



Jednota

THE UNION

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Andrew M. Rajec

President's Message For Memorial Day

I went to the grocery store Saturday. An older gentleman at the entrance was selling red artificial poppies.

For as many years as I can remember I bought at least one poppy. Most people walked right by ignoring him completely.

Over the years the American Legion or VFW veterans sell poppies before Memorial Day in May and Veterans Day in November. As the WWII veterans get older the VFW and American Legion membership ages as fewer young people join.

My thoughts wandered a little as I thought of my Uncle John Rajec who was killed in the "Battle of the Bulge" in 1945, and left a wife and child he never knew, my father Andrew Rajec who served in the army 1943-1945 and returned home to a thankful nation and our Korean War Veterans and myself who returned in 1966 and our more recent war veterans who sometimes are looked down upon as "suckers" for volunteering as we now rely on our all volunteer military.

Hopefully, we can remember and thank our veterans for their sacrifices, especially those who gave their lives or are living with life-long injuries.

Purchasing a red poppy is only a small token to say "thank you", for those who sacrificed for us to live safe and secure.

continued on page 3



Construction continues on the Jednota Memorial located on our Jednota Estates in Middletown, PA. There's still time to be a part of this lasting tribute to our members and member families. See page 8 of this issue for details.



The following events will be held in recognition of our Society's 125th Anniversary and the 100th Anniversary of Fr. Furedek's passing:

- **Sunday, June 7, 2015:**
The Embassy Suites Hotel
Coraopolis, PA
[see page 15 for more]
- **Saturday, August 29, 2015**
Cleveland Downtown
Renaissance Hotel
Cleveland, OH
[see page 3 for more]

- **Sunday, October 25, 2015.**
St. Mary's Center, Scranton, PA.
[see page 15 for more]
- **Saturday, November 7, 2015**
Mgrs. Komar Hall
Linden, NJ

Stay tuned for more in upcoming issues of Jednota

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Jednota golfers: see pages 4 – 5 for National Tournament registration and details

Insights and Viewpoints



St. Vincent Archabbey — Homilies, Father Edward Mazich, O.S.B., Father Killian Loch, O.S.B.,

**May 24, 2015 - Feast of Pentecost
Gospel - John 20: 19-23**

“Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!” These same words that we heard at mass on the vigil of Easter we again sing today as the Easter season draws to a close. This mention of the Spirit at the beginning and the end of the Easter season gives us an opportunity to reflect on the role of the Holy Spirit in the mystery of



Fr. Edward Mazich,
O.S.B.

the Christian faith and in our daily lives. Some of the key moments of Lent and the Easter season can serve as guideposts for us in this endeavor, as the days of Easter end and we begin the long summertime of the Church year.

We began our Lenten preparation for Easter at mass on Ash Wednesday when we prayed “A steadfast spirit renew within me... and your Holy Spirit take not from me” (Ps 51:12). While the Holy Spirit whom we know as the third person of the Holy Trinity had yet to be revealed as such, the Psalmist nonetheless reflects a desire to hold fast to God’s Spirit, sensing that his own life—his own spirit—depends for its very existence on remaining in union with the Lord. By asking for a share in God’s Spirit the Psalmist expects his own renewal and rejuvenation.

Going farther in our reflection on the Spirit and the Paschal mystery, after the forty days of Lent passed we invoked the Spirit again at the Easter vigil mass, when having heard how the Lord sent forth his Spirit at the moment of creation to sanctify and vivify all things, we beg God to once again “send forth your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth!” (Psalm 104:30).

In this responsorial taken from Psalm 104, which we pray again today, we implore the Lord to send forth his Spirit—his very being and essence—and then in the gospel that follows we learn that our prayer has been answered: Jesus appears a second time to his disciples in the upper room, and when they rejoice over seeing him he says: “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you”.

His next action consists of both a powerful deed and explanatory words; he breathes on his disciples and says: “Receive the Holy Spirit, Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained” (John 20:22-23). That which was forecast by the Lord during the course of his last supper with the disciples, that by whose power he was raised from the dead (Romans 1:4), that who was summoned by our prayers from the depths of the darkness on the night of the Easter vigil...that same Holy Spirit is now given to us.

On Pentecost then, we celebrate our reception of the Spirit—we have received what we asked for! Our task is to allow the Spirit we have been given to animate us and make our lives a worthy participation in the Paschal mystery. As the Spirit accompanied Jesus through the forty days of his temptation in the desert so too it has sustained us through the forty days of Lent and the Easter season. Now we are sent forth into the rest of the year, as Pope Francis reminded us when he announced the coming Holy Year of Mercy, to bring to perfection the gift of God’s Holy Spirit, being renewed through the forgiveness

**May 31, 2015 – Solemnity of the Most Blessed Trinity
Gospel – Matthew 28: 16 – 20**

This weekend we celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity. The word mystery is used rather broadly in our day to describe something that we can’t personally figure out but has a clear explanation, mystery stories that take some thought to solve, and the truly mysterious that cannot be explained. The mystery of the Holy Trinity fits in the last type of a mystery, it cannot be explained, understood or solved. The, The Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church (YouCat) describes the Trinity this way, “Christians do not worship three different Gods, but one single Being that is threefold and yet remains one. We know that God is triune from Jesus Christ: He, the Son, speaks about his Father in heaven. He prays to him and sends us the Holy Spirit, who is the love of the Father and the Son. That is why we are baptized ‘in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.’” Mt. 28:19 – 20. The Trinity is a mystery that is central to our faith and our relationship to God. In the one God we encounter the three persons who are totally and completely one God and who relate to us as three persons, each in a distinct way.



Fr. Killian Loch,
O.S.B.

Rather than trying to solve the unsolvable let us experience the beauty of the mystery and how it touches each one of us. The Gospel takes place at the Ascension and gives us the final instruction of Jesus. He clearly outlines the mission of the followers of Jesus, to “make disciples of all nations,” by Baptizing them. He then gives the formula, familiar to all of us, of how to Baptize. I am a Catholic today because these disciples took this command seriously and traveled throughout the known world preaching and Baptizing. The message of Christ was passed on from generation to generation, with more and more people being Baptized “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Shortly after I was born my parents had me Baptized so as to share in their Faith. It would be interesting to trace our Christian genealogy from one who was present at that final instruction of Jesus.

There would be people of various nations and states of life all joined together by our Baptism into God’s family. I like to imagine that there were Saints in Martyrs, slaves and freemen, royalty and commoners, those who were Baptized because they were born into Christian families, and those who were pagan and professed their faith in Jesus Christ.

Through Baptism we are all united with God and one another. The mystery of the Triune God fills us with the Love of the Father, the Peace of Christ, and the unity of the Holy Spirit. We are united with God who draws us into His family, he is the loving Father, he is the Son our Brother who brings us Peace, and the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us. In celebrating the Feast of the Holy Trinity it is a day for us not to get bogged down with trying to wrap our minds around an unsolvable mystery, rather let us allow the mystery of God wrap himself around our hearts and souls and fill us with a deeper experience and appreciation of God. May the unity of God enter our lives to bring inner unity to anything within us that is in discord, as well as unity in the outward tensions we face. The mystery of the Holy Trinity is to behold with awe and to celebrate with joy.

**If each member would sign up
just one new member, we could
double our Society immediately**

THINK ABOUT IT!

JEDNOTA

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All copy is due by 4:30 P.M., THE MONDAY OF THE WEEK BEFORE THE ISSUE DATE, unless otherwise stated below because of special holiday scheduling. Copy that is not received by this deadline will not necessarily appear in the following Wednesday’s issue.

Issue Date	Copy Date
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10	MONDAY, JUNE 1
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15	MONDAY, JULY 6
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 12	MONDAY, AUG 3

Correspondents who are announcing events should allow ample time for them to be received by the readership, taking into account the publication schedule and the extra time in the postal system.

Send all copy (English AND Slovak) to:
Teresa Ivanec, Editor; fcsulifeeditor@gmail.com
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6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398
FAX: 216-642-4310

Message From President

continued from page 1

The poppy has a history in antiquity. More recently we hear in the media about the thousands of acres of a few species of poppies grown in Afghanistan that are the raw material for opium, morphine or heroin.

The red poppy had become associated with WWI and the battles in Flanders (the northern part of Belgium), and the mass casualties of that murderous war.

The famous poem "In the Field of Flanders" was written in 1915 by John McCrae (died in 1918) to commemorate the death of a friend and fellow soldier:

"In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields."

Just as we noted the aging of the veterans' organizations we have experienced the slow loss of the First Catholic Slovak Union membership since the peak year of 1965.

While times may have changed, our values stay the same:

Faith - Security - Fraternalism - Family

Our purpose remains to provide our Members and their families financial security both now and in the future through our insurance or annuities.

We are a family based organization, supporting our Church and our Members. We also promote fraternalism which can be defined as a group of people with common ties uniting for a common benefit. We are still active and relevant.

Join us and urge your friends and family members to join us. We exist for your and all of our Members' benefit. Help them find out what they are missing.

Andrew M. Rajec
National President

Message from Our National Chaplain

Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive is the preparatory catechesis (teaching manual) for the World Meeting of Families to be held September 22-27, 2015 in Philadelphia. The catechesis contains 10 chapters, each concluding with four questions for reflection. One of the reflections from Chapter 4, Two Become One, is offered here.

How do the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist relate to the Sacrament of Marriage?

All seven sacraments bestow God's grace when they are properly celebrated and the person receiving is properly disposed. Since this is so, one can note similarities in the graces bestowed by two or more sacraments. Sins are forgiven through Baptism, Penance, Eucharist, and Anointing of the Sick. The baptized, confirmed, and ordained are commissioned to evangelize. It follows, then, that Penance, Eucharist, and Marriage are related. Each bestows graces of faithfulness, unity, and love.

Think about the Act of Contrition, the prayer we offer right before the priest says the words of absolution when we go Confession. We ask for God's help (grace) to sin no more and to amend our lives. In other words, before our sins are forgiven through the ministry of the priest and the church, we ask for the sacramental grace in Penance to help us remain faithful to God in thought, word, and deed. The Holy Eucharist nurtures and strengthens one to be Christ's faithful witness in the world. Faithfulness between a husband and wife is a hallmark of Marriage. On their wedding day, a man and woman vowed before Christ and His Church to be faithful to each other all the days of their lives.

The Sacrament of Penance is sometimes called Reconciliation, for it is the means by which a person who has sinned, has turned one's back on God and others, is brought back to God and the people of God (the Church). The Eucharist unites us not only with Christ, but with one another, which forms us into one Body in Christ. Marriage is a special union between a man and a woman, a union which lasts until death.

There can be no other answer why God forgives us our sins through the Sacrament of Penance than His endless and enduring love and mercy. Christ feeds us with His Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist because of his deep love. As Christ's love for his Church is permanent, exclusive, and life-giving, so, too, is the love between a husband and wife in marriage.



Rev. Thomas Nasta

Fr. Thomas A. Nasta
National Chaplain

2014 Annual Report of Region 2 Director

Rev. Thomas Nasta, President Andrew Rajec and fellow members of the FCSU Board of Directors:

It has once again been a privilege and an honor to serve as the Regional Director for Region 2.

In this past year, I performed all duties required of me as stipulated by the bylaws. I've attended all Board of Directors meetings which were held in Philadelphia, PA and Independence, OH and the quarterly board meetings either in person or over the phone as a teleconference. In January and December 2014, I also attended via teleconference the monthly Executive Committee meetings that were held at the Home Office at the invitation of the President. I attended both of the district meetings that my region held in Catasauqua, PA and Washington, DC where I updated the delegates with information learned at the board meetings. At the Catasauqua meeting, we had the honor of President Rajec, Vice-President Harcar and Executive Secretary Arendt attend the meeting and do their sales seminar presentation to the delegates.

In May 2014 I attended and participated at the FCSU bowling tournament in Pittsburgh, PA. In July 2014 I attended Slovak Day in Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, PA and then participated in FCSU golf tournament in Blairsville, PA. I look forward to attending these events again in 2015. In August 2014 I and my family attended the FCSU convention in Philadelphia. On September 14, 2014, my wife, daughter, and I attended the annual mass held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the crypt church, sponsored by Branch 856. Once again we were joined by a large group from New York as well as a choir from Slovakia. The priest who celebrated the mass did the entire service in Slovak.

As always, I continue to keep my branches informed through my reports at the district meetings and will continue to do so in the future.

Fraternally,

Damian D Nasta
Regional Director - Region 2

Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com



You are cordially invited
to the First Catholic Slovak Union's

125th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, August 29, 2015

Renaissance Hotel - Gold Ballroom
24 Public Square, Cleveland, OH 44113

Program featuring

His Excellency Peter Kmec
Slovak Ambassador to the United States

~
Veselica Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Chicago

~
Lucina Slovak Folklore Ensemble of Cleveland

5:00PM Mass to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of
Jednota Founder, Fr. Štefan Furdek's passing
6:00PM Cocktail Hour
7:00PM Dinner & Program
DJ, Dancing and Open Bar to follow

\$40 FCSU Members (\$45 after July 31st) \$45 Guests (\$50 after July 31st)
\$275 per table of 8

ONLY 250 TICKETS AVAILABLE!

Cocktail attire kindly requested

For more information and/or to send payment please contact:
FCSU, 6611 Rockside Rd, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131

800-533-6682



Tee Time: Jednota International Golf Tournament July 18 - 19

Golf is one of the few sports that provides not just a chance to relax, but at the same time a chance to talk in a more relaxed atmosphere and enjoy each other's company. One of the highlights of the summer season is attending the Jednota International Golf Tournament, where you have the opportunity to engage in friendly competition with other Jednota members for a chance to win numerous prizes.

This year the tournament will be held Saturday, July 18th, and Sunday, July 19th, at the challenging and breathtaking Gold and Silver courses in DuBois, Pennsylvania.

The Silver and Gold courses are PGA rated and are located 1 mile off Interstate 80.

The 18-hole "Silver" course at Treasure Lake is more open and friendlier to the beginning golfer. There are 70 sand traps and water hazards on flat, wide open fairways. The greens are well-manicured. Designed by Tom Palumbo, the Silver golf course opened in 1983.

The Gold Course has been featured as one of the best and most affordable courses to play in Pennsylvania by Golfer's Digest. This course is very narrow and wooded making it ideal for the golfer who welcomes a challenge. There are 55 sand traps and hazards. This course was also designed by Tom Palumbo.

Friday evening golfers and guests are invited to attend the Hospitality room at the Hampton Inn, Saturday Evening the Social will be held at the Best Western Conference Center. There are a block of rooms reserved at both properties. When making reservations you must say you are with the "FCSU Golf Group". Deadline for reservations is June 17th, 2015.

If you would like more information, you can send an email to me at: rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com or call me at 412-421-7967

Fraternally,

Rudy Ondrejco
National Fraternal Activities Director

First Catholic Slovak Union

2015 Annual Golf Tournament
July 17 - 19, 2015

Deadline for entry forms and hotel reservations is June 17th

Enclosed please find the following information for the 2015 Annual Golf Tournament:

1. Golf Entry Form
2. Rules & Regulations

Friday: Fraternal Hospitality Night – 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

We will kick-off the weekend on Friday evening with Hospitality Night beginning at 6:00 PM at the Hampton Inn DuBois. Our evening will begin with food, refreshments, socializing.

Hotel - We have rooms booked at:

Hampton Inn DuBois (20 rooms)	Best Western Plus (30 rooms)
1582 Bee Line Hwy	82 North Park Place
DuBois, PA 15801	DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-1000	814-371-6200
Room Rates: \$112.50 + tax per night	\$92.65 + tax per night

Please reference FCSU Golf when making your reservations to ensure you receive these rates.

Saturday: Individual Competition

We will begin with a shotgun at 8:00 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 7:00 AM.

Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes

Mass: Mass will be held at 5:30 PM at St. Michael the Archangel Parish
15 Robinson St. DuBois, PA

Banquet: Buffet dinner at 6:30 PM at the Best Western DuBois
Roast beef and stuffed pork chop are the buffet entrée choices with accompaniments.

Sunday: Individual Competition-Round 2:

We will begin with a shotgun at 8:00 AM. Please make sure to arrive at the course no later than 7:30 AM.

Hole in One Contest and Skill Prizes

Awards BBQ: Lunch will begin at 1:00 PM at the Treasure Lake Pavilion
Hamburgers and hot dogs, Corn on the Cob, Fruit Salad, Cookies, Iced Tea and Lemonade

We are looking forward to a great fraternal weekend and hope that you can share it with us. If you have any questions contact Rudy Ondrejco at (412) 421-7967 or rudy.ondrejco@gmail.com

First Catholic Slovak Union National Golf Tournament

Men's And Women's Official Rules and Regulations

1. The tournament is open to all members and the First Catholic Slovak Union (FCSU).
2. United States Golf Association (USGA) and host golf course rules will govern play. Improve your lie anywhere, except for

hazards. Out of bounds shot, drop where ball went out and 1 stroke penalty

3. Handicaps will be determined as follows:

A. All golfers will compete as determined by handicap. The golfer's first handicap will be determined after he has completed 54

holes of play in the FCSU National Golf Tournament. The handicap will be recalculated each year based on 54 holes of FCSU

National Tournament play. From the latest 5 rounds, the highest and the lowest will be discarded and 90% the average of the

remainder will be the handicap assigned for the tournament. 90% of an official USGA handicap may be substituted if a golfer

does not have an FCSU Tournament handicap. The maximum handicap will be 40 strokes for 18 holes.

B. Any golfer who has not completed 54 holes of tournament play in the FCSU National Golf Tournament will be entered in a

separate division using the FCSU version of the Callaway scoring system.

C. Male golfers, competing in the 18-hole event, age 65 or over and with a handicap larger than 10 may use the forward tees.

D. Any male golfer competing in the 9-hole event may hit from the forward tees.

4. Classifications:

A. A medal play champion will be determined in each of the following Divisions:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Men's A flight (0-10) | 5. Women's Flight |
| 2. Men's B flight (11-17) | 6. Callaway Flight |
| 3. Men's C flight (17-30) | 7. 9-hole Senior Flight |
| 4. Men's D flight (31 +) | |

B. Winners will be determined by low net score in each flight after 36 holes of medal play or 18 holes of play in the senior flight.

5. The division between the men's A-D flights may be adjusted to equalize the flights. A second women's flight may be added if

entries warrant such addition.

6. In case of tie for first place in any Flight, tie will be broken by match of cards using gross score starting on #1 handicap hole

followed by #2 handicap hole, #3 handicap hole and so forth until the tie is broken.

7. All other ties will split the applicable prize money. (e.g., two people tied for second will split second and third place prize money. Three people tied for second would split second, third and fourth place prize money.)

8. The prize list will be determined by the tournament manager using the money contributed by the contestants and matching money contributed by the FCSU for all golfers. As nearly as possible, there will be one prize for each four entries.

9. The tournament manager will schedule pairings. Both Saturday and Sunday schedules will be e-mailed to participants prior to the tournament.

Entries absolutely close on June 17, 2015



Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

A great source for the latest information about our Society - and events in the greater Slovak community.

**First Catholic Slovak Union
2015 National Golf Tournament
July 17 – 19, 2015**

**Gold and Silver Golf Courses
DuBois, PA**

Deadline for Entry Forms is June 17, 2015

	Sat. Banquet (X)	Sunday BBQ (X)	9 Holes Only* (X)	Name	Address	Phone or E-Mail	Branch and Certificate Number
1							
2							
3							
4							

*For women or seniors age 75+. 9-hole players must play together; no 18-hole player and 9-hole player foursomes allowed.

GOLFERS (fees are listed per person):	
18-Hole Players	\$70.00
9-Hole Players	\$50.00
Tournament Fee	\$ 8.00
Prize Fee	\$12.00
Saturday Banquet	\$15.00
Sunday BBQ	\$15.00

NON-GOLFERS:
Please Choose ALL that apply & indicate number attending

_____ Will attend Hospitality Night @ \$0.00

_____ Guest Banquet Dinners @ \$35.00

_____ FCSU Member Banquet Dinners @ \$15.00

_____ Will attend Sunday BBQ @ \$15.00

Mail Entry Fee Payable to:
FCSU Activities

Mail to:
FCSU Golf
234 Ilion St.
Pgh. PA 15207

Room accommodations provided by

Hampton Inn DuBois (20 rooms)
1582 Bee Line Hwy
DuBois, PA 15801
814-375-1000

Best Western Plus (30 rooms)
82 North Park Place
DuBois, PA 15801
814-371-6200

Room Rates: \$112.50 + tax per night

\$92.65 + tax per night

Indicate you are with FCSU GOLF

Check in time: 3 PM

Check in time: 2 PM

Deadline for Reservations is June 17, 2015

\$ _____ **TOTAL INCLUDED WITH THIS FORM**

Golf rules and entry forms also can be downloaded by going to <http://www.fcsu.com/fraternal-events>

**Scenes from the Latest
FCSU Sales Seminar in Greensburg, PA**

The George Onda District hosted a Sales Seminar led by the Membership and Marketing Committee of the First Catholic Slovak Union as part of its semi-annual meeting on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at the Bishop Connare Center, in Greensburg, PA. Beginning at 4PM, National President Andrew M. Rajec, National Vice President An-

drew R. Harcar, Sr., Executive Secretary Kenneth A. Arendt and Home Office Staffer Andrew P. Rajec presented important information about the First Catholic Slovak Union and its portfolio of products, including insurance policies and annuities. The seminar was followed by a complimentary buffet dinner.



Slovak Children's Choir Comes To The US This Summer

Pro Musica-Magnolia is one of the best and most famous choirs in Slovakia.

The group was formed by combining Pro Musica (Michalovce, Slovakia) and Magnolia (So-brance, Slovakia). Since its formation, the choir has been representing Slovakia in many international competitions throughout Europe and Mexico. This summer the group – consisting of 38 children, beginning at age 11 – will debut their talents in the United States. The choir has been awarded 18 gold medals, 10 silver medals and three bronze medals. Their repertoire includes classical and popular music as well as traditional folk songs and dances of the Zemplin region.

The choir will start its tour in Washington, D.C when it competes in the "Serenade Washington DC Choral Festival" from June 25 - 29. The tour will continue with performances in Pittsburgh, PA, sponsored by The Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association on Tuesday, June 30th; and in Linden, NJ on Friday, July 3rd, in cooperation with First Catholic Slovak Union and Branch 746, as well as the Slovak-American Cultural Center (S-ACC). Details are in the flyers below.



Pro Musica-Magnolia
Slovak Children's Choir

Fundraiser Concert
Tue, June 30, 2015 at 7:30 pm
Synod Hall
125 N. Craig St.
Pittsburgh, PA

Tickets:
Joe Senko
(412) 531-2990
(412) 956-6000

\$20.00 for adults
\$7.00 for children 12 and under
\$17.00 each for groups of 10 or more adults
\$5.00 each for groups of 10 or more children

Sponsored by:
Western Pennsylvania Slovak Cultural Association




Pro Musica-Magnolia
Children's Choir from Eastern Slovakia

Fundraiser Concert
followed by Dinner and Live Music by Relax
Fri, July 3, 2015 at 6:30 pm
Msgr Komar Hall
2806 Parkway Ave
Linden, NJ

RSVP by June 15th to:
Adriana: 908-510-0547 Hanka: 908-494-4534
Sponsors: St. Joseph's Club, Slovak-American Cultural Center, First Catholic Slovak Union and Branch 746



The First Catholic Slovak Union
is now accepting VISA, Mastercard and
Discover credit cards as newspaper
subscription payments.

Contact the
Home Office for details:

1-800-JEDNOTA or fcsu@aol.com.

Attention Members of the Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District and St. John the Baptist Society Branch 553 KJ

Want to learn more about the FCSU's excellent portfolio of insurance and annuity products?



The First Catholic Slovak Union Membership and Marketing Committee will hold a sales seminar on Sunday July 18, 2010 at the Akron J. Club in Akron, OH, beginning at 12:30 P.M.

The seminar is available to all branch officers, district officers and recommenders in the Kostik District and in Branch 553. Any First Catholic Slovak Union Member interested in learning about and selling insurance and annuity products is also urged to attend this seminar. Form a car pool and get involved in sales.

Please be sure to make your reservations by calling either Executive Secretary, Kenneth Arendt at 1-800-533-6682 or Carlie M. Peshek at 330-779-3927 by July 14th.

Until Then....

Good Luck and God Bless

Andrew R. Harcar, Sr.

National Vice-President

Chairman, Membership and Marketing Committee

Editor's note: please watch for details of future meetings in upcoming issues of Jednota, as well as other pending seminars.

Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance 2015 Scholarship Program

One of the most important fraternal programs offered by the Pennsylvania Fraternal Alliance (PFA) is its scholarship program. The PFA commits to awarding at least one (1) \$500 scholarship to a deserving young student from a member society each year.

The deadline for submitting applications is a September 1, 2015 postmark. You can obtain an application by calling the Home Office of the First Catholic Slovak Union at 1-800-533-6682 or downloading an application from the First Catholic Slovak Union website at <http://www.fcsu.com/scholarships>

All completed applications and supporting information is to be mailed to:

Susan M. Ondrejco

PFA Scholarship Chair

234 Ilion Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15207

The Scholarship Committee of the PFA will make the selection of the scholarship recipients, and all decisions are final. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the PFA Annual Meeting to be held at the Sheraton Hotel at Station Square in Pittsburgh, PA, on October 25 – 27, 2015.

Slovak Picnic in Cleveland Ohio Sunday, July, 19, 2015



The American Slovak Zemplin Club will hold its annual picnic on Sunday, July, 19, 2015. Picnic will be held at the Slovak Sokol Camp, 2069 Royalwood Road. (Between State and Broadview Rd.) Broadview Heights, OH.

Admission at the gate is \$4.00.

Festivities begin at 12 noon and continue until 8 P.M.

Traditional Slovak specialties as well as American picnic favorites will be featured throughout the day. Home baked pastries - kolace will be available for sale. Music for dancing and listening pleasure will be provided by the popular Johnny Pastirik Band. The popular Slovak beer "Zlaty Bazant" will also be available. There will be 50/50 raffle boards, along with a playground for the kids, a soccer field, cornhole, and other activities to please everyone.

The committee cordially invites all Jednotars and Jednotarky. We are looking forward to seeing you. Come with your family and friends. Help us preserve our Slovak culture and heritage. For additional information call (440) 885-5702.

Fraternally,

George Carny
President, American Slovak Zemplin Club
President, FCSU Branch 450

The Origins of Memorial Day

MEMORIAL DAY



Celebrated every year on the final Monday of May, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Formerly known as Decoration Day, it originated after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the Civil War. By the 20th century, Memorial Day was extended to honor all Americans who died while in military service. It typically marks the start of the summer vacation season, while Labor Day marks its end.

Many people visit cemeteries and memorials, particularly to honor those who have died in military service. Many volunteers place an American flag on each grave in national cemeteries.

Memorial Day is not to be confused with Veterans Day; Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving, while Veterans Day celebrates the service of all U.S. military veterans.

Please Join Us for a "Fun" Fundraiser!

Saturday, June 13, 2015
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.



at: Scoreboards Sports Bar & Grill
10333 Northfield Road
Northfield, Ohio 44067

All you can eat:

- BBQ Wings & Garlic Wings
- Pasta with Meat sauce
- Pepperoni Pizza & Cheese Pizza
- Cheese & Crackers
- Veggie Trays
- Chips & Pretzels
- Beer and Wine
- Pop and Coffee

We will have raffle baskets and sideboards, too!

Advance sale tickets: Only \$20.00 per person

Please call: 216-235-7466 - Milan
440-439-4119 - Jennifer
440-868-7797 - Tom
440-655-8244 - Christine

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thanks you greatly for your support!*

LIGHT ONE CANDLE

Tony Rossi, Director of Communications, The Christophers

God Wants People Who Admit Their Own Frailty

Over the past few years, five-time Grammy nominee Matt Maher has been reflecting on his own future as well as the future of the Church he loves. Looking at the social issues prevalent in modern culture, he noted that "politics has poisoned, in some ways, people's day-to-day life, especially on the Internet." He wondered how to navigate these troubled waters, and finally found the answers in the saints.

During an interview on "Christopher Closeup," Maher explained, "The saints... somehow found a way to stand for God, to stand for the Church, but also to love tremendously and love fiercely. In doing that, they elevated the conversation. That's what I feel needs to happen. We need a lot of young men and women to respond to the call of God—to not get bogged down in a lot of the arguments that are happening, [but instead] focus our eyes back on Jesus and be amazing examples that can help re-elevate the conversation."

Maher's latest album, "Saints and Sinners," helps listeners do just that by providing music that connects with your spirit and lyrics that engage your mind and heart. He realizes that the saints have an image problem because the reality of their lives has often been whitewashed. When people believe that the saints never did anything wrong or never struggled with darkness, their expectations of religious leaders and others who call themselves "Christian" become skewed.

For instance, one of the album's songs, "Firelight," was inspired by Mother Teresa's struggle with darkness that was revealed from her personal letters in the book "Come Be My Light." Maher was surprised that this was treated as a scandal by many news outlets. He said, "Any human being who takes on vows of poverty, chastity and obedience—that's a tremendous witness and sacrifice. Then [she] decides to start her own order, another huge act of sacrifice. Then, this brave woman goes to the poorest place on the planet and literally helps people die with dignity. I don't know anybody who wouldn't struggle with finding the presence of God."

Instead of turning people away from the faith, Maher believes Mother Teresa's witness could draw them to the Church: "I feel like we could do a whole ad campaign for vocations around [her struggles] and say, 'This is who God's looking for. God's looking for people who don't have all the answers. God's looking for people who are willing to admit their own frailty.'"

Maher also found wisdom in the life of St. Therese of Lisieux who, by worldly standards, didn't accomplish much in her short life. Yet on her deathbed, she spoke the words "Everything is a grace," signifying that even the most humble life is accomplishing something good in God's eyes.

Maher wrote a song inspired by that idea. He concluded, "The enemy has taken most of the Church and turned them from prophets into a bunch of complainers—myself included. We spend more time complaining about life than prophesying the love and grace of God over it. So Therese, to me, was such a profound example for young people who feel tempted to complain of an insignificant life because she found great significance. In fact, a lot of those valleys that we walk through can become profound places of transformation where we're actually brought closer to God and we reach a point of surrender, of saying, 'Everything is grace.' There is an opportunity in everything to receive grace for the journey—and to receive grace to love people no matter how difficult things may seem."

For a free copy of the Christopher News Note, *LISTENING WHEN GOD SPEAKS*, write: The Christophers, 5 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004; or e-mail: mail@christophers.org tr 05/24/15

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Reminder For All Branches

Among the requirements to complete in order to qualify for your branch stipend, under Bylaw Section 14. RULES GOVERNING LOCAL BRANCHES, is the following:

14.01 General Rules

a) Branch and district meetings must be held in the close proximity of the hub of its members. The meetings shall be held at least semiannually, one of which must be for the elections of officers, who shall assume their duties upon election. **Notice of each of these meetings shall be published in the Official Organ at least thirty (30) days in advance of such meeting.**

3 EASY STEPS TO ORDER YOUR MEMORIAL GRANITE BRICK

- 1.** Fill out the below form with your message to be etched on your brick. You have up to three lines on each brick, and up to 20 characters per line INCLUDING spaces between the words. Each space counts as one character.
- 2.** Include payment for your brick (check or money order made out to the First Catholic Slovak Union). Each 4x10 brick is \$100. You may purchase more than one brick. Larger sized bricks are available. Contact the Home Office at 800.533.6682 for details.
- 3.** Mail the completed form and your payment to the Home Office at:

FCSU Corporate Center
c/o FCSU Memorial
6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300
Independence, OH 44131



PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CONTACT INFO:

YOUR NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

St. Thomas Sunday at the Cathedral of Nativity of Mother of God

The First Sunday following Easter, April 12, 2015, is dedicated to St. Thomas. It's true that we think of Thomas as the "doubtful" one and yet his Feast Day is immediately following the Feast of all Feasts – the Resurrection of Our Lord. We are still in the joyful mood from that wonderful Feast and it was with that joy that we welcomed among us a very special guest: His Excellency Andrej Droba, the Ambassador of the Slovak Republic to Canada. He came to visit us with his lovely wife Daniela and his charming daughter Sara. It was an honor to have him with us at our liturgy. Since this was the first time they had attended a Byzantine liturgy, they were pleasantly surprised and truly enjoyed the experience. The main celebrant was His Excellency Bishop John Pazak, CSsR, with Fr. Marek Novicky concelebrating. Before the liturgy Fr. Marek officially introduced and welcomed His Excellency and his family and let them know how happy we were that they chose to visit our parish.

Following the liturgy, all were invited downstairs to the hall for some fellowship, a bite to eat and coffee and cake. Fr. Marek once again welcomed our honored guests and presented Mrs. Droba with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. One of our young parishioners, Madeline Tubaro also presented a smaller bouquet to the charming Sara. Mr. Ambassador, took the time to thank Fr. Marek and Bishop John as well as the parishioners for the warm welcome that they received and spoke a little about the way he envisions his job here in Canada. He reiterated that he is here to serve the Slovak community to the best of his ability; he promised to visit as often as his schedule permitted and asked that if anyone needs any help related to Slovak passport or other Slo-

vak document, to please contact him. He then stopped by every table and chatted with as many people as he was able to before he sat down to enjoy the tasty open-faced sandwiches. Thank you to: Mrs. Kapitan, Mrs. Bujdos, Mrs. Bucko and Mrs. Burger for preparing the beautiful and tasty snack, cakes and coffee. You certainly do a great job.

Your Excellency, we were honored to have you with us on St. Thomas Sunday. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule and spending it with us. You and your family will be in our prayers and we certainly look forward to many more visits to our parish. May God keep you and your family happy and healthy for many years - Mnoho rokov, stastnych rokov, nech sam nas Pan, daruje Vam. We sure hope you will remember the phrase heard so many times during our liturgy: "Christos Voskrese!"

- Written by Mary Snell; submitted by, and photos courtesy of, Helen von Friedl, Branch 785





Dinner and lots of tasty treats are served throughout the festival.

St. Thomas A'Becket Annual Festival, June 25 – 27, 2015

The St. Thomas A'Becket Annual Festival will be held on Church Property at 139 Gill Hall Road, Jefferson Hills, PA, from 6:00PM to 11:00PM each day of the three day event, Thursday through Saturday. A fantastic flea market will be open during festival hours. This exciting new attraction is on the lower level of the new church building and offers an early-bird presale opportunity with \$5 admission fee on Saturday, June 20, 2015.

There will be C&L amusement rides for children and adults. Special attractions like raffles, bingo, face painting and games of chance every day. Entertainment daily: Thursday, June 25 features D.J. Lazor Labby; Friday, June 26, is the Abeliene Band & Gas House Annie; and Saturday, June 27, is the oldies' group, the Holidays.

Dinner will be served each evening: Thursday: Chicken Planks and Fries Dinner; Meatball Hoagies; Homemade Donuts. Friday: Fried Fish Dinner, Pierogie (Pirohy), Haluski; Homemade Donuts. Saturday: Stuffed Cabbage Dinner; Homemade Donuts. In addition, there will be hot sausages, hot dogs, hamburgers, pizza, kielbasa & kraut, funnel cakes, strawberry shortcake, ice cream and much more ...

For more information, call 412-655-2885.

Thanks Teacher (Va'daka Učitel)

April 26, 2015, was a day of both celebration and sadness. It marked the last Slovak Language, History, and Culture Class taught by Robert Richardson. We began in the Spring of 2009. During our first class, we all introduced ourselves. Učitel Richardson taught rom handouts he received while studying for the Peace Corps. He and his wife taught English in Slovakia.

By our second class, we all were using James Naughton's Colloquial Slovak: The Complete Course for Beginners. We actually completed that book. Then, we worked from an updated version. The interesting challenges dealt with technology: emails, texting, etc. We completed eight of the 16 chapters.

Učitel Richardson's knowledge of the language (he was raised by his Slovak grandparents), history, and culture enriched us greatly.

During our last lessons, practice included naming clothes, šaty. We also completed a reading. Then the party began. Učitel supplied the plum brandy, slivovica. Students brought popcorn and pastries. I supplied the cake, red velvet for the Velvet Revolution with Va'daka Učitel written on top.

Our new teacher, Dr. Anna Kajuch, introduced herself. She was born and raised in Slovakia before coming to America. She is a recently retired psychiatrist. Lessons will begin after Labor Day with a new approach. We all look forward to a new beginning, but we will still see Učitel Richardson at meetings and gatherings. He also plans to show us Slovak films in the fall at the Wisconsin Slovak Historical Society in Cudahy, Wisconsin.

- Submitted by
Karen Chovanec-Calhoun



News From Slovakia

President Kiska Meets WWII Veterans

Bratislava, May 7 (TASR) - Marking the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, President Andrej Kiska met war veterans at the Presidential Palace on this date.

Kiska invited participants in WWII including members of the domestic resistance, partisans, the 1st Czechoslovak army in Slovakia, Czechoslovak soldiers in the Soviet Union, Polish air units, the British Royal Air Force and those imprisoned in concentration and labor camps.

Fourteen of the 22 people invited attended the personal meeting. Most of the veterans are now over 90 years old, and many weren't able to come due to health reasons, so they were represented by family members. One of the invited veterans, Ludovit Sramko, who died on April 27, was represented by his son.

In his speech Kiska praised the invited people for giving up their security and comfort, suppressing doubt and setting off to fight evil. He remarked that many of them had to face repression from the communist regime after the war.

"It's a bitter part of our history that after the defeat of Nazism and the liberation of our country many of you who are here today had your freedom taken away. It's even more important to protect the testimony of what you did for us, therefore. Your memories have to be a permanent part of thinking about our future and the consequences of our decisions, about our duty to protect freedom, human dignity and peace," said Kiska.

Jaroslav Fabok fought as a partisan in the Slovak National Uprising and spent more than 16 years in communist prisons. "We were young and foolish to think that 100 of us could defeat 100,000. It was folly, but we went into it because the others were just sleeping and hiding," Fabok told TASR about his participation in the Uprising.

Alisa Domanova from the UK, who worked as a nurse for the Red Cross during WWII, said that she sees the president's attention as appreciation for her husband - Lt. Alexander Doman, who travelled from England to join the 2nd Czechoslovak Parachute Brigade in the Soviet Union and later participated in combat in Slovakia.

"Our 'reward' was to be prosecuted, thrown out of our flat. My husband was sent to the mines, the children suffered. I later had to work as a laborer," said Domanova, who has also been awarded by her country of birth.

President Lights Candles to Honor Fallen Romanian and Soviet Troops

Zvolen, May 8 (TASR) - President Andrej Kiska paid a visit to the Central Military Cemetery of the Royal Romanian Army and Red Army in Zvolen (Banska Bystrica region) on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII on this date.

By lighting Candles of Gratitude, the president paid his respects to the memory of the fallen Romanian and Soviet soldiers.

"Almost 100,000 soldiers died liberating our country. There's a story behind each of their graves. Every one of them wanted to return home, had a mother or wife and children to return to, yet they died liberating our country. For that, we need to be enormously grateful and never forget this," said Kiska in his speech.

President Kiska had also paid a visit to war memorials and cemeteries at Dukla Pass and Liptovský Mikuláš (Zilina region) earlier in the day and is slated to make another two stops - in Sturovo (Nitra region) and Bratislava. Representatives of his office will also visit other memorials in Dargov, Michalovce, Humenne and Trebisov in the east of the country, and Martin, Zilina, Trenčianska Teplá and Stara Tura in the west.

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From the Desk of the Executive Secretary – Holiday Hours

The Home Office and Jednota Estates Office will be closed on Monday, May 25, 2015, in observance of Memorial Day.



Is your FCSU profile up to date?

Help us serve you by making sure we have all your latest information on file – address, phone, email, beneficiary

Call the Home Office and Update Your Profile Today at: 1-800-533-6682 (JEDNOTA)

Or go to <http://www.fcsu.com/update-profile>

ATTENTION BRANCH 40 YOUTH MEMBERS:

You May Be Eligible To Win A Scholarship If:



* You are a member of the First Catholic Slovak Union's – St. Clement's Society Branch #40, of Streator, Illinois.

* You are in high school and have applied for a fall term at a qualifying institution OR

* You are attending a Private Grade School St. Clement's Society Branch #40 will be offering

scholarships to their youth members. They will be giving out one – one time \$500.00 scholarship for college and one – one time \$250.00 scholarship for a Private Grade School student.

These scholarships are solely funded by your local lodge (Branch #40), not the national office.

For more criteria and an application, please call Theresa at (815) 672-6142 (leave message) or e-mail her at ttegraves@mchsi.com for an application.

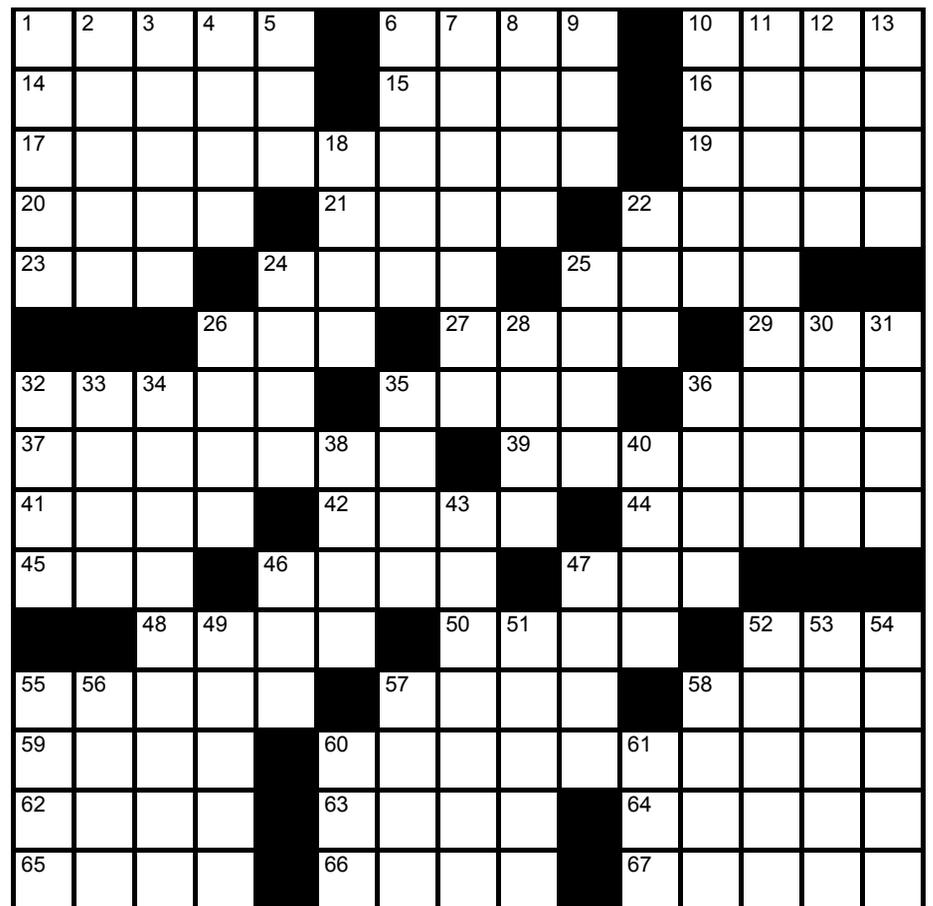
Applications must be postmarked by **June 5, 2015**.

JEDNOTA

Publication Schedule for 2015

Publication Date	Deadline to Receive Materials
June 10	June 1
July 15	July 6
August 12	August 3
Sept 9	August 31
Sept 23	Sept 14
October 7	Sept 28
October 21	October 12
November 4	October 26
November 18	November 9
December 9	November 30

Jednota Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 1 Awaken
- 6 Scruff
- 10 Highlander
- 14 Hand out
- 15 Saloon selections
- 16 Window section
- 17 Certain paintings
- 19 Killer whale
- 20 Cramp
- 21 Politico Bayh
- 22 Mannequin, for one
- 23 Slump
- 24 Rind
- 25 Hardens
- 26 Old salt
- 27 Cross a river
- 29 Cow chow
- 32 *Silas Marner* novelist
- 35 H. H. Munro's AKA
- 36 Store sign
- 37 Detective
- 39 Clothes
- 41 Japanese sashes
- 42 Quarry
- 44 Motivate
- 45 Tennis term
- 46 Face-off
- 47 Grow old
- 48 Playing cards
- 50 Subsidies
- 52 College major
- 55 Nickel, e.g.
- 57 Elliptical
- 58 Nanking nanny
- 59 Line of rotation
- 60 Oregon national park
- 62 Dalmatian's name?
- 63 Pledge
- 64 Michaelmas daisy

Down

- 65 Sharpen
- 66 Type of club
- 67 Sang-froid
- 38 Musical composition
- 40 Pen pals?
- 43 Lift up
- 46 Pa. neighbor
- 47 Competent
- 49 Social class
- 51 Shower
- 52 Fine fiddle
- 53 Garden tools
- 54 At that place
- 55 Moonshine mix
- 56 Fair, briefly
- 57 Voiced
- 58 Likewise
- 60 Gear wheel
- 61 Music genre

See Solution on Page 19



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7 Day Southern Caribbean

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sun	San Juan		10:00 p.m.
Mon	St. Thomas	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Tue	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Wed	Barbados	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Thu	St. Lucia	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Fri	St. Kitts	8:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Sat	St. Maarten	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Sun	San Juan	7:00 a.m.	

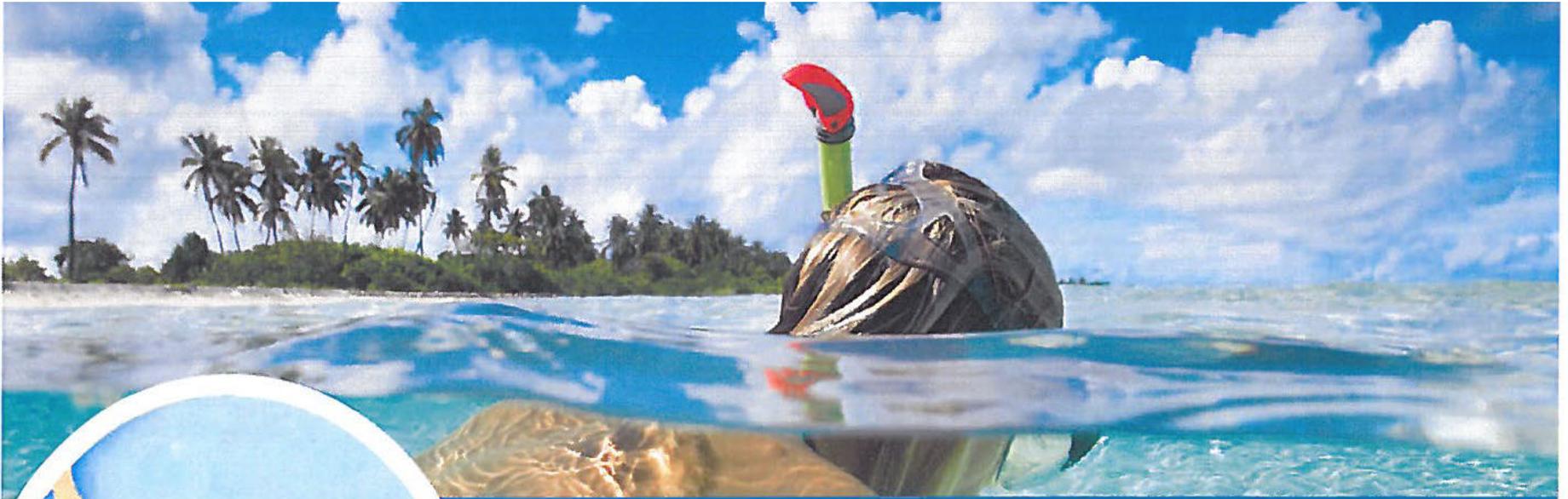
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November 15, 2015

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7 Day Southern Caribbean

Day	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sun	San Juan		10:00 p.m.
Mon	St. Thomas	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Tue	"Fun Day" at Sea		
Wed	Barbados	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Thu	St. Lucia	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Fri	St. Kitts	8:00 a.m.	6:00 p.m.
Sat	St. Maarten	7:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m.
Sun	San Juan	7:00 a.m.	

Departure Dates

Your departure date:

November 15, 2015

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Final payment due by August 1, 2015



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See page 12 of this issue for details ...

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRANCH 3 – MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

The Sts. Cyril and Methodius Society, Branch 3, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 7, 2015, at 1:00PM at the home of our President Delores Genosky, 1001 – 42 ½ Ave., NE, Columbia Hts., MN, 55421.

On the agenda is our summer fraternal activity, and the volunteers needed.

Fraternally yours,

James T. Genosky, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 10 – OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 10, invites all Branch 10 members, and their families, to attend the annual Communion Mass and Breakfast on Sunday, June 28, 2015. The 8 a.m. Mass at Holy Cross Parish, Olyphant, will be celebrated for all living and deceased members of Branch 10, FCSU. Immediately following the Mass, a complimentary breakfast for members and their families will be held at the Regal Room, 212-218 Lackawanna Ave., Olyphant, PA. Reservations are requested, and may be made by phoning (570) 587-2175 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. no later than Friday, June 12, 2015.

**William A. Nalevanko,
Recording Secretary**

BRANCH 19 – BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

St. Joseph Society, Branch 19K, will have a special breakfast meeting on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at 9:30AM in Sts. Cyril and Methodius Church Hall, 79 Church Street, Bridgeport, CT.

Since our March meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, we were unable to recognize the Margaret Evancho Award winners. We cordially invite these winners, and also past winners, to this special meeting to recognize and honor Margaret Evancho who died this winter. We are hoping that our members will join us for this special meeting as a tribute to her.

We will meet again on Sunday, September 13, 2015. More information on this meeting will be provided in upcoming issues of Jednota.

In the meantime, we wish all the members of the First Catholic Slovak Union a safe spring and summer season.

Henry Zack, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 23 – JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

On June 28, 2015 at 2:00pm Branch 23 will hold a meeting at Resurrection Hall R.C. at the corner of 6th Ave. and Chestnut St. (formerly St. Rochus Church Basement), Johnstown, PA.

Editor's note: please see a special invitation to this meeting from the FCSU National President on this same page.

BRANCH 24 - CLEVELAND, OHIO

We encourage you to attend two upcoming summer events. The Cleveland Slovak Radio

Club will hold their annual picnic on Sunday, June 28th; The American Slovak Zemplin Club's picnic is on Sunday, July 19th. Both are at The American Slovak Sokol Camp, 2096 Royalwood Rd. in Broadview Hts, OH, from 12 to 8 PM.

Join your Jednota Branch 24 members and friends for delicious Slovak food, refreshments, music and dancing. Please help support our fine Slovak organizations.

Bob Kopco, President

BRANCH 40 - STREATOR, ILLINOIS

The St. Clement Society, Branch #40, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Sunday July 26th at 1:00 P.M. at Chipper's Grill, 1733 North Bloomington St. Streator, Illinois. All members of Branch #40 are urged to attend the meeting. Lunch will follow. Please make reservations by calling (815) 672-6682 before July 24, 2015.

Maria Harcar, Financial Secretary/Treasurer

BRANCH 55 - BROOMALL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-Annual Meeting of Branch 55 is scheduled to be held on Sunday, June 28, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the home of the Secretary-Treasurer, Wesley Enhanced Living, 8401 Roosevelt Boulevard, Philadelphia. Mass will be at 11:00 a.m. followed by Lunch at 12:00 Noon. Lunch will be catered; therefore, we request that you RSVP by June 21st in order to make reservations at the Wesley.

Please bring non-perishable food for Aid for Friends in Need. All members are cordially invited to attend.

A short business meeting will be conducted to review the highlights of the past year, discuss plans for the balance of the year, and any other business that will come up. All members are cordially invited to attend. Please call the Secretary-Treasurer at 215.637.6530 for directions and to reserve lunch.

Helena T. Gaydos, President

BRANCH 85 – BLAKELY, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Florian Society Branch 85K will hold its semi-annual meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2015, at 7:00PM at the Jessup American Legion Post 411, Church St., Jessup, PA.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Bernard Skovira

BRANCH 112 – MAHANAOY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 112, will host a meeting and family day at the park on Saturday, June 13 at noon at Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg, PA. Please call Karen Sterling at 570-640-1796 for details.

Karen Sterling, Secretary

BRANCH 153 - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Branch 153 will have its semi-annual meeting

on Saturday, June 20, 2015. The meeting will begin at 11:30 am at the Chambers Restaurant, 6881 North Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, IL. There will be a luncheon after the meeting with no charge for branch members. All members are invited to share in fraternalism.

Please call me, if you plan to attend. (773) 763-0810.

Dorothy Jurcenko, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 162 – UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Wendelin Society, Branch 162, will hold its quarterly meeting on Sunday, June 14, 2015, at 9:00AM at the Golden Corral Restaurant Conference Room, 129 Matthew Drive, Uniontown, PA.

Branch activities will be discussed and officers' reports will be given as well as upcoming events for the current year. All members and guests of Branch 162 are cordially invited to attend the meeting and breakfast. Call for reservations by June 1, 2015, and for any address changes or questions to Dolores Marmol at 724-437-4983.

Dolores Marmol, Secretary

BRANCH NUMBER 173 - GREATER WILKES-BARRE AREA, PENNSYLVANIA

The Saint John the Baptist Society, Branch Number 173, located in the greater Wilkes-Barre – Wyoming Valley Area, will hold its semi-annual meeting on June 21, 2015 at Norms, North Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, at 12:30pm.

General business will be discussed and the insurance, annuities and fraternal activities of the First Catholic Slovak Union.

If anyone knows the address of the following members of Branch 173, please contact the Branch Officers at 570-4032067 or 15 Grove St. Mountain Top, PA, 18707.

Christopher Brooke Arnold 111

Bernard Kubinec

Michelle L Galdun

Catherine Hardik

Joyce Hudak

Debra Karasek

Robert Karasek

Leo W Karasek

Michail Kovaleski

Anthony Kubinec

John Kubinec

Heather Phillips

Jessica Phillips

Robert Phillips

Bernadine Rishcoff

Edward Yonich

Linda Yonich

Augustine Kubinec

If you plan to attend please notify Dorothy A. Ungvarsky at 570-403-2067 so arrangements can be made.

Fraternally,

John A. Ungvarsky, President

BRANCH 181 – UNITED, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 181 will hold a meeting on May 21, 2015, at Geanhilli's, Rt. 30, Greensburg, PA, 15601. The meeting will start at 6:00PM. On the agenda: appoint committee members their duties for the picnic; picnic committee members to plan annual family picnic to be held June 28, 2015.

Gerry Kovacina, Secretary

BRANCH 292 – WINDBER, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist Society, Branch 292, will hold their semi-annual meeting on Sunday, June 21, 2015. The meeting will be held at the Slovak Club, 1300 Jackson Avenue, Windber, PA, 15963 at 12:30 p.m. This meeting will be held in conjunction with our annual celebration of the feast of our patron, St. John the Baptist. A Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church, Windber, PA, that morning. All members are invited to attend both events. A dinner will be served.

Edward T. Surkosky, FIC, President

BRANCH 293 – LANSFORD, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 293KJ, will hold its semi-annual meeting on Monday, June 22, 2015, at 6PM at the home of the Financial Secretary. Anyone needing more insurance or services should call 570-645-4872 and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Lakata, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 393 – GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The St. Joseph Society, Branch 393, will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 7, 2015, at 1:00PM at New City Buffet, 5142 State Route 30, Suite 175, Greensburg, PA, 15601. All members are invited. For reservations, please call Mary Ann Nalevanko at 1-724-834-6386.

Mary Ann Nalevanko, Financial Secretary

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Attention Branch 23 Members: Special Invitation from the National President

On June 28, 2015 at 2:00pm Branch 23 will hold a meeting at Resurrection Hall R.C. at the corner of 6th Ave. and Chestnut St. (formerly St. Rochus Church Basement), Johnstown, PA.

At this Business Meeting we hope to elect new officers that will continue to service our members and keep our FCSU Branch improving and growing.

All members of Branch 23 are urged to attend. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Bob at the FCSU Home Office at 1 - 800-JEDNOTA (1-800-533-6682), extension 116.

Fraternally,

**Andrew M. Rajec
National President**

11th CONSULAR TOUR TO SLOVAKIA

August 23, 2015 to September 2, 2015 Escorted by Joseph & Albina Senko



Slovak Honorary Consul Joseph Senko has visited Slovakia 25 times since 1995, including ten tours which he has arranged and escorted. His wife, Albina, was born and raised in Slovakia. With their experience, they have created a customized tour for 2015 which will take you across Slovakia. Each night, we will stay at a first class hotel. Over 270 people from the United States have enjoyed these tours with Joe and Albina.

In addition to touring many historic towns in Slovakia, we will also visit famous historic sites in neighboring countries - Vienna, Austria and Budapest, Hungary. Our tour of Slovakia will take us from west to east through Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia; Trnava, known as the "Little Rome" of

Slovakia; Modra, where we will be seeing a demonstration in a ceramic factory; the world famous spa town of Piešťany; historic Banská Bystrica; the High Tatras; the famous town of Levoca; Bardejov, which is included in the UNESCO list; Presov, the sister city or Pittsburgh; and Kocise, the second largest city in Slovakia.

In addition to visiting several famous castles and museums, we will enjoy listening to live folk music, touring many historic churches, and dining in several typical Slovak restaurants.

Unique to this tour is: receiving a spa treatment; attending a mock Slovak wedding; rafting on the Dunajec river; several wine tastings and meeting with several Slovak dignitaries.

As we travel through the various regions of Slovakia, we can make arrangements for you to visit relatives or family towns and villages at an additional cost. These are just some of the highlights of our tour. The 11 days you will spend with us will be enjoyable, educational and you will be pleasantly surprised what Slovakia has to offer visitors.

For a detailed itinerary and payment schedule, contact Joe Senko at 412-956-6000 or jtsenko@aol.com. For a list of hotels, flight schedules, payment schedule and restrictions, contact Joe Senko.

DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT 6 – PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

The Pittsburgh District will be co-sponsoring a dinner reception to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the First Catholic Slovak Union and our own local Branch 2. The dinner reception with entertainment will take place on Sunday, June 7, 2015 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 550 Cherrington Parkway, Coraopolis, PA. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us as we celebrate our anniversary. Mass will start at 1 PM. There will be a social hour following Mass. Dinner starts at 4 PM. Entertainment will be provided by the Pittsburgh Slovaks. Tickets are \$40. Meal choices are chicken cordon blue or sliced New York strip loin. Make checks payable to FCSU Pittsburgh District. RSVP by May 25 to Mike Lako, 1 Gamble Street, Pittsburgh PA 15212 or call 412-766-3222. Branches are also asked to consider being a patron for \$100.

Branch 738 will host the Fathers Day brunch on Sunday, June 21. Karianne Barnes of Branch 628 will do the ad booklet. Members are asked to attend the 9:30 AM Liturgy at the church. Immediately following Mass, members are invited to the church hall for a meal and socializing. The cost of the brunch is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 & under. Reservations must be made in advance no later than Monday, June 15. No tickets will be sold at the door. To make reservations please contact Joe Yackovich at 724-863-7502 or email Jryapril43@verizon.net. Checks should be made payable to Patty Guidish. You can pay at the church hall or send your branch check to Patty Guidish 4569 Gate Dr., Munhall, PA 15120. Prices for the ad booklet are: full page \$75, half page \$40, quarter page \$25. This deadline is Sunday, June 7. Contact Karianne Barnes atkvehec@hotmail.com.

The district is also going to be collecting small, unused toiletry items for paralyzed veterans – wipes, small flashlights, disposable razors, etc. Please bring all donations to the brunch.

Branch 38 will host the annual winter meeting at a date to be determined later.

Branches are reminded to update their email addresses with the district secretary

While we look forward to seeing everyone at the FCSU district meetings, remember there are many other local Slovak events that also merit your attention:

** WPCSA monthly meetings are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Mt Lebanon Public Library: June 1 - Sites to see in Slovakia. Meetings resume in October.

** Slovak Language Classes are held Tuesdays in spring and fall. Contact Joe Senko for information about reservations and fees.

** Pittsburgh Folk Festival – Monroeville Convention Center May 15-16, 2015 – see www.pgh-folkfest.org/

** Slovak Choir Concert – WPCSA is bringing a group of 38 children from Slovakia for a concert at Synod Hall next to St Paul's Cathedral in Oakland at 7:30 PM, Tuesday, June 30. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$7 for children 12 & under. Tickets must be paid for in advance. Make checks payable to WPCSA and send to Manor Oak Two – Suite 500, 1910 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh PA 15220. If there are questions, contact Joe Senko at 412-531-2990.

** Johnstown Slavic Festival – Saturday, June 13 at the Heritage Discover Center in Cambria City, PA. For more information, contact daniel.kisha@gmail.com

** Slovak Day at Kennywood – Thursday, July 16, 2015. Tickets available at the district Fathers Day Brunch.

** Tour of Slovakia with the Senko's – August 23 to September 2, 2015 – Includes Vienna and Budapest. Contact Joe Senko for information about the itinerary.

** Various Slovak programs and courses are available through the University of Pittsburgh Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. See www.slavic.pitt.edu

** If you're interested in study abroad, Slovakia has a number of major universities, some of which have programs taught in English. Check out www.slovakia.com/study-in-slovakia/

** The National Slovak Society Museum in McMurray PA is available to visitors Monday-Thursday from 9-3. Contact Sue Ondrejco for information and reservations. See www.nsslife.org/Museum.php. The NSS Museum is acquiring an outstanding woodcarving of a Nativity Scene, similar to one seen only in Slovakia. It is expected to go on display later this year. The woodcarving was formerly located at the Slovak Folk Craft Store in Grove City, which closed at the end of 2014.

** The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International is holding its 2015 meeting October 21-24 in Cedar Rapids IA, the site of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library. The 2017 meeting is planned for Pittsburgh. Further information can be found at www.cgsi.org.

** Don't forget the Western Pennsylvania Slovak Radio Hour – 3-4 PM, Sunday's – WPIT-AM 730

** FCSU information and forms can be found at www.fcsu.com

Anyone with additional Slovak events in Western Pennsylvania that they wish to be included in our district notice should send information to manasta@verizon.net

Fraternally,

Margaret A. Nasta, District Secretary

DISTRICT 9 – THE FRANK T. HOLLY JR. DISTRICT

The Frank T. Holly Jr. District of Uniontown, PA has rescheduled its next meeting to Sunday, June 14, 2015 at 1PM in the K-2 Engineering Conference Room located at 234 Pittsburgh Street, Uniontown, PA. All district branches are invited to attend.

Barbara Holly, District Secretary

DISTRICT 10 – THE REV. STEPHEN FURDEK

Rev. Stephen Furdek District 10 will hold the first meeting of 2015 on Sunday, June 7, 2015, at 2 pm at the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. All district members are invited to attend.

Please notify Linda Hanko at 330-706-0151 or via email at lhanko@neo.rr.com if you are planning on attending. We need a head count for refreshments. We look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Mark the date, November 8, 2015. This will be a meeting a date. The location for the meeting is up for grabs. We are looking for a branch to host this fraternal meeting and plan on choosing a location at our meeting on June 7th.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hanko, Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 11 - MSGR JOSEF TISO DISTRICT

Unanticipated family responsibilities and illnesses of officers prevented a quorum gathering for the 2015 Semiannual Meeting of the Msgr. Josef Tiso District (District 11) scheduled on April 26. The meeting is rescheduled to Sunday, June 28, 2:00 PM at the C.U.Club, 910 Sixth Avenue, Ford City. When possible, Branches should designate their representatives to Grace Charney, District Secretary, at (724) 664-7185 by June 25; however, Branch members not previously identified are always welcome to participate in District meetings on a walk-in basis.

Reminders:

-- Per FCSU By-Laws, Branch representation at either of the two District meetings each year is required to qualify for receipt of the annual Branch stipend.

-- Up-to-date payment of District dues and attendance at District meetings are requirements for Branches to send delegates to the quadrennial convention.

-- Branch representation at District meetings need not be by Branch officers; any beneficial member may represent his/her Branch.

Grace M. Charney, District Secretary

DISTRICT 14 – THE REV. JOSEPH L. KOSTIK DISTRICT

The Rev. Joseph L. Kostik District will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2015, at 6:00PM at St Matthias Church, located on Shady Run Road, Youngstown, Ohio. The agenda will be general district business including upcoming activities. All member branches are urged to attend.

Paul Ritz, Fraternal Activities Director

Editor's Note: see page 6 for a July Sales Seminar held for Kostik District members.

DISTRICT 16 – MSGR. STEPHEN KRASULA – NEW YORK CITY

The Msgr. Stephen Krasula, District 16, will hold a semi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 31, 2015, at 1:00PM, in the Rectory of St. John Nepomucene Church, 411 East 66th, 1 Avenue, New York, New York 10065.

On the agenda will be a financial report and a discussion of activities and other business.

We urge all district branches to send their representatives to this meeting. All members of the FCSU – not just branch representatives – are welcome.

After the meeting, refreshments will be served, courtesy of Branch 716.

Fraternally,

Henrieta H. Daitova, Secretary-Treasurer

DISTRICT 17 -SAINTS CYRIL & METHODIUS DISTRICT - BROOME COUNTY, NEW YORK AND LACKAWANNA AND LUZERNE COUNTIES, PENNSYLVANIA

District 17, in Region 3 of the FCSU, will celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the founding of the First Catholic Slovak Union and commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the death of Father Furdek on Sunday, October 25, 2015. A Mass will be celebrated at 12:15 P.M. in St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, PA. A dinner will follow in St. Mary's Center, Scranton. Details and additional information will be announced in future issues of JEDNOTA.

Fraternally,

Michael J. Slovenkai, Sr., District President

DISTRICT 20 - PRINCE RASTISLAV DISTRICT - MONTREAL

Prince Rastislav District 20 will hold their semi-annual meeting Sunday, June 7, 2015 at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church Hall immediately following the eleven (11) o'clock Mass.

The agenda will include the Social Calendar for 2015 and Scholarships.

Branch 784 and 810 are urged to send representatives. Refreshments will be served.

Alexander S Dobrik, President

Branch 200 Scholarship Opportunities



Once again Branch 200, the C. U. Club, is proudly offering scholarships to any post high school graduate that will be furthering their education this fall. Applications may be picked up @ 910 6th Avenue, Ford City or contact Vicki Schaub @ 724-763-9229. Applications must be returned no later than July 1st. Recipients will be notified following August 6th Board of Directors meeting.

Vicki Schaub, Branch 200 Financial Secretary

Check out the First Catholic Slovak Union website at www.fcsu.com

2015 Slovakia Heritage Tour Takes Off September 11-20, 2015



Experience Slovak culture, history, and life in Slovakia today, up close and personal on the 2015 Slovakia Heritage ten-day, small group tour. From September 11-20, we'll explore important cities and historic sites as well as folk-life museums, mountain resort towns, beautiful countryside, and the mix of medieval towns to Soviet-era remnants that make Slovakia such an interesting small country to visit today. Optional genealogical research and ancestral village visits available.

For more information: Visit www.slovakiaheritage.com or contact Judith Northup-Bennett, Slovakia Heritage Tours, 978-544-5144 or connectionswork4u@hotmail.com

OBITUARIES

ANDREW G. HRESKO, SR. BRANCH 86 – MT. PLEASANT, PENNSYLVANIA

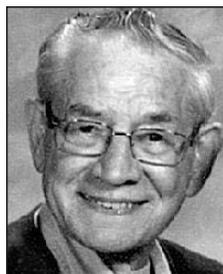


Andrew G. Hresko, Sr., 82 of Mount Pleasant, PA, died suddenly on Thursday March 5, 2015 in Excelsa Health Frick Hospital. He was born July 8, 1932 in Mount Pleasant, a son of the late Andrew and Catherine Brodak Hresko. Andrew was a graduate of the former East Huntingdon Twp. High School, class of 1950. Andrew was a self-employed public accountant and income tax preparer for more than 50 years. He was a Korean War Army veteran and a lifetime member of the Mount Pleasant American Legion, Mount Pleasant VFW and the Hopwood Amvets Post 103. He was a member of the Visitation Roman Catholic Church, Mount Pleasant. Andrew was also an accomplished musician having played accordion and bass for several popular bands including the Andy Hresko Orchestra, Blue Blazers, Polka Five, Debonaires and his beloved family band, The Anna Jane Allen Family Band for 41 years. He was also a lifetime member of AFM, American Federation of Musicians. Local 459 in Uniontown. He was a wonderful husband, father and grandfather and was so proud of his family. Andrew was a great, positive influence on those around him and his good nature, kindness and generous personality will be greatly missed. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Annajane Dillinger Hresko. He has three children, Deborah Hresko Burkhardt and husband Robert of Naples, FL, Patricia Hresko Rodriguez and husband James, Sr. of Ruffsdale and Andrew G. Hresko, Jr. and wife Carol of Mount Pleasant. He also has six grandchildren, Chad and Lance Burkhardt of Naples, FL; Kayla and Andrew III Hresko of Mount Pleasant; and James, Jr. and Joseph Rodriguez of Ruffsdale and he has one sister Kathryn Grabiak and her husband William of Southwest.

In addition to his parents he was predeceased by a sister, Anna Marie Hresko. Friends were received from 2-4, 7-9 P.M., Sunday, March 8, 2015, in the Brooks Funeral Home, Inc., Mount Pleasant, where a Blessing Service was held on Monday, March 9, 2015, at 12:30 P.M. followed by a Funeral Mass at 1:00 P.M. in Visitation R.C. Church with Rev. Richard Kosisko as celebrant. Interment followed in the Visitation Cemetery. Military Honors were accorded by the Mount Pleasant American Legion Honor Guard. A Parish Wake Service was held at 4:00 P.M. Sunday in the funeral home.

- Submitted by Anna Jane Hresko

MICHAEL I. KAPALA BRANCH 330 – TACOMA, WASHINGTON



Michael I. Kapala 1928 – 2015. Mike completed his bucket list, which included returning to his parents' birthplace in Slovakia, and a Panama Canal cruise. His travels with his wife Shirley started as a volunteer on a trip to Israel in 1981. Mike's expertise in Mechanics and Woodworking proved him to

be a valuable kibbutz man. Mike and Shirley hosted throughout Europe and England, contacting friends and making new ones along the way. Mike was a Korean War veteran. He retired as a civilian supervisor from McChord AFB. Active member of the K of C, 4322. Mike enjoyed volunteering with several community groups, including working the voter polls, Lakewood's Annual Night Out and food bank. Mike, a happy-go-lucky guy, could be counted on to get the work done. Mike's interests included Bikes for CCS, the Goodwill Games, "slot" winner, football, gardening, especially the Indianapolis 500 races with family members. He is survived by his loving wife Shirley, and was a supportive father to daughter Diane. Also by sisters Annie, Teresa, Margie, Loretta, and Alice, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by son Scott, and sisters Josephine, Stella, Caroline, Christine, and Helen, and brother Paul. Celebration of Life was held at St. Frances Cabrini Parish, Lakewood, WA, on Tuesday, April 21, 2015. The rosary was recited at 10:30, followed by Mass at 11:00 A.M.

- Submitted by Shirley Kapala

JOHN J. SALOYE, JR. BRANCH 553 – AKRON, OHIO

John J. Saloye Jr., 79, passed away peacefully April 20, 2015 following a short illness. He was born September 8, 1935 in Passaic, NJ, to the late John J. and Laura S. (Wawok) Saloye. He retired from Goodyear after 42 years of service. In addition to being a member of the Holy Family Church in Stow, OH, John enjoyed spending time with his friends in the Stow Sunshiners and the Stow Lunch Bunch clubs, as well as the J Club in Akron, OH.

John is survived by his wife of 59 years, Rosemarie; children, John Anthony (Marylynn) of South Charleston, West Virginia, Michael E. (Traci) of Barberton, and Joseph P. (Melissa) of Akron; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank the doctors and staff of Akron City Hospital for their kind and compassionate care during this difficult time.

Service was held Saturday, April 25, 2015, 1:30 p.m., at Holy Family Church, Stow, with Father Kevin Elbert officiating. Friends and family gathered from 12:30 p.m. until time of service.

- Submitted by Rosemarie Saloye

MILDRED KRUPA BRANCH 670 – DONORA, PENNSYLVANIA



Mildred Krupa, age 88, of Donora, PA, died Friday, January 23, 2015, at UPMC Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh with her loving family by her side.

She was born October 27, 1926 in Derry PA, the daughter of the late Michael and Eva Poloskey.

She was a member of the Our Lady of the Valley Church in Donora and its Christian Mothers and Women's Guild; and the Confraternity of the Most Holy Rosary.

Millie enjoyed cooking for her family and was famous for her pierogies, halupki and

pizzelles. She loved playing cards and going to bingo. She was a beautiful woman inside and out who truly loved life. She will be sadly missed by her family and everyone who knew her.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Joseph J. Krupa; eight brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include her two daughters, Susan (David) Yurkovich of Rostraver Twp and Debbie (Stephen) Fay of MA; a son, Joseph "Jody" Krupa of FLA; four grandchildren, Ryan (Amanda) Phillips, Elisa Phillips, Colby (Brittany) Phillips and Breanna Fay; five great grandchildren, Gage, Madix, Noah, Reece and Ryleigh; two sisters, Jean Ganguone and Helen Caviggia both of Latrobe; also several nieces and nephews

HELEN LEE JOHANIK BRANCH 729 – PHILLIPS, WISCONSIN

Helen L. Johanik, age 91, of Ashland, Wisconsin, passed away on Saturday, March 7, 2015, at the Northern Lights Health Care Center, in Washburn, Wisconsin. She was born on February 29, 1924, in Detroit, Michigan, the daughter of Steven and Elizabeth (Visocky) Podolan. Helen was a welder in the ship yards on the west coast during World War II. She and Joseph Johanik, Sr. were united in marriage, in Ino, Wisconsin, on July 3, 1948. A homemaker who loved the outdoors, Helen enjoyed: picking berries, gardening, baking and cooking, especially traditional Slovak dishes. She also enjoyed: doing puzzles, volunteering at the Brick, and helping other people. She was a 4H leader and a member of: the Moquah Alter Society, and the Moquah Homemakers.

Survivors include: her children: Theresa Johanik, of Phillips, Wisconsin; Lawrence, of South Dakota; Joseph, Jr. (Mary), of Bayfield, Wisconsin; Paul (Janine), of Washburn; and Julie (Randy) Johanik-Johnson, of Iron River, Wisconsin; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren: her sisters: Irene, Eleanor, Theresa, Frances and Catherine; numerous nieces and nephews.

Helen was preceded in death by: her husband, Joseph, on May 28, 1997; her son, Mike; her parents; brothers: Albert, Frank and Joe; and sisters: Elizabeth, Ann and Agnes.

A gathering for family and friends was held at the Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, in Moquah, Wisconsin, beginning at 10 a.m., Thursday, March 12, 2015, and concluding with a Rosary Service.

A Memorial Service for Helen was held at 11:30 a.m., Thursday, March 12, 2015, at the Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Moquah. Deacon John Grek officiated.

Interment in the Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery, Moquah, will take place in the spring of 2015.

SAMUEL D. SEKEL BRANCH 764 – WARREN, OHIO



Samuel D. Sekel age 89, of Medina, OH, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 11, 2015. Sam was born on November 1, 1925 in Deerfield, OH, to Albert and Theresa (Kollarik) Sekel Sr. He served in the United States Army Air Force during WW II, stationed in Guam and was a proud graduate of the Ohio State University in 1951 with a degree in Industrial Engineering. Following graduation he began his career with the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in Akron, OH. Early in his career he was transferred to Cuba and later to St. Marys, OH, retiring after 36 years of service. Sam enjoyed woodworking as a hobby and crafted many beautiful pieces of furniture for his family and home. He also enjoyed playing bridge, gardening and traveling. He especially cherished his family.

Surviving are his son Steve of Camas, Washington, daughter Susan (Leon) Skowronski of Strongsville, OH; grandchildren Matthew and Savanna, sister; Kathryn Tatka of Canton, OH, also many nieces and nephews. Sam was preceded in death by his parents; wife Priscilla "Pat", brothers; Albert, Joseph and Stephen, sisters; Anna and Mary.

Visitation for family and friends was held Monday, March 16, 2015 from 4 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Medina, OH. Mass of Christian Burial was held at Holy Martyrs Church on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 10 AM. Private Burial in Standing Rock Cemetery, Kent, OH.

VISIT SLOVAKIA----"THE OLD COUNTRY"



Remember how your parents or grandparents referred to their birthplace as "the old country." Well now is the time for you to go to Slovakia and visit the ancestral homeland and villages of your family.

Join Kay and Jim Bench as they host the 18th annual Youngstown/Spisska Nova Ves Sister Cities Tour July 13-27, 2015.

See the capital of Slovakia—Bratislava, enjoy award winning folk groups, visit Litmanova where there were documented apparitions of the Blessed Mother appearing to three school children in the 1990's, enjoy traditional Slovak food, attend several kolibas, enjoy shopping, go whitewater rafting on the Dunajec River, the natural border between Poland and Slovakia, visit villages such as Cicmany where you will see decorated homes, visit historic Tichy Potok, stay in a beautiful spa in Sliac and enjoy the thermal waters, indoor and outdoor pools and other amenities. Visit relatives and enjoy a luncheon reception with our Sister City Spisska Nova Ves. There are many more activities and cities too numerous to mention in this short article. For further information call Jim or Kay Bench.

Jim Bench cell phone 724-858-5843 e-mail jmbench@yahoo.com

Kay Bench cell phone 724-771-7900

Travel arrangements are made through Adventure International Travel. Contact Paul Hudak at 216-228-7171 or 800-542-2487 or Fax 216-228-7174. E-mail Paul@advintravel.com

"A Celebration of a Life" to Dzedo, Grandpa, my Dad, Ta

by his son,
Michael J. Kopanic, Jr., Ph.D.

"The first 100 years are the hardest. And I got part of them in." All of you who knew my father well, heard him say those words many times.

Well, he did not quite make it, but he lived over 96 years of a very fruitful life, and all of us are the better for it.

He is the last one in our extended family, coming from what journalist Tom Brokaw has termed "the Greatest Generation," the generation that served God and country and family, not for fame or recognition, but because it was the "right thing to do." His passing represents not just the death of one man, but an entire generation of heroes.

His life was a living example of selfless love, the realization of the self-sacrifice that Jesus Christ Himself taught us. That was Dad, putting others first, in word and action.

He unconditionally loved our mom, Ann, and his four children - Bob, Bernadine, Jim and me. He loved his grandchildren - Bobby and Chrissy, Jeff, Kristin, and Kevin, Milenka and Erika, and Jimmy and Jennifer; his great grandchildren: Derek and Travis, Zachary, Alexa and Jena, Carter and Collette, and my own grandson, Pavol, as well as the child on the way (my daughter Milenka is due in late October). And I might add, his in-laws: Cathy, Joe, Becky, and Debbie, and Jim and Sonia, who helped take tender care of him in his late years.

Besides Dad and Daddy, I called him Ta, the Slovak form of the word. My daughters, Milenka and Erika always addressed him as Dzedo (grandfather in Spiš dialect). Most of the grandkids called him grandpa.

He used to affectionately call me, Mižú Majk; no one else in the world ever addressed me that way, and no one ever will.

Though an American through and through, his Slovak ethnic roots in Spiš County touched many aspects of his life.

Background

He was born Michael Kopaničák in Youngstown, on September 15, 1918, as WWI was ending, and baptized at SS. Cyril and Methodius Slovak Catholic Church.

Even before he was born, he had a history, just as all of you have, whether you know it, or not. Our family came from Europe, from his ancestral homeland of Slovakia, part of Austria-Hungary at the time.

His father, my dzedo, Anton Kopaničák hailed from Ruskinovce, a tiny Carpathian German village at the foot of the towering High Tatra Mountains. After serving in the cavalry for 4 years, dzedo became a shepherd, and moved to the village of Harichovce, just north of Spišská Nova Ves in east-central Slovakia.

There he met my baba (grandmother), Juliana Kovalčíková, and they married in 1903. On Sept. 20, 1906, dzedo left his native Slovakia, boarded a ship departed from the port of Fiume (Rijeka, Croatia today), and arrived at Ellis Island, New York.

The following year, his pregnant wife (who lost her child on the trip overseas) also left Harichovce, where we still have relatives to this day.



Dad in his army hat.

Our grandparents first settled in Etna and Sharpsburg, PA, near Pittsburgh, where dzedo worked as a lumberman. Then the family moved to Youngstown, working at the steel mills at Youngstown Sheet and Tube. Seeking some elbow room, dzedo then bought some land and a 3 room house on the East Side, and would build 3 more rooms as his family grew. That's where my father was born.

Dzedo raised some cows and other domestic animals, and cultivated a huge garden, and my father would carry on that tradition of gardening, even saying that he would have a garden even if he had to crawl on the ground to tend it in his old age.

My Dad was diligent and always working hard from the time he was a young boy. Dad could be tough too; his brother, my Uncle Anthony, taught him how to box to fend off bullies.

His own father did not approve of play so much, but Dad liked to play baseball, one of my own passions. He got whipped for doing so.

My Dzedo would say: Idz kravom, daj im šano. - Go give the cows some hay.

Id' podojít' kravy. Go milk the cows!

Another one was: Nakarmiť švine! - Go feed the pigs!

Our Dad never got past the 10th grade, for in those days of the Depression, one had to go out and work to help the family make ends meet. He joined the CCCs, the Civil Conservation Corps, and served in the Idaho forests for a year, sending nearly every penny home to his parents.

Upon returning home, he worked a 3am-9pm job picking up garbage for what would become City Ash and Rubbish. Then he landed a job at GF, where worked before and after the War, until he retired after 31 years.

As the US was entering World War II, Dad met my mom, Ann Susa, at a Ukrainian dance hall on the west-side. They instantly fell in love. Her vibrant energy would complement his personality. Within 6 months, they were married on June 24, 1942, but Dad had already joined the army to serve his country.

Before long, he was off to North Africa, where he served as a truck driver in the 39th Combat Engineers, and under the famous, or some might say, infamous, General George Patton. During the invasion of Sicily in 1943, he even endured the experience of



Sme stále rodina, a silnejšia z inšpirácie nášho otca. We are still family, and stronger from our father's inspiration.

Patton cussing him out for his hesitance to drive through a minefield.

Dad also participated in the invasion of mainland Italy at Anzio, just 40 miles south of Rome. The Allies suffered over 19,000 casualties, and luckily Dad was not among them. Some of his buddies were not so lucky, so we remember their sacrifice too, and those of so many other veterans. My father would want that.

Luckily, he got home safely, though seasick, and my brother Bob was born within the year. After war, Dad learned how to do carpentry and fix roofs, built many garages and my Baba's (grandmother's) house, and helped build his own home. We boys got to know him best when we worked with him, often fixing roofs, and he favored the 90 degree days to do so!

continued on page 18

Slovak Picnic in June



Sponsored by the Cleveland Slovak Radio Club

Sunday, June 28, 2015

Noon until 8PM

American Slovak Sokol Camp

2069 Royalwood Road

Broadview Heights, OH

Featuring: Plenty of Slovak Food & Pastries

Music: by Anthony Culkar Band

Admission at gate: \$4.00

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

continued from page 14

BRANCH 419 - WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 149 will hold a meeting on Sunday, June 21, 2015 at 1:00PM at Norm's Restaurant, Sherman Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Please bring a friend.

Thank you.
Fraternally,

Frank Wassil

BRANCH 484 - CORAL, PENNSYLVANIA

The semi-annual meeting of the St. Joseph's Society, Branch 484, will be held Sunday, June 14, 2015, beginning at 1:30PM. It will be held at the home of the Financial Secretary Joseph E. Rura, 43 Rugh Road, Coral, PA.

On the agenda will be a discussion of the April 26 meeting of the Rev. John Martvon District and any other branch business. All members are welcome.

Joseph E. Rura, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 553 - AKRON, OHIO

The following events are scheduled:

May 31st: Branch 553 quarterly meeting at 2 pm, the Slovak J Club, 485 Morgan Avenue, Akron, OH 44311. All members are encouraged to attend.

June 7th: Okres District 10 meeting at the Slovak J Club. All district members are invited to attend.

Please notify Linda Hanco at 330-706-0151 or via email at lhanco@neo.rr.com if you are planning on attending. We need a head count for refreshments.

June 10th: Bus Trip to the Meadows in Pitts-

burgh (and if you can't make that one plan for a Sept trip to Wheeling). Call Linda Hanco 330-706-0151 for details.

June 20th - 45th: Annual Kielbasa Open at Mayfair Country Club -cost \$60 per person, \$240 for team. Call the Slovak J Club at 330-773-4978 to register your team - get your team and money in early to reserve your spot. If you can donate a door prize contact Linda Hanco at the club office. Events during the Open include:

- Breakfast Buffet 6:30 am to 8:00 am.
- Sausage Sandwiches at turn
- Luncheon Buffet after golf - along with door prizes, etc.

Don't forget our monthly Spaghetti dinner the first Wednesday of every month.

Finally, please note we are looking for anyone interested in forming a bowling league at our club, contact club manager for available dates at 330-773-4978.

Fraternally,

Sandie Klucar, Secretary

BRANCH 581 - GARY-WHITING, INDIANA

The St. Michael the Archangel Gary-Whiting Branch 581 will hold its semi-annual meeting at the River Pointe Country Club, 6700 Country Club Rd., Hobart, IN, on Sunday, June 28, 2015, at 1 p.m.

The agenda will include the upcoming cruise (Nov. 17-22), annuity insurance and our yearly donations.

RSVP to Ann Buczek, 947-2793 or George Kelchak, 926-2410, if you plan on attending.

Ann Buczek, President

BRANCH 587 - ALIQUIPPA, PENNSYLVANIA

St. John the Baptist will have a meeting on

June 9, 2015, at 2:00PM in the afternoon at the home of Albert Valo, 1835 Brodhead Road in Aliquippa. All members are welcome.

Edith L. Valo, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 595 - MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN

May 24, 2015 Sunday, all you can eat Breakfast \$8.00 per person 8:30 am - 12 noon best breakfast in town!

This will be the last breakfast until September. Burritos every third Thursday of the month, to-go only \$7.00. Call ahead to order 231-733-7525.

All events take place at Tatra Hall, 2536 Sixth St. Muskegon Heights, MI. For information, call 231-733-7525

Susan Hornik, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 628 - MUNHALL, PENNSYLVANIA

A meeting of Branch 628, St. Michael Archangel will be held on Sunday, June 21, 2015, at 3:00 PM at the Eat 'N Park Restaurant in the Waterfront complex in Homestead. The agenda will include an update of branch activities and discussion of upcoming events.

Sylvia J. Vehec, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 721 - BANNISTER, MICHIGAN

Branch 721 will have a meeting on Sunday, June 7, 2015. It will be held at the home of Financial Secretary Julius Remenar. The address is: 8977 S. Mason Road, Bannister, MI. The meeting will be held at 2:00PM. All members are urged to attend.

Joseph Beno, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 731 - YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

Members of Saint Joseph Branch 731, will meet on Sunday, June 14, 2015 at noon at Saint Matthias Church, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, OH. We will be planning our summer activities. Please plan to attend.

James Bobby, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 738 - WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

Branch 738 will be sponsoring a bowling out-

ing for member's children from ages 7 to 15 to have this bowling outing we need at least 20 children to sign up. We can only accept the first 50 children that sign up.

Children attending the bowling outing will have to be accompanied by a parent or an adult who will be responsible for the child's behavior and safety.

The outing will be held at Playmore bowling Alley, West Mifflin, Pa. on July 12, 2015 at 1 pm. We will be serving pizza after bowling to everyone that participates in the outing.

To enroll your child please call with the child's name and age and the name of the person who will be responsible for the child's safety. Please response no later than June 28th. You may call Joseph Yackovich at 724-863-7502 or Barb Brekosky at 412-462-8685

We look forward to seeing everyone for this day of fun.

Pat Guidish, Secretary

BRANCH 856 - WASHINGTON, D.C. AND AREA

Branch 856 is asking all members to save the date: September 12, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

At that time we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of our beautiful Slovak Chapel, Our Mother of Sorrows at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

The celebrant for the Mass will be Cardinal Donald Wuerl. We would like to see many of the Branch 856 members in attendance. For more information call Marion Mistrik at 301-654-5638.

Katherine Nowatkoski, Financial Secretary

BRANCH 857 - LEVITTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

The Semi-Annual meeting of the St. Michael the Archangel Branch 857 in Levittown, PA will be held on Wednesday June 10, 2015. The meeting will be held at 7:30PM at 15 Kraft Lane, Levittown, PA.

The officers of Branch 857 wishes all members of the FCSU a safe and enjoyable summer season.

Fraternally,

Damian D Nasta, Recording Secretary

"A Celebration of a Life"

continued from page 17

Weekends and vacations were special with him.

He liked to watch Gunsmoke on a Saturday night. My mom would never let him work Sundays; that day was for God and family. We took lots of Sunday day trips in the summers.

He also loved to tell us stories about the War, and he always treasured his years of service in the army to our country. He attended many veteran reunions of unit, kept in contact with his former comrades in arms, and volunteered to help at the Veterans Clinic.

The Singer

The Slovak expression goes: Kde Slovák, tam spev. (Where there is a Slovak, there is singing.) My father also loved to sing, both in Slovak and English.

My father especially enjoyed singing the Reduta, the Slovak wedding song, Naša Anička (Our Annie), Na pondelok ráno (On a Monday morning), and Dievča, Dievča (Girl, Girl), a song his mother taught him. A superb dancer in his time, he loved polkas and liked to listen to the Slovak program on the radio, a hearing the Helena Polka.

Ešte naša! (She's still ours!) - a refrain used at traditional Slovak weddings)

Dad used to tell me a výraz, an expression, which his father, my Dzedo, used. It is one of my favorite, and one I remember every day.

"Nezabudnes Pán Boh, a On nezabudne Teba." - "Don't forget the Lord, and he won't forget you."

He treasured those words, and tried his best to live by them. He faithfully attended Holy Mass every Sunday; he was pretty sick if he did not go to Mass. He served as an usher and Eucharistic Minister, and insisted on giving weekly bulletins to parishioners after Sunday Mass, even when he could hardly stand. The Lord will not forget such fidelity to the faith.

In short, my father was a wonderful man, a devoted husband, a loving dzedo or grandpa, and a friend one can treasure.

S Bohom, Ta. Trimaj še hore koncom.

Best Translation: God be with you, Dad. Keep your head up right to the end.

Urobim to Ta, urobim to. Lubim Teba! (I will do that Dad, I'll do that. I LOVE YOU!)

**Plan ahead and leave a
positive legacy behind**

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

According to a recent article in TIME magazine the cost of a funeral is between \$6,000 and \$15,000 with an average of \$7,775?

**Don't leave a financial burden
for your family or loved ones.**

Inquire today about
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FCSU Financial - First Catholic Slovak Union
Contact Branch Officer or the home office

6611 Rockside Rd, #300, Independence, OH, 44131, 800.533.6682,

www.fcsu.com, insurance@fcsu.com



The Johnstown Slavic Festival

Daniel Kisha



The Johnstown Slavic Festival will be held on September 19, 2015 at the Discovery Center in Cambria City (6th Avenue and Broad Street) in Johnstown, PA. There is no charge for admission. There will be Slavic entertainment, Slavic food, Slavic speakers, and Slavic vendors.

Our Vision

From 1880 until 1920, thousands of Slavic immigrants came to Johnstown to find employment in the area's mills and mines. By 1920, 25 percent of Johnstown's residents were of Slavic descent. They created a rich network of churches and social clubs to support their way of life and culture.

Johnstown went through tough economic times in the 1970s and '80s, and many people were forced to leave the community. Johnstown's ethnic organizations suffered. Today, many young people want to know about their ethnic heritage, and the culture and history of their Slavic ancestors.

The goal of the Johnstown Slavic Festival Committee is to create a new program that educates residents of the Johnstown region about their heritage. We plan to present authentic Slavic music, Slavic folk dance performances, homemade Slavic food, children's learning areas, educational speakers and exhibits, workshops, and ethnic vendors. A full day of entertainment and education is planned.

Johnstown's first Slavic Festival is planned to take place on Saturday, September 19th, 2015, from Noon to Midnight in the Heritage Discovery Center parking lots.

Who are the Slavs

The Slavic people immigrated from nations we know today as Belarus, Bosnia and Montenegro, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Macedonia, and Ukraine. The Slavs also include the Carpatho-Rusyn people, whose descendants are present in our area. Individually, each group's numbers may not seem large, but together, they represent a powerful presence.

By enhancing the community's knowledge of these lively peoples through a joyful, family-friendly experience, we hope to honor the shared past of our beloved ancestors by educating and enriching the lives of a future generation.

How Can You Help?

Admission to the first Johnstown Slavic Festival will be free. We want a large number of residents – descendants of Slavic families and the general public – to attend. The cost of presenting the event will be around \$15,000. You can help to make this event possible by becoming a sponsor or donating to the Johnstown Slavic Festival.

Numerous respected organizations, churches and area businesses have already enthusiastically signed on to support and participate in this effort. These include the City of Johnstown, Slovenian Savings & Loan, JWF Industries, Somerset Trust Bank, and many others.

Please explore our website to see photos, maps and information regarding not only the festival, but also general information which may begin your journey learning more about your ancestry and the beautiful places in Europe from which your Slavic ancestors originated. We also work year-round to provide information regarding local and regional Slavic ethnic performances, picnics, and festivals on our www.Johnstownslavicfestival.org website pages and our Johnstown Slavic Facebook page.

Who is the Johnstown Slavic Festival Committee?

The committee is co-chaired by Dan Kisha and Dr. Gerald Zahorchak. We are seeking to add committee members, and plan to become incorporated.

The Johnstown Area Heritage Association will provide technical and management support for the Johnstown Slavic Festival.

For more information, contact Dan via email: Dan's Email: daniel.kisha@gmail.com His web site: <http://www.slovakic.com>

Explore Your Heritage This Summer with 2015 Treasure Tours



Our Girls Dressed Up

The 85th Treasure Tour continues our strategy of immersing in the Slovak culture, traversing the country from east to west and north to south, and finding long-lost family for our travelers; proud of our 98% success rate! 2015 Treasures Tour offerings include Bratislava Old Town, Devta's 49th Folk Festival, Kezmarok International Crafts Fest; the walled towns of Levoča and Bardejov, Prešov, Spiš Castle,

charming Cicmany, the High Tatras, and much, much more. July 10 to 19, 2015 - \$2,199 per person for the land trip.

For more information, contact Helene:

151 Colebrook Drive, Rochester, NY 14617

Phone: (585) 342-9383

Email: helenezx@aol.com

Or visit www.our-Slovakia.com

Join the Cleveland Slovak Dramatic Club

At

Erie, PA's Presque Isle Downs & Casino

With

Cash Bonus: \$35 Slot Play

On

Saturday, June 13, 2015

From

8:00AM – 6:00PM



Trip Details:

8:00AM Report: Lakefront Lines Bus Garage, 13315 Brookpark Road, Brookpark, OH

8:00AM Depart: Lakefront Lines

0:30AM Arrive: Presque Isle Downs & Casino, 8199 Perry Highway, Erie, PA CONF # 30196

[Subject to casino policy & may change or cancel without notice]

Manifest must be filled out & turned in upon arrival.

4:00PM Depart Presque Isle Downs
6:00PM Arrive: Approximate time of arrival at original departure location

** All passengers must have driver's license or state ID with them **

To Book Trip: Call Johanna at 440-845-0282

- Submitted by Johanna Oros, Slovak Dramatic Club President & Branch 24 Member

Answer to Puzzle

Solution to Puzzle from page 11

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Address Changes?

Readers are reminded that all address changes for the JEDNOTA newspaper must be done at the Home Office in Independence, Ohio. If you have an address change, cancellation, or wish to receive the paper, write to: First Catholic Slovak Union, FCSU Corporate Center, 6611 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Independence, OH 44131-2398; Phone: 1/800-JEDNOTA (1/800-533-6682); Fax: 1-216-642-4310; or E-mail: FCSU@aol.com.

A Personal Postscript to the Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves 2014 tour of Slovakia

John Kresovsky

I wanted to follow-up on the article by Jim and Kay Bench on the 2014 Slovakia Heritage Tour to Slovakia and to Youngstown's sister city, Spišská Nová Ves, which was published in the March 18, 2015 issue of Jednota. Spišská Nová Ves is a city in eastern Slovakia historically significant for mining and from where many of the Slovaks came to Youngstown, western Pennsylvania, and the Cleveland area. In this article, I hope to help others who may want to know about their family roots in Slovakia and to share the journey I went through over the last year.

I grew up in Hubbard, Ohio just north of Youngstown and three of my grandparents died before I was born and any connection to family in Slovakia was mostly unknown and really hampered by language, distance, WWI, WWII, German occupation and the Soviet occupation. I did not even know the real spelling of our family name because there were slight changes over the years in America.

For one year before our trip I started to locate every distant relative and worked through the local Slovak churches, Slovakia Consulate, State Archives in Slovakia, and our Slovakia Tour guide Viera Marecova to get as much information as possible. The Slovakia records are much better than what I was able to find in America because our grandparents did not know the English language well or if at all. Many of our church records in America used phonetic spellings with priests who were not Slovak. Also with the German and Soviet influence in Slovakia every church record was well preserved and available in the Slovakia State Archives making it available to the public if it is over 100 years old. Today there often is a village manager in Slovakia who may know the families in the village. This is probably a carry-over from communist days. In Slovakia people live in the villages or in the main city and you do not find single family homes in the country side which is extremely beautiful but reserved for agriculture and in the past mining.

There are more records in America that we are personally seeking. The United States Archives failed to find the ship manifesto for my grandfather Kresovsky who came into this country using the name of his godfather, Majec Holecko in 1896 which is stated on his US Citizenship petition. There is more personal information on the application for citizenship than the citizenship document itself. This information was available in the county records and we found that over time our counties were repartitioned and the records relocated accordingly. For anyone starting the search please find the ship manifesto. The European companies were providing a single train, shipping and transport to the American destination and most of the ship manifestos were written in the country by Slovaks. There may be a secondary coding on the ship manifesto once in America which has more information upon arrival.

My grandfather John Kresovsky (the current family name – his baptism record in the Village of Teplicka is Krizsovsky) came to America in 1896. His sister Anna came to Star Junction and Mount Pleasant, PA in 1901 using the name Anna Krizsofzky and married Frank Morris and relocated to south side of Youngstown. Anna's trip to America was sponsored by her sister and husband Mary (John Domer) whose family stayed in the Pittsburg area. We think our grandfather John came earlier to Star Junction because so many of the Slovak families in Hubbard had roots in Star Junction and came north for jobs at the new Youngstown Sheet & Tube Mill in Hubbard.



Family travelers and cousins in Slovakia (L – R) : John Kresovsky, Jerry and Anne Marie (Kozar) Hiznay, Kathy (Hudak) Novicky, and Becky Kresovsky



John and Becky Kresovsky in the Tatra Mountains, Slovakia

The granddaughter of Mary Kresovsky Domer, Joyce Martin, and her own daughter Justine Amur were also on this trip.

There is another brother Joseph who was two years younger than my grandfather and came to America with him - family lore mentions him visiting John and his wife Maria in Hubbard when they were living in the company houses on North Main Street in Hubbard probably around 1910 – 1920. We have no further record of Joseph. We think John and Joseph used other names to leave Slovakia because they were being conscripted into the army. Another brother Michael is recorded as an infant death.

This is what we found in the Slovakia records. Michael Krizsovsky in 1877 from Ordzovany marries Catharina Dzuriczky, in Teplicka and Michael dies the same month the youngest daughter Anna is born. With the help of ten siblings Catherina and her parents (Anna Dutko and Joannes Dzuritsky) raise the children and all are off to America as soon as they reach adulthood. We have stories of grandfather John Kresovsky as a child watching his siblings while the family was helping with the harvest in Teplicka. Catherina died in 1934 and never saw her children again or her 20 grandchildren. With the help of Slovakia researchers we found Catherina remarried an older Michael Timko and his house still exists in Teplicka as the oldest home in the village and then she remarries again ten years

later to Jan Kmec in Spišská Nová Ves where she is buried with the name Katarina Dzuricka Kmecova. I guess this was another form of social security. We have no Slovakia connections with this part of the family but are happy with more knowledge of our family records back to 1762. We think Catharina was a very strong lady able to raise five children with the help of her siblings and survive through two more marriages for the next 34 years probably raising other stepchildren.

While this part of the Slovakia family tree for grandfather Kresovsky ends we were much further along with my grandmother Maria Blasko Kresovsky. Maria was the second of twelve children and her sister Caroline Blasko Bolchak also came to Hubbard and we located another brother Albert in Canada. My father and sister Peggy Miller visited one of the remaining Blasko siblings in Slovakia in 1968 and shared greetings at Christmas – now no one knows the Slovak language. The children in Slovakia are now learning English as a second language and I am able to communicate with English speaking cousins in Dublin and through Google translator.

Starting with Sts. Cyril and Methodius marriage records in 1903 the name Maria Blazko from Velka Poloma, Austria Hungary was recorded. We eventually found Jan Blasko married to Maria Gabonay in Hnilec, Slovakia and other siblings born in Henlic, Velka Poloma, Hendova, and Betlair with the parents Jan Blasko and Maria Gabonay. What we found was Jan Blasko was a gamekeeper for the Count Andrassy family and had many posts before ending in Betlair. We found the grave of my great grandmother Maria Gabonay Blaskova in Betlair but there was no grave for Jan Blasko and another son who died in an epidemic in 1920. We are communicating with some of the remaining Blasko family using google translator. Note that the name Blaszko, Blassko, Blasko, and Blaskova were in the Slovakia records.

In the Blasko family chart back to 1783 many common Youngstown names are mentioned. Nagran, Hatala, Valigura, Leskovansky, Bobak, Profanszky and more cousins with the name Smelko and Hrusovsky. As a single young lady we are still searching why Maria came to Hubbard. Her sister Caroline (Charles Bolchak) came to Hubbard in 1906 with two children born in Slovakia which was three years after Maria had married my grandfather in 1903. We think Maria came to Hubbard because of a distant relative but have not been able to make that con-

nection.

We also reached out to the families of my mother Margaret (Hudak) Kresovsky and Aunt Anka (Hudak) Kozar. Their parents and our grandparents were John Hudak who came from Danisovce and Anna Repasky who came from Odorin and lived in Campbell. Traveling with us were cousins Kathy (Hudak) Novicky and Jerry and Ann Maria (Kozar) Hiznay. But this is a longer story with even more relatives.

Why am I sharing this information? I took this journey and had many dead ends. I believe this is a trip worth taking. Within our own families in America we went back and documented as much as we could about every one of our relatives who came to America, their children (our parents and their siblings), our cousins, and their children, etc. It is amazing what nuggets many of them have that you never knew. And it was fantastic to reconnect with many of my own relatives in America and Canada disconnected for over 50 years.

Besides finding out about our own family heritage. We found Slovakia extremely beautiful and the people wonderful and highly educated. Slovakia is the second most forested country in the world next to Norway and manufactures more cars per capita than any country in the world. The country is just coming to life as many of the churches and castles are being restored and open to the public. The transition to a market economy will take longer. If our generation does not reach out now any possible personal connection back to Slovakia may be lost and much more difficult to retrieve in the future.

What a great memory sitting with four of my female cousins drinking Slivowitz on a sunny afternoon at a café by the Betlair Manor with my wife Becky and cousins Jack and Harry Hacker from Hubbard who are also grandsons of John Kresovsky and Maria Blasko Kresovsky.

When we went on our trip to Slovakia nine of the twenty seven travelers were relatives. We had a formal ceremony in Spisska Nova Ves with the Mayor and city officials and with our extended family in Slovakia about a third of the room were relatives.

Another note on family internet search may be of interest. Family search records record in America often lack what you really need. All of the Slovakia records and notations are in script. A script "K" could be recorded as an "R" and an "L" like an "S". Jan could be Janos, Joannes, Yanko, or John. The family name could end with "ova" and be different than the male version. And in the late 1800s all records had to be recorded in Hungarian. Sometimes a Latin name was used. As a place to start I would recommend checking the internet for "church and synagogue records, Slovakia, 1582 to 1910". The Slovakia Archives are regionalized and can be contacted through the Slovak Embassy. You need to start with the village name and whatever information you can bring to them. Unless you speak the language going to the church records may be difficult. For instance my grandparent's records at the church in Teplicka were recorded at St. Michael the Archangel Church in Markusovce.

About the Author

John Kresovsky has retired from executive positions in information technology. John is a graduate of Youngstown University and hold an MBA from Bowling Green State University. The majority of his work has been with PepsiCo, Sprint and Gartner. John and his wife, Becky, live in Florida and on the coast in Maine.

Editor's Note: for the Youngstown/Spišská Nová Ves 2015 tour of Slovakia see page 16

Správy zo Slovenska

Slováci vyťažia z boja medzi Brazíliou a Čínou

Do konkurenčného boja medzi brazílskou firmou Embraco, ktorá je lídrom vo výrobe kompresorov a čínskymi firmami, zasiahli aj Slováci. V slovenskej pobočke Embracu v Spišskej Novej Vsi sa začína špeciálny režim výroby kompresora pre domáce chladenie. Inžinieri zo Spišskej Novej Vsi sa podpísali pod vývoj nového typu chladenia, od ktorého si firma Embraco sľubuje posilnenie pozície. Výkonný riaditeľ slovenského Embracu Norbert Brath ho radí medzi najnádejnejšie projekty z hľadiska celej korporácie. Rozbehnuté inovácie prinášajú prácu viac ako dvom tisícak ľuďom.

Kam vás bez problémov dostane slovenský pas

Slováci môžu bez zdržania precestovať takmer celý svet. Finančná poradenská firma Arton Capital zverejnila rebríček všetkých krajín sveta, ktoré zoradila podľa toho, akú silu a prestíž majú ich cestovné doklady. Slovensko sa ocitlo na desiatom mieste spoločne s Poľskom. Obyvatelia SR totiž môžu cestovať bez víz do 137 štátov a teritórií, čo je len o desať menej ako prvé Spojené štáty americké a Spojené kráľovstvo. „Je to výsledok rôznych faktorov. Na jednej strane je to dôkaz dlhoročnej práce našej diplomacie od vzniku republiky, na druhej strane to súvisí aj s našim členstvom v Európskej únii. Taktiež z historického hľadiska máme dobré vzťahy s krajinami, s ktorými iné štáty západného sveta nemajú až také dobré vzťahy,“ vysvetlil Jaroslav Naď z Inštitútu stredo európskej politiky.

Lekári na celom svete analyzujú snímky slovenským softvérom

Medicínsky softvér vyvíja koncom Siemens na Slovensku už od roku 2001. V súčasnosti sa tejto oblasti venuje zhruba 180 inžinierov a doménových odborníkov na troch pracoviskách - okrem Žiliny aj v Bratislave a v Košiciach. Jedným z produktových manažérov pre syngo.via v Žiline je Martin Kavec, ktorý mal ako syn pediatrika k medicíne vždy blízko. Ešte koncom minulej dekády sa v Žiline medicínskemu softvéru venovali de facto dva samostatné tímy ľudí. Prvý vyvíjal softvér pre prístroje a druhý pracoval na programe, ktorý slúžil na testovanie medicínskeho softvéru. Dnes sa všetci sústreďujú na vývoj systému syngo.via, ktorý podobne ako balík Microsoft Office obsahuje viaceré aplikácie - napríklad pre onkológiu, mamografiu, pre hodnotenie cievných vyšetrení a desiatky ďalších nástrojov. Slováci majú na starosti vývoj aplikácie pre takzvané všeobecné čítanie, čiže pre bežné vyšetrenia chrbtice, mozgu, kolena a iných častí tela. Ide o hlavnú aplikáciu celého riešenia, ktoré, samozrejme, dokáže prečítať a spracúvať snímky nielen z modalít Siemensu, ale aj z prístrojov iných značiek. V diagnostike patrí medzi najpoužívanejšie softvéry na svete.

KDH bude radiť hokejový tréner Ján Filc a právnik Peter Kubina

Kresťanským demokratom bude radiť bývalý úspešný slovenský hokejový tréner Ján Filc a právnik Peter Kubina. Filc sa bude venovať oblasti vzdelávania a športu, Kubina oblasti spravodlivosti a právneho štátu.

„Ak by sa prístupy, ktoré Ján Filc reprezentuje celý život, dokázali pretaviť do slovenskej legislatívy a praxe, tak si myslím, že by to bol veľký prínos k výchove a vzdelávaniu mladej generácie,“ uviedol Figel. Filc aj Kubina budú súčasťou tzv. Tímu plus. Ten pozostáva z osobností verejného života, ktoré nie sú členmi KDH. Spolupráca v rámci tímu bude zameraná na tvorbu programu a riešenia pre jednotlivé oblasti verejného života. „Peter Kubina je mladý advokát, ktorý okrem iného úspešne obhajoval Jozefa Čentéša pred Ústavným súdom SR. Som rád, že bol ochotný sa pridať k Tímu plus,“ dodal Figel. „Myslím si, že v priebehu rokov, počas ktorých som pôsobil v rôznych polohách, aj v manažérskej v rámci firmy, som prišiel ku skúsenosti, ktorá ma priviedla k názoru, že perspektíva tejto spoločnosti je skutočne závislá od pozornosti, ktorú budeme venovať vývoju mladej generácie ako v oblasti vzdelávania, tak i v oblasti zdravého životného štýlu,“ uviedol Filc. Okrem iného sa chce v programe zamerať aj na oblasť voľnočasových aktivít pre mladých.

Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave obsadila v rebríčku kvality 474. miesto

Univerzita Komenského (UK) v Bratislave si zlepšila svoje postavenie v medzinárodnom rebríčku univerzít - University Ranking by Academic Performance (URAP), v ktorom obsadila 474. miesto. Zaznamenala tak posun o 21 miest. TASR informovala Andrea Földváryová, vedúca oddelenia vzťahov s verejnosťou Univerzity Komenského.

„UK je jedinou slovenskou univerzitou v prvej päťstovke. Ďalšie slovenské univerzity sú až za hranicou tisíciky,“ povedala Földváryová. Pre Univerzitu Komenského ide o kontinuálne zlepšovanie umiestnenia v tomto rebríčku už tretíkrát za sebou.

Medzinárodný rankingový systém URAP je každoročne zverejňovaný rebríček najlepších 2000 vysokých škôl z celého sveta, ktoré predstavujú desať percent najvýkonnejších vysokých škôl na svete.

Rebríček URAP bol prvýkrát vytvorený v roku 2009 na pôde Middle East Technical University v tureckej Ankare. Jeho kritériá vychádzajú zo šiestich objektívnych a merateľných parametrov, akými sú počet vedeckých článkov kombinovaný s počtom citácií prác vedcov, vedecká produktivita, význam časopisov či miera kvality citácií.

Slovenské opálové bane chcú v tomto roku sprístupniť verejnosti

V Slanských vrchoch na východe Slovenska chcú sprístupniť v tomto roku nevhodnú turistickú atrakciu. Ide konkrétne o podzemné priestory starých baní, v ktorých sa kedysi ťažil drahý opál známy svojou jedinečnou „farbohrou“.

„Podarilo sa nám sprístupniť prvý okruh cez štôľňu Jozef. Baňa ožila dávnym vekom a krásou pôvodných „základok“, pripomína, ako to tu vyzeralo približne pred 100 rokmi. Tešíme sa na prvých turistov, školákov, študentov či dobrodruhov,“ pozýva na návštevu Slanských vrchov Ivan Kapor zo spoločnosti Opálové bane Libanka.

Dodáva, že podzemnými priestormi chcú previesť prvých návštevníkov 1. júna tohto roka. „Spoznávanie baní po ich sprístupnení bude možné kombinovať s obhliadkou výstavby s názvom Prešov mesto opálu, ktorú sme otvorili v roku 2013 v prešovskej pamiatkovej budove - v Caraffovej väznici,“ približuje Kapor. Ťažbu v opálových baniach nad obcou Červenica ukončili v roku 1922. Pokusy o jej opätovné obnovenie v uplynulých desaťročiach zlyhali. Podarilo sa to napokon až spoločnosti Opálové bane Libanka v roku 2012, ktorá vtedy začala hľadať trblietavý drahokam povrchovým spôsobom.

Správy čerpané z TASR a slovenských časopisov



Národný futbalový štadión v Bratislave postaví štát

Národný futbalový štadión (NFS) v Bratislave postaví štát. Cena za výstavbu by nemala presiahnuť 40 až 45 miliónov eur, pričom časť má financovať futbalový klub Slovan Bratislava. Uviedol to začiatkom mája premiér Robert Fico po tom, čo prezident Slovana Bratislava Ivan Kmotřík starší vyhlásil, že nebude ďalej financovať výstavbu NFS z vlastných peňazí. Stavebné práce by sa podľa premiéra mohli začať do konca tohto roka.

Fico podľa vlastných slov dostal od Kmotříka list, v ktorom mu oznámil, že rezignuje na akékoľvek snahy postaviť sám národný futbalový štadión. „Keďže pán Kmotřík, ktorý stojí ako majiteľ za Slovanom Bratislava, oznámil, že sa ďalej nemieni angažovať vo výstavbe Národného futbalového štadióna, myslíme si, že je potrebné prijať rázne rozhodnutie. Vláda SR ide do toho. To znamená, že preberáme na seba zodpovednosť a sme pripravení vytvoriť všetky podmienky - finančné, technické, personálne - na to, aby na Slovensku Národný futbalový štadión v Bratislave vznikol,“ dodal.

Na tento účel predsa vlády zostaví špeciálny tím, ktorý spolu so Slovenským futbalovým zväzom, mestom Bratislava či ministerstvom školstva predloží v krátkom čase na rokovanie vlády projekt výstavby. „Máme momentálne k dispozícii 27 miliónov eur, ktoré mali byť použité na spolufinancovanie Národného futbalového štadióna,“ doplnil s tým, že vláda chce vyčleniť financie aj pre budúci rok.

Premiér plánuje v najbližšom čase začať rokovania s majiteľmi Slovana a pozrieť sa na projektovú dokumentáciu. „Máme informácie, že nič nebráni, aby sme tento štadión začali stavať,“ zdôraznil. Súčasťou štadióna by malo byť sídlo Slovenského futbalového zväzu, sieň slávy a bude slúžiť nielen pre potreby reprezentácie, ale aj ligového futbalu a kultúrnych podujatí.

Proces výstavby NFS sa ťahá už takmer osem rokov. Dôvodov, prečo je na Tehelnom poli jama, je viacero. Poslednú kvapku do mora problémov s výstavbou dali mestskí poslanci, ktorí Kmotříkovi vypovedali najomnú zmluvu, a tiež prokuratúra, ktorá prešetruje územné rozhodnutie.

TASR

Putovanie po regiónoch Slovenska

(Pokračovanie)

Stredné Považie

Región na Váhu je obklopený Bielymi Karpátmi, Strážovskými vrchmi a Považským Inovcom.

Jeho kultúrnym, priemyselným a hospodárskym centrom je starobylý Trenčín, o ktorom je z mienka už z r. 1111. Rímsky historik Ptolemaios ho spomína pod menom Laugaricio. Až tam sa dostali v r. 179 rímske légie na svojich výpravách proti germánskym kmeňom. Na pamiatku víťaznej bitky Rimanov s Kvádmi sa zachoval na hradnej skale vytesaný tento rímsky nápis:

VICTORIAE
AVGVSTORV(m)
EXERCITVS QVI LAV
GARICIONE SEDIT MIL(ites)
L(egionis) II DCCCLV
(Marcus Valerrius)
MAXIMIANVS LEG(atus)
LEG(ionis) II AD(iutricis)
CVR(AVIT) F(aciendum)

Trenčiansky hrad, ktorý bol protitureckou pevnosťou, odolal v r. 1241 ako jeden z mála hradov aj výbojným Tatárom. Najväčší význam dosahoval v rokoch 1311-1321 za panovania šľachtica a vojvodu Matúša Čáka, pána Váhu a Tatier. Hrad stál na tvrdej skale a trpel veľkým nedostatkom vody. Tento neblahý stav trval dovtedy, kým sa tam nepodarilo vykopať studňu.

O hrade, živote na ňom a o studni vznikli viaceré legendy a povesti, ktoré inšpirovali k tvorbe niektorých spisovateľov. Najpozoruhodnejšia je *Studňa lásky* od Jozefa Horáka, ktorá sa viaže k hradnej studni a láske tureckého šľachtica Omara ku krásnej Fatime, zajatkyni Štefana Zápoľského, hradného pána, ktorý tam vládol v rokoch 1474-1492. Omar sa podujal za jej vyslobodenie vykopať tam studňu čo aj dokázal. Je hlboká 79,2 m. Keď si odvážal na koni Fatimu, zachytil sa jej závoj na kriku šípovej ruže. Podnes na tom mieste stojí najstaršia krčma.

Trenčín bol vždy národne uvedomelým mestom. V 1. sv. vojne (1914-1918) sa vojaci 71. trenčianskeho pluku v srbskom Kragujevací vzbúрили proti maďarskému veleniu. Vládne vojsko však vzburu potlačilo a 49 vojakov (Slovákov) zastrelilo.

V neďalekej Ilave je pozoruhodný starobylý hrad z r. 1318. V 16. st. ho prestavali na protitureckú pevnosť a od r. 1856 je v ňom podnes väznica.

Povestné sú aj Trenčianske Teplice, kúpele so 4 prameňmi 38-42° C s drovej sírnej vody, kde sa liečia nervové poruchy a choroby pohybového ústrojenstva. Majú nádhernú polohu a kúpeľným parkom i blízkym lesoparkom sú výbornou príležitosťou pre prechádzky.

Pozornosť si zasluhujú aj Trenčianske Bohuslavice barokovou kaplnkou z r. 1763, do ktorej previezli z Ríma kosť sv. Bohuslava, legendárneho vodcu z vojen proti Turkom, ktorí sa ho zmocnili a umučili.

Beckovského hradu sa Turkom nepodarilo zmocniť ani po dlhšom obliehaní. Po požiari v r. 1729 je v ruinách. Beckov je rodiskom J. M. Hurbana, jedného z vodcov slovenského povstania v r. 1848, významného národovca, ale aj Dionýza Štúra, geológa svetového mena a niekdajšieho riaditeľa viedenského geologického ústavu.

Na návštevnosť sa nemôže sťažovať ani Uhrovec, rodisko Ľudovíta Štúra (1815-1856), filozofa, jazykovedca, básnika a popredného národovca, ktorý celý svoj život venoval povzneseniu slovenského národa.

V Uhrovci sa narodil aj Alexander Dubček, vedúca politická osobnosť v období „zamatovej revolúcie“, ktorá smerovala k politickej nezávislosti bývalého Československa od vtedajšieho Sovietskeho zväzu.

Rodné domy oboch významných politikov slúžia ako múzeá a poskytujú bohaté informácie o ich živote.

Za zmienku stojí aj Leopoldov, ktorý sa stal po páde pevnosti v Nových Zámkoch protitureckou pevnosťou. V 18. st. zriadili v nej väznicu, ktorá je tam aj podnes.

Tento región si prevzali do názvu viaceré obce a mestá, napr.: Trenčianske Mitice, Trenčianska Turná, Trenčianske Stankovce, Trenčianske Teplice, Trenčianske Bohuslavice, Trenčianske Jastrabie, Trenčín.

O Trenčíne sa zachovalo viac pesničiek. Jednou z nich je aj *Trenčianske hodiny...* Uvádžam z nej úryvok:

*Trenčianske hodiny smutne bijú,
/:už ma s mojou milou:/ rozlučujú.
Rozlučujú, ale nebojím sa,
/:príde tá hodina:/, ožením sa...*

Andrej Štelmák, Sliač, Slovakia



Trenčianske Teplice.



Trenčiansky hrad.



Studňa Omara na Tr. hrade.



Trenčianske Bohuslavice - kaplnka.

Oznámenia spolkov a spoločenské podujatia

Polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu IKSJ

Oznamujeme všetkým členom, že polročná členská schôdza Okresu Štefana Krasuľu Spolok č. 16 Prvej Katolíckej Slovenskej Jednoty sa bude konať v nedeľu **31. mája 2015** o **1:00 hodine** odpoľudnia na Farskom úrade Slovenského kostola sv. Jána Nepomuckého v New York City, 411 East 66th Street, 1st Avenue, NYC, po slovenskej omši, ktorá sa začne o 11.00 hodine dopoludnia. Prosíme predsedov všetkých spolkov, ktoré patria do nášho Okresu, aby poslali čo najviac delegátov. Upozorňujeme, že aj nedelegáti sú vítaní. Na programe bude podanie finančnej správy a príprava činnosti na budúce obdobie. Po polročnej členskej schôdzi sa bude podávať občerstvenie, ktoré pripravia členovia Spolku sv. Štefana č. 716 IKSJ. Ostávam s kresťanským pozdravom

Henrieta H. Daitová, tajomníčka

Americký Slávik 2015

Organizácia +421 Foundation so sídlom v New Yorku v spolupráci s Bohemian Hall New York a Slovak House Toronto vyhlasuje 3. ročník speváckej súťaže detí v interpretácii českej a slovenskej ľudovej piesne AMERICKÝ SLÁVIK 2015. Súťažiacich bude sprevádzať ľudová hudba PAJTÁŠI. Garantami podujatia sú hviezdy hudobného neba Karel Gott a Peter Dvorský. Registrácia súťažiacich do tretieho ročníka súťaže Americký Slávik 2015 sa otvára v pondelok, 2. marca 2015. Oznámenie o zaradení súťažiacich do jednotlivých regionálnych kôl bude vydané v pondelok 5. októbra 2015 a rodičom zaslané cez e-mail. Finálové kolo Amerického Slávika 2015 sa uskutoční v Bohemian Hall (29-19 24th Avenue, Astoria, New York 11102), v nedeľu 25. októbra 2015 o 3pm. Informácie poskytujeme na: americkyslavik@slovakhouse.org.

Pútnici putujú pešo po Svätjakubskej ceste na Slovensku

V nedeľu 3. mája sa v Dóme sv. Alžbety v Košiciach uskutočnila svätá omša za účasti pútnikov, ktorí sa rozhodli pešo putovať do Levoče po Svätjakubskej ceste na Slovensku. Skupinu pútnikov tvorili pútnici väčšinou zo zahraničia, ale na trase sa k nim pripojili ďalší domáci pútnici. Na svätej omši boli prítomní aj dobrovoľníci, ktorí sa angažujú vo vyznačení Svätjakubskej cesty na Slovensku. Na záver pútnickej svätej omše im bolo udelené pútnické požehnanie na cestu a pečiatkou potvrdený kredenciál - pútnický preukaz. V nastávajúcom období sa organizujú viaceré púte, najbližšia 7. mája a potom ďalšia 13. júna 2015. Ďalšie informácie o pútiach a aktivitách spojených so Svätjakubskou cestou na Slovensku môžete nájsť na stránke www.caminodesantiago.sk.

TK KBS

Presadzovanie Dohody o transatlantickom partnerstve medzi EÚ a USA

Slovensko a Rakúsko v zásade presadzujú myšlienku Dohody o transatlantickom partnerstve v oblasti obchodu a investícií (TTIP - Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) medzi EÚ a USA. „Postoj Slovenska a osobne pána ministra (rakúskeho) je rovnaký, presadzujeme túto myšlienku,“ uviedol na margo TTIP minister hospodárstva SR Pavol Pavlis (Smer-SD) po rokovaní 16. apríla so svojim rakúskym partnerom, vicecancelárom a spolkovým ministrom pre vedu, výskum a hospodárstvo Rakúskej republiky Reinholdom Mitterlehnerom.

„Myslím si, že nielen Slovensku a Rakúsku, ale celej Európe by táto dohoda mala priniesť nové investície, novú obchodnú výmenu, ale aj nové pracovné možnosti,“ podčiarkol Pavlis. So svojim rakúskym rezortným kolegom sa podľa svojich slov zároveň zhodli na tom, že obe strany by v prípade tém ohľadom TTIP nielen energetiky vedeli spoločne postupovať aj na európskych fórach v Bruseli.

Z dohody TTIP by podľa Mitterlehnera mohli profitovať najmä exportne-orientované krajiny, akými sú Slovensko alebo Rakúsko. „Musia však byť v poriadku, o čom sa v Rakúsku veľmi diskutuje, kvalitatívne predpoklady, akými sú vyššia transparentnosť rokovacích procesov, garancia štandardov jednotlivých krajín v oblasti potravinárskej bezpečnosti alebo služieb, ale predovšetkým bezpečnosť a záruka investícií podporená právnymi štátmi a súdmi, ktoré nesmú byť podkopávané,“ dodal rakúsky minister.

TASR

Sviatok Zoslania Ducha Svätého - Turíce

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

hovoríť. V Jeruzaleme boli Židia, nábožní ľudia zo všetkých národov, čo sú pod nebom. Keď sa teda strhol tento hukot, mnoho sa ich zbehlo a boli zmätení, lebo každý ich počul hovoriť svojim jazykom. I stúpili a udivení vraveli: 'Nie sú títo všetci, čo tu hovoria, Galilejčania? A ako to, že ich každý z nás počuje vo svojom vlastnom jazyku, v ktorom sme sa narodili? My, Parti, Médi, Elamčania, obyvatelia Mezopotámie, Judey a Kapadócie, Pontu a Ázie, Frýgie a Pamfýlie, Egypta a líbyjských krajov okolo Cyrény, prísťahovaní Rimania, Židia aj prozelyti, Kréťania i Arabi: počujeme ich vo svojich jazykoch hovoriť o veľkých Božích skutkoch.'“ (Sk 2, 1-11)

V deň Turíc (po skončení siedmich veľkonočných týždňov) sa Kristova Veľká noc završuje vyliatím Ducha Svätého, ktorý je zjavený, daný a udelený ako božská osoba. V ten deň je plne zjavená Najsvätejšia Trojica. Od toho dňa je Kráľovstvo, ktoré ohlasoval Kristus, otvorené pre tých, čo v neho veria. Vyliatím Ducha Svätého v deň Turíc bola Cirkev zjavená svetu.

Duch Svätý je vlastne meno toho, ktorému sa klaniame a ktorého oslavujeme s Otcom a Synom. Výrazom „Duch“ sa prekladá hebrejské slovo Rúach, ktoré podľa pôvodného významu znamená dych, vzduch vietor.

Dary Ducha Svätého sú oporou mravného života kresťana. Poznáme 7 darov Ducha Svätého: Dar múdrosti, Dar rozumu, Dar rady, Dar sily, Dar poznania, Dar nábožnosti a Dar bázne Božej. V plnosti tieto dary prislúchajú Kristovi. Dary Ducha Svätého dopĺňajú a vedú k dokonalosti čností tých, ktorí ich prijímajú. Robia veriacich ochotnými pohotovo poslúchať Božské vnuknutia. Plody Ducha sú dokonalosti, ktoré v nás Duch Svätý vytvára ako prvotiny večnej slávy.

Katechizmus Katolíckej cirkvi, SSV

Slovenský doktor L. O. Markušovský zanechal stopy v troch krajinách Európy

V dobách, keď Slovensko patrilo pod správu multietnického Uhorska sa neraz stávalo, že významné slovenské osobnosti boli priradené k inému národu, ako k tomu, z ktorého pochádzali, a ktorý svojím významným dielom prezentovali. Jednou z nich bol i štrbský doktor, Ľudovít Ondrej Markušovský. Jeho jubilejné dvesté výročie narodenia, ktoré sme si v týchto dňoch pripomínali, opätovne otvorilo nielen šnúru osláv na viacerých miestach Európy, ale i rozpútalo diskusiu o priradení jeho diela slovenskému národu.

Ľudovít Ondrej Markušovský sa narodil 25. apríla r. 1815 v národne uvedomelej rodine evanjelického farára Ondreja Markušovského a Žofie, rodenej Medveckej. Prvé školoovanie získal v rodičovskom prostredí od otca, gymnaziálne štúdiá nadobúdal v Rožňave a Kežmarku. Sprvoti sa orientoval na právo (Kráľovská akadémia v Bratislave) a od roku 1834 sa stal poslucháčom medicíny v Pešti.

Kvôli finančným problémom (úmrtie otca) sa venoval i pedagogickej činnosti u grófa Leva Festeľiča. Doktorské štúdiá ukončil v roku 1844 titulom MUDr. v Budapešti. Svoje lekárske vzdelanie si doplnil v Paríži. Počas rokov 1844 – 1846 bol poberateľom štipendia na chirurgickom ústave u prof. Wattmana vo Viedni a v roku 1847 získal pracovné miesto asistenta na budapeštianskej chirurgickej klinike. V meruósmych rokoch jeho prax bola žiaduca najmä na vojnových frontoch, kde pracoval ako nemocničný a štábný lekár a od roku 1849 ako osobný lekár veliteľa armády A. Görgeiho.

Po ukončení bojov v roku 1850, pre revolučné postoje, bola jeho lekárska prax ohrozená. V tomto čase začal pracovať ako praktický lekár. Jeho prácu v oblasti rinológie možno označiť ako priekopnícku i nadčasovú. V roku 1860 zostrojil nosové zrkadlo, ktoré dodnes, takmer v nezmenenej podobe, používajú lekári ORL na celom svete. Markušovského možno právom označiť za hlavného organizátora uhorskej zdravotníckej a lekárskej vedy. Na lekárskej fakulte zriadil katedru verejného zdravotníctva a katedru hygieny. V roku 1857 založil a viac ako 30 rokov redigoval odborný časopis *Orvosí Hetilap (Lekársky týždenník)*, ktorý vychádza do dnešných čias. Počas svojej lekárskej praxe prednášal aj po slovensky, zriadil pre lekárov postgraduálne štúdium, uskutočnil reformu Krajinskej zdravotníckej rady a pričínal sa o prijatie uhorského zdravotníckeho zákona. V roku 1882 sa stal čestným profesorom univerzity v Pešti. Bol členom (dopisujúcim i čestným) Uhorskej akadémie vied a čestný doktor univerzity v Kluži. Za svojho života vydal viac ako 200 vlastných prác, redigoval lekársko-farmaceutický slovník, pomáhal pri vzniku lekárskeho knižného vydavateľstva.

Lekársku prax ukončil v roku 1892. O rok neskôr sa pre zdravotné problémy rozhodol odísť na regeneračný pobyt k moru, do Opatije. Tu 21. apríla 1893, vo veku nedožitých 78 rokov umrel. Je pochovaný v obci Vasegerszeg.

Jeho meno nesie nemocnica v Szombathely a krajská nemocnica v župe Vas. Rok čo rok je tiež spojené i s vypisovaním Markušovského vedeckého konkurzu, ktorý zabezpečuje stála Markušovského komisia a s udeľovaním Markušovského ceny za rozvoj maďarskej medicíny.

Práve v týchto dňoch prebiehali na viacerých miestach Európy spomienkové podujatia. V rodnej Štrbe a v Vasegerszegu (v Maďarsku) boli odhalené umelecké diela na počesť Markušovského v autorstve výtvarníka Fera Guldana. Obe diela financovala obec Vasegerszeg. V rodnej Štrbe v rámci osláv prebehol bohatý kultúrny program s odhaľovaním pamätnej tabule i s bohoslužbou.

Impozantné oslavy v Štrbe i vo Vasegerszegu, za dobrej spolupráce Slovákov i Maďarov, otvorili nové možnosti osadenie pamätnej tabule aj v Opatiji (Chorvátsko). Tamojšia tabuľa venovaná Markušovskému je zhotovená iba v chorvátčine a v maďarčine.

Na jeho jubileum nezabudol ani Miestny odbor Matice slovenskej v Rijeke. Jeho členovia si uctili pamiatku doktora Markušovského pri dvojazyčnej tabuli v Opatiji.

Starosta obce Štrba, Krajanské múzeum Matice slovenskej, MO MS Štrba, MO MS Rijeka a aktivista pán Jozef Schwarz chcú v budúcnosti spojiť svoje sily a Markušovskému odhaliť pamätnú tabuľu v slovenčine i na území dnešného Chorvátska.

Zuzana Pavelcová

Pietna spomienka k 96. výročiu smrti M. R. Štefánika

Pokračovanie zo str. 24

Štefánik svojou príznačnou vnútornou silou, ako dodal premiér, dokázal využiť svoje postavenie a vplyv nielen v prospech oslobodenia svojej vlasti od rakúsko-uhorského jarma, ale dokázal už vtedy vidieť súvislosti v celoeurópskom kontexte a v dialke aj svoju víziu povojnovnej strednej Európy založenej na spolupráci malých národov.

Súčasťou spomienky na 96. výročie Štefánikovej smrti bolo aj otvorenie výstavy „Potomci nezabúdajte“ sporej s koncertom Zvonkohry či slávnostnou omšou a zakončilo ju fákľový pochod historickou cestou na Bradlo.

Organizátormi podujatia boli mestá Brezová pod Bradlom a Myjava, obce Košariská a Prieasné, Spoločnosť M. R. Štefánika, Spolok rodákov M. R. Štefánika, Ministerstvo obrany SR, Slovenské národné múzeum, Cirkevný zbor ECAV Brezová pod Bradlom a Cirkevný zbor ECAV Košariská-Prieasné.

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Z osláv v Štrbe.



Z osláv Markušovského v Štrbe – umelecké dielo Fera Goldana a pamätná tabuľa.

Nemecký investor prinesie do Prievidze stovky pracovných miest

S vytvorením približne 600 pracovných miest v prvej fáze počíta nemecká spoločnosť Borse, ktorej príchod do priemyselného parku v Prievidzi 11. mája oficiálne ohlásili predstavitelia samotného investora, samosprávy Prievidze i predseda vlády SR Robert Fico. Nemecký výrobca komponentov pre automobilový priemysel začne s výstavbou haly v metropole hornej Nitry už v októbri a jeho investícia tu predstavuje 50 miliónov eur.

Vláda, ako podotkol premiér Robert Fico, významne podporuje baníctvo na hornej Nitre, ale aj to o niekoľko dlhých rokov bude na konci svojej púte a bude potrebné ponúkať ľuďom z tohto regiónu dobré alternatívy. "Toto je vynikajúca alternatíva. Je to projekt, ktorý je svojim objemom obrovský. Päťdesiat miliónov eur a 600 pracovných miest bude znamenať obrovský príspevok pre región, pre mesto Prievidza a ja sa teším najmä aj z toho dôvodu, že ide o nemeckú spoločnosť a tie na Slovensku sú známe veľmi silnými sociálnymi programami pre našich zamestnancov," doplnil. Predseda vlády zároveň potvrdil pre investora aj investičný stimul, ktorý podľa jeho slov zodpovedá investícii, ktorú plánuje v Prievidzi zrealizovať.

Borse sa zaoberá výrobou dverových systémov pre automobily. Zamestnáva viac ako 23.000 ľudí, ktorí pracujú v 60 lokalitách v 23 krajinách sveta. Spoločnosť s centrálnym sídlom v bavorskom Coburgu dosiahla obrát 5,2 miliardy eur. Svoju pobočku má aj v Lozorne v Malackom okrese, pôsobí tam od roku 2002. Ide o piateho najväčšieho dodávateľa komponentov pre automobilový priemysel na svete. Úrad práce, sociálnych vecí a rodiny v Prievidzi v súčasnosti eviduje 9000 uchádzačov o zamestnanie, čo predstavuje 11,78 %.

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FOTO TASR - Alexandra Moštková

Na snímke konateľ spoločnosti Borse Bratislava Axel Mallener (vpravo) a primátorka Prievidze Katarína Macháčková. V Prievidzi, 11. mája 2015.

Axel Mallener, a representative of the German company Borse, met on May 11, 2015, with Katarina Machackova, mayor of Prievidze to finalize plans for Borse to open an automotive parts factory in Prievidze that will employ 600 workers.



Vedecká ročenka Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej – Slováci v zahraničí

Zborník Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej, pod tradičným názvom *Slováci v zahraničí*, sa tento rok rodil ťažšie i zložitejšie, ako po iné roky. Nebola by tiaľ v nedostatku autorov, či v nedokonalosti príspevkov, no problém nastal – ako to už zvykom býva – vo financiách. A tak sa mnohé zvažovalo, čakalo sa i posúvalo. Namiesto tradičného januárového termínu vydania zborníka sa jeho vydanie posunulo na marec. V tomto čase môžeme vziať do rúk už jeho 31. číslo...

Na svojich dvoch stovkách stránok zborník ponúka takmer dve desiatky príspevkov od odborníkov na život Slovákov žijúcich v zahraničí, ako aj príspevky z pera našich krajanov, vďaka ktorým zborník získava špecifické postavenie medzi vedeckými ročenkami. Tento rok na jeho stránky prispeli autori zo Slovenska, Chorvátska, Maďarska, Rumunska a Francúzska.

Prvá kapitola s názvom *Štúdie* obsahuje príspevky zaoberajúce sa krajanmi osobnosťami a ich životom a dielom (Jozef Murgaš, Michal Harpán, Ignác Gessay) a taktiež obsahuje príspevok približujúci aktivity Výchovno-vzdelávacieho programu Výskumného ústavu Celostátnej slovenskej samosprávy v Maďarsku.

V kapitole s názvom *Materiály a pramene* nás autori príspevkov vtiahnu do dejín československej vystaňovaleckej politiky v rokoch 1918 – 1939, do histórie slovenských evanjelikov v Peštianskej stolici v 18. a 19. storočí, do tradícií Slovákov žijúcich v Bihorskej a Salajskej oblasti v Rumunsku i do dejín osídlenia obce Pôtor. Rôznorodosť príspevkov dopĺňa príspevok zaoberajúci sa prekladmi historických literárnych prác Milana Ferka do maďarčiny a ich stimulačnou funkciou pre uchovávanie národnej identity Slovákov žijúcich v Maďarsku. Posledný príspevok tejto kapitoly ponúka komentovanú analýzu fenoménu slovenského vystaňovalectva.

Výročia a jubileá predstavujú najútlejšiu kapitolu zborníka, ktorá mapuje 150. výročie slovenskej školy v chorvátskom Iloku.

Poslednú kapitolu s názvom *Informácie a recenzie* otvára recenzia autorského kolektívu na dielo: *Poslanci slovenských národnostných samospráv v Maďarsku v reflexii sociolingvistikého výskumu: výsledky dvoch volebných období 2002 – 2010*. Ďalšie príspevky sa orientujú na výber z publicistického diela Štefana Glejdu a na objasnenie pozadia vzniku nového bilingválneho (slovensko-maďarského časopisu) Kor(r)idor. V zborníku nájdeme aj príspevok venovaný Slovenskej katolíckej misii vo Francúzsku. Ročenku uzatvára rekapitulácia činnosti Krajanského múzea Matice slovenskej počas roku 2014 s výpočtom vlastných aktivít.

Aj tento rok Vám zostavovatelia zborníka ponúkajú možnosť zaslať do redakcie príspevok, ktorého publikovanie vo vedeckej ročenke by mohlo byť pre krajanov i pre slovenskú verejnosť podnetné i prínosné. Návod, ako sa stať prispievateľom do ročenky Slováci v zahraničí, nájdete na matičnej webovej stránke, v lište – Oznamy KM MS.

A ak by Vám ročenka spravila radosť aj pri večernom oddychovom čítaní, môžete si ju z pohodlia domova objednať na stránke: www.vydavtel.sk

Zuzana Pavelcová

Slovensko čaká citeľný ekonomický rast

Slovenská republika podľa 5. mája 2015 zverejnených jarných prognóz Európskej komisie o raste európskej ekonomiky bude v najbližších dvoch rokoch patriť medzi krajiny s najvyšším rastom v EÚ aj v eurozóne. Prognózy naznačujú očakávané oživenie ekonomiky, sú celkovo priaznivé pre EÚ aj pre eurozónu. V roku 2015 nám EK predpovedá trojpercentný rast HDP. Komisia uviedla, že ak SR mala v roku 2014 rast hrubého domáceho produktu na úrovni 2,4 percenta, čo Slovensko postavilo na 6. najlepšiu priečku v eurozóne a 10. pozíciu v rámci 28-člennej EÚ, tohto roku by sa situácia mala zlepšiť. Vlni sa najviac darilo Írsku (4,8 percenta) a najmenej Cypru (-2,3 percenta).

V roku 2015 nám EK predpovedá troj percentný rast HDP, čo našu krajinu stavia na 4. priečku najrozvíjajúcejšej sa ekonomiky v eurozóne (1,5 percenta) a celkovo 5. priečku v EÚ (odhad 1,8 percenta). Aj tohto roku by sa najviac malo dariť Írsku a tiež Malte (3,6 percenta), najhorší scenár čaká opäť Cyprus (-0,5 percenta). Najlepšie vyhliadky podľa odborníkov z exekutívy EÚ čakajú Slovákov v roku 2016, keď by sme mali dosiahnuť 3,4-percentný rast HDP (rovnako ako Poľsko) a obsadiť 2. najlepšiu pozíciu v eurozóne (1,9 percenta) aj v EÚ samotnej (2,1 percenta). Na budúci rok, podľa prognóz EK bude mať rýchlejší ekonomický rast iba Írsko a Luxembursko (3,5 percenta).

V dokumente EK sa zdôrazňuje, že kombinovaná sila série pozitívnych faktorov posúva EÚ v najbližších troch rokoch k miernemu, no badateľnému ekonomickému rastu. Revízia predošlých odhadov sa týka aj čísel za vlašajšok, keď skutočný rast HDP v eurozóne nakoniec dosiahol 0,9 percenta. Tohto roku by mal byť rast HDP eurozóny na úrovni 1,5 percenta a v roku 2016 na takmer 2-percentnej hranici (1,9 percenta). Pre EÚ ako celok sú prognózy ešte priaznivejšie, v porovnaní s vlašajším 1,4 percentným rastom, odhady na tento rok hovoria o raste vo výške 1,8 percenta a v roku 2016 by sa rast HDP mohol vyšplhať na 2,1 percenta.

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M. Lajčák na návšteve v Silicon Valley, Kalifornia

Otvorením prvej spoločnej prezentácie startupov z Vyšehradskej štvorky (V4) v americkom Silicon Valley a stretnutím s predstaviteľmi telekomunikačnej spoločnosti AT&T sa zúčastnil koncom apríla podpredseda vlády a minister zahraničných vecí a európskych záležitostí SR Miroslav Lajčák dvojdnovej návštevy štátu Spojených štátov Kalifornie.

V meste Palo Alto, ktoré leží v inovačnom a technologickom centre Silicon Valley neďaleko San Francisca, otvoril minister historicky prvý spoločný projekt V4 We4Startups. Vybrané slovenské, české, maďarské a poľské startupy v rámci neho predstavili svoju činnosť a zámery miestnej komunite investorov a podnikateľov. "Spojenie šikovných Stredoeurópanov s americkým podnikateľským duchom predstavuje výbornú kombináciu. V4 je jedna z ekonomicky najdynamickejších častí súčasnej Európy. A keďže inovácie a digitálna agenda sú pre V4 spoločnou prioritou, je pre nás dôležité zviditeľniť inováčný potenciál našich krajín práve tu a spoločne pracovať na podpore startupov," povedal Lajčák.

Nejde pritom podľa neho o jednorazovú akciu, ale o začiatok trvalej prítomnosti krajín V4 v Silicon Valley. Pilotný projekt We4Startups sa má pretransformovať na spoločnú platformu pre dlhodobú a systematickú spoluprácu startupovej komunity z krajín V4 v tomto technologickom centre. Z každého štátu sa na programe zúčastnili tri startupy, za Slovensko to boli Mentegram, Staffino a Droppie.

Počas pobytu v Palo Alto navštívil Lajčák aj inováčno-poradenské podnikateľské centrum spoločnosti AT&T. Minister ocenil pôsobenie tohto telekomunikačného holdingu na Slovensku, kde za 15 rokov činnosti vybudoval štyri pobočky v Bratislave a Košiciach a zamestnáva viac ako 3000 ľudí.

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Najlepšou krajinou pre matky je Nórsko, SR je na 34. mieste

Najlepšou krajinou pre matky je Nórsko, za ním nasleduje Fínsko, najhorší údel majú matky v Afrike a na Haiti. Slovensko obsadilo 34. priečku hneď za USA, a to spomedzi 179 sledovaných krajín. O nedávnej zverejnenej správe neziskovej organizácie Save the Children informovala tlačová agentúra Belga.

V poradí 16. výročná správa Save the Children o tom, aké podmienky majú pre život matky v rôznych kútoch sveta, určila, že v roku 2015 Belgicko uzatvára prvú desiatku krajín, kde je najlepšie byť matkou. V prvej desiatke sa ocitlo sedem členských štátov EÚ, okrem nich je tam Nórsko ako číslo jeden a Island ako svetová trojka, jedinou neeurópskou krajinou medzi najlepšími je Austrália (9. priečka). Fínsko, ktoré bolo vlni na prvom mieste, je na pozícii číslo dva najvyhovujúcejším členským štátom EÚ pre matky.

Rebríček krajín bol zostavený na základe rôznych kritérií, ako je zdravie matiek, úroveň vzdelania, výška príjmov a postavenie žien v spoločnosti.

Druhý koniec rebríčka, s desiatkou krajín, kde majú matky najhoršie podmienky pre výchovu svojich detí, obsahuje africké štáty a Haiti. Podľa tohoročnej správy sú na tom najhoršie matky v Somálsku, Konžskej demokratickej republike, Stredoafrickej republike a Mali. Deväť z desiatich najhorších afrických krajín je poznačených vojenskými konfliktami a občianskou vojnou.

Istým prekvapením je umiestnenie Spojených štátov, ktoré sa ocitli na 33. pozícii, hneď pred Slovenskou republikou. Spomedzi novších členských krajín EÚ najlepšie podmienky pre matky vytvára Slovensko (15. priečka) a Česká republika (25). Poľsko obsadilo 28. miesto a spomedzi členov EÚ je na tom bodovo najhoršie Malta (46), Maďarsko (51) a Rumunsko (66).

Do prvej dvadsiatky najlepších krajín pre matky sa popri štátoch EÚ dostalo aj Švajčiarsko, Singapur, Nový Zéland, Izrael a Kanada. Zo štátov východnej Európy mimo EÚ je na tom najlepšie Bielorusko, ktoré sa delí o 25. priečku s Českou republikou, Ruská federácia obsadila 56. priečku a Ukrajina 69. pozíciu.

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Predseda vlády SR Robert Fico (uprostred) kladie veniec pri rodnom dome generála Milana Rastislava Štefánika, 3. mája 2015 v Košariskách.

President of the Slovak Government Robert Fico (center, left) laid a wreath near the birthplace of General Milan Štefánik in Kosariska on May 3, 2015, marking the 96th anniversary of the general's death.

Pietna spomienka k 96. výročiu smrti M. R. Štefánika

Slovensko si 4. mája pripomenulo pietnym aktom 96. výročie tragického úmrtia jednej z najvýznamnejších osobností svojich novodobých dejín - Milana Rastislava Štefánika. Na základe Zákona o štátnych sviatkoch, dňoch pracovného pokoja a pamätných dňoch je 4. máj - Výročie úmrtia Milana Rastislava Štefánika - pamätným dňom SR.

Milan Rastislav Štefánik je človek, ktorý môže inšpirovať a byť vzorom cieľavedomosti, šľachetnosti, odvahy, lásky k vlasti. Uviedol to vo svojom prihovore predseda vlády SR Robert Fico na pietnej spomienke 3. mája pri príležitosti 96. výročia tragickej smrti Štefánika v obci Košariská.

„Aj dnešným pohľadom je hodnota Štefánikových činov nesmiernym úspechom v každom ohľade. Jeho vedecká kariéra, ktorá sa začala po príchode do Francúzska, za ktorú dostal viaceré ocenenia. Úspešná vojenská kariéra, v ktorej dosiahol najväčšie francúzske vojenské vyznamenania a hodnosť generál. Jeho diplomatické schopnosti, to všetko boli aj na vtedajšie časy výnimočné úspechy a priniesli mu uznanie a obdiv najvyšších spoločenských a politických kruhov,” pripomenul Fico.

Pokračovanie na str. 22



Sviatok Zoslania Ducha Svätého - Turíce

Kresťania na Slovensku i vo svete slávia sviatok Zoslania Ducha Svätého – Turíce (Svätodušná nedeľa), ktorý sa slávi 50 dní po Veľkej noci. Skončí sa tak 50-dňové veľkonočné obdobie (grécky Pentekoste – 50). Skutky apoštolov opisujú, ako Ježišovi učeníci boli pri zázraku Turíc naplnení Duchom Svätým a začali hovoriť rôznymi jazykmi: „Keď prišiel deň Turíc, boli všetci vedno na tom istom mieste. Tu sa náhle strhol hukot z neba, ako keď sa ženie prudký vietor, a naplnil celý dom, v ktorom boli. I zjavili sa im akoby ohnivé jazyky, ktoré sa rozdelili, a na každom z nich spočinul jeden. Všetkých naplnil Duch Svätý a začali hovoriť inými jazykmi, ako im Duch dával



Pokračovanie na str. 22

Medzinárodné stretnutie biskupov v Bratislave

Katolícki biskupi odporúčajú intenzívnejšiu formáciu párov a rodín

Systematická formácia párov a rodín by mala prebiehať nielen počas obdobia pred manželstvom, ale aj počas celého života. Podieľať by sa na nej mali kňazi, rodinné hnutia, ale aj zrelé kresťanské rodiny. K takémuto záveru prišli katolícki biskupi z krajín strednej a východnej Európy, ktorí sa stretli v Bratislave na dvojdňovom (11. - 12. mája) rokovaní.

„Sme si vedomí toho, že pod intenzívnym vplyvom sekularizácie manželstvo a rodina čelia rozličným výzvam, prameniacim z veľkých kultúrnych a spoločenských zmien, ku ktorým došlo najmä v posledných desaťročiach. Možno konštatovať, že v našich krajinách bolestne poznačených komunizmom, je mnoho rodín len s jedným rodičom, veľa detí prichádza na svet mimo manželského zväzku a vysoký je aj počet rozvedených katolíkov,” konštatujú biskupi v záverečnom vyhlásení. Ako dodávajú, pribúdajú páry, ktoré spolu žijú bez cirkevného i civilného zväzku.

„Chceme vyjadriť našu úprimnú vďaku všetkým verným rodinám, ktoré čestne žijú hodnoty evanjelia a odovzdávajú ich ďalším generáciám. Ich úsilie je nenahraditeľné, lebo ničenie rodiny vedie k zničeniu samotnej spoločnosti,” dodávajú biskupi.

Išlo už o druhé medzinárodné stretnutie biskupov z Litvy, Chorvátska, Ukrajiny, Česka, Maďarska, Poľska, Bieloruska a Slovenska. Cieľom podujatia bola aj koordinácia aktivít biskupských konferencií pri pastorácii rodín.

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Prezident Andrej Kiska navštívil U.S.Steel Košice

Pri príležitosti Sviatku práce 1. mája zavítal prezident SR Andrej Kiska do košických oceľiarň U.S. Steel, kde sa oboznámil s prevádzkou modernej pozinkovacej linky a hovoril s vedením podniku. „U.S. Steel je najväčším súkromným zamestnávateľom na Slovensku, zamestnáva viac ako 12.000 ľudí. Bolo mi potešením prejsť sa po podniku, ktorému sa nesmierne darí a kde je veľká starostlivosť o zamestnancov,” uviedol Kiska pre médiá.

Zároveň vyzdvihol veľkú pomoc, ktorú hutnícky gigant predstavuje pre východoslovenský región. S prezidentom U.S. Steel Košice Georgom Babcoком hovoril o konkurenčných výhodách i nevýhodách podniku. „To, na čo je (Babcoke) najviac pyšný v tejto fabrike, sú zamestnanci - od tých manuálne pracujúcich až po manažment. To všetko vytvára kvalitu a obrovskú výhodu a konkurencieschopnosť tohto podniku voči ostatným,” povedal Kiska. Naopak, problematickým pre podnik sú vysoké ceny energií. „Cena elektrickej energie je na Slovensku dvakrát vyššia ako v Spojených štátoch a cena zemného plynu trikrát drahšia ako v USA. Veľmi drahé energetické vstupy pre podnik samozrejme zvyšujú náklady a znižujú konkurencieschopnosť,” konštatoval prezident SR. Treba tak podľa neho hľadať z úrovne štátu kompromis pri cenách energií a zároveň podporovať tvorbu alternatívnych zdrojov energií.



FOTO TASR – František Iván

Na snímke zľava prezident SR Andrej Kiska a prezident U. S. Steel Košice George Babcoke počas brífingu po prehladke pozinkovacej linky č. 3.

On May 1, 2015, Slovak President Andrej Kiska met with the U.S. Steel Kosice president George Babcoke and other officials of the steel company.

Šéf U.S. Steel priblížil, že hlave štátu v podniku ukázali pozinkovacia linku č. 3, ktorá patrí k najmodernejším svojho druhu v Európe. Témou rozhovoru bolo aj vzdelávanie spojené s potrebnou kvalifikáciou zamestnancov. „Spolupracujeme so Strednou odbornou školou v Šaci i Technickou univerzitou v Košiciach, a to je to, čo nám zabezpečuje kvalitnú pracovnú silu aj do budúcnosti,” povedal Babcoke. Ten na svojom poste končí, keďže odchádza do dôchodku. Jeho funkciu, prevzme od 31. mája Scott Buckiso.

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