# Thessalonica Agricultural & Industrial Institute

# THE SOWET



Class of 1951

When The Love For A School Spans Generations





#### Chairman

David G. Acker

#### First Vice Chair Frances Manthos

**Vice Chairmen** George Milonas William A. Tsacalis

#### Secretary

Sophia S. Hartch

#### Treasurer

Constantine N Darras

#### Trustees

Deborah Androus William J. Bennington John R. Crunkilton Joannie C. Danielides Kim E. Dooley Annie Efstathiou Thymis Efthymiadis Christos S. Folias Seth E. Frank Alexander Georgiadis Constantinos Hadjiyannakis Barbara K. Heming Stephen W. King Phoebe Legakis Petros A. Levis Thanassis Martinos Daniel M. Morgan Elaine K. Nelson Stefanos Panteliades Nikolaos Pentzos Joel S. Post William L. Richter Peter Schube Manita S. Scocimara William A. Tsacalis Robert W. Uek Sharon W. Vaino Theodora Valentis

#### **Honorary Trustees**

Panayiotis Yatagantzidis

Antonis Anezinis Sheila Baird Peter Bien Phillip G. Foote Dimitri Gonticas Edmund Keeley Annie Levis John C. Lycouris Pantelis Panteliades Anastasia Pappas Aliki Perroti George B. Post Gail D. Schoppert Judson R. Shaver Susan Stupin

### **President**Panos Kanellis

Creative Directors

Elli Konstantinou Athina Peristeropoulou

# Contributing Editors Maggie Luttrell Outsios Maria Petrakis

Design

#### Blind Studio

Printing
Puritan Press Inc

## From the President

The vision of the American Farm School – to educate students to become responsible and conscious stewards of the land, scientists, leaders and citizens of the world – has endured difficult times in the past; challenges that made it even more necessary and relevant. The year 2020 was a time like that, not only for our institution but for the whole world. And as this year comes to an end, the American Farm School's vision proves – once again – its timeless character.

In spite of the difficulties plaguing Greece since the financial crisis, the academic year 2019-2020 began on promising footing. Our progress towards the year's goals was abruptly halted in February with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dealing with a global emergency presented a very new kind of challenge, but one which our students and staff responded to with the utmost efficiency. The academic year ended in the midst of a pandemic. With hard work and the use of modern technology, we managed to successfully continue providing knowledge at all educational levels.

Given the pandemic, the performance of our secondary education students at the national college entrance exams was remarkable: 70% of students will continue their studies at Greek universities, while 10 students were accepted to renowned universities in the U.S. on full scholarships, including Brown, Brandeis, Davidson, Pomona, and WPI.

In June 2020, Perrotis College received the initial recognition by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) as a "candidate institution" meeting the conditions to proceed to final accreditation and the faculty and staff continue to work towards this direction.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors in both Greece and the U.S. we remain on track to complete the Comprehensive Campaign, getting closer to our goal of \$23 million by 2022.

The year 2020 has been a difficult year for all humanity. Faced with the most difficult challenge of the century, individually and collectively, we addressed it as an opportunity to reexamine, regroup, and reshape our personal lives and the future of our institution. We – students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors – who constitute the fabric of the institution's resilience, were faced with dramatic challenges that needed to be addressed with determination, innovative thinking, and sacrifices. And we, individually and collectively, succeeded in doing so.

Thank you for supporting our vision. It remains strong because of you.

Sincerely,

Panos Kanellis, Ph.D.

President

American Farm School & Perrotis College

# US Ambassador to Greece and Consul General of Thessaloniki visit the AFS

The AFS was happy to welcome to campus the U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Geoffrey R. Pyatt, and the new Consul General of the U.S. in Thessaloniki, Ms. Elizabeth K. Lee, shortly after her appointment in late August. Ms. Lee, who was introduced to the Institution for the first time, spent the morning learning about the School's history, its academic programs, the Educational Farm, and the important role the School has played over the years in the region, and in Greece.

"It's always a great pleasure to be back on the campus of the American Farm School, really one of the crown jewels of the American educational legacy here in Greece and especially in Northern Greece. I am especially pleased to be introducing our new Consul General in Thessaloniki Liz Lee [...]. One of the distinguishing aspects of the Farm School for me is the very strong relationship with the United States, [...], so it's wonderful to be back on campus even at this unusual time", Mr. Pyatt said in his statement. He later concluded: "I promise that on the part of both the Embassy and also our new Consul General, we will continue our strong record of partnership with everybody here on campus".



From left to right: Mr. Geoffrey R. Pyatt, Ms. Elizabeth K. Lee, Dr. Panos Kanellis



# Back to School...and home again...

The school year started on a hopeful note – students of all ages returned to campus in the fall with perhaps more excitement and anticipation than any other year. After endless months of distance learning, sheltering in place, and general upheaval, they were finally able to interact with classmates and teachers, albeit with carefully instated preventative measures, and the diligent enforcement of COVID-19 guidelines.

Only a few days into November, the country entered its second national lockdown, once again forcing the closure of all

non-essential businesses and schools. While these are unwelcome developments, further pressuring Greece's vulnerable economy, the School is doing everything it can to ensure the highest level of instruction, as well as a sense of community for our students and their families. Since last spring, the Institution has been fully prepared to quickly transition to online instruction at all levels, with teachers, faculty, staff, and families rising to the challenge.

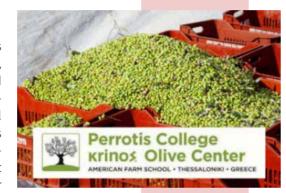
# **Perrotis College**

# News

# Perrotis College and Krinos Olive Center in Pan-Mediterranean Collaboration

Faculty and staff from Perrotis College and the Krinos Olive Center have begun working with partner institutions from Israel, Jordan, Cyprus, Spain and France on an exciting new initiative, ARTOLIO: Profitable and Sustainable artisanal olive oil industry in the Mediterranean. The project has received funding from ENI CBC Med, an EU funded program which promotes cooperation across the Mediterranean.

The project aims to assist small-scale olive producers whose businesses have become unprofitable due to small plots of land, limited manpower, and the impacts of globalization. The initiative will provide technical and business training in addition to hands-on support, to increase yield, improve quality, and produce resilient, profitable local enterprises. This will be accomplished by establishing Native Olive Regional Knowledge Centers (NOReKCs) in each region to assist local farmers, as well as a pan-Mediterranean network connecting the NOReKCs to share information and best practice. The collaborative project began in October 2020 and will run for 30 months.



# New Degree Programs at Perrotis College

Building on a reputation for offering practical and timely programs in fields related to agro-food and the environment, Perrotis College is expanding its portfolio of degrees by introducing several new majors.

The M.Sc. in Sustainable Agriculture & Management welcomed its first students in October 2020. The graduate program focuses on the development and utilization of sustainable crop production techniques to mitigate the effects of climate change and soil degradation, thereby increasing yields while decreasing negative impacts on the environment.

The undergraduate curriculum has been enhanced for the 2020-2021 academic year through the addition of two new degree programs, the B.Sc. in Environmental Science and the B.Sc. in Digital Marketing Management. The Environmental Science major focuses on the way in which past and current interactions between land, air, water and biological organisms influence environmental changes, and the impact these



interactions could have in the future. The Digital Marketing Management program aims to equip students with the skills needed to produce effective and engaging digital campaigns which complement traditional marketing efforts.

These new majors complement the existing degree programs, offering additional opportunities for students to gain knowledge and hone skills in fields of vital importance in today's changing world.

# **Secondary Education**

News

## Little Green Farmers

Little Green Farmers, a program undertaken in collaboration with AgroApps and co-financed through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and national funding, is a platform that promotes proper nutrition for children. By helping kids and their parents engage in the process of growing, preparing and understanding food, the Little Green Farmers aims to help families play an active role in providing healthy food choices for the entire family

Via an interactive digital platform, users can upload photos and videos of their crops, compare plant growth, and exchange ideas and tips. The platform will serve as a "toolkit" which will include an Al-powered educational chatbot, providing information on cultivation methods, as well as the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables within a fun and playful digital environment. Data will be collected from soil condition monitoring sensors (IoT) among other sources, to generate appropriate cultivation advice.

This entertaining format will encourage kids to take an interest not only in proper nutrition, but in growing their own food, and caring for the environment – be it at home, at school, or in their neighborhoods.

As "little" ambassadors for environmental awareness and mindful entrepreneurship, the AFS Elementary School students and their families serve as the exclusive beta-testers in the pilot program for the digital guide.



# Cyclical & Bioeconomy at Haseotes Middle School

It's never too early to find your calling! The Career and Learning Academy program at Haseotes Middle School allows students to explore and learn about different professions early on, so that they can start to think about possible career paths in a way that is both fun and informative. Part of the program has them participate in projects that relate to the professional and business worlds.

This last cycle saw our Middle Schoolers focus on the areas of bioeconomy and cyclical economy, in a thematic unit based on the award-winning learning scenario, "Don't waste your waste! – Raising bioeconomy awareness", created by Middle School teachers Olga Grigoriadou and Eleni Voukloutzi. In this sequence, our 8th graders created their own detergent using

natural products, while learning about the concept of bioeconomy, and how it integrates into various professions and businesses

To enhance the learning experience, representatives of "Staramaki" (a social cooperative enterprise that manufactures straws from wheat) presented the company's vision and innovative production process to the class. They discussed with our students the principles of social, sharing and cyclical bioeconomy on which the company was founded. A rewarding experience for all involved, students are looking forward to the upcoming segments in the Career and Learning Academy program.

# Historic High School Gets a Facelift

If COVID-induced distance learning has confirmed one thing, it's that surroundings can play an important role in the learning process. Having positive spaces to explore, move, create and socialize is truly something our students and parents have come to appreciate all the more as we navigate these turbulent times.

Luckily, once in-person instruction resumes, our High School students will get to enjoy the fully redesigned quad connecting James and Massachusetts Halls – the two classroom buildings that house the General and Vocational High Schools. This space, made possible thanks to a generous gift from First Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees and "Greek Summer" alumna Ms. Frances Manthos, had become a favorite meeting spot for students before the recent lockdown.

In keeping with the effort to promote a greener campus, the quad incorporates eco-friendly design elements in a manner that is both functional and fun. The new quad will soon be complemented by the renovation of Massachusetts Hall – a project sponsored by Trustee Stefanos Panteliadis and his brother Aristotelis Panteliadis in honor of their father, noted Greek businessman, esteemed Trustee emeritus, and AFS alumnus, Mr. Pantelis Panteliadis.



# High School Students Write Textbooks For The Elementary

After creating the educational website Edu4kids (https://edu4kids.webador.com/v-dimotikou), twelfth graders Konstantinos Andriotis and Daniel Kotorri decided to broaden their initiative by writing a series of educational workbooks with the help of fellow classmate Dimitris Graikos. The online platform was started in the hopes of helping younger students to stay engaged in the learning process during the pandemic by creating material that was both informative and entertaining. After receiving very positive feedback on the website, Andriotis, Kotorri and Graikos decided to expand the project to include workbooks, and were involved in every step of the process, from the selection of exercises and other learning materials, to the layout and final design of the book. To date they have produced textbooks for the 1st through 6th grades, and hope to continue to build their content library. To learn more about this project, follow them on Instagram at @edu4.kids.

# High Schoolers Get Published In Scientific Journal

At AFS, our students aren't just young researchers, they're published scientists! Staying true to the School's "learn-by-doing" principles, seven of our General High School students co-authored the paper "Study and creation of a seismograph for educational use" which was included in the peer reviewed *The Open Schools Journal for Open Science*. This is the first European peer reviewed scientific journal to accept original papers written by schoolage students in the areas of science, engineering and technology. The idea is to take students through the entire process of what it means to be a scientist – from the production of scientific data, to the dissemination of findings through the rigorous process of publication.

Under the guidance of physics teacher Nikos Pegiopoulos, members of the Robotics Club Konstantinos Andriotis, Dimitris Graikos, Daniel Kotorri, Konstantina Agapitou, Maria Ioannou, Dimitris Christou and Pavlos Azilazian wrote the paper to accompany their national award-winning seismograph. "Our primary goal in making a seismograph was to inform the general public about earthquakes so that there is a better response when these occur and fewer accidents as a result", explained one of the participants.

Projects like this are part of the School's wider effort to engage students in the sciences in a creative, learner-centric way. Afternoon workshops in physics, chemistry and biology, science clubs for astronomy, robotics, entrepreneurship, the environment, etc. are just some of the many ways that students can explore scientific learning beyond the classroom.

# Study USA Adjusts To New Restrictions

With universities in both the USA and Greece operating distance or blended-learning programs, and travel restrictions in place, AFS graduates commencing their studies in the US have had to adapt. Of the 10 class of 2020 graduates accepted to US universities, only three were able to join their classes in person for the first semester, while the other seven remained in Greece and completed their work remotely. Among the students in Greece, four are anticipating that restrictions will be eased enough for them to join their programs in January. Those who made it to the US received a warm welcome from a network of 'mentors', AFS alumni, Trustees and friends, who greeted them at the airport, provided accommodation, and ensured that they arrived safely at their schools with care packages of some basic necessities in hand.

Current High School seniors in the Study USA program continue to apply to their chosen institutions as usual, and await decisions. We wish them the best of luck!

# In Gratitude

The American Farm School thanks the following individuals, foundations, corporations and organizations for their generous support during the previous fiscal year, July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020. This support enables the institution to fulfill its mission of educating young men and women to become true stewards of the land.

# Donors in the United States 2019-2020

#### MAJOR BENEFACTORS - (\$100.000 + )

Aliki Perroti, Founder of Perrotis College Seth E. Frank

William J. Bennington

Burpee Foundation

Timothy E. & Sophia S. Hartch

Vasilios S. and Aphrodite B. Haseotes Family

Barbara K. Heming

Estate of Claire C. Katsanis

Stephen W. and Ashley King

Nicholas & Vicki Kvriakos

Frances M. Manthos

Daniel M. & Mayo Morgan

Valentios & Theodora Valentis

#### **BENEFACTORS - (\$25,000 + )**

David G. & Jane Acker Deborah Androus

The Androus Foundation

Sheila Baird

Gregor & Betty Calender

Hugh Cullman

Estate of Aristides Sideropoulos (AFS'51)

Estate of Darlene Y. Keeley

Annie Levis

Petros Levis & Ann McCalley

Gregory Maguire

Elaine K. Nelson

Stelios and Vaso Petsagourakis Foundation

Peter H. & Leona Schube

The New York Community Trust

Robert W. & Mary Uek

Demetrios N. (AFS '54) & Lydia Vlachos

#### **CHAIRMAN'S ASSOCIATES -**

Cleveland H. Dodge Foundation, Inc.

John R. & Sherry Crunkilton

Nicholas & Joannie C. Danielides

Demosthenis Raptelis Foundation

George (AFS President Emeritus) & Charlotte

General Mills Foundation Hometown Grantmaking Program

John C. & Cynthia House III

Jockey Hollow Foundation

N. Demos Foundation, Inc.

Peter M. & Virginia L. Nicholas, Sr.

Eriberto & Manita Scocimara

William A & Marie Tsacalis

Jaan E. & Sharon W. Vaino

Estate of Dean C. Zutes

#### 1904 FOUNDER'S CIRCLE - (\$5,000 + )

Daniel L. & Anne Bernstein

Estate of Ernest Thomas Chepou David Friedman & Sherry Kelly

Maria S. Gebhard

Alice L. Hansen

Charles F. Lowrey & Susan Rodriguez

William I. & Pamela Richter

The Hellenic Women's Club Inc.

#### STEWARDS - (\$2,500 + )

John H.† & Laura Cleave Alexander & Patty Doolas

Kim E. Dooley

Alex & Doris Malaspina

Jason L. Michel

Nuveen Benevolent Trust

William A Parkinson

#### SOWERS - (\$1,000 + )

David & Maria Carls

Sanders B. Cathcart & Barbara Higgins

Arthur & Patricia Dukakis

Mario & Linda Faustini

Haralambos & Loella Fekkos

David & Linda Hellmann

H. Daniel & Nancy Hull

Christine Kondoleon & Frederic Wittman

Anthony D. Kouzounis

Ross W. Larson, Jr Athena Papas

Mr. & Mrs. Anastasios Parafestas

Deborah J. Patterson

Nicholas Pisaris

Ronald I Romaniello Scott & Lynne Smith

Leon & Johanna Spanos

Edward Cooper Wynne Foundation

#### CONTRIBUTORS - (\$500 + )

AHEPA - LIBERTY CHAPTER NO.127 / Cincin-

nati AHEPA Foundation

Anastasia Boucouras

J. Michael & Elizabeth Chu Phillip G. & Mary Foote

Sam J. Galanis

William B. & Deborah McCrory

Brian & Djoana Miller

George B. Post

Thomas & Anna Povinelli

Amanda Spyrou

Chris C. & Linda Stephanides

William B. & Kim Strubbe

Katherine Tzortzidis

Theodore Vakrinos

Andrew & Heidi Williams

#### FRIENDS - (\$250 + )

David (AFS President Emeritus) & Patricia

Caroline D. Cox

Mary C. Dritsas

George J. & Cathy Florakis

David P. Foote

Barbara Harrison

Noah R. & Madge Levy

Demetra Merikas

Nicholas & Ruth Nikas

Stephen H. & Harley Osman

Lewis G. Parsenios

Matthew & Blaine Peck

Carl H. & Betty Pforzheimer III

Vasilis E. & Alice Riginos

Christie C. Salomon

Robert P. Sanders Wylie R. & Judith Sheldon

Katherine T. B. Sokoloff

Nancy Worcester

#### DONORS

Jack H. Alvo

Anonymous

Vasso Apostolides

Soterios & Demetra Argeroplos

Suzanne & Thomas Barton

Charles A. Balestri

Kiki Camarinos

John Pane & Flizabeth Bassett

Vermont Community Foundation

James L. & Josephine Bennington

George T. & Mary Jane Benis

Eugene N. & Kathleen Borza

John P. and Nancy J. Bassett Fund of the

James P. & Fllen Bassett

Nancy M. Carman

Nicholas & Faith Christy Edith M. Courtenay

Keith & Ann Dronen

Emanuel P. & Susan Fakoukakis

L. Jack & Judith Faling

James G. & Catherine Faller

Madeline Gelis

Denise & Evan Graf Jeanne Taylor & Vanburen N. Hansford

Heidi Hillenbrand

Louise & John Irving

Richard L. Jackson James F. & Barbara Jones

George & Diane Karampas

Dennis J. Keller Frances Kostarelos

Constantine D. Kyropoulos

Wesley E. & Chrisanthy T. LaBua

Paul Malaspina

Eva Mallis

Lazaros P. & Ivette Mayrides Elizabeth S. McLanahan

Donald M. & Evelyn Miller

Signe O. Mitchell

William F. Wulsin & Alexandra Moore-Wulsin

James E. & Katharine Morris

Arion & Maria Pattakos Gus & Jo Ann Perdikakis

Luther & Deborah Ragin Jr. Amher R. Randolph

Darlene L. Rhine

Aicaterini A. Sias

Sean & Laura M. Sommers Nicholas Stillman

David C. Stimson

Gretchen V. & Richard E. Swibold

George & Rosemary Tchobanoglous

Katharine M. Swibold & Jordan D. Becker

Andrew Tangalos

Christine Tsichlis

Theodore G. & Mary Vernardakis Henry & Marilyn Williams III

Women's Fellowship First Congregational

Carl T. Young Jr. James & Eugenia Zographos

## Donors in Greece 2019-2020

#### MAJOR BENEFACTORS (€100,000+)

Aliki Perroti, Founder of Perrotis College Seth E Frank

Thanasis & Marina Martinos AEGEAS Civil Company

Alumil S.A.

Epirus S.A.

Mr. & Mrs. Aristotelis Panteliades Mr. & Mrs. Pantelis (AFS'54) Panteliades

Mr. & Mrs. Stefanos Panteliades

Samourkas Foundation

Zoe Samourkas

#### BENEFACTORS (€25,000+)

Alpha Bank

Captain Vassilis & Carmen Constantakopoulos

E.G. Passias A.B.E.E.

Kitty Kyriacopoulos and Family

Annie Levis

Unilever S.A.

#### CHAIRMAN'S ASSOCIATES (€10,000+)

A.B. Vassilopoulos S.A.

A.G. Leventis Foundation Bios Agrosystem ABEE

Blue Crest Holding S.A.

Domokos S.A.

Efshipping Co. S.A.

Thymis & Katerina Efthymiadis

E.I. Papadopoulos S.A.

Christos & Toula Folias

Hellenic Hope

Melissa-Kikizas Food Products S.A.

Mr. & Mrs. Constantinos Martinos

Metro A.E.B.E. (AFS'54)

My Market (AFS'54)

Optima S.A. (AFS'54)

Redestos Efthymiadis Agrotechnology Group

Stichting PiSquare Foundation

Thenamaris Ships Management Inc.

#### 1904 FOUNDERS CIRCLE (€5,000+)

Anonymous

Athenean Brewery S.A. Loretta Constantinides

Detas Foundation Venetia Kantsa

Kantsas Real Estate Investment S.A.

Mr. & Mrs. Apostolos (AFS '87) Samoudis

Pioneer Hi-Bred Hellas LTD

Sklavenitis I&S

Vivartia Group of Companies

Ydrofili S.A.

Zanna S.A.

#### STEWARDS (€2,500+)

Procter & Gamble Hellas LTD

Propeller Club of the United States

#### SOWERS (€1,000+)

Anonymous

AS Automatic Systems Hellas

Athens Tennis Club

Biolaet E.E. Tourousis & SIA O.E. Domaine Zafeirakis (AFS '95)

Evergreen

Golden Brands S.A.

ION S.A.

Stefanos Kassidis (AFS'90)

KARENA I.K.E.

Macedonian-Thrace Brewery S.A.

Masoutis S.A.

Roxani Matsa

P.A.P. Company S.A.

Pom Star (AFS'90)

Samaras & Associates

Stravaridi A.F.B.F.

Tuvunu S.A.

Christos Zafeirakis (AFS '95)

#### CONTRIBUTORS (€500+)

1go.online

AWOG

Leandros & Katerina Bashas

Biocidetech Hellas I K E

Econromotion

Eurokteo S.A. - Harisi Maria

Higas A.B.E.E. (AFS' 02)

Giorgos Higas (AFS' 02)

Maria Issachar

Zisis Kabouropoulos

Irene Kesoglidou

Triantafullia Korea

Dimitrios Kritsimos

Lexicon Translations E.E.

Dimitris Netas

Georgios & Kostas (Perrotis '17) Oroilidis

Dimitris & Christina Panteleimonitis

Hariton Papaioannou

Kallioni Pegiou

Anna Pissadaki

Panagiotis Tanimanidis

Transair Travel Agency LTD

Vasileios Tsalikidis

Panagiotis Tzevelekidis Georgios Valasakis

Valtra Karintis - Netas S.A.

#### FRIENDS (€250+)

Association of Friends of the American Farm

Ayachtco Limited Blanc Gastrobar

Christos Boskos (AFS' 83)

Haido Boulaki "To Aromatopoleion"

Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling

Cinque Wine Bar (AFS'14)

SD Constantinou & Son S.A.

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Custer

Dryfo Menexopoulos Bros S.A. DSM Hellas

Elli Economou

Energiers S A

Group of Student Services of Association of

Friends AFS

Constantinos & Phyllis Hadjiyannakis

Eleni Holeva

H.W. Wood Limited

Ioakeimidis M. - Sampanidis K. O.E.

Pagalos Kazakis (AFS'92)

Christina Koliopoulou

Mr. & Mrs. Alexandros Krallis

Kri Kri S.A. Marianna's Vineleaves (AFS'92)

MDA Hellas

Panos Menexopoulos Nomos Law Firm

Pantelis Papadopoulos A.E.B.E.

Dionysia Papadopoulou

Platon Idiotiko Polyatreio Iatriki S.A. Isidoros Provatos

Tsantali Vinevards & Wineries

Vegoritis Winery (AFS' 83) Ioannis & Nora Vezyroglou

Shirley Voutira

DONORS

Evangelia Agathi

Ourania-Christina Alberini-Dimopoulou

Alfa Psinakis S.A. Antonis Alexiadis

Alexis & Anastasia Alexiou Pantelis Alexopoulos

A. Mallini & SIA E.E. Anonymous

Antipollution Mon. Ane

Athanasios & Maria Athanasiadis

Savvas Balouktsis Constantinos Billias

Christos Bougiouklis Yiannis Boutaris

Maria Constantinidis Demetre Constantinou

> Eleni Dalacoura Daughters of Penelope Athens

Fani Desipri

Diathlassi S.A. Panagiotis & Aggeliki Dimaras

Display Hellas S.A.

Dimitrios Dragonas Stavroula Dragona-Kourakou

Lena Dusendschon

Constantinos & Katerina Economou

Kaity Emmanouelidou

Euroglass S.A. Veatriki Farmaki

Eleni Fessa Vasilis & Ioanna Ferentouros

Haroula Gennimata Eleni Georgaki Anna Georgiadou

Vasiliki Gerovasileiou

Olga Gouda Kornilia Groudou

Miltiadis Harenis

Eleni Holeva

Denia & Michael Hatzakis

George Hatziargiros George & Christina Hatzinikolaou

Panagiotis Havatzopoulos Hella Plants L.t.d.

Hydragcom S.A. Inart A. Konstantinidou S.A. Issue Print-Evdoxia Ipsilou

Alexandra Ioannidou Isomat S.A. Eleni Ivou Areti Kalits

Ivonni Kallipolitou-Stamouli

Panagiota Karagiozi

Vasilis Karamitsanis Karamitsanis Law Company

Ilias Karaviotis

Constantina Karterouli Ioannis Kinigopoulos Kir' Yanni S.A. Klimatechniki S.A.

Vasiliki Kotsoni

Giorgos Kouteranis Paraskevi Koutoukidou The Kraft Heinz Company

Christina Koliopoulou

Agni Levis Kalliopi Liaskou Logismos S.A.

> Alexandros Loverdos Antouanetta Manara Dimitria Mandani Avgi Markopoulou Irene Markoulaki

Marina Matthaioudaki Aikaterini Michailidou Nikolaidis The Art of Flower

Theofanis Oikonomou Tatiana Organtzi Kimonas Palamidis Despoina Palioura

Vasiliki Papalazarou Afroditi Papasimakopoulou Sotiris Papasotiriou Alexandros Pappas Pagona Pashoudi

Pelopac Mediterranean Food Specialties

Athina Peristeropoulou

Renata Perseli Nikolaos & Ioanna Poulakou Primavera P. Hatzichristidis Joann Ryding-Beltes

Grasiela Samarinopoulou

Charlotte Skarpidi

Argyris Skondras

Stelios Simeonidis

Sistegasmena Farmakeia I. Pantou-A. Gi-

Iosif Soltanis Alexandra Spentza Sofia Stratidou Themistoklis Tarasidis Tea Route

Theodora's Creations

Thessaloniki Friends of Merimna

Efrosini Thoma

Athanasios Tsaftaris Symeon Tsarouhas

Katerina Tsimpouri (AFS' 16 & PC' 18) Stavros Tsimpouris Emporio Agrotikon

Alexandra Tsipsiani Ioannis Tzerpos

Vmondo Bachatouris Matina Vidali Eleni Vlioura Waterlife S.A.

Diogenis & Olina Zachariadis

The sower Issue 182 11

Dafni & Vassilis Valambous

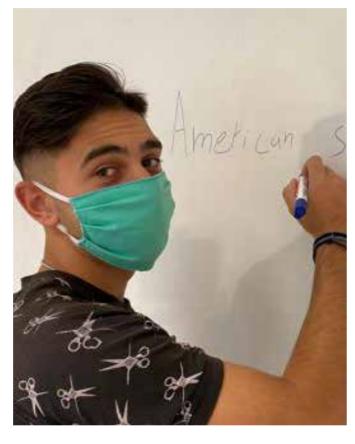
1() The sower Winter 2020 THE SOWER

# Tawani Foundation Scholarship

# for a Student in the Vocational High School

Sixteen year-old Vaggelis Theodorakis has dreamed of following a career in the police force or the military. This year, through a generous contribution from the Tawani Foundation (https://www.tawanifoundation.org), Vaggelis is in his first year of studies at the Vocational High School and making important strides towards fulfilling his goals.

Born in 2003 and raised in the very disadvantaged area of Dendropotomos in Thessaloniki, he is one of the many children to call the "Lighthouse of the World" (Φάρος του Κόσμου http:// farostoukosmou.com/en/home/) their home, and Father Athenagoras not only a spiritual father, but guardian. "I have wanted to study here since my brother came to study at the AFS' Haseotes Middle School. I am so happy that I have been given this incredible opportunity". With contagious enthusiasm he goes on to describe the classrooms, the teachers, and the hands-on teaching style that make him feel special and always very lucky. Looking ahead, Vaggelis wants very much to give back – "I want to serve my country", he states. "This has always been my dream, and Father Athenagoras always tells us to chase our dreams until we make them a reality...that's exactly what I plan to do".





Father Athenagoras, equally appreciative of the doors that are being opened for young Vaggelis, seconds that this is the best thing that could have happened to him at this point in his life, effusively thanking the Tawani Foundation for the role it has played in securing this opportunity.

This is not the first time Father Athenagoras has worked with the American Farm School to get young people from the Lighthouse of the World into programs that will help them to succeed professionally. For sixteen years now, he has striven to ensure that over 450 young students get an education.

The AFS thanks the Tawani Foundation, its founder COL(IL) Jennifer Pritzker, and Chairman of the Chicago Committee of Friends Maria Gebhard for their generous support of our program and its students.

# When The Love For A **School Spans Generations**

Panagiotis Kontos' story is the stuff of fairy tales. In 1948, young Panagiotis left his village of Pappados on the island of Lesvos (Mytilene), and literally set sail for the place which he would consider "home" from thereon after – The American Farm School. Though he was still very young – only 12 years old and the School's youngest student boarder - Panagiotis' father had contacted the School and explained that his son who had just finished the elementary school was an exceptionally gifted student, a boy who would surely thrive if given the opportunity to study in such a unique program. Panagiotis was not only accepted to the AFS, he was awarded a full scholarship to attend what would now be the equivalent of the Vocational High School. A bright, curious, and skillful young man, he stood out in spite of his young age and was loved by his teachers and the administration. In fact, he commanded such a presence that during the historic visit to campus of the royal couple of Greece, Panagiotis was chosen to welcome the King and Oueen on behalf of the entire student body.



Panagiotis Kontos at the School a few years ago

Graduating from AFS in 1951, he returned to Lesvos where he taught technical skills he had acquired at the American Farm School, he crefor several years at the local high school. A restless spirit, he secured a Fulbright Scholarship in 1955 to continue his studies in the US, and, with only a small suitcase in tow, he boarded a ship to New York. Initially attending Goshen University in Indiana, he transferred shortly after to attend another institution in North Carolina, where he met classmate and future wife Martha Hasser. The couple soon married and had two children, George (1961) and Maria (1963). The young family moved to New York, where Panagiotis worked as a stockbroker and a teacher, only to return to North Carolina shortly after, forcing him to took up teaching again. In 2017, he returned to Greece permanently, start his professional life up again from scratch. This time Panagiotis took a different approach, and putting to use the entrepreneurial and

ated a vertical, automated unit for boiling, peeling, preserving and distributing eggs. This business venture went extremely well, ultimately seeing the distribution network serve hotels and restaurants across the entire country. In 1988, just before selling the business to investors interested in his patents, Panagiotis Kontos actively participated in the campaign efforts of US presidential candidate Michael Dukakis. Not one to rest on his laurels, Panagiotis went on to found a small restaurant chain with franchises in three states, while at the same time he and settled in Thessaloniki with his wife, where he remained until his passing last April.



Giorgos Kontos and his wife Martha Hasser

To his last days, Panagiotis never stopped being thankful for his time at AFS, transmitting his love for the institution and his profound gratitude to his children. In a recent interview for the Alumni newsletter, George Kontos shared his own deep-seated appreciation: "The life of my family would be completely different if it wasn't for the School. My father acquired skills which served him his whole life. We sincerely thank you for everything you have done for our family. My sister and I grew up listening to our father talking about the American Farm School and what an amazing institution it is. The School provided him ethical principles and values that followed him throughout his life. It made him what we call 'a good person'".

Panagiotis Kontos passed down not only these stories to his children, but most importantly the values that made them so proud of the man that he was. To honor his memory, Martha, George, Maria, and his granddaughter Elizabeth have very generously lent their support to the School's historic scholarship program. Covering the tuition fees for the course of a student's high school career seems like the perfect tribute; a way, as George points out, "to offer a young man or woman the same opportunities that our father had when he came to study at the School".

A heartfelt thank you to the Kontos family, who we feel so fortunate to consider one of our own!

# **Welcome New Trustees!**

Joining the Board of Trustees in October 2020:



Annie Maniati Efstathiou is a lawyer and member of the Athens Bar Association, with a degree from Democritus University of Thrace. She also holds an M.Sc. in Shipping Trade and Finance from City University, London. After practicing maritime law in London and Piraeus, she transitioned to shipping finance and credit – first for I&F, a well-known private consulting firm in Piraeus, and then for Fortis Bank in Rotterdam. In 2004 she gave birth to her first daughter with husband Christos Efstathiou. As a mother of a child with special needs, she has become very actively engaged in organizations providing social support, medical care, and counseling to families with special needs children. Through her efforts she has helped to raise funds and awareness for this cause. Mrs. Efstathiou currently serves on the Board of Ionas, the Hadjipaterion Foundation, the Museum of Cycladic Art, and Axion Hellas. She is involved in the oversight of a small family farm, as well as the family shipping business with her husband. They live in Kifissia with their five children.



Alexander Georgiadis is President of Krinos Foods Canada Ltd., and affiliate companies. He has extensive experience in international trade, and his companies specialize in manufacturing, trading, importing, and distributing a wide variety of Mediterranean food products to the North American market. Krinos is the largest importer and distributor of premium Greek foods in Canada, and its products can be found in supermarkets, gourmet food shops, ethnic markets, hotels, restaurants, and top food service establishments. Over the years, Krinos has expanded with distribution networks and production facilities in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, and Edmonton. Georgiadis holds a BA in Political Science from IONA College, and a Masters in International Affairs from Columbia University, where he was elected President of his class. He has served on its Advisory Board since 2009. Georgiadis is a founding member and co-President of The Hellenic Initiative – Canada, a philanthropic organization that aims to provide direct crisis relief to the people of Greece. Georgiadis speaks Greek, English, French, and Spanish. He and his wife Evee Moscahlaidis have four children and a granddaughter, and divide their time between New York, Toronto, and Athens.



**Petros A. Levis** has over 25 years of senior executive level experience in the US food industry. He has led in the areas of consumer insight, product innovation, product development, quality control and manufacturing, and compliance and regulation at Pillsbury, General Mills, Danone North America (formerly WhiteWave Foods), Caliper Foods, and has also worked as a private consultant. Levis holds a Masters degree in Flavor Chemistry from Kansas State University, and PhD in Food Science with an emphasis on Sensory Studies from the same institution. He served on the Alumni Committee of the College of Food and Nutrition for four years, serving one year as president. Levis lives in Denver, Colorado with his wife Dr. Ann McCalley who works in higher education.



**Phoebe Legakis** is an Agronomist (M.Sc.), Vice President and C.E.O. of the company HELLAFARM S.A.. Born and raised in Athens, she holds a B.Sc. in Agriculture from the University of Reading (U.K.) and a M.Sc. in Plant Protection and Pest Management from UC Davis. Since 1996, she's been working in the family business HELLAFARM S.A., one of the largest companies in Greece active in the sales of agricultural and veterinary supplies (plant protection products, specialty fertilizers, seeds and animal health products). She lives in Athens with her husband and their three children.

# Over 35 years of Friendship and 85 Years of the International Propeller Club of Piraeus

Since 1935, the International Propeller Club of Piraeus has been promoting commerce, goodwill and cultural ties between the US and Greece. One aspect of their work is providing assistance to worthy causes on a national scale; the American Farm School is proud to be one of the beneficiaries of their support for several years running. The Propeller Club's first gift to the School was in 1983, and their involvement has continued through today in the form of fundraising events and donations to the School's Scholarship Program. Thanks to their continued efforts, numerous deserving students have been able to experience the unique educational programs offered by the School. Celebrating their 85th anniversary this year, the International Propeller Club continues to be a devoted friend and champion of the AFS, for which we are truly grateful.



# In Loving Memory



David Buck Former AFS President

With great sadness we bid farewell to former AFS President David Buck, who passed away in October 2020. David was President from 1999 to 2004. A dedicated educator, David served at the International School of Prague, the International School of Curaçao, the International School of Vienna and the International School of Kuala Lumpur prior to his tenure at the American Farm School. Soon after his arrival at the School he stated, "when we first visited the campus, it became obvious to us that there was a contagious, proud atmosphere, one we had experienced at no other school". David will be remembered for his kindness and as a visionary leader by those who knew him. He will be greatly missed by the AFS community.



Eriberto 'Scoci' Scocimara AFS Family Member

It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to Eriberto 'Scoci' Scocimara, who passed away in November 2020. Scoci's wife, Manita, has been a Trustee of the School since 1992, but their support goes back 40 years, including the participation of their children and grandchildren on the Greek Summer program. A successful businessman with a passion for education, travel and history, and a true gentleman with a natural ability to put those around him at ease, he touched many lives. Scoci will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all of us at the American Farm School.

## **Planned Giving**

Planned Giving allows supporters of the American Farm School to integrate gifts into their overall financial, tax, and estate planning. A planned gift enables a donor to make a lasting impact by contributing significantly to the School and making a difference by helping many future generations of students.

#### **METAMORPHOSIS SOCIETY**

The Metamorphosis Society recognizes and honors the generosity and foresight of those individuals who have made provisions in their estate that include the American Farm School and who have apprised the School of their intentions. The name "Metamorphosis" is chosen for its deeper connection to the School's tradition of providing education that brings about positive change, or "metamorphosis," in the individual.

David Acker, Charlotte Armstrong, Peter Bien, Emily Carey, Mr. & Mrs. C.W. Carson Jr., Hugh Cullman, Marvin Fisher, Dr. and Mrs. Alexander Doolas, Mr. and Mrs. George Draper, Phillip G. and Mary Foote, Barbara K. Heming, Sarah Holland, Truda Jewett, Claire C. Katsanis, Edmund Keeley, Elizabeth (Tad) Lansdale, Susan Mees Longfield, Mary R. and Charles F. Lowrey, Daniel and Mayo Morgan, Nicholas Pisaris, Gail and Ruth Schoppert, Charles L. and Joan Thomas, Nancy Worcester

#### **BEQUESTS**

By including the American Farm School in their wills, the following individuals provided a final gift that will strengthen the School's endowment or support other educational needs.

Theodora Abrames, Charles Storrs Barrows III, James Michael Broomas, Gregor L. Calender, Esther Carbart, Jean S. Croshy, Maria Couvaras, Alexander Drapos, Angeline Ducas, Lula Ducas, Marvin Fisher, Elizabeth M. Godley, Alice L. Hansen, Darlene Keeley, Eve Curie Labouisse, Clara Nickolson, Eleanor McKay Norris, Mr. & Mrs. James G. Paterson, Sr., Andrew Ponaras, Aristides Sideropoulos, Mary Elizabeth Stewart, Barbara L. Wood, Winifred E. Weter

#### **ESTATES & TRUSTS**

By creating an estate or trust, the following individuals provide annual support to the American Farm School that will last past their lifetimes.

Estber Carbart, Ernest Thomas Chepou, Philip and Hazel Constantinides, Lois Kerimis, Fred W. Kolb, Mary P. Gill, Henry T. Maijgren, Demosthenis Raptelis, Dean C. Zutes

For more information about joining the Metamorphosis Society and other Planned Giving opportunities, please contact Laura Sommers at Isommers@amerfarm.org.



# Stay in touch!

If you want to receive news about the American Farm School & Perrotis College send us an email at sower@afs.edu.gr and we will add you to our electronic newsletter contact list.

#### Get social!

Facebook: AmericanFarmSchoolThessaloniki /

Perrotiscollege

**Instagram:** americanfarmschool / perrotiscollege

# American Farm School & Perrotis College

Marinou Antipa 54,
Post Office Box 60097
GR-57001 Thessaloniki, Greece
Tel +30-2310-492-700
Fax +30-2310-492-710
info@afs.edu.gr

800 Third Avenue, Suite 2800 New York, NY 10022 Tel +1-212-463-8434 Fax +1-212-292-3801 usoffice@amerfarm.org

www.afs.edu.gr