



# The Hellenic Voice

Η ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΦΩΝΗ

The Official Newsletter of the Hellenic Cultural Center of the Southwest

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## An Evening with Olympia November 20 • Hyatt Regency, Downtown Houston

The time is now... to see "It's All Greek To Me – An Evening With Olympia Dukakis" at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Houston on Saturday, November 20, 2010.

The night begins at 6:30 pm with cocktails, then dinner and a silent auction, and continues with the program, entertainment and dancing. It will be an evening to remember.

This event is chaired by Dr. Carolyn Farb, an internationally known fundraiser, businesswoman, author and philanthropist. During the past thirty years, she has raised over \$35 million for a number of charities and worthy causes, the majority of which are based in Houston and benefit local organizations.

Her hard work and devotion to others have earned her the nickname "the first lady of philanthropy," and she has received numerous accolades for her efforts.

She is aided in her work by Mr. John Tsacrios, Jr. of the Wilhelm Scholè International, and Ms. Jackie Medina-Montenegro of Glitterati Affairs. HCC-SW committee people are Perry Mavrelis and Anthony Kouzounis.

During the evening the Hellenic Cultural Center of the Southwest will honor Ms. Dukakis, the Academy Award winning

actress, and Mr. George Kostas, philanthropist and founder of Techno-Economic Services, Inc.

Wilhelm Scholè International will honor President Emeritus of Boston University, Dr. John Silber, who created a brilliant department of Greek studies by combining the best classicists in philosophy and in classical literature.

"The glamorous and fun-filled evening will make you feel as though you are strolling near the steps of the Acropolis on a moonstruck night for the Imperial Ballroom will be transformed into a lively, dazzling and magical setting.

You will be enthralled by a fascinating Up Close and Personal look into the life of Olympia Dukakis, enjoy food fit for the gods and partake in an exclusive silent auction of Grecian and other treasures. Then you will dance and celebrate like Zorba into the night." Dress for the event is black tie optional – Grecian chic.



### TICKET INFORMATION

For tickets, contact John Tsacrios at 713.568.9925 or email him at [jtsacrios@wilhelmschole.org](mailto:jtsacrios@wilhelmschole.org).

## October 2010 Names Hellenic Cultural Month in Houston

Houston Mayor Annise D. Parker proclaimed October 2010 Hellenic Cultural Month at the Houston City Council meeting on October 5th.

The proclamation cites "The Original Greek Festival" at the Annunciation Orthodox Church on October 7-10; The presentation on October 15th of Aeschylus' play "Oresteia" by the Hellenic Cultural Center at Houston Baptist University; and the Greek Consul's speech at the Oxi Day celebration October 28th at the Hellenic Cultural Center.

Mayor Parker states in the proclamation: "...The City of Houston salutes its many citizens who embrace the Hellenic History and Spirit during this special month, Therefore, I, Annise Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim the month of October 2010, HELLENIC CULTURAL MONTH in Houston, Texas."



The proclamation was presented to the Greek Consul, Alexandra Theodoropoulou (3rd from right) by Houston Mayor Annise Parker. Other members of the delegation are (L-R): Ernie Papavasiliou, Perry Marvelis, Dr. Nick Checkles, HCC-SW President, Mary H. Pappas and Sue Lovell, Councilwoman at Large.

# A Challenge To Houston Greeks

In later pages of this issue of The Hellenic Voice there is an article by Professor George Anagnostu. I found the article to be insightful and provocative. I think it is worthwhile for all of us to read it, analyze it and draw our own conclusions.

He states--- "Greek identity in America deserves to be meaningfully connected with cultural expressions beyond dances and cuisine." To me this is a no-brainer and I think most of you will agree. He then continues to explain that Greeks in America in the past and even today have felt great pressure to successfully adapt to America and that this has-- "drained individual energies, leaving no time for exploring how the humanities could be of relevance to the cultural identities of Greek-Americans."

This is probably truer of the early immigrants who generally were less educated, but is less true of more recent immigrants arriving after WWII, and also of Greeks born in America. In general, these latter two groups are more likely to have had more education. Let me be clear---I am referring here to formal education, not to intelligence.

Many of the early immigrants were intelligent indeed. None-the-less all three groups; the early immigrants, the post WWII immigrants and the first American born Greeks all had to adjust to the American way of life to succeed and did remarkably well in doing so.

The three groups had totally different life experiences growing up. They experienced different historical times, different cultures, different schooling, different heroes, different expectations, different mores and customs, etc. And, add yet another to the above--- perhaps the fastest growing and soon-to-be largest group---the children from

mixed marriages between a Greek and Non-Greek. Greek America is truly a heterogeneous group of people with a common ancestry.

Dr. Anagnostu states---"The traditional emphasis of presenting Greek America as a homogeneous group has resulted in the marginalization of diverse perspectives." He further states ---"Greek America is diverse, despite efforts to impose homogeneity." What then to do? How can these diverse groups be brought together in common cause, to preserve our Greek heritage and enrich the life of America with the infusion of Hellenic Culture and values?

There is, I believe, a palpable ferment occurring across Greek America. One can feel it in the urgency and vitality we sense in the Greek lay press in newspapers and magazines, on the internet, in the Hellenist movement, in talking to Greeks across the land. Dr. Anagnostu offers his answer and conclusion. Please read what he says and give it very serious thought. I believe that the Hellenic Cultural Center of the Southwest fulfills his criteria.

Professor Anagnostu asks: "Is Greek America geared to sustain a grass roots movement committed to the cultivation, production and national dissemination of the Greek heritage?" I ask you the readers of the Hellenic Voice: Is Houston ready to accept the challenge?

Embrace your Hellenic Heritage,

**NICK CHECKLES, MD**

*President, Hellenic Cultural Center of the Southwest*



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# Our Vision of Our Future... The Hellenic Cultural Center of the Southwest

The ancient Greeks were thinkers that developed major advances in language, government, science, medicine, and, of course, philosophy. Architecturally, they built magnificent edifices to their gods that have lasted for millennia.

Today, the Hellenic Cultural Center of the Southwest is promoting the rich legacy that the ancients have given to western civilization. We envision a structure that will display that legacy to all Greeks – and “...to those who want to be Greek.”

Our vision has been clear from the beginning: to demonstrate why Hellenic culture is considered the cradle of western civilization. In the past four years we have featured educational programs with Hellenic experts, exhibits, films and contemporary Greeks who have made major contributions to the arts.

Programs on Elia Kazan, Academy Award winning director, and Nikos Kazantzakis, author of the seminal book on St. Francis of Assisi, and, of course, Zorba the Greek, attracted standing room only crowds.

Leonidis Loizidis brought his theater troupe to Houston for the past three years performing major Greek tragedies that impressed even non-Greek audiences. Hrysoula Stefanaki has made the term “Greek Tango” an impressive image in the minds and hearts of all who listened with rapt attention to her rendition of songs of the early to mid-twentieth century.

Who can forget Rose Castorini, the character that Olympia Dukakis made famous in the movie Moonstruck, for which she won an Academy Award? HCC-SW is bringing Ms. Dukakis to Houston to perform at the Hyatt Regency November 20th.

We continue to produce these events to promote Hellenism to American society and to remind the Greeks of today that we will persistently create a legacy that will evolve with the forward movement of civilization.

Right now, the vision of our museum is in our heads. But soon, and with everyone’s help, we will bring that vision to fruition. Our Facility Acquisition Committee has been diligently researching the many options available in Houston. To build or not to build depends on the availability of appropriate properties. Thus, our productions are used to raise money for our building fund which will enable us to showcase contemporary Hellenic thinkers, performers, scientists, writers and

activists in Houston to create the 21st century Hellenic legacy.

We invite you to share our Vision of an edifice that will bring Hellenism to the forefront of the Texas cultural scene.

What “vision” is in your head?

MEL MAMULA  
*Editor, The Hellenic Voice*

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# The Greek Tango... A Magnificent Concert!

On that memorable Sunday in September, we sat in stunned silence as David Nachmias and Hrysoula Stefanaki opened the "Greek Tango" with his piano virtuosity and her velvety voice singing songs of 1930s and 1940s.

The lyrics expressed the romantic ideals of the time with songs of loves won and lost, and of the homeland. The music is a delicate combination of European and South American influences that helped to create the so called "Greek School of Tango."

Song after song emotionally moved the audience, in many instances to tears. After all, some of the listeners grew up during the time between two world wars when radio brought that music into many homes. Others remembered their mothers singing those familiar tunes. with Greek Tango music and lived the songs that Hrysoula

and David performed.

Doug Harris was a masterful master of ceremonies as he introduced the presidents of the Hellenic Cultural Center of the Southwest, Dr. Nick Checkles, and George Zombanakis, of the Cretans of Houston.

Each song was performed as if it was the only song on the program. This talented young duo played and sang over 30 songs with the style and panache of veteran performers. Walking out of Cullen Theater I was whistling that old Doris Day tune, Que Sera, Sera. It was a magnificent concert.

After the concert at Christie's Restaurant, Hrysoula (center)

and David celebrated with (L to R) Dr. Nick Checkles, Yannis Remediakis, chairman of the event, and George Zombanakis, co-chairman.



After the concert at Christie's Restaurant, Hrysoula (center) and David celebrated with (L to R) Dr. Nick Checkles, Yannis Remediakis, chairman of the event, and George Zombanakis, co-chairman.

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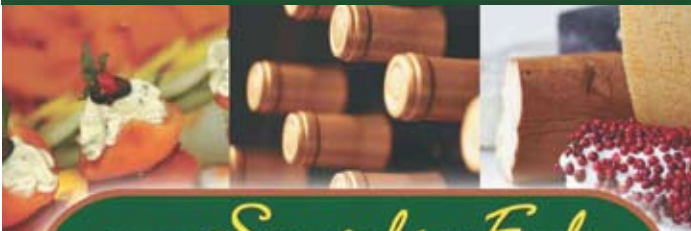
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## ORESTEIA Roars Through HBU's Dunham Theater



For the third year in a row, the Leonidas Loizides Theatrical Company played Houston during their 2010 USA tour. They performed "Oresteia," a Greek tragedy by Aeschylus. This trilogy was re-written by HBU's Dr. Louis Markos who combined the three continuing stories into one concise theatrical event.

The stage was set for this dramatic presentation at the Dunham Theater on the HBU campus on Friday, October 15, 2010. The curtain went up at 7:46 pm on an idyllic scene from ancient Greece.

Marko Dasigenis was the master of ceremonies and introduced the dignitaries present. Dr. Nick Checkles, HCC-SW president, was particularly pleased to welcome over 150 students along with the 300 plus adult audience members.

This powerful drama was performed with a minimal set and few props. However, the music was performed by one singer with a drum that created an eerie atmosphere. The lighting was stark and from above that enhanced the shadows adding to the tragic effect.

The actors performed their parts with a commanding presence that established the personae of the gods - and the mortals that wanted to be gods.

Oresteia was a success and HCC-SW is looking forward to 2011.

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# The Moss Family History

*Editor's note: This is the first of what we hope will be a series of articles on the genesis of long established Greek families in Houston and Texas. What all will have in common is the arrival in America of a young man with a burning desire to succeed and the willingness to work hard. From there, each story diverges and becomes unique. All will be interesting to each of us since each story is part of the heritage and legacy given to us by our parents/ grandparents. We are deeply grateful to Phil Moss for allowing us to interview him and retrieve some of the details of his family's 100-year colorful journey from Greece to Houston. You will enjoy reading this.*

A young Greek soldier returned safely from the Balkan Wars, which started in 1912, to his home town of Koroni, Messenia. His father, fearful of another war in Europe, urged his son to go to America. And so, in 1915 Panagioti Arthur Mousouliotes left Greece directly for Houston via Ellis Island. Once here he became Peter Arthur Moss.

Instead of growing olives and grapes (raisins), he went to work for a cousin who had a restaurant in what is now Market Square. Three years later, in 1918 and at the age of 27, he opened his own restaurant, the Plaza Café, on Fannin Street next to the Houston Post Dispatch building. In addition to being in the restaurant business, he became a real estate broker and active in the real estate market.

What followed was much hard work and saving, a story line so common to many Greek immigrants. In 1924 he bought a block of land at Lamar and Brazos in downtown Houston. A small office building on the property housed the newly created Social Security Office. Across the street was the Federal Land Bank building and so, in 1933 when Pete Moss built a new restaurant across from the bank, he called it the Federal Grill.

Back for a moment to 1898: when a young man from the island of Ikaria, Greece, jumped ship in Galveston. This man, Gus Lardis, in 1920 and in Houston by now, brought his widowed mother and his sister, Julia Lardis, to live in Houston. Julia and Pete soon met, and on June 22, 1924, Pete and Julia were married at Annunciation Church. Three sons, Arthur, Manuel and PHIL were born to the couple.

The Great Depression was consuming the United States in the 1930's but Pete Moss, who not only had a keen eye for real estate, but also a keen business sense, continued to buy real estate downtown and, with Uncle Gus, opened a new restaurant in the Farmer's Market area called the Farmers Market Café.

Pete was also sending money to Greece on a regular basis. In 1938, with substantial assets in Houston and a considerable sum of money in Greece, Pete took his entire family of five on what was to be a one year tour of Europe and Greece. The threat of war in Europe was growing and Pete, sensing this, after five months cut short his visit and returned to Houston. As it was not possible to take money out of Greece, Pete negotiated a trade with a former Houstonian to swap some land near Humble, TX for a

sum of cash. That deal fell through because of bad faith on the other party. Pete not only lost the money he had in Greece but also lost out on the significant oil income the property later generated.

Nonetheless, Pete's business acumen manifested itself again as he developed three package liquor stores in strip centers in working class neighborhoods of Houston. Moreover, in the late 1930's he had purchased a home on one acre of land in the original Braeswood section of Houston. It was a neighborhood of affluent Houstonians such as Governor William Hobby and Walter Fondren.

The son of the vice president of the United States in the 1930s (John Nance Garner), Tully Garner became a close friend of the family. He was president of the Federal Land Bank across the street from one of Pete's restaurants which became sort of a hangout for some of Houston's political types, including Albert Thomas, Houston's only Congressman for many years, and also the various mayors of Houston. Pete's ability to connect with the various politicians was a trait passed on to his youngest son, Phil.

Phil Moss, attended UT in Austin where he was elected president of the Young Republicans Club. Later he served as an officer in the national organization. While in graduate school he was called into the US Air Force and spent two years at a base in Amarillo. Phil continued serving as a reservist in the United States Air Force attaining the rank of Major. He was attached to a troop carrier wing at Ellington Air Force Base through the Vietnam War.

Back now to his active duty days in Amarillo: While there, Phil went to New York City over the Christmas holidays. His friends talked him into attending the Holy Trinity Cathedral's ball at the Ambassador Hotel. There he met a beautiful girl, Anastasia Tsamisis, who was attending Finch College in NYC. After a two and a half year courtship, Phil and Stacey married in May of 1956.

Phil had begun work for a local oil company but soon joined his oldest brother, Arthur, who was now an architect, in building apartments and later shopping centers in Houston. Phil continues in the real estate business today.

Building on his father's political connections, Phil developed his own strong affiliations in the political arena (Continued on Page 9)



Neither rain nor Texas heat keeps Tim Tsotsonis from riding in the MS bike rides for research in 2010.

# Tim Tsotsonis Rides the Roads of Texas to Help Others

Tim Tsotsonis is a Texas biker. That is, he rides a two wheeled, technologically designed bicycle over and around the hills and valleys of Texas.

But, his biggest thrill is riding in the MS 150 from Houston to Austin to raise funds to find a cure for multiple sclerosis. "Crossing the finish line in Austin, I had such an overwhelming sense of accomplishment knowing that I really rode my bike 150 miles in two days, and, helped to raise money for MS research," Tim said in a recent interview.

Last month Tim rode the 160 miles from San Antonio to New Braunfels and back to the Alamo Dome: Bike MS: Valero Alamo Ride to the River.

Waiting for him inside the Alamo Dome was his 23 year old son, Alexander, a special needs young man with Cerebral palsy.

At 64, Tim believes that training for the long distance bike rides and then participating in them keep him physically fit and mentally alert. An integral part of his training regimen is pushing Alexander four to five miles around his Cypress, TX neighborhood. Tim gets his exercise, but Alexander gets the joy of being outdoors for an hour or two.

Alexander Tsotsonis welcomes his biker dad, Tim at the end of the Valero Alamo Ride to the River in San Antonio's Alamo Dome on October 10, 2010.



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# Greek America's Historical Challenge

by GEORGIOS ANAGNOSTU

*Georgios Anagnostu is an assistant professor in the Modern Greek Studies Program at Ohio State University. He made a presentation titled "Interdisciplinary Studies of the Greek Diaspora" at the MGSA Symposium.*

Greek America has entered a new phase in its history. Well entrenched in the mainstream and comfortably assimilated, it now seeks to explore ways to culturally revitalize itself.

This new spirit of renewal stems from a sense of urgency among a number of Greek Americans who feel that Greek identity in America deserves to be meaningfully connected with cultural expressions beyond dances and cuisine. In this manner culture could enrich individual life while also serving as a source of prestige for the community.

A set of recently released documentaries on Greek Americans illustrates this new spirit. The documentaries highlight cultural aspects central to Greek American identity: family, church, socioeconomic success, zest for life, food and dances. Though stereotypical, this positive showcasing of Greek American culture is of no small significance: it inspires individuals, particularly those who are ambivalent about the relevance of Greek culture, to further explore their heritage. It also unequivocally affirms the value of an ethnic group striving for recognition and respect.

Yet, while Greek Americans interviewed in the documentaries confidently underline values central to their lives, such as work ethic, sacrifices of immigrant parents, the value of the family, they seem uncertain on how to articulate a vision of their cultural futures. They do turn to Hellenism and Neohellenism as a source of renewal and inspiration, but the specific manner in which Greek culture could be of relevance to individual lives and the community is not clearly stated.

This uncertainty about new uses of the Greek heritage is not surprising. For historical reasons associated with the quest for respectability in America, Greek America has invested a great deal towards its socioeconomic success and the building of institutions at the expense of cultivating culture and the arts. Pressures to successfully adapt to America drained individual energies, leaving no time for exploring how the humanities could be of relevance to the cultural identities of Greek Americans.

Yet, as the documentaries make it clear, we witness the beginning of a new era. Post-assimilated Greek-America currently turns to the humanities as a site for its cultural renewal. I quote the narrator: "Religion, language, history, the arts, the elements of the Greek-American culture have been preserved for us. How we will use them will determine our future."

This, then, is Greek America's new historical challenge: To identify its cultural past could shape exciting cultural futures. In this critical juncture, Greek America needs to

exhibit an imaginative spirit and democratic openness.

Cultural leaders need to be willing to accommodate diverse points of view in order to explore, not dictate, how the past can inform the present. The material resources are available. The spirit for cultural renewal is emerging. All that remains is to activate institutional mechanisms to make a wide-ranging conversation on Greek America's cultural potential a reality.

Toward this end, we have already witnessed a number of emerging trends: The realization, in certain parts of the country, of the importance of Modern Greek Studies programs as centers promoting Greek learning; and the establishment of cultural organizations exploring local histories and disseminating Greek heritage in public settings such as libraries and museums. Yet despite these gains, we need to enlarge the manner in which we think and talk about Greek America on a grass root level. Take, for example, a number of contemporary poets, writers, historians, journalists, photographers and filmmakers. Although these artists and intellectuals have been creatively exploring different facets of Greek America, they have not been enjoying access to national forums which demonstrate what it means to be Greek American. The traditional emphasis in presenting Greek America as a homogeneous group has resulted in the marginalization of diverse perspectives.

It is common knowledge that Greek America is heterogeneous. It is peopled by individuals with diverse historical and cultural experiences different loyalties, varying degrees of connectivity and emotional investment in Greek culture. It includes institutions advocating contrasting ideologies of what it means to be Greek in America. It consists of individuals still nurturing memories of industrial labor, Ku Klux Klan cross burning, the depression, pressure for assimilation, growing up in the suburbs, the emergence of multiculturalism. It has individuals who feel compelled to learn Greek in their late forties and individuals who have just started navigating the English language. It is inhabited by individuals whose experience is filtered through memories of the Nazi occupation, the Greek civil war, the dictatorship and an agonistic and intellectual public culture.

Unlike the Greek nation-state whose members are connected through shared experiences and common symbols, Greek America is diverse, despite efforts to impose homogeneity. Herein, lies the great challenge of exploring cultural heritage to Greek America. As a vast cultural resource, heritage could accommodate a diverse audience, serving as an ideal forum exploring differences,



similarities and interconnections across a wide spectrum of participants.

Its critical perspective and sensitivity to differences could create understanding among a diverse audience as it respects its particularities and different sensibilities. The aim of heritage exploration is to generate discussion, understanding, and inspiration for a new generation to connect with its Greek heritage and make it part of the cultural fabric of America. The primary aim of heritage is to explore the multiple ways in which the past can infiltrate the present and inform the future. It encourages exposure, cultural visibility, and respect for difference; it does not seek to impose a consensus.

A new institution then is needed. I call it the “Greek Heritage Center.”

The “Greek Heritage Center: will build bridges among Greek American’s various constituencies at the local level and will aim to produce and disseminate knowledge about Greek heritage. Heritage centers will be cultural landmarks in American cities and will bring together intellectuals, academics, educators, representatives of national organizations and associations, and the larger community. Each center’s aim will be to support local and national cultural projects capable of moving the spirit of Greek Americans, inspiring their children and engaging the mainstream. “Greek Heritage Centers” will be the places where future filmmakers, artists, poets, writers, photographers, museum curators, illustrators and story tellers will be inspired to include Greek heritage as the object of their craft for the benefit of all citizens.

Is Greek America ready to undertake the necessary steps to institutionally support and finance such a project? Is Greek America prepared to set aside varying political

agendas and contrasting ideologies to launch a coalition whose primary goal will be to support quality projects that explore heritage from a multitude of perspectives? Is Greek America geared to sustain a grass-roots movement committed to the cultivation, production and national dissemination of the Greek heritage?

Multiculturalism favors mainstream support of cultural diversity and encourages American citizens to think of themselves in terms of their ethnic heritage. Will Greek Americans respond to this historical challenge so that they will be known for cultural and educational excellence and will they leave their mark as major contributors to the enrichment of the American politic?

---

(**Moss Family History**, continued from page 6) which continues to this day. It is a heritage passed on today to his youngest son, John.

Phil and Stacey are blessed with three sons, just as his father was. Each is married with their own families and all are enjoying successful entrepreneurships in the landscape, real estate and/or political areas and are active in our church in Houston.

Phil’s father, Pete, died in 1971, but his legacy lives on through his children, his six grandchildren and, no doubt, his soon-to-be adult great grandchildren.

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# Houston Hosts 2012 Olympic Team Marathon Trials

The Houston Marathon Committee has been awarded the 2012 Olympic Team Marathon Trials for men and women. Announced March 1, 2010, this is a truly historic decision because no other city or race has ever hosted both men's and women's Olympic marathon trial races.

In the recent past, both New York City and Boston hosted each race and were Houston's principal competition. However, Houston convinced the USA Track & Field committee that it could and should host both trials.

Houston committee members and staff have spent days meeting with the USA Track & Field and US Olympic committee staffers to plan the 2012 event. An 8-mile loop course similar to the expected marathon course set for the London Olympics has been designed and will afford multiple viewing opportunities for spectators.

That course utilizes Memorial Drive, Allen Parkway, Shepherd and downtown streets over to Avenida de las Americas in front of the George R. Brown Convention Center. The start and finish will both be on Avenida de las Americas, with men and women starting side-by-side. The Committee has decided that the best way

to plan for 2012 is to simulate the schedule for 2012 in 2011. The trials bid proposed holding the races on the Saturday preceding the regular marathon events. Because the Aramco Houston Marathon is scheduled to be the 2011 US Men's and Women's half Marathon Championship, the decision was made to move the elite race to Saturday of the 2011 race weekend.

Thus, in 2011 an elite half marathon for the top US male and female distance runners will be held on the same course as the 2012 Olympic Team Marathon Trials for men and women. That race is drawing an impressive field due to the opportunity afforded its participants to preview the course over which the battle for US Olympic marathon berths will be fought for in the following year. The committee has also allotted 100 VIP slots for that race which is open to anyone capable of running a half marathon in no more than 2.5 hours. Two very exciting years for the Houston Marathon Committee are thus on the horizon.

There's no doubt that it is going to be a couple of busy years for the folks who work for the Houston Marathon committee.

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# The Movie Looks of Olympia

As Rose Castorini, Olympia played Cher's mother in her Academy Award winning performance in *Moonstruck*, the fifth highest grossing film in 1987.

In 2007 she played Fiona in *Away From Her*. The main characters have been married for decades. They have been through rough patches, but their lives are inextricably connected and their relationship seems idyllic. They share a private language and obvious affection for one another. Now retired, they live comfortably in a house in the country, but their contentment is permanently disrupted when Fiona's memory starts to deteriorate.

2010: *Poor Things* is based on true events; the story revolves around two female con-artists who befriend and then murder homeless men in order to collect on the insurance policies.



(Top) Olympia's best-selling book, Ask Me Again Tomorrow, (Top Left) Olympia and husband Louis Zorich, (Left) Fiona in Away From Her and (Far Right) Rose Castorini, Moonstruck.

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Dr Skaribas was born in Itea Fokidos, Greece. He is a graduate of the Medical School of the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki in Greece. Dr. Skaribas trained at Baylor College of Medicine, where he completed a residency in anesthesiology, and a fellowship in pain medicine. He is board certified in both anesthesiology and pain medicine by the American Board of Anesthesiology.

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