

Record crowds for Premier's Christmas concerts

More than 30,000 seniors from around New South Wales attended the Premier's Christmas Concerts at the Sydney Entertainment Centre being held. Premier Nathan Rees addressed the concerts.



within a couple of hours of becoming available."

The theme of this year's concerts is a fun filled family Christmas road trip and features popular Australian talent including:

- Helen Dallimore;
- David Harris;
- Juan Jackson;
- Ben Lewis;
- Fiona O'Loughlin;
- Melinda Schneider;
- and
- Ursula Yovich.

Seniors Card volunteer Marie Hill from Botany said the concerts were a special way to celebrate just before Christmas.

"I know a lot of seniors who go along and really enjoy it," she said.

The Premier's Christmas Concerts are funded by the NSW Government.

Mr Rees said the free concerts were a thank you to seniors for the valuable contributions they make to their local communities everyday. "These people are fantastic role models for us all," Mr Rees said. "The concerts are a small token of our appreciation for our seniors who have given so much to their

local community.

"They make a huge contribution through unpaid work and it is important that we take the time to say thank you.

"They provide a range of

community services, including acting as carers for relatives, friends or others with a disability.

"The concerts are in their twenty seventh year and the free tickets are snapped up



NEW BOOK ON CYPRUS

INTERNATIONAL AGGRESSION AND VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS: The Case of Turkey in Cyprus

by Van Coufoudakis

International Aggression and Violations of Human Rights: The Case of Turkey in Cyprus is "devoted exclusively to human rights issues raised by the 1974 Turkish invasion and continuing occupation of nearly 37 percent of the Republic of Cyprus. . . .

cultural heritage. . . . This book reflects my conviction that no viable solution to the Cyprus problem is possible unless fundamental human rights issues are addressed in the context of European law. . . .

A solution conforming to EU law and principles will protect the rights of all Cypriots and will strengthen the European institutional and legal framework for the protection of human rights."

Through my frequent visits to both the free and occupied areas of Cyprus, I have witnessed the consequences of ethnic cleansing and of the confiscation, usurpation, and exploitation of Greek Cypriot property in occupied Cyprus. I have spent hours talking with families of the missing about their anguish and discussed with displaced persons and refugees their longing to return to their ancestral homes in peace and safety. I have observed the demographic impact of Turkish settlers and the tragic living conditions of the enclaved in the Karpas Peninsula.

From the author's preface Van Coufoudakis, a distinguished political scientist, has devoted much of his academic career to the study of Cyprus. His works include Greece and the New Balkans: Challenges and Opportunities (1999) with Harry Psomiades and Andre Gerolymatos, The United States and Cyprus: Double Standards and the Rule of Law (2002) with Eugene T. Rossides, and Cyprus: A Contemporary Problem in Historical Perspective (2006).

I have also witnessed the destruction of the Greek Cypriot



Dengue fever bites Cairns

Cairns residents have been warned to guard against mosquitoes following an outbreak of dengue fever. Doctors are urging people to guard against mosquitoes after a spate of more than two dozen dengue fever cases in north Queensland.

Of the 26 cases of dengue fever type three since November, two cases have required hospitalisation.

The most serious form of the disease, dengue haemorrhagic fever, can be fatal, especially in young children.

Cairns hasn't seen an outbreak since 2006, when 29 people were infected with dengue type two.

Queensland Health has carried out a dengue blitz in homes and businesses inspecting yards and setting traps to kill dengue mosquitoes.

"Cairns residents need to take immediate action to help prevent further dengue cases," Tropical Population Health Services (TPHS) entomologist Dr Scott Ritchie said.

People experiencing symptoms such as fever, headache, rash, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea, and fatigue should seek medical help, Dr Ritchie said. While there is no cure or vaccine available, doctors advise that people can help rid the disease by preventing mosquito breeding.

Common breeding sites include tyres, buckets, toys, pot plant bases and roof gutters.

Young ballroom dancers...



Melbourne, Australia: Young ballroom dancers have some last-minute practice as they wait to compete in the Australian DanceSport Championships