beach and Pool
- Dancing and Music

### Saturday, June 28, 2014

- Albanian Cultural Room
- Golf Outing – See below
- Afternoon at the Pool or Beach
- Explore Naples
- Cocktails starting at 6:00 p.m.
- Awards Banquet Dinner Dance (Cocktail Attire is required.)
- Presentation of Awards
- Music by Ermira Babaliu & Band
- Silent Auction

### Sunday, June 29, 2014

- Closed Board Meeting - morning
- Open General Meeting and Elections - afternoon
- Coffee and Pastries
- Closing

### Sunday Night Event -

- Cruise, Food & Fun!

*Check AANO.org for further details*

## GOLF OUTING

Imperial Golf Club  
Saturday, June 28, 2014

PLEASE SIGN UP with your:

\_\_\_\_\_

FULL NAME

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL

*Contact Person: Al Foundos  
Email: [alfoundos@aol.com](mailto:alfoundos@aol.com)*



**TICKET INFORMATION****RSVP BEFORE Friday, June 13th****WEEKEND:**

AANO Members	\$165
Non-AANO Members	\$175
Student	\$165
Children Under 16	\$ 50

**FRIDAY NIGHT:**

AANO Members	\$ 75
Non-AANO Members	\$ 85
Student	\$ 75

**SATURDAY NIGHT:**

AANO Members	\$110
Non-AANO Members	\$120
Student	\$110

**PAYMENT Due by June 13, 2014**

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please PRINT All Full Names included in your reservation:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

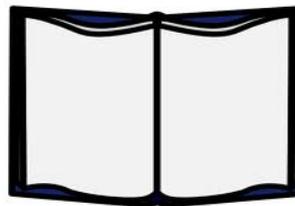
5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

Write separate checks for each event

**PAYABLE TO AANO, INC.****MAIL TO:**

Richard Rafail  
41 Thatcher Avenue  
Harrison, NY 10528  
914-843-7629

**AD JOURNAL ADVERTISEMENT****Commemorative Booklet**

_____ Gold Page	\$300
_____ Silver Page	\$200
_____ Full Page	\$100
_____ Half Page	\$ 75
_____ Quarter Page	\$ 50
_____ Photograph	\$ 25
_____ Booster Page	\$ 25

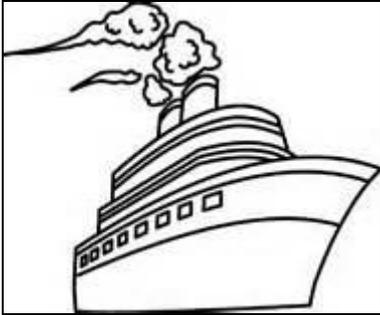
**AD JOURNAL DEADLINE****MAY 23, 2014****Please make checks payable to:****AANO, Inc.****Mail your ad and payment to:**

Lisa Gregory  
371 May Street  
Worcester, MA 01602

Email: [imgregory313@gmail.com](mailto:imgregory313@gmail.com)

***Reservations and Journal Ads may also  
be submitted on AANO.org***

## SUNDAY NIGHT CRUISE



The Sunday Night event features a cruise around beautiful Naples Bay. The open-air vessel is called the 'Double Sunshine' run by Pure Naples. The AANO has chartered the entire boat and will be doing valles and dancing up a storm to Albanian, as well as some American, music while watching the beautiful sunset from the boat. Expect to see beautiful enormous mansions in the Gulf and also the usual occurrence of seeing dolphins close up!

The event features a cash bar and some snacks. Tickets are first come first serve and we expect to have a great turnout to conclude the 68<sup>th</sup> Convention. Ticket prices are only \$18 for Children 16 and under, Children under 5 are free but must be accounted for and have a ticket in advance, and \$38 for Adults as long as they are purchased no later than **Friday, June 27th**. After June 27th, Children's prices will be \$20 and Adults will be \$40. Boarding time is at 6:45 p.m. with the ship leaving at approximately 7:00 p.m., returning to shore around 8:45 p.m..

You do not want to miss this spectacular event! You can mail in payment for your Sunday ticket to the same address with your regular ticket but please note what you are paying for and for how many adults and children's tickets you are purchasing. It is only approximately a \$10 dollar cab ride from the hotel to the pier.

If you have any questions, please contact Julia Black at [julialisablack@hotmail.com](mailto:julialisablack@hotmail.com) or 810-252-2083.

*Do not miss out on this fun event and opportunity to say bon voyage to your fellow Conventioneers!*

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club  
851 Gulf Shore Boulevard North  
Naples, FL 34102

[www.naplesbeachhotel.com](http://www.naplesbeachhotel.com)



**Reservations: 1-800-237-7600**  
**Mention AANO, Inc. Convention**

### SPECIAL ROOM RATES:

**Single/Double      \$139**

***Deadline: June 9, 2014***



### THINGS TO DO:

**Naples Pier**  
**Third Street South**  
**Fifth Avenue South**  
**Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens**  
**Conservancy of Southwest Florida**  
**Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary**  
**Sanibel Island Naples Botanical Garden**  
**Everglades**  
**Edison & Ford Winter Estates in Ft. Myers**  
**Miromar Outlet Stores in Estero, FL**  
**Coconut Point Shopping**  
**Waterside Shops**  
**Art Museum**

**Recipient of the AANO's  
"2014 Lifetime Achievement Award"**



**Dr. Ferid Murad, M.D., Ph.D.**  
**1998 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine**



Dr. Murad completed his undergraduate work at DePauw University and received his M.D. and Ph.D from Case Western Reserve University. He had a medical residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and a fellowship at NIH in the Heart Institute. He is currently a University Professor at George Washington University; he was on the faculty at the University of Virginia (1970-1981) as Director of the Clinical Research Center and Director of the Division of Clinical Pharmacology with appointments in Medicine and Pharmacology. He was Chief of Medicine at Palo Alto Veterans Hospital (1981-1988), Associate Chairman of Medicine (1982-1986) and Chairman of Medicine (1986-1988) at Stanford University. He was Vice President of Research and Development at Abbott Laboratories (1988-1993) and Professor at Northwestern University. Dr. Murad worked at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston as Chairman of Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology at Medical School (19997-2005) and as Director (1999-2007) and Director Emeritus (2007-2010) of Institute of Molecular Medicine.

Dr. Murad has been active in both academic medicine and industry throughout his distinguished career. He has founded or co-founded five biotechnology companies and has advised many cities and government leaders about technology development. His work has concentrated on the field of cell signaling and signal transduction systems. In 1998, Dr. Murad received the **Nobel Prize in Medicine** for his work with nitric oxide, a colorless odorless gas that signals blood vessels to relax and widen, which in turn lowers blood pressure. He continues research which leads to a better understanding of how information is transmitted between the cells. Among his many awards and honors, Dr. Murad received the prestigious Albert and Mary Lasker basic Medical Research Award in 1996, the American Heart Association Ciba award in 1988, and the Baxter

Award for Distinguished Research in the Biomedical Sciences from the Association of American Colleges in 2000. He also received the American Society of Clinical Pharmacology Distinguished Research Prize in 2005 and the President's Scholar Award from the University of Texas-Houston Health Science Center in 2006.

He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA, a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of several foreign academies as well as an Honorary or Adjunct Professor at a number of Universities. Dr. Murad also serves on the Board of Directors or Scientific Advisory Boards of a number of public and private companies and various foundations and universities. About 140 trainees have worked with him in his laboratories who are currently academic or pharmaceutical industry leaders around the world.

*(Excerpted from <http://albaniansuccessstories.com/ferid-murad/#sthash.fjJVGXb.dpuf>)*

***In Dr. Murad's words ...***

My father, Jabir Murat Ejupi, was born in Albania in 1892 and was the oldest of four children. His mother died when he was 13 years old. He and his family were shepherds and he subsequently ran away from home to sell candy in the Balkan countries as a teenager for several years. Although he had less than a year of education, he learned to speak seven languages before he died at the age of 84 in 1976. He met a group of other teenagers in Austria and they immigrated to the United States. The immigration officer at Ellis Island, August, 1913, asked his name, after which the officer declared him to be John Murad and stamped his papers. It was not uncommon to have names changed and abbreviated upon immigration. After working briefly in the steel mills and factories in Cleveland and Detroit, he settled in Chicago where he had several friends. His career was quite diverse and although he never admitted it, I learned subsequently from some of his colleagues that he was quite a playboy with fancy automobiles, perhaps the reason for my love of nice cars.

My mother, Henrietta Josephine Bowman, was born in 1918 in Alton, Illinois and was the third of six surviving children of Elizabeth Lillian and Andrew Orvie Bowman. My grandmother was a kind and wonderful woman. Only six of her eleven children survived due to stillbirths and some died of diseases and other conditions of poverty. My mother went to grade school for several years before she too quit to help her mother and younger siblings while her mother and two older sisters went to work. My

grandfather was a carpenter who generally worked part-time and frequently spent his modest paycheck at the local bars before going home. The childhood poverty of both my parents and their minimal education did much to influence me and my two younger brothers in our education and career choices. One brother became a dentist and the other a professor of anthropology with a PhD degree.

From *Les Prix Nobel. The Nobel Prizes 1998*, Editor Tore Frängsmyr, [Nobel Foundation], Stockholm, 1999

This autobiography/biography was written at the time of the award and later published in the book series *Les Prix Nobel/Nobel Lectures/The Nobel Prizes*. The information is sometimes updated with an addendum submitted by the Laureate.

Copyright © The Nobel Foundation 1998

**Recipient of the AANO's  
"2014 Albanian of the Year Award"**



**Romeo Terezi**



In 1990, Romeo Terezi, at the age of 24, emigrated from Albania to the United States with his wife Adriana. His great uncle, Foti Kosta, was responsible for bringing him over from Albania and helped him get settled in Miami, Florida as a new immigrant. It is interesting to note that Foti Kosta, a very successful businessman from St. Louis and Miami, at the age of 80 years, visited Albania with his wife and decided to stay in Communist Albania from 1979 to 1989. He stayed with the Terezi Family, providing help to the family, as well as many other neighboring families. Hence, he considered the Terezi children as his own.

Mr. Terezi was born in 1966 in Bilisht, Albania, near Korça. In 1988, he completed his elementary and high school education in Bilisht. He graduated from the University in Tirana with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. For the first three

years in the U.S., he worked in restaurants doing various work, from a busboy, waiter and bartender. In 1993, Mr. Terezi, moved to Naples, Florida and established a partnership with Chris Karakosta as the proprietors of Mel's Diner in Fort Myers. In 2000, they opened a second diner in Bonita Springs, followed by a third in Cape Coral in 2006. Within a few years, the company grew from 25 to 210 employees.

It is important to note that Mr. Terezi and his brother, who also owns two Mel's Diners Restaurants, have extended their helping hands to the many Albanian immigrants in the Naples area. Over the years, the Terezi brothers, have employed and continue to employ several hundred new arrivals from Albania and have extended an enormous amount of help to the many newcomers to get established.

Mr. Terezi's community activities are many. He helped establish the Albanian School in Naples, which is attended by many Albanian-American children. The school continues to be a tremendous success. In 2013, the school sponsored the Flag Day (Ditën e Flamurit) celebration, with over three hundred participants. The Terezi Family provided the catering for the affair.

Among many other community activities, Mr. Terezi has been active in real estate activities in the Naples, Fort Myers, and Cape Coral area. He is an active member of St. Katherine Orthodox Church in Naples and presently serves on the Board as Vice-President of the Church Council. He continues to provide generous support for various church functions.

His commitment to help others in need, at any time, is an excellent example of a model citizen, which the Albanian-American community in Naples, Florida is fortunate to have.

Mr. Terezi and Adriana are blessed with two wonderful daughters, Anna Maria, 19, and Adora, 13. Mr. Terezi, along with his brother Kostika and the family, were able to sponsor and bring to live in Florida, their sister and family, and their father. All of them reside they in Naples.

**REMINDER ...**



***If you have any news, or newsworthy articles, you would like to see included in Trumbeta Shqiptare, please forward the information to the editor.***

***Thank you for your continued support!***

**Recipient of the AANO's  
"2014 Community Service Award"**



**Dr. Ardian M. Kraja**



Dr. Kraja lives in Largo, Florida, with his wife Tatjana Kraja, and their two children, daughter Gearta (20) and son Denis (14). He was born in City of Puka, Albania in 1968.

Dr. Kraja graduated from medical school at the University of Tirana in 1992. From 1992 until 1996, he worked as a physician in the City of Shkodra. From 1996 to 2000, he specialized in orthopedics at the Military Hospital in Tirana, followed by additional studies in Germany, Switzerland, Greece and Italy.

After completing his studies, in 2003 Dr. Kraja served with the Albanian Peacekeeping Forces in Iraq, serving in the capacity of medical doctor of the Special Forces. Upon his return from the Iraq mission, his dream came true, as he was selected, through the lotto-drawing, to emigrate to the United States in 2005, along with his family.

Arriving in the U.S. was an exciting journey, but also very challenging. His immediate goals were to see if he could pursue his profession. After a few years of hard work, affording much energy and family sacrifice, he succeeded at passing all the required tests with flying colors, hence, achieving the goals of being able to practice medicine. He is now waiting for the residency papers, a process which, in some cases, can take up to three years.

While working and studying everyday, Dr. Kraja always found time to get involved and make invaluable contributions to the Albanian-American Community in Clearwater, Florida. In 2009, he volunteered to co-host, and occasionally host, the Albanian radio hour, providing the listening audience with invaluable medical and health information.

In 2012, with the help of a few friends, Dr. Kraja founded the Albanian Heritage Foundation of Tampa Bay, a non-profit foundation, where he served as the President. The main

objectives of the organization is to help preserve the Albanian culture, language and the special traditional values and virtues, which are a part of our rich heritage, and to ensure the safeguarding of these values for future generations.

Since his arrival in the U.S., Dr. Kraja has played an instrumental role at bringing the community together through a variety of activities, such as organizing Albanian musical events, New Year's Eve party events, Mother's Day gatherings, and other festive occasions where Albanian music, culture and environment were the prime objectives.

This year, the Albanian Heritage Foundation of Tampa Bay created the Albanian dance group "Shqiponja" (The Eagle). The group has represented the Albanian-American community of Tampa Bay in several international events, such as the International Festival held in St. Petersburg each year. This dynamic dance group, dressed in colorful traditional costumes representing all of the regions of Albania, and dancing the beautiful dances from all the regions as well, was an immediate hit with the audiences in every event. Now, the group is expanding with new members and practicing and learning new dances each week.

In recognition and to celebrate "Teacher's Day" this year, the Albanian Heritage Foundation of Tampa Bay has opened the Albanian Language School, "Illyria," where Albanian-American youth will be able to attend classes each week to learn the beautiful Albanian Language.

Dr. Kraja, through all the challenges that he and his family have encountered, during the early years coming to America, he has managed to become a true leader of the community.

We congratulate Dr. Kraja for the well-deserved "**Community Service Award**" and wish he and his family good health and happiness, and continued success in his professional and community life.

**GET CONNECTED !!!**

**VISIT THE  
A.A.N.O. HOME PAGE**



**www.AANO.ORG**

**If you have information for the Home Page,  
contact Nevrus Muftari:**

**(734) 355-1222 or [nmuftari@hotmail.com](mailto:nmuftari@hotmail.com)**

## ***SOCIAL NEWS***

### ***Weddings & Engagements***



#### **Bridgeport**



Jonathan Michael married his longtime girlfriend, Sanja Gerskovic, in 2013 and they continue to reside in Bath, Maine. They welcomed their first daughter into the world, Alexandra Illyria, on May 2 2014.

**Të trashëgoheni dhe jetë të lumtur!**

### ***Birthday/Anniversaries***



#### **Detroit**

Congratulations to Hasan Premtaj who recently celebrated his 90th birthday in style surrounded by family and close friends. Hasan and his wife Nake also recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary so they and their family have so much to be thankful for this year. We wish them many, many more.

Congratulations to the Albanian Community in Detroit on their 60th Anniversary of the **Teqe Bektashiane** this past May. The community should be commended for having the fortitude to keep it going. It was a beautiful event with dignitaries from various churches and other countries, as well as ambassadors being in attendance. We wish them much more than another 60 years!



**The First Bektashi Teqe in America**

### ***Babies***

#### **Detroit**

Congratulations to Shpresa Muftari Veliu and Afrim Veliu on the recent birth of their first child, a beautiful baby girl. Both families are crazy about her already and we wish her a long and happy life.

Congratulations to Xhenis Turhani Levack and her husband Marc on the recent birth of their son Dashiell, known as Dash, born in April. We are very happy for them.

Congratulations to Besnik Aliko and his wife on the birth of their son Sidney. The birth of that beautiful baby boy has brought so much happiness to their family since he is the first grandchild out of four siblings. Besnik's mother and sisters are all extremely happy.

Special congratulations to Ermira Babaliou on becoming a grandmother for the first time. It is hard to believe that a grandmother could sing and

perform like she does. She is very excited about the baby and for her daughter and her husband. We look forward to seeing her perform at the upcoming Convention in Naples!

**May God bless all our new little ones with a long and healthy life. Për shumë vjet!**

## Academic & Class Notes



### Albany

Angelica (Apostol) Greco will be attending Maria College in the Fall where she will be working towards a Registered Nursing degree, right after she and husband Dustin and son Christian return from a well-deserved vacation on Cape Cod.

### Chicago

Wendi Guraziu, daughter of Ben & Ariana Guraziu, has been accepted at and will be attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a major in Biology. Wendi and Ariana are new members to the Chicago Chapter. We wish her the best of luck.

Llambi & Etleva Teli's daughter Erla is graduating this year and will be attending Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, California this fall. She is planning to major in Business Management with a minor in French. Erla and her family have attended the AANO Conventions for many years. We wish Erla all the best.

## Promotions/Achievements

### Detroit

Congratulations to Alexandra Black Wilson on her recent promotion to District Court Administrator where she will be in charge of the entire district court system for her district. In the same week, she

also got a job as an assistant professor at a local university and will be doing that also in the evening. Cudos to her on her recent successes and good luck in balancing all of that, her two young daughters, and all the other activities!

Congratulations to Past Presidents of the AANO, Julia Black and Al Foundos on being among the honorees of the recent project called "*Albanian American Success Stories*." The event was held in New York's Battery Park in May and was beautiful, including a red carpet, video presentation, band, celebrities, and a lot of press. Other pertinent AANO honorees included previous "*Albanian of the Year Award*" winners Fadil Berisha and Tony Dovolani, this year's "*Lifetime Achievement Award*" winner Dr. Ferid Murad, previous "*Lifetime Achievement Award*" winner William Johns, and prior queen contestant Jessica Lulgjuraj. The project which Vera Mjeku won the "*Community Service Award*" last year for this undertaking involved a lot of travel to many cities to get videos, pictures, and stories from the honorees. It culminated in a dinner gala with a beautiful video presentation and a beautiful book which was given to all of the many attendees, including some of the AANO National Board who represented the Organization very well.

**Albanian American Success Stories** Like us on Facebook

Albanian Media Group • Fadil Berisha Studio • kaef

**An Extravagant Gala Affair**  
Celebrating  
the success of over 150 Albanian Americans

 EMINA CUMANILA Actress	 DR. FERID MURAD Nobel Prize Winner	 ELIZA DUSHKU Actress	 TONY DOVOLANI Nobel Peace Prize Winner	 JAMES BELUSHI Actor
 GJON MEXI Entrepreneur	 HOLLY BERRY NFL Sports Reporter	 YLLKA GANA University of Alabama	 KATRINA BOCCI Journalist/Reporter	 MARK GJONI Actor

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014 7:00PM**  
Battery Gardens, Inside Battery Park on the Water, NYC

Red carpet celebrity event — Keynote speakers — Networking with noted Albanian Americans — Documentary Silent Auction — Dinner — Music — Dance — Unveiling of Albanian American Success Stories coffee table book

## *Obituaries*

### **Detroit**

Condolences to the family of Chuck Banush on his recent passing. His children have been longtime AANO supporters. May his memory be eternal.

Also, condolences to the family of Aldina Malushi on her recent passing. Her family has also been actively supporting the AANO for many years.

### **Worcester**

Demetra Peters passed away on January 15, 2014 at the age of 92. Her husband, Christie Peters, died in 1961. She is survived by her son, R. Norman Peters and his wife Loretta of Paxton, her daughter Nancy Dhoku of Burlington; three grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and her brother William Poce. Her son-in-law, Ronald T. Dhoku predeceased her.



Demetra was born in Korça, Albania and immigrated to Hudson, Massachusetts at the age of three. Demetra was very proud of her Albanian heritage. She was invited to escort Mother Theresa, on her visit to Boston and was in the platform party at The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester when Mother Theresa received an honorary degree. She cherished the dialogue and the privilege to be with Mother Theresa. She took great pride in meeting and hosting many Albanian immigrants who came and settled in Worcester, helping them to get jobs and assimilating in the community. She enjoyed co-hosting the Albanian Radio program in Worcester.

She was a member of St. Mary's Albanian Orthodox Church and a volunteer at the Worcester Art Museum. **She was an enthusiastic supporter of the Albanian American National Organization and its Scholarship Fund.**



Andrew Petro passed away May 6, 2014 at the age of 80. He leaves his wife of 58 years, Florence (Vasel) Petro, 3 sons, Gary, Paul, and Jon and their families, grandchildren, a brother, Peter Petro, a sister Tefta Pojani, brother-in-law and sister-in-laws and several nieces and nephews.

Spresha (Sthika) Giantris passed away on May 13, 2014 at the age of 92. Her husband William died in 1991. She leaves 3 daughters, Carol Vasil, Dorothy Miceli, and Stephanie Warner, and their families, sister Olga Nicholas of Worcester, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her daughter Kathleen.

**I Përjetshëm Kujtimi i Tyre!  
May their Memories be Eternal!**

## *Kosova Independence Day*



**Boston** – On Saturday, February 15, 2014, about 300 Massachusetts Albanians braved the cold winter storm and gathered together to celebrate the 6th anniversary of Kosova's Independence, organized by Kosova Boston Society. Leading the valle is Klodjan Pepi.

*Photo courtesy of photographer Bujar Veselaj*

## News and Events from the Washington, D.C. Chapter

The Washington, D.C. Chapter hosted another successful Flag Day party on November 23, 2013. Over 120 people joined this fun and exciting event for the Albanian community. It has now become a tradition for the Northern Virginia Albanian Community to celebrate such an important event.



President Iris Maluka Welcoming Guests



Having a good dancing valle!



Mini- Albanians having a great time!



Mother's Day is another annual event hosted by our Chapter. This year, we were delighted to announce that Cate Lineberry was our our guest speaker for this event. She signed and promoted her book "The Secret Rescue: An Untold Story of American Nurses and Medics Behind Nazi Lines". The trailer of the book can be seen at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5EAHLytu7BI>

Again, over 130 Albanians joined this fun day for us. The AANO Washington, D.C. Chapter is very active in our community and continue to grow in the Washington, D.C. Metro area.





President Iris Maluka and Cate Lineberry presenting and promoting the book “The Secret Rescue: An Untold Story of American Nurses and Medics Behind Nazi Lines.”



Elsa Balla and Leo Cani performing traditional songs for Mother’s and Teacher’s day!



President Iris Maluka wishing Happy Mother’s Day to all the mothers!



Having a blast dancing Albanian Valle!!!

*Photos courtesy of Kreda Boci*



A flower for all the teachers presented by the young Albanian girls.



68<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Naples, Florida

Don’t miss out ... make your reservations now !!

Looking forward to seeing you all there for a wonderful weekend of sun, fun, dancing, cruising, and of course, good food and good friends !!

The Clearwater Chapter Welcomes You !!

## Documentary, Worcester speaker shed light on Albanians' rescue of Jews in WWII



*Rezarta Reso, a youth services librarian at the Worcester Public Library, learned as a child in Albania about how the Albanians rescued Jews during World War II.*

**By Richard Duckett  
TELEGRAM & GAZETTE STAFF**

When Rezarta Reso was 13 and living in her native Albania, her grandfather gave her "The Diary of Anne Frank" to read. "I read 'Anne Frank,' and then he told me the whole story," Ms. Reso said. It is the little-known story of how Albanians during World War II sheltered and saved more than 2,000 Jews, even though their small and impoverished country was occupied by Mussolini's fascist troops and then, in 1943, the Nazis.

Ms. Reso's grandfather, the late Bexhet Reso, had been active in the underground rescue effort, as had many Albanians. But subsequent talk of the remarkable events was suppressed by the isolationist, Stalinist regime of Enver Hoxha that took over Albania after World War II. Only in recent years as Albania has moved from hard-line communism to democracy have details about the rescue come more into public recognition.

"You know what, even the new generation of Albanians don't know about it," said Ms. Reso, who now lives in Worcester. "Thank God, now the doors have opened and information has come flooding from all over the place."

Ms. Reso spoke Sunday after a screening of the documentary "Besa: The Promise" that was put on as part of the 2014 Central Massachusetts Jewish Film Festival in conjunction with the Women's Guild of St. Mary's Assumption Albanian Orthodox Church.

"Besa" focuses on American photojournalist Norman Gerhshman, who visited Albania to photograph Albanians involved in the rescue and met a toy shop owner searching for the Bulgarian Jewish family his father had sheltered 60 years earlier.

Ms. Reso noted that the part Albanians played in

protecting Jews has been recognized at Yad Vashem, Israel's official memorial to the Holocaust.

Ms. Reso said her grandfather, who was a veterinarian, told her about people who stayed at the family house. Some were there for a short time before being moved by the underground, while others stayed longer.

Anna Sarpota and her two sons from Yugoslavia stayed for a year. Anna and Reso's grandmother became close friends, darning socks together.

A Polish engineer, Mr. Pozlovski, also stayed for a while. Elderly, very well educated, silent and strict in his behavior, he was known to tell Reso family members to "sit straight." He had become separated from his wife and didn't know where she was.

Albania historically has been a country of great religious tolerance, and Albanians have long been influenced by a moral code of conduct dating back to medieval times, Ms. Reso said. That canon of principles, "Kanun Leke Dukagjini," has at its core the concept of "Besa" (honor). "Besa means word of honor," which includes the obligation to "protect, help, give," even to total strangers who come to you looking for assistance, Ms. Reso said. "Shelter is part of the code. To break this word is the most shameful thing to happen to a family."

Before being forced into exile in 1939, Albania's King Zog had announced that all Jews living in Albania could obtain citizenship and receive asylum. "When the war started, the Jewish nightmare started being known," Ms. Reso said. Meanwhile, "Jews knew about Albania."

Albania had a tiny Jewish population before World War II, but more than 2,000 when it ended. Unlike other Axis-occupied countries, Albania had more Jews at the end of the war than beforehand.

Albanians at all levels were aware of what they and others were doing. "It was amazing (but) silent," Ms. Reso said. "These people need help; we're not going to talk about it." "

Amazingly, no Jews were apprehended in Albania to be sent away to concentration camps. One rescuer was executed, but Ms. Reso said his detention and death had more to do with him being involved with a group of communist resisters. For the thousands of other Albanians complicit in the underground rescue, "Not even captured, taken away. None."

There were plenty of risks, however, and with potentially dire consequences. Ms. Reso said that when her grandfather was asked about that, he would just utter, "mmmm hmmm, mmmm hmmm."

Albanians in Kosovo, then part of Yugoslavia, were sort of an advance lookout for Jewish refugees trying to flee. Many were escaping from Yugoslavia and Italy, but some, like Mr. Pozlovski, had made their way from as far away as Poland.

Ms. Reso said many Jews would be channeled from

Kosovo to northern Albania. The town of Shkrodra was often a stopping place, where Albanians would meet the refugees and take them to places spread out around the country. That included far-flung villages in the remote countryside. "These ignorant villagers in Albania — one day an unknown knocked on their door, and they opened it," Ms. Reso said.

"With what is going on in the world today, it is a beautiful example. I want little kids to learn how important it is to learn, love and help, instead of analyzing the religion or color or race or whatever."

## Central Mass Jewish Film Festival "Besá: The Promise"

In 1939, when the rest of Europe turned its back, King Zog announced that all Jews residing in Albania could obtain citizenship and receive asylum. But the Nazi's invaded, sending the king into exile and putting the Jews in jeopardy. In response, Albanian families, most of them Muslim, gave their sacred oath, known as the ancient besa, to protect the refugees. In 2002, American photo journalist Norman Gershman journeyed to Albania to find and photograph Albanians who had rescued Jews during World War II. There he met Rexhep Hoxha, a Muslim-Albanian toy shop owner who had been searching for the Bulgarian Jewish family, the Abadjens, sheltered by his father sixty years earlier. The film features Gershman's striking portraits, award-winning cinematography, and an original score by Philip Glass.

**Director:** Rachel Goslins, USA 2012, 86 minutes.  
Albanian/Hebrew with English subtitles.



## Writer Who Exposed Songbird Slaughter Applauds Albania's Hunting Ban

Novelist Jonathan Franzen's National Geographic story influenced the decision.



**Indiscriminate hunting of birds in Albania led to empty skies and a two-year ban on the practice.**

**PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID GUTTENFELDER, AP**

Rachel Hartigan Shea  
[National Geographic](#)

PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 10, 2014

*This interview was edited and condensed.*

Last July, novelist and bird-watcher [Jonathan Franzen](#) wrote a [devastating account for National Geographic magazine](#) about the mass slaughter of migrating birds across the Mediterranean. The situation, he wrote, was especially dire in Albania, which lies along a major migratory flyway. Due to indiscriminate hunting, the skies above Albania were literally being emptied of birds.

But not anymore. Thanks in part to Franzen's article, the Albanian government has declared a two-year ban on hunting. "This is really good news," says Franzen. "If you were to stop hunting in one place in Europe, you would want to stop it in Albania." National Geographic spoke with Franzen about the ban and what it means for the future of migrating birds.

**Why is Albania so important for birds migrating between Africa and Europe?**

There are three major flyways that migrating birds take to Europe. A really important one in the eastern Mediterranean is the Adriatic flyway. Along that entire Balkan coast, it's pretty much mountains and a few small deltas where rivers come out—except in

Albania, which has the greatest system of wetlands, I think, in the entire Mediterranean. It's a resting place for birds that have crossed the Mediterranean. They're about to go over the mountains to get to central and eastern Europe. For forever, they've been able to rest there and feed and fuel up for the final push over the mountains so they can reproduce.

#### How has hunting affected these migrations?

Every spring and fall millions of birds fly into Albania and very few get out alive. You have spectacles like 50,000 geese coming to escape an especially cold European winter and every last goose getting wiped out, including endangered species. You can see ducks flying back and forth offshore, unable to come in. They've just flown across the Mediterranean, flown across the Adriatic, but every time they try to come in to rest and feed, there are hunters all along the beach to shoot at them. People pull over at the side of the road and leap out with guns and fire at some bird they'd seen on a wire. These are totally unsustainable levels of shooting.

#### Albanians weren't the only ones doing the shooting, though.

Albania had become a destination for Italian tourist hunters because in the European Union, at least on paper, there are much stricter controls on what you can shoot and when you can shoot. I was there in March. These glorious wetlands, which should have been full of tens of thousands of birds, maybe hundreds of thousands, were essentially devoid of birds because there were these tourist hunting parties going out in boats day and night and shooting it up.



**PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID GUTTENFELDER, AP**  
A hunter peers from a tree stand on Lake Shkoder in Albania.

#### How will the government be able to enforce the ban?

It's rather easy. If you hear a gunshot anywhere now, you know that the law is being broken. The only way to approach the problem when you are a relatively poor country with reduced enforcement ability is a total ban. Some years ago, when Albania banned small boats off the shore because of problems with smuggling, this approach really worked. Even if you were legitimate, there was a ban, so you couldn't go out. I think the hunting ban is likely to have a substantial impact.

#### What do you think the future looks like for bird migrations in Albania?

A year from now, these wetlands that should be full of birds will be at least half full. The really critical habitat in Albania is already protected. The people in the environment ministry were smart. They said, "Even though we don't have the manpower to enforce this, we're going to get these preserves set up, on paper at least, so that when we have a ban or better enforcement they're there." The habitat that is protected now is sufficient to sustain millions of migratory birds.

#### How long do you think it would take for the bird populations to completely recover?

I'm not a scientist, so I don't know how long it would take to get stable or even increasing populations of these various migratory birds, but they're very resilient. If a duck is allowed to rest, feed, and recover for a few days in Albania before going on to its breeding ground, it can produce five or six offspring—half of which usually survive to return next spring. Birds reproduce well if they're given half a chance.

#### Where's the next place that you would like to see a hunting ban?

In terms of numbers of birds killed in the Mediterranean, Egypt is certainly the worst place. Given the political situation there, though, it's very difficult to imagine any kind of serious ban. What you can hope for in a place like Egypt is that there would be a ban on certain kinds of unfair technologies that are radically unsustainable—like the use of electronic playback [of birdcalls] and high invisible nets that catch everything coming off the water. If those were declared illegal, that would have a huge impact just by itself.

## ***Attention Past Scholarship Winners***



We would love to know what you're doing !!

Please send your information to Gayle Orlow ([gorlow@comcast.net](mailto:gorlow@comcast.net)) and list the year that you won your scholarship, where you attended school, your major, and what has transpired since. If you like, attach a photo.

We enjoy keeping up to date on our Scholarship recipients.

If you would like to make a donation to the AANO Scholarship Fund, please send your contribution to:

### **AANO SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**c/o Lea Bitta  
616 North Thistle Lane  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070**

**[e.bitta@att.net](mailto:e.bitta@att.net)**



**Donations to the Scholarship Fund are  
Tax Deductible**



**Albanian-American National Organization, Inc.  
(AANO, INC.)**

**Presents**

**The 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention  
The Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club  
Naples, Florida  
June 27-29, 2014**

***Make Your Reservations Now!!***

A great gathering of Albanian-Americans from all over the United States, inviting the Albanian Community of Naples for a weekend of fun, entertainment, dancing and fellowship, for young and old, preserving our Albanian Culture.

For details, please visit us at [www.aano.org](http://www.aano.org) or see Pages 5-7 for all the details.

**Organizata Kombëtare Shqiptaro-Amerikane, Inc.  
(OKSHA, Inc)**

**Zhvillon**

**Kuvënderin Vjetor dhe 68 Vjetore e saj  
The Naples Beach Hotel and Golf Club  
Naples Florida**

**Data: 27 - 29 Qershor, 2014**

***Bëni rezervimet tani!!***

Ky është një bashkim i mrekullueshëm i Shqiptaro-Amerikanëve nga të gjitha vëndet e Shtetet e Bashkuara të Amerikës dhe Kanada, kur ëe bashku me Shqiptarët e Naples dhe zonës përreth, në një fundjave argëtimi, vallëzimi dhe miqësie, të rinjtë dhe të moshuarit, do të mblidhemi për të kremtuar vlerat tona kombëtare dhe për të ruajtur Kulturën Shqiptare.

Për më shumë detaje, ndiqni në ditët në vazhdim, duke vizituar faqen tonë elektronike në internet:

**[www.aano.org](http://www.aano.org)**



**BEST WISHES FOR A  
SUCCESSFUL  
68<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION**



from the Law Office of Shpresa Idrizi, P.A.

**727-458-3701**

[www.idrizicriminaldefense.com](http://www.idrizicriminaldefense.com)



**SUPPORT THE AANO**



**ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE  
TRUMBETA SHQIPTARE!!**

***Advertising rates are as follows:***

**Full Page (\$200)  
Half Page (\$125)  
Quarter Page (\$75)  
Business Card (\$50)**

***For more information, please contact:***

**Richard Rafail  
National Treasurer  
(914) 843-7629  
[rrafail@yahoo.com](mailto:rrafail@yahoo.com)**

**Regency Hotel  
Korça, Albania**



**Regency Hotel Albania**

Rr. Ismail Qemali Nr. 7

Korça, Albania

Tel: 355-824-3868

Fax: 355-824-3870

- 18 Rooms and Suites
- Each room/suite with private modern bathroom
- Fully heated and air-conditioned year round with individual room controls
- Telephone and TV in each room
- Modern elevator for your comfort and convenience
- Restaurant & Bar with full services

**See our website:**

**[www.regencyalbania.com](http://www.regencyalbania.com)**



## ALBANIAN RECIPES

### TARATOR (YOGURT AND CUCUMBER SOUP)



*Tarator, a chilled yogurt and cucumber soup, superb for hot summer days, can also be used as a dip for seafood or a pour-over sauce for cauliflower, etc. (Serves 5)*

2 cucumbers, peeled and grated  
 1 garlic clove, peeled and crushed  
 2 lg. cartons of Albanian Style yogurt  
 1/2 cup water (optional)  
 1/4 tsp sea salt  
 2 tbsp dill, chopped  
 2 tbsp olive oil  
 Chopped walnuts (optional)

#### Directions:

Mix the crushed garlic and salt together and add to the grated cucumber. Put the yogurt in a large bowl and mix in the cucumber mixture. Depending upon the consistency and flavour of the yogurt you may wish to optionally thin-down the yogurt with the water. Taste and adjust seasoning. Drizzle with olive oil, sprinkle with chopped dill and the crushed walnuts if using. Refrigerate for a few hours before serving. Yummy!!!

## ALBANIAN RECIPES

### QOFTE TE FERGUARA (ALBANIAN FRIED MEATBALLS)



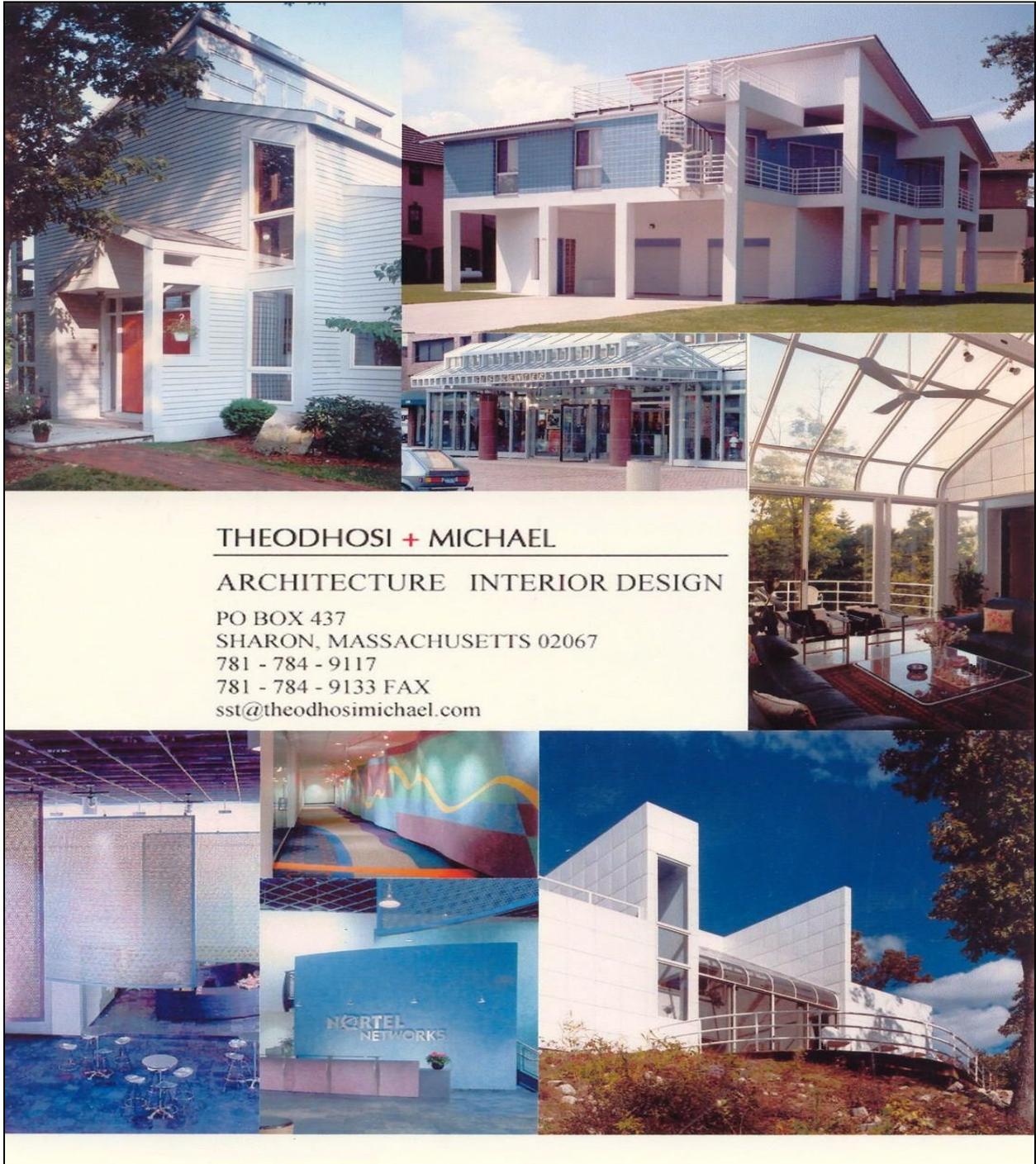
*Servings: 4*

#### Ingredients:

1 lb ground meat  
 1 slice stale bread  
 1 small onion, finely-grated  
 2 tablespoons chopped feta cheese  
 2 tablespoons bread crumbs  
 2 tablespoons oil or melted butter  
 1 tablespoon chopped parsley  
 Salt, Pepper  
 Mint  
 Oregano  
 1 cup flour  
 1 cup oil (olive oil recommended)

#### Cooking Instructions:

Soak bread in water and squeeze hard to drain. Add ground meat, bread crumbs, oil or melted butter, onion, parsley, salt, pepper, and mint. Mix thoroughly, and form into 1-inch thick patties, sprinkle with salt, pepper, and oregano. Roll in flour and fry in hot oil. Serve hot with French Fries or mashed potatoes.



THEODHOSI + MICHAEL

ARCHITECTURE INTERIOR DESIGN

PO BOX 437  
SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS 02067  
781 - 784 - 9117  
781 - 784 - 9133 FAX  
sst@theodhosimichael.com

Please visit our website  
**THEODHOSI + MICHAEL**  
**[www.theodhosimichael.com](http://www.theodhosimichael.com)**



**Vladimir Jacaj**  
Mortgage Broker  
President

2744 Summerdale Dr. N. #203  
Clearwater, FL 33761  
jacajv@aol.com

Office: (727) 799-1511  
Fax: (727) 799-1973  
Toll Free: (866) 799-1511

[www.firstinternationalmortgage.net](http://www.firstinternationalmortgage.net)

**For all your mortgage needs in Florida, our staff is ready to help with competitive rates and excellent service.**

**Me ne mund të komunikoni në gjuhën shqipe.**

First International Mortgage is an equal opportunity lender.



**New Vision Realty**

26222 US Hwy 19 North

**Vladimir Jacaj**

Clearwater, FL 33761

**President**

Office: 727-797-1227

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

Cell: 727-515-6004

**[www.newvisionrealtors.com](http://www.newvisionrealtors.com)**

For any real estate needs, if you plan to move to the beautiful Tampa Bay area, including Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Tampa and surrounding areas, buy a winter home, investment properties or business, our Albanian and English-speaking staff at New Vision Realty is ready to help you. Your best interests are our top priority. With us you have a choice.

**Please visit our website at [www.newvisionrealtors.com](http://www.newvisionrealtors.com)**

# Trumbeta Shqiptare



The Official Publication of The Albanian-American National Organization, Inc.

**A.A.N.O., Inc.**  
**Trumbeta Shqiptare Headquarters**  
**100 Piedmont Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01609**



